

COMMITTEE ON STUDENT LIFE ANNUAL REPORT, 2011-12

The Committee on Student Life has jurisdiction and operates in five spheres: (1) it conducts the Wendell Phillips Award competition that culminates in the choice of the undergraduate speaker at the Baccalaureate ceremony; (2) it serves as the hearing panel of first instance in cases brought against student groups for violation of university and school policies and regulations, and as the appeal panel for decisions rendered against individual students by the Dean of Students Office or decisions of the TCU Judiciary regarding individual students and student groups; (3) it oversees the operations of student government, including vetting proposed changes to the TCU Constitution to ensure that the changes would not violate university/school policies and regulations; (4) it collaborates with the Administration in the formulation of the policies and regulations that guide undergraduate life and are set out in the Pachyderm handbook and other publications; (5) it examines, if need be, other aspects of student life on the Medford campus.

The Committee on Student Life met 7 times during the academic year 2011-12.

Jamie Kirsch was elected Faculty Chair at the first meeting on October 11, 2011.

The Committee's major activities this academic year were as follows:

1. A series of meetings were devoted to the **Wendell Phillips Award** competition. Committee members formulated questions for the oral and written presentations of candidates, judged the submitted presentations in order to select the finalists, judged the finalists' oral presentations, and chose the winner, **Allister Chang**.
2. CSL voted unanimously (8-0) to ban the **Naked Quad Run (NQR)**, and to give Dean of Student Affairs Bruce Reitman and his office the authority to draft a policy which states that anyone who runs, organizes or claims to run in the NQR will be suspended for one academic semester. CSL then voted unanimously (7-0) to pass Dean Reitman's draft of the NQR policy.
3. CSL discussed and voted to amend **Probation II**:
 - Motion #1: Probation II should be different from Probation I in that it appears on the transcript (no change to current policy); Vote passed 9-0.
 - Motion #2: Since Probation II should appear on the transcript, it should remain no longer than the period of the probation; Vote passed, 9-0.
 - Motion #3: The change passed in Motion #2 should be applied retroactively; Vote passed, 9-0.
 - Bruce Reitman drafted a press release to Tufts Daily.
 - CSL decided to push the Pro II issue of post-graduation transcript notations to a later date.
4. **Ticket scalping**: CSL discussed and voted on the following policy (vote passed 10-0):

- Selling tickets for Tufts-related events by Tufts students that is inconsistent with Massachusetts General Law should be prohibited.

5. CSL discussed a **Dance Program scheduling issue** brought to us by Prof. Alice Trexler. Prof. Trexler will work with Dean of Student Affairs Bruce Reitman and Joe Golia to resolve the issue.

6. CSL discussed the issue of **faculty involvement in Greek Life** with Greek Life Director Su McGlone at four meetings this year. CSL thinks there are reasons to believe the current policy is ineffective. The students have asked for the faculty's help, they want to feel more connected to the University. Jamie Kirsch, Bruce Reitman, Phil Starks and Su McGlone discussed this issue with the Executive Committee at their meeting on April 23, 2012. They were extremely helpful, and CSL will discuss this summer how to proceed, and how/when to present this issue to the faculty.

7. **Freedom of expression/banner policy**: CSL discussed a possible change or affirmation of the current banner policy, and chose to defer a vote on the current policy until further deliberation of the general freedom of expression policy on campus. In Fall 2012 we hope chairs of CSL and EEOC will partner to write a request to Bruce Reitman about this issue. CSL would like assistance before moving forward on this issue.

8. CSL voted to approve a **TCU Constitution change**:

- Shall the TCU designate the Diversity and Community Affairs Officer as a seventh member of the TCU Senate Executive Board?
- Amend Article II, Section H
- Strike II.H.1, replace with, "Consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Associate Treasurer, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Diversity and Community Affairs Officer."
- Shall the TCU remove the responsibility of the TCU Historian to serve as chair of the Student Outreach Committee?
- Amend Article II, Section J by striking II.J.4.

9. CSL discussed the **role of Tufts RAs** with Yolanda King and her staff. This issue was brought to CSL by student member Billy Rutherford. CSL will wait until the Alcohol Policy Task force issues their report to move forward on this issue.

Faculty Chair for 2012-13

- Philip Starks has expressed interest in serving as chair, but has not yet confirmed. Jamie Kirsch is happy to help in the transition to a new chair and be the contact person until Phil or another confirms. Jamie Kirsch is unable to serve as chair in 2012-13 due to the upcoming birth of his first child, a baby girl due May 22.

Goals for 2012-12:

- Freedom of Expression: Continue to discuss this issue with other committees/groups at Tufts.
- Faculty involvement in Greek Life.

On behalf of the Committee on Student Life.

Jamie Kirsch, Chair

CSL Members, 2011-12: Veronica Carter, Alva Couch, Consuelo Cruz, Joe Golia, David Huang, Sergiy Kryatov, Christina Maranci, Helen Marrow, Bruce Reitman, William Rutherford, Philip Starks, Aaron Tietz, Brian Yi (student co-chair)