

February 18, 2008

Dear AP Council,

These are my observations concerning the February 6, 2008 meeting of the Academic Senate. Unlike the former, this meeting was short and to the point. There were no visiting speakers.

Senator Horstein, the Student Body President, noted that talks were going well with local property managers. In addition, he mentioned that they would be starting in the near future a "Respect your neighbor" campaign as well as an "Adopt-a-street" campaign.

Dr. Bowman noted that a recent letter from housing has created quite a stir but was being addressed. He also mentioned that Nursing had established a new Ph.D. program. The president also recommended that everyone take a look at the attempts to re-authorize the U.S. House on Higher Education Act. I will pass along any information concerning this Act that I find.

Vice President Adams noted that the letter, sent to juniors and seniors informing them that they would not be able to live in the dorms next year, was ineffective; however, he claimed that the plan was still good and was confident that next year they will be close to being able to house anyone who requests it. He also noted that advisors should send students to University Housing. The last item Adams mentioned was the meal plan for students. He did not go into great detail, but informed us that there had been "an enormous number of opportunities for students to comment on the meal plans."

The Academic Affairs committee noted that they had talked to Mardel Wilson, the Associate Provost, about an assessment plan for general education. They apparently are ready to throw support behind her "institutional artifact portfolio" model. Stay tuned for more information on that front.

Last, the Rules Committee commented on the "Disestablishment of Academic Unites Policy." Basically, they wanted to re-assure the Senate that they are taking steps to make sure that "programs" are protected from "hostile" attempts to disestablish them. The committee will continue to reflect on this policy. With that, the meeting adjourned early.

Sincerely,

Ron

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