Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Alvarez-Peña, Arleny; Apgar, Travis; Baldwin, Jenn; Benson, Mark; Bunson, Julie; Catalano, Alexandra; Cray, Fiona; D’Allaird, Courtney; Dosono, Bryan; Ertl, Melissa; Golby, Leah; Griffin, Robert; Hawley, Brian; Jones, Lani; Khatib, Sari; Martin, Kyle; Minor, Tamra; Miranda, Monica; Nuñez, Ariel; Stevens, Sheri; Urena, Moises

Guests of the Chair Present: Alexander, Pamela; Barbadoro, Amelia; Cimini, M. Dolores; Feuer, Emily; Jaromin, Michael; Lauricella, Nancy; Nagy, Benjamin; Rivero, Estela; Rumsey, Luke; Stenger, Carol; Stephenson, Brian

The meeting convened at 7:03pm.

I. Welcome - Dr. Robert Griffin

Dean Griffin welcomed members and guests and introduced members who were not present at the first meeting. Because of technical difficulties, members who were attending the first meeting remotely were not able to introduce themselves so time was provided for them to do so. Dean Griffin also announced that student representative Billy Smart resigned from the Commission and the Commission is working to find a student representative affiliated with the Interfraternity Council.

II. Approval of Minutes of September 4, 2019 - Dr. Robert Griffin

The minutes were approved with no members in opposition.
III. **Informed Information Gathering** - Dr. Emily Feuer

Dr. Feuer reminded the group on the central question the Commission is working to answer: Is it within our capacity at UAlbany to address the destructive behaviors too often associated with the culture of Greek life? She explained the focus of the evening was on destructive behaviors and went over strategies Commission members may want to focus on while taking notes and asking questions related to defining destructive behaviors. She also showed the format the Commission members would be expected to follow when submitting notes and observations through a shared document. All notes and observations are due September 25, 2019.

IV. **Panel Presentations** - What are the destructive behaviors too often associated with the culture of Greek life at the University at Albany?

Dean Griffin introduced panelists, reminded panelists of a ten minute maximum for all presentations, and let Commission members know that questions could be asked after all presentations were complete.

- **Community Standards** - Brian Stephenson

  Mr. Stephenson discussed major incidents involving both recognized and unrecognized fraternities and sororities dating back to 2012 that the Office of Community Standards has dealt with. Mr. Stephenson also discussed the impact of these cases on the study body and administrative offices that play a role in these cases. In the presentation, slides on the hazing investigation process were also included, but were not discussed due to time constraints. These slides are available to Commission members in the shared folder.

- **Off-Campus Student Services** - Luke Rumsey

  Mr. Rumsey spoke about the function of Off-Campus Student Services and issues affiliated with fraternities and sororities and their off-campus residences and event venues including quality of life, safety, and large events. Pictures and videos were included of dwellings and neighborhood streets during and post-events. Additional data and topics are included in the slides, but were not discussed due to time constraints. These slides are available to Commission members in the shared folder.

- **University Police Department** - Investigator Benjamin Nagy

  Investigator Nagy discussed incidents related to fraternities and sororities the University Police Department has encountered including sexual assault, hazing, drug/alcohol use, common sources of alcohol, criminal mischief, Campus Center late night events, and events related to Homecoming.
• **Equity and Compliance** - Dr. Amelia Barbadoro

Dr. Barbadoro spoke about specific challenges associated with fraternities and sororities in regard to Title IX processes and data, national statistics on campus sexual assault and fraternities/sororities, and actions UAlbany can take to ensure fraternity/sorority members are educated on Title IX issues and prevent sexual violence within the fraternity/sorority community.

• **The Advocacy Center for Sexual Violence** - Carol Stenger

Ms. Stenger discussed an overview of the Advocacy Center for Sexual Violence and the support of fraternities and sororities with office-related events. Ms. Stenger also spoke about national statistics on campus sexual assault and fraternities/sororities and potential reasons for why these correlations may exist. Further, Ms. Stenger shared central themes about fraternity/sorority related instances of sexual violence at UAlbany.

• **Health Promotion and Applied Research** - Dr. M. Dolores Cimini

Dr. Cimini spoke about national statistics on alcohol and other drug use among fraternity/sorority members and data from a study specific to alcohol use among fraternity/sorority members compared to non-members at UAlbany. Dr. Cimini also discussed specific interventions that have been implemented in the past or currently at UAlbany to address alcohol and other drug use within the fraternity/sorority community.

V. **Panel Question and Answer Period**

Commission members asked panelists a variety of questions related to breaking down information by race/ethnicity and recognized/unrecognized status, policies regarding Title IX training and student organization conduct processes, and details about off-campus behavior.

VI. **Wrap Up and Next Steps** - Dr. Robert Griffin

Dean Griffin thanked panelists for presenting and reminded Commission members of the next meeting on October 2.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.