

Minutes of the Brown University Community Council (BUCC) Meeting
Wednesday, April 23, 2014
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Members: President Paxson, Provost Schlissel, Russell Carey, Margaret Klawunn, Marisa Quinn, Kim Roskiewicz, Paula McNamara, Richard Bungiro, Linford Fisher, Thomas Lewis, Brad Marston, Don Operario, Elizabeth Taylor, Todd Harris, Kiera Peltz, Alexander Sherry, Jonathan Vu, Heather Bennett, Sveta Milusheva, Stephen Zins, Dan Ebner, Dawn Goodman, Julianne Hanavan, Beverly Larson, Frances Mantak, Brendan McNally, Dan DiPrete, and Abbot Stranahan were in attendance. Cesario Bianchi, Catherine Kerr, Steven Lubar, Vesna Mitrovic, Alexander Krotow, Jane Zhang, Jill Rossi, Emily Maranjian, and Anita Louise Schell-Lambert were unable to attend.

The minutes of the March 19, 2014 meeting were approved.

Allen Ward, Senior Associate Dean for Student Life and Yolanda Castillo-Appollonio, Associate Dean of Student Life and Director of Student Conduct, gave a presentation on an upcoming review of the Code of Student Conduct which is routinely performed every five years. The Code is reviewed by a committee comprised of faculty, deans and administrators, students, and advisors. The proposed timeline for the current review begins in spring 2014 and ends with the committee making final recommendations in spring 2015. It was proposed that sexual misconduct be reviewed separately from other parts of the code to allow the committee to make recommendations on this matter earlier in the academic year. It was agreed that this was feasible.

President Paxson opened up the meeting for members of the Brown community to discuss issues and concerns related to harassment and sexual misconduct. Members shared personal stories and raised areas of concern. A graduate student expressed her concern that of the three Title IX coordinators on campus, none were specifically responsible for graduate students. The University will be hiring a single full-time Title IX program officer in order to more effectively coordinate the Title IX responsibilities across the University.

Leah VanWey, Deputy Director, Institute for the Study of Environment and Society, reviewed the work of the Environmental Change Task Force, of which she is chair, and outlined its recommendations. The Task Force, comprised of faculty, students, staff, and a member of the Corporation, was charged with developing a campus response to global environmental change, that positioned Brown as a leader in this domain. The recommendations focused on campus wide-visibility, teaching, research, and service and community engagement. The Task Force recommended: organization of environmental stewardship activity by the Staff Advisory Council; support for student groups; establishment of a standing fund to support environmental work by members of the Brown community; formation of a partnership with a community group to develop a grant and loan fund for community-initiated projects; and continued support of the Sustainability Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee.

The next meeting of the Brown University Community Council will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2014 from 4:00 – 5:30 pm in the Kasper Multipurpose Room, Robert Stephen '62 Campus Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Pincince, Secretary of the Brown University Community Council