

UW Milwaukee College of Nursing

BLACK AND GOLD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES– November 13, 2006

Present: Rachel Kannass, Audrey Hale, Flower Lewis, Amanda Faile, Laura Schmacher, Bob Blome, Brandon Decker, Kue Yang, Ryan Smith, Jennifer Daood, Catherine Lageson, Lisa Mihlbauer, Deatra Holloway, Susan Dean Baar, Linda Scalzo, Julia Snethen

Excused: Emily Allred, Melanie Bloedorn

1. Call to order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm.

2. Review and approval of minutes of 10/9/06 meeting

- The minutes of the last meeting were approved without discussion. Thanks to Audrey Hale for taking minutes in October; Lisa Mihlbauer will do minutes today; Deatra Holloway offered to take minutes for the December meeting. We need minute takers for the spring meetings.

3. Tuition Differential Update – Susan Dean Baar

- The campus Student Association group is discussing tuition differential in the near future. Brandon Decker is a senator in the student association and stated that the discussion of tuition differential has been moved to a later date due to other priorities in the Student Association at the present time. Susan Dean Baar discussed the issue related to Student Association members who may be opposed to any type of tuition differential.
- The College of Nursing's tuition differential program is very unique. The tuition differential dollars have been designated to be spent on very specific items and the oversight remains with the Black & Gold Committee. The specific items which can be purchased with tuition differential dollars include increased staff in student affairs, increasing salaries of clinical faculty and increasing technology spending in the NLRC. Specific items purchased with the tuition differential dollars include PDA's for all students in the nursing major, Sim technology, HESI and pre-NCLEX tests, etc.
- B & G Committee members were encouraged to promote the discussion of tuition differential dollars and their benefit to students in the major. Susan Dean Baar stated that if we were to lose this funding, we would not recover the funds in any other way, thus we would have to decrease the amount spent on the designated categories above.

4. Communication : Bob Blome

- Bob Blome asked if there might be a way to highlight e-mails from the B & G Committee which are sent to nursing students. He wondered if it might be possible to use a bolding/flag or icon technique to make the email more noticeable.
- A suggestion was made that B & G committee members might want to speak for 1-3 minutes at the beginning or end of a lecture class time to create more awareness of the B & G committee among students in the nursing major.
- It was suggested that flyers, similar to the ones that were previously developed, be created to raise more awareness of the committee's activities among students. Julia Snethen said she would provide the template if a student was willing to create the first flyer. Audrey Hale volunteered to create the initial flyer.
- "Hot Topics" column on the B & G website was discussed. The "Parking" and "Scheduling" hot topic subjects are still on our website – do we need to create more? Rachel Kanass suggested that we discuss the topic of using the shuttle buses – and the issue of the bus stop not being within visual distance of the building when the bus stops. And, Cunningham's bus stop is one of the few that does not have a bus shelter. This means students must wait outside in the cold, snow and rain which may deter students from using the shuttle. Rachel volunteered to contact the Parking and Transit office at UWM to explore possible ways to improve the situation.

5. Social Activity discussion

- Bob Blome reported that a small group of members of SNA, FBNA and Black & Gold met to discuss social activities they could host jointly. The group came up with the idea of holding a holiday "hall decorating contest" on the first floor of Cunningham in December. Students from each level of the curriculum would compete for the best decoration. Susan Dean Baar indicated that Dean Lundeen as well as the College Climate committee would be able to offer a small amount of money to purchase food for such an event. The consensus was that a Monday afternoon in December might be the best time to hold the event. Several of the black and gold committee members from different levels agreed to help assist with being contact persons:
 - 3A: Audrey Hale
 - 3B: Kue Yang
 - 4A: Laura Schumacher
 - 4B: Rachel Kannass

Bob Blome will e-mail members of the committee and student organizations to get assistance with the "Hall decorating contest." Any interested students should contact SNA, FBNA and Bob Blome to volunteer to help organize this event.

- Bob also discussed the possibility of hosting a spring, 2007 social event – possibly a relay race our outdoor activity on the soccer field. Bob is trying to reach the athletic office to see if the soccer field would be available to use. Further discussion on the spring event will be tabled until the December meeting.

6. Additional issues

- Brandon Decker discussed the current issue of parking on campus. Alderman Mike D'Amato is attempting to decrease the available parking spaces on campus by 720 spaces. These spaces would go to local residents (called RPP – resident preferred parking) and thus be lost to students. Students who wish to object to this proposal should attend the hearing at the Milwaukee Common Council on Wednesday morning, 11/22 at 9am at City Hall. The UWM Student Association is against this proposal.
- Final exam schedules for this semester have not yet been determined due to the construction in Cunningham 151. We still do not have all of our room assignments for final exams. Susan Dean Baar said she hoped to have those assignments out to students in the next week.

7. Next meeting date

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:50pm; the next meeting date was set for Monday, December 11th, 12 – 12:00 in room 795.

Submitted by Lisa Mihlbauer
11/13/06