

# Housing Committee Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

1-19-2018

### Attendees:

Angela Storck  
Elizabeth Gilmer  
David Steptoe  
Amelia Simmons  
Robert Bodenhamer  
Shanae Vaifanua

### Absent:

Pamela Adams  
Chuck Wimberly  
Shayna Wheeler

### Agenda Items:

#### Review Highlights from previous year.

- Occupancy 103% for fall, 97% for spring
- Revamped student staff training
- Hiring of new employees (Coleman Bailey, Wayne Jukes, Sierra Hall, Kenneth McClendon)

#### Ideas brainstorm for creating campus collaboration opportunities (housing and EGSC)

- Brining financial aid counselors to Bobcat Villas during peak times to assist students with financial concerns.
  - We had financial aid counselors on hand to help students address gaps during the first week of classes.
- Bring registrar to Bobcat Villas during open enrollment to encourage course registration.
- Advisement comes to Bobcat Villas to help students find out who their advisor is.
- House calls - bringing in faculty and staff from outside of housing to meet and greet with our students outside of their normal scope
- Movie nights that are open to the campus - work with library
- Working w institutional advancement to identify scholarship funding sources.
  - As costs of housing continue to increase, we are considering putting in place a foundations scholarship that could be granted to high achieving housing students to cover their cost of attendance. This would assist students who are not eligible for financial aid, and for whom housing is too cost prohibitive, to live on campus.
- Working with Corvias to identify potential discount opportunities.
  - Permanent overflow option in Bobcat Villas West.

- Working with the library for informational literacy programming ; co-collaborate to make movie nights even better.
- Evaluate demographic and course enrollment information(collaborate with registrar) to identify disparities between residential and commuter students.
  - This is currently underway and will be presented with assessment data.
- Continue work with Dr. Vess to get more faculty engagement in the residence halls.
  - We are working with Corvias to have some flexible classroom furniture purchased so that we can convert our fitness room at the clubhouse into a classroom space for living-learning community CATS classes or supplemental instruction.
- Faculty mentor for the RAs; RAs are good representatives to the campus community about housing.
  - Looking at this possibility as a training/development extension for Fall 2018.
- Teach financial management - connect to Liz Gilmer or Financial aid.
  - Incorporated in our spring workshop series.
- Pizza with the Pros - once monthly; thirsty Thursday
- CATS class in bobcat villas; in progress
- Faculty advisors do some hours in the villas

### **Ideas for increasing housing student academic and personal success.**

- GPAs indicate that housing residents at EGSC tend to show .5 lower GPA on average than their commuter counter parts.
- Tried student tutoring in the residence halls utilizing RAs but no students took advantage of that availability.
- How can we bring faculty?
- How can we encourage classroom teaching in residence halls?
- Positive reinforcement; focus on reward instead of punishment
- Rate incentives for academic achievement (Corvias approval required)
- Donor scholarship for housing academic achievement. What's the need? How many would qualify? As funding is available. (Check number of qualifying students and send info to Liz)
- Classroom in Bobcat villas clubhouse. (In progress)
- Ask the students. What would it take for you to take your academics more seriously. Quality of life survey. Include academic success questions. (Survey will be distributed the first week of March)
- Workshop series in housing. (In progress)
- Comparison of learning support enrollment residents v commuters.
- Using campus classroom technology
- Information literacy - how can we help them understand how to identify reputable sources of information (Working with the library to identify a time for this program)
- Reading (encouraging reading) how can we encourage students to read?
- Book club in the residence halls? Literature circles - connect the reading content to them and who they are as students.
- Elizabeth will look into a literacy grant for students - these students are not performing as well as the national average.

- Living-learning communities and interest communities
  - Civic engagement living learning community.
  - Athlete Community
  - AAMI
  - Nerds Unite/Gaming Guild
- Interconnecting academic mediums for a more well rounded experience.

**Ideas for increasing student engagement. What can we do to both support and keep students entertained. Combat the idea of a suitcase campus.**

- Currently programming at approximately 1 program activity per week in housing or more.
- We encourage students to attend campus events and often have RAs escort students to campus events.
- Car show on campus; how hard would this be to coordinate?
- Car bash around midterms or finals – Bring a junk car on to campus and raise money or donations letting students swing a sledge hammer at a car to relieve stress.

**Marketing brainstorm for the upcoming recruitment season.**

- Post cards about housing to new admits.
- Fliers in admissions packets.
- Targeted communication emails.
- Swag items: key chains, cell phone wallets, mini flashlights, pens
- More targeted recruitment plan from marketing;
- Large format posters to be hung in housing
- Designate a show space
- First year communication plan from recruitment to end of first year.