

## Staff Advisory Committee

November 18, 2020

**Attending:** Donna Cassario, Sarah Irizarry, Laura Danner, Arlo Del Rosario, Regine Diehl, Cheryl Leblanc, Jillian Leclerc, Steve Czagas, Jennifer Nessmith, Amy Meyer, Angela Taylor, Sarah Ayers, Andy McIlwraith, John Meyer, Allie Biagioni, Lee Karnbach, Elizabeth Middleton and Sonny (Charles) Cherrito.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Chair, Donna Cassario. October 14, 2020 minutes were approved.

**Guest speaker:** Bino Campanini, SVP of Student Life and Alumni Affairs

Reviewed how Florida Tech developed and moved forward with a COVID safety plan.

- Hand washing
- Social distancing
- Masks

Drop in student enrollment overall (about 10%) wasn't as low as predicted because of remote learning possibility/option.

Plan is available on the Florida Tech website. <https://www.fit.edu/coronavirus/>

It has been determined that the spread of the virus is a result of students going outside of the campus environment, rather than from the campus itself.

Discussion of Isolation vs. Quarantine, per CDC guidelines.

- Isolation is for 10 days. A student gets tested, shows positive, security transports student to get belongings and is set up in a designated place. Meals are delivered, laundry is done etc.
- Quarantine is for 14 days. This is for students who had close contact to a positive student. Less restrictive.

The COVID safety meeting continues to meet weekly.

Faculty and staff need to notify HR if they test positive.

95% of students are only mildly ill, no hospitalizations, so far.

Spring semester is likely to look similar to the current fall semester.

- Request was made to make it clear to students especially, that remote and online learning are NOT the same.

Question was asked of where we rank with other schools in terms of positive cases and handling of a safe and healthy campus. Bino responded that we are in the top 10% of the most effective plan and lowest positivity.

Bino mentioned that they were reviewing the Security check in area for visitors on campus. It is not conveniently located

There is less concern about travel back to campus from Thanksgiving break than after "winter" holiday break. Thanksgiving break is shorter and many will chose to not return to campus to finish the semester.

Students are encouraged to remote learn after Thanksgiving, if they had gone home, rather than coming back to campus.

## **Subcommittees-members and updates**

Benefits Subcommittee – **Angela Taylor and John Meyer, Co-Chairs:** Dan, Cheryl, Tina and Sonny

Communications Subcommittee –**Arlo Del Rosario and Jillian Leclerc, Co-Chairs:** Sarah Ayers, Dan, Regine and John

Membership Subcommittee – **Donna and Sarah Irizarry, Co-Chairs:** Allie, Lee, Andy, Laura and Elizabeth

Outreach Subcommittee –**Jennifer Nessmith and Regine Diehl, Co-Chairs:** Tina, Sarah A., Laura and Elizabeth

- Reverse trick or treat event had a great number of participants and was well received overall

Safety/Security Subcommittee –**Amy Meyer and Sonny Cherrito, Co-Chairs:** Steve, Allie, Lee, Jillian and Andy

- By January, subcommittees should be functioning and meeting between General SAC membership meetings.
- Subcommittees function by discussing issues or ideas pertinent to their committee and then come back to the general membership of the SAC to discuss further, give suggestions and/or resolution.

## **Other/Open Discussions**

- Guest speaker suggestions: member of the Faculty Senate and Human Resources. Donna will reach out to both.
- Workday will be live in January so many departments and employees will be very busy supporting this initiative.
- Suggestion to send out happy holiday greeting from SAC. Donna to check with Becky in the President's Office.
- Becky contacted Donna before the Halloween event asking for ideas to do something in lieu of the holiday party. Donna will check with Becky to see if the SAC is needed for this purpose.
- No suggestions/ideas have been submitted in our online mailbox.
- Suggestion to incorporate and support "Inclusion and Diversity". Andy McIlwraith opened discussion. We will continue to discuss ideas. Donna will check with HR to see if this an initiative that SAC can support the University with.

Next meeting will be 12/9/20, 9:30am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am

Submitted by Donna Cassario