

College Council on Community Policy

Meeting Minutes February 7, 2014

Members Present: Najwa Alsheikh, Beth Bone, Margaret Bruzelius, Ashavan Doyon, Brent Durbin, Beth Gillespie, Ralph Gould, Jr., Scott Graham, Stacie Hagenbaugh (chair), Sam Masinter, Dalia Mehiar, Lisa Nawrocki, Madelyn Neely, Laura Smiarowski, Elise Smith, Fraser Stables, Susan Stratton Sayre, Vera Shevzov, Barbara Williams

Guests Present: Charles Staelin, Economics Professor
Students from the Lewis Leadership Program: Mitchell Carney '15, Julia Edwards '15, Sara Mercier '15, and Jess Montecalvo '15

The meeting began at 12:08 p.m. Chair Stacie Hagenbaugh opened the meeting by asking those present to introduce themselves to the group.

Stacie introduced Charles Staelin, who explained that the Lewis Leadership Program is a two-year program that offers four weeks of training and experience during two consecutive January terms and an internship during the summer. This January the program investigated the issue of whether Smith should become a tobacco free campus. To begin, the Program students surveyed 750 Smith students and 350 faculty and staff about their knowledge of the current Smith smoking policy (which prohibits smoking inside of and within 20 feet of all buildings) and their opinions on smoking at Smith. The Program students were split into four groups to analyze the data and make recommendations. He introduced the members of two groups to present their findings to the council.

The “blue” group determined that no change is needed to the current smoking policy. They believe that problems with compliance are due to a general unawareness of the current smoking policy. They suggest a yearly education program, such as a movie similar to the one that is shown to students about the alcohol policy, and an awareness week. Based on the honor code and the respect that Smith students have for one another, they concluded that greater awareness of the current policy will lead to greater compliance.

The “red” group determined that promoting a healthy, tobacco free campus is in the college’s best interest. They believe that students have the right to a smoke free campus. They suggest a transition period in which current and prospective students would be made aware of the upcoming tobacco free policy. They propose a partnership with the new

Wellness Center for education and cessation help. Like the blue group, the red group suggests an annual awareness week. They anticipate that having a tobacco free campus would strengthen Smith's reputation.

The students then fielded questions from the council.

The meeting ended at 1:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 7, 2014, at noon (Campus Center 103/104).

Minutes respectfully submitted by Beth Bone.