

Provost's Advisory Council
Thursday, April 25, 2019 Meeting
8:30-10am, Lynch Center, Fulton 515

In attendance:

Laura O'Dwyer (Chair)
Joseph Carroll
Mary Ellen Carter
Chris Constas
Thomas Crea
Melissa Dilillo
Joseph Du Pont
Can Erbil
David Goodman

Kent Greenfield
Gregory Kalscheur, S.J.
William Keane
Jonathan Laurence
Karen Lyons
John Mahoney
Allison Marshall
Theresa LL23BcT-6(y) EMC /P <</MCID 18 >>BDC -/P <</M 2ohn f O
Billy Soo
Sasha Tomic

Thomas Wall

- 1. The summary of the March 21, 2019 meeting was approved.** It will be sent to the President's Office. All summaries are posted on the Provost's Office website; members are encouraged to share them with colleagues.
- 2. Student formation on campus: Michael Sacco, Executive Director, Center for Student Formation & First Year Experience.**

Laura introduced Michael Sacco, Executive Director of the Center for Student Formation and the First Year Experience, who is wrapping up his 24th year at BC.

Michael began with some background on the First Year Experience (FYE). FYE, which was created 25 years ago, is often thought of as the "orientation office." However, they also develop programming for students throughout their first year. FYE runs seven orientation programs over the summer for new students. BC's orientation program differs from programs at most schools across the country in that BC's summer orientation program runs for three days, Sunday through Tuesday. BC's program is also unique in that there is a comprehensive program for parents that runs parallel to the student orientation programming.

About 2.5 years ago, an evaluation of the orientation programming was conducted to see what was working and where there were opportunities for improvement. A few key areas for improvement emerged.

In talking with students, it became clear that the Orientation Leader positions carry a reputation on campus of being very prestigious and coveted, with 200-300 applications per year for 42 spots, but that student worried that one needed to be "connected" to get selected for the role. Another observation was that financial aid recipients and students of color were not applying for the positions at a rate in keeping with their presence on campus. In response, changes were made to the application process, removing obstacles to apply, and specifically soliciting applications from low-income students and students of color. Representation in the

academic units. He noted that many of the people on the task force will be from the academic side and will explore ways to better balance academic programming with other necessary orientation programming.

A council member noted that you might be able to stretch orientation programming time using technology to push some of the items to online options.

A council member asked if there were

deposits will be due late next week (May 1). All data to date suggests a very positive outcome to the admissions cycle.

He continued with an update on the Curriculum Committee on University-Wide Academic Programs, which has approved (s)TJudJudJdJudJdsibaclP(e)45ublic Heclth in (s)TJudJudCommon Good u minor, beginning in (s)TJud-6()-10(F)6(c)4(l)-2(l)-2(Ps)-1(e)4(m)-12(e)4(s)-1(t)-2(e)4(r)3(.)-10()TJ -0.)-4(T)-3(h)-3.9(i)6(d)(s)-12(t)(e)45 as lauehd conversations about how best

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