

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

University Standing Committee: Student Health Committee  
Academic Year Covered by Report: 2013-2014  
Date Report Submitted: July 22, 2014  
Report Submitted by: Leah Arnett on behalf of Brandon Emig, Chair  
Number of times committee met: 4

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Seek fee increase to fund counseling positions to address increased need demonstrated by student demand.
2. Seek funding to support expansion of all services to Centennial Campus.
3. Support Student Health Director's initiative for dental services to students, staff and faculty.
4. Support for the expansion of campus wellness initiatives.
5. Endorse the Student Health Insurance Plan benefits (more robust and less expensive - move from AIG to BCBS-Student Blue)
6. Seek avenues to support the whole student toward achieving academic success.
7. Endorse request for student health fee increase for 14-15 as requested.

### **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION ITEMS/ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEE:**

The past academic year, the Student Health Committee has discussed:

1. The mission of the committee and the need to better define the mission and goals for clarity.
2. Improvements to student insurance and related developments over the past year including an on-line waiver process for denials to opt out of the SHIP. Some committee members noted confusion surrounding summer insurance policies for graduate student employees.
  - Need highlighted for communicating this policy
  - Students can purchase, but are not otherwise covered
3. The counseling center is understaffed and requires additional staff. In order to meet the accreditation standard put forth by IACS, the staffing levels will need to be raised to 26 employees
  - Students' needs for counseling are often not met in a timely fashion
  - Graduate students, who can be teaching undergraduates, have requested a separate waiting room to avoid potentially awkward encounters

4. Medical excuses are not provided by Student Health Services. To do so is inconsistent with the mission and purpose of helping students understand healthcare consumerism and responsibility. Among other reasons, medical excuses could potentially violate student privacy. Faculty members of the committee indicated they were not aware of this policy and that they require medical excuses. There is a policy and guideline for faculty to refer to on line and such should be communicated to professors.
5. Dental services will be offered later in the fall of 2014 that will add revenue for student health services.
6. A hiring process is underway for a health promotion director that will facilitate:
  - Communication to students about wellness and re-brand and revitalize the initiative formerly known as “Healthy State”
7. The committee has been without undergraduate representation this year. This has been unfortunate.
  - Next year undergraduate representation will be sought via relevant bodies

#### **RECOMMENDATION FOR REVISION OF CHARGE AND/OR MEMBERSHIP CONFIGURATION:**

1. The Student Health Committee members are in favor of membership being inclusive of more student representation. This past year graduate students representation was present however undergraduate and members of student senate are also recommended for the forthcoming year. Some members were unable to attend meetings despite creative scheduling of meetings to accommodate for greater attendance. Thus it is recommended that proposed members understand the commitment involved and be able to be actively engaged.
2. Purpose and Goals

The committee discussed that efforts to clearly identify and address initiatives in progress, or those needed, be identified earlier and discussed to further move the initiatives forward.

3. Initiatives
  - the inclusion of additional specialists for the medical clinics (dermatology, dental, endocrinology)
  - additional funding for positions in both counseling and student health
  - space needs on Centennial Campus and funding to support
  - new revenue streams to support needed services
  - third party billing of insurance