Manhattan College Senate Campus Life Committee November 14, 2019 Meeting Notes

The Campus Life Committee of the Manhattan College Senate met on Thursday November 14, 2019 in Kelly Commons to discuss the below concerns. Those in attendance were Sonny Ago (Student Life, Chair), Marilyn Carter (Commuter Student Outreach), Fiona Delaney (Student Life), Amy Handfield (Library), Margaret McKiernan (Library), Lisa Juncaj (Finance, guest), Peter DeCaro (Public Safety, guest).

Parking

Concerns have recently been expressed by members of the Manhattan College staff and administrators regarding the increase of parking fees, access to lots/parking spaces in closer proximity to Leo and RLC, overcrowding of the garage at certain times of the day, and the community lottery parking initiative – which is perceived to have taken away spaces in the garage. The Campus Life Committee invited Lisa Juncaj (Director for Business Systems) and Peter DeCaro (Director of Public Safety) to address these concerns.

Lisa Juncaj discussed the pay structure for parking. Parking fees are determined as a product of service. The cost of maintaining (labor, taxes, and upkeep) the garage and other lots on campus determines if fees should be increased. Currently, the parking fees are "below cost" – specifically, the fees do not fully cover the cost of maintenance for parking services. This is an attempt to try and keep the cost of parking reasonable for the Manhattan College community. In order to spread out the cost of parking – especially, in light of recent increases – Business Services will explore the possibility of allowing individuals to have installments deducted from each paycheck instead of just once or twice a year.

Lisa Juncaj and Peter DeCaro also mentioned that a new parking system "T2" has been implemented. This system will enable the College to monitor parking trends and to efficiently manage ticketing. The hope is that this more evolved system will enable Public Safety and Business Services to suggest changes to current parking policies and practices. For instance, if the 4th and 5th floors of the garage should be reserved for overnight parking (as it once was), determining - if need be - better locations for ZipCar parking spots, if community spaces (vis a vis the parking lottery) should be eliminated/limited, if there should still be designated parking spaces for departments, and if the College should continue allowing employee overnight parking. Peter DeCaro discussed the installation of a new card access system that will allow those who work in Leo and RLC closer access to the garage via Broadway.

Overall, both Lisa Juncaj and Peter DeCaro mentioned that there is a current surplus of parking on campus, depending on when large events happen. Moving forward,

gathering data from the T2 system will enable any changes to be made if parking spaces once again become limited.

Feminine Hygiene Products

The Campus Life Committee discussed an initiative suggested by the Student Government Association to provide free feminine hygiene products on campus. Members of the Campus Life Committee met with the Manhattan College Business Office to discuss the logistics and cost to the College that this service might entail. Business Manager Ken Waldhof will be joining the Senate Meeting on November 19 to discuss what other institutions have in place.