**Campus Life Committee**

**Manhattan College Senate**

**Meeting Notes**

**February 12, 2021**

The Campus Life Committee of the Manhattan College Senate convened a meeting on Friday February 12, 2021 at 10:00AM over Google Meet. Those in attendance were: Sonny Ago (Student Life/Chair), Fiona Delaney (Student Life), Angelica Vazquez (Public Safety), Juanita Pacheco (Specialized Resource Center), Luis Garcia (Student Representative), and Zachary Olivan (Student Representative). Below are the topics that were discussed:

**Student Employment Committee Update**

Angelica Vazquez and Juanita Pacheco provided an update on the recently established Student Employment Committee (SEC). As mentioned in a presentation to the Manhattan College Senate in 2019-20, the Student Employment Committee provides training for both supervisors and student workers. Trainings for student workers help students make the connection between campus jobs and future career aspirations. Training for supervisors include (1) developing standards for conduct at work and (2) making connections between supervising and mentoring students. Other SEC initiatives include a centralized Evaluation Process for student workers and shared resources for supervisors like discussion groups and training materials. It was suggested that a SEC landing page be created, linked to the Financial Aid webpage, to centralize all of this information. Current challenges facing student employment were also discussed, including (1) the impact of budget constraints on student employment opportunities and (2) the difficulties in adjusting student job responsibilities so that they can be performed remotely.

**Mid-Year Orientation Update**

Fiona Delaney provided a brief review of Mid-Year Orientation 2021, which took place on January 26-27. She mentioned that the Orientation Office was successful in developing an in-house platform for remote information sessions, as well as providing in-person opportunities for January admits to build community. The committee felt that Mid-Year Orientation should serve as a model for co-curricular hybrid programming on campus.

**Diversity Council Update**

Juanita Pacheco provided an update on the Diversity Council Campus Climate Survey. Preliminary results from the survey are currently under review. Next steps include conducting confidential student focus groups. Through these focus groups, the Diversity Council will gain more insight into specific DEI areas of concern at Manhattan College. Student focus groups will start in March 2021. Please encourage all students to participate.

**COVID Fatigue and Quarantine**

Angelica Vazquez reported that Public Safety has noticed a significant uptick in students wanting to congregate both on campus and off-campus. This is believed to be the result of *COVID fatigue*, wherein students have increasingly become weary of following necessary social distancing rules.

The Campus Life Committee identified the socio-emotional well-being of students quarantine as a priority concern. Zachary Olivan, who is also a Resident Assistant in Horan Hall, mentioned that students in quarantine have been struggling to stay engage while in isolation. Sonny Ago detailed two very recent Student Life initiatives designed to address this: (1) the Counseling Center is currently conducting Quarantine Support Groups and (2) the Student Engagement Office is hosting virtual/remote activities specifically for students in quarantine. These activities include on-line recreation competitions, social media campaigns, free Master Classes offered by Manhattan College faculty/administrators and off-campus facilitators, and movie marathon watch parties. Zachary Olivan mentioned that the Kinesiology Department/Fitness Center JasperFit Mentor Program could also be used to help remedy some of the challenges that students face. Currently, JasperFit mentors are connecting with quarantined students (virtually) to discuss how to keep healthy (through diet and exercise) even in restricted spaces.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00AM.