

T-FSC Educational Policies and Faculty Student Relations
Committee
Minutes

The Committee held it's final meeting of the Fall semester on Dec 12, 2019 at 2pm.

In attendance: Alex Jassen, David K Irving, and Alan Mincer

The first portion of the meeting was dedicated to a discussion with Gigi Dopico, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, and J. Ryan Poynter, Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs.

We discussed the ongoing efforts to make student course evaluations more effective and the challenges associated with using these evaluations for assessment of the instructor. Gigi and Ryan shared with the committee the main points of two previous meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Student Course Evaluations. The ad hoc committee is examining issues such as response rates and implicit bias and exploring effective models utilized at other institutions. Full details on these meetings (with link to research and data) can be found here: [November agenda](#) and [December agenda](#). Of particular note, Professor Ben Schmidt of NYU's History Department has developed a digital tool to measure [Gender bias in course evaluations](#)

The second part of our meeting was an interview with David Vogelsang, Executive Director, The Center for Student Life.

We discussed the changing psychological landscape of the University and how students are interacting with the faculty. While NYU is concerned and making every effort possible not to let any student fall between the cracks, faculty are clearly in the best position to indentify students who are struggling. David's view is to help faculty with as much training as necessary to know when and how to guide students to get the assistance they may need.

David provided a document (see attached) identifying the myriad formal faculty affiliations with student affairs.

The committee considered possible agenda topics for the spring '20 semester. The provost, in a meeting with the T-FSC Executive Committee, suggested the EP Committee might

discuss the academic identity of NYU, an issue in which she has been interested.

David K Irving
Alex Jassen

FACULTY ENGAGING STUDENTS THROUGH A FORMAL AFFILIATION WITH STUDENT AFFAIRS

* 34 Faculty Fellows in Residence help us to create intimate "learning communities" for students in the residence halls. By bringing cultural and intellectual experiences more directly into student life in a lively and more informal fashion, the program offers students the benefits of "small college" life within the larger contexts of both the University and the city of New York.

* 40 Faculty Affiliates work as leaders and mentors within "Explorations" communities; in which students elect to live on floors dedicated to specific thematic topics. Some examples of Explorations communities are "Science and Technology," "Food for Thought," "Serve the City," and "Big Apple, Big Screen."

* 9 Writing Affiliates from the Expository Writing Program (EWP) are associated with FYRE halls. The Writing Affiliates create programs and events designed to address the challenges of first-year writing courses, such as peer-review essay-drafting workshops, workshops for international students, and one-on-one writing conferences in the halls.

* 7 faculty members serve on NYU's Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee, along with representatives from the Provost's Office and School leadership, and provide guidance on issues related to varsity athletics.

* 2 faculty members serve as advisors to individual club sports (fencing and taekwondo).

* 34 faculty members serve on the Wasserman Center Advisory Board. New this year, the Wasserman Center launched the Career Advising Network, an initiative designed to provide students with holistic post-graduation and career guidance in partnership with faculty and staff members in departments around the university. In Fall 2019, the inaugural semester of this program, 31 faculty members joined the Network and received the Career Advising training.

* 3 faculty members serve as advisors in the Multifaith and Spiritual Leadership minor, a partnership between Spiritual Life and the School of Social Work. 1 of these faculty members also serves as the liaison for the EdD Summer Institute.

* 10 faculty members are members of the Standards Committee which oversees an annual review of student conduct policies, and of those, 6 faculty members have completed additional training to serve panelists on student conduct hearings.

* A faculty member from Meyers serves as the co-chair of the Student Health Advisory Board.

* In total, we have 130+ faculty who directly engage students through a formal affiliation with a Student Affairs unit.