

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2011-2012**

I. Statement of Committee Function

The Advisory Committee to the Office of the Dean of Students advises the dean of students and the Division of Student Life, the Faculty Senate, and the administration on aspects of student life not part of the formal instructional program of the university. The committee:

1. Recommends, encourages and evaluates programs and policies that support a positive learning environment and student learning outside the formal instructional program, in cooperation with the Undergraduate Education Committee.
2. Recommends, encourages and evaluates programs and policies regarding the student social environment including issues of conduct, health and safety, harassment, and substance abuse.
3. Studies and makes recommendations regarding student academic and non-academic misconduct and related policies, rules and procedures. The committee does not hear or consider whether an existing policy or rule ought to be applied in any individual case.
4. Advises the dean of students on organization and priorities under her/his direction.

II. Activities during 2011-2012

The committee met four times this year – twice in the fall semester and twice in the spring semester. One topic frequently discussed is student use of alcohol and how the university can influence the ways that students make choices regarding alcohol. Committee members weighed in on the new BASICS program and the role that faculty and TAs can play in being role models regarding alcohol use. Additionally the group suggested student academic and nonacademic misconduct changes, discussed our expectations of students, and created messages for students, parents and faculty about the Mifflin Street event.

III. Current Issues or Concerns

The committee is taking a close look at how most effectively to advise the dean of students and the Division of Student Life moving forward. In the summer, a subcommittee will be convened to reexamine the committee's mission and goals. The committee is continuing its look at how faculty and staff can play a role in improving the culture of alcohol on campus. The committee is considering suggestions for appropriate etiquette in the use of communication technologies (e.g., cell phones, laptops with internet connections) in classroom settings. Additionally, the committee continues to provide a key sounding board for the division's efforts to address issues of academic integrity in our student body.

IV. Future Issues

Moving into the future, the committee recognizes that such topics as academic misconduct and student expectations are ongoing, and also intends to continue discussion regarding the alcohol culture on campus and helping students make healthy choices throughout their careers on campus.

V. Summary/Recommendations

The committee continued its schedule of regular meetings and provided valuable feedback on some of the projects that the division is undertaking. Over the summer, the committee will take this success and look inward to evaluate whether more can be done. We hope that these recommended changes will be accepted by the Faculty Senate when completed.

VI. Committee Membership for 2011-2012

Faculty

B. Bradford Brown, chair
Jacqueline Hitchon
Nadine Nehls
Doug Rouse

Students

Neil Damron
Scott Nelson
Cody Ostenson
Myranda Tanck

Academic Staff

Jennifer Bottoni
Eileen Callahan

Ex officio, non-voting

Lori Berquam
Aaron Brower