

GUEST SPEAKERS: Emily Sears from CSD Stamford

- CSD and UConn: CSD is vested by the University with the authority to engage in an interactive process with each student and determine appropriate accommodations on an individualized, case-by-case basis.
- The goal: to ensure a comprehensively accessible University experience where individuals with disabilities have the same access to programs, opportunities and activities as all others, we want it to be an equitable process.
- Accommodations process: students have to register with CSD, CSD looks at their self-report – what they tell them about their condition – look at any documentation they provide (anyone who can speak professionally to the individuals' conditions). Based on the condition, CSD will discuss what accommodations are appropriate.
- Student responsibility: self-identify as someone with a disability/condition; they need to have a meeting with CSD and have to go through the interactive process
- Faculty responsibility: review accommodation letters that are sent out and assure approved accommodations are provided; engage students with discretion and in private
- CSD responsibility: determine if the student has a disability, engage in the interactive process with the student and notify faculty, keep tab on the requests that are coming in
- CSD statistics: 4,993 students registered with the CSD (as of March 22, 2022); 17.2% of undergraduates are registered with the CSD; many students report more than one condition;
- New trends in accommodations: 86 students who are approved for one or more Covid-specific accommodations (e.g. housing accommodations, permission to access student recreation facility, priority registration, permission to turn camera off during online course, extended time to complete online assessment, deadline extensions to complete assignments, permission to navigate backwards during online assessments); alternative to in-person class attendance: more students are requesting to attend in-person classes remotely
- Emily.sears@uconn.edu, Emily's direct Stamford line: 860-428-8743, csd.uconn.edu
- CSD responsibility: whatever the student is allowed to get in accommodations, they need to make sure they get it, even if it ends up that they won't need it or that they don't need it in all of their classes (e.g. extended time), however, their accommodation letter will reflect the uniform accommodation. However, there are some classes where accommodations just won't work for specific reasons, and CSD will let the students know that; CSD sends reminder email that students have

to refresh their accommodations for every semester; they send a number of email reminders every August and December/January; According to Emily, at Orientation they already encourage students to register with CSD if they think they'll need it; CSD encourages students to be proactive and get them to register as soon as possible;

- CSD working with faculty: CSD is incredibly open to ideas/thoughts as to how an accommodation looks in your class, because they can take information and apply it to another student, so if there's every a concern about what is part of any accommodation, faculty should feel free to email/call Emily to talk;
- CSD consistently collaborating with Stamford IT to make classrooms accessible for any kind of online teaching/accessible teaching features; CSD does work with CETL and IT to ensure that the technologies that are required for the classroom are available
- Question being raised about students taking in-person classes online: Some faculty see the issue that this will create additional work for faculty members who have to make sure that the format translates to an online-teaching aspect as well. Many faculty at UConn Stamford are adjuncts and aren't being compensated for their time. Emily: when we are requesting that students are attending class remotely, we are not asking to turn the class into an online format and have faculty do more work; we would never approve this accommodation for just any student, students have severe conditions that requires that specific accommodation.

OPEN COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- I. Welcoming new council member Rogerio Victor: new council member from the School of Business; his office is in Stamford, he teaches mostly online since COVID, has been with UConn for the past six years
- II. Approve 2/28 minutes: Jane motions to approve, Claudia seconds, Stephanie has to abstain and Rogerio can't vote yet. Minutes are **passed**.
- III. Approve March/9 minutes: Bill and Jane approved, Johanna and Claudia have to abstain and Rogerio can't vote yet. Minutes are **passed**.
- IV. Discussion points emailed to Dave Souder: Dave replied to the discussion points, Bill passed them on.
 1. Workshops at Storrs and buses for faculty at Stamford to attend them; Dave said he'll get back to the council on that request/idea
 2. Dave: no online classes at Stamford, planning for a non-Covid interfering fall semester
 3. Campus construction – most of it is supposed to be done by the end of summer
- V. **Bill will downgrade the April meeting with Dave to just an email exchange if we have any further questions.**
- VI. No guest speakers queued up for the remaining meetings this semester
- VII. SFC membership: multiple council members (Kriti, Meredith, Jane) will leave at the end of the spring semester. Need to set up elections to replace them. Bill will get in

touch with Mike Bailey since the AAUP has administered SFC elections in the past. Trying to get the elections set up for May in order to start with a full SFC council in the fall.

- VIII. Continued SFC branding/awareness: Meredith is missing 1 or 2 bios from SFC council members. She'll work on getting the website to go live in order to have the website up for when the elections are taking place.
- IX. Stamford Director search: Carol Ann provides the update: 3 final candidates had their meeting days at Storrs and Stamford; it was broadcasted and recorded; they did meetings with the search committee and the community, met with different faculty groups at Storrs and Stamford, each candidate had two full days of meet and greet and presenting their talk; search committee made the recommendation to the provost in person and also sent a written report with their recommendations.
- X. Next SFC meeting: Wednesday, April 13, at 4pm