Committee on Advising and Student Life (CASL) Meeting#4 Minutes
November 1, 2024
1:00 – 2:00 PM
Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Jim Doyle (Chair), Rudra Kafle (Secretary), Ingrid Matos-Nin, Jane Li, Paul Reilly, Erin Ottmar, Melissa Kagen, Emily Perlow, Chaz Aguiar, Natalie Bouffard, Christine Sharry (Guest speaker)

Call to Order: 1:03 PM

1. The chair welcomed the guest speaker Christine Sharry, Associate Dean of Students.

2. Christine explained her role in the Dean of Students office, including looking into the reports on academic integrity violations submitted by the faculty.

3. Christine reported that the academic integrity violation inquiries increased from 147 in 2022-2023 academic year to 230 in the academic year 2023-24. She observed that a good fraction of the recent year's cases is related to use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). She also mentioned that out of 230 inquiries, 146 were handled at the departmental level in the academic year 2023-24, and 63 cases were dismissed by the faculty.

4. In the Q&A session, there were discussions on multiple aspects of academic integrity violations. For example, AI related plagiarism cases varied significantly in the courses taught by different faculty members. Some faculty members clearly mention in the syllabus that students who use AI should distinguish their own work from the AI assisted work whereas a clear AI use policy can be missing in other syllabi. Christine suggested that if faculty clearly outline their expectations in their course syllabi, that may help reduce the cases of academic integrity violations.

5. It was suggested that clear syllabi including the use of AI and proper information to the stakeholders could help mitigate the issue of academic integrity violations. CASL could potentially partner with groups such as The Morgan Teaching and Learning Center to help make faculty and students aware of resources and procedures by organizing workshops.

6. Christine pointed out a difficulty in framing general policies of using AI in the courses as they may differ per course and department. Additionally, if AI were to become required use in some way in the future, it could create equity issues as some students may be unable to access the AI or afford platforms that may charge.

7. It was suggested that there are faculty groups already working to review and update academic integrity policies to incorporate use of AI in their domain. The CASL chair will reach out to them. CASL is interested in identifying and distributing examples of best practices.

8. CASL expressed its support for tracking the number of academic integrity cases that involve the use of AI.

9. The committee approved the minutes of the CASL#3 meeting, with some minor updates.

10. The chair brought to everyone's attention that the CASL will start planning for Just-in-Time Training for Faculty Academic Advising.

Adjournment: 1:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rudra Kafle (Secretary)