CAS Student Advisory Board Minutes- 4/30/15

In attendance: Dean Laura Stephenson, Associate Dean Bruce Mactavish, Assistant Dean Matt Arterburn, Grace Hildenbrand, Christina Garcia, Rachel Beiker, Sarah Walker, Fritz Helbert, Chloe Mooradian, Austin Dodds, Taylor Balsmeier, Christianna Pope, Murray Heikes, Troy Russell, Darria Dennison

* Everyone introduced themselves by discussing what they are passionate about.
* Several students shared why they chose Washburn and/or what they like about Washburn
  + Responses included: location, family went to Washburn, quality programs, small size, liberal arts education, cost (lower tuition), availability of majors, and personal connection with professors
* Next we discussed what Washburn could do differently to improve students’ experiences:
  + Have less standardization of assessments
  + Work to create a cohesive identity as a whole university and encourage more school spirit
    - There is an identity within individual departments but not among other departments (we are especially lacking a College of Arts & Sciences identity)
  + Could be more promotion of events and services at Washburn, especially things going on outside own department
* This led to a discussion about where students get information about events at Washburn:
  + Students responded that they tend to get information from groups they are involved in or by reading emails. Posters seem to be a less effective method.
  + Social media is a good way to promote events and services on campus.
* Lastly, we discussed what the College can do to improve students’ experiences:
  + Open social media accounts such as Facebook and Twitter and send out a monthly email to let students know of events going on within the College
  + Have presidents of student organizations or faculty share information regarding upcoming events
  + Continue to promote special events in classes such as guest speakers
  + Look into getting higher pay for tutors
  + Look into providing greater emphasis on the Ally/Safe Zone program at Washburn for new students
  + Encourage faculty to assist with the process of students obtaining internships or working on publicizing internships
  + Let students know of the plans for the new buildings once the construction is completed
  + Websites also need improvement
    - Students said they look at department web pages for professor information, research, scholarship information, major requirements/courses, student organizations, internships, and are interested in seeing faculty research and accomplishments