Student Life Funding Survey

The draft survey emerged from a collective concern, evident during conversations among Graduate Career Services staff, that student life funding may not in fact correspond to students’ interests and concerns. Do, for instance, the number of fellows per office and annual budget per office reflect what students want, or do they reflect what the University either historically felt or now feels it should provide? I can see where, in the 1990s, when graduate students were having a tougher time at Yale, the activities sponsored by the Student Life office might have made a big difference to graduate student experience. And maybe those activities still do. I hear more concern and worry, however, about jobs after Yale than about a dearth of student activities while at Yale.

So one idea of the survey is to canvass student interests and concerns with specific attention to the five student life offices, both in an experiential sense and a hypothetical sense (hence, the two questions).

Our comments:

What is the current allocation of funding?
perhaps flip the two pages
are you aware that funding for all of these programs is to be cut next year
is diversity necessary to include, could you just include the 4 more ‘academic’
departments?

Funding/Professor allocation upon position vacancy

I asked at steering how faculty allotments to departments are allocated when vacancies open from transfer or retirement and received some information.

The simple answer is "its complicated" and at the moment, it appears, not well codified. Basically at the moment the department needs to request permission to do a search to fill any vacancy. This process is confirmed by two GSAS deans and an inquiry to the provost's office.

Before we get too excited and begin campaigning for changes to this system it seems that the faculty have beaten us to it. The process has been under review for a while and a proposal is going to the FAS this week for review. So I think we are in a wait-and-see sort situation.

- Can we see the proposal from the FAS?
- Does the faculty know that the students are quite concerned about this process across the whole FAS
• With respect to the cuts of the student life departments, can we get any sort of promise that they will be reinstated in the future.

Alternative TF options:

Stat lab in CSSSI has people that work there (are they TFs or just employees)

Can grad students help the undergrads in writing their theses (as opposed to the research)?
When facing non-guaranteed teaching years this may become important

Special studies with grad students (how are the TFs compensated); associates in teaching—where the TF teaches the class with the professor (what TF level is this at?)