GFC Minutes, Nov. 11, 2015

**Guest Speakers, Susan Davis, Associate Vice-President for Student Affairs, Liaison to the General Counsel**

Spoke about sexual and gender-based violence—what students and employees need to know.

Five cases resulted from the Rolling Stone article of last November:

1. President Sullivan asked the Charlottesville Police Department to conduct an investigation.
2. The Columbia University review of Rolling Stone
3. The Board of Visitors asked for a review – Amelveny and Meyers interviewed university employees and presented their findings under privilege to the Board of Visitors. The federal government needs to give permission to allow the findings to be made public. A request was made to release the executive summary of findings, but was denied because of privacy issues. The Board did not want the findings to be released, but the investigation did find no cover-up by University officials.
4. An inquiry from SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) requesting that U.Va. explain its policies.
5. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights report offering a resounding endorsement of U.Va’s new policies and procedures.

There are also three civil lawsuits still pending against Rollins Stone and Sabrina Rubin Erdely. The lawsuits have been initiated by Dean Nicole Eramo, three male students, and the Phi Psi fraternity itself. The University has no financial stake in any of these trials, and is not a plaintiff or defendant anywhere.

The current policy on sexual and gender-based violence became effective July 1, 2015, and meets state legal requirements. Every report now must be run through the Threat Assessment Office and reported to police if certain requirements are met—even if the victim reporting the incident does not wish to have the incident reported. There is some concern that there will be a chilling effect on reporting because there is less wiggle room than in the past. About 10 incidents are reported a week to the Threat Assessment Office.

Procedures and resources are separate for students and for employees of the University.

Student transcripts will now be marked “withdrawn after disciplinary report,” or given a similar designation if the student was disciplined resulting from a report of this kind.

Kelly B. Hodge, a U.Va. alumna, will be the new Title IX Coordinator, and will separate the frontline support team from those who will investigate and adjudicate cases. It is hard to force people to wear multiple hats in this kind of situation.

Investigations are no longer being conducted by Student Affairs.