Elizabeth Thomason

Director of Student Services Review Committee

Student Government Association

900 Auraria Pkwy, Ste 301

Denver, CO 80204

January 24th , 2025

Dear Matthew Heermann,

As the Director of the SSRC, I would like to extend both my own appreciation and that of the rest of the Student Government Association (SGA) for your presentation on November 22nd , 2024. As a whole, the SGA endorses the continued efforts and improvements made by the Director of the Counseling Center in amplifying the campus experience for all students of CU Denver.

Throughout your presentation and RFI, we found many noteworthy accomplishments for which we would like to commend you including the creation of Lynx Life Stories, hiring a new director and other new staff members, beginning to find definition for “crisis”, and events such as the “Coming Out Day Brunch” and “Annual Depression Day Screening”.

While we all acknowledge and appreciate the strides made to improve the student experience here at CU Denver, the SGA SSRC would like to recognize potential opportunities for further enhancement. To that end, we would like to offer the following suggestions:

1. **Mental Health and Wellness Fee:** due to the predicted benefit of adding the mental health and wellness fee, the SGA SSRC recommends implementing this fee as soon as is feasibly possible.
2. **Marketize proactive care:** the rates of students expressing suicidal and/or homicidal thoughts is much higher than we would like to see. The pre-existing events intended to raise mental health awareness on campus are wonderful, but we would like to see more events to destigmatize therapy/counseling.

In conclusion, we applaud the progress made thus far and are excited about the potential for even greater achievements in the future. The SGA SSRC looks forward to continuing our collaborative partnership with the Director of the Counseling Center and company.

Thank you for your dedication and hard work in making CU Denver a place where every student has the opportunity to celebrate their academic journey and feel connected to our community.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Thomason - Director, SSRC CU Denver