

Commission for Women

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 7, 2013

1. Call to order

Mary Papke called to order the regular meeting of the **Commission for Women** at **12:00 noon** on **Thursday, February 7, 2013**, in Hodges Library Conference Room 605.

2. Roll call

The following persons were present:

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| Joy DeSensi | |
| Wendy Syer | Rachel Chen |
| Steve Thomas | Kierstyn Lamour |
| Mary Papke | |
| Keith Kirkland | |
| Rosa Thomas | |
| Dan Berryman | |
| Hilary Fouts | |
| Leigh Shoemaker | |
| Henry, Katherine | |
| Thura Mack | |
| Cheryl Travis | |
| Jessica Simmons | |

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from Thursday, December 6, 2012, were approved.

4. Open issues

a) Report by the Chair

- i. Mary Papke met with Susan Martin and Ricky Hall.

b) Report of Committees and Faculty Senate

- i. Keith Kirkland (CFLGBT) reported that their commission is still working on the difficult issue of faculty benefits for all.
- ii. Rachel Chen (CFB) reported that the commission discussed award nominations (Chancellor Awards) and the need to increase outreach projects to the larger community.

- iii. Steve Thomas reported for the Faculty Senate. The “code of conduct” regulations will be discussed in March. They endorse the five-point scale for faculty evaluations. Campus “disability advocates” want more attention to their needs and issues. He also reported that the senate study on faculty salaries did not delineate by gender.

c) Other Business

- i. The CFW had a closed discussion and vote on the Notable Woman Award nominations.
- ii. Cheryl Travis presented the work she and Jenny Richter (and many others) produced over the past seven months to create a new faculty-student romantic or sexual relationships policy report that would align UT with other “top 25” American universities. Several CFW members reviewed the report and approved of the proposed measures. Hilary Fouts moved to endorse the presented report, and the commission approved the motion.
- iii. The CFW is sponsoring three events to promote/celebrate Women’s History Month on the UTK campus in March. There will be a creative writing reading on March 5th in the library, a panel addressing breastfeeding/work-life balance in the International House on March 13th, and a panel addressing women’s health (smoking, sleep, sexuality) on March 13th in the International House as well.
- iv. Rachel Chen announced a charitable “product development” project being explored by her department entitled the “Volunteer State of Mind.” It is designed to be a project that gives back to the community in a number of different ways (fundraising, volunteering).