

Commission for Women

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 1st March, 2012

1. Call to order

Mary Papke called to order the regular meeting of the **Commission for Women** at **12:00 noon on Thursday, 1st March, 2012**, in Hodges Library Conference Room 605.

2. Roll call

The following persons were present:

Mary Papke
Kathy Morgan
Vince Anfara
Taryn Norman
Thura Mack
Ron Tredway
Wendy Syer
Leigh Schlactus
Rosa Thomas

Rachel Chen
Jenny Richter
Noriko Horiguchi
Joy DeSensi

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from Thursday, 2nd February, 2011, were approved.

4. Open issues

a) Report by the Chair

- i. The Commission Chairs met with Susan Martin. The Chancellor will advertize soon for a Vice Chancellor of Diversity.
- ii. The Notable Woman Award has been voted on and will be announced at the Chancellor's banquet.
- iii. The Angie Warren Perkins Award will also be announced at the Chancellor's banquet.
- iv. The Provost expressed interest again in establishing a stronger student and faculty relationships statement than is currently in the faculty handbook. The Senate Executive Council Meeting agenda for March has been set and the last chance to put a stronger student and faculty relationships statement on the agenda will be April, if this statement is to be implemented for 2012-2013.
- v. Mary Papke met with several past Presidents and the future President of the Faculty Women's club. Mary Papke suggested that the organization establish a web presence

with a clear mission statement as a way to publicize the organization, its events, and scholarship and funding opportunities. The group also needs to take into consideration the evolving campus environment and its diversity, such as female faculty members with same-sex partners.

b) Report of Committees and Faculty Senate

- i. Leigh Schlactus reported from The Women's Coordinating Council on upcoming events to celebrate Women's History Month, including the Women in the Workplace Equal Pay bake sale, Women in the Workplace panel on Thursday 8th March at 5pm in the Shiloh Room (Student Center), and Jennifer Posner's "Project Brainwash" (Women in the Media) presentation as part of Health Week.
Leigh Schlactus also reported that the Verizon Wireless Charity has awarded the WCC with a "No Strings Attached" grant for Take Back the Night 2012. The grant will be awarded at Saturday's basketball halftime show.
Mary Papke commended the WCC for their energies over the last year.
- ii. On March 6th from 2-5pm there will be a Diversity Job Fair that will connect students from diverse backgrounds to employers committed to diversity. The slogan for the event is "Define Your Own Diversity."
- iii. Vince Anfara reported from the Senate. An idea has been presented from the Top 25 Group to establish a one-stop-shop for faculty, which will be under the direction of David Schumann. The question has been raised as to what this site will look like, and how it will represent the Commissions and campus diversity. Please contact David Schumann with ideas. Mary Papke said that a one-stop-shop is being created for students in Hodges Library.
Vince Anfara reported that a resolution on academic freedom is being presented in April because the current academic freedom policy only applies to teaching and research, and not to speaking about the University.
- iv. The Chancellor was approached by the Undergraduate Student Government Association to create a smoke-free campus. Jimmy Cheek said this is against current State law. However, we do need to make sure that the current policy is enforced on campus. The Employee Relations Committee expressed concern about the lack of enforcement on campus of the smoking policy. Jeff Maples was invited to the meeting because the campus police report to him.
- v. The Commission for LGBT People is continuing to push for domestic partnership benefits. Current top 25 schools have domestic partnership benefits.
- vi. Vince Anfara reported that there has been a consistent problem over the past few years with people being appointed to serve on Commissions and Senate Committee but failing to show up to meetings. Currently, no one is willing to run or serve as Faculty Senate Chair Elect for next year.
Mary Papke said that women and minorities are overworked by being asked to serve multiple positions on the Commissions and Senate Committees. She also said that based on attendance records there is a problem with students being assigned to serve and not showing up, and she suggested that we revise this policy. Camille Hall, Chair of the Commission for Blacks, for example, has started asking for application for those wishing to serve on the Commission.

Vince Anfara reported that there has not been a full complement of senators from Arts and Sciences for at least three years.

Ron Tredway asked, how can we encourage volunteers? How can we recognize and reward volunteers? Mary Papke suggested that a reception could be held by the Chancellor, and Vince Anfara will suggest this idea to Jimmy Cheek. Vince Anfara agreed that we need to find ways to recognize service to the University and suggested that Margie Nichols could send out a write-up of the Commissions and Committees members' efforts.

The Vice Chancellor is to review all of the Committees and Commissions on campus and their current status. Some of these groups may be reconstituted to better serve the campus community.