

Commission for Women

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 5, 2013

1. Call to Order

Mary Papke called to order the regular meeting of the Commission for Women at 12:00 noon on Thursday, September 5, 2013 in Hodges Library Conference Room 605.

2. Roll Call

The following people were present:

Melissa Ashburn, Dan Berryman, Rachel Chen, Joy DeSensi, Joel Kramer, Thura Mack, Stephanie Metz, Mary Papke, and Rosa E. Thomas

3. Approval of Minutes

The meetings from April 4, 2013 were approved.

4. Open Issues

a) Report by the Chair

- i. Mary Papke expressed hope for the Commission for Women to work together with Vice Chancellor for Diversity Rickey Hall throughout this year to create a welcoming and diverse community for students.
- ii. Mary Papke reported that the Chancellor would continue to fund the Angie Warren Perkins Endowment and would continue to support the HERS Institute.
- iii. There are still lingering concerns with the handling of Sex Week and there needs to be further discussion on this issue with Rickey Hall and others.
- iv. Mary Papke stated the Commission hopes to hold several panels this year focusing on topics such as balancing work and life, women in the sciences, and women's health issues. The Commission also hopes to sponsor a creative fiction reading this year.
- v. The Chair also anticipates the Commission working with the Faculty Senate on policies concerning romantic relationships between faculty and students.

b) Report of Committees

- i) Joel Kramer (CFLGBT) reported that CFLGBT will be adding a paid staff member at the OUTreach Center. Additionally, Alumni Affairs has called for more programming from them.

c) Other Business

- i) Rosa Thomas will invite Volunteers Speak Up, a campaign to address sexual assault and domestic or dating violence, to come and talk at the Commission's next meeting.
- ii) Mary Papke noted that someone from the Commission will have to commit to serving as Chair for the next two years at the end of this academic year.
- iii) Joel Kramer reported that this is the first year UT has allowed male and female students to live on the same dorm floors in the hopes of offering more housing options to students in the future.
- iv) Rachel Chen invited the Commissioners to attend the 2013 Leadership Summit Thursday, October 3rd and the Women's Leadership Summit Wednesday, November 6th.
- v) Rachel Chen updated the Commissioners on the progress of "Donation Education" and seeks donors or companies willing to help her with the project.