

Commission For Women

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 6th October 2011

1. Call to order

Mary Papke called to order the regular meeting of the Commission for Woman at 12:00 noon on Thursday, October 6th, 2011, in Hodges Library Conference Room 605.

2. Roll call

The following persons were present:

Rosa Thomas	Joy DeSensi
Angie Smith (for Sean Jung)	Rachel Chen
Vincent Anfara	Ron Tredway
Camille Hall	Jenny Richter
Caitlin Nolan	Thura Mack
Heather Mason	Kathy Morgan
Jenny Moshak	Leigh Schlactus
Margaret Crawford	Kierstyn Lamour
Mary Papke	Cheryl Travis

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from Thursday, September 1st, 2011, were approved.

4. Open issues

a. Report by the Chair

- i. Mary Papke will meet with Susan Martin this month to discuss the need for a campus diversity officer and implementation of a diversity statement on syllabi.
- ii. Mary Papke congratulated Joy DeSensi on her promotion to Vice Chair for CFW, and to Heather Mason who is now the head of the Work/Life Committee.
- iii. Mary Papke announced the approval for funding for the HERS Institute candidates for the coming year.
- iv. Mary Papke proposed that the CFW contribute \$100 to the “Diva Opals” contest again this year. The measure was approved without objection.

b. Report of Committees and Faculty Senate

- i. Camille Hall reported from the Commission for Blacks: On October 27th there will be a “Civility Dialogue” from 6-9 p.m. in the University Center.
- ii. Vincent Anfara reported from the Faculty Senate: 5 issues were discussed on September 19th which included passage of an anti-discrimination resolution that protects gender identities, electronic letters accepted for promotions, non-tenure track promotions, a resolution which added advising/mentoring to teaching responsibilities, and numerous challenges associated with the new SAIS e-forms.

- iii. Jenny Moshak reported from the Commission for LGBT People. The Commission is working on the “Lavender Graduation” project and a mentoring program for students, staff, and faculty. She also expressed their desire for a diversity officer.

c. HERS Institute Attendees, Rachel Chen & Camille Hall, responded to Mary Papke’s question: “What has the experience done, not just for you personally, but for you professionally?”

- i. Rachel Chen said that fellowship, common problems, procedural conflict/resolution solutions from a set of women with diverse university experiences had a profound impact. HERS provided a safe environment for the exchange of ideas and she has maintained a great bond with other leaders she met there. Her class initiated 7 new HERS scholarships this year for other women leaders at universities and colleges that cannot afford to send faculty.
- ii. Camille Hall said that the impact of HERS can be summed up by showing us the order of the most important events in her life: 1) The military, 2) her son, and 3) HERS. She felt that HERS was reinventing higher education through the investigation of common problems in an environment that encouraged a freedom not often afforded in a competitive setting. It encouraged women to help other women to move forward. It was a generative experience.

d. Announcements

- i. “Take Back the Night” is happening on October 27th, 2011, on the pedestrian walkway at 6:00 p.m.

e. Other Business

- ii. Cheryl Travis brought up the “Standard of Practice Regarding Faculty-Student Romantic and/or Sexual Relationships” guidelines before the committee. Mary Papke proposed that a working committee from the CFW meet to make suggestions about the proposal. The committee is: Jenny Richter from OED, Vincent Anfara from the Faculty Senate, and Cheryl Travis.