

President's Commission on the Status of Women

Minutes

5/12/15

Submitted by: Jessica Dutille

Present: Jessica Dutille (Chair), Katie Herzig, Anne Jung-Mathews, Lauren Lavigne, Wendy Palmquist, Mary Beth Ray, Alice Staples

Agenda

1. *Mindful Work*, by David Gelles
2. Student experience- another student today- Michelle Betts

Jess welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked everyone for all the time and energy they invested over the academic year. If anyone is interested in taking over as chair, please let Jess know. Otherwise she is happy to continue. The chair will be putting together the URSA report over the summer. Jess is happy to do this, and she will be in touch with all PCSW members for feedback on the report.

1. Mindful Work

CETL is hosting a lunch conversation with David Gelles, the author of *Mindful Work* on July 22nd. Jess explained that she feels this is a great opportunity for members of the commission who are interested in our work life balance initiative.

2. Student Experience

Jess met with Tom Weeks and Debbie Grotheer on April 16th in regards to our incoming student whose son is ineligible to live on campus. Tom clarified the policy of only housing students. He is very much in support of a resource guide that could be given to students in similar circumstances.

Jess met with Michelle Betts from Lakes Region Community Services again on May 1st, as well as with another one of her clients who is a PSU student. The student explained to Jess that she recently withdrew from PSU because her grades were suffering due to missing classes for doctor appointments. She has complications with her pregnancy, and she must go to DHMC every week to be monitored. She explained that one professor she had this past semester was extremely supportive and willing to work with her and her medical appointments, but the other professors were unwilling to do so. The student is anticipating returning to campus in spring 2016. Jess also has a meeting scheduled for later on today with another student and client of Michelle's who is also pregnant and running into challenges on campus.

Alice suggested that the PCSW minutes be sent to the President each month.

The commission suggested that we communicate these challenges/barriers for students to Provost Bernier and Jim Hundreiser. Jess will set up a meeting with both of them and will keep commission members informed as we move forward.

The commission continued to discuss these challenges for students.

The Young Women's Conference Committee will continue to work on plans for the event throughout the summer.

Jess will be in touch with commission members in regards to the meeting schedule for the Fall.