

## **President's Commission on the Status of Women**

### **Minutes**

**10/13/15**

Submitted by: Jessica Dutille

Present: Gail Carr, Jessica Dutille (Chair), Chantalle Forgues, Debbie Grotheer, Lauren Lavigne, Jill Martineau, Mary Beth Ray, Alice Staples, Jenny Tyniec

### **Agenda**

1. Update on Community Development and Diversity position: Jill Martineau
2. Meeting with President Birx
3. NH Young Women's Conference

Jess welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introductions

#### **1. Update on Community Development and Diversity position: Jill Martineau**

Jill Martineau gave an update on her new Community Development and Diversity Coordinator position. She has been serving in the position for two months. It was a redesign of the SAGE Center. She is still running some of the same services that the SAGE Center offered, and the office also has the ability to grow now. Jill is collaborating with designated areas on campus and has two student fellows and a work-study student.

Jess noted that the commission would greatly appreciate Jill's involvement.

Discussion on commission membership:

Gail noted that membership of the commission has historically gone to the president for approval.

Alice and Chantalle explained that they wrote a letter to the president asking for approval.

Jess suggested that we continue this as procedure going forward.

Commission members engaged in asking questions and in conversation with Jill about her new role.

- Jill's office is located in Langdon Woods. Office hours are 10am-6pm
- Jill is currently working on outreach efforts.
- Currently not engaging in cluster conversations, but plans to.

Alice spoke about her concern for female students knowing that Jill's office is a resource. Jill explained that her office is a part of the Dean of Students Office. She will be participating in the NH Young Women's Conference. Jill spoke about a larger conversation that needs to take place about how to get the message of the new office out. She noted that she spoke with Jess about the AWARE (Alliance for Women's Awareness, Rights and Equality) student organization that doesn't have participation lately.

Debbie confirmed that there is currently no membership. She was the student senate treasurer last year and explained that they were planning to go into the women's studies courses to get information out.

Gail suggested that the group table in the HUB to gain participation.

Chantalle asked if we could promote the conference in terms of being queer friendly more than we are. Jess agreed that this was a great suggestion moving forward.

Debbie suggested the term, "gender fluidly."

Jess explained that the conference committee discussed moving the next conference to Spring 2017, which will give us more time to connect with guidance officers and teachers.

## **2. Meeting with President Birx**

Discussion of the meeting that was set up from Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am in the HUB Student Senate room between President Birx and Vice President Hundrieser in regards to the PCSW charge and future ideas. All PCSW members were invited to join.

Some commission members expressed their confusion over the way in which the meeting was initiated.

Discussion on preparing for the meeting.

Jess noted the letter that was sent on behalf of the PCSW to Vice President Hundrieser over the summer in regards to student concerns about lack of housing for students who are parents.

Alice suggested that we go back to the beginning and discuss the history of the commission and why it was started.

Jess will send URSA report to everyone and, she encouraged everyone who is able to attend to contribute their expertise.

Chantalle suggested that we discuss a cluster concept. Of the six clusters proposed, she feels that the PCSW is directly linked to the justice and security cluster. Chantalle proposes that this commission be a part of that cluster.

Commission members noted that the commission fits nicely into a number of the proposed clusters.

Alice suggested that we let President Birx and Vice President Hundrieser know our meeting schedule.

## **3. NH Young Women's Conference**

Jess noted that the NH Young Women's Conference will take place on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am-2am in the HUB. All commission members are invited to volunteer and to bring a

breakfast item to share. She also asked commission members to consider coming up with a raffle prize.

Mary Beth noted that the PSU Bookstore will be donating items for the raffle as well.

The commission discussed logistics, specifically the lunch. Admissions is hosting an open house that will prevent the conference from going through the line at Prospect Hall during lunch time. Mary Beth explained how much the girls loved being in Prospect last year.

Alice suggested that we order pizza this year. Everyone agreed that is a good idea. This would allow time to bring participants to the fair in the courtroom.

Jill asked if we could send out a call to all faculty in regards to commission membership. We also need a student representative.

Next Meeting: November 10<sup>th</sup>.