

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

### **Minutes**

**9/8/15**

Submitted by: Jessica Dutille

Present: Jessica Dutille (Chair), Lauren Lavigne, Wendy Palmquist, Mary Beth Ray, Meagan Shedd

### **Agenda**

1. Update on the Community Development & Diversity Coordinator- Jill Martineau
2. Update on Lactation Room in Hyde
3. Recruitment of New Members
4. Form Work Groups
5. Women's Studies Council How Pink is a Color, Not a Cure Event

Jess welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their work on the URSA report, which was submitted.

The commission discussed the URSA reporting process.

### **Update on the Community Development & Diversity Coordinator**

Jess discussed the new Community Development & Diversity Coordinator position that is filled by Jill Martineau. The SAGE Center no longer exists in its previous form, however, Jill will be providing services once provided by the SAGE Center. Jill's office is in Langdon Woods.

Meagan asked if Jill is going to be a member of the commission. Jess explained that this is something that she will have to speak with Jill about at greater length, as she is currently getting settled into her new position.

### **Update on Lactation Room in Hyde**

Stephanie reported over the summer that the renovations in Hyde displaced the lactation room located on the second floor.

Wendy noted that the Hyde renovation is a 5-year plan. They are putting unisex restrooms on each floor. The commission discussed the possibility of requesting that one of these restrooms be used as a lactation room.

### **Recruitment of New Members**

Anne will be off the commission until spring.

Karen Schaffner resigned from the commission due to her office being short staffed. Jess asked members to consider who we should invite from the Operating Staff to fill her seat and if anyone is interested in helping with the website.

## **Form Work Groups**

Current Work Groups:

Theo Kalikow Awards

Wendy  
Lauren  
Alice  
Bonnie  
Gail

Young Women's Conference

Mary Beth  
Katie  
Meagan  
Anne  
Jess

Work Life Balance

Lauren  
Gail  
Chantalle  
Jenny

Jess suggested that the commission consider forming a work group around the issues brought forth by students who are mothers and or expectant mothers. She thanked everyone for the help in writing the commission's letter and recommendation to Vice President Jim Hundrieser in regards to student issues. She explained that she has not received an update from Jim as of yet.

### **Women's Studies Council How Pink is a Color, Not a Cure Event**

Jess noted that there is membership overlap on the Women's Studies Council and on the PCSW. She asked if there would be an easier meeting schedule due to this. Members agreed that our current schedule works well.

Jess asked the group to consider ways in which how we could collaborate.

Meagan and Wendy agreed that co-sponsorship of events would be a great way to collaborate on initiatives.

Meagan spoke about the How Pink is a Color, Not a Cure event that is being hosted by the Women's Studies Council one October on 5<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30pm in the Hage Room. The event will be in response to the breast cancer pink washing that happens in October and will address what awareness really means.

Meagan discussed how the event will address myths and facts about breast cancer and will provide science behind cancer. The event will also speak to how the pink is the new green, and the money that is generated from pink washing and where the money really goes. A

panel of individuals, including Meagan, who experienced cancer, will discuss how pink washing has impacted their personal experiences.

Lauren spoke to how student athletes engage in breast cancer awareness “pink day”. She noted that this event would be a good opportunity for students to learn.

Meagan spoke about the funds that are raised through sporting events, even the NFL. So much of the money raised from pink products does not go towards research.

Jess noted that we don’t market any other cancer the way that we do breast cancer.

Meagan discussed her reality and her personal experience. She noted that this issue is about culture and climate, which is related to the work of the commission.

Jess asked how the commission could support the event? She suggested that we support this conversation and forum for our campus community, as well as others.

Lauren discussed how this conversation could impact student athletes.

Wendy noted that if the question of where is the money going is asked for frequently, that is a good thing.

Wendy spoke about how our campus lost community members to cancer, and we have a number of individuals who are experiencing cancer now. This impacts all of us.

Lauren is going to look into pink day for our student athletes and where the funds go.

Meagan suggested that we take back pink and engage students in this effort.

Wendy suggested that anyone on this campus who is raising funds for breast cancer should get clear on where the funds are going.

Jess asked commission members to help promote this event, and noted that she is all for co-sponsoring similar forums going forward.

Next Meeting: October 13<sup>th</sup>