

Presidents Commission on the Status of Women

Tuesday, September 10th, 2019
12:30-1:30 pm, Lamson Tower Room

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Casey Krafton, Wendy Palmquist, Hannah Hounsell, Alice Staples, Jess Dutille, Elisabeth-Anne Eaton

- Welcome/Introductions
- Hannah has agreed to be the secretary for the Presidents Commission on the Status of Women
- We are going to work on Teams – Hannah made one and invited everyone in attendance. She will be keeping all meeting minutes in the “Files” section of Teams. She will be inviting the rest of the commission in the next few hours.
- We formed working groups
 - Young Women Conference (November 2nd): Jess, Katie Herzig, Mary Beth Ray, Katie Gaebel
 - Theo Kalico Award: Wendy & Alice
 - Campus Survey/ gathering feedback from campus stakeholders on the status of women: Casey & Hannah
 - We discussed the possibility of this be a class project or Cluster Project? Casey & Hannah will get connected with Dan Lee about our intentions, what we have done in the past, what our current survey is, if he wants to collaborate with us on the survey either this Fall or Spring.
- We discussed planning of the Young Women Conference
 - The working group plans to speak with Professor Kristin Stelmok and determine if there are any students in the Women’s Studies Minor interested in being a speaker or workshop leader
 - Elisabeth discussed responses on surveys of past NWC: There was feedback about offering offer separate workshops for middle/ high schoolers as well as a mixed group
 - Wendy proposed that we have a high school session specifically about what they wished they had known about high school, when they were in middle school. The mixed session could involve sharing the discussion from the high school group
 - Those who took the surveys particularly liked workshops which integrated body positivity, healthy relationships, and identifying signs of unhealthy relationships
 - Feedback was mixed about being a woman in a male-dominated field. Participants felt that it was stereotypical or furthered stereotypes. In future workshops, we would like to focus on how to deal with/ respond to misogyny or broach these topics with male peers.

- Feedback indicated that lecture-based workshops weren't as engaging. The working group would like to support dynamic workshop with interaction, involvement, and opportunities for students to ask questions.
- We discussed the question of resource tables, particularly in relation to Planned Parenthood reaching out about tabling at the event. We decided that the working group will seek approval from Communications, Enrollment & Student Life to make sure that we can have Planned Parenthood as a resource table, considering political controversy. We also discussed the need for Planned Parenthood to be able to offer age-appropriate resources for our middle school participants.
- We discussed possible keynote speakers and Alice suggested Brigid O'Donnell. The working group will consider and connect with Brigid.
- Call for new members
 - Casey and Jess will send out a campus-wide email calling for new members to the President's Commission on the Status of Women
- Women's Studies Minor
 - The Women's Studies council is currently discussing the issue of low enrollments in their upper-level Topics in the Women's Studies course. They are some discussions about doing away with the discipline code for the Women's Studies Minor and/or changing the topics course to be part of the general education program (a connection or direction)
 - We discussed that, if the commission needs to, we can craft a letter supporting the Women's Studies Minor
- We discussed the letter that we wrote to the President about the 2019 Commencement Speech and we were informed that a new process for nomination of the Granite Award and Commencement Speakers is underway
- Our next meeting is on October 8th from 12:30-1:30 PM