

Commission on Women Meeting
Tuesday, May 24, 2011, 12:00 PM, KSC 268

Present: Linda Klint, Geraldine Hughes, Pauline Nuhring, Sunshine Carter, Hairong Feng, Mitzi Doane, Susana Pelayo Woodward, Claudia Carranza, Molly Minkinen, Shelly Smith, Joanne Itami

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from 4/27/11 were approved (msc Hughes/Feng)
3. Brief History of the Commission on Women
4. Mission of the Commission on Women
The mission was review, and no changes were made.
5. Budget through period 11 of FY 11 was reviewed (see attached).
6. Election of Officers
Slate of officers proposed by the By Laws Committee was approved (msc (Doane/Feng):
Chair: Linda Klint; Vice Chair: Sunshine Carter; Treasurer: Geraldine Hughes
7. Committee Reports:
 - A) Bylaws Committee: Bylaws were revised 4/27/11. Revisions were minor.
A call for members went out this spring and we now have new members.
The Committee proposed a slate of officers (see item 6).
 - B) Climate Committee: Proposed training for department heads and above is supported by the Chancellor, and would use IT grant funds to develop. HELP (Heads Leadership Program) ideally would be mandatory and recurring.
 - C) Grants Committee: The Committee reported on grants funded for FY 10 (see attached).
 - D) Program Committee: The committee organized six Tea at the Tweed networking events, switching this year between Tuesdays and Wednesdays to boost attendance. One of the Teas fell within the Chancellor's Inauguration Week and was very well attended. The committee also presented truffles (along with information about the Commission) to new women employees at UMD in October, covering the period between March 2010 and October 2010. (Note that the next Truffle Welcome should cover from October 2010 to October 2011.) The committee also organized the annual Luncheon in May. For the first time, we gave three Women of the Year awards (instead of 1). As a result, we did not have a special guest speaker.
 - E) Fund Development Ad Hoc Committee: The committee shared that the goal is financial Independence, although the committee feels strongly that UMD should continue to support the recurring operating expenses of the Commission. Mitzi Doane proposed that perhaps the bylaws should be revised to reflect that the Commission's foundation funds must never be used for day-to-day operations, that UMD should always support the operating expenses of the Commission. The committee thanked donors. It was also noted that donor envelopes were available at each table at the luncheon, and should be available at every Commission event.
 - F) Technology Ad Hoc Committee: In FY 11, the website was updated, and includes all the documents we have at our disposal so far. Our email list of friends is now more than 50. A netfiles account was established to enable file sharing between commission members.

The committee would like to hire a student to help out with the digitization of archive materials, which would help complete our records.

8. Commission on Women Action Items:
Geraldine Hughes was the Commission representative on the Campus Change Team as part of the strategic planning process. The Commission action items are posted on our website as well as on the campus change team website.
 9. Summit for Women's Equity Leaders:
Linda Klint and Geraldine Hughes attended. The summit was sponsored by the Office for Women on the Twin Cities campus. Linda and Geraldine shared some of the handouts from the summit.
 10. Alliance Building:
We as a commission need to work on building relationships and allies on campus and in the community. Linda shared several handouts about this. Perhaps the Climate Committee can take on the task of creating a plan and action items to accomplish this?
 11. Video on Work/Life Balance: We were unable to see this.
 12. Respect: Linda shared handouts.
- Break for lunch
13. Meeting dates for FY 12 were distributed.
 14. Planning for FY 12:
Priorities were discussed. Possibilities include:
 - A) Expand the commission to include more campus women, such as maintenance, housing, food service, to name a few. Be more intentional about our outreach. Get key advocates to spread the word.
 - B) How do we better reach students?
 - C) Communication.
 - D) Same-sex marriage statement, re: upcoming November election and marriage amendment. Perhaps a Campus Café or other concerted effort with other commissions.
 - E) Meeting with the Chancellor.
 - F) Determining our allies, how we make them our allies.
 - G) Lack of safe, quiet place on campus.
 15. Strategic Planning meeting in August: Sunshine will plan the dates.
 16. Commission Committees:
Committee structure and expectations were reviewed. The Technology Ad Hoc Committee was changed to Communication and Technology Ad Hoc Committee.

Adjourn: 12:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Pauline Nuhring, Outgoing Vice Chair, and
Sunshine Carter, Incoming Vice Chair