

# The President's Commission on the Status of Women

Monday, October 26, 2009

1:00 PM, CSU 204

## Minutes

**Attendance:** Gail Abraham, Maria Bevacqua, Anne Blackhurst, Heather Camp, Richard Davenport, Suzanne Dugan, Sara Granberg-Rademacker, Jennifer Guyer-Wood, , Linda Hanson, , Deborah Jesseman, Rosemary Krawczyk, Elizabeth Lindstrom, Sarah Revering, Debra Schulz, Denise Thompson, Wanda Viento

**Regrets:** Jeane McGraw

**Absent:** Meagan Hagerty, Carol Jensen, Jennifer Turner, Amy Wagener

1. Introductions
2. President Davenport addressed the Commission
  - a. President Davenport began by asking for questions
    - i. In response to a new member's question about the Commission's purpose and relationship to the President's office, President Davenport clarified that the Commission serves as an advocacy group for campus; serving as a voice for women on campus. It is intended to promote leadership for women, bring inequities to the attention of the President and make recommendations for improvements. The President supports the Commission's Listening Panel sessions as a means to assess campus needs.
    - ii. Debra Schulz thanked the Commission as well as the President for her opportunity to attend the HERS Leadership Institute. She commented that MSU utilizes many good business practices discussed during her time at HERS.
  - b. President Davenport's topics for the Commission
    - i. The President expressed his understanding and support for the position of an ombudsperson on campus. However, it is important that this role is not confused or replaced with the need to report issues to Human Resources and Affirmative Action. The President is interested in hearing about new models that address this issue.
    - ii. President Davenport expressed his support for the grant opportunities that the Commission offers. Unfortunately, he is not able to designate more money to this area because of budget cuts. He suggested we look into fundraising for more grant dollars. Denise and Jen said they would set up a meeting with Vice President Mayo.
  - c. President Davenport expressed concern that he did not meet two of his five Presidential Work Plan Goals this past year.
    - i. The university is excelling in these areas but the expectations were increased and subsequently not met.
    - ii. The first of the goals was recruiting women to the STEM areas of study. The second goal was recruiting, maintaining and graduating students in underserved populations.
    - iii. The Commission is meeting about the STEM goals on October 27, 2009, to see how we are able to contribute.

- d. When asked about the outlook for requesting funds to resolve issues expressed during Commission Listening Panels, the President emphasized the need to gear requests towards the university's strategic priorities. Requests will be examined on a case-by-case basis.

### 3. Committee Updates

#### a. Professional Development and Research Grants

- i. Members: Maria Bevacqua, Debra Schulz, Amy Wagener, Denise Thompson, Elizabeth Lindstrom
- ii. Met and updated website, priorities and grant application. Deadline is set for November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009. New portion for accountability has been included to get feedback from recipients and justify future grant requests.

#### b. Listening Panel

- i. Members: Jennifer Guyer-Wood, Sarah Revering, Gail Abraham, Elizabeth Lindstrom
- ii. Fall listening panel date set for Tuesday, November, 17<sup>th</sup>, 12pm-1pm in CSU 285. Advertisement has been sent university wide via email and the campus newsletter.

#### c. Women of Courage and Vision Recognition Reception

- i. Members: Jennifer Guyer-Wood, Meagan Hagerty, Sara Revering, Jennifer Turner, Elizabeth Lindstrom (Carol Jensen is available if more help is needed)
- ii. Met and reviewed the item for the event as well as discussed a theme. Organizing is being done early this year to accommodate for the lack of GA hours in the spring semester.

#### d. HERS Leadership Institute

- i. Members: Meagan Hagerty, Carol Jensen, Debra Schulz, Deborah Jesseman, Elizabeth Lindstrom
- ii. HERS is offering a \$500 discount for early registration this year. A campus-wide notice has been released requesting applications and the previous HERS recipients did a presentation October 26<sup>th</sup> for applicant questions.
- iii. Deadline is set for November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Hope to have President's recommendation to HERS by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

#### e. Project of the Year Awards

- i. Members: Amy Wagener, Heather Camp, Wanda Viento, Elizabeth Lindstrom
- ii. No updates, will meet in Spring.

#### f. Mentor Match Project

- i. Members: Sara Granberg-Rademacker, Debra Schulz, Jeane McGraw, Elizabeth Lindstrom
- ii. Met and is working on assessing the effectiveness of the program and better advertising throughout the university.
- iii. Julie Carlson has agreed to help the group in an advisory role.

#### g. Point of contact

- i. Members: Denise Thompson, Linda Hanson, Maria Bevacqua, Elizabeth Lindstrom
- ii. No updates

- h. STEM
    - i. Carol Jensen, Deborah Jesseman, Linda Hanson, Jennifer Guyer-Wood, Elizabeth Lindstrom
    - ii. Will be meeting October 27, 2009.
  - i. Parents on Campus
    - i. Members: Gail Abraham, Heather Camp, Sara Granberg-Rademacker, Suzanne Dugan, Elizabeth Lindstrom
    - ii. Met with L.I.N.K.S. student group to discuss how Commission can help.
    - iii. Handout was passed out to the Commission containing the concerns of the group. Most concerns surrounded a need for space, affordable daycare and resources on campus such as changing tables.
    - iv. Committee will be meeting again to form recommendations to forward to the president.
  - j. Marketing
    - i. Members: Gail Abraham, Sarah Revering, Elizabeth Lindstrom (Jen Guyer-Wood is available if more help is needed)
    - ii. Will be meeting October 27, 2009.
4. New Leadership Structure
- a. A motion was made, seconded and approved to revise the Commission chair structure to include a chair elect, chair, and immediate past chair. The President approved this change because it will allow for more consistency with Commission leadership.

Minutes submitted by Elizabeth Lindstrom