

CCW Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2015
12:15 pm-1:30 pm
Blue and White Rm, Student Center

In attendance: Zehra Abbas, Jacqueline Cobbina-Boivin, Myrna Garcia-Bowen, Jessica Greenebaum, Fiona Pearson and Heather Prescott

Absent: DeMara Cabrera, Kristin D'Amato, Wangari Gichiru, Susan Gilmore, Heidi Huguley, Sandra Matthews, Kristine Larsen, Meg Levvis, Kate McGrath, Karen Ritzenhoff, Susan Slaga- Metivier, Evadne Ngazimbi and Eva Vrdoljak.

- Meeting started at 12:20 pm.
- Motion to approve the minutes from November 17, 2014.
Motion passed

Graduate Assistant Update:

- Graduate Assistant will update the committee regarding current projects going forward.
- Contact list is currently being finalized with Laura Zdon at SCSU and a save the date will be going out soon for the Work Life Family Conference.
- Compiled a preliminary report with information regarding Women's Center, staff, roles and responsibilities at universities and colleges in Connecticut and others throughout New England. This will be an ongoing project.
- CCW Website is being hosted statically on CCSU's local server which means we have limited ability to make updates to the website at the moment.

Women's History Luncheon:

Heather Prescott is the Chair for this committee. The committee will be bringing in a speaker named Rickie Solinger on April 14th. She will be giving two talks that day, one on her work on the history of reproductive rights, the other on the exhibit that she curated for the library on Claiming Citizenship: African Americans and the New Deal. CCW will contribute towards this per the sub-committee's request for funding towards the event.

Work Life Balance: Planning to coordinate a system-wide conference regarding work/life balance best practices that would provide the opportunity to share some of what each campus is doing and can benefit other and collectively plan for the future. The CSCU Work Life Family Conference is to be held in the Connecticut Room at CCSU on Tuesday March 24th from 9-2pm.

Co-Chairs met with HR representative Claudia Richards-Meade, who is replacing Laurie Dunn to assist CCW in working with the work life balance sub-committee. Richards-Meade will manage the babysitting web site and is currently updating CCSU's CUWFA membership. A meeting is being requested with Human Resources to discuss who will be handling the membership and to have this in writing.

Women's Center:

Important dates:

Vagina Monologue- Feb.19th at 7pm

Girls & Stem- April 11th

Take Back the Night March-April 15th

We are working with Wgss and CCW members to secure a speaker for Whistory month.

The staff brainstormed names for this year's Telling Herstory monthly speakers. At this time the staff is voting as the list included over 40 incredible women. This year's speakers will be provided after voting.

Scholarships:

The announcement for this year's RB scholarship has been posted. Posters will be distributed across campus.

Advocacy:

The following issues are being addressed by the Women's Center. We are asking for CCW to support these advocacy projects:

Sexual Misconduct Policy:

For the past two years we've been requesting that the sexual misconduct policy be included in the syllabus. This semester a paragraph was provided for instructors to include. Although, pleased with this decision the staff wishes to advocate further to include definitions, resources and sanctions. We've rec support and endorsement by SGA and WGSS.

Condom Machines:

Last semester we requested 1 condom machine per residence halls. This semester it was announced that Dr. Tordenti supports this initiative. We will be seeking support from SGA and IRC. We do not believe we will encounter any objections. WGSS has agreed to also provide support for this work. Reason for this project: spread of stds among college students due to hook up culture, unexpected pregnancy, termination of pregnancies. This should be carried out as soon as possible as this is a student initiative.

Residence Life Overnight Visitation Policy:

We are in discussion with Student Affairs to include in their housing forms students decision to check off " no overnight guest welcomed". Reason for advocacy: incest and sexual assault survivors lack of feeling safe while sleeping or being seen in personal garment with unknown overnight guest.

Anonymous Sexual Assault Reporting Form:

Along with a Planned Parenthood intern, WGSS student and WC Gretchen Marino took on this issue. They were successful in advocating for the return of this form.

Staffing:

- Our students Michelle Guerrero and Ulricka Joseph were selected to serve on the AAUW CT Student Advisory Board.
- Ulricka Joseph studied this winter break in Belize and WC staff person, Miriam Desgazor is studying in England.
- Miken Lopez submitted and had published in the student newspaper articles on institutional sexism and Title IX.
- Southern Grad student has requested to complete her internship in WGSS at our Center.

Future events:

- Discussion of a March for Women's Lives event with representation by heads of various organizations related to women's interests. CCW supports this initiative.
- Women of Color surveys need to be distributed to assess campus climate.

Future Meetings

March 23- Room 1849, Student Center

April 27 - Room 1849, Student Center

- Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm

