

President's Commission on the Status of University Women

Executive Committee Meeting

October 13, 2015

Minutes

Present: Anne Camper, Susan Dana, Celia O'Connor, Camie Bechtold, Tracy Sterling, Deb Redburn, Sara Rushing, Kate Grimes, Betsy Danforth

Strategic Plan ballot results: Co-chair Camie Bechtold announced the results of the ballot on the new strategic plan presented at the full PCOSUW commission meeting in September. The vote was unanimous and the 2015-2020 plan was approved.

Discussion on the policy committee: Should the Policy Committee continue as an ad hoc committee or should it become a permanent sub-committee? The Executive Committee recommends that because of on-going work, it should become a standing sub-committee. We will need to amend the by-laws and vote at the April full commission meeting if not before (a possible email vote was discussed).

Updates from Co-chairs Camie Bechtold and Tracy Sterling:

- **Outreach event update:** Camie reported on progress in organizing a lunch event in January. Due to Kate Grimes (Director/title IX, Office of Institutional Equity) departure from the university, we will need to come up with other ideas. Ideas included having a speaker talk about a diversity plan, or Chris Fastnow (Office of Planning and Analysis) speak about diversity planning currently going on with MSU's Strategic Plan or any other areas where diversity is being addressed (possibly in Accreditation?). It was suggested we invite department heads to the event to spark a discussion on the self-studies, diversity, and inclusiveness. Sara Rushing and Camie Bechtold will work on organizing and further planning of the event.
- Tracy announced that Sylvia Sparkman will represent PCOSUW at the University Council meetings.
- **Provost Speaker's Series committee membership update:** the PCOSUW committee was not able to add a member to this important committee, but two members have agreed to review processes and applications with diversity and inclusion in mind.
- **Discussion on the diversity mapping project:** Tracy will check with Maggie to see if her work-study is working on this project. The Executive Committee would like updates at every meeting.
- We need to get the word out about an upcoming workshop that the Center for Faculty Excellence and PCOSUW are co-sponsoring on October 21, in Jabs Hall #207 from 12-1:00 on how to write a winning nomination for student scholarships and awards. Betsy

Danforth (Women's Center) and Ilse-Marie Lee (Dean, Honor College) will present. Deb will put on MSU Calendar and on PCOSUW web site.

- Leadership event on Feb. 22 with the MSU Leadership Institute. There is a possibility that PCOSUW could help "present" the event. We'll need to work with Carmen McSpadden. Camie will follow-up.
- We were informed by Maggie that the commission has a new chair-elect—Dean Helen Melland from the College of Nursing will serve as chair during FY 18-FY19, after serving as chair-elect during FY16 and FY17. The executive committee is looking forward to working with her.
- Ausha Cole will replace Lindsay Downs on the commission as the Graduate School Representative. Lindsay will remain on the Communications Sub-committee.
- We will invite Levi Birky, the new ASMSU president, to replace Gwynn Simeniuk.

Sub-committee reports:

Assessment Committee:

Becca Belou reported by email that her committee hadn't met this month, but at their upcoming meeting they will be talking about how to hold leaders on campus accountable for their diversity goals and plans that they set in the self-studies.

Communications Committee:

Deb Redburn reported the committee is meeting next week. In the meantime, she has been updating the web-site.

Policy Committee:

Sara Rushing had no report at this time.

Recognition Committee:

The committee will meet when applications are turned in for the PCOSUW award.

Ad hoc Cultural Attunement:

No report this time.

Sasra Rushing has organized a new Faculty Diversity Committee, made up of under-represented faculty at MSU.

Other business:

Starting with the November meeting, the executive committee will invite members from the full commission to the monthly meetings to help establish better connections. Meta Newhouse will present at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Several upcoming speakers and events were announced—

- Betsy mentioned one in March for the Shannon Weatherly Speaker series, and
- Sara mentioned 1491, a comedy group about Native American diversity,—Nov. 6, Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1491s-at-montana-state-university-tickets-19022824781>).

Executive Committee meetings will be held the second Tuesday of the month from 3:00-4:00 in Leon Johnson Hall 325

Next meeting—November 10.