Women’s Studies Advisory Council  
Meeting April 9, 2008 (Wednesday)  
Jennings Room (Library)

Present: Beth Wiersma, Diane Wysocki, Tami Moore, Janice Fronczak, Trudy de Goede, Amy German, Abby Kovanda (Women’s Center), Sarah Elger (Student Rep.), Amber Lewis (Student Rep.), Linda Van Ingen (chair, recorder).

Absent: Patricia Cruzeiro, Marlene Kuskie, Nyla Khan, Darleen Mitchell, Deb Murray, Deb Bridges (ex-officio).

Guest: Alison Hedge Coke

MINUTES
Meeting was called to order by Linda Van Ingen at 3:30.

1. Minutes from March 11, 2008 (approved by email on 3-25-08)

2. The WSAC Membership roster was reviewed for the 2008-2009 year. The regular meeting time of the second Wednesday of each month at 3:30 is still a good time to meet. Members liked the idea of rotating the meeting location to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of WS.

3. General Studies: Members were urged to participate on the Blackboard site set up for discussion of the Roundtable Plan.


5. Course schedules for Summer and Fall 2008: The WS220 includes as Honors section. Members were asked to help promote the course. Van Ingen announced that the name change to “Women’s and Gender Studies Program” has received approval from Academic Affairs. Once the approval process is complete, new promotional materials and brochures will be made. The idea of an on-line minor was suggested, and there was some discussion about offering WS220 as an on-line class. Also, faculty creating new courses that meet the WS content criteria (50% content is Women’s/Gender studies) are encouraged to submit a syllabus and summary paragraph (justifying the course’s merits for WS elective credit) to Van Ingen for WSAC approval.

6. Reports:
Women’s Center – Kovanda gave a program update: CL Lindsay will speak on FaceBook/My Space issues on April 10 7:30pm (Thursday) and “These Hands Don’t Hurt” pledges will take place on April 16 for “Sexual Awareness Month.” An “End of the Year” Lemonade Stand is also planned. Because the Women’s Center has lost funding for its two GAs next year, it will have to be run on a volunteer basis. The new director for the Women’s Center is Amy Eigenberg. Discussion about how Women’s Studies could collaborate with the Women’s Center included sharing resources such as the Work Study student, computers, office space, and Triota/student activities. Specific training for Women’s Center volunteers would be required to prepare them for crisis response situations. Van Ingen will meet with the Women’s Center regarding these possibilities. Concerns about blurring the distinction between WS and the WCenter were raised. Van Ingen noted that special efforts should be made to keep the WC viable as a distinct resource for students.

Triota – An end of semester get-together is planned for the Monday of dead week, on April 28 at 5-7pm at Thunderhead. Both WS students and affiliated faculty are encouraged to come for pizza and end-of-the year conversation!

V-Day – Demaris Grant has agreed to direct the show for next year. Dates need to be set.

Open Door – Amy Eigenberg is the Faculty Sponsor for Open Door.

5. New Business:
APR Spring 2009: Members were asked to forward suggestions for an outside team leader.
20th Anniversary Celebration: Members discussed ideas including organizing a retreat and bringing in a “big name” speaker. Advanced planning and grant writing will be important!
Announce: “Unintentional Intolerance” speaker April 22 2pm or 5pm

The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.
Next meeting: September 10 at 3:30 (room location TBA)