
Absent: Diane Wysocki, Marlene Kuskie, Amy German, Sarah Elger

The meeting was called to order by Linda Van Ingen at 4:10pm.

AGENDA:

1. The WSAC members extended their appreciation to Trudy de Goede for serving as Interim Director for 2006-2007.

2. Minutes: the minutes for 4/4/07 were approved (1st Beth Wiersma, 2nd Nyla Khan). They will be forwarded to Faculty Senate.

3. Governance Document: copies of the document, approved 4/4/07, were distributed to Advisory Council members.

4. Assessment Reports:
   a. Women’s Studies Program Assessment 2007 Report was discussed. “Action based on the data” include plans to further develop the curriculum with feminist/gender theory and to establish faculty development programs for Women’s Studies courses. Assessment process issues point to the need to establish a 3-year cycle for WS220 instructors and to make WS420 a structured course taught by the director. A recruitment strategy is also needed. These issues will be further addressed at subsequent WSAC mtgs.
   b. WSTD 220 – General Studies Assessment 2007 Report was discussed. “Action based on the data” include the need to provide stability to the WS220 course with a 3-year teaching rotation. The “Personal Development” objectives need more assessment to reinforce, with data, the contributions this course makes to the GS Personal Development requirement. These issues will be implemented into the updated GS Assessment Plan for 2008.
5. Criteria for Women’s Studies courses: Van Ingen presented an updated set of criteria for Women’s Studies cross-referenced courses. It adds a specific sentence that a Women’s Studies course “takes a feminist approach to teaching” and adds gender to the content requirement: at least 50% of a course’s content focuses on women “and/or gender.” Mitchell led a discussion regarding the issue of feminist teaching being collaborative and participatory. There was some support for making this a requirement for approving Women’s Studies courses; others thought it may be difficult to assess teaching methods and that lecture components are necessary in some disciplines. De Goede suggested the wording be changed to “should be taught” from “when possible.” The council agreed to this wording change, and will try to include feminist teaching methodologies in future workshops for affiliated faculty. The criteria as amended was approved (1st de Goede, 2nd Wiersma).

6. Course proposals for Women’s Studies credit: Using the newly approved criteria, the following courses were approved for Women’s Studies credit (1st Cruzeiro, 2nd Moore):
   a. ENG 444 “Seminar in American Realism”
   b. ENG 490 “ST: Women & revenge in Western Literature”
   c. FSID 151 “Human Sexual Behavior”
   d. HIST 485 “US Since 1941”
   e. CJUS 315 “Victimology: Victims of Crime”
   f. CJUS 360 “Sex Crimes”
   g. BUSINESS XX “Women and Work”

7. “No Limits 2008 at UNK” conference (Feb 29 & Mar 1):
   a. Van Ingen and Mitchell will work on the Artists & Lecturers grant to secure the balance of Lauren Pelon’s fee for the event’s musical performance.
   b. Suggestions for keynote speakers on transnational feminism were made; email additional ideas to Van Ingen, or bring to the next mtg.
   c. The CFP was issued with a due date of January 25. Faculty are encouraged to get this information out to students.
   d. Additional suggestions included reaching out to UNK’s international students; arranging an event dealing with Japanese Businesses; working with World Affairs and Jerry Fox, and coordinating a speaker invitation with a book-signing event.
   e. Van Ingen will pursue budget issues for this conference

8. Iota-Iota-Iota Student Report (Broadwell)
   a. Triota will have its first mtg Sept 18 at 5pm. Plans include recruiting more students and increasing awareness of the group on campus.

9. Women’s Center Report (Kovanda)
   a. The Women’s Center has put together an active program for the year. Their “Sex Signals” Improv Show on Sept 6 was very successful with
approximately 250 students attending. The Women’s Center welcomes Triota mtgs in their office, and Triota is encouraged to work with and coordinate outreach events with the Women’s Center.

10. Other new business
   a. Deb Murray presented the WSAC with information about the “Voices of American Farm Women” exhibition that will open next Fall at MONA. Both Murray and Trudy de Goede have been working on this. The WSAC will forward a motion to co-sponsor or endorse this event at the October mtg.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20pm. The next mtg will be held on October 10 (Wed), 4pm in the Jennings Room.