Minutes of the meeting of the Women’s Studies Advisory Council

Present: Darleen Mitchell, Amy German, Janice Fronczak, Abby Kova\nd (Women’s Center rep), Sarah Elger (Student Rep-Triota), Rachael Broad\nwell (Student Rep-Triota), Tami Moore, Trudy de Goede (recorder), Linda Van Ingen (Chair).

Absent: Diane Wysocki, Beth Wiersma, Patricia Cruzeiro, Nyla Khan, Deborah Murray, Marlene Kuskie.

Linda Van Ingen called the meeting to order at 4:00

1. The Minutes of Sept 12, 2007 were approved by email on Oct 15-16, 2007.

2. Everyone present agreed to co-sponsor the exhibit “Voices of American Farm Women.” There will be no monetary costs to Women’s Studies for co-sponsoring and the publicity will be welcome. Janice Fronczak suggested that WS host an opening reception for the exhibit at MONA. The exhibit will be at MONA Oct. 21-Nov. 30, 2008. Deb Murray has arranged for the exhibit to come to Kearney.

3. Course proposals: Van Ingen said that this will be a regular agenda item and that we should always be alert to new course possibilities. Van Ingen will follow up with Jean Mandernach and Amanda Granrud re possible courses in Psychology and freshman English.

4. Summer 08 courses: let Van Ingen know about summer courses that can be listed for WS credit.

5. Women’s Studies Affiliated Faculty: these are UNK faculty who have been identified as teaching WS courses throughout the campus; they can support the program by publicizing courses and events. There was a discussion of a social event for WSAF. We are considering an event at the Frank House in December. Fronczak volunteered to look into this. There was also discussion of listing WSAF names in an issue of the newsletter, and on the WS webpage.

6. “NO LIMITS 2008: Transnational Feminism” Feb 29-March 1. Conference Planning: Our chosen keynote speaker Dr. Inderpal Grewal, has agreed to come. Her keynote will open the conference. There was a discussion of the timing of meals, conference events, an inter-university faculty roundtable, and also of dinner activity, possibly including a film showing at dinner. The group discussed inviting international students to participate in the Friday activities. This would be consistent with the transnational theme of the conference.
We will need a separate flyer for musician Laura Pelon in order to publicize her performance on Friday evening, Feb 29.

It was noted that the 3 possible speakers for Saturday roundtable all engage in living history research.

We discussed a closing event on Saturday; also it might be possible to video stream the keynote, or create an RSS of it, and mount it on the webpage.

Rachael Broadwell showed her sketch for a conference poster, there was discussion and feedback for Rachael.

The WS work-study student (Carla Frisch) has compiled a list of regional colleges to send conference publicity.

7. Reports:
Women’s Center: Abby Kovanda reported on Women’s Center activity and distributed Center brochures. She suggested that anyone interested visit the Center webpage, all activities are described there. All activities are free and Faculty are encouraged to announce them to students.

Iota Iota Iota: Sarah Elger reported that they are working on recruitment this year, they are planning a showing of “Born into Brothels;” they are examining outreach into the dorms. Triota also asks that Women’s Studies consider changing its name to include Gender as it is more inclusive and would help recruitment.

8. Recruitment Strategies: brainstorm and discussion
*Change name to “Women’s and Gender Studies.” This will be brought before the WSAC at the next meeting.
*Have Triota members visit classes, including university foundation classes, to publicize Women’s Studies. We agreed that focusing on freshman classes with large enrollment would be a good strategy. Sara Elger and Van Ingen agreed to organize this effort.
Put messages on campus bulletin boards
Conduct brown bag lunch events
*Have a large bulletin board in Copeland Hall.
Showcase WS affiliated faculty in the showcase cabinet of Copeland Hall.
Update the brochure
*A newsletter should be issued.
Considered a new logo for the program
Information about the program could be released in the email student bulletin
Increase campus awareness of feminism
We considered a “Looking for a Minor?” campaign
Strategy needs to compensate for changes in writing intensive requirements.
WSTD 220 as a General Studies requirement needs to be promoted.
Develop material for faculty when advising majors
*Work with Women’s Studies Affiliated Faculty to get info about WS to students

*The group then prioritized the top 5 items(*). Van Ingen agreed to work on them.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15.