Women’s & Gender Studies Advisory Council (WSAC)
MINUTES for February 10, 2010 (Wednesday)
History Conference Room (Copeland Hall 104) 4-5pm

Present: Campbell, Mowry, Kracl, Mitchell, Moore, Stolzer, Fronczak, Mendoza, Grant, Towndrow (student rep), Van Ingen (chair).

Absent: Hedge Coke, Mims, Holen, Acosta, Bridges (ex-officio).

1. Minutes of January 13, 2010 were approved by email and sent to Faculty Senate on 1/21/10.

2. Curriculum Update: Members agreed to add Dr. Wiersma’s Portal CJUS 170 “Women and Children for Sale: The Global Problem of Human Trafficking” to the curriculum as an elective (approved Mitchell/Grant). There was some discussion about imposing a limit on the number of lower-division courses for the minor, but no decision was made on this issue.

3. No Limits at UNL in 2010 on March 5 & 6: Van Ingen reported that UNK has four students presenting papers and about 4 or 5 additional students attending. Women’s Studies will rent a van, pay for lodging and conference lunches for these students.

4. No Limits at UNK in 2011 on March 4 & 5 (Fri & Sat) in Ponderosa Rooms: Members decided on a theme for the conference: “Eco-Feminism & Artful Healing” (approved Campbell/Mitchell). Van Ingen will make a “save the date” flyer for the UNL conference. Members agreed to research potential speakers/acts for the event: Music (Mitchell); Drama Therapy (Fronczak); Archway/earth lodge (Moore); Eco-feminist Sculptor Lynn Hull (Van Ingen); Sandhill Cranes (Van Ingen); Feminist Comedy (Van Ingen/Towndrow); Labyrinth Walk (Women’s Center). Members will draft a schedule of events and identify possible grants at the next meeting.

5. Scholarship (subcommittee Fronczak, Grant, Van Ingen, Hedge Coke): Hedge Coke forwarded information that $245 was currently available and 2010-2011 funds will be known sometime in March. Van Ingen reported that the scholarship is called the “Associated Women Students Scholarship” and the deadline for consideration is Feb. 28 (by application through webeasi “UNK Continuing Student Scholarships” with Financial Aid office). Members discussed scholarship criteria and agreed an award would be based on a student’s GPA and contribution to Women’s & Gender Studies Program through work in Triota and on women’s issues in the larger Kearney community. Members also discussed the possibilities of growing the scholarship fund, including outreach to alumni and using social networks linked to Women’s Studies.

6. APR: Van Ingen reported that the alumni survey is in process with Diane Wysocki serving as the alumni coordinator. She has a facebook page and is creating a list of Women’s Studies alumni for the survey because the official list from the Alumni Foundation was not complete. Mendoza reported on her efforts to update on-line library resources which can include face book, youtube, twitter and other social networking services. These resources, including an account of Women’s & Gender Studies books/resources will need to be included in the APR report and can help in our efforts to reach alumni.

7. Spring programs:
Story Teller: Beth Horner, “Strong Women: Grand Adventurers & Everyday Heroines” Thursday, January 21 at 11-12:15am in Fine Arts Recital Hall. Sponsored by Kearney Area Storytelling; organized by Julie Agard. Women’s Studies provided refreshments at the event. Members who attended had very positive reviews of the event.

“Vagina Monologues” on Feb 18 & 19 (Th & Fri) in Fine Arts Recital Hall at 7:30pm. Grant reported that the cast has been in rehearsal and that publicity for the program has been sent out, including press releases to the Antelope, Hub, Community events, campus announce bulletin for students and faculty, and Facebook. Van Ingen noted that Triota will be selling tickets at the door ($3 students/$5 other) and Towndrow reported that Triota will also be selling buttons in the NSU to help raise funds and generate publicity. Proceeds will go to the UNK Women’s Center and Ensler’s Spotlight Campaign for Women in the Congo.


Panel: “What is Women’s Studies?” Members discussed possible forums for this event including a roundtable discussion/panel in the Fireside Lounge, a table set up in the Atrium, and affiliating the event with “Majors Day.” Van Ingen will explore these possibilities and put it on the agenda for the next meeting, noting that advising officially starts March 22 and registration begins March 29-Apr 16.

8 .Reports:

Women's Center: Members were encouraged to announce the following events:
- Feb 23: Eating Disorder Awareness Month Panel: “Let’s Talk About It” (4-5pm NSU 310)
- March 10: Women’s History Month Panel “Writing Women Back Into History” (4-5pm NSU 310)

Triota: Towndrow reported that in addition to V-day activities, Triota is scheduling 3 more Rag Sessions: Women & the Media (with Dr. G. Mims); Women & Sexuality (with Dr. Wysocki); Human Trafficking (with Dr. Wiersma). Dates have not yet been set.

QSA (Queer/Straight Alliance): QSA successfully sponsored the “Pink Triangle” trainings in February and sold T-shirts for “Support Love” week.

Gender Equity Committee: Van Ingen reported that Gender Equity is working with Wellness on a “Stress Reduction Fair” scheduled for April 1st at the noon-hour. She encouraged members to attend. There will be yoga, drama therapy, mini massage and other events for faculty and staff.

The next meeting is March 3 (NOT March 10 due to Women’s History Month) at 4-5pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm (Grant/Stolzer).