Women’s & Gender Studies Advisory Council (WSAC)  
MINUTES -- November 11, 2009  
History Conference Room (Copeland Hall 104) 4-5pm

Present: Debra Mowry, Grace Mims, Carrie Kracl, Nyla Khan, Darleen Mitchell, Sheryl Heidenreich, Trish Holen, Demaris Grant, Heather Towndrow (student rep), Linda Van Ingen (chair).

Absent: Julie Campbell, Tami Moore, Janice Fronczak, Rachael Broadwell (student rep), Deb Bridges (ex-officio).

Van Ingen called the meeting to order at 4pm.
1. Van Ingen announced that Jeanne Stolzer will be the new rep from B&T.
2. Minutes of October 14, 2009 were approved by email and sent to Faculty Senate.
3. Curriculum Update:
   a. New General Studies Program:
      WSTD 420: Van Ingen reported that WS420 is no longer being considered as a capstone course for GS due to GS criteria that GS capstones cannot be required for a particular major/minor. Members discussed a number of issues: the pre-req of WS220 was removed but does not adequately address the GS criteria, the problem of clarity in the GS capstone criteria, the validity of a course number change from 420 to 388, the possibility of offering the course as both a 388 and 420, faculty time and WS resources to teach one course with two curriculums, the issue of course enrollment, and the logistics of making the course count for a minor degree program if taken as a 388. After some discussion, members agreed to follow-up on the GS Council discussion/minutes about the WS420 course and to get more clarity about the issue.
      WSTD 220: Van Ingen reported that the WS220 is still in the process for review as a Social Science Distribution course.
   b. Bookmark with Spring 2010 courses: Van Ingen will distribute these to WS Affiliated Faculty when print job is completed.
   c. Summer schedule & on-line course for WS220: Van Ingen discussed the possibility of offering the WS220 as an on-line course this summer as part of a potential post-baccalaureate certificate program with a heavy on-line component. Members enthusiastically discussed this idea and agreed that it should be pursued with outreach for administration support and e-campus grant money and technical support.
   d. New courses: members approved two new electives ENG 419-80 web based Advanced Poetry (A. Hedge Coke) (approved G. Mims/Mitchell); SOWK 470-CD Israel Study Abroad (M. Younes) (approved Towndrow/Grant).
4. Assessment Report 2008-2009: Van Ingen presented the 2008-09 WEAVE report and noted that all targets have been met except two that were partially met. These two show that fewer students than expected enter the introductory Women’s Studies course with “an awareness of the significance of gender and gender roles in contemporary society” and with “a desire to strive for
equity and fairness in gender relations in his/her own life and in society as a whole.” Students complete the program having met all targets. Members agreed that overall program goals have been achieved, but that several adjustments to the assessment process need to be made: 1) change initial target wording from “at least 15%” to “less than 15%” to address the “partially met” target issues; 2) create a quantitative/comprehensive exam for the Assessment Exam to replace the rubric approach to this exam; 3) improve the rubric for the Senior Seminar papers to clearly define what “satisfactory,” “very good” etc. mean. Members will work on this and discuss the changes at subsequent meetings.

5. APR – Van Ingen reported the process of getting the APR officially deferred to October 2010 from Spring 2010. The two reasons for the deferment are 1) uncertainties created by the new GS program 2) the possibility of an on-line component, for which more will be known next semester. Members expressed support.

6. Fall Programs: Members voted to support a budget expenditure of $608 for the following events (approved Mitchell/Khan):

- WSAF: Dr. Paula Rieder on October 15 at Alumni House (35 attended; cosponsored w/ Int’l Studies, History)

- Women’s Symposium on November 3 (co-sponsored w/ Res & Greek Life, WC/Counsel)


- Emily Day, Dance Therapy, on November 10, 1:45-4pm, in Cedar Room NSU (co-sponsor w/ Theater, A&L).

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 (Julie Agard)

- “Vagina Monologues” on Feb 18 & 19 (Th & Fri) in Fine Arts Recital Hall at 7:30pm. Grant reported that AUDITIONS will be on November 30 and December 1, 5-7pm, in Coph.

- “No Limits: Global Issues, Local Voices” undergraduate/graduate research at UNL March 5 & 6 (CFP due January 22)

- World Affairs – March 8

- Panel: “What is Women’s Studies?” early registration starts March 29-Apr 16.

- “Insight Dubai: Leadership Conference for Young Women” – 2010 conference is in April. (2009 Students Rachael Broadwell and Amber Lewis will make presentations
about their 2009 experience at the Global Scholars Workshop on November 16.

Scholarship subcommittee: Fronczak, Grant, Van Ingen.

8. Other:
   Library: Heidenreich reported that WS has a $500 budget to purchase books, DVDs, and other materials for the Library. Members were asked to forward suggestions (and purchase information) to Van Ingen.

   Van Ingen reported that the WS permanent files cabinet has been moved from 1000FNDH to the Ethnic Studies office.

9. The following additional agenda items will be addressed at the next meeting:
   Women's Center (Trish Holen):
   Triota (Rachael Broadwell and Heather Towndrow): meetings on Tuesdays at 3:30 in the Women’s Center.
   QSA (Queer/Straight Alliance)
   Gender Equity Committee (Van Ingen)
   No Limits at UNK 2011 on March 4 & 5 (Fri & Sat) in Ponderosa Rooms
   (Advanced planning subcommittee: Towndrow, Mitchell, Van Ingen)
   Budget update

Van Ingen adjourned the meeting at 5:50pm (G. Mims/Heidenreich)