The President’s Commission on the Status of Women  
Monday, March 10, 2014  
Library Room 502  
2:00-3:30pm

Mission Statement: The Mission of the Millersville University Commission on the Status of Women is to foster a university climate that promotes full and equal opportunity for women to study, work, and live in an environment free of discrimination and harassment. The Commission actively supports university policies, practices, and programs that address issues and concerns pertaining to campus women.

Present: Autumn Croasmun (GA)  
         Jan Bechtel  
         Jan Bond  
         Michael Frankowski  
         Hiram Martinez  
         Alice McMurry  
         Susan Northwall  
         Ruth Salinkas  
         Jayme Trogus (Chair)  
         Kat Walsh  
         Tom Waltz

I. Approval of Minutes

Members were asked to look over the minutes and send any recommendations to A. Croasmun via e-mail. Any changes recommended were made and the minutes have been uploaded to the Women’s Commission MU website.

II. Spotlight

Our presenter, Tracey Weis, was unable to attend the meeting therefore; her discussion on the Women’s Studies Program at MU was postponed to the April meeting.

III. Chair’s Report/New Business

J. Trogus informed commission members that she met with Dr. Anderson and discussed the Women’s Commission 25th Anniversary Summit, the commission’s allocations, and strategic planning. J. Trogus stated that she submitted a request to invite Dr. Anderson to attend the commission’s meetings and informed commission members that the meeting dates are on his calendar. Due to our monthly meeting times conflicting with other appointments on Dr. Anderson’s calendar he is unable to attend the commissions meetings however, J. Trogus stated that he is pleased with where the commission is at and what the commission is working on.

J. Trogus provided commission members with an update on the YWCA counseling services provided on campus at health services. J. Trogus informed commission members that the counseling services are available every Monday from 1pm to 5pm. J. Trogus stated that marketing materials to promote the counseling services will be
available on Thursday, March 13th. Marketing materials will consist of yard sale signs, posters and postcards. J. Trogus concluded the discussion on the YWCA counseling services by stating that the YWCA counselors and staff are very appreciative of the opportunity to be on campus at MU.

J. Trogus informed commission members that the chairs of all three commissions met with H. Martinez to discuss how to support the upcoming sEXPO being held on Friday, April 18th. The decision was made to have those organizing and planning the sEXPO to apply for funding through each of the commission’s allocation application process. Those organizing the sEXPO submitted allocation applications for funding to all three of the commissions.

J. Trogus presented commission members with the dates for the Vagina Monologues being held on Saturday, March 29th at 8pm and Sunday, March 30th at 2pm. The Vagina Monologues will be held in Myers Auditorium. Marketing materials for the event will be distributed throughout campus beginning the week of March 10th. J. Trogus concluded the discussion of the Vagina Monologues by reminding commission members that bystander intervention training will be held on Wednesday, April 16th from 2pm to 3:30pm in the basement dressing room of the Winter Center.

J. Trogus informed commission members that within the commission’s budget there is four thousand dollars reserved to send two members of the MU community to the PASSHE Women’s Consortium Faculty Institute. The faculty institute will take place this summer from July 27th, 2014 through August 1st, 2014 at State College. J. Trogus informed commission members that there is an application to attend the institute and asked commission members for recommendations of faculty members to send to the institute. H. Martinez stated that the commission can work with the Deans Council to acquire recommendations and should confirm recommendations with the Deans Council. K. Walsh asked, what are the desired outcomes for attending the institute? R. Salinkas stated that last year after attending the institute with another staff member they were given the task of putting together a project. K. Walsh stated that the faculty institute could be a great way to cultivate leadership and to prepare individuals to take on leadership roles within the commissions. H. Martinez recommended Leonora Foels and A. McMurry recommended Lexi Hutto. J. Trogus concluded the discussion on the recommendations for the faculty institute by stating that she along with A. Croasmun would send an email out to all commission members to allow those members not present to make their recommendations.

J. Trogus discussed the PASSHE Student Conference with commission members. J. Trogus informed the commission that she is working to acquire information regarding where the funding to send students to the conference comes from and whether that funding comes out of the Student Affairs budget. J. Trogus stated that she would like to send students this year as it has been at least four years since MU has sent students to attend the conference. J. Bechtel asked if students can attend conference without funding from MU? J. Trogus stated that she believed that students could attend the conference without MU funding.
IV. Commission Reports

President’s Commission on Cultural Diversity and Inclusion

K. Walsh informed the commission that the PCCDI would be meeting on Monday, March 10th to finalize their decision on the allocation applications that they received. K. Walsh stated that the PCCDI is working to update their bylaws and are realigning their committee structure. The PCCDI is co-sponsoring the Women’s Commission 25th Anniversary Summit taking place on Wednesday, April 9th from 9am to 4pm in the SMC. K. Walsh informed the commission that the PCCDI will be hosting a faculty and staff reception. K. Walsh concluded her discussion on the PCCDI by stating that this would be her last year as co-chair however, will be serving as an advisor to assist in the transition of the new co-chair next year.

President’s Commission on Gender and Sexual Diversity

J. Bechtel informed commission members that the PCGSD has approved their bylaws and have established an affirmation statement. J. Bechtel shared with the commission that the PCGSD is planning for next year by looking at what type of initiatives they would like to take on. The PCGSD is looking for ways to become more involved on campus and has signed to be involved in freshmen orientation. J. Bechtel concluded the discussion on the PCGSD by stating that the PCGSD is working to redevelop safe zone training in order to expand it.

V. Committee Reports

Allocations and Endowments

A. McMurry informed the commission that the allocations and endowments committee met to review the allocation applications received by the commission. The commission received sixteen applications and chose six applications to provide awards to. A. McMurry shared with the commission that those applying for funding consisted of faculty, staff, and students. The applications were selected based on the number of people who would be impacted by the programming or research being conducted as well as how well they aligned with the commission’s allocation guidelines. J. Trogus stated that the commission received a lot of really good applications and the next step would be to notify recipients of their awards. A. McMurry stated that recipients would be notified right away and the funds would also be dispersed right away. J. Trogus concluded the allocations and endowments report by thanking all committee members for reviewing the applications and providing their recommendations.

Receptions and Special Events
J. Bechtel reminded commission members of the date for the Women’s Commission 25th Anniversary Summit which will be held on Wednesday, April 9th from 9am to 4pm. J. Bechtel reviewed the two tracks, decent lives and decent work, which will be offered to participants during the morning of the summit. The first track, decent lives, will consist of one panel focused on body image and self talk and the second panel will focus on legislative/Advocacy for decent lives. The second track decent work will consist of one panel focused on equal rights and the second panel will focus on legislation and advocacy for equal rights. J. Bechtel informed commission members that Lisa Jo Epstein will be attending the summit to facilitate the Theatre of the Oppressed. The summit will conclude with a living room conversation led by Tracey Weis. An invitation will be sent via email to the campus community in order to encourage the attendance of faculty, staff, and students at the summit. An invitation will also go out to former chairs of the commission as well as past presidents by Friday, March 14th. J. Bechtel concluded her discussion of the summit by thanking J. Bond for her all her time and work with the receptions and special events committee.

J. Trogus informed commission members that after reserving five hundred dollars for the faculty institute there is 1,366.68 remaining in the commissions budget. J. Trogus stated that typically the commission has left some money remaining in budget at the end of each year however, asked for commission member’s thoughts on either to spend the money or leave the money remaining in the budget. H. Martinez and K. Walsh encouraged commission members to use the remaining money. K. Walsh asked if there was an application received by the allocations and endowments committee that they were unable to fund? A. McMurry stated that the Women’s Empowerment Retreat had requested 1,000 dollars however, there was limited information regarding what was involved in the event. J. Trogus posed the question to commission members of whether to put money aside to cover travel costs for those attending the faculty institute or put the money towards the retreat? K. Walsh made a motion to have up to 1,000 dollars allocated to the Women’s Empowerment Retreat. R. Salinkas second the motion. J. Trogus asked if anyone was not in agreement? The motion was approved. The discussion regarding the commission’s budget concluded by commission members deciding to use the remaining 366.68 to cover the travel costs of those attending the faculty institute.

**Promotion of Commission**

A. Croasmun reported on behalf of Erin Dorney and stated that the promotion of the commission committee met on Monday, March 3rd to discuss the commissions Facebook page, updating the commission’s logo, and working with the receptions and special events committee to promote the upcoming summit. The committee plans to focus on collaborating with the receptions and special events committee to develop promotional materials for the summit. The committee continues to work on organizing the marketing tool kit to provide to commission members to promote their events. A. Croasmun concluded her discussion on the promotion of commission committee by stating that the committee is interested in updating the commission’s logo. The discussion concluded by commission members stating that before the committee updates the logo the
committee should check to make sure the logo is not a PASSHE logo. If the logo is not a PASSHE logo then the committee could have different logos created for the commission to look at.

**Staff Initiatives/Strategic Planning**

H. Martinez informed commission members that Mindy Lefever had sent an email out to staff who had expressed concerns at the commission’s 2013 spring reception and planned to meet with them. Mindy Lefever is in the process of meeting with additional staff who have expressed concerns regarding work climate issues. H. Martinez stated that the concerns expressed appear involve job satisfaction, fear of retaliation, amount of work, changing work, lack of classification, and promotions. H. Martinez stated that the committee did not want to send out another survey and wants to look further into the concerns expressed before making steps to address them.

VI. Office Program Reports

Athletics
Center for Health Education and Promotion
Center for Student Involvement and Leadership
Women’s Studies

VII. Adjournment