

Women's Caucus  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2016  
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
College of Arts & Sciences Annex

Board Members Present: Kelsey Cummings, Heather Doty, Regina Wright, Helga Huntley, Stephanie Kerschbaum, Shannon Lennon-Edwards, Jodi Drake, Katie Meier, Margie Kiter-Edwards, Megan Gaffney, Keeley Powell

Excused: Robin Andreasen, Susan Williams

1. Adoption of the agenda.

Approved

2. Approval of the minutes from the September meeting

The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Discussion with Guests from a Unit on Campus

Background: There are only 3 women in this particular unit on campus. There are no women in leadership. There has never been a woman in leadership there, even when a woman was the most senior and qualified. Our guests visited to discuss the experiences of women in their field on campus. In general, they do not feel empowered to change the culture and circumstances. The Women's Caucus leadership agreed to follow up with Human Resources about their concerns.

4. Brief Discussions

a. Caucus Chairs meeting

- A best practices document was presented to the caucus chairs at the monthly caucus meeting. There was discussion about how other schools incentivize caucus leadership. There was discussion about what issues we should merge with other caucuses to address versus pursue as an independent caucus. In addition, we discussed the potential of advocating for, or outreach, with female students as a caucus.

- a. Publication Subcommittee
  - Katie Meier is finalizing the formatting of the annual publication and will send a draft to the board very soon.
  
- b. Fall general meeting
  - The general meeting went well. It was well attended.
  - There was discussion of planning a less formal event/mixer for women to gather and socialize.
  
- c. Board development
  - Heather Doty received a great response to her personal contacts and invitations to attend the general meeting. She encouraged board members to keep spreading the word about the caucus.
  
- d. Torch Award
  - We were reminded to keep nominations in mind. We will plan to send an email out this fall to encourage nominations.
  
- e. Parental leave policies
  - There was no update from the co-chairs.
  - Megan Gaffney discussed the parental leave policy proposal with Trevor Dawes.
  
- f. Childcare
  - Jodi Drake would like to identify a co-chair to begin to operationalize a plan for moving forward with survey findings.
  - A list of alternatives to the ELC will be developed. Following the model of the parental leave policy, a list of benefits to the university should be developed.