

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Women's Faculty Network</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WFN Executive Committee Meeting</b>  <b>March 25, 2011</b>  <b>2:00 – 3:00pm</b>  <b>Room 308</b>  <b>Rudder</b></p>
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Meeting Minutes Approved

**Action Items**

- 1) Chanda will forward to Elizabeth the incivility workshop information, so Elizabeth can post it on the listserv.
- 2) Elizabeth will ask Antonio about a May date for the social.
- 3) Elizabeth will send to the listserv the flyer for the Spring Luncheon
- 4) Elizabeth will use the listserv to solicit questions to ask of the administrators
- 5) Elizabeth will get in touch with Chris Kaunas to ask about the ADVANCE group doing a presentation at the end of the WFN spring luncheon.
- 6) Elizabeth will coordinate with Sarah Bednarz about getting the Mentoring Award Nominations and Process going.
- 7) Elizabeth will ask Lori about subsidizing the Spring luncheon cost with WFN funds similar to how we did in the fall (that meal cost \$15.95 for faculty).
- 8) Sarah Fulton agreed to help out sending emails to Deans and DH regarding inviting them and the newly tenured women professors. Elizabeth may or may not need her help depending on whether or not her GA can help out.
- 9) Elizabeth will contact Louise Abbott for an update on the financial planning coffee and get a flyer from her to distribute regarding the event.
- 10) Elizabeth will work on getting a nomination committee together (run by a non-steering committee member) to get nominees for the open WFN positions.

Members Present: Elizabeth Umphress, Dominique Chlup, Sarah Fulton, Nancy Klein, Stephanie Payne, Chanda Elbert, Tina Gumienny, Mary Beth Hueste, Claire Katz

Called to order 2 p.m.

- I. Approve February WFN Executive Committee Meeting Minutes—Approved unanimously.
- II. Mentoring Update and Social – Stephanie Payne reported on Mentoring and Elizabeth reported on the social.
  - Not a lot to report but there has been some progress. There is a draft of text for the website—Stephanie’s optimistic that text will uploaded soon. No activity on the wiki—no one knows where it is, so there are still 42 pairs of mentors and mentees.
  - Elizabeth update on the social is that it won’t be happening. We don’t have a mentoring website or a contact at the DoF since they are going through changes in the DoF office. Elizabeth asked Fred Bonner about the April 8<sup>th</sup> social and he suggested that we hold off on it

right now. Also if Antonio wants to attend Elizabeth will contact him to see about the possibility of a May date.

- Chanda will forward to Elizabeth the incivility workshop information to post on the listserv.

### III. Spring Luncheon – discussion of cost, questions, mentoring award, list of women to honor from DOF.

- Elizabeth reported the cost of the luncheon will be \$17.95; first price quoted was \$19.95. She got them to discount that price by \$2.00. It will be a sit down lunch. It is \$2.00 cheaper for a buffet, but we didn't like that option in the past. Menu: Tuscan chicken with tomato risotto; might be pear or apple salad. Elizabeth will send out a flyer indicating that everyone should RSVP to Lori Taylor as we've done in the past. The date for the luncheon April 28 and all of the administrators have it on their calendar. Elizabeth will use the listserv to solicit questions for the administrators and then send them to them prior to the luncheon. We will only have one microphone, so Elizabeth will have to yell out the questions. Elizabeth announced to the group that she is leaving TAMU for a new position at the University of Washington, so she's happy to ask the tough Questions of the administrators at this year's luncheon.
- Elizabeth asked Stephanie if the folks from the ADVANCE grant will be giving a brief presentation of the grant at the luncheon. Stephanie believes so, but Chris Kaunas would be the contact person for Elizabeth to ask about the ADVANCE group giving a presentation. Discussion that we should have the ADVANCE group present at the end of the luncheon, so we leave the lunch on a positive note—celebrating our successes.
- Sarah Bednarz is in charge of the mentoring award. Elizabeth will coordinate with Sarah getting nominations and the process going.
- Mary Beth Hueste suggested supplementing the cost of the luncheon with WFN funds like we did in the fall. And offering a discount for the graduate students. Elizabeth will ask Lori about that. Try to get Deans to pay for the newly tenured and promoted women professors. Sarah Fulton agreed to help out sending emails to Deans and DH regarding inviting them and the newly tenured women professors. Elizabeth may or may not need her help depending on whether or not her GA can help out.
- Elizabeth has been asked to attend a meeting on Monday to do something to celebrate Karan being the first woman provost at Texas A&M University.
- Mary Beth reported that Robin Autenrieth, Associate Dean in College of Engineering, is hosting a luncheon for Karan being named the first woman Provost of the University.

### IV. Coffee on financial advisor (to be hosted in Spring by Louise Abbot)—Elizabeth needs a flyer, so she'll contact Louise Abbott for an update.

February Coffee on service. Good turnout (Nancy Klein and Mary Beth Hueste reported) The three speakers did a fabulous job of discussing what service meant in Engineering, liberal arts, and architecture. Started at 10 and people still leaving at 11:45 a.m. Good camaraderie and participation was equally spread across groups. The Glasscock library was a great setting as it encouraged people to be comfortable and engaged. Blue Baker also helped to encourage the conversation.

### V. Managing WFN Member Election (Elizabeth Reported)

- Positions coming up for election:
  - 1) George Bush School of Government—Lori Taylor's position

- 2) Geosciences—Sarah Bednarz stepped up and has been doing it, so can ask her if she wants to run again.
  - 3) Engineering—Mary Beth Hueste will run again as she's only served one year.
  - 4) At-large 2—Dominique Chlup's position; she will not run again.
  - 5) Elizabeth will also need someone to replace her for the Business school.  
Recommendation to ask Dara Pinina.
- The person who runs the election cannot be a member of the steering committee. Nancy Klein made the suggestion to first call for a nomination committee and then call for nominees. Elizabeth will work on this. The suggestion was made to set up the poll similar to a survey and Stephanie suggest we provide text about what each of the positions entails. Elizabeth will work on getting a nomination committee together.

VI. Other business

- Stephanie raised the question should we set up a regular meeting time instead of using a doodle poll each month? Discussed pros and cons of this. Elizabeth pointed out a set meeting misses the same person each month; the doodle poll allows for more options. Elizabeth suggested that the next President of WFN determine which system works best for her and in that way we may go back to having a set meeting time each month.
- Stephanie recommended Wyoma as our next President of WFN. Several in the group echoed this choice.
- Discussion of guns in the classroom issue. Elizabeth reported that the group consensus was correct that the WFN could not take a formal stance on allowing guns into the classroom. Discussion that we need to keep in mind how we use University email and that we should use personal email for these types of issues, so we are operating as individual citizens and not as TAMU faculty. The question was raised about how does the WFN operate in this environment and sustain participation when feel like we have no power and our voices are being squelched? It was decided this would be an appropriate question to ask administrators--how as administrators do they plan to address this?

There was a discussion of the current climate and various situations at the University. WFN needs to think how as an organization we will operate in this current University environment.

Adjourned 2:55 p.m.