President’s Commission on the Status of University Women

Executive Committee Meeting

April 29, 2016

Jyl Shaffer, new director of the Office of Institutional Equity and campus Title IX Coordinator, attended the meeting and introduced herself. She will be the keynote speaker at the full commission meeting. She will talk about how her office fits in to the larger issue of diversity and equity at MSU. She would like to know what the campus community would like to see from her office and how our campus can be better prepared to address diversity and equity. Besides Jyl, there are two other people working in her office as Title IX and civil rights investigators. She would like to see consistency across our sister campuses, do more outreach, and discover the challenges and barriers.

The committee worked on an agenda for the full commission meeting.

1. President Cruzado—address her vision for the commission
2. Jyl Shafer—share her role as the director and campus Title IX coordinator
3. Tracy and Camie—power point presentation about the commission, highlight the award winners, and go over the strategic plan
4. Allow other campuses to share what they are doing with equity and diversity
5. Review membership to see who is rotating off.
6. Have discussion on “what would be lost if there was no PCOSWU?”

Becca Belou reported that MSU Human Resources is working on reclassifying staff position into new categories for the Office of the Commission of Higher Education. They are looking at employee data from the Office of Planning and Analysis (OPA). The commission would like to have HR director Cathy Hasenpflug speak at a future meeting on the reclassification process.

Becca noted that other President’s Commissions on University Women have provided the president with recommendations and advice on issues. MSU’s commission should start thinking of several tangible recommendations.

Celia O’Connor asked how students fit into MSU’s diversity and equity plans. “Whose job is it to look at students and what policies need to be in place for them?” Mindy May, student family advocate, is working with OPA on a survey on sexual assault and domestic violence. No one seems to know who makes policies for students. The commission might consider adding a representative from the Dean of Students Office.

There was discussion on what to do with the diversity inventory conducted this past year.

Congratulations to Susan Dana, professor in the College of Business, on receiving the Women’s Circle of Excellence Mentoring Award.