Annual Report of the Commission on the Status of Women

Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

Presented to the Administrative Council

April 18, 2014

Officers

Chair: Lyn McQuald, Department of Mathematics
Vice-Chair: Laurent Odde, Fine Arts Department
Secretary: Krista Prock, Rohrbach Library
Treasurer: Annette Christman, CLAS Dean's Office

Love, Sex and Healthy Relationships Workshops

The Commission on the Status of Women runs a Love, Sex and Healthy Relationships Workshop every semester. The objectives of these workshops are to:

- Identify elements of a healthy versus an abusive relationship.
- Describe the qualities of a responsible partner in a healthy relationship.
- Identify the healthy aspects of a love relationship and the positive expression of that love.

This past year, our workshops were held on September 18, 2013 and on February 26, 2014 with about 120 students attending each event.

Women's Center/Women and Gender Studies Support

Our Chair, Lyn McQuald, serves on the Women and Gender Studies Advisory Board while another member, Kanchan Kumar, serves on the Women's Center Advisory Board. The Director of the Women's Center & GLBTQ Resource Center, Grace Hill, serves on the commission. We are currently co-sponsoring the Potty Papers, which are displayed in restrooms on campus, detailing the programs and activities of the Women's Center as well as campus activities of interest to women. It also lists hotlines such as Berks Women in Crisis, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, the PA Coalition Against Rape, the National Domestic Violence Hotline and the National Sexual Assault Hotline.
Bylaws Revision

Our bylaws had not been updated since 2006 and the many changes at KU since that time warranted a revision. For example, the Director of the Office of Human Diversity or Designee was listed as a member of our commission and this office no longer exists. These revisions were approved by the required two-thirds of our members on April 17, 2014.

KU Women's Consortium Renewal

There has not been an active chapter of the PASSHE Women's Consortium at KU in over a decade. Two of our commission members, Colleen Clemens and Carissa Pokorny-Golden, attended the two PASSHE Women's Consortium conferences this past year and are going to organize a membership drive for the 2014-2015 school year to include faculty, staff and students.

Sexual Violence on Campus

We have been approached by concerned students about this topic. A discussion group has been organized consisting of 25 students, Grace Hill, Ellesia Blaque, Duane Crider and Lyn McQuaid.