



## Women's Committee Minutes – May 16, 2007 Blake Conference Room

### **Present:**

Diane Adams, Ellen Bailey, Valerie Caron, Julie Fawkes, Alison Macdonald, Britt Raubenheimer, and Sheri White

### **Guests Attending:**

Henrietta Dulaiova (post-doc rep), Joanne Goudreau

### **Absent:**

Dana Gerlach

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Alison went over the budget and discussed expenditures from the April Coffee and Becky Sarah's seminar. We have \$685 in the discretionary fund and \$1029.03 in the general fund. The Women's History Month event was less expensive than last year's event, so we're 'ahead' in terms of the budget.

### **Review of Past Events:**

- April Coffee at the WHOI Exhibit Center was poorly attended for the second year in a row. Next year we may spread out the coffees to November and April to try to increase attendance.
- The Becky Sarah presentation was attended by a small group, but the size of the group facilitated good conversation. Resources from the presentation will be posted on the Work and Family Life and/or Women's Committee website(s).

### **Events:**

- Annual Dinner June 27<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm in Clark 507. Roland has been confirmed and will provide a bartender. The menu and cost have not yet been set. Sheri will purchase another case of wine and a couple six-packs of beer. Valerie will find out if Academic Programs is willing to subsidize student attendance. Valerie will contact Mary Ann White to approve access to the Clark kitchen. Julie will check with Steve if linens are available. Steve has agreed to do room set up for 60 people. Flyers should be sent out next week with an RSVP date of June 14<sup>th</sup>. Ellen will get the mailing labels for all of the constituents. Valerie volunteered to put a program together.

### **Committee Reports:**

- BAC - The **Benefit Advisory Committee** met with members of other committees at Redfield and Clark to discuss recommended changes to the occasional leave policy. The committee as a whole spoke to the committee representatives rather than having an HR representative lecturing. The goal was to put policies in place

to enable supervisors to deal with employees with patterned 'abuse of leave', including inclusion in performance reviews and the ability to ask why the employee was absent. Additionally, family leave will be tracked separately. The committee found that it was more expensive to have set sick time than to maintain the current policy.

- **Diversity Committee** - working on setting up a website, logo and a few events such as the diversity movie night.
- **GMPC** - Joanne Goudreau was present as a representative for the Graded and Marine Personnel Committee. The committee's goal is to make sure the ship's personnel and graded staff are represented. The committee has been working on increasing their visibility. GMPC sponsored a survey to address morale for the second year. The survey will be done every year.
- Nominations for the **Linda Morse Porteous Award** are due June 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee will meet a week later to make their decision. Nominations considered for the current year and the next 2 years. The award will be presented on June 29<sup>th</sup> during Employee Appreciation Day.
- Massachusetts Committee on the Status of Women - Judy Fenwick will be attending the meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and has requested time at the June meeting to give a report.

### ***Postdoctoral Representation on the Women's Committee:***

Henrietta agreed to maintain the current arrangement of having a non-voting member on the committee. This will facilitate changing representatives as postdocs come and go throughout the year. The alternate representative, Angie, leaves WHOI this weekend and will be replaced by Breea Govenar. The new postdoctoral lounge on the first floor of Caryn House has been completed. Postdoctoral scholars now get dental insurance.

### ***Next meeting:***

June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 9am MRF Conference Room