**COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Thursday October 14th, 2021

 8:30 – 9:30 am

**Individuals Present:** Cara Krieg, Pauline Palko, Peter Bouraphael, Elizabeth Garcia, Donald Bergmann, Billie Tadros, Sam Gurn, Maria Marinucci, Lucia Alaimo, Amy Atkinson, and Jennifer Riccardi.

**Individuals Absent:** N/A

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome New Members:
	1. Committee members introduced themselves to new members and described their roles on campus and any specific responsibilities within the committee.
2. Open Forum/Community Concerns:
	1. N/A—no community members present for meeting
3. Update on Website Banner Photo:
	1. Sam Gurn—Commented on her research into surrounding colleges, committees, and the logos that they use for similar committees. She recommended that a logo change should be considered in coordination with the possible name-change of the committee.
	2. Billie Tadros—Questioned whether there is a limitation on specific images we can use as banners by the University. She was advised that there is no limitation if it is royalty/copyright free.
	3. Pauline Palko—Agreed that a logo change should also involve a mission change and name change.
	4. A logo, mission, and/or name change will need to be discussed with the provost for approval.
	5. Committee agreed that we should wait for a logo change until we are ready to implement a mission and name change.
	6. We will discuss in our **November meeting** the next steps in the logo change process as well as any conversations with the provost pertaining to these changes.
4. Update on Bathroom Audit:
	1. Maria Marinucci—Presented map with locations for gender inclusive restrooms. Expressed concern that the Byron, Long, and fitness center do not currently have access to gender inclusive restrooms. Most gender inclusive restrooms on campus are single-stalled and non-gendered.
	2. Elizabeth Garcia—Suggested that we advocate for changing the gendered single-stalled restrooms to non-gendered.
	3. Cara Krieg—Once map is completed, we should have another conversation about next steps and how the committee might be able to support them.
5. Discussion on Re-Naming the Committee:
	1. Possible committee names for consideration:
		1. Committee on the Status of Gendered Bodies
		2. Committee on the Status of Gender
		3. Committee on Gender Equity
	2. Billie Tadros—Suggested that the current wording of the overall mission of the committee is fairly broad. Peer institutions are moving in a more inclusive direction, and it appears like we are behind.
	3. Jen Riccardi, Billie Tadros. and Cara Krieg will compile data on other institutions with similar committees to bring to Jeff Gingerich.
	4. Maria Marinucci—The word “status” can be somewhat confusing practically speaking. Suggested a using a name without this word.
	5. Potential Concerns with a Name Change:
		1. By changing the committee’s scope, are we loosing focus of the original mission and its importance?
		2. Why do we need this committee to focus on inclusivity when there are others? (are there many others?)
		3. Elizabeth Garcia—We should make the differences clear between the counsel for diversity and inclusion and this committee.
	6. Things to Consider in Light of the Above Concerns:
		1. What are the Pope’s remarks on inclusivity? How might they help advocate for a name change? Pauline Palko and Jen Riccardi will research this.
		2. Billie Tadros—Suggested that the word “women” doesn’t necessarily have to be removed from the mission statement.
		3. Amy Atkinson—Suggested that we are not necessarily losing our original focus, but in this current time/political environment we recognize some greater concerns.
		4. Having multiple committees that focus on inclusivity give a greater opportunity for collaboration.
		5. Donald Bergmann—Suggested inviting Marian Farrell and Jean Harris (previous committee members) to speak about the history of the committee and this name change issue.
	7. Cara Krieg—Will send out a survey to the committee to vote on possible names
6. CDI Campus Climate Survey:
	1. Elizabeth Garcia—Report does currently have some information about LGBTQ inclusivity. A realistic timeframe would be for us to look at this report and the data in **December**.
	2. Sam Burn—Can we see intersections between LGBTQ community and others? Can we make different connections and see patterns? She was advised that this would be difficult to do because of the smaller number of survey participants.
7. New business:
	1. Cara will be reporting to the faculty senate on Friday 10/14/21. It is possible we could hear some feedback from them that may be helpful. Before next month’s meeting, Cara will begin determining the next steps for the logo and name change. After next meeting, we can reach out to the provost to get a feel for any objections.
	2. Elizabeth Garcia—Recommended that if we are presenting to faculty senate, we should also present to student government and staff senate. Lucia Alaimo and Pauline Palko will speak with these parties to see if they would like us to report to them.