Women’s Studies Advisory Council
Mtg: Founders 2147
MINUTES for 12-6-06

Present: Trudy de Goede, Jeanne Butler, Nyla Khan, Cynthia Lightner, Janice Fronczak, Linda Van Ingen, Tessa Gifford (student representative), Glen Powell, Beth Wiersma.

Absent: Stan Lightner, Diane Wysocki, Liz Peck, Kate Benzel, Deborah Murray, Karleen Mitchell, Carol Lilly (on leave), Carol Lomicky (ex-officio).

The meeting was called to order at 4pm by Trudy de Goede.

1. Nyla Khan announced that she needs to resign from the Recruitment and Retention Committee due to scheduling conflicts. This is an advisory council that will be chaired by the AVCAA. This council’s recommendations will be reported to the Senior Vice Chancellor. It will have its first mtg on January 10 (Wed), 2-3pm. Trudy de Goede said she would go to the first mtg until a replacement is found.

2. Minutes from 11-8-06 were reviewed. Approved by Janice Fronczak; seconded by Cynthia Lightner and Nyla Khan.

3. Assessment: de Goede said two students are finishing WS420 and so their papers will be assessed. Linda Van Ingen volunteered to read the paper from the student who did not work with WS faculty.

4. Summer courses: Goede asked if there were any summer 2007 courses for WS that she should know about. She will follow-up with Wysocki and Lomicky who have taught on-line WS summer courses in the past to see if they are being offered again.

5. Budget: de Goede said that about $2500 will be left for Spring 2007 after on-going operating expenses are accounted for, including $250 for World Affairs and $150 for V-day. Upcoming expenses for Women’s History month and possibly for advanced planning for No Limits 2008 at UNK can come out of this disposable income. This is the end of the budget biennium, so no funds can be rolled over into 2007-2008.

6. Faculty-Staff Club for March 9, 2007: $50 is available from last year. de Goede will ask the deans for donations for wine, as has been the practice in the past. WSAC will pay for food through donations, and Jeanne Butler will ask for beer donations from Platte Valley Brewery.

7. No Limits 2006 in Lincoln: UNL wants to know the number of students attending. It was suggested that we reserve 2 or 3 hotel rooms and can cancel if necessary.
Faculty are asked to encourage students to participate; WS students will be reimbursed by WSAC for lodging/registration(meal); abstracts (250-400 words) are due January 26 and can be emailed to nolimits2007@unl.edu

8. Faculty travel: Jeanne Butler said that if WSAC faculty travel to conferences for teaching or assessment related issues, CTE has travel funds faculty can apply for.

9. Women’s History Month (March 2007): de Goede will follow-up with Wysocki about tentative plans to speak about her Seneca Falls visit. Bringing in Jane Curry (who contacted us saying she is going to be at Hastings College and could come to UNK on her same visit) costs $2000. WSAC agreed this was too expensive for this year. A film festival was suggested. Tessa Gifford will speak to Triota about this possibility, and Triota has some funds to provide some food. Film suggestions were: Independence (women in Nebraska, Fronczak can get the film), Water (Afghan women – film is in our library); Iron-Jawed Angels (in WS office)

10. Nyla Khan reminded WSAC that Dr. Ray will be speaking on Feb 16 (Friday). Cosponsored by World Affairs and English. Her talk is on transnational feminism.

11. Planning for No Limits 2008 at UNK:

a. Theme for the conference: ideas were crystal staircase/glass ceiling; challenges and opportunities; triumph and tragedy; transnational feminism, or combinations of these. Further suggestions should be brought to the next meeting where a decision will be made.

b. Performer Laura Pelan (suggested by Darleen Mitchell last month) is a good possibility. Grants will be needed. Other performance/speaker ideas should be brought to the next meeting.

c. de Goede will look into dates the Ponderosa room is available for March 2008.

12. NWSA membership is up for renewal. WSAC agreed to renew it for $300 (motion Butler; second Wiersma)

13. Council Turnover: Discussion about process of leaving the WSAC was discussed. de Goede circulated Barbara Amundson’s resignation letter. de Goede noted that since no terms are defined, people can leave at any time. Discussion continued about the necessity to have a Governance Document that lays out the process and structure for WSAC. Glen Powell noted that since the WS program now has an office, director with stipend and course release, a budget, that more formality in council structure should follow. Other issues raised included more male representation; questions about what is the desired size of the WSAC, the ad-hoc status of some members; the advantages that come with a formal process for
contentious issues; and that the curriculum responsibilities of WSAC requires women’s studies-oriented faculty.

14. several announcements were made as the meeting closed:

   a. Wysocki’s course Soc495 “Special Topics: Travel to Thailand” needs WSAC approval for WS credit. It meets the WSAC course guidelines with its major emphasis on gender, sexuality, and women’s work, health and family life. de Goede will follow-up with an email vote since quorum no longer existed by the end of the mtg.

   b. Jeanne butler announced that the Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women will be meeting at UNK January 26 9-4pm; faculty and students can attend. On January 25 the “WomenWork” program co-sponsored by the Neb Commission will also meet.

   c. Linda Van Ingen announced that auditions for the Vagina Monologues have taken place, a rehearsal schedule is set, and the performances will be Feb 3 & 4 in the Union.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Van Ingen
12-7-06