University of Wisconsin-Platteville Sexual Assault Awareness Council – Minutes
12/20/11

Present:  Marc Wruble, Pat Foster, Darci Wildermuth, Scott Marquardt, Deirdre Dalsing, Sabina Burton
Not Present:  Elizabeth Swift, Vickie Dreessens, Dana Cecil, Sheila Trotter

Marc called meeting to order at 8:10am.

Scott motioned to approve minutes from 12/6/11, Pat seconded, motion approved.

Discussed meeting dates and times for spring: Consensus was set for Monday mornings 8am. We will continue to meet every other week in the Patricia A. Doyle Women’s Center. **Our first meeting for the spring semester will be held on 1/23/12 at 8am.** Darci volunteered to do Zimbra for the group.

Darci reported that Vickie has ordered the vinyl clings (magnets).

Scott asked if there was an update on the Sexual Assault Advocate position (through Family Davocates) on campus. Deirdre indicated she hadn’t been made aware of any update, but would check on progress with the Dean of Students.

Pat shared that as a result of her involvement in the last Coordinated Community Response Team meeting she will be working to organize a “fair” during Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April where different campus groups and community organizations can provide information to students about their services. Scott shared that this group was made up of local providers, medical, legal and social service agency members. Several positions from UW-Platteville have been asked to participate. Molly is representing Campus Police on the team.

Group discussed the recent CDC report Deirdre forwarded to members regarding sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking data. Scott and Sabina provided some feedback on changes going on in the FBI with regard to redefining sexual assault. It appears the definition will be broader to more thoroughly represent the types of sexual assault occurring. Sabina offered she thinks many changes are occurring which in the long run will shift focus from the victim to the offender. Also referenced letter from UW System Chancellor Kevin Reilly about Wisconsin law that mandates all UW-Platteville employees be considered mandatory reporters for child sexual abuse.

Elizabeth provided Deirdre with corrected letter of invitation. Deirdre will send these letters out to identified new members during winter break, encouraging them to join us or identify someone from their department, in time for our first meeting in January.

Discussion regarding training with Josh Jasper: Consensus was to plan for faculty and staff in later February. Offered the third and fourth week. Scott will check room availability. Marc will check Josh’s availability. Agreed it may benefit us to market it in a way that we also address the upcoming changes in sexual assault reporting for our campus. Thought was to have Scott or
Artanya address the audience before Josh does his presentation. To increase faculty and staff participation this group will (1) try to secure a letter sent from the provost encouraging attendance; (2) coordinate effort with committee charged to address campus climate survey data; (3) create posters which Darci was asked to help with; and (4) letter to deans and department chairs from Marc as both faculty and chair of this group.

Group wants to continue to consider how to best use social media to engage students in this discussion and advertise activities.

Marc asked if a SPR member will participate in our group next spring. Deirdre shared the request with SPR members at the last meeting and asked interested students to get in touch with her. Tyler Fisher, a SPR member also expressed interest in attending the Mens’ Council Meetings. Marc and Scott agreed that would be great. Deirdre will notify Tyler to let him know they meet on the first Wednesday of everything month at noon in the Mississippi Room of the MPSC.

Marc shared that he and his students have been working on a project that has now shown that students are engaging in bystander interventions and/or random acts of kindness and reporting on them. He has accumulated a total of 250 of these acts in a research project. Question for this group is how we get that information out to UW-Platteville students to encourage and engage them!

Next meeting: 1/23/12 at 8am in the Patricia A. Doyle Women’s Center

Respectfully submitted by:

Deirdre Dalsing