University of Wisconsin-Platteville Sexual Assault Awareness Council – Minutes
10/8/13

Present: Marc Wruble, Deirdre Dalsing, Vickie Dreessens, Sherry Nevins, Lakisha Clinton, Scott Marquardt, Tim Swenson, Robin Gore, Pat Foster

Marc called meeting to order at 8:10 am.

Deirdre introduced the following membership additions:
Sherry Nevins - Student Affairs
Alisha Slowey – Residence Life
Lakisha Clinton – Student Senate
RHA – To be determined

Robin reminded group of the “Panty Pulping” event to be held this Wednesday and Thursday in front of the MPSC.

Vickie provided information on the revived “SART” group being organized in Grant County by Family Advocates and Southwest Health Center. The hospital is currently training 5 nurses as SANE nurses (trained specifically to perform sexual assault exams). The SART group is comprised of local police, prosecutors, the District Attorney’s office, health advocates, and consumers. Vickie did pass on information to the group about academic sanctions if an assault involves two students. She referred the group to the Dean of Students office for more clarification.

Lakisha shared that Student Senate approved a resolution to re-open the back doors of the library.

Scott reported that neither he nor Marc has heard back regarding the budget we submitted for consideration last year.

Sherry indicated she is working to secure a budget for the Dean of Students office which could eventually help support this group’s work.

Lakisha has been working with Rose, the Chancellor’s Assistant, about organizing a 5 K run for April and Sexual Assault Awareness Month with all money raised going for donation. The council members agreed this was something they would like to support and assist with if necessary.

Marc asked group to set mission or “focus” for this academic year:

1. It was suggested and agreed upon by members that we continue with our focus on Bystander Intervention. Based on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) colleges will be required to address bystander intervention on campus. Group wants to continue to pursue the video contest and enhance the existing BI page on pioneerlink. Scott agreed to coordinate that.
Scott inquired as to whether this group wants to have a folder on the S drive – all concurred. Again, Scott said he was willing to coordinate technology needs.

2. Bracelet Concept – similar to Ben’s Bells. All very much like the concept, but agree there are some logistics we have to assess. Deirdre will contact Carol Spelic of the art department to see if these are bracelets we can make ourselves here. Recommendation to solicit community support in the form of coupons was offered and Tim agreed to check in to that possibility. Concept is that we would develop bracelets and give to a group of students, who in turn would pass them on when they see random acts of kindness or bystander intervention behavior. We would then ask individuals to report (on-line) as to what they did to earn the bracelet. Similar to program in Arizona.

Marc shared with group that he was approached by several students interested in establishing a leadership club with a focus on developing leadership skills for students. Individuals from the men’s council are very supportive of idea. Marc was encouraged to talk with Val Wetzel based on her role in leadership development with students.

Robin shared that Residence Life will host a Leadership Living and Learning Community in the fall of 2014 in Rountree Commons. This could connect well with a group specifically focused on the development of leadership skills.

Next meeting: 10/22/13

Respectfully submitted by:
Deirdre Dalsing