University of Wisconsin-Platteville Sexual Assault Awareness Council – Minutes 11/26/13

Present: Deirdre Dalsing, Vickie Dreessens, Sherry Nevins Aleisha Slowey, Scott Marquardt, Robin Gore, Marc Wruble

Meeting called to order by Marc at 8:07am

Deirdre updated group that Carole relayed information that everyone is on board for the bracelet collaboration process. Carole also doesn’t think there will be a significant cost. Deirdre suggested we will probably need to get the process going, meeting with students to identify bracelet design.

Marc shared that was supposed to be at Greg Nelson’s class yesterday (11/25) but Greg had called to say the day wasn’t a good one, they would need to find another opportunity to get together. Marc wonders if we should invite Greg and his students (Carole also) to one of our next meetings in order to get things moving with the bracelet project. Deirdre will email Greg and Carole about them meeting with us at our next meeting on 12/10/13 at 8am in Women’s Center.

Sherry reported that she was not able to check in with Paul Erickson to get information related to our bracelet design, but will do so before our next meeting. Marc suggested we should try and see if Sarah Miller would want to come back to attending meetings. Deirdre indicated she is still on the minutes list-serve. (Sara, we would like to see you at meetings because we are often talking about marketing, publicizing, logo, etc.!!!!)

Scott offered that we want to re-think our idea of having Ray Maida from WCASA present during April to campus. He feels his presentation is very specific to investigators, law enforcement and advocates dealing with sexual assault and no appropriate for a campus-wide presentation. Scott also mentioned that funding for Ray’s position at WCASA has been discontinued.

Scott mentioned he still has to meet with John Sagehorn to get working on the PioneerLink page for bystander intervention.

Marc shared that he was made aware of the Women’s Council planning the Vagina Monologue’s for February, and a movie night for April. Vickie and Robin who both sit on the Women’s Council indicated they knew about plans for the Vagina Monologue, but weren’t sure about a moving night being planned. Group discussed that we would want to lend our support to this effort. Aleisha suggested having the book available somewhere on campus for students to check out. Deirdre suggested we could follow-up by organizing discussion sessions for students. Aleisha wondered if we would need to have people present during the show to provide support to any student who might struggle with the topic.
Scott shared that he, Vickie and Deirdre had met with Amy Spohn to begin work on collaboration with Southwest Hospital to address issues of safety. Topic chosen was to coordinate something around sexual assault, but will be done the date of 2/25/13. The hospital feels strongly they want to do something before spring break.

Marc shared that Paula, the new sexual assault advocate from Family Advocates has requested permission to begin attending these meetings. Group was in favor of this. Marc will respond to her.

Marc generated discussion regarding empathy and the research that is supporting a significant decrease in empathy noted among college students. Group agreed that this is the very issue we are trying to address, which allowed for a much broader discussion about needing resources to do the things we want to do, but also needing a campus campaign and not just something that we tend to build on. Sherry asked if anyone had ever submitted a budget request, and information was shared that a request was made last year that we never heard back on.

Discussion extended to how to keep Students Promoting Respect involved in this topic and the issue of having a liaison to this group would be helpful. Agreed that Deirdre and Vickie would check with them about this. We also discussed how that group might need to help with approaching administration as it makes sense to engage a student group in making requests to the Chancellor. Deirdre also suggested maybe our whole committee should request attendance at a Chancellor's Executive Team Meeting to discuss what we are trying to achieve on campus.

Next meeting will be on 12/10/13 at 8am in the Women’s Center. Plan is to invite Greg, his students and Carole to begin bracelet design process.

First meeting of the spring semester will be on 1/21/14 which will be held in the Counseling Center’s conference room (223 Royce Hall). Plan is to spend that meeting time organizing and coordinating the second annual bystander intervention video competition.

Meeting dates in January will be 1/21 and 1/28, but in February we will return to our usual second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Respectfully submitted by:
Deirdre Dalsing