

March 2010



# Commission News



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## *Word from the Co-Chairs*

*by Linda Breci, PhD and Christine Salvesen, MA*

Hello Commissioners, Ex-Officios and Liaisons! On behalf of CSW, let's take a moment to reflect on events and projects that are currently in the works.

Our Professional Development Workgroup will be assisting The Staff Advisory Council (SAC) with their yearly conference "Taking Control of Your Future" scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The Equity Workgroup is making inroads to create a parental leave policy for graduate students. Outreach and Education Workgroup's mini grant funding is in the works and one of last year's recipients, Women in Biosciences Toastmasters Club, is enjoying huge success as a new organization here on campus and will be guest speakers at our spring general meeting. The Family Care workgroup along with the Executive Committee continues to make progress toward on-campus Day Care. Finally, the Special Events Workgroup is putting on another outstanding Young

Women's Empowerment Academy scheduled on campus for April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Our Commissioners are doing great work, but as always we have women and men who will complete their tenure with CSW in June, and while some will be staying and many leaving, please know that we appreciate all you have done! In order to continue our wonderful progress your efforts are further needed to help us find and recruit new and qualified members. We have a recruitment event on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:30pm in the Tucson Room, Student Union. Feel free to invite or nominate individuals that are willing to join such great team.

As Co-Chairs of this Commission, we enjoy working with all of you and we are always proud of the results of your efforts. Thank you for making this such a fantastic organization!

### **Young Women's Empowerment Academy**

**Date: Saturday, April 17, 2010**

**Time 8:00—3:00**

**Location: Student Union**

## *Family Care Workgroup*

*by Amanda Brobbel*

The Family Care Workgroup continues the effort to bring childcare to campus. Our workgroup is currently focusing efforts around creating space on campus so that vendors who are interested in becoming U of A providers know what is available. A Request For Proposals to create the

space will be issued in April.

We are also examining the current use of flexible work schedules at the U of A; comparing their use here and at peer institutions, with the goal to improve the how flex schedules function on our campus.

## *Equity Workgroup*

*by Susan Richards, PhD*

The Equity workgroup has been very busy again. The team has continued the dialogue on the issue of parental leave accommodation for graduate students with the Graduate College. We are very excited that a solution appears to be in the making. We have concluded our conversations with Parking and Transportation and feel that overall parking has become more family-friendly. New features such as the 10-day pass and the car rental program have provided more flexibility to accommodate balancing work and family. We are also expressing our sincerest appreciation to all involved who have kept parking fees at the current levels.

Finally, the Equity workgroup has focused its

effort again on the graduate survey. This activity was put on hold for a year due to the many changes on Campus. However, the team believes that now is the appropriate time to resume this survey. Team members have been trained in the new software Illume and are currently redesigning the survey.

In our effort to support Equity and Quality of life at the UA, the Equity Team worked with SAC to provided financial support to maintain the same number of UA Excellence awards as in the previous year. It was a pleasure to participate in the surprise visits to announce the winners and the CSW contribution will be officially recognized as a sponsor at the upcoming award ceremony.

## *Outreach and Education Workgroup*

*by Cheryl Muller*

Our small, yet very dedicated O & E workgroup has been very busy. We started the 2009-2010 year by organizing our Fall Kick-Off event in September. At this event we welcomed our new commissioners and introduced our plans for the coming year. Early November we solicited nominations for the CSW Vision Award. The CSW Vision Awards program recognizes individuals who have promoted diversity goals in three areas: campus climate, professional development, and compensation and equity. We received several worthy nominations. This year CSW recognized Leslie Porter, Director, Human Resources Consulting and Talent Management and Becky Bell, Associate Athletic Director, CATS Life Skills. We hosted a reception in their honor in December, where each were introduced by their nominators. Leslie and Becky shared stories of their journey, and how that has shaped the individuals they are today. It was clear, that CSW recognized two of the very best that the UA employs.



After the Vision Award event we got right to work preparing for our annual CSW Mini Grants. We solicited proposals for projects which will promote the goals of the CSW at the University of Arizona and in the larger community. Just as in the past, we had a great response. We received 18 proposals and made awards to 10. We look forward to hearing back from award recipients about the successes of their programs.

We will end our year with a Recruitment Event where we hope to generate enthusiasm around the work that CSW does and add new members with many fresh perspectives. This reception will take place on Tuesday April 27th, from 3:00 – 4:30 in the Tucson Room of the Student Union. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend to share your CSW stories with others interested serving as commissioners.

## Special Events Workgroup

by Paul Lee

Our group is currently finalizing the plans for our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Women's Empowerment Academy. We have just gotten our website revamped and will be open to registration by the time you read this update.

This year's theme is "It's My Life!" and is focused on providing young women tools and information they will need to set goals, make informed decisions and goals, and ultimately create their own successful future.

The youth workshops this year are:

**Fish Philosophy!** Facilitator: Catherine Zavala, UITS Information Technology Training-Mosaic Project

**Healthy Body Image and Self-Esteem:** Facilitators: Alison Greene, Monica Davis, Sophia Villarreal, Kaleena Huggins, Southwest Institute for Research on Women(SIROW)

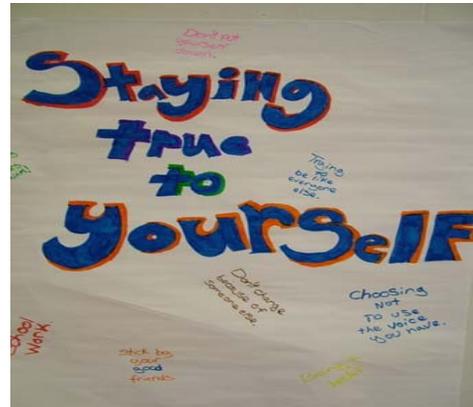
**Women in Science: Past, Present, Future:** Facilitator: Volunteers from the U of A Dept. Of Physics

**Presenting Your Best Self:** Facilitator: Christina Standifer, En Haus, LLC

**Get the 411 on the College Experience: Panel Discussion with students:** Facilitator: Amanda Cheromiah, U of A office of Early Academic Outreach

Parent /Caregiver workshops are:

**Current Issues facing Young Women with respect to Alcohol and Other Drugs:** Facilitator: Assistant



Police Chief John Leavitt, Tucson Police Department

**College Maze Dayz: Providing Important College Knowledge Information for Families:**

Facilitator: Amanda Cheromiah, U of A office of Early Academic Outreach

**Residence Life Dorm Tour:** Guide: Pam Obando, Residence Life

This year's Closing is tentatively scheduled to be a local Hawaiian Hula group that will perform for the girls in the afternoon.

Work has just been completed to update our Academy and registration websites thanks to Maritza Wright of the Office of Instruction and Assessment. And thanks to her, our pictures from last year's event are now available for viewing. For more information on the Young Women's Empowerment Academy, visit us at

[http://csw.arizona.edu/programs\\_youth.cfm](http://csw.arizona.edu/programs_youth.cfm)

We are still looking for volunteers. We need help with check-in and set-up the day of the event and possibly help with organizing the week before. If you would like to volunteer, contact Paul Lee @ 626-2942 or by email: [paul@email.arizona.edu](mailto:paul@email.arizona.edu).

## Professional Development Workgroup

By Erin Higley & M.E. Armstrong

Professional Development Workgroup will be assisting The Staff Advisory Council (SAC) with their yearly conference "Taking Control of Your Future" scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available

