

Gender Equity Advisory Committee Meeting

June 4, 2010

9:30 a.m.

James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph, Suite 14-300
14th Floor, Conference Room A
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

Debbie Hopper called the meeting to order at 9:37 am. Introductions showed the following present:

Wanda Andrews, (I-STEP Coordinator), Illinois Department of Labor

Nancy Chen, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of labor

Paul Nijensohn, Illinois State Board of Education

Deborah Hopper, Illinois State Board of Education

Debbie Potts, Education Specialist, Illinois Office of Educational Services

Lynn Reha, Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support, Illinois State University

Helen McClelland, Board of Education, Country Club Hills

Janelle Swiercinsky, Illinois Agri-Women

Approval of the Minutes

Paul Nijensohn moved to accept the September 29, 2009 minutes as corrected. Wanda Andrews seconded the motion. The motion carried.

AAUW-"Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics" Presentation

Lynn Reha presented a overview of the research project conducted by AAUW, -"Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics". Additional information, including the power-point presentation slides are currently available online at <http://www.icsps.ilstu.edu/projects/mwgcp/FY10Handouts.html>, entitled Broadening the appeal of STEM and copies of the research publication can also be requested in hard copy or as a download at <http://www.aauw.org/learn/research/whysofew.cfm/>. Lynn presented an overview of the findings and recommendations provided in the report.

Communications

Debbie Hopper shared a letter from Mark Williams, Division Administrator, Career Development and Preparation, Illinois State Board of Education. The letter conveyed appreciation for the work of the GEAC and receipt of the submitted proposal of advice regarding the Illinois Administrative Code, Part 200 Sex Equity rules.

ISBE Update

Debbie Hopper reported:

-Illinois continues to support nontraditional leadership programs to the fullest, 150,000 as noted in the Perkins IV, 2006 legislation.

-The U. S Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education just visited Illinois for a monitoring visit.

-Illinois continues to be a member State of NAPE-National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity

-Illinois plans to continue participating in the NAPE Foundations STEM-Equity Pipeline project.

As a multiple year state, Illinois will continue to share the webinars and resources available to the CTE community.

-The budget crisis has provided many difficulties to Education for Employment offices and member schools, as payments have not been received.

Debbie shared two documents developed at the Illinois State Board of Education that note non-traditional status of approved programs. This effort is to bring awareness to the programs that are non-traditional for male or female, and the federal reporting requirement in Perkins IV, indicators at the secondary and post-secondary level regarding non-traditional participation and completion.

ISBE project updates: Lynn Reha shared that ICSPS just completed a workshop series entitled "Women in Green". She noted the Women's Bureau had helped to define what green occupations for women are. She also noted additional information will be shared with the CTE community, including GEAC regarding an upcoming webinar, June 29 on Improving Nontraditional Programs...a collection of strategies for success. Debbie Potts shared that IOES continues to incorporate resources and webinars into the CTE Works online document. The document is shared electronically to the CTE community and is archived at <http://www.ioes.org/genderequity.php>. Additional information and resources are available on both project websites.

Subcommittee Update

A brief discussion was held regarding research in Same-Sex Classrooms. Discussion included a variety of research findings, including the one presented at the meeting. Debbie asked for a recommendation from members of how the same-sex classrooms subcommittee should proceed. Consensus of the group recommended removal of the same-sex classroom subcommittee.

Partner Updates

Wanda Andrews of the Illinois Department of Labor noted that ISTEP is unfunded, however she is supported to continue her participation and appointment to the GEAC. She is assisting with enforcement of the Illinois Equal Pay Act and the Victims Economic Security and Safety Act, and the licensing of private employment and nurse agencies.

Nancy Chen shared three Fact Sheets: Recruitment & Retention of Women in Green Jobs Training and Employment, Women's Entrepreneurship in Green Industries, and Why is Green Good for Women?. The "A Woman's Guide to Green Jobs" is anticipated to be available early fall, and is being developed by the Women's Bureau.

Next Steps

The next GEAC meeting is September 28, 2010 in Springfield. It was suggested to use "go to meeting". Members also suggested to continue to have a speaker or training at meetings and to develop a process to provide training/in-service for teachers, including pre-service teachers. Suggested topics for consideration are the Department of Labor, Women's Bureau Women in Green Book, NSF project-Women of Color in STEM, and Pink Brain/Blue Brain by Lise Eliot.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Hopper