**BU Women’s Colloquium Meeting Minutes**

**September 10, 2014**

**Present:** Candi Cann, Andrea Turpin, Brooke Blevins, Katie Jarvis, Monique Ingalls, Lisa Shaver, Kristen Pond, Kara Poe Alexander, Jo-Ann Tsang, Carolyn Skurla, Susan Bratton, Karon LeCompte

**History of the Group**

* We began meeting in December of 2011 in response to an Editorial piece in the Baylor Lariat. The piece was responding to a professor at another university who nursed her child in class while teaching. The public outcry against this, and in particular the Baylor female student advocating for a separation of “public and private lives,” brought to our attention the need to have conversations surrounding these issues.
* Our first order of business was the maternity/paternity leave policy

**Maternity Leave Update**

* We hope to hear back from Tiffany Hogue in October with an update on the progress of the policy

**Policy Concern**

* It was suggested that our next policy issue should be to explore Baylor’s spousal hiring policy, both the official version (such as not hiring an adjunct more than 4 semester even if they are a spouse) and the cultural climate surrounding it (such as the resistance to faculty in hiring situations to consider qualified spousal candidates)

**Suggestion for Student Panel**

* The suggestion was made and accepted by the group to form a panel on issues surrounding female employment in the academy and work/life issues for graduate students to attend. This panel would facilitate a conversation and open dialogue in a safe environment as well as offer the students mentoring opportunities.
* We will spend our October meeting planning this and hope to host the event in February
* We will check with Lenore Wright at the ATL and with the Graduate School for possible collaboration or other resources/ideas
* Elizabeth Corey was suggested as one of our potential panelists

**Suggestions for Future Meetings**

* Lisa Shaver suggested we could all read a short article and then discuss it during our meeting. If no one volunteers to share their research, then we will use this format this fall, if not we will use it in the spring at one of our 4 meetings
* Kristen Pond suggested a “teaching exchange” format for our next teaching meeting, which will involve each member bringing in one example of an assignment or pedagogical tool that has worked well for them and share it with the group

**Next Meetings:** *McMullen Faculty Center (green room)*

* *12:30-1:30* October 9, 2014 (planning meeting for panel on work/life issues for female students)
* *12:00 – 1:00* November 5, 2014 (research presentation or article discussion)
* *12:30-1:30* December 11, 2014 (teaching exchange)

**Please email** **Kristen\_pond@baylor.edu** **if you are interested in sharing your research**