

Women's Academic Network

University of Memphis

Lunch Meeting
April 3, 2008 11:30 – 1 p.m.
University of Memphis Holiday Inn

Attending: 25 Junior and Senior female faculty, many departments represented

Dr. Sagrestano, Director of the Center for Research on Women, opened the meeting and asked that everyone introduce themselves. She said CROW took the initiative to gather women faculty together because opportunities for women faculty to meet and talk were few on campus. An online survey was conducted in February and the majority of respondents said lunch meetings on Thursdays and Friday were most convenient, followed by cocktails on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Dr. Sagrestano invited those present to volunteer to help shape the future of the Network and several people expressed interest. There was a general sense that the group valued an opportunity to come together to share information and organize around issues of importance to women faculty. Suggestions included:

- Have a WAN volunteer speak at New Faculty Orientation in the fall.
- Create page for WAN on CROW's website, also link to it from Women's Studies
- Post WAN members' bios on webpage, identify ones with tenure
- Host interdisciplinary Brown Bag series for informal research presentations
- Use model of UofM Staff Leadership training to gain support for Faculty Mentoring program from administration
- Form College-based subgroups of WAN (CCFA women's group as model)
- Make connections with women graduate students, maybe a once a year workshop for those going on the job market, emphasize importance of first base salary negotiation
- Design effective ways to communicate female faculty needs to male colleagues
- Publish mentoring handbook
- Create an online newsletter for WAN

The importance of creating norms for sharing information within the group was discussed. This issue was deemed critical for women to be able to share information in a safe environment without fear of reprisals and repercussions.

CROW will contact group about next meeting date and time.

4/3/08
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