History & Overview

Founded in 2008, over the years the P&A Women’s Council has held several networking events, met with other women colleagues & organizations working to enrich the University environment for women, and participated in all-campus advocacy work. The P&A Women’s Council is funded by the Women’s Center with support for special events from several outstanding offices on campus.

Achievements 2012-13

♦ The highly successful 2013 P&A Women’s Professional Development Conference, “Leading Through Change”, provided many opportunities for networking and developing leadership skills. (An agenda is attached).

♦ We had originally planned for 120 participants, however, given our large wait list, we changed to a larger room and were able to accommodate approximately 140 P&A women at the conference. Despite this change, we were unable to accommodate all of the women who wanted to attend.

♦ Keynote speaker: Provost Karen Hanson.

♦ We are grateful for the support we received from the Office for Equity and Diversity, Office of Human Resources, Women’s Center, P&A Senate, Academic Support Resources, and the Chancellor’s Offices on the Crookston, Morris, and Rochester campuses.

♦ Thanks to the following people who worked tirelessly to plan and execute the conference: Rosie Barry, Vickie Courtney, Michelle Englund, Sally Gutierrez, Peg Lonnquist, Kris Wright.

♦ Attendees had many positive comments about the conference, including requests for more events, networking opportunities, and support for P&A women wishing to further their University careers, such as:
  ♦ “It was good to be in a room with other P&A women professionals — very empowering.”
  ♦ “All of the presentations were excellent. The day exceeded expectations.”
  ♦ “This was really one of the best conferences I attended. My favorite session was specifically talking about negotiating as it related to women.”

♦ P&A Women’s Council Fall networking reception, held on the St. Paul Campus with Kris Lockhart as the featured speaker, was well attended (approximately 50 P&A women). Door prizes were donated by University Relations, Intercollegiate Athletics, College of Education and Human Development, Office of Equity & Diversity, and the U of M Bookstores.

♦ Two networking meet and greets for P&A women to voice their concerns and make connections with one another were held in the Fall at the Campus Club.

♦ Twelve monthly P&A Women’s Council meetings included discussions of issues affecting P&A women at the University and planning for upcoming events.

Mission

The P&A Women’s Council provides leadership to enrich the University environment for P&A women through professional development, networking, and advocacy.

The overall goal of the Council is to broadly represent the interests and concerns of our constituency. This is accomplished by connecting the University of Minnesota’s P&A women to each other and to the information and resources they need to achieve their goals, ensuring that voices of P&A women are heard in important University-wide discussions, and improving the climate for all women on campus.

Goals 2013-14

♦ Host P&A Women’s networking event on October 23, 2013.

♦ Host a 1/2 day conference organized around mentoring in Spring, 2014.

♦ Increase membership and involvement in the P&A Women’s Council by (a) inviting people to help with events on ad hoc basis, and (b) inviting 1 P&A woman per college.

♦ Provide professional development training in leadership and diversity for officers in Fall, 2013.

♦ Create own web-site by Fall, 2013.

♦ Update P&A Women’s Council By-laws.

♦ Send Annual Report to Vice Presidents, Deans, Associate Deans in summer, 2014.

♦ Connect with the P&A Senate on pay equity issues.

♦ Produce Fall & Spring Newsletters and send to P&A Women’s Council list.

Executive Committee 2013-15
Michelle Englund, Chair
Sally Gutierrez, Chair Elect
Leslie Bautista, Communications
Rebecca Helgeson, Scrivener

Website:
https://diversity.umn.edu/women/pacouncil