President’s Commission on the Status of People with Disabilities  
December 9, 2014  
Meeting Minutes

Attendance:  Wendy Beckwith, Kathy Berger, Emily Boysen, Chandler Bullard, Sylvia Foster, Linda Guttman, Jillian Hall, Georgia Kerns, James Piet, Tara Scholder

I. Minutes
   ▪ The November minutes were approved as written.

II. Discussion on Awards Proposal
   ▪ Georgia reported that at the November joint commission co-chair meeting, Jaime Nolan brought forth a proposal regarding commission-related awards. Commission members reviewed the “Pausing for Purpose, Process and Meaning” statement/proposal submitted by Jaime and responded with the following feedback,
     o Pausing for student awards may not be acceptable – especially graduating seniors.
     o Concern was voiced on the timing of the announcement. Why can’t we go ahead with the current award process while also conducting the evaluation/review?
     o Members agreed that there is a need for raising the level of awareness about the awards and that more efforts need to be made in terms of publicity and acknowledgment on the importance of the awards in order to encourage a broad range of nominations from across the campus.
   ▪ After much discussion, consensus was reached among members to comply with the request to take a pause with the usual nomination process. However, the commission would still like to honor the work of individuals/groups during this past year. In lieu of the usual nomination process, only commission members would be eligible to submit names of individuals/groups who have done outstanding work over the past year/s, and/or for those who have gone above and beyond to serve the needs of persons with disabilities.
     o Co-chairs will send an email out to all members encouraging them to submit names of faculty, staff, students and groups whom they would like to see recognized. These recognitions will be presented during the February 23 program.

III. OTHER UPDATES
   ▪ Wendy mentioned that UNH Dining received the 2014 Employment Leadership Award, and were honored at the Annual Statewide Employer Recognition Ceremony that she attended in October. However there has been no mention of this award on UNH Today or on the UNH Home Page. She will follow up with Jaime.
   ▪ Sylvia reported that although attendance at the Amos Winter event was not as high as we had hoped, his lecture/presentation was well received by those who attended. There was at least one engineering class that attended and several staff were also in the audience. He was a great speaker and very engaged in his work.
     o Lesson learned – need to rethink timing of this event and whether we want to continue keeping this type of event on the International Week calendar, which has certain stipulations on time/room availability in the MUB.

Note: meeting adjourned early since we did not have enough members in attendance to hold working group sessions.

Respectfully submitted
Janice Pierson