

ACN Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2007

Members Present:

A. Azarian, K. Barnes, C. Cepeda, C. Clark, P. Cobb, R. Cocos, K. Coffaro, T. Current, J. DeRoche, T. Deutsch, K. Drout, L. Fitzenberger, S. Gruzis, D. Gygi, J. Hawkins, L. Hoeft, D. Holloway, P. Jascur, S. Kaempfer, D. Kavalasuskas, C. Kaye, M. Knasinski, K. Maertens, L. Marks, H. Matera, T. McGhee, S. Mitchell, L. Molina, A. Northrup, D. Patnode, H. Pfersch, V. Provost, J. Rahmer, K. Roosevelt, J. Schiedt, L. Sieckert, J. Singer, G. Wallander, R. Williams, J. Wishman, A. Wrench, S. Zlotocha

Laurie Marks, Center for Volunteerism and Student Leadership

All the things advisors do to make the program a success are appreciated. Services available in the center:

Referrals to local nonprofit agencies
One-day events such as the RAK-a-thon and Hunger Clean Up
Financial scholarships
Leadership opportunities
Job opportunities for work study students

Referrals for potential volunteers:

Youth-serving agencies
Shelters and food pantries
AIDS Resource Center
Peace Action Center
Thirty different agencies available

One day events:

RAK-a-thon (Random Acts of Kindness)
Hunger Cleanup
Blood drives (next one on Nov. 30; collecting over 1000 pints per year)
Freshmen Day of Service

Leadership opportunities

Leadership Retreat (127 students this year)
Internship opportunities
M3C Fellows Scholarship Program (Pell grant eligible, first generation college students, \$1000 scholarship for 300 hours of service, even work study, along with a leadership and study skills class)

Student and employee opportunities:

AMERICA READS program; students can be paid through work study to teach a child to read; employed by local schools and agencies

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Habitat for Humanity and alternative spring break

Hope House Food Pantry (Thursdays from 11:30-2:30)

Student Service Record: the center keeps track of student volunteer hours; students receive a certificate showing their involvement.

For information, contact Laurie Marks, Union G28, 229-3161, lmarks@uwm.edu

Kate Coffaro, ACN Recognition Award Committee

Calling for nominations till October 26 for this award. Committee members can nominate themselves or someone they know, and students are also welcome to nominate someone – any advising or counseling professional is eligible. Criteria include service to students, a comprehensive knowledge of one's college and the university, a positive and supportive relationship with students, and involvement in the profession of student service. The completed nomination packet will be due on November 19.

Ruth Williams and Nicole Stroobants, First Year Center

This new program has student employees who had worked as campus ambassadors during the summer continue in a mentoring relationship during the academic year. There is a staff of approximately 35 students who were formerly CA's – the ratio of mentor to student is typically 20 students per mentor per hour, and some mentors work 5-10 hours per week. They are to have a contact with their mentee at least once every two weeks.

The draft of an informational brochure to parents mentioned a textbook reading workshop, instruction on database use in the library, job seeking help, an ice cream social and pumpkin carving contest, and study abroad opportunities.

A partnership in hiring/employing CA's exists between the First Year Center and the Department of Recruitment and Outreach. Mentors contacted students who received a letter from the Early Warning system, and the Cattracks system is used to document all contact with students.

Suggestions from advisors included: give advisors info about the students and about First Year Center activities. Advisors can help locate people interested in presenting short sessions in the Center. There should be more appeals to nontraditional students and international students.

The search for a Director of the First Year Center begins on October 22.

Announcements:

Diane Kavalauskas announced the Etiquette Dinner sponsored by the American Marketing Association and nine employer sponsors, to be held on November 7. Students pay \$15/each and will be seated at tables with the employer sponsors.

Dan Patnode asked to remember Bradley Schulz, a UWM student killed in Crandon, WI and for whom a candlelight vigil will be offered on Spaight's Plaza on October 16.

Celeste Clark announced the AISS 30th annual powwow to honor all American Indian alumni, in the Union on October 20. The event is free and open to the public; Grand Entry is at 1:30 pm.

Kate Coffaro: ten ticket packages are still available for UWM Men's basketball.

Cathy Kaye: UWM doesn't ask incoming students to disclose their native language, so students for whom English is not their first language can benefit from an ESL course.

Toby Deutsch: advisors can help recruit any students interested in becoming campus ambassadors.