

## **ACN Meeting Minutes March 18, 2008**

### *Members Present:*

K. Baith, S. Blair, S. Chetney, K. Coffaro, T. Current, R. Daniel, K. Drout, J. Dvorak, L. Fitzenberger, S. Forbes, C. Franklin, D. Gygi, J. Harper, J. Hawkins, Y. Hill, B. Hinshaw, L. Hoefl, S. Kaempfer, J. Klumpp, M. Knasinski, K. Koncki, H. Matera, R. McGraw, S. Mitchell, L. Molina, J. Neuhauser, A. Northrup, J. Rahmer, C. Rasavong, K. Raymond, K. Roosevelt, K. Silvestre, B. Simon, H. Spearman, B. Thomas, G. Wallander, J. Wishman, S. Zlotocha

### *Karen Dredge, Graduate School*

There are several offices involved in the graduate school application process, including the Graduate School Student Services office and the specific major program's office. Applicants submit materials to the Graduate School and the specific graduate program office. These materials include an application form, the application fee, a 350 word reasons statement, transcripts/credentials, and proof of a 2.75 GPA. Certain programs might require admissions test scores, recommendation letters, or work samples.

The PAWS website provides access to information about the status of an application. There are fee waivers available for students who are underrepresented in their major and have a 3.0 GPA. Students not accepted to Graduate School at first can take classes as a non-degree student, but must pay full graduate fees on their own. Degree program students are eligible for scholarships, fellowships, loans, and assistantships.

### *Iris Christian, Cultures and Communities Program*

This certificate program looks at issues of race, gender and ethnicity, and is coordinated around the general education requirements. Students have to take at least 15 credits, with one required course and 120 others to choose from. There are four areas of study in which courses can be taken, and a service learning component which is usually contained within the required course, Multicultural America 150. This course is offered by several disciplines, and the four areas of study for the other courses are:

Cultures and Communities of the US  
Global Perspectives on Cultures and Communities  
Art, Culture and Community  
Science, Culture and Society

The program accepts up to six transfer credits and gives special consideration to students who have taken other courses that can be approved. The certificate provides a good background for students considering education, business, law, or other degrees. The Multicultural America 150 course concentrates on projects, discussion and interactive learning. Students need to speak with Iris if they're interested in this program; more students of color would be very welcome in this program also. The main office is in Holton Hall Room G36.

### *Jim Hill and Dianne Sinnwell, Office of Student Life*

The Office of the Dean of Students is part of the Office of Student Life, which also includes

BOSS, LINKS, and other centers. The Dean's office is specifically concerned with the following functions:

Ombudsman (civility issues among students, faculty and staff, fee/tuition appeals)  
Discipline (academic and nonacademic, including the new Campus Threat Assessment Team)  
Emergency contacts for students  
Liaison to the UWM Student Association, student organizations and campus religious centers,  
production of the student handbook and planner

The most common fee/tuition appeals involve drops or withdrawals, but there are many cases in which students aren't eligible for fee reductions (financial hardship, lack of information about deadlines, nonattendance, changing jobs,) and some for which they are eligible (mandatory job hours that change significantly, university error, other situations beyond the student's control.) In addition, some medical or caregiver situations are eligible for a one-time tuition credit, partial or full, to be used in the future.

More information is available in Mellencamp 118, 229-4632.

#### *Announcements*

The Tutoring and Academic Resource Center reminded the committee that there's still plenty of time for students to sign up for tutoring appointments and to attend walk-in Supplemental Instruction review sessions. Information is available in Bolton 180 or at 229-3726.

Howard Spearman will be sending out a survey on undergraduate academic advising.

Maria Solis is now working in the Department of Recruitment and Outreach, in charge of satellite center activities.

There will be an Overnight Multicultural Learning Experience on April 9-10, in which new UWM applicants will shadow a current student.