**February CSW Minutes**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 11:30-12:30

Zoom link: <https://nau.zoom.us/j/89444043085>

Meeting ID: 894 4404 3085

Password: 391659

1. Dilofarid called the meeting to order at 11:32 p.m.
2. Roll Call:
   1. Dilofarid Miskinzod, Lynn Jones, Brianne Kanu, Madrone Schutten, Shane Canitz, Jessy Zukosky, Sanjam Ahluwalia, Amy Rushall, Sneha Vissa, Kaysha Riggs, Brianne Kanu, Nena Bloom, Calvin Legassie, Samantha Clifford, Heidi Feigenbaum, Jennifer Blaney, Grace Okoli, Heather Coate, Chelsea Green
3. **Announcements and Updates:** 11:30-11:45
   1. Upcoming events (Sanjam):
      1. WGS and CSW Fourth Annual Essay, Art, and Poetry Contest
         1. For middle/high school students in Coconino County
            1. Should explore issues of gender, sexuality, and/or feminist thought through one of the identified mediums

The specific criteria can be obtained by contacting the [WGS department](mailto:womens.studies@nau.edu)

* + - * 1. Cash prizes
        2. Deadline of March 15th, 2021
      1. Sanjam asked commission members to encourage students to apply
      2. Typically, one CSW representative on the selection committee
         1. Asked for volunteers
    1. March is Women’s History Month and March 8th is International Women’s Day
       1. Sanjam asked for suggestions of events and programming, as well as events already happening that CSW can cosponsor
       2. Suggestions
          1. Screening a film

The Great Indian Kitchen (suggested by Sanjam)

* + - * 1. Potential speakers

Dr. Ella Shohat – NYU professor focused on politics of belonging and race politics in Israel, as well as film studies

Dr. Jennifer Denetdale (from UNM) would like to do a campus-wide presentation in March about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on indigenous communities

Potential to co-sponsor with CNA

Mayor Coral Evans

* + - * 1. Partner with museum of northern Arizona to show history of native women (and perhaps local women)

Curations/exhibitions take a long time, but can attempt for next year

Potentially partnering with AIS, CNA, and the Institute of Native American Studies

* + - * 1. Suggestion to make standard annual event, or programming committee, so that CSW does not need to rush to find events for women’s history month each year
    1. Green Jacks: Sustainable Menstruation Products
       1. Sanjam asked whether CSW wants to partner with them and contribute funds
       2. Sanjam made a motion to contribute a currently undecided amount of the CSW budget to help fund Green Jacks’ Sustainable Menstruation Products project.
          1. The majority voted affirmative and the motion passed.
  1. CSW Nominations for Diversity Award (Sanjam)
     1. Announced that the submission deadline has been extended
     2. Asked for [diversity award nominations](https://in.nau.edu/csw/awardnominations/)
        1. Categories include Faculty, Staff, Student, Organization, and Community Member(s)
  2. All-gender bathrooms signage
     1. Calvin Legassie introduced the LGBTQIA Commissions’ and CDAD’s joint project and explained cost of signage
        1. Calvin proposed using part of CSW budget to help fund this
           1. Chelsea Green clarified that the project manager has not confirmed the exact total cost yet, but estimates $4174.50
        2. Calvin made a motion to contribute some of the CSW budget (amount not yet decided) to the all-gender signage project Sanjam seconded the motion.
           1. A vote was made. Majority voted affirmative and the motion passed.

1. **Discussion Items:** 11.50-12.30
   1. Implications of the Demographic shift among NAU student body—gender and racial composition
      1. Sanjam shared that the gender composition of NAU is now predominantly women (62%), but that NAU is still not geared toward women
      2. Discussion on how to shift the culture of NAU to be a deliberate, safe space for female and gender nonconforming people
         1. ROTC had an event on campus, and Sanjam asked them to address the gender politics of military culture, which surprised ROTC
         2. Question posed: How to track gender nonconforming people? (not currently happening)
            1. Suggestion made to ask new president to include the option to identify as gender nonconforming in the registration/enrollment information questionnaires
            2. Examine existing models from other universities
         3. Dilofarid suggested finding out how many of the 62% are women of color or first generation (and more specific demographics), to see what programs and resources for underserved women are needed on campus
            1. Especially important since universities were originally designed for privileged white men
   2. Sanjam suggested to sending the new president a letter, welcoming him to NAU, inviting him to CSW, and highlighting important issues on campus, such as:
      1. A system/method to determine numbers of gender nonconforming students
      2. The need for transparency of the proportion of women and minorities staff and faculty in each college
      3. Advocacy for more flexible hours for parents, paid parental leave, childcare/daycares, and flexibility to bring children to work
      4. Pay equity study (gender and race disparity in salaries)
   3. Sanjam said she will draft a letter to the president and send it to CSW by the March meeting
   4. Heather Coate suggested a Demographics Subcommittee
      1. Dilofarid, Jennifer Blaney, and Nena Bloom all expressed interest in the subcommittee
   5. Sanjam also suggested posting information about NAU’s breast-feeding rooms on the CSW front page, since it is not common knowledge
2. Reimagining the NAU Mascot—CSW forum discussion this semester?
   1. Been meeting and discussing this (led by Frances Reimer)
      1. Anyone who wants to join this conversation instructed to contact [Sanjam Ahluwalia](mailto:sanjam.ahluwalia@nau.edu)
3. Sanjam adjourned the meeting at 12:31 p.m.