

**Work/Life Advisory Committee
Summary Notes
Meeting 4/29/2009**

Members in attendance: Matt Bumpus, Peggy Collier, Denise Faerber, Laura Kinslow, Ariane Mondragon, Becky Morton, Teri Ockwell, Karen Weathermon

Not attending: Danielle Engelhardt, Jamie Gaber, Stephanie Holbrook, Mark Holmgren, Vida Jones, Brad Liebrecht, Jane Lotz-Driik, Katherine Lovrich, Maria Ortega, Patti Petersen, Zami Wilson

Eldercare Survey-Results

- Approximately 300 people responded
- The group most affected by eldercare were women between the ages of 46-55
- 50% of respondents said their work has been negatively affected; several quotes stating the negative impact were included on surveys
- The most negatively affected group by classification were Administrative/Professional, followed by Civil Service and then Faculty
- 30-50% of respondents would like to see a support group on campus
- Recommendations from PR412 students
 - Start physical and online support groups
 - There is a lack of emotional support and a negative connotation when discussing eldercare with co-workers
 - Lower the negative stigmas on campus. Increase awareness among Deans/Chairs of negative stigmas.
 - Create referral system, including online links from around the state
- Other comments
 - \$11 billion of lost productivity due to eldercare issues
 - Search for existing policies under Sick Leave or Family Medical Leave Act
 - Maybe current policies could be used by changing wording to dependent care; hope to revise policies in the fall
 - Leave acts do not cover siblings
 - Maybe use the Advance grant to pay a facilitator for support group
 - Possible future PR412 project to focus on mentoring

Care of mildly sick children

- Advance group currently discussing this issue
- Find out if HRS will support the childcare referral system
- The referral system does not want to be seen as biased toward the WSU daycare
- Karen will research policies for this issue

Membership Drive

- No applications were received from Vancouver, additional emails requesting applications have been sent
- The one CS applicant will be asked to fill that vacancy
- Committee voted to increase the number of alternates to 3
- Invite new members to May meeting

Other

- Invite Gretal from Advance to May meeting
- Teri will contact Counseling Services regarding eldercare support group and will follow up with HRS

Next Meeting – May 27, 2009