



July 7, 2009

Women's Center Working Group

Ruth Johnston, Associate Vice President, Finance and Facilities; Member, Women's Center Advisory Board, *Chair*

Dawn Trudeau, Member, Women's Center Advisory Board

Liz Coveney, Assistant Vice President, Human Resources Administration and Information Systems

Ellen Taylor, Director of Counseling Center, Office of Student Life

Steve Woodard, Assistant Vice President, Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity

Tetsuden Kashima, Professor, Department of American Ethnic Studies

Nancy Woods, Dean Emeritus, Professor, School of Nursing

Eve Riskin, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, College of Engineering

David Allen, Chair, Department of Women Studies

Julie Severson, GPSS representative

ASUW Representative, to be determined

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for agreeing to serve on the working group that will assess the status of the Women's Center. I appreciate your taking time out of your busy schedules to help with this important review. I am hopeful that you will complete this review no later than October 15, and provide to me a brief summary of what you learned and any recommendations for change.

As we are all aware, the state budget has been reduced significantly for the coming biennium. Projections suggest that there is a significant long-term change in state support of higher education which will make us rely on very different business models than we have depended upon until now. Revenues to support our educational and research programs will depend more upon grants and contracts and gifts than ever before. All units have made budget cuts and changes in the activities that they can perform. We must evaluate all of our activities vis-à-vis the core mission of the university as articulated in our vision statement.

I ask the committee to review the following aspects of the activities of the Women's Center.

Current activities of the Women's Center:

- What they are and who benefits (internal to UW and with external community)
- How they align with UW core missions
- Where they overlap or duplicate other UW services, and the purpose and value of the duplication

Finances:

- Current budget status and source of funds
- How funds are allocated
- Alternative funding sources
- Given the UW economic situation, with additional cuts likely to GOF/DOF funds and no allocation of new central funds, what should be the Women's Center financial model?

Organizational Structure:

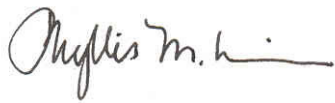
- Staffing levels: permanent, temporary, students
- Reporting structure
- Role of the Advisory Board

Peer Review:

- Look at OFM-8 and Global Challenge peers: do they have Women's Centers, Women's Studies, etc. and what activities do they manage and how are they organized and funded?

Thank you again for being willing to serve on this important working group. I look forward to meeting you and to the results of your work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phyllis M. Wise". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Phyllis M. Wise
Provost and Executive Vice President