

**President's Commission on the Status of Women
West Chester University
Summary of Report to the Cabinet: September 4, 2020**

Who We Are

We unite students, staff, and faculty across a broad range of campus constituents to advise the president and his cabinet on emergent issues and best practices that will promote the *recognition, leadership, and success* of women on campus.

2020 -2021 Executive Committee

Lisa C. Huebner, Chair
Juanita Wooten, Co-Chair
Sabrina Rightmer, Past Chair
Nora Maurer, Secretary
Sabrina Von Ahrens, Student Rep
Nadiyah Williams, Student Rep

2019-2020 Executive Committee

Sabrina Rightmer, Chair
Lisa Huebner, Co-Chair
Nora Maurer, Secretary
Julia Hopkins, Graduate Assistant
Bre Tyska, Senior Student Rep
Sabrina Von Ahrens, Junior Student Rep
Nadiyah Williams, First Year Student Rep
Sienna Medina, Graduate Student Rep

2019-2020 Highlights

Community Engagement

We supported centennial celebrations of the 19th amendment through Center for Women and Gender Equity, History Department, African American Studies, and our Commission. A Toast to Tenacity was held in August 2019.

We partnered with the Domestic Violence Center for Chester County in October 2019 to bring awareness to campus around Domestic Violence Awareness Month by putting purple ribbons up across campus and providing information material to students.

Commission member Michelle Wade was elected to PASSHE Women's Consortium as Secretary and has created more open communication with the other PASSHE universities.

We partnered with Safe Harbor and Chester County Women's Commission to provide two women students paid internships spring semester.

Student Engagement

We further developed the women's internship program to include an application process and weekly reports as well as secured two new sites so that two women of color undergraduate students could benefit from paid internships in the spring.

Julia, our graduate assistant, promoted the commission to student organizations throughout the university with flyers and in person visits at meetings. Four women students joined the

commission spring semester as a result of these efforts. Each gave reports at the spring meeting to inform our future planning.

Tiffany Jones, a member of the student engagement committee, initiated a research study that would further explain the experiences of students on campus. Last spring, she met with various stakeholders and began a literature review.

Success

Based on our research findings the previous year, our inclusive facilities committee focused on the provision of space and signage around campus by bringing together stakeholders throughout campus. As a result, Facilities will house information on changing table locations, gender inclusive bathrooms and lactation spaces so it will be centralized and inventoried. There is current discussion on how to get this information into an app and better ways to publish it.

2020-2021 Future Directions

Community Engagement

Continue and strengthen our involvement in the PASSHE Women's Consortium and strengthen our collaborations with community organizations, i.e. Chester County Women's Commission and Domestic Violence Center of Chester County.

Student Engagement

Continue to support students on campus and facilitate connections through our internship program and our mentorship of them as student representatives.

Success

Continue our long-term commitment to the success of women of color on campus by advocating for best practices for the recruitment and retention of women of color faculty and staff.

Continue our commitment to women's leadership initiatives.

Continue our commitment to advocate for policies, practices, and facilities that are inclusive and family friendly by advocating for family friendly policies and practices, especially during this pandemic.