Committee on Services and Resources for Women
University of Southern Mississippi
By-Laws

Purpose:
The Committee on Services and Resources for Women (CSRW) is an interdisciplinary group of
USM faculty, staff, and student members interested in women's issues in general but especially
on campus and in the local Hattiesburg community. Since 1984, the CSRW has been active in
the promotion of women's issues by creating a women's center/library (a collection of books,
media, and other resources), organizing conferences with renowned guest speakers, producing
major cultural events (e.g. the "Vagina Monologues"), and providing funding for research and
services to faculty, staff, and students.

Our mission statement reads:
We are a group of USM faculty, staff and students who are committed to serving the community
of women on campus by:
1. identifying needs
2. locating resources to meet those needs
3. advocating for change.
We will fulfill this mission through education, programming, and networking.

Membership:
The Committee's mission requires a broad membership, representative of many constituencies in
the University community. Membership should be well-defined, so that the Committee can
carry out its work from a stable support base, but it should also be flexible, so that the Committee
can respond to changing conditions in the University and in the membership.

To meet these needs, the Committee adopts the following conditions of membership: The formal
membership of the Committee may range to up to thirty members. Representative Members,
people who undertake steady participation in the Committees work for a term of two years. A
Representative Members expected participation includes regular attendance at general meetings,
and contribution to the work of the Committee and/or its Subcommittees. If the Representative
cannot attend the monthly meetings she is responsible for sending a proxy to attend in her place.
An alternate representative member list will be generated for those members who are unable to
attend monthly meetings. The AA/EEO director will be listed as an ex-officio member.

Representative Members will be appointed in the following way. At the end of each academic
year, the current representative Members of the Committee will examine its membership lists,
determining whose terms will expire. The current RMs will then prepare a list of people to be
ominated as new or returning RMs who would begin their two-year terms the following fall.
The list of nominated RMs should reflect the University community, including appropriate
numbers of staff, faculty and students from the full range of University areas, disciplines,
campuses, and so forth. The Committee will consult with the nominees to be certain that they
wish to undertake the work of the Committee, and will replace any nominees who are unable to
make that commitment.
The Committee will then forward its nominees to the Vice President for Student Affairs of the University, with the request that the VP formally appoint these nominees to the Committee for two-year terms beginning the following fall.

The Executive of the Committee will be nominated at the same time as the new Representative Members, from within the ranks of the returning members. The current Representative Members will determine the selection of the Executive for the following year. The Executive Committee will consist of two co-chairs, a secretary, and historian. There will also be Subcommittee Chairs appointed.

In addition to maintaining its formal membership, the Committee invites any interested person to become a Member at Large. Members at Large are encouraged to attend general meetings, to aid the work of the Committee and its subcommittees, and to offer their names as possible nominees for RM. Members at Large cannot vote in Committee decisions, and cannot stand for the Executive. The Committee, rather than the Vice President of the University, will designate Members at Large. There is no limit on the possible number of Members at Large.

Election of the Co-Chairs:

Responsibilities of Members:

Subcommittees:
Women's History Month
(description)
Peggy Jean Connor Grants are awarded to support Southern Miss faculty, staff or graduate students pursuing research or professional development activities directly focused on women’s issues. Both men and women may apply. Grants are available in the following three categories:

- Faculty may request seed money for research or presentation in the realm of Women’s Studies
- Graduate students may request seed money for research, or support for conference travel to present research, in the realm of Women’s Studies
- Staff members may apply to attend workshops or conferences that will enhance their abilities to serve the needs of women at Southern Miss

The Kathanne Greene Essay Contest recognizes an outstanding essay focusing on gender issues relevant to women’s studies submitted by undergraduate and graduate students. It was named in honor of the Southern Miss political science professor for her contributions to women’s studies at the university.

Meetings:
The Committee meets once per month during the regular academic year; additional subcommittee meetings take place as needed. Traditionally, we have met the first Tuesday of the month from 12:15-1:15 pm. Any planned action items are communicated to the membership before the meeting via the email listserv; agendas are distributed at the beginning of the meetings.

Minutes:
Minutes are recorded by our Secretary/Historian and an archive maintained on our website in Aquila.

**Reporting:**
The Committee is housed in the Office of the President and reports to the University President.
Membership for AY 2014-2015

Representative Members:

College of Arts and Letters                      Kate Greene
College of Business                             None
College of Education and Psychology             Stacy Creel
College of Health                               Sheila Davis
College of Science and Technology               Jessica Piness
University Libraries:                          Tracy Englert

Co-chairs: Stacy Creel & Kate Greene
Historian: Julie Reid
Secretary: Cathy Ventura (acting for Fall)/Jessica Piness
Long-Term Planning Sub-committee Chair: Kate Greene
Women’s History Month Planning Sub-committee Chairs: Yen To & Stacy Creel
Grant Committee Sub-committee Chair: Stacy Creel
Essay Committee Sub-committee Chair: Shelia Davis

Regularly Participating Members At-Large:
Julie Reid
Yen To
Melanie Leuty
Cathy Ventura
Jennifer Courts
Tammy Greer
Georgianna Martin
Mary Thornhill
Nicolle Jordan
Shelia Davis

Additionally, members of the CSRW listserv are encouraged to voice opinions, share issues, news, and events, and contribute electronically.