

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN FACULTY AND STUDENTS**  
**MINUTES of the November 20, 2019 Meeting, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., 500 Main**

**Voting Members present:** Elizabeth Boyle, Laura Carlson, Steve Corcelli, Margaret Meserve, Tijana Milenkovic, Kristi Rudenga, Ann Tenbrunsel

**Voting Members excused or absent:** Linde Hoffman, Erika Hosselkus, Tamara Kay, Krupali Krusche, Jennifer Mason McAward, Francesca Murphy, Laurence Taylor

**Observers present:** Christal Colbert, Kerry Meyers, Maura Ryan, Pamela Young

**Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Approve Minutes from September 17, 2019:** Because a quorum wasn't established, approval of these minutes will be sought at the next meeting on February 25, 2020.

**Formation of Sr. Kathleen Cannon Speaker Selection Committee:** Laura Carlson, Margaret Meserve and Kristi Rudenga will serve.

**Graduate School Task Forces**

- Task Force on Graduate Student Dependent Support, led by (Mark Schurr, Professor of Anthropology).  
Mark gave an overview of the work of the task force, and the charge was distributed along with names of committee members. He stated that as estimated from responses on the Graduate Life Survey, close to 1/3 of the graduate student population are married, with roughly half of those parenting. For those students, the graduate student experience includes support of their dependents. Mark went on to say, that for Notre Dame to become a leader in supporting our graduate students, we must also address the unique needs and challenges of married and parenting students. Discussion ensued.
- Task Force on Graduate Student Well-Being, (Steve Corcelli, Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry). Steve gave an overview of the work of this task force, and charge was distributed along with the names of the committee members. Steve discussed the You Matter component of the Graduate School's Your research Matters/You Matter Campaign that focuses on offering full support for all graduate students in all areas of wellness (intellectual, emotional, spiritual, physical, social), including a sense of belonging. This is particularly important given the national rising rates of anxiety, stress and depression among graduate students. Discussion ensued.
- Task Force on Mentoring and Anti-Bullying, (Steve Corcelli, Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry). Steve gave an overview of the work of this task force, and charge was distributed along with the names of the committee members. This task force was convened because many grievances against faculty are from graduate students reporting mistreatment, with these incidents representing only a fraction of the actual cases given that students often fail to report due to fear of retaliation. Discussion ensued.

**Upcoming events in Spring 2020, Sr. Kathleen Cannon Lecture Speakers**

- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – March 19, 2020
- Tressie McMillan Cottom – March 27, 2020

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.