

Report on University Professional Advancement

I am happy to announce, after three years without a permanent director, the UPA Director position was finally filled this month after a successful search. Dr. Michelle Hughes Miller has agreed to accept the position of Director of University Professional Advancement

My term on this committee expired this year. During this time period, the committee met several times, basically to discuss the replacement for the director. There were two prior searches, with the committee meeting several times to interview candidates. However, because of various reasons, both of the previous searches did not result in a candidate being selected.

Dr. Michelle Hughes Miller comes to the committee with very high qualifications and I wish my term was not expiring so I could have had the opportunity to work with her. She is a tenured faculty member within the department of Sociology. Michelle has indicated she would like to come to the September meeting to answer any questions the Council might have regarding UPA's goals and future directions.

Under Ella Lacey's leadership, (Acting Director), UPA hosted a Celebrate Women! Workshop on March 28th. This event included juried posters of scholarly work, and workshops of interest to women. The 2007 Faculty Woman of Distinction and the 2007 Administrative/ Professional Woman of Distinction Awards were also presented. The Women's Scholarship awards were also announced. A reception honoring the University Women of Distinction – Faculty - Dr. Frances J. Harackiewicz - Beverly Love; Administrative/Professional - Connie Price-Smith; and Civil Service - Tracy Lake was held on March 28th.

The committee continues to promote the advancement of women on campus. They are working hard to advancing women into and hiring women for higher level administrative position at SIUC.

Submitted by Sharon Walters
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