

GLBT Meeting
July 28, 2004
10:00–11:30 a.m.
Adelbert 351

Attendees: Don Feke
Kathy Karipides
Dorothy Miller
Glenn Nicholls
Sue Nickel-Schindewolf
Dean Patterson
Pat Princehouse
Jes Sellers
Rick Settersten
Lynn Singer
Jillian Woldorf
Vicki Cleveland

Goal to assess issues; what can be done better. Lynn received phone call re what can be done about gay/lesbian issues; no one from administration attended Lavender Ball; problem of administration not getting involved and not doing enough.

Pat Princehouse showed examples of posters on campus being altered, referred to article re FMLA, talked about chalkings in front of library.

Posters and chalkings are result of organized effort. A lot of thought and work went into them. Security was called; they had no information.

USG should be involved to gather information.

Regarding student who was harassed in dorm: harassed by students, people wrote on her dorm door, student didn't mention harassment for a long time, student will return to campus but will not live in dorm.

Response: RAs should be contacted, make it a hall council issue, be vigilant on followup, change university culture (opportunity with SAGES), Vision program (effort to change culture), embrace culture to change—not to react.

Give message to all undergraduates: university makes commitment to freedom of speech, they are protected from issues intended to destroy people. This message should come from the President.

Specifics mentioned with different groups of people, use creative language, all groups addressed (women are open season).

Message organized: T shirts can be used (as in Take Back the Night)

Campaign: the university is a safe place

Office/staff responsible

--safe space initiative

--policies adopted

Faculty is also uncomfortable, not only students.

Case Magazine: issues addressed pp. 10-13

Other schools referred to: CMU, Emory, Washington University, Dartmouth

Case: Spectrum/FMLA – no statement made

Office of Multicultural Affairs – no statement made

Nowhere to direct students

There is a need of faculty and staff committee for support.

There is a need for university-wide events, initiatives, programs, GLBTQ&A. A number of events need to take place to change university climate. Student organizations are not enough.

All action has come through student action. Problem exists in the lack of formal office.

Stanford University example offers key.

Create website to address issues.

Spectrum membership (university lay people); most members are men; lesbians are invisible; women of color are invisible: must change culture so they don't stay invisible.

Women students are still told by faculty that they shouldn't be here. University is a split-personality.

Policy passed through Faculty Senate regarding personal relationships between faculty and students.

There is a need of a stronger statement from the President and Provost.

University should challenge what the students believe.

SAGES—teach students what is important. (MSASS teaches course—make it available university wide.)

Address issues at teacher orientation, free speech fair.

