

LGBT COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2008
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
ADELBERT HALL, ROOM 351

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Sarah Andrews
Matthew Colon
Jane Daroff
Mitchell Delaney
Dana Finch

Jerry Floersch
Ryan Keytack
Robert Kinsey
Jennifer Lhotsky

James Sellers
Lynn Singer
Michael Spivak
Sarah Yarry

UNABLE TO ATTEND

Mayo Bullock
Diana Bilimoria
Anne Duli
Donald Feke
Martha Gibbons

Victor Groza
Kathryn Karipides
Erica Merritt
Dorothy Miller

Glenn Nicholls
Susan Nickel-Schindewolf
Dean Patterson
Patricia Princehouse

Guest:

Gene Ashley

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Jerry Floersch, Co-Chair of the LGBT Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Jane Daroff, Co-Chair, brought Coming Out and PFLAG booklets for distribution to committee members. In addition, she passed out information regarding the 15th Annual HRC dinner and if our group would be interested in having a table. It was agreed upon by the committee that we would be interested in being a table captain and our name will be the LGBT Task Force.
- Sarah Andrews announced a postcard campaign sponsored by Equality Ohio and for those who could participate to contact Bo Schuff at bo@equalityohio.org.
- Rob Kinsey requested student quotes for CWRU's Profile on the Campus Pride website:
<http://www.campusclimateindex.org/details/premium.aspx?ID=75>
Please take a look at the profile, Rob has done a great job setting it up.
- Jes Sellers, Co-Chair, shared dates regarding a LGBT University Happy Hour for Faculty and Staff. A flyer will be distributed when the date is finalized.

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1. GENE ASHLEY FROM GLSEN:

Gene Ashley from GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network) addressed the committee with the history, objectives, and mission of GLSEN. He went into further details regarding his personal story and why he is dedicated to making better the environments for GLBT students in the local area school districts. Gene explained the process of how GSA (Gay and Straight Alliances) groups can get started and that the initial beginnings are driven by a student or students whose interest is to have addressed GSA issues in their school. He passed around the kits that GLSEN used to make an introduction to administrators and teachers in the various school districts. Committee members who were interested in obtaining the materials could go to the website: <http://chapters.glsen.org/cgi-bin/iowa/northeastoh>.

2. REPORT ON TRIP TO UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Lynn Singer discussed her trip to the University of Pennsylvania. She and Co-Chairs, Jane Daroff and Jess Sellers, went to tour Penn's LGBT Center and meet with the centers' director, Bob Schoenberg. Lynn passed materials about the history and the current mission of the center that she obtained from her meeting at the University of Pennsylvania. This led to a discussion regarding our committee's goal of developing such a center and the current start-up options being discussed among the various parties that are involved in the initial steps of this planning process. Committee members signed up to assist in a PowerPoint Presentation and it was agreed upon that the Co-Chairs will meet with Department Assistant, Jennifer Lhotsky, to lay the framework for the presentation first.

3. REVIEW OF PRESIDENT SNYDER'S STATEMENT ON LGBT ISSUES

President Snyder has sent the committee her Statement on LGBT Issues and the statement is now posted on the LGBT website: www.case.edu/provost/lgbt. The members shared their appreciation for her support and the importance of her support in regards to student recruitment and retention.

4. LGBT WEBSITE REVISIONS

Jennifer Lhotsky distributed a handout that was printouts of the website presently, and of some of the past layouts. The website has been updated so all links work and that e-mail addresses were current. As stated previously, the President's statement is on the homepage and the entire site is going through the process of having the design/layout and information refreshed. Suggestions were made upon review of the handout and members were encouraged to forward to Jennifer photos for the committee list and to send suggestions, pictures, and ideas to jennifer.lhotsky@case.edu.

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5. CURRENT LGBT COMMITTEE CO-PROMOTED PROGRAMS

Rob Kinsey initiated discussion about the Gay? Fine by Me campaign sponsored by student organization Spectrum. Dana Finch, Co-President of Spectrum, joined the discussion sharing the current statistics and funding for this campaign. Presently, there is funding for 500-600 shirts but suggestions for where she could find additional support for the campaign were welcomed. The event will be April 4th.

Ryan Keytack addressed a concern about who to contact at the committee when needing to coordinate various activities and events and there is an interest in having representation/support from the LGBT Committee. The path of communication will be to contact Jennifer Lhotsky and she will forward the information to the co-chairs, and/or the appropriate parties.

6. SAFE ZONE MANUAL

The Safe Zone manual and program was discussed because another university has contacted committee members about using/referencing the online manual. Ryan Keytack shared with the group that he is working with Susan Nickel-Schindewolf on drafting a proposal that for now, allows this program to be housed under the Office of Student Affairs.

The meeting adjourned @ 11:45 a.m.
Minutes by Jennifer Lhotsky.

NEXT MEETING:

March 2008

E-mail distributed with proposed dates