LGBTQA Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 21, 2016
12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Room 204 (Game Room), Tinkham Veale University Center


I. Welcome to New and Returning Members, Matthew Garrett, Faculty Co-Chair
Matthew announced that Jennifer Jackson has left CWRU to move to Atlanta, GA.

II. Updates
A. LGBT Center, Elisabeth Roccoforte, Director LGBT Center
Safe Zone. This program is in the process of being revamped with anticipated completion being scheduled for Summer, 2016. The original session was created in 2010, with the revised program being a tiered program, with over 1,000 people having participated in the training. There is a safe zone friend or two-hour option, advocate or interpersonal session and a champion session, which is more advanced, being offered. A checklist and action plans for each school and department needs to be institutionalized. It was also suggested that we use committee members as volunteers. In the past, stickers were issued upon completion, some of the new suggestions are to provide magnets and/or buttons to list the names of the people that have attended the program. Some of the questions raised were: where would people start if they attended classes in the past, could there be a group training for an office? People should consult with Liz on where to begin, as well as sending your comments to Liz on the Safe Zone program.

Students should voice their stories, including snippets of examples on campus - both positive and negative reactions. It was suggested to use the new one-step video or recording that is now available at the Freedman Center in Kelvin Smith Library. Another suggestion was a mixer where people can talk to faculty and staff with an opportunity to meet new people.

B. LGBTQA Research Group, Matthew Garrett, Faculty Co-Chair
Matthew and Liz will continue to work on the demographic terms to use for the male/female binary reporting for grants, the information will be housed on the LGBTQA website. One of our goals for May is to update the process as well as develop tools for guidance for research. June will be used for open dialogue with the community.

C. Q-Grad Update, Becky Schur
The social event with the North Coast Men’s Chorus had approximately 70 people attending. They also invited a speaker last week to give a talk to 20-25 people on sexuality.

III. Ongoing Business
A. Domestic Partner Benefits
As suggested at the last meeting, the committee needs to create a resolution and submit to Human Resources on Partner Benefits and suggestions on grossing up, as well as family building to include fertilization and/or infertilization which is not currently covered in the policy. This does not only affect the LGBTQA community, but it is an expensive process for all genders. Money, health care expenditure
accounts and financial bottom line also causes issues. Liz to meet to discuss with Carolyn Gregory and Jamie Ryan.

B. Curriculum Project
   Development – one credit course as an elective for graduate students. This program should be ready in Fall, 2016 but may not be offered until Spring, 2017. One credit elective for social work with LGBTQA communities.

IV. Announcements/New Business
Lavender Graduation is on Tuesday, April 26 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Ballroom B, in the Tinkham Veale University Center. The room will be set up with catering, with a rainbow arch behind the podium and will also include rainbow lighting. Speakers will be, President Barbara Snyder and Brad Crews, Senior Executive Director at Alumni Relations.

Prism Awards. Staff members: Josh Terchek and Jonathan Wehner and Faculty member: Matthew Garrett. We need to discuss a formal recognition award for years of service for people such as Jess Sellers and Sarah Daroff. Separate award(s) for each year of recognition and people should be recognized for different ideas or possible historical or lifetime achievement award(s).

Resolution for commitment. We need a faulty member to take the lead. We need a faculty representative to take our ideas to the Faculty Senate either tenure or tenure track faculty.

We also need to solicit for new members to replace people leaving the committee.

2015-2016 LGBTQA Committee meeting remaining dates and locations:

- Thursday, May 12, 2016, from 12:15pm-1:30pm, Room 204 (Game Room), TVUC

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.
Minutes by Carol Stark