LGBTQA Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 20, 2015  
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Room 140 (First Floor Conference Room), Tinkham Veale University Center


LGBT Center Update, AmariYah Israel, Department Coordinator, LGBT Center
The Lavender Graduation honors Undergraduate, Graduate, and Professional students who are graduating from CWRU. This year there was a total of 12 graduates and had over 50 attendees. The ceremony also recognized the Prism Award and the Knock Scholarship recipients.

For the Cleveland Pride Parade is on Saturday, June 27th at 12:00 noon. CWRU is planning to march as a group, further details and updates will follow. The traditional PFLAG breakfast is at 10:30am, located at the Old Stone Church at Public Square, Downtown Cleveland. Due to inclement weather, the event was rescheduled for Saturday, August 8, 2015.

There is a seminar on the same sex marriage court ruling on Thursday, May 21st at 12:00 noon, in the Senior Classroom, located in the Tinkham Veale University Center.

Liz and AmariYah are planning the 2015-2016 Academic Year with the LGBT Center. Liz was approached by the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland to be collaborate with a working group that plans to start a conversation group at the LGBT Center for international students.

LGBTQ Research Group, Matthew Garrett, Faculty Co-Chair, LGBT Committee
LGBTQ Research Group, along with the Office of Faculty Development recently met and established four goals for the research group.
First goal: To create a sense of community on the CWRU campus. There will be research, network communities, and mentorship communities for individuals who are engaged in LGBTQ research or teaching.
Second goal: Support research. Topics were discussed on how to formulate supporting research in the Fall 2015 semester.
Third goal: Develop teaching
Fourth goal: Encourage mentorship
The LGBTQ Research Group discussed and feels confident that the group will open up to Q-Grad in the Fall 2015 Semester.

Q-Grad Update, Paul Cheng, President of Q-Grad
Since the last LGBT Committee meeting in April, Q-Grad hosted their first Research Symposium. The symposium had a wonderful turnout. Approximately 30 people registered prior to the symposium, and over 40 people attended. Some of the presenters included Residents from University Hospitals, a student from the law school, and others presented on things that are happening around campus in the different departments. In the future, Q-Grad plans to work more closely with the LGBT Center with planning the symposium. Ideally, the next symposium will plan to occur earlier in the day in order for graduate-level students to attend as well as to include another keynote speaker. Q-Grad is also looking to partner with the LGBTQ Research group in the future.

Q-Grad is now fully funded. Representatives from Q-Grad met with Lou Stark, Vice President of Student Affairs, Provost Bud Baeslack, Deputy Provost Lynn Singer, and Chuck Rozek, Dean of Graduate Studies to discuss funding. The plan is to use the money towards arts and cultural social events that will not involve alcohol and/or the bar scene. The funding will
also go towards intersectional related talks around race, culture, and LGBT topics. The next plan is to possibly reach out with the LGBT Community Center for a young professionals group to partner with Q-Grad. During the summer, there will be continued happy hours at Wade Oval Wednesdays instead at ABC Tavern. Will meet in August to start planning for the 2015-2016 academic year. The plan is to keep a lot of the events that occurred in the previous year and to look into reaching out more with the professional schools on campus, i.e. Weatherhead School of Management, School of Dental Medicine, and School of Nursing for more involvement with Q-Grad.

**Ongoing Business, Matthew Garrett, Faculty Co-Chair, LGBTA Committee**
The Curriculum project is still in progress and volunteers are needed. Matthew restructured the sheet and there are 96 courses that are to be reviewed. The spreadsheet is available on the Google drive and all LGBTA committee members have access to the Google sheet. Ideally, we would like to move forward with the project in the Fall 2015 semester. The next step is to figure out how to endorse these courses. All committee members are encouraged to work on some of the courses during the summer if any free time permits.

**Announcements/New Business, Matthew Garrett, Faculty Co-Chair, LGBTA Committee**
The chairs of the committee, Jane Daroff, Matthew Garrett, and Jes Sellers met with Deputy Provost Lynn Singer to discuss leadership. The first issue discussed was changing the name of the committee. LGBTA Committee is the official name of the committee. There has been discussions about the possibility of adding the letter, Q (Queer, Questioning) in the official name. Lynn Singer was supportive of adding the letter Q to the name of the committee and will officially label as the LGBTQA Committee as well as the committee agreed. The language in the new official name will now be the LGBTQA Committee, Sponsored by the Office of Deputy Provost, Lynn Singer. Jes Sellers, Faculty Co-Chair suggested more explanation on the “A”.

The committee is looking into developing a mechanism of the governance structure by creating three year terms for faculty and staff co-chairs. Ideally, there would be representation from faculty and staff that will co-chair the committee. The current faculty co-chair, Matthew Garrett, his term would run from 2014-2017 and the staff co-chairs would run from 2013-2016. In terms of transition, the co-chairs would have a flexible option serving for a second, three-year term or moving out of the co-chair position once their term is complete. Nominations for new co-chairs would be sought from the committee. There has been discussion of the possibility of having a member representation from the Faculty Senate committee on Minority Affairs representation. This has been approved by the committee.

Representation of university personnel on committee.

Deputy Provost Lynn Singer suggested representation of university personnel on the committee in eight different areas that will include: The LGBT Center Director or representative, Representative from Q-Grad, Representative from the Alumni Association, Representative from Student Affairs, Representative from the Florence Mather Center for Women, Representative from Athletics, Representative from the Staff Advisory Council, and a Faculty Senate member liaison. Walking into some sensitive subjects and can possibly move to a sub-committee. Diversity leadership council, headed by Dr. Marilyn Mobley, possibly T. Kenny Fountain to attend meetings to represent diversity from a LGBT perspective. Faculty Senate Committee on Women Faculty to consider women’s issues besides childcare.

Future committee meetings. Recommended scheduling committee meetings on days. Fall, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 1st, 3rd, or 4th day of the month, from 12pm-1:30pm (12:15pm-1:30pm). Meetings will reconvene in Wednesday, August, 12th at 12:15pm. Remaining Thursdays, first week of the month. (September 17th, October 19th, November, skip December, January) Third Thursdays of the month.

HRC Dinner.

August 22nd at the Convention Center and after party at the Health Innovation Center

PFLAG 30th anniversary dinner at Michelson and Morely. 2nd Tuesdays of the month at Trinity Cathedral. Fundraiser and scholarship. Saturday, July 25th from 4:00pm-7:00pm. Painting one of the free speech panels behind Thwing.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:15pm
Announcements/New Business, Matthew Garrett, Faculty Co-Chair, LGBT Committee

Lynn Singer, Deputy Provost, and Vice President for Academic Programs, suggested a possible focus or discussion group asking CWRU LGBT faculty if they discuss issues they are encountering across the university. Changing the nature of an LGBT Committee meeting and possible meet during one of the LGBT Committee sponsored times. Evenings possible, like social events- an LGBTQ Faculty and Staff focus group to come and share questions and concerns, sponsored by the LGBT Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.
Minutes by J. Jackson