

Minutes

University Committee of LGBT Issues

8-20-04

Present: Jan Altman, David Benson, Randi Buerlein, Chris Burnside, Marianne Miller, Barbara Munjas

Committee Leadership

Chris reminded the committee of this year's leadership structure, a 4-way co-chairship. The Fearsome Foursome are David Benson, Chris Burnside, Marianne Miller, & Sarah Watstein. This structure will serve as a transition, as Chris is retiring from VCU at the end of this Academic year.

Reception

This year's Welcome Reception will be Tuesday September 14, 5:00 – 7:00 pm in Commons Ballroom A. Flyers co-produced by McKenna Brown & Sarah Watstein have been emailed out and are being distributed by the entire committee. Chris, Dorothy, Sarah, and Martha are specifically responsible for the flyers distribution. Jan passed around sign up sheet for food for the reception and will email committee members who weren't present so they can contribute and sign up as well. Chris reported that the Provost will attend at 6:00 pm. The committee discussed the issue of invitations to the upper administration and agreed that it was a good idea. They thought a letter on VCU stationery would be fine. Chris announced that McKenna Brown will be in charge of collecting "Give Aways" for the reception. The committee liked the idea of Antonia Fisher Duke providing music for the reception and thought the acoustical guitar would be an appropriate background type of sound. Chris also announced that Martha Moon emailed reporting that Dean Langston has offered to donate money for the reception and for others to use an account in the school to deposit funds for the reception as well. Martha is working to establish said account. Jan will talk about Safe Zone at the reception.

Meetings this year

September 10

October 8

November 12

December 10

January 14

February 11

March 11

April 8

May 13

June 10

EEO Training

Chris briefed the committee on the development of the EEO Training. Chris & Sarah were planning to finalizing Training with Judy Williams this summer, but Judy has left VCU. Chris & Sarah have a meeting with Velma Williams next week.

Equity and Diversity

Chris reported that Velma Williams had met with the President and the Provost to discuss the issue of our official status with the University Equity and Diversity Committee. It was agreed that our committee WILL indeed be an official subcommittee. Jan said that she had volunteered to our representative, but did not hear anything back about meeting times. Chris & Sarah will pursue this issue with Nancy Langston

Website

Chris contacted Micah McCreary about housing our webpage. Micah confirmed that we could and to have David contact him about it. David, Chris, Sarah, & Marianne will discuss this at our first Fearsome Foursome meeting.

Siegel Center

Chris reported that draft document for Siegel Center married and domestic partner usage is working its way through University channels for approval. Last he had heard was that Sue Boling was contacting David Ross, General Counsel.

Card for Dr. McDavis

Sarah sent word that she is purchasing a card for us to sign and send to Dr. McDavis at his new employment, Ohio University. Suggestion was made to bring the card to the September meeting and to the Welcoming Reception

Broadening Membership

Suggestion was made to make “Broadening Our Membership” a priority agenda item after the Reception. It was also suggested that we bring this up at the Welcoming Reception once we have confirmed any membership procedures we need to follow as a sub-committee of Equity and Diversity. If we do speak about this at the reception, it was suggested that we have some kind of hand out including mission, actions we plan to take, projects for the year, and meeting times. Jan said she would like to bring a staff psychologist from the counseling center as a guest to some of our meetings. The committee agreed that this would be fine.