

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues

Bylaws

Article 1

Mission: To provide leadership on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues in UIC communities. This includes addressing needs of staff, faculty, students and alumni of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. The goal is to enhance a supportive environment which will foster full participation by all members of the university's communities in teaching, public service, and research.

Article 2

Organization: The Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues is a continuing committee established by the Chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

A. *Officers**

The Committee will have the following officers:

1) *Co-chairs:* Two co-chairs will have joint responsibility for leadership functions of the Committee and for representing the Committee's interests and positions to other units of the university. In addition, the co-chairs shall jointly make appointments for all other leadership positions of the Committee. One co-chair must be a faculty member and the other a member of the staff at the University of Illinois at Chicago. One co-chair will be elected each year and will serve for two years in order to provide continuity of leadership. Candidates for co-chair must have been actively involved with the Committee during the year immediately prior to the election. Elections will be held in the spring at a full Committee meeting which has been designated in advance as one in which elections will be held. A simple plurality vote will determine the selection of the chair. The names of the elected candidate will be submitted to the Chancellor for formal appointment. The Committee shall strive to have one male and one female co-chair at all times. Co-chairs may be re-elected for consecutive terms of office.

2) *Subcommittee Chairs:* Each year, the co-chairs of the Committee shall annually appoint one or two individuals to head each subcommittee. Faculty, staff and full-time students are eligible to serve as subcommittee chairs. The subcommittee chairs are responsible for directing the work of their committees.

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B. *Executive Board:* The Executive Board of the Committee shall be composed of the two co-chairs and the co-chairs of the standing subcommittees. Ex-officio status will be granted to liaisons from UIC gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender student organizations and/or alumni groups at the discretion of the co-chairs. The Executive Board will meet (at least twice each semester) to review goals, to coordinate efforts, and to plan activities. Meetings of the Executive Board are open to all members of the Committee.

C. *Membership.* Membership on the Committee is limited to faculty (including emeritus faculty), staff (both academic professional and non-academic staff) and currently enrolled graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Membership is open to all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military or status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Viet Nam era. Membership is not to be construed as an indication of the sexual orientation of any member. Members serve without salary or any form of financial recompense. Members will be given the option of having their names formally submitted to the Chancellor for appointment to the Committee or of having their names held in confidence for use by members of the Executive Board.

D. *Fiscal Responsibility*

1) The Office of the Chancellor shall provide funding for the Committee each year. The graduate assistant shall hold primary responsibility for coordinating the flow of funds from the Committee's accounts. Each co-chair may individually approve the dispersal of funds.

2) Special expenses (e.g., for scholarship awards, recognition awards, etc.) may be funded by additional money collected through fund-raising activities.

Article 3

Functions: The Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues provides a variety of services and functions through its subcommittees. These may vary each year according to the needs of the campus. A listing here should not be construed as a requirement for a subcommittee to provide a particular service or function in a given year. These services and functions typically include:

A. *Finance:* Primarily responsible for fundraising and development efforts to support all strategic initiatives. Also responsible for overseeing the committee budget. Works with other committees to determine resource needs and revenue streams, and works with other committees

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to review resource needs of LGBTQ entities on campus.

B. *Advocacy and Policy*: Primarily responsible for Strategic Areas #1 (Institutional Commitment and Policy) and #2 (Advocacy and Support). Works to ensure that UIC policy and practices, including grievance procedures, are inclusive of and fair toward LGBTQ students, staff, and faculty.

C. *Education, Outreach, and Communications*: Primarily responsible for Strategic Area #5 (Intra- and Inter-group Relations). Works to promote the visibility of the CCSLGBTI and other LGBTQ entities on campus through communication and marketing, non-curricular educational events, and outreach. Works to improve communication and collaboration between CC and other LGBTQ entities on campus, as well as other entities charged with diversity initiatives on campus. In collaboration with other entities, organizes an annual LGBTQ retreat on campus.

D. *Curriculum and Pedagogy*: Primarily responsible for Strategic Area #3 (Curriculum and Pedagogy). Works to increase the numbers of courses on campus that include LGBTQ topics, as well as the number of courses specifically focusing on sexual orientation and gender identity. Organizes workshops for faculty and graduate students interested in including LGBTQ topics into their courses. Works to ensure that classrooms at UIC are safe places for LGBTQ students and instructors.

E. *Research and Scholarship*: Primarily responsible for Strategic Area #4 (Research and Scholarship). Works to increase the support for and visibility of LGBTQ scholarship that is being conducted on campus. Compiles a list of faculty conducting research related to LGBTQ people, communities, and issues. Organizes an annual LGBTQ research forum for students and faculty.

Article 4

Access: All programs and events of the Chancellor's Committee are open to the public. The Committee endeavors to make such events known to UIC alumni and to members of communities off-campus. UIC alumni will be encouraged to volunteer their talents for projects of the Committee.

Article 5

Not for Profit: As a part of the University of Illinois at Chicago, the Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues is a not-for-profit organization.

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Article 6

Recall: Either co-chair may be subject to removal from office for significant failure to fulfill the responsibilities of the office by the following process: A member may propose the recall of a co-chair at any regularly scheduled meeting. If two-thirds of the members present at that meeting vote in favor of the recall, the question will be presented again for discussion at the next scheduled meeting. A vote for removal of the co-chair requires a two-thirds majority of the members present at that second meeting. A special election of the Committee will be held to elect a replacement to serve the unexpired portion of the term of office. A recommendation will be presented to the Chancellor requesting that a new co-chair be appointed.

Article 7

Ratification: The bylaws will be ratified by a 2/3 affirmative vote of those members attending a meeting which has been designated for that purpose.

Article 8

Amendments: The bylaws may be amended by the following process: Amendments are proposed and approved by a 2/3 affirmative vote of those members present at a regular meeting. At the next scheduled meeting, the amendment must again be approved by a 2/3 affirmative vote of those members present before going into effect.

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