

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of LGBT Issues
Minutes From 1-24-07

In attendance: Patrick Finnessey, Jennie Brier, Stacey Horn, Liz Thomson, Tom Koster, Jon Warnock, Jacob Mueller, Brian Mustanski, Laura Stempel, Shigeo Iwamiya, Jacob Harshbarger, Jerry Goldsten, LaTosha Traylor, Julia Rahn, Joanna Michelson, Robbie Lopez, Nick Popovich, Moisés Villada, Dan DiCesare, Kevin Mei, Lindsay Hyland

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

B. BUDGET UPDATE

1. Pride asked for co-sponsorship to travel to Minnesota for the MBLCTACC ("Big Gay Conference")
 - a. They agreed to give a detailed report of what they learned and how they will apply it to Pride at UIC at the March CCSLGBTI meeting and at the scholarship banquet
 - b. We voted to co-sponsor them up to \$1,000 for travel and hotel costs.
2. Recently-out Star Trek actor George Takei will be speaking at UIC on April 4. He will also be hosting a small, invitation-only student leader session.
 - a. We voted to co-sponsor him in the amount of \$500 on the condition that some CCSLGBTI members will be invited to his student leader session
3. Our fantastic folks who organized the Meet & Greet asked for an additional \$50 for the event, making it \$200 total.
 - a. We voted yes to the additional \$50, especially since the event met Strategic Area 5 by connecting us with other Chancellor's Committees.
4. This leaves us with about \$8,750 in our budget for the rest of the fiscal year.

C. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Advocacy & Policy
 - a. Laura let us know that they have been planning the Meet & Greet
 - b. The larger Committee voted to combine Advocacy & Policy with Education, Outreach, & Communications into one sub-committee
 - c. Patrick gave an update on Domestic Partnership Benefits:
 - i. Because DPBs are a taxable benefit, many people received a substantially smaller paycheck than they were expecting around the holidays.

- ii. Lambda Legal is advising the DPB Task Force on what can be done about this
 - iii. The Task Force met to discuss looking into overcompensation for same-sex couples to balance out the taxes deducted from their paychecks.
- 2. Finance & Fundraising
 - a. This year's scholarship applications will be due March 1.
 - b. We will award \$500 one undergraduate student and \$500 to one graduate student
 - c. Bernie and Jay have set up a payroll deduction system for donating to the scholarship fund
 - d. They are working on securing a matching donor if we can raise \$5,000.
- 3. Research & Scholarship
 - a. Brian announced that they have been meeting over email
 - b. They are talking about creating a research fund with small amounts of money donated from a few organizations
 - c. They hope to increase faculty doing LGBTQ research at UIC
 - d. They have talked about instituting a Welcome Wagon-like tradition for LGBTQ faculty who are considering teaching and/or researching at UIC.
 - e. They would like to create a database of queer faculty and faculty doing queer research at UIC.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. The OGLBTC announced its Spring programs and passed out calendars. The calendar can also be found at <http://www.uic.edu/depts/quic/oglbtc/events.html>
- 2. Jennie encouraged everyone to take part in the Out at CHM events, Chicago History Museum's gay history series
- 3. The Office will be offering Safe Zone 102 for people who have completed Safe Zone or who are culturally competent in LGBTQ issues. Safe Zone 102 will be Thursday, February 8 from 3:00-5:00. Details are on the OGLBTC website <http://www.uic.edu/depts/quic/oglbtc/index.html>
- 4. Joanna announced that the Vagina Monologues will be March 2 & 3 at 7:00 pm in the Illinois Room. Tickets are available in advance only through the Office of Women's Affairs (802 UH)
- 5. We have received another non-response to our latest blood drive letter. We are discussing a "Bring a Lesbian" Blood Drive or some such action to keep the issue alive.
- 6. We are holding UIC's first Lavender Graduation this year!
 - a. We will honor our graduating LGBTQA students in a smaller, more personal ceremony than the general university graduation

- b. Hopefully alumni will be involved.
- c. This will be the same event as our scholarship award ceremony this year, meaning the Chancellor will be invited.
- d. The Lavender Graduation will be Friday, May 4 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Location TBD.

E. STRATEGIC PLAN

- 1. Sub-committees met to discuss which parts of the plan to prioritize for this year.

Our next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 in 261 Westside Office Research Building, 1747 W. Roosevelt