

**Chancellor's Committee on the Status of LGBT Issues
Meeting with the Chancellor
Minutes from September 24, 2007**

Attendance: Melanie D'Andrilli, Patrick Finnessey, Francesca Gaiba, Stacey Horn, Brian Mustanski, Bernie Santarsiero, Laura Stempel.

I. Thank you Chancellor Manning

- a. Acknowledgement to the Chancellor and Provost for their support over the past several years.
- b. Acknowledgement to the Provost's office for support of Safe Zone. To date, over 1,000 people on campus have been trained through Safe Zone, and Patrick continues to get new requests for more training. We still wish to do an executive Safe Zone training session.
- c. Acknowledgement for appointing the Special Assistant to the Provost for Diversity, and establishing the Diversity Advisory Committee.

II. Collaboration between Chancellor's Status Committees

- a. We will continue to reach out to the other Chancellor's Committees. We will continue to co-sponsor events with the other Chancellor's Committees.
- b. Proposed quarterly meetings with co-chairs of each of the Chancellor's Committees? The DAC does help provide from cross communication.
- c. Discussion on establishing an annual event involving all of the Chancellor's Committees, such as a diversity forum, that will be supported by UIC. Maybe in September, and would coincide with Chicago Unity Month.
- d. The Provost said that if we can get the Diversity Advisory Committee to agree on this event, then he will cut money elsewhere if he has to, to make sure this can be funded.

III. Budget Structure

- a. Can we set up a seed fund for research for junior faculty and students wanting to do LGBT research? We were told our budget couldn't be used in that way.
– We were told to do this as a gift account so that they money can be used openly, this way we would also avoid working with the grant office. The administrative issues would be unimportant if the gift account was large enough. Individuals can make tax deductible donations to the gift account, but as a committee we will dictate how the funds are spent.
- b. Could we start a gift account? - Yes.
- c. Is it possible to raise our GA from 25% to 50%? - Yes, we can re-budget our money to do that if we want to.

IV. Blood Drive

- a. Met with John DeNardo to try and start up an educational campaign about the unfairness of the federal regulation about blood donation.

- b. We were met with a climate of fear to speak up. It seems disturbing that we could not find anyone to support us in this effort.
- c. The Chancellor said that we are not getting the real answers from people as to why they won't do it. This is a national issue that cannot be solved solely by educating UIC. The question is how to go about this?
- d. Stacey spoke about the fact that yes, this is a national issue, but we took it on due to the annual UIC endorsed blood drive which does discriminate against the people we are fighting for
- e. The Chancellor told us that if she heard our speech, she would think we were saying no to blood drives, which we can't do, because of how needed blood drives are everywhere. She thinks this is probably why people have not been willing to help us, because they do not want to be against a blood drive.
- f. The Provost said that maybe people are rejecting the way we organized our campaign

V. IRB

- a. Brian spoke about his experience of having to wait nine months for one of his research projects to go through the IRB process, and even after that extremely lengthy process he did not feel like the safety of his participants was that greatly improved. This was unfortunate for Brian, his students who did not get the educational experience of doing research all year, and the GLBT community who his research aims to help. NIH is asking him what is taking so long.
- b. The Chancellor talked about the problem in anyone freaking out in asking any minor any questions remotely involving sex.
- c. Is the IRB training any good? Are they addressing these issues?
- d. Patrick spoke about how there was a gray zone in whether they were protecting subjects, or their own judgments.
- e. Stacey then wrapped up the discussion by raising the important question of how we can improve the process.