

American College Personnel Association

Out on Campus!

American College Personnel Association

Issue TWO

Late Fall 2004

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Happy Holidays SCLGBTA!

By: Keith Humphrey, University of Arizona



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I hope that each of you have made it successfully through your semesters, quarters, or trimesters! The past six months have been exciting ones on my home campus for GLBT issues.

We have seen the re-establishment of the faculty-staff GLBT association complete with social activities to bring our campus community closer together and increased lobbying of our administration for domestic partner benefits. This has been exciting for me and I hope that each of you have a similar connection on your home campuses. If not, use your leadership and the resources of the SCLGBTA to help you start one.

Our Safe Zone program has become well established and now facilitates different levels of experiences for students and staff. Safe Zones have been around for many years now, but they are not everywhere. If your home campus does not have one, start one!

Our local GLBT community center hosted its annual benefit dinner – the first in seven years to be sold out! Our university sponsored tables for GLBT students to be able to attend.

These are just three of the successes we have had this semester. Many of you have had equal or greater successes on your home campuses. As leaders on your campus, I encourage you to exercise your voice and leadership to ensure that you and your students live, work, and study in a supportive environment.

I look forward to hearing about your successes at ACPA 2005 in Nashville!

With Pride,

Keith Humphrey
Chair



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A Year of Celebration Keith Humphrey, Chair

The SCLGBTA will celebrate its 20th Anniversary at the annual convention, April 2-6 in Nashville! Our past has not been possible without all of the dedicated SCLGBTA members and friends that have supported our activities. Convention 2005 is full of activities for all of us to celebrate! A detailed schedule of activities will be in our next newsletter, but here's a sneak preview.

20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner – Come join us on Monday April 4 for a benefit dinner celebrating our past, present, and future. Craig Dean, who filed the first lawsuit in Washington DC to legalize gay marriage, will be our keynote speaker. Tickets, \$75 each, may be purchased online when you register for the convention or by calling the ACPA National Office.

Come have birthday cake with us! – Also on Monday April 4, our annual social will feature a birthday cake big enough for all!

Coretta and Wild Cherry are back! - After a year of resting their pumps, our favorite Cabaret hostesses will be back on stage leading our biggest show yet!

These are just a few of the special activities that are not to be missed! Watch the SCLGBTA website (www.sclgbta.org) for more updates!

See you at the celebration



The Paul Hart Scholarship Fund

The Paul Hart Scholarship Fund and the Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Awareness are now accepting applications from ACPA members who plan to attend the 2005 Annual Convention.

Scholarships are awarded to those persons living with HIV/AIDS (or caring for a dependent living with HIV/AIDS) who would not be able to attend the Annual Convention without such assistance.

More information and the application may be found at: <http://www.sclgbta.org>

Or contact Sean Robinson at (202) 544-7771 or coach@pathtosuccess.org.



Important Registration Dates

Early Bird Registration Deadline - January 27, 2005

Regular Registration Deadline - February 24, 2005

Hotel Reservation Deadline - February 27, 2005

Last Day to Register On-line - March 17, 2005

www.myacpa.org/conv/





Join the Lambda Mentor Program in Nashville! Register beginning in January! Deadline to sign up is March 18th!!

It my pleasure to serve the Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Awareness (SCLGBTGA) as the Lambda Mentor Program Coordinator for a second year. In attempts to expand the program's reach across ACPA's population, I ask for your involvement as a Mentor Partner.

The Lambda Mentor Program has implemented "Mentoring Partner Groups" that establish realistic expectations of each other as well as continue partnerships after the 2005 Convention. Groups consist of 3-4 people, joined together based on the mutual interests and goals identified through the registration process. All Mentoring Partner Groups will have an initial meeting immediately following the Convention Colleague Program at 5pm, on Sunday, April 3, 2005. The Lambda Mentor Program Workshop is a place for the mentoring groups to meet and make plans during the convention. Attendance at the workshop is a requirement to participate in the program.

Mentoring Partner Expectations:

- 100% GREAT Student Affairs Professional
- Challenge every part/aspect of life
- Learn and teach
- Listen and be heard
- Share insight and experiences
- Commitment
- Asking and answering questions
- Sharing best practices
- Fresh perspective – new ideas

Mentoring Partner Goals:

- Give back support they have experienced
- Professional and Personal Connections
- Open and honest dialogue and feedback
- Intentional networking
- Share personal experiences and reflections
- Job search resource
- Share ideas and resources
- Serve as positive role model

For the Mentor Partners that are new to ACPA, the Convention Colleague Program and Convention Orientation are a great way to orient anyone new to ACPA, while the Convention Carnival, Coffee House, AIDS Memorial, and the Cabaret Show can highlight the SCLGBTGA. Each Mentor Partner will receive a copy of the registration form from the other members of their group, prior to the conference to help "break the ice" and create a starting point to discuss mentoring goals. Furthermore, an evaluation opportunity will be provided following the conference to assess how to make the program even better. Now, all I need is you!

To read more about the program, check out the SCLGBTGA web site at <http://www.sclgbta.org/> under Convention 2005 or email me with questions. You can also register to be a Mentor Partner through our website, by email or fax until March 18, 2005.

I look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your support of the SCLGBTGA and the Lambda Mentor Program.

With Pride,
Dawn Dooley
Email- andpd@uaa.alaska.edu

Last Call for Awards Nominations!

By: **Eric Ramsey** *MAL - Visibility and Recognition*

Each year, ACPA's Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Awareness provides awards of recognition to Student Affairs Professionals and others who have shown a commitment to service, education, support, and/or research in relation to LGBT issues on our college campuses and in our organization. We encourage individuals to recognize their colleagues who have demonstrated this commitment. Self-nominations are also appreciated. Nominations will also be accepted for organizations and institutions.

Include the following in your nomination:

*Name of person being nominated:

*College/University/Agency (please include address, telephone, email):

*Award for which person is being nominated (check one):

_____ Outstanding Service - For significant contributions to the Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Awareness through her/his support and efforts for LGBT awareness in ACPA.

_____ Public Service - For significant contributions to higher education and to her/his institution or other institutions around the country through her/his support and efforts of LGBT awareness.

_____ Val DuMontier Award for New Professionals - In memory of Val DuMontier, this award recognizes a new professional (1-5 years in the field) who has made significant contributions in the area of LGBT awareness.

_____ Research Recognition - Recognition for completed or ongoing research for LGBT issues.

Please describe this individual's accomplishments, service to the Standing Committee, and contributions to LGBT concerns on her/his campus, research work, etc. Include any additional information and support material as necessary.

Nominations are due no later than December 17, 2004.

Submissions may be sent to:

Eric Ramsey

Assistant Director

Collis Center & Student Activities

Dartmouth College

6181 Collis Center, Room 303

Hanover, NH 03755

Or, submit through email at: eric.ramsey@dartmouth.edu.

Award recipients will be notified by February 1, 2005.

Meeting your

SCLGBTA

Directorate Body...

This year, in every issue of Out on Campus, we will be spotlighting several of our SCLGBTA committee members. We hope that this will provide an introduction to our Directorate Body, learn a little bit about us, and discover what our individual interests are, and what type of resource we can be for you on your individual campus.

Pleased to Meet...

Shari Lupton

This year's Senior Member at Large for Advocacy is Shari Lupton. She is starting her third year as a Residence Life Coordinator at Florida International University. She obtained her Master's degree in Higher Education from Florida State University and her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. In her free time she enjoys playing golf, catching a movie, or volunteering as a court appointed advocate for children in foster care.

Mr. and Mr.: Getting Married in Massachusetts

Article by Will Cribby-Innocenti, Co-Wellness Coordinator

On November 11th, 2003 a nervous man awaited the arrival of a person that he had been dating for quite some time to ask a very important question. He was waiting in their favorite restaurant where they had enjoyed some special evenings together. The man had been working hard the days leading up to the dinner trying to make everything perfect, from getting the ring, to making the reservation for the restaurant, asking his partners mother for her permission, picking up roses and not to mention stressing all day over what to say. This was the night that he was going to propose.

This scenario transcends to the many relationships we are surrounded by in our lives by members of the heterosexual community. Marriage is what we are raised to see as a monumental ceremony of the healthiest celebration of a love shared by two people, a man and a woman. The difference in the story this article is based is that the couple is made of two men living in Boston, Massachusetts.

Prior to November 18th, most same sex partners focused on commitment ceremonies or civil unions. On November 18th, 2003 a court ruling in favor of a same sex couple's right to marry in Massachusetts, was to make the United States start talking as well as signify what should be a historical date in History that we hope someday will be taught in Pre- college level history classes. This case drew out further and it was made official in Massachusetts on May 17th, 2004 for the first time in any US state for same sex partners to be legally married. The night before in various cities and towns in Massachusetts, town halls were opening their doors after midnight for same sex couples to be the first to get a license and even get married.

Not all responses to this change were positive. Many religious groups released statements, spoke on TV, or used other mediums to give their opinions on "Gay Marriage" and how it would result in some catastrophic tragedy similar to the expected Y2K scare at the turn of the millennium. Many other states jumped quickly to ensure that their respective states would not attempt to follow Massachusetts by banning and making it illegal in their states for same sex marriages.

On August 6th, 2004 my partner and I went to Boston City Hall and met with our town clerk to apply for our marriage license and have her officiate over a private ceremony held in her office. That day we left town hall with feelings of great pride that our relationship would be recognized, valued and treated equally in the state we live in, like the rest of the "married" couples in Massachusetts. The town clerk also made an impression on us by her support and sincerity towards our union, in no way were we left feeling different or uncomfortable. She was very informed and shared information about how this decision should have been made long ago and that her books for her position and for officiating marriages do not discriminate by gender but use inclusive language like spouse and partner. The literature in the past was not focused on one man and one woman, but to the shared relationship of two people committed to each other.

On October 10th, 2004, my partner and I were able to come again before a Justice of the Peace to celebrate our marriage with our family and friends, for a more "traditional" wedding. No one wore the white gown or threw a bouquet, but the same meaning and celebration was carried among all present. The day was a beautiful fall day, and as far as we know nothing catastrophic happened as a result.

It is now seven months since the official legalization of same sex marriage in Massachusetts, and nothing disastrous has happened. Actually, we have had something quite extraordinary happen. Massachusetts has believed for years that a curse had been placed on its beloved baseball team, the Boston Red Sox, a team without a World Series Title since 1918. This past October, the Red Sox won the World Series. The message isn't that "Gay Marriage" lifted this "curse", but by letting go of the negativity and overcoming all obstacles in your way something positive can and will happen.

Many people have come forward to take advantage of this decision in Massachusetts and to this day, nothing catastrophic has happened. The discussions will continue and various laws will be passed. In the end it comes down to one simple fact. Two people in love, before god, their families and friends vowed to love, honor and cherish each other until the day they die.

Facing Trans/Gender Variant Issues Workshop
Co-Sponsored by ACPA and the Human Rights Campaign
Presented at the Human Rights Campaign Office; Washington, DC
February 10-11, 2005
Workshop Description

This two-day workshop is designed to increase student affairs educators' awareness of the needs and issues of the trans/gender variant population. Led by skilled facilitators, participants will have the opportunity to explore assumptions, enhance educational programming and awareness on their campuses about trans/gender individuals, and participate in an assessment to better identify campus and community resources available for this marginalized population.

The training is divided into three components:

Trans 101 Training: Path to Understanding and the End of Assumptions

Trans 201 Training: Path to Empathy and Proactive Inclusion

Trans 301 Training: Trans Action Steps for Your Campus

All participants will complete an assessment instrument prior to the workshop. This instrument will focus on training expectations, level of awareness of trans/gender variant students, staff and faculty members on campus, institutional non-discrimination policies, and facilities accommodations, among other areas.

Tentative Schedule

The workshop is scheduled to begin at 1:00pm on Thursday, February 10th and will conclude no later than 4:00pm on Friday, February 11th. The Human Rights Campaign will provide a special showing of the video, "No Dumb Questions", a funny and touching documentary which profiles three sisters, ages 6, 9, and 11, struggling to understand why and how their Uncle Bill is becoming a woman.

Intended Audience

This workshop is designed for all student affairs educators as well as other staff and faculty who want to increase their knowledge and awareness of the trans/gender variant population's needs and to design, implement, and evaluate services for gender inclusion.

Benefits

- *CEU credits available by the National Board of Certified Counselors
- *Safe environment to ask questions, learn vocabulary, and recognize gender exclusive social norms and common assumptions
- *Learn proactive campus action steps and advocacy strategies
- *Gain hands-on resources to enhance campus inclusion for trans/gender variant students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Lead Facilitator

Jessica Pettitt is the LGBT Student Success Coordinator at Arizona State University. She previously served as Program Advisor for the Office of LGBT Student Services at New York University. For the last several years, Jessica has created educational programming addressing trans/gender variant issues, advised LGBT student organizations, as well as presented at local and national conferences. She serves as the Gender Advocate for ACPA's Standing Committee for LGBT Awareness.

Additional co-facilitators will be added to the team following a review of the summary of participants' responses from the assessment tool.

Registration

\$250- ACPA Members

\$410- Nonmembers

All meals (except dinner on Thursday evening) and refreshment breaks are included in the registration fee. Early registration deadline is January 10, 2005. Purchase orders will not be accepted. The deadline date to register for this workshop is January 17, 2005.

For information and registration materials, contact Jacqueline Skinner, Director of Educational Programs, at 202.835.2272 or js@acpa.nche.edu.



**HELP
WANTED:**

**Be a part of the
2005 AIDS
Memorial Choir**

*Looking for passionate individuals willing to share their voices at the AIDS memorial. No experience needed.

* Looking for someone who loves to rap. No, really, RAP! We are looking for someone to rap with the AIDS memorial choir.

* Looking for someone to coordinate logistical support for the AIDS Memorial Choir. No music talent necessary just organizational skills. Great way to get involved and meet passionate voices.

To get involved with any of these aspects of the Choir, please contact:

Claire Williams -
clairegw@umd.edu

Home Is Where We Are: On Going to Nashville in 2005

By Jonathan Poullard

BACKGROUND

It was December, 2001 and an emergency conference call was requested by the then President, Nancy Evans, to make a decision about a convention site for 2005. Contracts had been signed for convention sites for 2003 (Minneapolis), 2004 (Philadelphia), 2006 (Indianapolis) and we had a couple of options for the 2007 joint convention with NASPA (San Diego, CA and Orlando, FL). Our suggested site of Dallas for 2005 had fallen through, and we were in need of identifying a new city and doing so quickly. Exacerbating the issue was the fact that in the previous year the Executive Council had developed a regional rotation system for convention sites to as best as possible represent our entire membership. Lastly, the association's annual convention had grown so large that there were only a few places in the nation that could absorb our huge request for space, but limited budget for catering related expenses (which is how hotels make most of their money). At the time I was the Director of the Core Council for Member Services and Interest (MSICC) and had received on-going feedback from various constituent bodies (including the SCLGBTA) within the association about how inaccessible our annual gatherings were for people who use wheelchairs. For all of our rhetoric about "inclusion" our annual conventions were anything but inclusive for members who have a disability.



Jonathan Poullard is Associate Vice-President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at Cal State San Marcos. He is a Past Chair of SCLGBTA, serving as Chair from 1997-1999.

When the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville was suggested as a convention site my blood went hot and I began recalling the many, many, many discussions I and other SCLGBTA Chairs had initiated with the Executive Council about selecting summer planning sites and convention sites in cities and states that do not affirm LGBT folk. My first reaction was to defiantly say "NO, we will not go to Nashville!" But then a member noted that the Grand Ole Opry would allow us to accommodate all of our convention needs in one place. We would not need more than one hotel and immediately I thought about members in the association who have a disability and began recalling all the conventions where we were forced us to walk or roll from one hotel to another in the rain and snow (let's not forget about the blizzard of 2001 in Boston when our social was located in the Hilton Hotel and one had to go outside and cross the street to get there - do you recall anyone in a wheelchair at the social that year?). And then I starting thinking about how long it took the association to add the Standing Committee on Disability (a hard fought battle for inclusion) to the Executive Council and asked myself "isn't it time we serve as an ally to someone else?" Now I'm sure some of you are thinking, "can't we find sites that are accessible for members who have a disability and inclusive of LGBT folk?" And I'm sure with more time the answer would have been yes, but under the constraints that I illuminated above it wasn't.

The discussion during the emergency call was tense and when it was all said and done the Executive Council voted 9 to 8 to go to Nashville. At no other time had a vote on a convention site been so contentious or so narrowly approved. I was among one of the yes votes and I vowed during that call to participate on the 2005 convention planning team to insure that we would do all we could to make Opryland as inclusive as possible for members in the association who were LGBT.

GRAND OLE OPRY HERE WE COME

Fast forward two years later and I find myself traveling to Nashville for the first meeting of the 2005 Convention Planning Team. When I arrived in Denver I walked to my connecting gate for my flight to Nashville and tracked who would be getting on the plane with me. I became immediately tense when I noticed I was the only African-American person and became more alarmed when most of the men (all white) seemed to be sporting cowboy hats. I thought to myself "Poullard you are getting ready to get on a plane with a bunch of good ole boys."

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Of course I never stopped to think about my own stereotypes of folks who wear cowboy hats and my negative assumptions about a good ole boy. Isn't it interesting that we judge others just as much as we have been judged? But to my surprise the man sitting next to me (yes he wore a cowboy hat) was a gay man who engaged me in dialogue when he noticed me reading a book by E. Lynn Harris. And then imagine my surprise when everyone at the airport, and most importantly Opryland were as friendly as they come. They continued to be friendly even when they observed me and John Hernandez walking holding hands or me embracing Gregory Roberts or me walking arm and arm with Rob Kelly. I began to realize that home is where we are. We create our own reality and the 2005 convention will be what we make it. This is not to suggest that we as LGBT folks will not experience heterosexism in Nashville. I'm sure we will, just as we have in every other city we have held conventions. The reality is a county in TN voted to outlaw LGBT folk which was then overturned. This is not unlike 35 other states in the union that have or are planning to vote to ban gay marriage. We face an incredibly hostile time in the coming months and years, and it is my expectation that the SCLGBTA will remain a proactive model of what it means to be inclusive. Being proactive around issues of inclusion is not for the faint of heart – being inclusive is constant lifelong work! It is further my expectation we will continue to stand up for what is right, and we will continue to be effective allies even when it may feel that no one is being our ally. Our socio-political clout within the association affords us with an opportunity to model inclusion and model effective ally behavior. And we do it because we CAN!

OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Finally we as association will walk our talk where it concerns hosting a convention in a location that is accessible to all members of the association and I say "it's about time." I do not think it is by accident that our 20th anniversary is taking place in Nashville. No other standing committee in the association is as equipped as the SCLGBTA to build visibility and push the envelope of inclusion. Think about the positive impact we can make for LGBT folk who live in TN and feel they have no voice, think about the dialogue we can create around inclusion of LGBT folk in this state and think about how we can serve as a catalyst for change. And then put on your combat boots or your pumps and march proudly into the Grand Ole Opry as if it were Dupont Circle, West Hollywood, the Village or the Castro. To do any less would be UNfabulous!

Peace,
Jonathan Poullard

***Pleased To Meet
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Chad Wilson

Chad Wilson is Junior Member at Large for Advocacy. Chad is expected to attain a Master's degree in College Student Development, Student Affairs Practice from Appalachian State University in May 2005. Chad serves as the Graduate Assistant for Resident Education at ASU and is co-founder and Communication Coordinator for Campus PrideNet. He is currently serving as the LGBT Housing Concerns Intern at University of California, Riverside. He hopes to work in LGBT Student Resources after he finishes school. Chad loves to travel and enjoys coffee, cartoons, and "shaking his groove thang" on the dance floor.

Rob Anderson

Rob Anderson is happy to serve as this year's Programs Chairperson for the SCLGBTA. Rob currently works at the University of Iowa where he has served as the Residence Life Programs Coordinator. He holds a Master's degree in College Student Development Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance. In his free time Rob enjoys traveling, shopping, the theatre, and a good martini. He is an avid fan of Sex and the City and just about any show on HGTV or TLC. Look for Rob (aka Miss Dita D. Lite) to perform on stage once again at this year's SCLGBTA Cabaret.