

Out on Campus

The Newsletter of the Standing Committee for LGBT Awareness

From the Chair...

Reflections on Atlanta

As expected, the Atlanta convention proved to be a fun and rejuvenating experience. I was so proud of the Directorate team I work with and the thought and energy they put into planning each and every event. We started off with our annual Dinner Out, at Joe's on Juniper. We had over 60 people in attendance, more than I ever recall being at this event. The restaurant was gracious and accommodating, they even made a rainbow cake in our honor (see picture of me with a slice of this cake... I promise I did not eat it all!).

We continued the week with a very successful Convention Colleagues program, Gender Blender Social as well as our sponsored programs and roundtables. This year we introduced two new events, the Transgender Social and LGBT People of Color Social. Both events went very well and we plan to continue to work to serve the needs of these populations of members.

Our large social was, as always, a good time to see old friends to relax, dance and laugh together. This event is always one that draws a huge crowd and fun is had by all. On Tuesday we were honored to have a speaker, Imani Evans, come to talk to us about varying identities, followed by the AIDS Memorial. This year's memorial marked the last time that

Julie B. Elkins would be directing the choir. We are excited to have Liz Patterson on board to take over in the future years, and enjoyed hearing her directing debut with the closing song at this year's memorial.

As we have for the previous nine years, we ended our ACPA Convention with the Cabaret. Once again, Coretta Scott Queen and Wild Cherry Sucret had us rolling in the aisles. During the event we honored the time they have given us in these roles, and to thank them for the past 10 years. While they will not be hosting in the future, I trust they are not gone from our



Claire Williams-SCLGBTA Chair

Cabaret forever. We welcomed our host for next year, Miss Candi Barr, and will be seeing much more of her in DC.

I trust everyone made it home from Hot-lanta safely, but also that you came home feeling refreshed and geared up for another year in our field. I am reminded during the convention every year just how important what we do is, and how many lives are impacted by our

profession. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing everyone, and invite you to stay in contact with myself and other directorate members regarding ideas and needs that you have. We are here to serve our membership, and our membership is you.

I invite you to stay in contact with myself and other directorate members.

Meet the Directorate- Cari Urabe



Position on SCLGBTA: Networking Coordinator

Educational background: B.A. from Eastern Washington University, M.A. in Student Development Administration from Seattle University

Current Position: Assistant Residence Hall Director, Seattle University

In my free time I love to bowl, visit parks, explore Seattle, and watch BRAVO and TLC.

I wanted to get involved with the Standing Committee because of the opportunities to provide programs and services for a community that I am very passionate about. As well as the people were really friendly and welcoming.

Cabaret 2008: Doing BIG Things in the ATL

by cristoval g. ayala



ACPA
STANDING COMMITTEE FOR
**Lesbian, Gay
Bisexual and
Transgender
Awareness**



Forget about any kind of party that might have happened at 12 Oaks! This year proved to be another fabulous one for the 10th annual Cabaret. The Cabaret continued to gain in popularity and overall attendance, descending on the WETbar Atlanta and drawing over 700 people. Hosted by the absolutely fabulous Wild Cherry Sucrets and Coretta Scott Queen, who announced that they were stepping down as emcees this year, we extend our sincere thanks and gratitude for their nine years of service. Michael (Candie Barr) Dodge was introduced as the incoming emcee and had the opportunity to briefly speak to the audience. A successful event of this size is not possible without the amazing volunteers, who came out to lend their time in support of the Cabaret in record numbers this year! And, of course, our thanks and appreciation to all of those drag kings and queens for helping to create a phenomenal lineup of 24 songs this year. WETbar Atlanta was amazing to work with and provided everything we needed at no cost. Our thanks go out to them for all of their support. Please keep a look out for more information later this year about Cabaret 2009. Finally, as the new Director of Development, I look forward to your comments, feedback, and support for Cabaret 2009. Cheers to another great year!

Impressions of Atlanta 2008

by Hannah Wu

This year's convention was exciting, fun, and contributed to my larger knowledge of current trends and events in Student Affairs. The SCLGBTA organized great events that helped professionals to deepen their knowledge of LGBT issues. The highlight of the conference was the guest speaker, Imani Evans, who spoke on multiple intersections of identity. She came with a short pre-made workshop and helped others to look internally at their own understanding of identity and push themselves further to seek understanding about other perspectives. The SCLGBTA continues to focus on intersections of identity as we offered a Transgender Social and a People of Color Social to conference participants. The socials had great attendance and definitely reinforced that these sorts of spaces are needed during the conference.

SCLGBTA again offered gender neutral bathrooms, and they were located in visible locations throughout the conference. There were pamphlets with information on gender

identity and bathroom issues that may arise for people who do not fit into a binary gender system.

In the job search arena, we had a panel of seasoned and new professionals talk about coming out (or not) on an interview. There were many questions as the professionals shared their own feelings and experiences with the group.

Through our socials and the Cabaret it was great to see so many people support LGBT people in our field on so many different levels. ACPA 2008 in Atlanta was an amazing conference and I can't wait until the next conference and hope to continue to be involved with ACPA and the Standing Committee in years to come!

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Moments of Truth: Looking ahead to D.C.

by Julie B. Elkins

Have you ever fallen in love? No, I mean have you ever fallen in love with a business, a hotel business? It happened to me one summer, but this has not been a May to October romance, I have fallen in love with all the passion in me with the Kimpton Hotels. It happened like many loves, I was not looking for it. It was only when every hotel I knew in DC was booked out in May from five different schools holding graduation simultaneously in our fair capital city that I discovered the Kimpton's. Okay, I admit it, we met on-line, but hey that is not that unusual these days. But, this turned into much more than a one-night stand. In fact, any time I travel my first question is, "Do they have a Kimpton in that city?"

Okay, so why now at this point in my life am I falling in love...with a hotel chain? There are so many reasons. Of course it is clean, that staff is amazing, and the furnishings are hott, but it is so much more. For instance the "Keep In Touch" program, where they ask you about specific requests and likes you may have, and they are waiting in the room when you arrive. For me, I find dark chocolate, fresh fruit or a glass of white wine. Also a personalize note and a cell phone number to call if I need assistance with an individual name. There is the a "Women in Touch" program catering to businesswomen and a host of resources from fashion, spas, and networking. There is also Kimpton's outreach and recruitment, yes, recruitment of LGBT employees and clients. They have received the 100% rating by the Human Rights Campaign. If you ever hear that I left the field I love, it will be to work for the Kimpton's.



The founder, Bill Kimpton, wanted to make everyone's stay to be personalized to create loyal customers into what he calls "Moments of Truth" in service, hospitality, and style. Pairing trendy dining and nightlife with the hotel makes your stay so much more than just a cheap alarm clock, a bed, and free shampoo. One time, while I was staying at the Rouge, in DC, I went out on the town only to discover that the real scene was actually downstairs from my room in the hotel bar & restaurant. It is so nice to know when I travel alone that I never have to leave the hotel to have an amazing meal and a feisty nightlife!

This part is hard to articulate in such a small space, but I feel it's important to let you know that each of the Kimpton's has a theme. Such as at Hotel Helix in D.C. everyone makes a grand entrance with drawn curtains and a spotlight to make you feel important. The hotels are boutique style; such as the new Palomar just off Dupont Circle it's amazing! Did I mention that all Kimpton's have a happy hour

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Meet the Directorate- Dan Patterson

Position on SCLGBTA: Networking Coordinator
Education: B.A. from the University of Iowa, Masters in Counseling and Student Personnel from Minnesota State University, Mankato
Current Position: Resident Director at Loyola Marymount University
In my free time I like to go explore all the fun things about Los Angeles - the beaches, shopping, museums, and neighborhoods
I'm really excited to be able to contribute to all the wonderful things the SC does - and to learn how to put on such great educational and social events for the association.

Meet the Directorate- Josh Brimmeier

Position on SCLGBTA: Coordinator of Administration
Educational background: Associate's Degree from Central Pennsylvania College, B.S. from Penn State, 2nd year graduate student at Iowa State University
Current Position: Academic Intervention Graduate Assistant, Iowa State University
In my free time I enjoy reading (especially Harry Potter books & comic books), running, traveling, and watching movies with friends.
I am very excited to contribute to the SC and look forward to working with all of you!



Moments of Truth: Looking ahead to D.C.

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from 5-6pm every day? They are so fun; one of the Kimpton's has a Bubbly Hour, with either champagne or the champagne of beers, Miller. The furnishings are so trendy, fun, sharp and all different depending on the hotel theme. Such as at the Rouge in DC, EVERYTHING is red. I also love the fact that I can hang my shoes on the door outside and when I wake up in the morning and they are there, polished, for free! They also have the coolest items in the honor bar, like PEZ, and Pop Rocks. What else could a person want? The bathroom products are often L'Occitane, or Avena, LOVE IT! My favorite part is when one of the DC hotels hosts a happy hour on the porch with the Pooch of the Week from the Humans Society for adoption. I almost came home with a dog. These are only a few highlights of their amazing programs, there are really too many to touch on here, but next time you see me, ask me about them, but be prepared for me to go on, and on, and on.

When the SCLGBTA contacted companies for donations for our silent auction guess who was first to respond with a resounding yes! That's right Kimpton! ACPA was amazing this year. If you really want a treat this summer, jump on line www.kimptonhotels.com and book a room today. But be careful, summer loves can last a lifetime.



Meet the Directorate- Jack Harris

Position on SCLGBTA: Networking Coordinator

Education: B.A. University of South Carolina, MPA Auburn University, Post Masters Coursework Mississippi State University

Current Position: Assistant Director for Residence Life, Western Carolina University

I enjoy going to the gym, traveling, reading, going out on the town occasionally.

I am really excited to learn from others on the SC as I have recently taken on the position of advisor for WCU LGBT Student Group.



Meet the Directorate- Amber R. Ulmer



Position on SCLGBTA: Director of Administration

Educational background: B.S. from University of Maine at Farmington, M.A. in Higher Education Student Affairs from University of Connecticut (Go Huskies!)

Current Position: Residence Director at the University of Vermont

In my free time I enjoy singing karaoke on my Wii, playing with my dog Buzzy, and making a scene just about everywhere I go.

I'm excited to get more involved on the SC, to meet new people, and give back to ACPA.

Have you wanted to get more involved in the SCLGBTA, but can't figure out how?

Write an article! Review a book, movie, or play! Let us know what is going on for LGBT professionals & students.

We are looking for you! Contact Amber Ulmer (aulmer@uvm.edu) to learn more about how to get involved with Out on Campus.