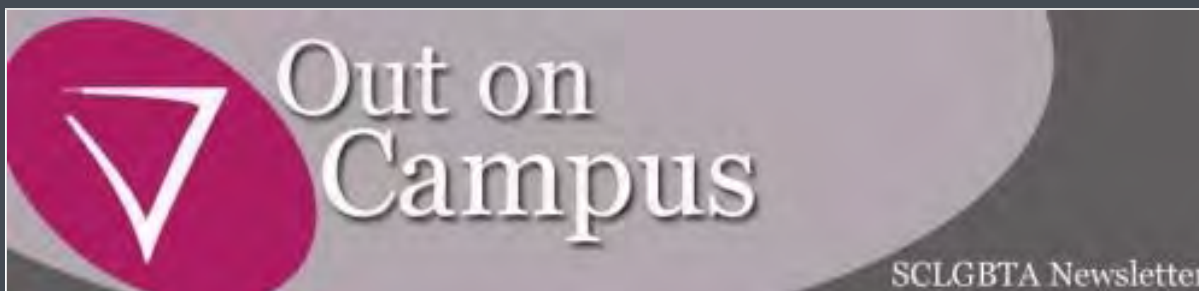


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Post-Convention Newsletter

Greetings! I hope the academic year has gone well for everyone. First, let me say thank you for being members of the Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Awareness.

We just completed a fantastic 2011 ACPA Convention in Baltimore, Maryland where we were challenged to B'More as Student Affairs educators. Thus, part of *being more* meant we had a convention full of engagement, awareness, and professional development. We engaged around the topic of intersecting identities with our three-session institute. We were able to provide continued job placement development for LGBT professionals, create meaningful connections for a variety of identities within the LGBT community through our identity socials and raise over \$1,500 for the local youth branch of the GLBT Community Center of Baltimore and Central Maryland. And our pursuit of continued support and education for HIV and AIDS was revitalized this year with some fresh efforts to reach a broader audience.



In our future, the Standing Committee for LGBT Awareness is working to create more opportunities for member engagement. We recognize the value of connecting year-round with one another as professionals. Therefore, we will continue to craft intentional initiatives to engage our members. Additionally, we are working to produce more educational and hot topic resources to assist all of us in our pursuit of social justice awareness and advocacy at our institutions. We currently have several internal publications in production focused on LGBT issues in athletics and housing & residence life.

My commitment to you, regardless of the recent outcome about consolidation, we will continue to serve as a strong entity supporting LGBT professionals. I have a strong commitment to ensure our associations are serving the LGBT student and professional populations and I will remain vigilant in this task. This year, I plan to continue and enhance our collaboration efforts with our partners, the NASPA GLBT Issues Knowledge Community, the Consortium of Higher Education LGBT Resource Professionals, and our fellow ACPA Standing Committees and Commissions.

I am proud of the work of the Standing Committee for LGBT Awareness. And I am honored to work with such fantastic leaders. The work of the committee by members and for members astounds me as we continue to raise the bar year after year. Please do not hesitate to contact us with your thoughts, ideas, vision or needs as to how SCLGBTQA can serve you to our fullest potential. I hope to hear from you soon.

Again, thank you for your continued membership. I look forward to the coming year with all of you.

Danielle M. Nied
Chair, Standing Committee for LGBT Awareness

Sponsored Institute Reflection

by: Jason Cottrell

The Sponsored Institute at ACPA 2011, *Developing Allies for Justice and Care: Be More Than Supportive*, provided an opportunity for amazing discussions regarding oppression, social justice and allyhood. Much of the discussion regarded the difference between ally and advocate. Specifically, where does action for social justice separate an oppressed group's allies with their advocates?

Suggestions from ACPA's members who participated in the Developing Allies for Justice and Care suggested the following items in the coming years regarding social justice allies:

- Change the language that is used, challenge the status quo
- Educate and define allies by asking: *why do people seek allyhood?*
- Use Panels for open discussion
- Regarding oppressed groups, be allies for ourselves (remove internalized oppression)
- Use inclusive language and wording
- Should we normalize our identities?

Finally, we were asked, "What can allies bring to a group? And, How can we bring them to the group?" Nationally, a point of concern was that we must bridge the gap between religious communities and the LGBTQ community. For ACPA and the SCLGBTQA, the suggestions were to 1) have a structured recruitment process for allies within standing committees, 2) conduct more educational programs regarding social justice allies, 3)

provide lists of resources for social justice allies (specifically from the SCLGBTA), 4) provide notations during convention that welcome our allies (during socials, in the program booklet and at sessions), and 5) provide safe zone training or SJTI during or before convention and focus more heavily on the difference for LGBT identities and the intersections with other identities.

Overall, the Sponsored Institute was a success for our social justice allies and members of the various social identity groups within ACPA. It was suggested to provide further discussion, especially as the discussion regarding consolidation winds down.

A Phenomenally Drag-tastic Time

by: Bradley Pearson

The SCLGBTA annual Cabaret proved to be an amazing event this year. With 20+ performances by Kings and Queens, the show contained renditions ranging from pop culture and new hits to cult classics and gospel remixes. **It was truly amazing to see the talents of friends, colleagues and professionals from all corners of the ACPA constituency.**

The event, hosted at Club Hippo in Baltimore, enthralled audience members for two hours and help raise funds for the Sufficient as I AM (SIAM) youth project of the Baltimore LGBT Community Center and SCLGBTA events for the upcoming year. This year's audience also got to see a new approach to the show format with a new Mistress of Ceremonies (MC) versus our traditional hostess model. We would like to thank Bill Huff for his wonderful work with us organizing the show and quick witted talents as MC Ms. Anne G. O'Plasty.

For those that attended the event, thanks for your support, we hope you had a wonderful time and join us again in the coming year in Louisville. For those that may not have been able to attend, make sure you check us out next year. This is an event you don't want to miss.

On behalf of the Standing Committee, a big shout out to three groups that helped make this event happen. First, the Kings and Queens of ACPA, your courage to cross gender lines and abilities to truly entertain us all are appreciated. Second, the volunteers that help make the night happen, thanks for your dedication to the SCLGBTA and willingness to volunteer your time. And last, but not least, Club Hippo, you provided us an amazing venue and an amazing staff, thanks for all that you did. Finally, we hope that everyone enjoyed their time with us and we welcome feedback about the event. Please feel free to contact Bradley Pearson, Director of Development at pearsonb@denison.edu with any feedback or thoughts regarding cabaret. **Also, looking forward to the coming year in Louisville, if you would like to be involved in making the event even more phenomenal, feel free to contact Bradley regarding volunteering or performing.**

OUR AGENDA

by: Steven Canals & Amber Simbley

For several years the SCLGBTA has spearheaded the planning and implementation of Our Agenda: Educate, Advocate, Eliminate HIV/AIDS. This year the program was reconceptualized to reach a broader audience. As a result, Our Agenda was divided into three components: educational, emotive, and memorial. The intention behind each component was to tailor Our Agenda's message for different audiences.

The educational piece served as a passive component. In an effort to elicit action from student affairs professionals at their home institutions, informational postcards were created and distributed during high traffic times at the Convention. The information included resources and facts such as "The CDC estimates that young Americans ages 13-24 are contracting HIV at the rate of two (2) per hour".



To address the emotive component, the SCLGBTA sought out collaborative opportunities to work with other Standing Committees and Commissions in the Association. **We wanted to convey a message that HIV & AIDS does not touch one single population but rather is a matter requiring the attention and investment of all.** Performance pieces at the Pratt Street Lobby of the Convention Center included: a monologue by Demetrius Colvin, graduate student at University of Maryland – College Park, and a piece from RENT in American Sign Language by the Standing Committee on Disability. During the performances SCLGBTA volunteers handed out the educational cards.

The final component, the memorial, was designed to carry on the tradition of reflection, remembrance and support. A conversation took place during the memorial among a group of attendees. **There were some in the room who were personally affected by HIV/AIDS, and others who saw the gap in education on their campus.** The group also discussed how there was a missing piece of the HIV/AIDS conversation that revolved around general sexual health; conversations that are not present at all on some campuses. All that attended expressed that the discussion helped them reflect on the topic in a new way, and give considerable thought on how to continue the conversation on their campuses. During the memorial, The Syracuse Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt was on display, and information cards, Our Agenda buttons, and AIDS ribbons, were distributed. Additionally, memorial attendees could write messages in blank cards which were donated to a local Baltimore AIDS Hospice.

Supporting Our Next Generation

by: Daniel Patterson

For the third year in a row, SCLGBTA was proud to provide two undergraduate students a scholarship to both the Next Gen Conference and the Annual Convention. The two students, Aris Kaleps-Clark of Bowling Green State University, and Mindy Wu of the University of Maryland, College Park participated in an intentionally developed curriculum designed to help them acclimate to the field and the association, and provided them with valuable networking opportunities with established professionals in the field.

Aris and Mindy both attended sessions during the convention selected that focus on LGBT issues, and learned about the many facets the SCLGBTA does within the association and at convention. Additionally, they had the opportunity to meet with past leaders of the Standing Committee such as Julie Elkins and the Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington.

The SCLGBTA is committed to continuing this opportunity for future Next Gen participants to help them build a solid foundation as they enter and join us in the field. Please see the reflection Mindy has written for this newsletter for her first hand perspective on this experience.

Mindy Wu's Experience:

I attended Next Gen as a freshmen knowing little about student affairs. In fact, it had only been a few months prior that I had even heard about the profession. Consequently, I entered into the experience really hoping to just gain a better understanding of student affairs. Instead, I not only gained a plethora of knowledge, but I also found a new career path and passion. Properly describing the impact that Next Gen had on me is an challenge within itself. Never had I thought that I could gain so much inspiration within a single weekend. The people that I had the pleasure and honor of meeting, as well as the experiences that were shared with me have left a profound impact on me. The workshops that I had the opportunity to attend, offered so many possibilities and ways in which individuals within student affairs can make a difference. At the same time it really helped to answer questions about the profession, helping me to gain a better fundamental understanding of what it means to be in student affairs. However, being surrounded by individuals, other participants and professionals, who are so passionate about student affairs was probably the most exciting and unique part of Next Gen. Having attended many other conventions and conferences, it is so rare to truly be surrounded by people who love what they are doing. Next Gen opened my eyes into a whole other realm of possibility for myself and I am truly grateful for the experience.

SCLGBTA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the following recipients of the SCLGBTA awards located below. We are very proud of everyone submitted and to learn about the LGBT awareness and advocacy work of colleagues and students within higher education.

Julie B. Elkins Outstanding Service Award

This award recognizes an SCLGBTA member for their significant contribution to the standing committee and ACPA through their support of and efforts for LGBT Awareness.

2010-2011 Recipient

Gabe Javier

Assistant Director, Spectrum Center
University of Michigan

Val DuMontier New Professional Award

This award recognizes a new professional (1-5 years in the field) who has made significant contributions in the area of LGBT Awareness.

2010-2011 Recipient

N.J. Akbar

Assistant Director, Office of Student Success Programs
Kent State University

Research Recognition Award

This award recognizes an individual who conducts outstanding research related to LGBT issues in higher education.

2010-2011 Recipient

Dr. Mark Miceli

Associate Director, Student Programs Office
Boston College



"WINNING"

Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets this year! With your help, we raised \$1,865.00 that will go towards programming sponsored by the SCLGBTA. Congratulations are also in order for our three winners.

None other than the ACPA Vice President, **Keith Humphrey** from the University of Arizona, won our top prize of \$750.00. Coming in second was **Lisa Simmons** from Towson University taking away a prize of \$500.00. Finally, **Andrea Connor** from Grinnell College took away our 3rd place prize of \$250.00.



**Stalk Us
on
Twitter!**

From the gender neutral restrooms to hot discussion topics, be sure to follow the Standing Committee on Twitter using **@sclgbta!** You'll get updates on Standing Committee news (be the first to know when seated cabaret tickets go on sale!) as well as topics and information related to LGBT issues in higher education and beyond.



Thank you to everyone that volunteered for the SCLGBTA during convention! The services that you provided helped to make all of our events successful. We could not have done it without each of you! Your continued service to ACPA and the standing committee is greatly appreciated. We look forward to continuing to work with you during the year as well as during convention 2012 in Louisville!

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