**LGBT Faculty-Staff Association Steering Committee**

**Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 18, 2012 – 4 PM to 6 PM, CBG**

**Members Present:** Forrest Clift, Jerrod Nickels, Gary Van Harn, Megan Woller-Skar

**Absent:** Kim Ranger, Dana Munk

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**1.1 Miscellaneous Discussion Items**

1.1.1 While not on the agenda, we began with a frank discussion about our personal

levels of responsibility and work on the FSA and how we perceive our work/life

balance (feeling stressed, overwhelmed, effective, not effective, etc.)

1.1.2 We discussed how to do what we do more effectively;

Are we doing what the membership wants us to be doing?

Are we providing the membership with sufficient information or means to

communicate back to us? Are we soliciting feedback effectively?

How do we represent a membership that tends not to communicate or

participate? Is this the nature of volunteer organizations or something

more specific to the LGBTQ community on campus?

1.1.3 We clarified for each other what we were doing and would be willing to continue

doing or not do in the future. We discussed job descriptions and functions for the

various roles and decided that the Steering Committee should seek to add two

non-SC roles; that of a webmaster and someone to follow and report on current

legislation and politics as it regards LGBTQ faculty and staff in the State of

Michigan.

**1.2 New Business**

1.2.1 Additional FSA Events for Winter Semester

We discussed and approved the addition of *at least* one general business

meeting for the FSA membership to our calendar, time TBA.

We discussed and approved an FSA sponsored/hosted Ice Cream Social

event with/for LGBTQ students, time and location TBA. Will work with Center & invite Out n’ About, Transprectrum, SAFE.

1.2.2 Set Monthly Steering Committee meeting dates:

Wednesday, February 15, 4-6 pm, CBG

Wednesday, March 14, 4-6 pm, CBG

Wednesday, April 11, 4-6 pm, CBG

Wednesday, May 16, 3-5 pm, CBG

1.2.3 Elections for next year’s Steering Committee; nominations will be solicited during

the month of March, voting will be completed before April commencement.

1.2.4 We are saddened to announce the death of Herb Bils, president of West

Shore Aware and founder of the recently endowed West Shore Aware LGBTQ

Scholarship that Herb created for GVSU LGBTQ students. Herb passed suddenly and unexpectedly on January 2, the day before he was scheduled for corrective

back surgery. We extend our sympathies to Herb’s family and friends, and his

partner Scott.

**1.3 Old Business**

1.3.1 A big thank you to Henry & Tim

1.3.2 The same to Jerrod & Robert

1.3.3 FSA Shirts/Fleeces/Polos: We will facilitate another shirt order this summer so that

those members who missed the first round can get their FSA shirt and wear it at

next fall’s “Welcome Back” reception

1.3.4 PRISM award(s): Forrest developed a nomination form and will send it out with the

upcoming FSA newsletter. Nominations will be due by February 29. We discussed

the process and number of awards given out and decided at this time not to limit

the number of awards.

1.3.5 Statewide FSA Conference-summer, 2012. Forrest will meet with Colette and

discuss coordinating the state-wide LGBT Resource Center conference that the

Center is hosting with the FSA state-wide conference that we will be hosting.

Currently we are thinking to hold these two conferences back to back because of

overlap in the interests of attendees and for potential cost and resource savings

and efficiencies. Planning can commence after that. Possible issues to discuss:

The Legislative Year in Review

Faculty recruitment and retention issues

Marketing

What FSA’s do, what they should do, their limitations

Social Issues, ie: school bullying, GSA’s, anti-discrimination language

**1.4 Upcoming Events**

*Monthly luncheon*-Monday, January 30, 11:30 am to 1 pm, Pew Campus,

University Club.

*“Dread the Red” Valentine Party*, Saturday, February 11

*Lavendar Graduation,* Wednesday, April 18, 4-5:30 pm, Pere Marquette Room,

Kirkhof Center.

**1.5 Adjournment**

6.8.1 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 pm.

The next FSA Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 15, 2012, from 4 to 6 pm at the Cottage Bar & Grill.**

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Van Harn

FSA Secretary