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LGBT Faculty-Staff Association Steering Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, March 14, 2012- 4 PM to 6 PM, MSG

**Members Present:** Forrest Clift, Jerrod Nickels, Kim Ranger, Gary Van Harn

**Members Absent:** Megan Woller-Skar

1. **Appreciation**
   1. Much thanks to Megan for her work on updating and revising our website!!!
2. **Steering Committee/Bylaws**
   1. We will be adding two new positions to the FSA Board; that of web and info coordinators.

The role of the first is to update and maintain the organization’s web site & the second to keep the membership informed regarding University, state, or federal political issues which could potentially affect the membership.

* 1. Potential candidates were discussed and the list was distributed among the steering committee members to approach and encourage to run. Will need a brief statement of skills and intent from candidates.
  2. A web survey will be sent out shortly seeking approval of the changes to the bylaws and requesting nominations from the membership, to be returned no later than 3/26.

1. **Elections**
   1. Elections will be held via online survey from April 2 to April 11, with results to be announced during Lavender Graduation.
2. **Prism Awards**
   1. Three Award nominations were received from the membership nominating, Milt Ford, Pat Oldt, and Mary Spalding. The Steering Committee reviewed the submissions and the accomplishments of all of the nominees.  After a unanimous vote, Milt Ford and Pat Oldt will be this year’s Prism Award recipients. **Forrest will handle ordering of the Prisms.**
3. **Statewide FSA Conference**
   1. We have the U-Club and a large conference room in the Bicycle Factory reserved for June 8.
   2. Forrest has identified all previous and potential new participants for invitations
   3. Forrest has prepared a survey to send out to the above group seeking additional topics to be discussed or presented on.
   4. The actual planning for this conference will occur at the next planning session
   5. It has been suggested that our keynote speaker be drawn from a newly identified group of LGBTQ college presidents, which everyone was enthusiastic about.
4. Upcoming Events
5. Monthly luncheon, Thursday, March 29, 11:30-1:00pm @ U-Club, Pew Campus
6. Monthly luncheon, Monday, April 16, 11:30-1:00pm, staff dining room, Kirkhof
7. Lavender Graduation, Wednesday, April 18, 4:00-5:30pm, 2204 Kirkhof (Pere Marquette)
8. Post Commencement Party, Saturday, April 28, 6-9pm
9. Summer Party, “Lawn Gaymes,” Saturday, June 23, 3:00-11:00pm
10. Annual FSA planning session for 2012/2013, Thursday, May 24, 9-?.
11. LGBT FSA Conference, Friday, June 8, 8:30-4:00pm @ U-Club, Pew Campus.
12. Fall 2012 Welcome Back Event, Wednesday, September 19, 4:00-6:00pm, U-Club, Pew Campus.
13. New Business
    1. We agreed to revise the web language describing eligibility for membership. The agreed upon language is as follows:

**Thank you for your inquiry! The Association consists of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender faculty or staff members who are current employees of GVSU\*. If these categories apply to you, we welcome your participation.  
  
You may become a member, which gives you voting rights relative to the election of Steering Committee members. The directory of FSA members is a public document. If you prefer to not become a member but wish to receive emails on LBGT matters and events relating to GVSU and West  Michigan, you can join the social list: the names of the individuals on this list are kept private. Please let us know which you prefer.**  
  
**\*Other groups are available for allies or advocates: please see** [**http://www.gvsu.edu/allies/**](http://www.gvsu.edu/allies/) **for more information. There are also west Michigan organizations if you are not a GVSU employee, such as the LGBT Network of West Michigan, etc.**

* 1. We agreed that Allies and others are welcome to attend events like the Welcome Back Event and Lavender Graduation. Off-campus social events will remain private to the membership.
  2. 2012/2013 Planning Issues:

1. Should we review all past membership surveys? Put out new?
2. Shall we hire a strategic planner to help forge direction for the FSA since our primary goal has been achieved?

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.