Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Queer Ally Commission
2012-13 Campus Change Team Report

Members and Chair

Chair: Jake Caceres

1. Mission Statement
The GLBTQA Commission is committed to creating a safe, welcoming, and enriching climate for the UMD GLBTQA community that enables GLBTQA students, faculty, and staff to thrive intellectually, socially, and emotionally at the university and in surrounding communities. We strive to accomplish this through education, advocacy, collaborative planning with other university and community groups, and outreach and support to members of the UMD GLBTQA community. This includes planning social events to bring members of the GLBTQA community and others together.

2. Organization
The commission is a campus-wide organization comprised of faculty, staff, students, and community members. The commission works to promote leadership, understanding, and education about queer people and issues. The commission seeks connection and partnership with the broader community.

2012-13 Meetings
13 meetings held during the academic year. Several meetings were held over the summer as well. Most meetings held bi-weekly on Thursdays at Noon in Kirby 264.

2012-13 Priorities from May 2012 report
The 2012 report focused on a review of the priorities from 2011 and progress from those priorities. The commission worked to re-establish priorities in Fall 2013 to better align with the new mission and organization as established when the commission was granted to be campus commission in January of 2012.

1. Bring members of GLBTQA community and others together through social events. Goal 2-7
2. Provide educational opportunities to promote a safe, welcoming and enriching climate for the GLBTQA community. Goal 2-6
3. Collaboratively plan with other University and community groups.
2012-13 Successes and Accomplishments

1. Super Gay Cabaret – September 21st 7:00pm
   a. New event for the Commission this year
   b. Raised awareness of our community/queer culture through song, dance, and laughter
   c. Knowledge is the first step towards acceptance!
   d. Fundraising event – approximately $1323 after expenses

2. Coming Out Day Luncheon – October 11th 12:00-1:00pm
   a. Connect with faculty, staff, and community
      i. Goal 2 pt 6 – Integrate cultural diversity…into the curriculum and campus life
      ii. Goal 2 pt 7 – Develop partnerships with the surrounding community around diversity and social justice initiatives
   b. Show strong support for students

3. Campus Change Team
   a. 1st time on change team as Commission
   b. Helping to address all aspects of goal 2

4. System-wide GLBT Meeting – Fri. Nov. 30th @ UMTC
   a. Members attended a meeting with representatives from GLBT areas from all the UM campuses
   b. Addressed many of the policies, procedures, and events that some campuses have
      i. Goal 2 pt 3 – Update, implement, and rigorously enforce all policies and procedures that advance cultural diversity
   c. Many ideas for next year (gender neutral bathrooms, housing, health care, curriculum)

5. Trans*formations Trainings
   a. Members of Commission attended trainings put on my student group Trans*formations for greater trans* awareness
      i. Goal 2 pt 8 – Enhance orientation programs and special training opportunities…that promote equity, diversity, and social justice.

6. Logo Contest
   a. Needed a logo for our Commission
      i. Fantastic new logo created by a student – March 14th, 2013
   b. Helped get our name out to the campus community
      i. Goal 2 pt 6

7. Facebook Page for the Commission
   a. Also helped spread our name, both to the campus and to the Duluth community
      i. Goal 2 pt 6 and 7

8. Events attended/sponsored
   a. 1 Billion Rising
b. The Main Club Documentary

c. V-Day

d. Report It

e. Fabulous Farewell

f. Coming Out Conference

g. Lobby Day at the Capital

  i. All these events show support in many different areas for diversity/social justice
  ii. Helped our commission become integrated with other groups on campus
  iii. Goal 2 pt 6

2013-14 Work

Events set: (more to be determined)

Coming out Day Luncheon

Super Gay Cabaret, if talent available

Overall goals for the coming year that support mission:

The commission plans to establish a faculty/staff GLBTQA mixer group to establish community on campus among staff and faculty. This will also help the commission become aware of GLBTQA issues that need to be addressed among the faculty and staff.

Continue to build better connection with QASU so we can be better equipped to address student GLBTQA issues and concerns

Co-sponsor other events from commissions and student groups. This includes approaching the idea of an event, symposium or series on “sexuality and spirituality”. We will likely be seeking co-sponsors for this idea.

Build bridges and connect with the outside Duluth GLBTQA community – particularly to create a partnership with Duluth Superior Pride. This partnership will help faculty, staff and students to get connected with the community and aim to improve retention of all.