PCLGBTI Student Town Hall Meeting

President’s Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues
February 24, 2011
Agenda

- Welcome from PCLGBTI
- President’s Welcome
- National Campus Climate Presentation
- Open Town Forum
- Adjourn
Welcome

Chair of President’s Commission on LGBT Issues

Tanner Wray – University Libraries
"The PCLGBTI is responsible for advising the President of the University of Maryland, College Park, and others in the campus administration, on issues of concern to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students, faculty, and staff. The Commission's responsibilities include recommending policies and programs to ensure that the campus is sensitive to the needs of the many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons who are part of the University community."
Acknowledgements
Town Hall Organizers

- Jamie Adasi
- Casey Anis
- Brooke Auxier
- Mark Brimhall-Vargas
- Natalia Cuadra-Saez
- JoJo Damiano
- Dan Hayes
- Penny Jacobs
- Craig Leets
- Andrea Marcin
- Shaunna Payne Gold
- Laura Scott
- Tanner Wray
- Hannah Wu
Dr. Wallace Loh
President
University of Maryland
Background

- In 2001 - Sue Rankin surveyed 30 colleges and universities (17,000 participants)
- LGBTQ population had the highest report of harassment
2003 LGBTQ National Campus Climate Survey

- LGBTQ students subjected to physical and psychological violence
- Historically disadvantaged groups experience the campus worse than historically advantaged groups
- Increase from 99 to 160 LGBTQ Centers or Offices
Moving Forward

We need to create conditions that all students, staff and faculty - no matter their sexual identity, gender identity, or other defining human characteristic-can flourish on college campuses

-George Kuh, Director for National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment
2010 National Campus Climate Survey - Campus Pride

- The most comprehensive national research study of its kind to date
- N = 5,149 students, faculty, staff, and administrators who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, & Queer
2010 National Campus Climate Survey - Campus Pride

- Respondents were:
  - 10% faculty, 21% staff, 7% administrators
  - 46% undergraduate students, 17% graduate students
  - 84% identified as non-heterosexual
  - Emphasis on Intersections of Identity
2010 National Campus Climate Survey - Campus Pride

- Safety on Campus
- Multiple Intersections of Identity
  - Gender Identity & Expression
  - LGBTQ People of Color
- Recruitment & Retention of LGBTQ People
- Potential Good Practices
2010 National Campus Climate Survey: Safety

LGBTQ respondents felt less comfortable and perceived greater physical violence on campus
2010 National Campus Climate Survey: Transgender Population

Transgender respondents were significantly less likely to feel comfortable with the overall campus and classroom climate.
2010 National Campus Climate Survey: Intersections

Findings suggest that the intersection of racism, heterosexism, and transgender oppression may increase bias crimes against LGBTQ people of color.
2010 National Campus Climate Survey: People of Color

More LGBTQ People of Color – and a larger number of Transgender People of Color – reported harassment due to their sexual orientation/gender identity as compared to their LGBTQ White counterparts.
UMD: Recruitment & Retention of LGBTQ Students

The One Project at UMD aims to successfully guide LGBTQQA students through their transition from high school to college.
Potential Good Practices

- Develop inclusive University policies
- Demonstrate institutional commitment
- Integrate LGBTQ issues and concerns in curricular and co-curricular education
- Respond appropriately to anti-LGBTQ incidents/bias
Potential Good Practices Continued

- Create safe spaces for student dialogues in on-campus housing
- Offer comprehensive counseling and healthcare
- Implement effective recruitment and retention efforts
Your Voice Matters: Town Hall Open Forum

- Interpreters
- Recording of Notes
- 2 minute comments
- Open and honest
- Results will be analyzed by the PCLGBTI
Topic: Campus Climate

- Do LGBTQ people feel safe on campus?
- Do LGBTQ people feel comfortable taking leadership positions and being their full selves?
- Is there visibility and representation?
- Do LGBTQ people feel supported?
Topic: Intersections of Identity

- What work needs to be done to support the various populations in the LGBTQ Community?
- Are forms, bathrooms, and policies inclusive of transgender and gender non-conforming people?
- Do we have mentoring programs or support systems for LGBTQ people of color?
Topic: Recruitment & Retention

- What should be in place to recruit, attract, and retain LGBTQ students?
- What issues do you feel need to be addressed?
- Are there policies in place to support you and make you feel safe?
Your Voice Matters: Town Hall Open Forum

- Anyone can come up and speak at anytime

- Other topics include: visibility, support systems, infrastructure (like MICA, Office of LGBT Equity, LGBT Studies), student organizations, activities, community issues, trainings, professional development, funding/resources, policies, programs, etc...
Thank you for your time and attendance

Please direct any further comments to Commission Chair Tanner Wray at <twarey@umd.edu> or fill out one of the feedback forms we have provided.

Visit our webpage:

president.umd.edu/PCLGBTI