NAU/Flagstaff LGBTQA Task Force Meeting

Comments from new members:

Did you feel engaged in the meeting: Yes, Yes

Do you feel able and willing to contribute to this project? If so, how do you best see yourself being involved?

I feel I can be better involved if given the opportunity. I look forward to the opportunity.

Yes, this was my first meeting but I think we can help with rapid HIV testing and counseling, outreach events and also education on safer sex practices, HIV and AIDS.

Do you have any comments/suggestions?

Not at this time.

Very well run meeting! Thank you.

Overview of meeting:

1. Introductions
   a. Two new members - Jessica Lum of North Country and Chris Duarte who has been on the listserv receiving information since fall though unable to attend meetings previously.

2. Updates
   a. Proposal process and President’s response
      i. Laura thanked members for their support and assistance with the proposal – reading the proposal and offering Arianne feedback.
      ii. President awarded ½ program coordinator and one 20 hour per week GA, Dean Stevenson is providing student space and an office yet to be determined in SBS. The task force is excited and grateful.
         1. The President has set out some expectations for strategic planning, program development, assessments and requested a proposal substantiating full time program coordinator at the end of next academic year.
   b. Hiring process.
      i. Salary $18,600 minimum – 20 hours per week, 10 month contract August 1, 2011 – May 31, 2012.
ii. The evaluation committee is awaiting electronic submission of applicant’s documents. Originally requested no later than Friday, July 8, 2011. Laura will contact applicants and ask them to submit today.

iii. Evaluation committee (faculty, staff, community member and students) to have recommendation to David by Monday, July 11, 2011.

iv. David to have letter of offer by Tuesday, July 12, 2011 along with other necessary paperwork submitted to HR.

3. Chris Gunn read the thank you letter crafted to be sent to the President. Task force members felt it ready to send on to the President. Laura will send via university mail.

4. Event planning updates
   a. Event committee agreed on National Coming Out Week activities and bringing the NAMES Project Quilt back to NAU for World AIDS Day. Some financial support commitment has been received and no cost spaces sought. Some event committee members will be meeting with other interested parties July 7, 2011 – students who worked on National Coming Out Day last year and a community volunteer
      i. National Coming Out Week activities
         1. Monday October 10, Cline – film – sponsored by College of Education
         2. Tuesday, October 11th, Cowden Hall (RA is a strong ally) – Guess Whose Gay Panel
         3. Wednesday, October 12th and Thursday, October 13th, SBS 110 – Coming Out Monologues – possible ticketed event to raise funds
         4. Friday, October 14th, Ashurst Hall – dance – will seek PRISM sponsorship
         5. Saturday, October 15th, Safe Zone Training TBD
      ii. World AIDS Day – NAMES Project Quilt and HIV testing
         1. Have talked with HLC and they are interested in hosting the Quilt, though not certain about space yet
         2. NAMES Project has only 7 part-time volunteer staff now. For showings of 20 or less blocks, no NAMES Project staff attends.
         3. Looking at cost of approximately $4000 - $2200 for 20 blocks of panels, $360 shipping to us, approximately same for us to ship panels back, possible space cost at HLC, advertising, other unidentified/unknown costs. Will seek funding from ASNAU.
         4. Testing during the day on Thursday, December 1, opening ceremony that evening, display open Friday and Saturday with closing ceremony Saturday night, December 3rd.
      iii. Task force event committee will work closely with Program Coordinator once they are on board.
5. By-laws review committee update.
   a. Committee will meet next week to collectively review by-laws of existing NAU Commissions. Goal is to be broadly inclusive and keep by-laws and commission structure simple.
      i. David cautioned members to remember that commissions are advisory only to the President.

6. Cher provided an update on Pride testing.
   a. Past high tested was 68.
   b. This year 108 were tested.
   c. Members who volunteered felt the day was a success. CCPSHD employees, North Country employees, task force members and several community members pulled together to provide the staff support Cher needed.

7. Toni gave an update on the progress of the proposal for the LGBTQA living, learning community.
   a. She will meet with the coordinator in a few weeks and intends to submit the proposal sometime in August though it is not officially due until November.
      i. Arianne Burford and Joe Wegwert have created the Quintet which will be a strong component of the proposal.
      ii. While most living learning communities are created for freshman only, Toni will propose that this community include all levels so that students can remain in a safe setting throughout their time at NAU.
      iii. Laura reminded Toni that the task force is here to assist her as she needs offering proof reading, editing, etc.

8. Cher provided information about a film that Jacque of NAHRBA will most likely purchase and would like to show in the Flagstaff area – Two Spirit.
   a. Toni and Vanessa reported they were already planning to do a vigil on November 20th transgendered remembrance day. The movie may be shown the week prior.

9. Cher announced an upcoming event with a 65 year old HIV+ man who has just done a cross country bike ride. He will be providing a motivational presentation at CCPHS on July 18th. All are invited. Cher will send flyer later today.

10. Laura and Nicole reported that several students will be meeting with Nancy Serenbetz, COE Development Officer, Neil Goodell of the Alumni Office and Laura to discuss the establishment of an LGBTQA alumni group/association.
    a. The president and founding member of the ASU Devil’s Pride is a current NAU COE master’s student and has offered his assistance in mentoring and advising and finding ways to connect our extended campus students to our mountain campus students.

11. *Ntouch news network will be running a piece on the three Arizona universities and what they offer LGBTQ students in August. We are grateful this article can now carry more about NAU than PRISM.
12. Chris Gunn acknowledged that the task force truly has something to celebrate.
13. The task force thanked David for standing with them through the year, guiding us well.
   a. David indicated that he has not seen anything come together like this in his years at NAU. We have done good work. And we will continue that work in the months ahead.

A shout out of gratitude to Peggy and Pat – it was through their research that the seed was planted from which this task force grew. Let us not forget they still support us.