

Minutes, General Body Meeting
Lambda Alliance – January 16, 2007

Welcome and Attendance

Brit – Path, Yana – J-Bagel, Tim- Allies, Kellyn, Malek- DLP and QPOC

Old Business

1. Advocacy – New issues??

Brit – application regarding NCAA program (no new updates)

Bob – admissions initiative discussed, refined, and reinvigorated...more focused and private meeting could help (Lex meeting with Dean later in January); faculty affiliate program – 29 have responded already; introduction of more LGBT-related courses; Trustees committee on diversity will be inviting student reps to their meeting in Feb.

2. Retreat debrief

Kevin – Minority groups leadership retreat, discussion of intercultural fund, future collaboration, monthly QPOC panel discussions... “queer and _____”, more programs currently being planned, discussion of application process for 35K

New Business

1. Intercultural fund application

Cliff – encourage group members to collaborate to gain access to funding, deadline is February 4th, after the deadline if excess funds...will be allocated on a rolling basis, email to interculturalfund@gmail

2. Graduate group admission

Cliff – gradual process, admitting groups, possibility of creating a graduate-specific position on the lambda alliance board...benefits: increase communication and collaboration, more focused advocacy on campus,

Malek – pursue process carefully, only one grad students position – problematic?,

Bob – other coalitions?

response: currently there are no other undergrad coalitions that admit graduate groups

Bob – in past there were LGBT leaders meetings, and the group was most effective when facing advocacy issues

PROS:

Lex – strengthen the LGBT community, collaboration, etc., mission of lambda alliance would not change, power dynamics would remain fairly constant

Kevin – during drafting of constitution – why graduate groups not admitted?

Cliff (Response) – exclusion would help the alliance form a strong coalition initially

CONS:

Cliff – potentially to create some instability, therefore gradually incorporating groups would help a smooth transition; also – what groups are currently interested? Lambda Law has shown interest, while Lambda Grads is currently restructuring its organization.

Kevin – potential for conflicts in interests, graduate students – history of spotty attendance; admit them on other conditions regarding attendance?

FUTURE SUGGESTIONS:

- contact graduate leaders to gauge interest
- hold graduate groups to similar standards regarding attendance
- pilot basis

3. Elections planning for January 30th

Lex – anybody in LGBT community, who is a member of a constituent group may run for a position, there are already candidates interested in all positions,

4. Website

Please send Ben links to constituent group websites

(Send mike a thank you e-mail and gift??)

5. QPenn Planning

- event planning/creation, as well as scheduling
- first meeting, next week...tbd
- Allies – coffeehouse or comedy night
- Brit – photography show of out athletes
- potential for QPenn to become SAC recognized

Open Forum

Malek – discussion of upcoming events, round table discussion

...QPOC January 25th, MLK Event, watching “Brother Outsider,” 4-7pm, @LGBT Center

...regarding retreat, QPOC sponsoring “queer and _____”, not limited to race

(professional, invisible, etc), getting speakers potentially

...DLP – chapter from Boston visiting, this weekend some events to take place

...mentoring program, help reduce gap between Penn and Philadelphia community at large

...February 17th, HRC event, scholarship event

Yana – program suggestion: high school event, leadership retreat

Tim – Freedom to Marry Day – February 12th, 12pm Cake Event @ Houston Hall, then at 6:30 pm speaker event – invited 3 same sex couples to speak (penn alumni)

Tim and Billy – Scheduling of general body meetings

QCF: bi weekly dinner, tomorrow at 6pm

QSA: welcome back quizzo, general body meeting to follow