

November 14, 2006 Minutes

1. Attendance/Welcome

Lex Ruby Howe, Lambda Alliance
Jon Kiman, Lambda Alliance
Ben Linder, Lambda Alliance
Cliff Jones, Lambda Alliance
Kevin Rurak, Lambda Alliance
Bob Schoenberg, LGBT Center
Ninah Harris, LGBT Center
David Wolf, Allies
Keandra Dodds, QPOC
Brittany Binler, PATH
Mark Crohn, Wharton Alliance
Yana Sigel, J-Bagel
Malek Lewis, DLP
Billy Hanafée, QSA
Rachel Tran, QCF

2. Old Business

- a. QPenn
 - 2nd QPenn planning meeting last week
 - Successful meeting
 - Theme discussed – Penn traditions using “The Red and the Q”
 - Modeling events after Penn traditions (i.e. Drink a QBall)
 - vote on a theme before winter break
 - Elections for board this Thursday at 6pm, LGBT Center
 - Send krurak@sas.upenn.edu self-nomination if you can’t attend
 - 7 board positions: 2 co-chairs, 2 supplement co-editors, finance chair, speakers chair, communications chair
- b. PATH
 - Britney: Met with UA Steering and lent full support
 - University Council meeting tomorrow
 - speaking at open forum at 4pm
- c. Sapphire Fund
 - Joint proposal between Lambda Alliance and LGBT Center for
 - Today’s LGBT student leaders are tomorrow’s LGBT community leaders
 - detailed leadership seminars and mentoring program
 - LGBT community leaders mentor LGBT student leaders
 - Asked for \$14,900
 - No news
 - November 10 was notification date – seemed too optimistic

- d. LGBT Conference Update
 - Keandra and Bob attended conference in Kansas City
 - Bob: Queer activists and allies
 - meetings and seminars of Consortium – Bob’s counterparts around country
 - discussed transgender issues
 - Penn ahead of many college campuses
 - Keandra: Learned about perspectives of other students
 - On panel for queer students of color in campus settings
 - “Town hall” type meetings at Penn discussed at conference
 - Photographer with exhibit on out athletes
 - Might come during QPenn – photographs and stories
 - Comes for free
- e. Leadership Retreat Feedback
 - Topic: Motivation and delegation
 - Positives
 - Bob: Great retreat and Elise Betz (moderator) did a great job
 - Keandra: Helpful to discuss issues of communication
 - Critique
 - Billy: Include underclassmen
 - Kevin: First retreat for upperclassmen and the only few active sophomores
 - Invite all years for next, “culture and community based” retreat
 - Future topics:
 - Keandra: Conflict resolution
 - Ninah: Recruiting and seeking constituency
 - anecdotes from students: response positive during first year from groups, but negative after first year
- f. LGBT Recruiting
 - Cliff: Meeting with undergraduate admissions officer of minority recruitment
 - Asking Penn to go to LGBT high schools to present
 - Meeting with Dean Stetson on 11/20

3. New Business

- a. Mental Health Awareness Group
 - Lex: Coalition of undergraduate student health groups forming for mental health issues
 - CAPS wants to understand student concerns from different communities
 - LGBT students often referred to center if CAPS unable to deal
 - non-clinical issues
 - Bob: Good relationship with CAPS

- Group sessions at CAPS
 - changes form/facilitators
 - mostly coming out support (not therapy) group
 - most sessions at caps are short-term 6-8 sessions
 - 1 or 2 LGBT groups this year
- LGBT mental health anecdotes:
 - Coming out, being out at Penn
 - Counselors to help with people dealing with sexuality and religion
 - Family life
 - Athletics
 - Substance abuse
 - gathering places often around alcohol and other drugs

b. World AIDS Day Collaboration

- Similar collaboration as National Coming Out Day?
- Bob: LGBT Center had 2 ideas
 - CHOP HIV program – interactive and not boring lecture-style about HIV and youth (up to age 23)
 - willing to work with any groups
- Billy: QSA – last year did HIV/AIDS awareness later in yr
 - want to re-launch w/alterations
 - general body meeting on 12/1 (day before)
 - jump-start for World AIDS Day
 - Passing out ribbons on Locust Walk and banner
 - Following week: discussion-style event
 - panel speaking about AIDS
 - 1 person (alum) w/HIV/AIDS to speak to sm. grp.
- David: Allies – Coffeehouse on 11/29 at 7pm
 - benefit Philadelphia Fight (funds possibly to youth branch)
 - co-sponsored by Penn AIDS awareness
- Bob: Lambda Grads – 12/1 social – raffle or charge
 - proceeds to St. Mary's Respite
- Ninah: I-LINKS event possibly on 12/2
- Flyer w/all events?
- Submit to Lambda and put together - Kevin

4. Open Forum

- QSA dance this Friday – 11pm-2am at LGBT Center