University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Trace: Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange

Commission for LGBT - Reports, Minutes, Events and Other Documents

Commission for LGBT People

12-1-2008

Minutes, 12/1/2008

The Commission for Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Transgender People at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Follow this and additional works at: http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_lgbtrepo

Part of the Gender and Sexuality Commons

Recommended Citation
The Commission for Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Transgender People at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, "Minutes, 12/1/2008" (2008). *Commission for LGBT - Reports, Minutes, Events and Other Documents.*
http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_lgbtrepo/17

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Commission for LGBT People at Trace: Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Commission for LGBT - Reports, Minutes, Events and Other Documents by an authorized administrator of Trace: Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange. For more information, please contact trace@utk.edu.

Minutes
Commission for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) People
December 1, 2008

Time: 12:00 PM
Place: Hodges Library, Room 605

Present: Joseph N. Anderson, Melissa Bartsch, Toby Boulet, Donna Braquet, Connie Briscoe, James DeVita, Ben Doty, Rusty Drummer, Lars Dzikus, Leslee Fisher, Erik Leander, Julie Lynch, Becky Morgan, Jenny Moshak, Dustin Nelson, Gina Owens, Lynn Sacco, Renee Smith, Meshia Thomas, Roger Weaver, Ed White

Call to Order: 12:00 PM

Old Business: None.

New Business:

A) Welcome
Minutes approved at 12:01 PM.

B) Report from the Chair
A week after the Commission's last meeting, Dr. Hoemann met with Chancellor Simek to discuss the Commission's concerns regarding complaint procedures. Dr. Hoemann felt the meeting was positive and hopes to have the complaint procedures amended early next year. Simek will be attending our first meeting on January 12th, 2009.

The Diversity Council will be revamping its membership. They are creating by-laws and establishing five open seats open to anyone on campus. This is being done due to concerns about the Diversity Council's lack of diversity.

James DeVita, Roger Weaver, and George Hoemann have read the proposal for an LGBT resource center. The Commission is concerned that the proposed location is not sufficiently handicap accessible. However, the location will provide excellent visibility.

B) Awards Committee
There has been no official word about reducing the number of awards available to the Commission.

C) Development Committee
The development committee has organized a plan to examine the policies of schools that have surpassed UTK in their efforts to create a better climate for the LGBT community.

E) The Equity Committee
Research assignments have been distributed for the project examining the availability of domestic partner benefits for employees of major businesses in the area.

The Tennessee Equality Project (http://www.tnep.org/) is sending out information for anyone who is interested in joining their e-mail list.

F) Resource Center Committee
The resource center committee met last week to identify their ideal resource center. They will likely meet next week to determine how this can be adapted to the space they expect to be allotted by the administration.

G) Voices of Diversity
Voices of Diversity attempts to augment the commission's goals by provide a way for LGBT students, faculty, staff, alumni and allies to share their experience with others. The goals of the project are to increase visibility, help LGBT students and faculty/staff realize they are not alone on campus, and develop a supportive learning environment for LGBT students.

Resources, including brochures and posters, are available on the web site (http://lgbt.utk.edu) for *anyone* who wants to help promote the project.

Members of the Commission are also encouraged to contribute their story to the project. This can be done in the form of writing or an audio interview. Contributors can also produce their own multimedia production. Resources for multimedia productions are available in Hodges Library.

Anonymous entries are accepted.

The communications committee and the Lambda Student Union will also be hosting the Breaking the Silence Film Festival on April 15th, 2009. The films will be student-created videos.

I) New Business
Lynn Sacco will be teaching a seminar for first-year students called 'Out at UT.' All students, however, are welcome to enroll in the seminar.

Adjournment: 12:58 PM