

Academic Senate of California State University, Long Beach

CLGBTQCC Annual Report

YEAR: 2014-2015

Name of Council: Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Campus Climate

Prepared by: Gabriel Estrada, CLGBTQCC Chair

Date: May 2015

Membership: Brown, Christopher (UP); Carbuto, Michael (SS); Cruz, Sharon (CHHS); Estrada, Gabriel (CLA); Griffith, Meghan (ES); Hagans, Kristi (CED); Nazarian-Peters, Anna (SLD); Perrone, Dina (CHHS); Span, Sherry (CLA); Sumpter, Kirsten (COTA); Tolbert, Tracy (CHHS); Vaca, Andrew (COTA); and Vournas, Logan (ASI)

Ex-Officio Membership: Freeseaman, Keith (University Ombuds); Hamada, Larisa (Director, Equity and Diversity); Genice Sarcedo (Title IX Investigator, Office of Equity and Diversity)

Membership Resignation: Cholakian, Shannon (left ASI); Hamada, Larisa (Director, Equity and Diversity, designated another); Levy, Dori (COTA, left for family health issue mid-Spring 2015); Perdue, Mary Beth (SLD, graduated in December 2014)

Membership Replacement: Logan Vournas (ASI Secretary for LGBTQI Affairs); Genice Sarcedo (Title IX Investigator, Office of Equity and Diversity)

Officers: Estrada, Gabriel Chair; Perrone, Dina Vice-Chair; Sumpter, Kirsten Secretary; Tolbert, Tracy Membership Coordinator

2014-2015 Committee Actions:

1) *Periodic Needs Assessment of LGBTQ Campus Climate—Campus Pride Index:* Initiated by Gabriel Estrada and coordinated by Larisa Hamada and Dina Perrone. The committee gathered annual data regarding the LGBTQ campus climate from multiple university offices to complete the Campus Pride Index (<http://www.campusprideindex.org>). The 2014-2015 CSULB Campus Pride Index scored an Overall 65% = 3.5 of 5 stars, a Sexual Orientation Score of 65% = 3.5 of 5 stars, and a Gender Expression Score of 63% = 3.5 of 5 stars. This is a 0.5 decrease on the overall 2013-2014 score of 4.0 of 5 stars and a 1.0 increase on the 2012-2013 score of 2.5 of 5 stars. From low to high, the eight category scores for the 2014-2015 Campus Pride Index are:

2014-2015 CSULB LGBTQ Recruitment & Retention Score: 40% = 2.5 of 5 Stars

2014-2015 CSULB LGBTQ Housing & Residence Life Score: 52% = 3 of 5 Stars

2014-2015 CSULB LGBTQ Policy Inclusion Score: 54% = 3 of 5 Stars

2014-2015 CSULB LGBTQ Support & Institutional Commitment Score: 60% = 3.5 of 5 Stars

2014-2015 CSULB LGBTQ Campus Safety Score: 70% = 4 of 5 Stars

2014-2015 CSULB LGBTQ Student Life Score: 71% = 4 of 5 Stars

2014-2015 CSULB LGBTQ Counseling & Health Score: 100% = 5 of 5 Stars

Low CSULB scores mark a need for: LGBTQ recruitment and retention; an LGBT-friendly housing theme floor and roommate matching; policy inclusion of transgender preferred names; a full-time staff member devoted to support LGBT student services; a visible procedure for reporting LGBT-bias incidents and safety issues; and LGBT leadership in sports, multicultural, and transgender Student Life.

2) *LGBTQ Student Initiative*: The sub-committee comprised of Sherry Span, Kristi Hagans, Andy Vaca, Kirstyn Chun, and Neil Hultgren completed the request for the Division of Student Life and Development to create an LGBTQ Student Initiative and affinity team to enhance the Division's interest in supporting the academic, personal, and professional success of our LGBTQ students. The initiative outlines crisis situations in LGBTQ student retention, harassment, homelessness, suicide, mental health, sexual health, and substance abuse. It notes a need for the hiring of a full-time LGBTQ student services staff to organize and coordinate retention programs and sustained co-curricular programming that specifically support LGBTQ student retention, academic success, graduation rates, student development, and safety. Gabriel Estrada presented the CLGBTQCC request for an LGBTQ Student Initiative to VP Carmen Taylor. VP Carmen Taylor stated that she would reply to the initiative request in Spring 2015. The Office of the Chancellor confirmed that an LGBTQ initiative is CSU campus-specific and is approved and funded through VP Carmen Taylor's office; the CLGBTQCC awaits her response.

3) *Letter to President Jane C. Conoley*: Dina Perrone drafted a CLGBTQCC-supported letter sent to President Conoley via the Academic Senate. The letter outlines the LGBTQ campus climate needs for an LGBTQ Student Initiative within the Division of Student Services at CSULB to support the success of LGBTQ students. The letter requests: program development to retain and recruit LGBTQ students; a full-time LGBTQ Resource Center coordinator to oversee LGBTQ student campus life; an LGBTQ Bias Response Teams (BRT) on university campuses; and the full-funding and institutionalization of the Safe Zone ally training for faculty, staff, administrators, student leaders, police/campus safety officers, and athletics to increase awareness and sensitivity to LGBTQ-related issues at CSULB.

4) *Preferred Name and LGBTQ Demographic Data Collection*: With consultation from CLGBTQCC, Kevin Clinton (student guest) gained support from ASI senators James Allan and Joanna Salgada to pass both Senate Resolution # 2015-20 to support a preferred names policy for CSULB and Senate Resolution # 2015-21 to support the addition of a multiple options field to the Student Intent to Enroll Form to include sexual orientation (i.e., gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer, heterosexual) and gender identity (i.e., transgender, gender non-conforming, gender-queer). President Conoley and CSULB Administration will decide the policy outcomes of these two resolutions.

2015-2016 CLGBTQCC Action Items include:

- a. sharing the 2014-2015 Campus Pride Index with campus contacts and media;
- b. communicating with VP Carmen Taylor regarding the LGBTQ Student Initiative;
- c. facilitating the implementation of the preferred name and LGBTQ demographic data collection policies;
- d. advocating for the hire of a full-time LGBTQ Resource Center Staff;
- e. acquiring a CSULB LGBTQ Bias Response Teams (BRT);
- f. funding Safe Zone;
- g. following up on areas of need highlighted in the Campus Pride Index; and
- h. collating new data to identify additional areas of need for LGBTQ faculty, staff, & students.