

**Commission for LGBT People**  
*Meeting Minutes*  
May 7, 2018

Attendance: Jennifer Jabson, Danielle Burton, Nancy Thacker, Mary Virginia Ireland, Bonnie Benson-Palmgren, Cody Harrison, Denise Gardner, Michael Porter, Mistunori Misawa, Julie Rose, Tatiana Messersmith, Bonnie Johnson, Stephanie Langley, Diane Goble, Jenny Richter, Joe Miles, Eric Carr

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Distribution of Chancellor's Awards plaques
  - a. Danielle Burton: LGBT Student Leadership Award
  - b. Tatiana Leavitt Messersmith: LGBT Advocate Award
- IV. Voting for 2018-2019 Commission co-chairs
  - a. Review of co-chair candidates' biographies.
  - b. Discussion of candidates.
  - c. Voting.
  - d. Unanimous vote in support for Drs. Mitsunori Misawa and Joel Anderson to serve as the CFLGBT 2018-19 co-chairs.
- V. Thank you to commissioners from Jennifer Jabson
- VI. Updates from committees
  - a. Membership and Awards. Cody Harrison reported the committee is reviewing membership applications for 2018-19. Update on the LGBT Database: we have shifted language in our database application to clarify limits to confidentiality.
  - b. Equity and Climate. Michael Porter reported the LGBTQ Health Equity Symposium was very successful. 75 people attended. There was rigorous discussion about potential for a LGBTQ Health Center, and attendees heard from many leaders in the community. Community members reported feeling validated, seen, and heard.
    - i. Jennifer Jabson reported they are still downloading program evaluations to inform next steps. Jennifer had a conversation with the chief medical officer of Cherokee Health Systems to discuss their interest in developing a LGBTQ Health Center, including a center for research and training, within their organization. Positively Living also contacted Jennifer about partnering to develop a center. Jennifer offered to report on their data at the first CFLGBT meeting in the fall.
  - c. Communications and Alumni. No new reports.
  - d. Transgender & Non-binary. Bonnie Benson-Palmgren reported the restroom signage report has been put on hold with recent changes in University leadership. They will continue to work on the report through the summer and hope to submit

a report at a later date to our new leadership. They still need to visit 25 restroom locations.

- i. Danielle Burton reported the South College building has made changes to two restrooms.
- e. Pride Center. Bonnie Johnson reported 80 people attended the Lavendar Graduation. Dr. Davenport attended and gifted the Pride Center with new art. As of right now, plans are still moving forward for the center to move into Phase II of the Student Union next year. Bonnie encouraged commissioners to stop by the Pride Center this summer. She also reported the first safe-zone advisory meeting will occur today.

VII. Discussions about changes in University leadership.

- a. Commissioners discussed student responses and impacts on incoming student population.
- b. Commissioners discussed our need to continue advocating and working for equity. There is evidence that we have and will continue to make an impact.
- c. Commissioners discussed collaborating with multiple groups on campus next year.
- d. Commissioners discussed the Pride Center with concern surrounding sources of funding and the Pride Center's planned move to the Student Union. Bonnie Johnson provided updates on the endowment and fundraising efforts.
  - i. Commissioners suggested the CFLGBT should construct a welcome letter to the interim Chancellor.
  - ii. Jennifer Jabson noted our annual report will include priorities and suggestions, which will be submitted to the interim Chancellor this summer.
- e. Commissioners discussed the need to begin preparing for the impending Chancellor search to ensure we have input in selection. Commissioners conversed about communicating with the incoming Provost as well.
- f. Danielle Burton reported the co-chairs are collaborating with the other Commissions and Council co-chairs to write a thank-you letter to Dr. Davenport.

VIII. Closing thanks and well wishes.

IX. Adjourn