



## **The Chancellor's Commission for LGBT People**

### *Meeting Minutes*

May 3, 2021

Attendance: Dr. Mitsunori Misawa, Addie Welch, Tom Cervone, Jeremy Gilbert, Laura Bryant, Kristen Gonzalez, Ronda Wright, Jill Malolepszy, Tyler Lewelling, Will Martinez, Stephanie Langley, Casey Darby, Matt Blaylock, Christa Gloster, Tammy Renalds, Corinne Tandy, Joseph Winberry, Jeremy Mobley, Kristen Wyckoff, Judi Gibbons, Sarah Browning, Diane Kelley, Kristen Gonzalez, Skye Lee, Merrill Walker, Kelley Kain, Janelle Coleman, Jordan Murphy, Kristen Desselle, Yasja Hemmings, Lori Smith, Rachel Carretta, Kim McCulloch

- I. Introduction
  - A. Dr. Misawa welcomed Commission members to the meeting.
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Meeting minutes were approved from the April 5th meeting.
- III. Updates from the Chair
  - A. Dr. Misawa highlighted several upcoming initiatives that he has been a part of as Commission Chair. He's been involved in the creation process of a faculty mentoring taskforce and a LGBTQ+ reading group for faculty and graduate students.
  - B. He also shared that he has been asked by the Vice Provost's office to participate in discussions about improving inclusivity in hiring practices for the University. The group is working on updating the Faculty handbook to include gender inclusive language and hopes that updated materials will be available by the fall semester.
- IV. Subcommittee Updates
  - A. Communications and Alumni
    1. Tyler Lewelling updated that the resource list was updated and sent to Addie to be added to the Commission website. He thanked members for contributing to the list.
  - B. Equity and Climate
    1. No updates at this time from Commission
  - C. Membership and Awards
    1. No updates at this time for the Commission.
  - D. Transgender and Non-Binary Issues
    1. The group is submitting the Living Learning Community proposal for LGBTQ, Intersectionality, and Social Justice today or tomorrow. The group is incorporating an educational component as well as the new living community.

The group is proposing to have a designated peer mentor to live on the hall to be a supportive role in everyday life and in critical needs and increases Peer to peer mentorship in the residence halls. We will ask peer mentors to go through Safe Zone training. The group believes that this peer mentor will serve as an important figure to have for incoming, first-year students. There is also interest in having these peer mentors serve on the Commission.

E. Updates from other Groups

1. Will from Pride Center updated the group that the Pride Center is giving away “Vol Means All” t-shirts in the Pride Center, Pride Center summer reading group, and opportunities for Commission members to become SafeZone training facilitators.

V. Membership AY 20/21

- A. Dr. Misawa asked that all subcommittee chairs submit a paragraph to Dr. Misawa of their accomplishments during this past year to add to the Commission’s Impact Summary and annual report to be sent to the Division for Diversity and Engagement and the Chancellor’s Office.
- B. Dr. Misawa reminded all Commission members that they have to reapply for Commission membership for AY 21/22. The applications are due by May 21st. This will be the first year that all the Commissions are using a common membership application and there will be a secondary application sent out to assign subcommittees.
- C. Dr. Misawa informed Commission members that he had been nominated and is willing to serve as Commission Chair for another academic year but encouraged members to nominate others or self-nominate if they are interested in serving as a Chair for the Commission. Two members will be able to serve as Co-Chairs if interest allows.
- D. Dr. Misawa thanked members for a great year and wished everyone a happy and healthy summer.

VI. **The next meeting will be held at the beginning of the Fall semester on Monday September 6th at noon.**