

The Student Affairs Diversity Council (SADC) strives to cultivate an environment that embraces and promotes the broad scope of diversity within the division.

Students find support at the LGBT Resource Center

The LGBTQ Resource Center is a unique model in how it provides student services because it has two faces like that of a coin. There is the primary institutional (or “mission statement”) face of the center that seeks to educate and provide resources for the campus and nearby community. The other, often unseen, side is that it draws LGBTQ students and allies. It acts as a place that allows students to come by and recharge their batteries without feeling any of the stresses they might face in other places on campus.

The LGBTQ Center performs simple acts such as Fabulous Fridays where anyone can come up to break bread and feel the spirit of community at the end of the school or work week. Another program called Queer Peers allows anyone to mail in any questions without fear of embarrassment. These things, along with others, are what make the Center the truly safe and welcoming place it seeks to be. It is

a place you can relax and meet some really great people. The side of the Center that advocates with events and programs, such as Safe Zone or Speaker’s Bureau, brings new allies and individuals into the community that we try to provide. The trips that students make up to the Center might be the one opportunity they have on campus to go

someplace and talk openly without worrying about who is listening or recrimination. This is sometimes difficult to facilitate as a staff member at the Center because you are worried about whose feelings might be hurt or if the campus environment feels the Center may be too unorthodox. Despite these challenges, the student volunteers and staff members are bold enough to keep championing this special, free-speech environment where students and community members are able to discuss hot-topics. These

conversations might otherwise go unmentioned without the open-mindedness of spaces like the LGBTQ Resource Center.

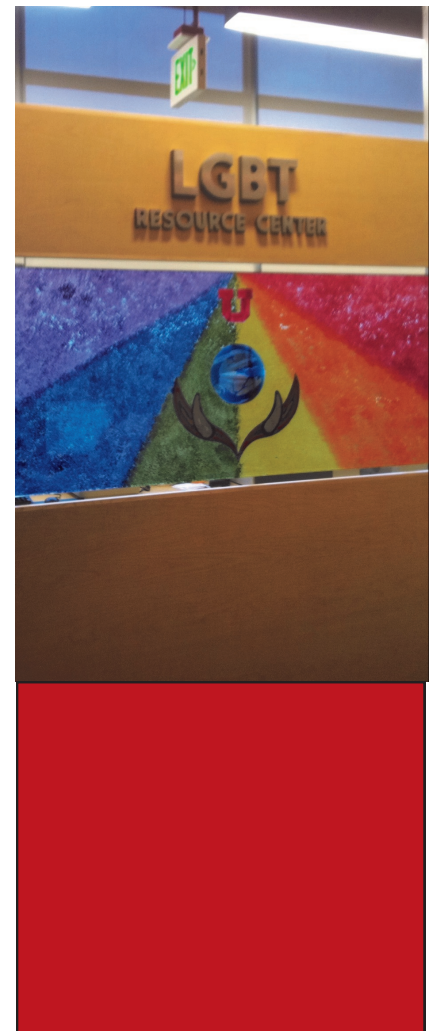
When I was a staff member coordinating the Safe Zone program and serving as a student volunteer, I became friends with a student named Connor. He first heard about the Center when he and his friend Kat met another student named Hans while buying books at the bookstore.

They came up to the Center which at that time was in the CORC room since it was being renovated. The first time he walked in the Center, he was introduced to Kai, other staff members, and students. He spoke with me about learning that there was a place specifically tailored to LGBTQ student needs. He compared it to the student lounge in the



the positive personal stories that I hear are what sustain my commitment to the Center

SAI SAMINENI



Pride Week 2012: Pride Has No Borders

Pride Week, sponsored by the LGBT Resource Center, is October 1-5 and the campus community is invited to participate. Events include Gay Bingo, the Pride Pet Pageant, a Drag Show, a Wellness Fair, Safe Zone Training, a screening and panel discussion of the documentary “Gender Blender”, a Night of Spoken Word, the LGTRC 10th anniversary social, and the annual Gay-La.

For more information on Pride Week activities, please visit: <http://lgbt.utah.edu>

Students find support at the LGBT Resource cont...



UNDERSTANDING DIVERSITY SEMINAR SERIES

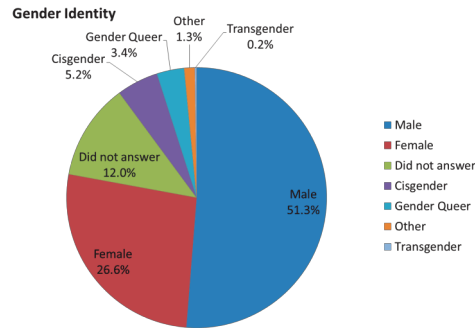
OCTOBER

Parent Rejection of LGBT Adolescents: Current Research & Interventions

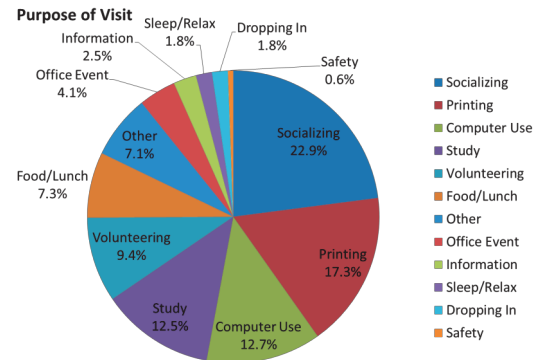
“How family responses to an LGBT adolescent affect those young people’s health and well-being. This talk includes data from several studies, as well as a showing of a film-based intervention we have developed to help guide families when a child comes out (www.leadwithlovefilm.com). Given that the college-years are a time when many people choose to come out to their parents, this is a topic of interest to student affairs professionals.”

Wednesday, October 17th
12:00 PM—1:30 PM
Den, Union

Presented by:
David Huebner, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
University of Utah



Students visiting LCBTRC
2011-2012



music building and contrasted it to the Center’s space which made him feel like he fit in more and felt completely welcomed. Connor hasn’t looked back and keeps coming to the Center because “it is a place I can come to unwind.” Connor’s story and the themes within his story are typical when you ask many students why they keep coming to the Center. I think these two faces of the Center and all of the positive

TOP 10 TIPS TO BETTER SERVE LGBTQ STUDENTS

Attend a Safe Zone Training. These training have an LGBTQ focus, but in a larger scope the goal is to help staff members and students become more inclusive and mindful of the diversity in the student experiences around them.

Don’t treat a student or individual differently after you learn about their orientation. Individuals and students are more than the sum of who they have relationships with and deserve to be treated as such.

Use inclusive language in all environments, not just when you think there is an LGBTQ oriented person around you. This can be something as simple as referring to your significant other or partner rather than husband or wife. This shows students who are observing you that you have an awareness of how to be inclusive and might make them more comfortable with you.

Try to attain an “I-Thou” instead of an “I-It” relationship with the students you serve whether they are LGBTQ individuals or students in general: while the main prerogative of staff and faculty members is to provide academic or other services in an “I-It” framework, students appreciate it when staff members can go beyond these boundaries

and work to show care and respect that is typical of an “I-Thou” relationship.

Don’t be afraid to seek more information from the LGBT Resource Center: staff and faculty members might be in situations where they don’t have enough information or experience to meet the needs of an LGBTQ student.

If you hear disparaging comments about the LGBTQ community, don’t ignore it: You are responsible as a staff or faculty member to sustain and promote a safe environment in your vicinity at all places and times on campus. Remember—educational moments happen constantly. Two students were speaking derisively about a lesbian student before class. The professor took the opportunity to let them know that is not acceptable. The professor exerted her position of authority to make the classroom environment safe again. An LGBTQ student or potential ally will recognize that this classroom is a safe zone on campus.

Setting forth expectations at the beginning of the semester and making some statement that shows your commitment to inclusivity: While there are many to-do items that staff and faculty have to get through during syllabus week, it is important

EVENTS



- ◆ Gay Bingo
Oct. 1, 7-9pm
Union Saltair Room
- ◆ Gender Blender:
Documentary and panel
discussion,
Oct. 2, 5-7pm
Peterson Heritage Ctr
1A / 1B
- ◆ Night of Spoken Word
Oct. 2, 7:30-9:30pm
Babcock Theater
- ◆ LGBT Wellness Fair
Oct. 3, 10-2pm
Field House
- ◆ LGTRC 10th anniversary
social
Oct. 3, 3-5pm
Union 409
- ◆ Geography club
Oct. 3, 7:30-10pm
Studio 115
- ◆ Panel: "Pride has no
Borders: Immigration"
Oct. 4, 10:45-12pm
Hinckley Institute
- ◆ Drag show, Oct. 4, 7-10pm
Sugar Space
616 Wilmington Ave
- ◆ Safe Zone Training
Oct. 5, 9-12pm
- ◆ Pet Pageant
Oct. 5
12:30-2pm
Union Patio
- ◆ Annual Gay-La,
Oct. 5, 6-9pm
Jewish Community Ctr
- ◆ Student Affairs Diversity
Seminar: Parent Rejection of
LGBT Adolescents: Current
Research & Interventions
Oct 17, 12-1:30pm
Union Den
- ◆ Dr. Michael Kimmel
Oct 24, 12-1:30pm
Union Pano East

Dr. Michael Kimmel

Wednesday, October 24

12:00 – 1:00pm

Pano East, Union



Dr. Michael Kimmel is among the leading researchers and writers on men and masculinity in the world today. The author of *The Guy's Guide to Feminism, Manhood in America* and numerous articles on masculinity, men's lives and gender, will speak on his interviews with over 400 young men, ages 16-24 which formed the background for *Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men* (2005).

Sponsored by: Student Affairs Diversity Council, Gender Studies, Honors College, Center for Student Wellness, Women's Resource Center, Tanner Humanities Center, Tanner Center for Nonviolent Human Rights Advocacy, Sociology Department

TOP 10 TIPS TO BETTER SERVE LGBT STUDENTS cont...

to make sure to take a moment to welcome, value, and show respect towards all of your students. This might be the LGBTQ students or a student with different genders, disabilities, or ethnicities. It is the responsibility of the staff or faculty member to identify the – isms that might arise. This could be as simple as having only 2 or 3 female students in an overwhelmingly male (*cough* *cough* computer science) classroom.

Bring up Pride Week or other events on campus that promote inclusiveness: This can be an LGBTQ sponsored event or a workshop that the Women's Resource Center does about the U's usage of the drum and feather. Some staff and faculty might feel this is off-topic, but by setting an example to students that you are aware of the campus community causes them to feel more comfortable around you.

Take responsibility for the impact of your actions and any effects borne out of

inexperience: Staff or faculty members are sometimes very enthusiastic about promoting the mission of the Center and being good allies, but I think they forget that the individuals they work with have human feelings. As one student said, "If you make oop-sy, don't try to turn it into a joke or brush the incident away." Students evaluate the integrity of staff or faculty members based on how much responsibility they take towards their conduct.

Finally, check your PRIVILEGE: privilege is a very complex issue to understand, but is pervasive enough in our society that it is imperative that staff and faculty members constantly strive to see the immediate and long-term impact of utilizing their personal privilege. This can start as broad as being aware of gender privilege and becoming more nuanced as staff and faculty members gain experience in being in tune to their privilege.



For more information and
recourses, please visit:
sadc.utah.edu

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