

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

## Reflection: Opportunity To Learn and Grow



By Cody Garrison  
Housing & Residential Education

Attending the SADC workshops, discussions, and trainings allowed me to continue to develop professionally and personally. The discussions on sexual orientation and gender expression impacted me the most as they allowed me to further understand my sexual orientation and become more comfortable with myself and living as a queer man. The discussions and trainings in which we disclosed our identities, taught and reminded me how to better appreciate myself and others of my community. Through this continued learning, I am more equipped to support students who are experiencing marginalizing and oppression based on their sexual orientation and/or gender expression.

The unfortunate reality of institutional oppression and marginalization exists, and I can be a better support

and advocate for students in which I can validate experiences and motivate change to better support students who experience discrimination.

In order to capture my experience with discovering who I am, I created a short poem.

### Proud

Suppressed by southern mentality and ideology.  
A prisoner of four cramped walls,  
smothered by inmates of low lying shirts.  
Trapped with no sign of natural light.  
A place of mystery and fear.  
Suffocation, isolation, petrification.  
Bigotry shrieking outside the walls.  
Violator of natural law, deviant of normalized ideals.  
Fear masked by religion, the reason to oppress.  
Confusion, frustration, irritation.  
Dehumanized to comply.  
Equal rights only to the superiors,  
outcasts in a nation meant to protect.  
Constructed to assimilate to heteronormativity,  
forced to maintain a straight line.  
Contemplation, inquisition, exhaustion.  
Years of wandering, searching for existence.  
Relinquish into acceptance, fight against commonality.  
A faint light appears.  
Understand, assent, relief.  
Societal expectations no longer a reason  
to retire into darkness.  
Breaching the door with the rainbow waving behind.  
A rite of passage proud to undertake.  
Finally free to be me.

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I appreciated the SADC experience and the opportunity to learn and grow personally and professionally. Social justice education is crucial in becoming better change agents, educators, and supporters for students, faculty, and staff who experience discriminatory environments. All employees at the University of Utah should attend the SADC workshops, trainings, and discussion in order to become more accepting and understanding of others and to better support individuals who experience marginalization and discrimination daily.



## Beyond The Oscars: A Look At Racial Diversity

This year's Oscars flap over the whiteness of the acting nominees has Hollywood buzzing about its "diversity problem." The spotlight first fell on the Academy, a group whose demographics have been woefully out of step with the American public. Yet the conversation quickly moved on to what many call the real problem – films starring people of color aren't getting made in the first place. With minorities now making up 38% of the U.S. population, and an even higher percentage of the movie-going public, some say the industry ignores diversity at its own peril.

Listen now at [thedianerehmshow.com](http://thedianerehmshow.com).

# TED TALKS



## [Ivan Coyote: Why we need gender-neutral bathrooms](#)

There are a few things that we all need: fresh air, water, food, shelter, love ... and a safe place to pee. For trans people who don't fit neatly into the gender binary, public restrooms are a major source of anxiety and the place where they are most likely to be questioned or harassed. In this poetically rhythmic talk, Ivan Coyote grapples with complex and intensely personal issues of gender identity and highlights the need for gender-neutral bathrooms in all public places.



## [Dalia Mogahed: What do you think when you look at me?](#)

When you look at Muslim scholar Dalia Mogahed, what do you see: a woman of faith? a scholar, a mom, a sister? or an oppressed, brainwashed, potential terrorist? In this personal, powerful talk, Mogahed asks us, in this polarizing time, to fight negative perceptions of her faith in the media — and to choose empathy over prejudice.

# Upcoming University and Community Events



**April 6 @ 6-8pm**

**Bystander Intervention Training**  
Union [[more info and to register](#)]



**April 7 @ 6:30-9pm**

**Gen Silent—Film Screening & Conversation on LGBTQ Aging, SLC Public Library** [[more info and reserve free seats](#)]

**April 19 @ 11am-1pm**

**Bystander Intervention Training**  
Union [[more info and to register](#)]

# Upcoming April Seminar Series



## Women's Enrollment Initiative

**Nedra Hotchkins**, Women's Resource Center

**Wednesday, April 20, 2016**

12:00-1:30pm in Pano East, Union

Read more information about this and other seminars on the [SADC website](#).

# Upcoming April Diversity Modules

## Module 2: Exploring Power, Bias, & Values

Wed., April 6th 9-11am in Union 312

## Module 3: Putting It All Together—Dialoging About Social Justice

Thurs., April 7th 9-11am in Union Den

To sign up for one or more of these modules, please use our [online form](#).



Debra Daniels, Co-chair Women's Resource Center  
Rob Davies, Co-chair Student Development  
Chris Anderson, Housing & Residential Education  
Michael Bard, Registrar's Office  
Stephanie Charles, Financial Aid  
Branden Dalley, Union Administration  
Marci Healy, Conference & Guest Services  
Matt McCarthy, Campus Recreation  
Nomani Satuala, Center for New Students & Family Programs  
Kassy Keen, Center for Student Wellness

Chris Macias, TRIO  
Carol MacNicholl, Center for Disability Services  
Kai Medina-Martinez, LGBT Center  
Sana Muller, ASUU  
Duane Padilla, Housing & Residential Education  
Rachana Patel, Office of Admissions  
Damien Pitts, Career Services  
Nick Robbins, Dean of Students Office  
Belinda Otukolo Saltiban, Office of Inclusive Excellence  
Bryce Williams, Bennon Center