

LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Caucus Meeting – Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 9 a.m.

[Secretary was late due to prio appointment; the first 15 minutes of the meeting are not captured in this document]

Alexandra Chiasson – Grad Rep Update

- Grad support group has kicked off – it's not too late to join! We'd love your thoughts on how to direct the group, initiatives to pursue, etc.
- Matt had an idea to create a digital flyer with campus/community resources for new graduate students
 - o Healthcare, community friendly businesses, etc.
- Will be a great resource to help support students, especially those coming from a different area of the states/internationally (big culture shift)
- Committee will be meeting via Zoom next week; contact Alexandra for the invitation

Wes Heath, PhD – OMA Update

- Planning to have a physically distant Lavender Graduation on May 5
 - o Location TBD – somewhere large
 - o Will still be cording folks but no reception
 - o Will be providing goody bags for the graduates
 - o Also partnering with the LSU LGBTQ+ Alumni group for the event
- Office of Diversity hosting a Chat & Chew next Thursday re: diversity; also hosting a tie dye event later this month!
- 7th Safe Space training starting next week – done about 50 so far this year

Chris Barrett – Shoutout to the online offering of the Safe Space training. The program is amazing and translates perfectly to the digital space.

- Shout outs to Savannah for leading the charge on the Moodle course

Laurie Braden – Props to West for hosting a Safe Space training for the URec staff. Staff really enjoyed the program and it was a great experience for everyone.

Sam Baldrige – Secretary Update

- Continuing to work with the folks at the Special Collections regarding our digital files; will update once the project moves further!
- Reminder, meeting agendas and meeting minutes will be posted to the caucus website following meetings
- Social committee update – we are working with the URec to schedule a yoga class (Date TBD/expected in April); also planning a caucus picnic for May

Bill Mattera – there's a student request for a faculty member to sit on their thesis committee regarding LGBTQ+ youth and homelessness. Please reach out to Bill if you're interested/available

Open Floor:

- **Kathryn Saichuk** – watched a great documentary called “Crip Camp” regarding mentally and physically disabled folks and the challenges they face. Highly recommended viewing!
- **SL Ziegler** – Question regarding the Safe Space trainings – what is impacting the high number of registrations? Very excited to see that numbers are so high!
 - o **Wes Heath**: More folks are trying to take the course after the pandemic break, folks from our other campuses are registering, more students are able to take it since it’s self-guided, and since there’s no registration cap more folks are able to register
- **Cat Jacquet** – would like more information about Savannah’s precious dog!
 - o **Savannah** – his name is Louie Andouille and he’s six months old today!

Meeting Adjourned at 9:28 a.m. by Bill Mattera