UWM Chancellor’s Advisory Committee for LGBT+ Advocacy Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 1, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
Chapman Hall Regents Room

Present: Cary Costello, Tom Walker, Belinda Ricco, Amanda Springob, Michael Laliberte, Jeff Guenther, Sarah Terry, Kate Nelson, Jerry Becker, Paula Rhyner, Carl Bogner, Karen Wolfert, Kevin O’Connor, Katie Rose, Angela McManaman, Tony Horne

I. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

II. Automatic Consent
   A motion to adopt the agenda was approved at 9:07 a.m.

III. Introductions

IV. Approval of September 2015 Meeting Minutes: 9:10 am

V. New Business (10 Minutes)
   A. Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival Update (Carl): The Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival organizers are still developing materials, and the film festival schedule is on the website. The film “From This Day Forward” will be shown on October 15th at Oriental Theatre. The film’s director Sharon Shattuck and her father will be there for the opening event. Carl is checking on the availability of a brochure. Passes are available, and the Union Cinema film screenings will be free to students.

   B. Introduction of new student representatives (Jeff, student reps): Amanda Springob will serve as a new student representative. Amanda mentioned that she will be speaking about her personal life story at TEDx this weekend. The TEDx event will be running on October 3rd in Wisconsin Room from 1pm to 7pm. Amanda mentioned that there will be 14 speakers and that her speech will be second to last. Tickets will cost $10 for UWM community members and $20 for the public.

   C. Co-chair election (Jeff and/or Jen): Jeff reported that Jen will be here for next month’s meeting. Jeff said that today we should discuss Co-chair elections which may start in December. The group discussed the logistics issues that will come up if both Co-chairs change at the same time, given that it takes time for new Co-chairs to get familiar with their roles and responsibilities. The group discussed the options of holding elections for one position in December with a January appointment and the second election in May with a September appointment. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to hold one election in December 2015 for a January 2016 (one-year) appointment and a second election in May 2016 for a September 2016 (one-year) appointment. Michael agreed to collect nominations for the elections. Jeff agreed to check with Christine Adams-Matt to see if she has a copy of our charter. If Christine does not have a charter on file, then we can develop one. The group also agreed to further discuss the length of Co-chair appointments.
VII. Old Business (30 Minutes)
A. Appointment letters (Jeff): Jeff said that we are still waiting to hear from the Provost’s office regarding committee member appointment letters. Jeff reported that we should expect to receive the letters in the next few weeks either by mail or in person.

B. Delegation of 2015-16 projects (Jeff and/or Jen)
  i. IRB gender- and sexuality-inclusive language guidelines:
  Jen reported that Lance Weinhardt from the Zilber School of Public Health can assist with the IRB gender- and sexuality-inclusive language guidelines. Kate, Cary, and Shannon have expressed interest in assisting with this.

  ii. Syllabus language:
  Jeff reported that the Provost has received the proposal documents, and we are now waiting to hear back.

  iii. Ally of the Year Award:
  Jeff reported that the Ally of the Year Award online nomination form is now included on our committee website: http://uwm.edu/lgbtadvisory/award/. Jeff shared that a request was submitted to put the award information directly on the front page of our website. A doodle poll will be distributed shortly to determine when the Ally of the Year Award group will meet to solidify selection/nominee review criteria. Katie, Kate, Carl, Kevin, and Angela have expressed interest in assisting with this project.

  iv. Expanding department trainings:
  Jeff mentioned that UITS has expressed interest in receiving training, and that they are unsure if whether their unit has participated in the training in the past. Sarah, Scott, and Paula expressed interest in helping with expanding trainings into academic departments.

C. Recap of September 2015 First Friday:
Jeff reported that the turnout overall was good with about 50 people in attendance. Jeff mentioned that although the pledge cards were explained thoroughly, only three people chose to fill them out. The group guessed that because the event was late in the day at the end of the week and near the end of Fall Welcome, attendees were likely tired and wanted to focus more on paying attention to the ceremony and enjoying the social reception. The event included a brief ceremony highlighting the achievements of the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee for LGBT+ Advocacy, the LGBT Resource Center, and the Military and Veterans Resource Center. In regards to the CACLBGT+A content, achievements listed included the 20th anniversary, the Ally of the Year Award, top 50 list, and the name-in-use change. The event also included food, cash bar, and a social reception. The event was held in the Fireside Lounge rather than the Union Terrace space for cost-saving reasons. Several members mentioned that the Fireside Lounge has a good atmosphere for social receptions, but is a little more difficult to locate within the Student Union. The group discussed the possibility of holding the event in other buildings on campus in the future such as the Zelazo Center, the Northwest Quad, or in the Architecture and Urban Planning building.

D. UWM delegation at Big Night Out on 10/10/15:
Thank you to Mark Mone and Joan Prince for covering the cost of a UWM sponsorship table. UWM representation at our table will include Jeff, Jen, Megan, Jay, Sarah DeGeorge, Jared, and
E. Update: UW System application question: 
Update on gender question: The UW System provosts approved a change to the UW System common application gender question. This will likely be implemented for students enrolling for fall 2017. The language change will include two questions: Question A asks what is on your birth certificate: Male or Female. Question B asks about how a person identifies based on the following options: Male, Female, Trans*, Transgender, Gender Identity not listed, or Prefer not to answer. Students will be required to answer Question A (federal requirement), whereas answering Question B will be optional.

IX. Announcements (5 Minutes)
A. LGBT Film Festival 10/15/15-10/25/15: See Carl’s announcement above.

B. If you would like to be added to the UWM Caucus email list, please let Jeff know so he can add you.

C. The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center TGIF outings will be rotating to different locations including the Plaza Hotel on October 2nd. For more dates and location, visit www.mkelgbt.org/events/tgif-outings/

D. The UWM LGBT Resource Center is short on staffing right now (since Jen is primarily on family leave and Dee Jay left for a new opportunity in California). With LGBT Coming Out Day approaching, Michael asked if those of us with close contact and proximity to the center can help with coverage, particularly in the event of a crisis. It was also mentioned that Norris Health Center can assist students in crisis. Cary mentioned that he has a graduate student who can assist if needed. Sarah mentioned that she has been stopping by the Center since MAVRC is located in the same Student Union space.

E. The Milwaukee Film Festival includes a number of LGBT+ films. Kate mentioned that the film “Mala, Mala” addresses the issue of workers’ rights. The festival runs from September 24th-October 8th. For more information, visit http://mkefilm.org/festival/

F. The Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce is hosting an event tonight at Renaissance Place, 5-7pm tonight. This is a group that our committee may want to reach out to and build relationships with. For more information on the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce, visit http://www.wislgbtchamber.com/

IX. Outstanding Committee Needs (10 Minutes)

X. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 5, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., Chapman Hall 211 (Regents Room)