

Faculty Senate Committee on the Status of LGBT Faculty

Semester Report for Fall 2016

January 11th, 2017

The Committee on the Status of LGBT Faculty met once during the fall semester of 2016. Some difficulties with the composition of the committee occurred early in the fall when the Faculty Senate webpage for the committee removed a significant number of members of the committee (including the chair) due to terms expiring. Once the previous chair (Vosvick) communicated with the Faculty Senate and re-established the members who agreed to continue for an additional 3 year term, the Committee was reconstituted. Several new members of the Committee have been added to fill vacancies, but have yet to participate (however only 1 meeting was held in the fall). Efforts will be made to reach out to the new committee members to welcome them and encourage their participation in Committee procedures.

Minutes and Attendance for all meetings are kept by the Committee.

During the fall semester meeting the Committee unanimously elected their Chair for the next year (Vosvick) who accepted the role. The current Committee is now completely populated.

The Committee worked with the recently formed LGBT Faculty Network during the fall semester to discuss programming for the spring semester and expects to co-sponsor the following events:

- Monica Palacios – a solo performance by a Latinx sexual minority – this event will be in collaboration with the Department of Theater and Dance
- Dr. Katie Hindmarch-Watson – a lecture by a queer scholar – this event will be in collaboration with the Department of History
- Out in the Workplace – a panel presentation and discussion about disclosure of sexual and gender status in the workplace both Academic workplaces as well as other workplaces

The Committee anticipates collaborating with two other Faculty Senate committees (Committee on the Status of Women and Committee on the Status of People of Color) to continue work with the administration to further equality of policies and treatment of minority faculty members.

The Committee anticipates working with the LGBT Studies Program at UNT to create a concentration for graduate students in LGBT Studies. Currently, the Program only offers an undergraduate minor and D

In general, the Committee plans to continue to monitor the UNT campus for diversity issues related to LGBT Faculty at UNT and work with the Vice President of Equity & Diversity (Joanne Woodard) to focus on issues relevant to LGBT Faculty. An important item that has been discussed with administration is the development of a mechanism to allow sexual and gender minority faculty to self-identify on all paperwork related to their employment at UNT if they choose to do so. This topic will be an important discussion point this year.