Our Mission
Promoting equal opportunity and social justice for successful academic, social and personal development for all GLBTQIA students, staff, faculty and their allies in a safe and supportive environment.
For more information, visit http://www.colorado.edu/GLBTQRC

From the Director, Scarlet Bowen, Ph.D.

Happy 20th Anniversary to the GLBTQ Resource Center and the LGBTQ Studies Program!

Both programs were created in 1995 as part of the 10 recommendations made by the University’s first taskforce on GLBT issues. The Resource Center has grown from being housed in a former closet in a residence hall, funded by private donors, to being given a spacious suite in the Center for Community with state-of-the-art gender inclusive bathrooms just down the hall. Though we still depend on private donors and grants, we are now almost wholly funded by the University. During the past year, CU-Boulder underwent an extensive review of our LGBTQ-inclusiveness policies and resources, and I am proud that we were able to maintain our Campus Pride Index ranking of 4.5 out of 5 stars (http://www.campusprideindex.org/). We still have work to do to obtain the highest 5-star ranking, but there is much to celebrate in the meantime. Participation in our over 100 programs per year grew 35% this year, from 2000 to 2700. We are delighted that a long-term initiative for transgender health equity has been accomplished: as of July 1 faculty and staff will receive healthcare benefits for gender confirmation surgeries on 4 out of 5 insurance plans. Next fall, we will continue to assess our accomplishments and goals for the next 20 years of the Center’s history, embarking on a study of whether to change the name of the center, and creating more ways of globalizing our understanding of gender and sexual diversity. Stay tuned for our next 20th Anniversary talk in October by Professor Himika Bhattacharya on the state of queer and feminist activism in India, funded by the President’s Excellence and Diversity Grant, and a talk by Angelica Ross in September on her entrepreneurial endeavor to empower transgender workers in the tech industry.
The 9th Annual TRANSforming Gender Conference had just over 400 participants and drew people from Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming and California. We were very happy to see that 49% of our attendees were from the community at large while 51% were associated with CU as students or alumni— a great mix of people. This year we were honored to have Mattee Jim, a Navajo trans woman who works as an HIV prevention specialist and sits on several national transgender boards as an advocate for trans people of color. Our other keynote speaker was Amos Mac who is the co-editor of Original Plumbing, a zine by and for trans men, and Translady Fanzine as well as being a professional photographer from New York City.

This year’s conference focused on intersectional identities of being transgender. We held our first trans people of color panel, screened Kumu Hina—a film about a Native Hawaiian trans woman— and had a workshop discussing immigration and asylum cases for transgender individuals. One Colorado presented Transparent: The State of Transgender health in Colorado, and two trans scholars from our School of Education presented on Unpacking Trans* Micro-aggressions: Creating Safe, Inclusive, and Affirming Spaces for Trans* and Gender-Creative Students (sj Miller) and Introducing Trans* Pedagogies: Living, Loving and Teaching in Gender’s High Tension Zone (Jake McWilliams). Our own Assistant Director and PhD candidate, Morgan Seamont, presented on his research Bodies of Desire: Sexualities of Trans Men and their Partners, and Out Boulder’s Sara Connell presented on Trans Misogyny. No doubt our expanded advertising to over 20 schools in Colorado and neighboring states contributed to our largest conference to date. As we approach our ten year mark we hope to continue growing, always looking forward to how we can further people’s education and understanding of the many issues trans* people face, how they overcome those challenges and how their lives contribute to our society as a whole. If you are interested in joining us for next year’s conference, March 10-11, 2016 please contact Morgan Seamont and thank you to all who participated and supported our conference.
New Assistant Director: Morgan Seamont

This year we hired Morgan Seamont as our new Assistant Director of the GLBTQ Resource Center. Morgan worked for the Resource Center as our Graduate Student Coordinator for three years prior to accepting this position. He is a PhD candidate in anthropology studying the sexualities of trans* men and their partners and trans* masculinity. He completed his master’s degree in 2010 in anthropology at CU Boulder. Morgan is our first full time staff member who identifies as a trans man. As we continue to create a more LGBTQ inclusive campus and educate people around the unique challenges that LGBTQ individuals face we welcome him and his work with the trans* community.

New Name?

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Resource Center is thinking of changing our name in order to be more inclusive and reflective of the demographic of people we serve! If you’d like to voice your opinion you can follow the link below and vote.

Our current options include:
- Advocacy Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity (ACGSD)
- Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Center (GSAC)
- Gender and Sexuality Resource Center (GSRC)
- Queer Advocacy Center (QAC)
- Spectrum
- Prism
- Pride Center

There is also an option to write in!
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KFDWX2Q

Creating Change – Denver 2015

This year, students attended the National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change in Denver, Colorado, one of the largest annual gatherings of activists, organizers, and leaders in the LGBT movement.

Ferguson was the topic of the opening Plenary with Rinku Sen and Rashad Robinson leading a discussion on intersectional issues within the GLBTQ community. This theme continued as Rea Carey addressed violence towards trans women of color and #BlackLivesMatter in her State of the Movement. Social media was a big presence at this year’s conference as plenary speakers/panelists went to twitter to actively engage with the audience while on stage.

The conference also included a racial justice institute and a discussion on reproductive rights, and a vigil for Jessie Hernandez, the 17 year old who died in February. The teenager’s life was celebrated at the conference with the words “Rest In Power”. Students also attended workshops and presentations that spanned from empowering femme identities to the experiences of asexual individuals in queer spaces.

Student funding to attend Creating Change is made possible through generous donations. If you wish to contribute to helping students attend the 2016 Creating Change conference, follow the link below.

http://www.cufund.org/giving-opportunities/fund-description/?id=3633
Annual Awards Presented at Lavender Graduation

Karen Raforth Scholarship: Ximena Keogh

The LGBTQIA Scholarship: Yadira Valdaez

The Positive Futures Scholarship: Garrett Rose

GLBT Alumni Chapter Scholarship: Garrett Rose

Transito “Tito” Torres Award for Outstanding Student Activist and Leadership: Elleayla Batjargal

Joanne Arnold Courage and Commitment Award: sj Miller

Evan Wolfson Essay Prize: Laura Malaver
The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Resource Center celebrated its 20th Anniversary this year! We celebrated with Jack Halberstam who presented his work on Queer Studies from past, present, and future and grappled with his ideas concerning language and “trigger warnings.” We also used this as an opportunity to reflect on our history as a center.

Twenty years ago our office began in a former closet, funded entirely by private donors, and today we have our own office and have been officially moved under CU administration. This was only accomplished through the support of students, faculty, and staff who over the years have worked, and still continue to work, to make CU a more inclusive place. We wanted to say thank you to everyone for showing your support for our center over the past twenty years, and look forward to our next twenty!

Director, Scarlet Bowen, Receives Equity and Excellence Award

Director Scarlet Bowen was awarded this year's Equity and Excellence Award from the Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement (ODECE). Scarlet has championed LGBTQ inclusivity in the classroom, has been a strong advocate for diverse students, staff, and faculty, and helped mobilize CU-System-wide support for offering gender identity healthcare benefits, including surgery.

If you have suggestions for programming or events you would like us to offer, contact the Resource Center at glbtqrc@colorado.edu

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