



# LGBTQ+ Advocates Committee

September 14, 2021  
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Laura Adams, Peggy Campo, Steff Warsinski, Ammanda Moore, Courtney Buchanan, Chris Castillo, Jake Drainville, Danae Samson, Christopher Lugo, Brady Kerr, Gerlene Ariel Aquino, Adam Martin

## AGENDA

### 1. Roll Call/Sign-In

- Members introduced themselves to the committee.

### 2. Action Items

- Approval of Minutes (Motion – Steff, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Brady). Approved unanimously.

### 3. Agenda Items

#### 3.1 Discussion Item: Review Committee Charge

- Goals and/or benchmarks
  - Goals for ALLY
    - Update ALLY member list
    - Create and send out a reaffirmation, confirmation, repledge form for existing members
    - ALLY training schedule (include October National Coming Out Day)
    - Create ALLY 2.0
    - Revise existing ALLY training
    - Create an ALLY ListServ, Outlook group, or other communication system
  - Speaker Series, virtual event
  - Ask Prism for goals of importance to students
  - Canvas site
  - Pride staircase
- Confirm committee members
  - Senate is supposed to approve the voting members on the committee.
  - We will base the list on attendance at the first two meetings.
  - Is anyone interested in serving as a co-chair? Please contact Peggy.

#### 3.2 Information Item: Updates Over Summer Break

- (Cameron Young). Communication with Daniela.

- Position for staff member as student resource specialist was flown. Advocates/Allies did not give feedback because we did not want to slow down the process.
- The Unity Zone is open!
- Signed on to discuss create a statewide resource booklet. From there it can be modified with Norco specific information.

### 3.3 Discussion Item: ALLY Training (Ammanda)

- Laura will check with Cameron about offering trainings in Fall 2021
- We will circle back to ALLY next meeting to discuss some of the issues raised above in goal setting section

### 3.4 Discussion Item: Pride Staircase (Adam)

- (Adam Martin). Worked with Cameron & Peggy to create a design. Sent to Michael Collins' office for approval.
- (Peggy Campo). We were advised that the plan for this must come from students. We will work with our voting student members, ASNC, Prism, etc. to coordinate.
- (Ariel Aquino). Students are frustrated because it was supposed to be about pride and now it is about a big lump of underrepresented students.

### 3.5 Discussion Item: Unity Zone (Cameron)

- (Cameron Young). Some issues with Unity Zone.
  - Time. Chris is PT and can't staff every day, full time.
  - Purpose. Too much is asked outside of the Unity Zone with little time for it.
  - Identity. Hang-out spot? Space for academics? Primary meeting space for LGBTQ students. This needs clarification.
  - CCCLGBT.org less than 5% of all CCCs have a professionally staffed Pride Center. We can't make the list until we have a dedicated space for LGBTQ students.
  - Data needed for usage in person and online to make a persuasive case to a Pride Center.
  - (Chris Castillo). Need for a Unity Zone Coordinator. We have a PT resource specialist, but the Unity Zone isn't a resource center. And it is a shared space. The old mission focuses on creating a safe space, but we can do more. Ultimate goal would be dividing these into two separate centers with full support.
- Welcome to Chris Castillo, PT resource support specialist for the Unity Zone. Graduate student at Azusa Pacific in College Counseling & Development. Revising Unity Zone website.
  - Case study comparing our website to CAL Poly. Getting info and advice from their Pride Center and undocumented student center.

- Home Page: Website includes mission, purpose, welcome, logos,
- Mission: Norco College Unity Zone supports holistic success (academic, personal, and professional), create equitable opportunities to transfer, career education, scholarships, resources and fosters safe/brave spaces for LGBTQ+ Students, AB 540, Undocumented Student, mixed-status household families, and allies at Norco College.
- Draft Purpose:
  - Purpose: Our purpose is to educate the community on current issues, assemble campus support, and increase student success.
  - By supporting their holistic success, students will be equipped with leadership opportunities that will enhance their academic, personal, and professional success.
  - By providing a Safe/Brave Space, students can freely express themselves and not feel a sense of fear, anxiety, or shame.
  - The center provides an abundance of educational and community resources such as a lending library, scholarships information, computer access, supplies, as well as information regarding community support centers near the students.
- About Us page: location, who to contact, schedule one on one with Chris, office hours,
- Legal Support/Services/Policies
- Pride Center/LGBTQ Resource Tabs
- (Ariel). Will the Unity Zone be open on days when Chris is unavailable? Not at this point, but perhaps the faculty could volunteer.
- Canvas Unity Zone. The goal was to have a virtual space, but it is primarily housing resources.
- Need to clarify the purpose of each space and who is responsible for each (Unity Zone physical, Unity Zone virtual, etc. )
- (Chris Castillo). Budget for marketing for Unity Zone. Shirts, logo for undocumented students. Do we need new logos for ALLY or the Unity Zone? Norco College Pride logo? Other needs?
  - Speaker series advertising & social media
  - Pride decorations, Pride flag is no longer up in the Unity Zone. The ALLY banner has been added, but BOTH Pride and ALLY decorations are desired by students.
  - Can we get flags for subcommunities within LGBTQ+ umbrella?
  - Swag for Allies to be visible support for students.

### 3.6 Discussion Item: Senate Resolution (Cameron)

- (Cameron Young). Tried to take it to senate last spring, but ran out of time for discussion. Since the spring, there have been advancements/changes that may have removed the need for this resolution.
- Does the committee still want to bring forward a senate resolution in support and commitment of the Unity Zone?
  - Chris Castillo. Other groups have more institutional support and funding, allowing coordinators and counselors to be dedicated to the group. LGBTQ students need an equitable chance of transferring at the same rate, having a guided path for transfer.
  - Ariel Aquino. Prism leaders and ASNC president have been talking with Dr. Green about the need for a mental health counselor. A mental health counselor was proposed to be added to the Unity Zone, but there were concerns because many students are unwilling to be affiliated there. There is very little space in the Unity Zone.
  - Chris Castillo. Who is getting the space that used to be dedicated to the old Veteran's Resource Center? We need more space for the unity zone.
  - Cameron & Peggy will draft a resolution for review at the next meeting. Focus on space, funding, coordinator/academic counselor, mental health counselor.

### 3.7 Information Item: Pride Index

- Peggy Campo. Will be picking this item up in the Fall semester.
- <https://www.campusprideindex.org/>
- Will reveal where we have issues/areas that can be improved.
- Chris Castillo will assist with the application.

### 3.8 Discussion Item: Additional Updates

- LGBTQ+ studies
- Psychology of Human Sexuality is being launched in Curricunet and hope to be able to offer in Fall 2022.

## 4. Open Hearing/Good of the Order

- 9/16 is Bisexuality Awareness Week

## 5. Adjournment

### Next meeting:

- October 12, 2021 via Zoom