

LGBTIQ&A Town Hall: Community Feedback



UNIVERSITY OF DENVER ~ FEBRUARY 22ND, 2016

The following is a *summation* of attendees' feedback on 3 primary prompt questions. As the group comprise only a small (but mighty!) part of the LGBTIQA communities at DU*, we know not everyone will share the same opinions.

Get full details and provide your feedback at www.du.edu/pride

**The majority of attendees were graduate students from social work. There were no undergraduates, and few staff or faculty in attendance.*



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1. What can DU do **improve** existing LGBTIQ&A services?



- More advertisement of existing services/resources
 - Students do get this information during orientation, but it gets lost in the flood of information received during this time
 - Make LGBTIQ&A resources more visible and explicit on each department/school's website
 - More training of staff/faculty on LGBTIQ&A issues, how to react to instances of discrimination, microaggressions, etc., and how they can connect students to campus resources
- Improve curricula to make them more inclusive of diverse genders & sexualities
 - And compile more expansive LGBTIQA course list that includes graduate & undergraduate courses

1. What can DU do **improve** existing LGBTIQ&A services?



- More all-gender restrooms and lockerrooms
- Need a Bias Incident Report System
- More cross-discipline collaboration (e.g. graduate students, undergraduates, & staff/faculty, Korbel with GSSW, etc.)
 - As it currently stands, student organization budgets are designed to be used only to benefit the specified student population- this needs to be re-evaluated to promote collaboration
 - Varying schedules also a barrier
- More social events to build community
 - Also improves student engagement

1. What can DU do **improve** existing LGBTIQ&A services?



- Improve the culture of campus to promote inclusivity
 - Inclusivity as a continual process
 - Every individual's responsibility
 - Reduce the stigma around seeking services/support

2. What **new/different** initiatives would be desirable?



- Lavender Graduation
- Drag Ball
- Bring CME to the middle of campus
- In students' first session of every class- professors should be required to ask & use chosen names & pronouns (alternatively: this information should be accessible via Banner, and editable by the student)
- Diversity training in new student and employee orientation

What should DU's LGBTIQA services **priorities** be moving forward?



- Social events as community building
- More staff to support LGBTIQA initiatives on campus
- Curricular redevelopment
- Gender inclusive housing and other facilities

3. What are some **better alternatives** to the LGBTIQA acronym?



- Gender and Sexual Minorities
 - “Minority” is problematic; perhaps Marginalized instead
 - Add “r” for romantic-based identities (GSRM)
- What do we call the office?
 - Genders and Sexualities
 - ✦ How would this be interpreted by students, staff, faculty, and other offices on campus?
 - ✦ Suggests non-LGBTIQ folks don’t have gender or sexuality, or that office serves non-marginalized identities in same way (vs as allies)
 - Support for “Prism” or other symbolic label



It's not too late to provide input!

Please invite other DUers to review full event notes
and complete a brief survey via
www.du.edu/pride



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