ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Career Paths of Queer Black Women: During four evening in the spring, the Center hosted professional women from various professions, including Dr. Ekaette (Philo) Mbong, a research scientist and science advocate; Fofie Amina Bashir, a Nonprofit management/Community Organizer; KishaLynn Elliott, Educator and Life Coach; and Dr. Alina R. Payne, Business Consultant. The series concluded on a fifth evening with a panel of all four speakers comparing and contrasting career paths. Evaluations indicated participants had rarely or never a had significant conversation with anyone that identified as professional queer black women, saw few or no representations of queer black women in the media, and that this series provided the first time hearing stories of career paths of queer black women.

PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL BEING

LGBT Resource Center provides connection for students who have been kicked out and lost the support of their parents and families. One of the most difficult and traumatic experiences an adolescent experiences, the loss of family support has material, academic, and spiritual consequences which too often can lead to academic failure. The LGBT Resource Center, in partnership with Counseling and Psychological Services, Student Life Deans, the Financial Aid Office and other identified campus partners, works diligently to provide a safety net for these students in order to ensure their successful shift to independent living. Although the transitions often involves couch-surfing, painful and heart-breaking conversations (or silences) from families, and significant academic distress, the resilience of these young queer people buoyus them through the rough waters of loss. The LGBT Resource Center provided that support for a number of students this quarter.

The spring quarter the LGBT Resource Center hosted the LGBT 12-Step Recovery Meeting. A space was open to those who participate in any of the 12-step programs, or were questioning whether or not they have an addiction problem, and are part of the LGBT Community. Supported through the mental health and well-being initiatives of Counseling and Psychological Services via the work of the Recovery Community Intern, these weekly meetings for the first time were provided in a culturally specific manner for UC San Diego’s LGBT community.

TEACHING, TRAINING, AND CONSULTING

During the week of Trans Day of Empowerment, UC San Diego’s LGBT Resource Center facilitated a panel of transgender community members for the UC San Diego Medical Center in Hillcrest. Specifically designed to increase the cultural competency of participants, the panel explored both male-to-female, female-to-male and gender queer experiences. Additionally, the LGBT Resource Center continued consultation with numerous members of the campus leadership, one example being the Preuss School, working to ensure full inclusion of all their LGBT students at major events through crucial conversation with the leadership.

INCLUSION, COMMUNITY, AND BELONGING

The UC San Diego LGBT Resource Center hosted Janet Mock, a transgender advocate, writer and New York Times bestselling author of *Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More*. Over 350 campus and community members attended. Ms. Mock focuses her efforts on speaking about the struggles, triumphs and portrayals of trans* girls and women like herself. The program was the largest event the Center hosted this year, partnering with over 20 UC San Diego and community partners. Assessment revealed the programs goals were concussively met, including 1) creating a space for education regarding the intersecting elements of identity and community which inform future inclusive actions for the University, 2) allowing the narratives of transgender black women to guide the conversation, 3) providing space for participants to learn about the intersections of race, class, gender and sexuality through narrative and inquiry, and addressing the campus climate for transgender women at UC San Diego.

OUTREACH, YIELD, AND RETENTION

UC San Diego does not systematically collect data on sexual orientation or gender identity from students, faculty or staff. No access, yield, retention, GPA or graduation rates are available for analysis for students, nor data regarding hiring, equity, retention or loss rates for employees (faculty or staff). Programs, events and efforts of the LGBT Resource Center are measured by achievement of learning outcomes, community engagement, practice & policy development and campus climate measures.

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*When the prefix trans is used with an asterisk (trans*), it indicates the use of the term to include all aspects of the transgender, transsexual, gender queer, gender fluid and gender non conforming communities.