Dennis H. May Conference on Diversity Issues and the Role of Counseling Centers
Dear Conference Guests:

On behalf of the University of Illinois, the Counseling Center and the Dennis H. May Conference on Diversity Committee, I’d like to welcome you to this year’s conference! We hope you find a rich environment to share, engage, and network with colleagues surrounding issues of diversity on our college campuses.

In the past few years, transgender issues have sprung to the forefront of a national conversation. While increased visibility and discussion are steps in the right direction, there is still much more to be done. As mental health practitioners and student affairs professionals, it’s imperative that we understand the complexity of transgender identities and how we can create campus communities where transgender students are accepted, included, and have opportunities to flourish. This year’s Dennis H. May Conference on Diversity Issues and the Role of Counseling Centers focuses on how we can remove barriers that our transgender students may face. We’re looking forward to many thought-provoking and useful discussions and are thrilled to have Dr. Genny Beemyn as our keynote speaker.

At the University of Illinois, we are very fortunate to have a vibrant, collaborative community dedicated to diversity. I would like to thank our co-sponsors for this year’s conference: The Career Center, Inclusive Illinois, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, McKinley Health Center Health Education, Department of Psychology, and University Housing.

Thank you for joining us! If you have any needs or questions, please see one of the Diversity Conference Committee members.

Sincerely,

Carla J. McCowan, Ph.D.
Counseling Center Director
Keynote Speaker: Genny Beemyn, Ph.D.
Director, Stonewall Center
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

“Get over the Binary: The Lives of Trans College Students Today”

Dr. Genny Beemyn has published and spoken extensively on the experiences and needs of trans people, particularly the lives of gender-nonconforming students. They have written or edited nine books/journal issues, including *The Lives of Transgender People* (with Sue Rankin; Columbia University Press, 2011) and special issues of the *Journal of LGBT Youth* on “Trans Youth” and “Supporting Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Children and Youth” and a special issue of the *Journal of Homosexuality* on “LGBTQ Campus Experiences.”

Beemyn’s most recent works are *A Queer Capital: A History of Gay Life in Washington, D.C.* (Routledge, 2014) and the “Transgender History” chapter for *Trans Bodies, Trans Selves* (Oxford University Press, 2014). They are currently working on a book entitled *Campus Queer: The Experiences and Needs of LGBTQ+ College Students* (Johns Hopkins University Press). They are an editorial board member and trans article reviewer for the *Journal of LGBT Youth*, the *Journal of Bisexuality*, and the *Journal of Homosexuality*. They have a Ph.D. in African American Studies and Master’s degrees in African American Studies, American Studies, and Higher Education Administration.
Sunday, September 20, 2015

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**Registration**  
*Illini Room B*

3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.  
**Roundtables (see pages 9-10 for summaries)**  
*Illini Room B*

4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**University of Illinois Jazz Sextet under the direction of Joan Hickey**  
*Illini Room A*

4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.  
**Welcome**

Illinois Talks on Trans Experiences  
Micah Heumann, “Raising a Trans Identified Child”  
Stephanie Skora, “The Violence of ‘Gender Non-Conforming’”

5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**Keynote Presentation**  
“Get over the Binary: The Lives of Trans College Students Today”  
Genny Beemyn, Ph.D.  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
**Banquet Dinner**  
*Illini Room A*

6:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
**INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre Performance**

7:00 p.m.  
**Closing Remarks**  
Diversity Conference Committee
Monday, September 21, 2015

7:45 - 8:30 a.m.  Registration and Continental Breakfast

314A Illini Union

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  Workshop

“Best Practices for Supporting Trans College Students Today”
Genny Beemyn, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

314A Illini Union

10:30 - 10:45 a.m.  Break

10:45 - 11:45 a.m.  Concurrent Session 1 (see pages 11-12 for summaries)

“Building/Developing Allies: Anchored in and Among Communities”
Kimberly Hodges, M.S.W., Ross Wantland, M.E.d, and Kevin Hiner, Psy.D.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

405 Illini Union

“Integrating Inclusiveness in a University Counseling Center: Use of a Multicultural Team”
Maureen Lafferty, Ed.D., HSPP and Josephine Dickinson, Ph.D., HSPP
University of Notre Dame

404 Illini Union

“Starting from Scratch: The Counseling Center’s Role in Developing Systems to Improve Clinical Support and Advocacy for Trans* Identified Students”
Sarah DelPropost, MSW, LSW, Harry Warner, M.A., LPCC-S, and Shonali Raney, Ph.D.
Ohio State University

407 Illini Union

“University Health Care TRANSformation: How to Make Your Health Center More Inclusive for Trans* Students”
Jacquelyn Hines, Ph.D., Anita Hund Ph.D., and Brin Schuler, M.D.,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

406 Illini Union

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Lunch (provided)

314B Illini Union
Monday, September 21, 2015, continued

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  Concurrent Session 2 (see pages 13-14 for summaries)

“Academic Advising and Career Counseling Considerations for Trans Students”
Aimee Brickner, Ed.S.
James Madison University
406 Illini Union

“Cisgender Therapists Working with Transgender Clients: Building Cultural Empathy and Clinical Competence from an Outgroup Position”
Jodi Thomas, PsyD, and Anita Hund, PhD.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
404 Illini Union

“Supporting Trans* People: Building Empathy and Capacity Through Storytelling”
Danielle Simmons, Ph.D., and Symone Simmons, M.S.
University of Illinois at Chicago
405 Illini Union

“Unleashing the Superhero in Non-Binary and Transgender Students”
Benjamin Wilburn, B.A.
Eastern Illinois University
407 Illini Union

2:00 - 2:15 p.m.  Break & Refreshments
409 Illini Union

2:15 - 3:15 p.m.  Concurrent Session 3 (see pages 15-16 for summaries)

“Interconnections: Gender and Sexuality in the Black Spiritual Community”
Deidre A. Weathersby, Ph.D., Joycelyn Landrum Brown, Ph.D., Christopher Lofton, M.S.W. Candidate, and Arielle Brown, Ph.D. Candidate
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
404 Illini Union

“Phone a Friend: The Development of LGBTQ Competencies in a College Counseling Center”
Bridget S. Hagood, Psy.D., and T. N. Vaught, M.A.
University of Cincinnati
405 Illini Union

“A Trans Consulting Group: The Process”
Brad Stepp, Psy.D., Laurie Rushlow, Psy.D., and Benjamin Neale, Psy.D.,
Indiana University
407 Illini Union
Monday, September 21, 2015, continued

3:15 - 3:30 p.m.     Break & Refreshments
                      409 Illini Union

3:30 - 4:30 p.m.     Concurrent Session 4 (see pages 16-17 for summaries)
                      
                      “Queering the Curriculum: LGBTQ Inclusivity in Peer-Led Campus Sexual
                      Assault Prevention”
                      Molly M. McLay, M.S.W, L.C.S.W., Alex Nelson, B.S., M.S.W. Candidate,
                      Kaye Usry, Ph.D. Candidate,
                      University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
                      404 Illini Union

                      “Transgender Competency Training: A Campus Approach”
                      Kerry Poynter, M.A. and Holly Thompson, Ph.D., University of Illinois at
                      Springfield and Kevin Hiner, Psy.D., and Anita Hund, Ph.D.
                      University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
                      405 Illini Union

                      “Transpire—What happens in a Therapy Group with Trans* Students”
                      Kara Britzman, Psy.D. and Nicole Holmberg, M.A.
                      Northern Illinois University
                      407 Illini Union

4:30 p.m.             Closing Remarks
                      314A Illini Union
“Cognitive Testing Considerations for Transgender or Gender Variant Individuals”
Betsy Jane Basch, Psy.D.
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The University of Illinois Disability Resource Center has transgender students, as well as hundreds of additional students each year, who arrive at the center with questions of their academic competence that require extensive cognitive and neuropsychological testing. Although there are current standards for psychological “fitness” for health care and surgery and mental health, there are no standards, books or literature that exists to consider when evaluating a student requesting a cognitive assessment for an underlying cognitive disability. For example, there have been a few questions about using given versus preferred names on neuropsychological testing reports or in case notes in national forums for counseling and school psychology, there still remain no standards approved from the American Educational Research Association or the American Psychological Association.

This roundtable will encourage conversations about developing standards for using gender norms, consideration of discrimination in previous assessments, incorporating historical data without bias and using standardized assessments for evaluation while being cognizant of the othering and pathological ways clinical organizations have historically conceptualized transgender and gender nonconforming individuals. We welcome insights from evaluators, students, experts, psychologists, counselors and encourage collaboration for consideration in developing a best practices document regarding nondiscriminatory, ethical and culturally competent best practices in assessment with college students who are transgender or gender nonconforming.

Bonnie M. Benson, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Health equity for all students must address transgender, non-binary, and gender nonconforming (trans) gender identities, and university counseling centers play a vital role in meeting this need. While some campus mental health providers write letters of support for hormone therapy, no documented best practices or guidelines exist for the holistic, integrated approach to caring for students who seek gender-confirming hormones. At University of Wisconsin-Madison, an interdisciplinary team formalized a process by which competent and inclusive medical services, mental health care, and cross-campus experiences can be facilitated for trans students. In this presentation, the mental health component of the model in use at UW-Madison will be described, including Gender Identity Consultation visits, overview of staff training, sample letters of referral for hormones, electronic health record templates, and informed consent documents. Participants will be encouraged to consider the potential for capacity building for trans services at their own counseling centers, how the tools and processes at UW-Madison could be adapted and implemented on their campuses, and how they may work to close gaps in communication with relevant campus partners to better serve trans students and their communities.
“‘Out’ and About: Navigating Personal and Professional Life in a College Town”
Jodi Thomas, PsyD, Leslie Morrow, Devon Guidoux, M.A.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Professionals with sexual and gender minority identities working in the communities in which they live, may often find themselves mindfully navigating their level of “outness,” boundaries, and relationships between their personal and professional spaces. Campus climate experiences are largely influenced by social forces reinforcing acceptable or appropriate sexual identities. Add the increased restriction of a small college town, the “language” of institutional diversity that serves only to reinforce normalizing discourses particularly around sexual and gender identities, what relationships are deemed acceptable, and this dance is amplified. Such concerns do not only impact queer and trans professionals, but also other alternative sexualities, such as polyamorous individuals, swingers, and kinksters. All too well, we understand the potential negative repercussions on employment that living out can bring. The roundtable facilitators are a psychologist working in a college counseling center and the director and assistant director of a campus LGBT center. We hope this roundtable can provide a space for professionals to share their experiences negotiating their professional and personal lives in a manner that feels authentic, satisfying, ethical, and safe.

“Training Effective Therapists for the LGBTQ Community”
Illinois State University

Understanding some of the unique stressors faced by sexual and gender minorities can help us develop greater compassion and knowledge to be more effective in our work. Finding resources that address evidence based treatment for sexual and gender minorities can be challenging. This program will identify on-line resources that address terminology issues, health disparities, transgender-specific content, intersecting identities, and recommendations for good clinical practice. Training in this area benefits the LGBT community but also provides valuable experiences for clinicians-in-training as they learn more about social justice, cultural differences, and our need for ongoing self-reflection and education. This roundtable is geared toward helping young professionals be better able to serve students at our respective universities and counseling centers by gaining greater compassion, knowledge and skill to work effectively with the LGBT community.

“Trans* (In)visibility: Progression of Media Portrayals of Trans* Identity in the U.S.”
W. Spencer Scott, M.A., Tasia Smith M.S., Angel Cheng, B.A., and Nupar Sahai, M.A.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Recently, trans* individuals and characters have been featured more frequently in the mainstream media; however, these portrayals remain limited and may not reflect the totality of the community. This roundtable discussion will allow participants to examine media’s portrayal of trans* identities through a multicultural lens. Participants will also have the opportunity to reflect on how these portrayals are related to their personal biases and levels of awareness, as well as their therapeutic work with clients.
Students, faculty, and staff are complex individuals with multiple intersecting social identities. Intersectionality is a critical component for all social justice work, including that of university counseling centers. However, ally work tends to focus on one aspect of identity in isolation (i.e., sexual identity or race) without examining how all of these identities intersect and interact. Intersectionality recognizes the multiple aspects that compose identity that complicate oppression and marginalization. As practitioners, ally work, including transgender ally work, must be intersectional and deeply anchored in and among a multitude of communities. There are barriers that clients experience at the intersection of holding various dominant and subordinate group memberships. Our ability to identify these barriers while providing guidance and support is critical to the wellness of the clients/students we serve.

Because many of our clients are silenced and their voices are ignored because they have binary experiences, such as being both Black and Queer, which get lost in hyperracialized or LGBTQ politics. Since they are both, and we must recognize the intersections; being an ally in many different communities. This yields an opportunity to cogitate on the gaps and explore ways to increase our capacity as allies. In this session, there will be opportunities to generate and explore examples about identity issues which are dropped when other identities are prioritized. The dialogue will provide a space for the practitioners to think more deeply about the respectability politics across various social identities. Deconstructing myths of “limited resources” and the challenges of the “Oppression Olympics,” there will be accountability tools utilized as to assess our professional commitment in serving as allies. Presenters will provide a look into a potential framework for developing as intersectional allies.

This program will discuss the development and use of a Multicultural Team at a University Counseling Center (UCC) as a mechanism for increasing staff multicultural competence as well as service to diverse campus communities. Presenters will describe a specific Team Model including its goals, structure and membership as well as multiple examples of program initiatives including panel presentations, community service projects, interactive exercises, and team-building efforts. A specific program designed to increase awareness around the intersectionality of race/ethnicity and sexual/gender identity will be described in detail. Implications for increased sensitivity and effectiveness of UCC staff as well as enhanced relations with diverse campus communities will also be discussed.
“Starting from Scratch: The Counseling Center’s Role in Developing Systems to Improve Clinical Support and Advocacy for Trans* Identified Students”
Sarah DelPropost, MSW, LSW, Harry Warner, M.A., LPCC-S, and Shonali Raney, Ph.D.
Ohio State University
407 Illini Union

Change and innovation are important values in higher education that are equally interwoven into the fabric of a university counseling center. As the demographics of our student body change, so is the emphasis on responding to their emerging needs. One such community of students identify as Trans*. At The Ohio State University, the mission of the counseling center specifically states investment in “influencing the community as a nurturing environment through support, advocacy, and education/training; by enhancing the academic quality of life; and by supporting the emotional, relational, and intellectual development of the students served and the mental health professionals in training”. The presentation will explore the unique position of college counseling centers in addressing the needs of the underserved and marginalized Trans* community, with regard for administrative support, clinical training and issues, and developing relationships with community partners.

“University Health Care TRANSformation: How to Make Your Health Center More Inclusive for Trans* Students”
Jacquelyn Hines, Ph.D., Anita Hund Ph.D., and Brin Schuler, M.D.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
406 Illini Union

In this workshop, we will discuss how university health center staff, mental health providers, and other academic professionals can improve the health care that transgender college students receive from university health centers. Transgender individuals experience a variety of health disparities. They often encounter barriers to receiving sensitive medical care specific to their needs, and these experiences can be traumatizing. After reviewing these concerns, we will discuss university health centers’ role in providing care for the physical and mental well-being of transgender students. We will review best practice guidelines and discuss ways to conduct needs assessments to evaluate how your university health center is performing with regard to its services for transgender students. Strategies for training health care staff and implementing trans-inclusive changes will be discussed.
Concurrent Session 2  
Monday, 1 to 2 p.m.

“Academic Advising and Career Counseling Considerations for Trans Students”  
Aimee Brickner, Ed.S.  
James Madison University  
406 Illini Union

According to data collected by the National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 90% of trans individuals report that they have experienced some sort of harassment or mistreatment at their place of employment. The prevalence of workplace maltreatment of members of the trans community illustrates the vulnerability of this population and many traditional career counseling theories are not designed to address issues that trans people will likely encounter. College is a time when undergraduate and graduate students are beginning to explore their career options. While there are many overlaps between the concerns of cisgender and transgender college students, the trans students have additional issues that need to be addressed appropriately and ethically by their counselor. The goals of this presentation are to provide a more nuanced understanding of the challenges encountered by trans individuals in the workplace and to demonstrate the efficacy of evidence-based, culturally competent theories and techniques that can be used by counselors when focusing on career issues with trans clients.

“Cisgender Therapists Working with Transgender Clients: Building Cultural Empathy and Clinical Competence from an Outgroup Position”  
Jodi Thomas, PsyD, and Anita Hund, Ph.D.  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
404 Illini Union

There are multiple views about what determines therapist competence to work with transgender and gender-variant clients. Should the work be reserved for trans-identified clinicians, who have similar lived experiences? Should cisgender clinicians claim expertise in this area, or does cis privilege silence the voices of trans experts in the field? Trans clients’ stories demonstrate the importance of a compassionate and non-judgmental therapist stance and a commitment on the part of the therapist to develop awareness of gender diversity, gender identity, and transitioning issues. If these qualities exist, how much are other variables such as gender specific training and gender identity of the clinician significant to creating positive therapeutic outcomes? However, there are opinions on the level of training and practice that constitutes competence in working with trans clients and gender transition, and these span beyond gender identity of the therapist. Any therapeutic relationship is vulnerable to transference, countertransference, and the occurrence of micro- and macroaggressions. The therapeutic relationship must hold identity differences and systemic and individual dynamics created by systems of privilege, power, and oppression. This presentation will explore therapist development of cultural empathy and clinical competence with transgender and gender variant clients, including the impact of transference/ countertransference, privilege and power, transphobia, and cisgenderism. We will highlight the importance of interpersonal therapist traits, training, and practice in the development of professional competency.
Concurrent Session 2
Monday, 1 to 2 p.m.

“Supporting Trans* People: Building Empathy and Capacity Through Storytelling”
Danielle Simmons, Ph.D., and Symone Simmons, M.S.
University of Illinois at Chicago
405 Illini Union

Everyone has a story to tell. Stories convey values and emotions, and can reveal differences and similarities between people’s experiences. Through the act of storytelling, people can learn, grow, and heal. Ours is a story of a queer couple of color traversing higher education. Symone and Danielle have been married eight years and have experience working on 5 diverse university campuses; Iowa State, Georgia State, Northern Illinois, Loyola University Chicago, and University of Illinois at Chicago. In this session, we plan to share some of the successes and challenges we have faced in diverse educational and work environments, as well as resources and tools that have supported us and other LGBTQ+ students and educators. We hope to gather professionals in a brave space to dialogue and share professional and personal narratives that illuminate experiences and opportunities of creating and maintaining supportive environments. With increased awareness and visibility of trans* students on college campuses, it is ever more important for practitioners to expand their awareness, knowledge, and skills related to gender and sexuality. Through working to understand, we hope participants will develop greater empathy and capacity to support trans* students.

“Unleashing the Superhero in Non-Binary and Transgender Students”
Benjamin Wilburn, B.A.
Eastern Illinois University
406 Illini Union

Originally created for the campus of Eastern Illinois University, this presentation has quickly morphed into a lecture series presented at conferences and in classrooms across the Midwest. The presentation follows terminology, statistics, advocacy, and implementation of transgender policies and issues across the nation. When you throw in Marvel favorites Spiderman, the Hulk, Captain America, and Ironman the audience quickly learns how to be a perfect sidekick and ally. In unleashing the superhero in these college students, the audience not only learns how to empower but how to send them off to save cities near and far. Finally, the audience will leave with a basic understand of terminology, do’s/don’ts, and specific programming for non-binary and transgender college students.
“Interconnections: Gender and Sexuality in the Black Spiritual Community”
Deidre A. Weathersby, Ph.D., Joycelyn Landrum Brown, Ph.D., Christopher Lofton, M.S.W. Candidate, and Arielle Brown, Ph.D. Candidate
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
404 Illini Union

This presentation will be partly informative and part dialogue to address the intersectionality of gender and sexuality in the Black spiritual community. Topics will be presented broadly with some presentation of themes and trends. Some of the areas of dialogue will be; how Black churches construct gender roles, how masculinity is perceived in Black churches, women’s issues in Black churches, LGBTQ issues in Black churches, and strategies for understanding, support, and empowerment. These subjects affect people in the Black community uniquely considering the enormous role Black churches play in civil rights movements and are perceived as symbols of community elevation in supremacy viewpoints. Finally we will leave with the notion of how to be and promote empowered living in the Black spiritual community in a way that gives our student populations specific tools to “be their whole self” in an interdependent way.

“Phone a Friend: The Development of LGBTQ Competencies in a College Counseling Center”
Bridget S. Hagood, Psy.D., and T. N. Vaught, M.A.
University of Cincinnati
405 Illini Union

This session will address the need for inclusive practices among counseling centers as it pertains to serving LGBTQ+ clients—particularly gender non-conforming clients in particular. The presenters have worked in collaboration with one another for more than two years to foster a culture of inclusion through LGBTQ+ cultural competency training. This session will begin with the history of the two offices at the University of Cincinnati and how Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Center (LGBTQ Center) forged an alliance to better meet the needs of our students. During this section a brief history of both presenters will be relevant to the overall session. The rest of the session will focus on the framework of the trainings that have occurred between the offices with examples of impact these trainings had on the counseling center staff’s creation of an affirming and safe environment for our trans students. Specific improvement made to intake forms, charts, notes and policy regarding support letters for gender-affirming medical care will be reviewed.
Concurrent Session 3
Monday, 2:15 to 3:15 p.m.
“A Trans Consulting Group: The Process”
Brad Stepp, Psy.D., Laurie Rushlow, Psy.D., and Benjamin Neale, Psy.D.
Indiana University
407 Illini Union

Two years ago, members of the gender non-conforming Indiana University student community began to meet with IU Health Center administrators. At those meetings, students shared their challenges with what they perceived as staff’s difficulty negotiating their gender identities. Over the past year at Indiana University Counseling and Psychological Services, housed in the IU Health Center, both administrators and clinicians have increased their response to the needs of the IU trans community. Efforts continue to be directed towards accurate reflection of trans-students preferred names and pronouns within our integrated Health Center electronic records system, furthering understanding of how IU CAPS can create and maintain a more welcoming atmosphere, as well as how mental health practitioners can respond effectively to the unique clinical needs of this marginalized campus population. A small group of IU CAPS therapists have created a space to discuss issues related to transgender, gender non-conforming, and genderqueer clients. Several one-hour slots were secured in our schedules over the past academic year to meet and confer on trans-related topics. This conference presentation will create a space for IU CAPS clinicians to talk about their process of developing this Trans Consultant Group. Specifically, clinicians hope to share and discuss with colleagues across institutions both the challenges and rewards of this unique project.

Concurrent Session 4
Monday, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
“Queering the Curriculum: LGBTQ Inclusivity in Peer-Led Campus Sexual Assault Prevention”
Molly M. McLay, M.S.W, L.C.S.W., Alex Nelson, B.S., M.S.W. Candidate, Kaye Usry, Ph.D.
Candidate University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
404 Illini Union

Conversations around campus sexual assault often note that 19% of undergraduate women will experience a sexual assault sometime during college. Frequently unmentioned, though, is the fact that this rate doubles for LGBTQ individuals. This presentation highlights recent changes to the long-standing, peer-led First Year Campus Acquaintance Rape Education (FYCARE) program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to move beyond a discussion of male perpetrators and female survivors, recognize the multitude of survivor identities, and create safety for LGBTQ students.
“Transgender Competency Training: A Campus Approach”
Kerry Poynter, M.A. and Holly Thompson, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Springfield and Kevin Hiner, Psy.D., and Anita Hund, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
405 Illini Union

This interactive session will overview an example transgender training curriculum used at a small, Midwestern campus that participants can implement on their own campuses. Attendees will be provided an overview of the curriculum and how it was created, experience one activity used in the curriculum, and participate in a group discussion on best training practices. This session, although not a complete run through of the full two-hour curriculum, is intended to give participants the nuts and bolts of creating or improving their own trans workshop sessions. Presenters will share common challenges and obstacles they have encountered in their work while training and advocating for transgender folks on and share strategies for overcoming barriers.

Through the curriculum provided, participants have tools to assist others develop self-awareness, compassion, and to think critically about assumptions and vulnerabilities as related to gender. Handouts will be provided. Recommended for any person wanting to learn how to become a better ally to the trans student population.

During the session, participants will also learn about the creation of a system to support, maintain, and enrich single trainings. Specifically, this presentation will discuss the formation of the Ally Network Training Committee (ANTC; a multidisciplinary team of campus professionals dedicated to facilitating ally trainings) that has helped increase resources for ally trainings and promote the feasibility of maintaining and expanding the trainings. There will be time for exploration of how participants can identify steps to create collaborations on their campuses.

“Transpire—What happens in a Therapy Group with Trans* Students”
Kara Britzman and Nicole Holmberg, M.A.
Northern Illinois University
407 Illini Union

Counseling and Consultation Services has offered a therapy group to students who identify as trans* for the last three years. Over this time, a narrative has emerged that can be utilized to better understand some of the common challenges trans* students sometimes face on campus, in counseling and in group therapy specifically. This presentation will identify qualities of the group structure and group facilitation guidelines that continue to promote a successful group experience for trans* students at NIU. We will address cultural competency concerns in facilitating this type of group and review some of the more common concerns that often present within the group.
Nearby Eateries

If you’re looking for a snack or will be staying on campus for dinner on Monday evening, there are many options available in The Union:

- Einstein’s Bagels
- Sbarro Pizza
- Wendy’s
- Qdoba Mexican Grill
- Jamba Juice
- Starbucks Coffee
- Cones a la Mode

Just west of The Union near Green Street, there are many restaurants to choose from, including:

- Ambar Indian Buffet
- Antonio’s Pizza
- Bangkok Thai
- Bo Bo China
- Chipotle Mexican Grill
- Cocomero Frozen Yogurt
- Cold Stone Creamery
- The Cookie Jar
- Cravings Chinese
- Dunkin’ Donuts
- Espresso Royale
- Flat Top Grill
- Jerusalem Restaurant
- Joe’s Brewery
- Legends Pub
- Lai Lai Wok
- McDonald’s
- Mandarin Wok
- Mashawi Grill
- Murphy’s Pub
- Niro’s Gyros
- Noodles & Company
- Panera Bread
- Penn Station East Coast Subs
- Potbelly Sandwich Works
- Sakanaya Sushi
- Silver Mine Subs
- Starbucks Coffee
- Subway
- Which Wich
- Za’s Italian Cafe
- Zorba’s Restaurant
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