



TEXAS
TRANSGENDER
NON-DISCRIMINATION
SUMMIT

2011

August 12 - 13, 2011

University of Houston

Roy G. Cullen

Room 104

Friday, August 12, 2011

9:00 – 10:00 Registration / Continental Breakfast – Roy G. Cullen Lobby

10:00 – 10:30 Agenda - UH Welcome – Dr. Ira Colby, Dean Graduate College of Social Work
Roy G. Cullen Rm. 104

10:30– 11:00 Ice-breaker & Trivia Game

11:00 – 11:15 Platinum Sponsors

11:15 – 12:15 Keynote

Gender Neutral Housing for Texas Students: Strategies and Challenges- *by Dr. Paige Schilt with Southwestern students Jordan Johnson and Siobhan Cooke*

Roy G. Cullen, Rm. 104

Dr. Paige Schilt is a writer, activist, and educator. She recently served as Interim Assistant Dean of Student Multicultural Affairs at Southwestern University. She teaches courses in English, communications, gender studies. She is the former Director of National Communications at Soulforce. Currently, Paige is a contributor at The Bilerico Project, where she writes about trans family life. She lives in Austin with her partner, Katy Koonce, and their son.

Trivia Question

12:15-1:15 Lunch – AD Bruce 2nd floor

1:15 – 2:45 Concurrent Sessions 1

Recent Developments in Transgender Legal Rights, *by Mitchell Katine, Houston Attorney – Katine & Nechman LLP on behalf of the ACLU*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 102

Mitchell Katine, a member of ACLU of Texas State Legal Panel, who specializes in GLBT issues, will discuss the most recent developments regarding transgender legal rights. Mr. Katine served as local counsel in the landmark United States Supreme Court case of Lawrence v. Texas, and is one of the attorneys representing Nikki Araguz in her current case.

Creating Gay Straight Alliances (GSA), *by Deb Murphy, BS, Montrose Counseling Center, HATCH Youth Services Specialist*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 105

The presence of GSAs in high schools has proven to be very effective in increasing the level of safety LGBT students feel in school and in decreasing absenteeism. The session will discuss ways to work with administrators when advocating for GSAs.

2:45 – 3:00 Break

3:00 – 4:30 Concurrent Sessions 2

The Transitioning Diversity at Texas State- *by Prof. Kristen G. Ploeger, Ph.D., Texas State University-San Marcos*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 102

Transition in the world of academia, in many respects, is more tentative and precarious than in the world of business. Participate in the first hand account of the transition of a Business Professor. This is a “come as you are” session presenting the process and details of a successful male to female on the job transition. It is intended to be helpful and informative for anyone planning a transition and for anyone involved in facilitating a transition.

Transgender Inclusion in University Non-Discrimination Statements: Challenging Gender-Conforming Privilege through Student Activism, *by Prof. Kim Case Ph.D. - UH Clear Lake and Josephine Tittsworth, LMSW, Doctoral Student, UH Graduate College of Social Work*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 105

Centering on faculty-student partnerships, this case study focuses on policy change efforts to challenge gender-conforming privilege (GCP) and gain protections for transgender individuals in higher education. This study examined the psychological, social, and institutional processes influencing student leadership for change and faculty methods for encouraging student-initiated activism. We described obstacles, action strategies, and the influence of privilege and power dynamics. The insights are presented to inform others seeking to create avenues for challenging privilege and power imbalances.

4:30- 4:45 **Trivia Question -** Roy G. Cullen Rm. 104

Closing Remarks, *by Josephine Tittsworth*

5:45 **BBQ Dinner and Social at TG Center,** *Sponsored by Transgender Foundation of American and Houston's Transgender Unity Committee*

604 Pacific, Houston, TX 77006

Driving directions to TG Center

From the parking lot, turn right onto Calhoun Rd.
Turn left on Elgin, go about 3.4 miles (Elgin becomes Westheimer)
Turn right onto Stanford St.
Turn right onto Pacific – 604 will be on the left.

Saturday, August 13, 2011

8:30 – 9:30 **Registration / Continental Breakfast** – Roy G. Cullen Lobby

9:30 – 9:45 **Welcome and Agenda**

UH Welcome by Dr. Wyman Herendeen, UH Department of English, Chair

Trivia Question

9:45 – 11:15 **Concurrent Sessions 3**

Inclusive Language and Policies for School Districts and Junior Colleges: a How-to Toolkit – by *Rafael McDonnell, Lee Taft, J.D., M.Div., Deborah Cavazos: Resource Center Dallas*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 102

The business sector is ahead of the government sector when it comes to inclusive policies for the LGBT community. Yet, thanks to the national discussion on bullying and youth suicides, change is happening. This session shows how you can influence policy change at the school district and community college levels, develop strategies, build coalitions, and learn lessons from the field.

Transgender Health Priorities: A Knowledge, Barriers, Vulnerabilities Model- by *Katy Stewart: Transgender Education Network of Texas*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 105

This presentation begins to "unwrap" the question of health care for transgender students and provides real information on the barriers afforded because of membership in a stigmatized population. This presentation provides insight into key points to create a safer environment more conducive to learning. Research has shown that for healthcare providers, education yields an enhanced willingness to treat and diversity training yields more skilled professionals

11:15 – 11:45 **Keynote**

You, A Life Worth Living - by *Meghan Stabler*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 104

Meghan Stabler is a business executive, a transsexual woman, a transgender advocate and national LGBT activist. She is a Sr. Director at CA Technologies, an IT management software and solutions company. She is a member of the board for AIDS Foundation Houston, the Human Rights Campaign, AETNA Healthcare GLBT Advisory Board and the HRC Houston Steering Committee. She is also a past President of the Board for Pride Houston, former member of Pres. Obama's National LGBT Policy Committee and Board of Directors for the National & International Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Meghan and her partner, Erin, have been together for 5 years and Meghan has a teenage daughter, Hannah, who lives in England.

Trivia Question

11:45- 1:00 **Lunch** – Roy G. Cullen Lobby

1:00 – 2:30 **Concurrent Sessions 4**

Transgender Case-law, by *Phyllis Randolph Frye, Attorney and Associate Municipal Judge*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 102

This presentation provides information on case-law, litigation, and legal rulings related to transgender social justice issues. We will discuss how case-law can be applied in negotiations with campus administrators regarding transgender inclusive policies. The resources available on www.liberatinglaw.com will also be discussed.

Building Grassroots Change in your Local Community, by *Christopher Busby, President - Log Cabin Republicans - Houston & Jenifer Rene Pool, Candidate - Houston City Council At-Large-2*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 105

This session will chronicle the events that led to the updating of HISD's nondiscrimination policy to include gender identity and expression. Small group discussions will focus on techniques for getting involved in local governing bodies.

2:30 – 2:45 **Trivia Game Finale and Prizes** – Roy G. Cullen Rm. 104

2:45 – 3:45 **Future Plans** – by *Lou Weaver*

Roy G. Cullen Rm. 104

3:45 – 3:50 **Closing Remarks**, by *Josephine Tittsworth*

Thanks to our sponsor



The Hollyfield Foundation awards grants to nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations that support its mission. Jay Hollyfield was a native Houstonian who attended Lamar High School and later the University of Texas. An avid traveler, Jay spent his early years dabbling in acting, first in New York, then in Europe. Like his father, Jay became an entrepreneur and successful businessman. In the years to follow Jay owned and operated many businesses that catered to the Houston gay community. His properties included both historical landmarks and popular gay destinations in Montrose and Midtown. His pride and joy is the Hollyfield Building which is now UpTown Lofts and before Hollyfield's purchase, the Depelchin Children's Home.

A well-known, colorful Montrose resident known for his adventures and well-resourced life style, Jay lived life grand. Jay was a patron of the fine arts, his true love. He was involved with the Westheimer Art Festival from its inception in 1972 until his death in 1994. He installed a board that would keep true to his vision, an arts festival for the community. Today the Bayou City Art Festival is bigger and more successful than ever, raising hundreds of thousands for the art community.

Jay was a champion of gay and lesbian causes. Politically he wanted to further the cause by uniting the community. Securing equal rights for gays and lesbians became his passion. He was also interested in the health issues that faced the gay and lesbian community, especially HIV/AIDS. He was instrumental in founding the Kaposi Sarcoma Committee which today is AIDS Foundation Houston and was an early supporter of the Montrose Clinic.

In 1988 at the request of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, Jay and a few of his friends hosted a dinner in the wine cellar at Tony's as a fund raiser. It is now known as the Houston Black Tie Dinner, a charitable foundation that raises funds for local and national organizations committed to enriching the GLBT community. Named after Jay for his hard work and dedication to the GLBT community, the Hollyfield Political Award, is presented at the Houston Black Tie Dinner honoring that person for their political activism within the community.

Jay Hollyfield died of AIDS-related conditions in 1994. At his request the Hollyfield Foundation was founded. Its purpose is to help secure equal rights and treatment for sexual minorities and to be an advocate in the fight against AIDS. Today the board is comprised of friends and community leaders that share these philosophies. The Hollyfield Foundation continues to reach out to the GLBT community through its grants process by funding organizations on the front lines.

The Houston GLBT Community Center

The Houston GLBT Community Center is home base for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their allies in the metropolitan area and southeast Texas. Founded by a group of dedicated activists in 1996, the Center is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization.

The Center is located at the landmark Dow School (1900 Kane) in the Old Sixth Ward Historic District. The main Center entrance is the Silver Street door at the corner of Silver and Lubbock streets (look for the Center sign above the door). The phone number is [713.524.3818](tel:713.524.3818). The website is www.houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org

3rd Annual TTNS Committee Members:

Josephine Tittsworth, LMSW - Student – UH Graduate College of Social Work

Lou Weaver, Transgender Foundation of America, President - Board of Directors, Montrose Grace Place - Board of Directors, Houston GLBT Political Caucus – Board of Trustees, UH Student

Lorraine Schroeder, MA, LPC - UH LGBT Resource Center, Director

Prof. Kristen G. Ploeger, Ph.D., Dept of Computer Information Systems, McCoy College of Business, Texas State University - San Marcos

Dr. Maria Gonzalez, UH Department of English

Rev. Burton Bagby-Groose, Christian minister - American Baptist & United Church of Christ traditions, Houston GLBT Community Center - Treasurer, Thomas Street AIDS Clinic, Volunteer Chaplain