

Queer Query

BGSU's LBGTA-Q Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 3

February 25, 2005

Events

March 1

Harassment and Hate
Crimes
9pm, Women's Center
107 Hanna Hall

March 5-13
Spring Break

March 14

Rainbow Dayz Posters
available in 404
Saddlemire

March 21

Transgender panel- All you
every wanted to know!
6pm, 315 BTSU

March 28-April 1
Rainbow Dayz

Every Tuesday

Vision, BGSU's
undergraduate GLBTQIQSS
student organization
9pm, Women's Center
107 Hanna Hall

Every Thursday

Thursday Night
Peer Support Group
9pm, Women's Center
107 Hanna Hall

Every Wednesday

OUT@BGSU
Confidential Coming Out
Support Group
(Professionally run)
Call 2. 2081 for more
information

Every Thursday

Queer-Ally Grads
5pm
Black Swamp Pub BTSU

3rd Sunday of the
month

Transgender Support Group
3pm-5pm, Toledo Area
Pride Center

Workshop Spreads Awareness on Same-Sex Domestic Violence

By: Amanda M. Monyak

February 8th, Jeanette Beal, a student here at Bowling Green, presented a workshop to Vision (Bowling Green's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Questioning, Straight Supportive student organization) on same-sex domestic violence. The workshop was titled, "By Any Other Name: Speaking Out on LGBT Relationship Violence".

The domestic-violence workshop included audience interaction and discussion, as well as information on how to help victims and survivors of abusive relationships. This workshop was especially interesting because of the subject matter. Usually domestic-violence is talked about in terms of only heterosexual relationships, whereas this workshop allows individuals to be educated on something that is not usually addressed adequately.

Beal originally got the idea to create a workshop on same-sex domestic violence after finishing her very first literature review on the topic, followed by her participation in a workshop for educators on the issue. It took Beal about a year to complete the project. "It took me awhile to get back to it- I kind of got involved in other things and let it sit on the back burner," she said of the project.

Creating the project was not excessively arduous for Beal. She was able to take her familiarity with many subjects and use it to benefit the composition of her workshop. Also, the flexibility involved with personally creating a workshop was a definite advantage for her. "I already had the research done- that was the hard part. After attending the workshop for educators, and taking an Interpersonal Violence class at Bowling Green, I began to formulate ideas on how I could share what I learned with other people. I had fun finding media examples and thinking of ways to integrate common knowledge with what I wanted to present."

Beal's first presentation of the workshop occurred in her Interpersonal Violence class. "It was great to finally put it out there," she said, but also admits that she was nervous.

The initial reaction Beal received from her instructor had a very positive outcome. "I got great feedback from the instructor...it was precisely the encouragement I needed to present it at the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender & Ally College Conference (MBLGTACC) that following February!"

Beal decided to submit a conference proposal and was accepted as a presenter. The Conference was held in Ames, Iowa (Iowa State University) on February 14th, 2004. "I had one of the largest crowds I think, and the audience was great. Most were sexual assault or domestic violence workers themselves, or interested in the topic already, so we had a great energy/vibe and I got to network with some interesting folks!"

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BGSU LBGTA-Q Resource Center

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Domestic Violence Workshop Cont.

Beal actually started her education here at Bowling Green State University in August of 2002 and is expected to graduate in December with a double-major in Child and Family Community Services and Women's Studies. The next educational step Beal will most likely take is to advance to Graduate School. "Hopefully focusing on gender and social policy, or gender/culture studies," Beal stated.

Although same-sex domestic violence is an issue that is extremely important to Beal, there are other topics that Beal would like to explore as well. One of her current interests is identity formation and autonomy in disabled lesbians. "I am always intrigued by anomalies in life - by that which strays from traditional critiques - that which we (in whatever form that takes) do not want to address or vocalize for whatever reason. So, this workshop will probably see a few changes as time goes on, but in general I think I'll move on to other topics (and already am) out of curiosity's sake."

By creating a workshop on an issue she cared a great deal about, Beal was able to inform a countless amount of people. It is possible for any student to do the same thing on any topic: it just takes time, effort, and passion.

Ask Flamey and Flambo

Dear F&F

I'm in an interesting situation. I call myself queer and am dating a girl. The term I call myself a lot is also bi. People assume I'm a lesbian though and I'm not sure if I am suppose to introduce myself as a lesbian right off the bat, or not identify myself at all, or how I should go about the labeling so people can get a better grasp of who I am as a person. Do you have any suggestions?

The bisexual lesbian

Dear Bisexual Lesbian,

We think that it's best that maybe you just don't label yourself...the best label I can come up for myself is Flambo. Why? Because it incorporates everything that I am. So really, it shouldn't be a big deal, and everyone should just except that you are who you are. It's completely ok being a bisexual woman with a girlfriend. As long as you are ok with it, everyone else should be as well. Just introduce yourself by your name, and there should be no need for anything else.

Flambo

Resource Center Interns Wanted

The LGBTQA-Q Resource Center is looking for interns for the Fall of 2005. If you are interested in being an Intern for the Resource Center please contact Nicky at 2. 3244. There is a possibility of receiving academic credit.

Possibilities are endless as experience you'll ever have to what you would like to work on in the Resource Center. Also, the Resource Center is planning of hosting MBLGTACC Conference for Spring of 2006, if you are interested in being on the planning committee please contact Nicky also. MBLGTACC is also known as "the Big Gay Conference." The conference is in the month of February for one weekend and will be the best

BG's Take Back the Night March Allows Transgender Women

Take Back the Night, an annual rally and speak out against violence against women, is returning to Bowling Green this year. The Take Back the night March which was typically planned by BGSU's Women's Action Coalition, was discontinued when the organization lost its funding. Many Bowling Green residents went to Toledo for this event, but were upset when they found that Toledo does not allow transgender women to partake "women only" activities. This year, BGSU's Organization for Women's Issues, is planning the rally and march, and Will let allow any self identified women participate in "women only" activities.

This year, Take Back the Night will take place on April 15th on the steps to the Saddlemere Student Services Building.

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