ASCCC LGBT Caucus Meeting

San Francisco

April 18, 2013

Attendance:

Sue Gonda

Stephanie Dumont

A.C. Panella

Greg Miragua

Gregg C. (name unclear)

Julie Spiegler (guest)

Phil Smith (guest)

1. Student Mental Health Initiative

Julie gave an overview update of Kognito's work with the Student Mental Health Program. She gave some background about the SMHP and Kognito training, in conjunction with CARS, the psychological consultant firm.  In addition to the three training modules originally funded by the Chancellor's office, they are now doing three more. The three original:

-At Risk Suicide Prevention Training - for faculty and staff

-At Risk Suicide Prevention Training - for students/peers

-Veterans on Campus - for faculty and staff

The new modules:

-Vets on Campus - for students/peers

-LGBTQ - for faculty and staff

-LGBTQ - for students/peers

They have been collecting feedback and are now working on scripts and recordings for the LGBTQ modules. These LGBTQ materials will be unique, because other materials have focused on either four-year universities (with references to dorms, etc.) or on high schools, with more emphasis on teenage youth, versus the adult needs of community college students.

1. AB 620 Implementation

We had a discussion about the Power Point presentation that came from the technical people with CCC Apply.  The Power Point included a draft proposal for implementing certain aspects of AB 620 with respect to adding questions about sexual orientation and gender identity on the enrollment application to California community colleges.

* Members present agreed that there should not be a warning screen singling out a question about divulging information about sexual orientation.  If there is a warning screen about divulging personal information, then it should be before questions about *all* personal information, such as race/ethnicity.
* The many slides about security and fears of cyber breaches are out of context, given that there is already personal information (SS number) on the Application. Sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression are just more pieces of information.
* Similarly, concern about the age of the applicant is not warranted. What possible legal connection can there be for pre-18 year olds?  Whether there is a presumption of heterosexual identity or if someone identifies as LGBTQ, it should not make a difference for a minor, except for some paternalistic protection of an applicant from--what, a predator?    Any minor, in that case, would be equally vulnerable.  Parents or applicants who are uncomfortable with the questions can refuse to answer.

Discussion followed about next steps to express concerns about the "Proposed Change Order" for the Application.  Members present recommended that:

* Phil will seek approval from the ASCCC President and Executive Committee to reach out to Bonnie Edwards, the Senior Information Systems Analyst, Telecommunications and Technology Unit with some of our opinions/concerns about the above issues.
* Sue will contact Marty Block's office, via Kevin J. Powers, Senior Consultant in Block's San Diego office.  She will seek to clarify what the intent of AB 620 was:  "Districts shall identify...."  versus  "CCCCO requested to report aggregate information..."  She'll ask if Block's office has received any report or updates about the implementation of AB620, and if they know what process is in place to implement it.  The idea is just to make an inquiry, make note of the answers, and place it on their radar.

Lastly, Sue mentioned how difficult it is to get word out to Plenary attendees that we are meeting--particularly when and where. Sue attempted to put the flier (thanking people for participating in the review of materials and announcing time and place of the Caucus), and it was moved from the top of the white board to the lower right hand corner where it was not noticeable.

Let's request to be part of the printed program.  Can we be a standing Caucus meeting on Thursday night, with a room assignment?  I would be happy to provide a brief descriptor of the agenda - or we can have a generic one.  Something like:  "Round table discussions about issues, resources and events relevant to CCC LGBTQ students and faculty." Sue is willing to contact Julie Adams and Beth Smith about this for future plenaries.

--Sue Gonda