

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
GAY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE  
FINAL REPORT FOR 1977-78  
APRIL 25, 1978

The Subcommittee's charges were discussed and revised at the beginning of the semester to include the following:

- 1) to evaluate the effectiveness of student services in meeting the needs of gay students.
- 2) to work with the Office of Career Planning and Placement in compiling a list of corporations and municipalities that enforce anti-discrimination policies; and
- 3) to act as a sounding board for gay student concerns and as a liason between the gay community and Student Council.

This semester's Subcommittee work was hampered at the outset by the controversy and misunderstandings that centered around its activities first semester. The semester was well underway before any serious discussions of the proposed revamping of the Subcommittee charges took place. In addition, the Subcommittee chair was not filled until the end of February.

The first project that the Subcommittee undertook was the establishment of a file containing a list of corporations and municipalities that do not discriminate on the basis of sexual preference. The Subcommittee contacted the National Gay Task Force to see if they had such a list already in existence. The task force replied that they did have such a list but that it was limited in its information. The Subcommittee requested that they send it a copy of this information to be used as a basis for its own such listing. The Subcommittee is currently awaiting the arrival of this information and intends to continue this project at that time or this summer, if necessary.

Subcommittee determined that beyond Career Planning and Placement project

The Subcommittee determined that beyond the Career Planning and Placement project, there was little more that it could do without additional input from the gay community. It was decided, in view of the trouble that the Subcommittee has had in getting gay students to come forward with their concerns, that the most effective way to obtain gay student input would be a survey of the gay community. Such a survey would provide an opportunity for gay students to speak openly, yet anonymously, about gay concerns, thereby eliminating the fear of discovery and recrimination.

The Subcommittee submitted a list of proposed questions for the survey to Student Council officers for discussion and approval. After a week's delay in receiving final word on these questions, the Subcommittee submitted, as requested, a revised list of questions for the survey. After an additional delay of over a week,

The Subcommittee membership expressed concern that the lengthy delay of approval and publication of the questionnaires will have no small effect upon its results. The Subcommittee felt it important to distribute the survey at the end of this year rather than the beginning of next in order to reach the large number of students (first year, transfer, and otherwise) who have not yet "come out" at the beginning of the year. By the time the survey was actually published, there was so little time left in the year that some students simply will not be able to take the time to complete the survey and return it before the end of exams. In this way, valuable input may have been lost.

At this report only a few surveys have yet been returned. The results will be compiled and a report submitted to Council in the fall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Faige Armstrong  
Chairperson