Charter for Queers & Allies House

Mission of Queers & Allies House
Queers & Allies House provides a community-building space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and allied students of Carleton College. The house serves as an alternative living space for LGBTA students, and offers outreach in the form of social programming to build cohesion in the larger community of the college. These functions are intended to promote understanding of LGBTA issues and to affirm the needs and experiences of LGBTA students at Carleton.

Goals for Queers & Allies House
1. To provide a living situation where students can live in a queer-focused and queer-friendly space.
2. To enrich the LGBTA community on campus through regular social and community building events and providing a space for connections between students, faculty, staff and alumni.
3. To provide a welcoming space for LGBTA students on campus.

Selection Process
The Gender and Sexuality Center coordinates the selection process. Applicants will be expected to complete an application and interview.

Expectations for Residents
As an integral part of the LGBTA resources of the college, it is important that residents have a thorough understanding and acceptance of shared expectations and responsibilities to each other and to the mission of the house.

1. Residents must be willing to participate in the programming efforts of the house in some way, with recognition of preferences for specific types of tasks taken into account.
2. It is important that the public living spaces be kept clean and organized at all times to welcome drop-in traffic and prevent inconvenience for other residents. All residents accept equal personal responsibility for the appearance of the house.
3. To maximize interaction and communication between residents and to facilitate programming, all residents will attend weekly house meetings to discuss concerns and ideas for the house.
4. While providing the entire campus with an LGBTA community-building space, the needs of the house itself as a community are equally important. Residents should at all times show respect and consideration for each other, and assume good will in conversations and house meetings to maintain a comfortable and positive house dynamic.

Conflict Resolution
If any member of Queers and Allies House is repeatedly disruptive or fails to meet the goals and expectations of the house, that member will be asked to leave the house. All internal conflicts will be first addressed by the house members. The following procedures will be used when conflict or disagreements arise:

1. All house members will attend a meeting for the purposes of reviewing expectations and resolving conflicts.
2. If conflicts or disruptive behavior continues, a mediation session with a Residential Life or Gender & Sexuality Center officer can be requested. Any house member under review may bring an advocate or supporter.
3. The staff of Residential Life and/or Gender & Sexuality Center staff will work with the house to determine how to resolve the conflict, which may include removal of a house member.