Out of the Basement

Gender and Sexuality Center
Basement Scoville

Features
November 2007
1 In 4 Profiles  2
Rainbow Retreat  4
Meet the GSC Staff Answers  5
Countdown to the L Word  6
Hot Sex Week Wrap-Up  7
Tools for White Guys  8-9
New in the GSC Libe  10
LGBTQ Scholarships  11
Events  12

Volume 7, Issue 3

Getting ready for winter
Samuel Estes, 2008
Why Sam is a member of One in Four, “Sexual violence is a serious problem, so there should be as many people as possible, regardless of sex, working in some way on prevention and healing efforts that address this issue.”

Fun Fact About Sam, “I’ve been to a country that the U.S. State Department recommends that Americans avoid (I was in Columbia for 6 weeks this past summer).”

Tom Fry ’09
Why Tom is a member of One in Four, “I want men to be more outspoken about sexual assault, and figure that I should probably start with myself.”

Fun Fact About Tom, “At the age of 10, I attempted to read Stephen Hawking’s *A Brief History of Time*. I stopped at relativity, which, if I remember correctly, was the first chapter. Now I'm an English major.”

David Heifetz, 2011
Why David is a member of One in Four, “Because if something happened to my sister I’d want to know what to do.”

Fun Fact About David, “I just got my new Kanye West shirt today and I'm really stoked about it.”

David Smith, 2009
Why David is a member of One in Four, “I want to end rape and sexual assault at Carleton.”

Fun Fact About David, “Winter is my favorite term.”

Robert Hildebrandt, 2009
Why Robert is a member of One in Four, “A desire to learn more about women’s rights issues and how negative gender norms allow for the perpetration and acceptance of sexual assault (and to keep this from happening at Carleton).”

Fun Fact About Robert, “I spent the summer studying Irish lit in Ireland.”
Alexandre Adrian, 2010
Why Alexandre is a member of One in Four, “I have friends who have been sexually assaulted.”
Fun Fact About Alexandre, “I enjoy the gothic horror role-playing games of White Wolf Publishing, such as Vampire: The Requiem or Promethean: The Created.”

Sam Lemonick, 2008
Why Sam is a member of One in Four, “Sexual violence is unacceptable. It sounds simplistic, but my belief in that statement motivates me more than anything else.”
Fun Fact About Sam, “New Hampshire governor Jack Lynch has seen my naked behind.”

Sam Ritter, 2010
Why Sam is a member of One in Four, “I am part of 1in4 because I was tired of sexual violence prevention programs that simply told me that I was going to rape women. I knew that I could be part of the solution.”
Fun Fact About Sam, “I was born 6 weeks premature.”

Justin Smith, 2009
Why Justin is a member of One in Four, “Because our campus needs to have more real, accessible conversations about the issue of sexual assault, and I think this group is a great way to get these started.”
Fun Fact About Justin, “I refuse to wear my winter coat until winter term.”

Ken Geiger, 2009
Why Ken is a member of One in Four, “I think this is a very effective program.
Fun Fact About Ken, “I have spent more time in China over the past two years than in the U.S.”
What could be better than hanging out with a bunch of queers, gays, and allies in the woods in Wisconsin? Imagine, there’s a lake right outside your window. You are sleeping in a cabin filled with gays, lesbians, trans, queers and staunch allies. You feel safe in every way except for the small chance a bear will find its way into your bunk. You wake up after a night of intense discussion and 27 rousing games of foosball. There’s a chill in the air that hits your nose as you first emerge from your sleeping bag. You feel more relaxed than you have been since the start of the term. You’re among friends, the sun is shining, the snow is sparkling, and you are NOT at Carleton.

Besides being a fun place to hang out and get to know people, the rainbow retreat promises to be, as it has been in the past, an unforgettable experience. It is a place to communicate, to share, to learn, and to feel. It’s a two day journey that will help you grow individually and facilitate community growth that can be transferred back to Carleton. It’s a place to ask questions both of yourself and of others and it is a place to explore the answers to these questions.

This weekend getaway is brought to you by the Gender and Sexuality Center. In its 7th year, the Rainbow Retreat has evolved from a three hour retreat to a whole weekend getaway. It is designed for students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, or allies to the LGBT community. It is a chance to talk about things that aren’t normally discussed during the hectic Carleton term in a safe and nurturing environment.

Retreat facilitator Dr. Jamie Washington will lead us through a variety of identity-exploring and community-developing activities. He has been with us from the beginning and knows a lot about the specifics of the Carleton community from working with us for 7 years. The retreat isn’t all work and no play, however. In addition to the discussions and reflections, there will be many fun activities in which to participate. There will be a “No Talent Talent Show” which has been a venue for such legends as Julie Nicol and Derek Zimmerman to show off their wide arrays of talent. It could be a life changing experience.

Last year, we played football in the snow, myriad games of foosball, and sing-a-longs, made buttons, and went for walks along the shore of the Mississippi river, which is right out the back door of the retreat center. I have been to the Rainbow Retreat every year and I wouldn’t miss it this year.

Sign up sheets are in the GSC or you can email kwilliam to sign up. The Rainbow Retreat will be held this year on January 11-13, 2008.
In the October edition of Out of the Basement you were challenged to pair GSC staff members with fun facts about them. Here are the answers you’ve been anticipating.

Kaaren Williamsen-Garvey—I have to sleep with socks on -- even in the hottest days.

Danica Lance—When eating, I do not drink any liquid and most of the time I do not drink anything after a meal.

Christi Conkling ’09—I label my socks so I always wear the same two socks at the same time and the same sock always goes on the same foot.

Jedda Foreman ’08—I have to scratch my face and put on Chapstick every night before I can fall asleep.

Em Harris ’08—I need table settings to be well spaced and parallel or perpendicular, as appropriate.

Mal Hoffman ’08—I have to finish a book once I start reading it. That also means textbooks I start in a class and we don’t get to the end. I’ve read every text book I’ve ever had cover to cover, even the appendices.

Sarah King ’09—I came in 6th at a All-City (Chicago) Free-Throw competition and was the only girl competing.

Leahruth Jemilo ’08—When I was younger I used to suck my thumb during tee-ball games as I was playing in the outfield; my mom would yell out "Thumbelina" to me to get me to stop.

Angelica Johnson ’08—I enjoy walking around naked in my room.

Michael Lane ’08—I always sort through my trash before I put it out, to make sure I am not throwing anything of value away. If anyone throws out my trash without asking, I get very angry.

Elizabeth Nguyen ’09—I have a yellow belt in To Shin Do from the man who was the Dalai Lama's body guard.

Katie Paul ’08—I love to cut raw chicken.

Jini Rao ’09—I pulled my first official all-nighter, for three days in a row, in ninth grade.

Justin Smith ’09—When I feel awkward in public situations, I pretend to text message people.
During the cold winter months, lesbians from far and wide gather together to watch the groundbreaking television series called The L Word. If you are familiar with this show you are, no doubt, getting super excited about the new season starting in January. Like us, you are probably counting down the days until you can, again, gather with your dykey compatriots and indulge in a plethora of lesbian drama. If you don’t know about The L Word, you should find a friend who has Showtime, Netflix, or rent seasons one through four. If this is too much work, or the stresses of a rigorous Carleton schedule prevent you from taking an hour and walking to the video store or hopping on the computer to open a Netflix account we are having an unofficial event during reading days this term in which we will screen every episode ever made in a glorious gay extravaganza. We can’t wait!

Now don’t get us wrong, straights, gay men, and pretty much everyone else will enjoy diving into the lives of 12 women living in LA. This fabulous drama deals with everything from pregnancy to gender reassignment surgery to crazy women coming out and cheating on their husbands to whom they have been married for decades. You don’t have to be a lesbian to get enjoyment out of watching Phyllis realize she is a lesbian, sleep with Alice, and subsequently file for divorce.

This show, like all other shows, is not without its criticisms. Many individuals do not like this show because it is grounded in white culture and doesn’t accurately reflect real life. It’s true, these women live in posh houses in a city with one of the highest costs of living in the United States and seem never to work. How does that happen? It’s a television show! It’s not supposed to reflect real life, so sit back, relax, and enjoy it.

Now for our predictions, next season promises to be even more dramatic than the last four. We have had many conversations about the possibilities that this season may bring. Here are our musings: Bette and Jodi will continue their relationship from opposite sides of the country. Tina will fall back in love with Bette who won’t care because she is so enamored with Jodi. Jenny will probably end up back on top with her movie production, possibly firing Tina and her director. Phyllis will find someone to date and possibly will fall in love. Shane will continue her antics and probably will end up single once again after cheating on her most recent fling, Paige. We wouldn’t be surprised if Shane ended up pregnant. Alice’s chart will continue to grow, keeping Papi as the major lesbian sex hub as she steps up her game by sleeping with even more lesbians in the LA area. Tasha is probably going to go over to Iraq and will probably get killed leaving Alice with two dead girlfriends.

The L Word will be screened on Thursday and Friday (November 15-16) from 11am until 9pm in Musser Hall Director Danica’s apartment (1st Musser)!
H.O.T. S.E.X. Workshop Wrap-Up
By Jedda Foreman

At our H.O.T. S.E.X. (Healthy Open Talking about Sex and Everything eXtra) Communications Workshop last Tuesday (presented by GSCAs Christi Conkling, Jedda Foreman, Leahruth Jemilo, and Katie Paul), we asked everyone in the audience to write down one thing they wished they would have said to a sexual partner. The following are the responses we received:

- I felt suffocated in the relationship and like you never wanted to hang out with other people.
- Can we use sex toys next time?
- I sometimes feel bad because she’s Jewish and really religious and I’m neither and I feel left out.
- I’d like it if she seemed more interested in sex.
- Sometimes I don’t want to have sex when we do.
- I wish I told him not to suck my nipples.
- I really wanted you to go down on me after I went down on you, and you didn’t.
- The way you kiss is far too sloppy.
- I wish I had spoken up more about what did and did not feel good.
- I think its important to know ‘how far’ their partner has gone.
- I wish I felt more comfortable talking with you about taking the lead
- I wish I had asked/insisted we used protection for oral sex even though I knew I was the only person he’d been with and he was the only person I’d been with. I was still really uncomfortable with the risk, but didn’t say anything.
- I wish we had talked more about sexual expectations.
- I wish I would have said ouch.
- I wish I would have said ‘stop’.
- I wish he would have said “I want us to be together tonight”.
- I wish we had just watched a movie.
- I’m kind of grossed out that you had sex with me when I was 16.
- You’re being just a wee bit too rough.

Our hope, in sharing these intimate lines with you is that you see what your peers, your friends, and your partners are thinking and feeling. The goal of H.O.T. S.E.X. week was to start creating an environment on campus where people can talk about sex in a clear and positive fashion. We want people to feel comfortable talking about sex to their friends, and most importantly, their partners. We believe that by knowing what feels good, what is comfortable, and how to speak about those things will help create healthier hook-ups and healthier relationships.

Watch out for more H.O.T. S.E.X. and other fun sex education workshops in the winter!
1. Practice noticing who’s in the room at meetings—how many men, how many women, how many white people, how many people of color, is it mostly heterosexual individuals, how many out queers, what are people’s class backgrounds? Don’t assume to know people, but also work at being more aware.

2. Count how many times you speak and keep track of how long you speak. Do the same for others.

3. Be conscious of how often you are actively listening to what other people are saying as opposed to just waiting your turn and/or thinking about what you’ll say next.

4. Practice going to meetings focused on listening and learning; go to some meetings and do not speak at all.

5. Count how many times you put ideas out to the group. Count how many times you support other people’s ideas for the group.

6. Practice supporting people by asking them to expand on ideas and get more in-depth before you decide to support the idea or not.

7. Think about whose work and contribution to the group gets recognized. Practice recognizing more people for the work they do and try to do it more often.

8. Practice asking more people what they think about meetings, ideas, actions, strategy and vision. White guys tend to talk amongst themselves and develop strong bonds that manifest in organizing. This creates an internal organizing culture that is alienating for most people. Developing respect and solidarity across race, class, gender and sexuality is complex and difficult but absolutely critical—also liberating.

**Tools for White Guys Who (and Other People Socialized)**
9. Be aware of how often you ask people to do something as opposed to asking other people “what needs to be done”.
10. Think about and struggle with the saying, “you will be needed in the movement when you realize you are not needed in the movement.”
11. Struggle with and work with the model of group leadership that says that the responsibility of leaders is to help develop more leaders, and think about what this means.
12. Remember that social change is a process, and that our individual transformation and individual liberation is intimately interconnected with social transformation and social liberation. Life is profoundly complex and there are many contradictions. Remember that the path we travel is guided by love, dignity and respect—even when it is bumpy and difficult to navigate.
13. This list is not limited to white guys, nor is it intended to reduce all white guys into one category. This list is intended to disrupt patterns of domination which hurt our movement and hurt each other. White guys have a lot of work to do, but it is the kind of work that makes life worth living.
14. Day to day patterns of domination are the glue that maintain systems of domination. The struggle against capitalism, white supremacy, patriarchy, heterosexism and the state is also the struggle towards collective liberation.
15. No one is free until we are all free.

Modified from the UC Berkeley Fall 2007 Female Sexuality Reader
New in the GSC Libe

Redefining Babes, Booze and Brawls: Men Against Violence – Towards a New Masculinity
By Luoluo Hong

This dissertation, written from the perspective of a woman (and rape survivor) working with men, is a case study of the Men Against Violence peer education program and how a group of eight committed men support each other in changing their own conceptions of masculinity and in redefining what men can do to help.

The Macho Paradox: Why Some Men Hurt Women and How All Men Can Help
By Jackson Katz

Opening with a quote from bell hooks, Katz introduces radical notions of transgression and change to the realities of a world where masculinity is defined by American Pie and Justin Timberlake. He calls men to make violence against women their problem while addressing contemporary concerns like “Can I still go to strip clubs?” Publisher’s Weekly calls this book “A potent form of male consciousness-raising,” and Jean Kilbourne calls Katz “a true revolutionary and a national treasure.”

Sexual Assault in Context: Teaching College Men About Gender
By Christopher Kilmartin and Alan Berkowitz

This slim text is a “quick, easy-to-read synopsis of male gender and sexual assault education strategies.” This handbook outlines some of the practical necessities for implementing a successful sexual violence prevention program.

I Never Called It Rape: The Ms. Report on Recognizing, Fighting and Surviving Date and Acquaintance Rape
By Robin Warshaw

A holistic perspective on date/acquaintance rape, Warshaw’s report combines statistics with stories to give the reader a nuanced understanding of what date rape is, what we can do to stop and how we can support survivors. Warshaw tackles the underlying belief systems that lead to date rape and interrogates the response of the police, institutions, and communities.

Sexual Assault on the College Campus: The Role of Male Peer Support
By Martin Schwartz and Walter DeKeseredy

A comprehensive look at sexual assault on American college campuses, Schwartz and DeKeseredy provide a highly documented understanding of incidence of sexual assault, the rape supportive culture we live in, college policy in response to sexual assault and the prevention efforts of male peer educators.
Lgbta Scholarship Opportunities

By Christi Conkling

Think back to winter break of your senior year of high school. Were there applications for schools and scholarships spread all over your kitchen table? Did you have to buy those huge brown envelopes in bulk? Well this winter break is a great time to start that trend all over again.

There are a ton of scholarships offered for students with specific interests or traits and identifying as gay, lesbian, bi, trans or ally can open up a world of scholarship opportunities to you. Check out your local Lgbta organizations (including those in Minnesota) for specific awards. Don’t get discouraged if you can’t find applicable awards right away. While there certainly are more scholarships intended for high school students, the competition for awards targeting undergraduate students is much less intense.

Pfund

Offering multiple scholarships with one application, PFund is kind of one-stop shopping for scholarships pertaining to students identifying as GLBT or those that come from GLBT families. Specific scholarships include opportunities for atheist, Catholic, Lutheran pre-law, pre-med, African-American, Native American and pre-teaching students as well as those with specific majors such as physics and biology. The application is due on February 1 and can be accessed at http://www.philanthrofund.org/.

Pflag

Go to http://www.pflag.org to find your home Pflag chapter. Contact them for information about the resources and scholarships they might offer to students.
Looking Ahead to Winter Term

- **Rainbow Retreat!** January 11-13. Sign up in the GSC now!
- **Boxes and Walls.** Jan 26&27
- **Vagina Monologues!** February 9
- **Conference on the College Male.** February 15&16 at St. Johns University in St. Joseph MN
- **Midwest LGBT College Conference**
  Feb 22-24 at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
- **Pink Party.** TBA
- **Staceyann Chin.** TBA

Mark Your Calendars!

**Contact Information and Editorial Policy**

The Gender and Sexuality Center publishes this newsletter monthly for the campus community and friends. Information in the newsletter is based on the best available information at the time of publication. Items in the newsletter are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Gender and Sexuality Center or its employees, nor do they represent the views of the students, staff, faculty, or administration of Carleton College.

Please submit articles, calendar entries, letters and news to the Gender and Sexuality Center or via e-mail to: conklinc@carleton.edu. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and space.

**Newsletter Team:** Christi Conkling and Leahruth Jemilo