OUT OF THE BASEMENT

WELCOME (back) TO CARLETON!

FEATURING
September 2007

ABOUT THE GSC & STUDENT ORGS.
"NOT ON OUR CAMPUS"
1 IN 4
ALLY 101
TWIN CITIES RESOURCES
CHAT
QUEER PEERS EVENTS

Volume 7, Issue 1
Welcome to Carleton! Do you want to find other LGBT or allied students on campus? Wondering about feminist organizing or rape prevention efforts? Just curious about all of it? The GSC is for you! Attend one of our events, browse through our library or just stop by to say hi!

### About the Gender and Sexuality Center

The GSC offers resources and support on LGBT, women’s and men’s issues and coordinates campus initiatives to prevent sexual violence. We work with other campus organizations and offices to strengthen and sustain an inclusive campus community that promotes gender equality and awareness and welcomes people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Now beginning its 7th year of operation, the GSC offers a wide range of programming on a range of issues related to gender and sexuality. The GSC is staffed by Kaaren Williamsen-Garvey, the LGBT Advisor and GSC Director, Danica Lance, Hall Director & GSC Advisor, and by Center Associates (GSCAs), students with special interest and training in issues of gender and sexuality. We also maintain a growing library and a comfortable space for meeting, reading and relaxing. Feel free to stop by and hang out any time!

### Take Action! Join a Student Organization

**AIDS and HIV Awareness (AHA!)**

AHA! Strives to increase awareness about issues of sexuality in general, with specific focus on how to prevent the spread of HIV and other STDs. AHA! Sponsors trips to anonymous HIV testing sites each term, distributes condoms on campus, and organizes Carleton’s team for the MN AIDS Walk. Andrew Widmer (widmera), Lizzy Egbert (egbertl), Hannah Oken-Berg (okenberh)

**Black Queer Alliance (BQA)**

The purpose of BQA is to combine the cultural resources of the back, African-American and LGBT communities to put on social activities that celebrate the spirit of these intertwining identities at Carleton. Angelica Johnson (johnsoan)

**Breaking Ground**

Breaking Ground is a radical feminist journal produced by member of the Carleton community. The purpose of Breaking Ground is to develop people’s ideas and perspectives of gender, sex, sexuality, race and class. We accept essays, stories, poems, and visual art, and welcome anonymous submissions.

**Campus Advocates Against Sexual Harassment and Assault (CAASHA)**

CAASHA are an autonomous group whose purpose is to provide support to survivors and perpetrators (women or men) of sexual harassment and assault. They are available 24x7 and offer completely confidential, on-judgmental listening, support, and information on resources and Carleton’s policies. Gillian Price (priceg), Jini Rao (raoj), Emily Schulman (schulmac)
Carls for Choice

Carls for Choice exists to increase awareness and activism within Carleton and its community in regards to reproductive rights, abortion, and pro-choice issues. Kristin Nierengarten (nierengk), Liz Aeschlimann (aeschlil)

Coalition of Women of Color (COWOC)

COWOC creates an environment for women on the Carleton campus that is supportive, fun and serves as a resource. Raymonda Reese (reesser), Nakita Natala (natalan), Jessica Brooks (brooksJ)

Collective for Women's Issues (CWI)

CWI is an umbrella organization that provides avenues for community services, political action, and consciousness-raising for those interested in feminist and social justice issues at Carleton. In addition, CWI serves as a personal support group for women at Carleton. Jini Rao (raoj)

Men of Color (MOC)

MOC serves as a support network and resource that functions to educate and empower male students of color at Carleton. Brandon Walker (walkerb), Dorjee Norbu (norbud), Will Huynh (huynhw)

Sexuality and Gender Activism (SaGA)

SaGA is Carleton’s LGBTQ activism group. It addresses issues such as civil rights, legislation, human rights in the U.S. and abroad, community issues, college policy, and campus awareness around matters of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender interest. Michael Lane (lanem), Justin Smith (smithJ), Dominic Vendell (vendelld)

GLBTQ&A Dinner Group:

This new group is a small, informal one where LGBTQ&A students can get together and talk. Most meetings will be held during meals in the dining hall, but activities such as movie night, outings to the city, and "formal" dinners in Northfield are a possibility. Susan Chambers (chambers)

---

The Houses: Q&A and WA

The GSC sponsors two campus interest houses that act as safe spaces for the communities they represent as well as centers for involvement and fun!

Queers and Allies (Q&A, or Prentice) 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 LGBTQA students, and offers outreach in the form of social programming to build cohesion in the larger community of the college. House Manager: Justin Smith (smithJ)

Women’s Awareness (WA or Berg) House

Provides a woman centered living environment for Carleton women and offers a variety of community building and educational events. House Manager: Jini Rao (raoj)
“Not on Our Campus!”
By Jedda Foreman ’08

Although we would all like to trust in a Carleton that is wholly just, protected, and safe, the truth is that Carleton isn’t quite the bubble it often seems. Unfortunately, sexual violence at Carleton is more common than many people think, and certainly more widespread than most people tend to talk about. However, last year a group of concerned students and the GSC started the “Not On Our Campus!” pledge, which we hoped would endow our community with a renewed sense of ownership—a sense that sexual violence is something we can control, and ultimately stop.

The answer to stopping sexual violence on our campus is not one-dimensional because sexual violence is complex and multifaceted. We realize that most sexual violence at Carleton isn’t violent, at least not in the way we normally think about violence; instead, the violence usually occurs between friends or someone you’ve been dating—it is usually perpetrated by someone who’s been drinking, and usually carried out in an act full of confusion, poor communication, and misjudgment. Many people at Carleton don’t realize that their behavior can be harmful and, in fact, people have been taught by our culture that such behavior is acceptable. This behavior does not make it any less painful for the survivor, but we believe it does make it easier to stop.

And so, it was from conversations of guilt, pain, and blame, unawareness and inattention that we started the “Not On Our Campus!” pledge. The intention of the GSC is to spread awareness of sexual violence on campus, give people enough knowledge about their bodies to feel comfortable with their own desires and boundaries, and to provide people with the skills to say “No” or “Yes,” “Please” or “Is this ok with you?” in their own words and in their relationships. We want people to feel powerful enough to question inappropriate or predatory behavior in other parts of their life as well. And finally, we hope the “Not On Our Campus!” pledge creates a community that is supportive, comfortable, and safe for survivors. We are passionate about ending sexual exploitation in any form.

Last year we organized many events ranging from outside speakers, to student-led vigils, to angry speak-outs, all of which we plan to bring back in this upcoming year. We invite you to please come down to the GSC to sign the pledge, help organize an event, or just talk to one of the GSC staff! Your voice can make a difference.

---

Not On Our Campus! Pledge

I will establish meaningful consent with a partner before engaging in sexual activity.

I will interrupt conversations that promote a culture of sexual violence.

I will intervene when I see potentially dangerous situations.

I will have the courage to confront my peers when their judgment is impaired.

I will support survivors and help to create a survivor supportive environment.

I will recognize the power of my voice and my actions to prevent sexual violence.

The Pledge: Read it, Think about it, Sign it!
The Gender and Sexuality Center is proud to bring the One in Four RV Tour to Carleton College in mid-October. The name “One in Four” refers to the fact that roughly 1/4th of all college women have experienced rape or attempted rape in their lifetime. This event is part of our own programming to encourage men to get involved in the prevention of violence against women. Violence prevention efforts, typically seen as a women's issue, can be stronger and more effective with male involvement—in fact they are only possible if men work positively to change their own attitudes and behaviors. Violence against women is therefore everyone's issue. Unlike many violence prevention efforts, "The Men's Program" addresses men as part of the solution rather than part of the problem.

The One in Four RV Tour consists of four male college students traveling around the country, stopping at colleges and universities to speak with college men about how they can make a difference in preventing violence against women. The leaders present a one hour program for an all male audience entitled, "How to Help a Sexual Assault Survivor: What Men Can Do." The program has been proven to be successful in educational institutions around the country by decreasing men's belief in rape myths significantly lowering their likelihood of committing a sexual assault.

We are excited to welcome One in Four to our campus and to offer "The Men's Program" to all interested male students. We believe that not only can we make a difference in prevention efforts here at Carleton, but that we can also give students knowledge and training that they can take with them into the world when they graduate.

Here at Carleton we know that men are concerned with violence against women and want to get involved in prevention efforts. If this is something that you would like to be more actively involved with, contact the Gender and Sexuality Center for more information.

---

**Let's Talk About SEX...**

Our very own advice column!

This advice column is produced by an alliance of SWAs and GSCAs in order to bring you the most up-to-date and comprehensive information about anything and everything you ever wanted to know about sex.

Have sex questions of your own? Thought you’d never be able to have them anonymously—and thoroughly—answered? Now you can!

**Place your questions in mailbox #1360, and we’ll have them answered in the next newsletter!**
The One in Four Carleton Chapter,

The CARLETON RAPE PREVENTION TEAM. “Men working to end rape one school at a time.”

Centerpiece of the visit by the men of One in Four will be a training for Carleton men so that they can create their own team and become trainers themselves. In this intensive, two day program, Jor-El, Dan, JT and James will pass on their knowledge and experience to a group of 10-15 Carleton students. These students will be trained in how to listen to survivors’ stories and will create their own group to combat rape. The dates will be the Sunday and Monday of midterm break (Oct 14th and 15th)
Carleton students arrive on campus with all levels of experience with LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) issues. Some are out and proud gay kids who have been activists since they were young; some are straight kids who are strong advocates of gay rights; and some come from communities where their exposure to queer issues began with the publicizing of the gay marriage debate in the fall of 2003.

You’ll soon realize (and we hope that this makes you very happy) that Carleton is a place where intolerance of any kind, including homophobia, is very unpopular. However, just because people don’t give voice to their prejudices and misconceptions here doesn’t mean that they cease to exist. The best way to challenge yourself to be better is to get involved, so that you may start to think of yourself as an Ally. No matter what their previous knowledge, students coming to Carleton can always learn something new about LGBT issues. Whether you’ve been involved with LGBT-rights activism before or are just beginning to learn about LGBT issues, we hope you learn something new from this section of the newsletter. And remember, don’t be afraid to ask questions if you have them!

What is an Ally? All minority communities need people who consider themselves allies. In the words of author Anne Bishop: “Allies are people who recognize the unearned privilege they receive from society’s patterns of injustice and take responsibility for changing these patterns. Allies include men who work to end sexism, white people who work to end racism, heterosexual people who work to end heterosexism, able-bodied people who work to end ableism, and so on. Part of becoming an ally is also recognizing one’s own experience of oppression. For example, a white woman can learn from her experience of sexism and apply it in becoming an ally to people of color…”

The Ultimate Ally: Cindy Lauper at the Gay Games. Just imagine that the dress is rainbow
How to be a good Ally

Many Carleton students want to affirm and accept their LGBT peers, but don’t know how to go about it. This list gives suggestions for how to show support for LGBT students and their rights. This is by no means an exhaustive list of things you can do to support gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Carleton students, nor is it a list of strict “requirements” for being a good ally.

**EDUCATE YOURSELF!**
- Learn about attitudes, laws, policies and practices at Carleton and at state and national levels, and their effects on LGBT people.
- Listen to what your LGBT peers have to say.

**BE A VOCAL AND VISIBLE ADVOCATE!**
- Interrupt homophobic jokes; explain why they’re not funny.
- Encourage discussion.
- Vote for politicians with good voting records on LGBT issues.
- Pick up a Carleton Pride button in the GSC.

**PARTICIPATE!**
- Go to GSC-sponsored and gay-related events, including LGBT panel discussions on your floor.
- Go to a GSC Panel training, and join a Panel yourself.
- Celebrate National Coming Out Day and Pride Month.

**PRACTICE NONDISCRIMINATION!**
- Don’t assume that someone is heterosexual until you know.
- Use genderless terms, like “significant other” rather than “boyfriend” or “girlfriend.”
- Be consistent in your acceptance and support of other groups of people.
- Examine your own actions. Unlearn myths you have been taught.
- Accept different forms of gender expression. Try to unlearn gender stereotypes.

**USE YOUR RESOURCES!**
- Subscribe to the GSC, SaGA, and/or CIAO email lists. Visit [https://lists.carleton.edu](https://lists.carleton.edu) to sign up.
- Sign up to receive the GSC Newsletter.
- Participate in online activism. Visit the Human Rights Campaign at [www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org) and sign up to receive their action alerts.
Carleton is lucky to have a strong, fun, friendly queer community, but as a new student it might not be obvious how best to become part of it or where you will fit.

The Queer Peers mentoring program pairs you with a dedicated junior or senior to help you make the most out of Carleton. Weekly meetings with your mentor will give you a chance to learn more about what it’s like to be LGBTQQA at Carleton and help you connect to other LGBTA students. Several social events each term will make it easier to meet other first years and mentors in the program.

Everything is confidential and the amount of your involvement is entirely your choice; we’re ready to do as much as we can to help you feel as comfortable here as possible and make the most of what Carleton has to offer.

For more information or to sign up, contact Sam (lemonics) or Jedda (foremanj), fill out the included card, or come to the Rainbow Reception in the GSC, Sunday, Sept 9th from 12:30 to 1:15. Sign up today!

Chat is a discussion group created at the end of last year to provide a weekly place for LGBT students to come together and talk about the coming out process—whatever that means for them.

Whether it’s dealing with family issues or simply how to establish one’s self in Carleton’s LGBT community, this group is a chance to talk about it all—with others who understand. The discussions will focus on whatever you want to talk about, whether it be coming out at home or any snags that you have run into in the Carleton LGBT community. Most of all, we want to make this group as valuable as possible for students at Carleton, and we look forward to talking with you. Keep a look out for dates and times, and drop by! There will be trained center associates and delicious treats waiting for you. For more information, email smithj or kwilliam.
Sometimes it’s nice to get out of Northfield. What’s even nicer is to be “out”, someplace outside of Northfield. If you are interested in organizations and events of, by and for the GLBT community in the Twin Cities, the possibilities seem truly endless! Here is a very sparse listing of a few different organizations that might interest you:

**OutFront Minnesota** is the area’s leading LGBTQ equality group. OutFront Minnesota delivers programs and services to the GLBT and allied communities in the areas of public policy, advocacy, education and training, anti-violence, schools, and the law.

**The Amazon Bookstore Cooperative:** With NO connection to Amazon.com, this bookstore was founded in 1970 and is the oldest independent feminist bookstore in North America! Check out [www.amazonbookstorecoop.com](http://www.amazonbookstorecoop.com) for directions, store hours and more information or shop online.

**The Red Door Clinic:** Minnesota’s largest HIV and STD testing site, they also provide pregnancy prevention services and perform pap smears. They also have the HIM Program towards “affirming and supporting the health of men who have sex with men.” Services are low cost and based upon a patient’s ability to pay. For clinic hours and a lot more info go to [www.reddoorclinic.org](http://www.reddoorclinic.org)

**Womyn Unlimited Minnesota:** Womyn Unlimited Minnesota (WUMN) is a Minnesota-based non-profit grassroots philanthropic organization by, of and for diverse community of women. WUMN is dedicated to providing and facilitating social and networking opportunities around Minnesota. [www.womynunlimited.org](http://www.womynunlimited.org)

**District 202:** A drop-in center for LGBT youth under age 21, Distirct 202 hosts events and programming. It is located at 1601 Nicollet Avenue South, Minneapolis, (612) 871-5559. [www.dist202.org](http://www.dist202.org)

**Twin Cities Men’s Center:** TCMC does programming and support groups around men’s issues, including a GLBT group, Choosing Healthy Sexual Boundaries support group, and an online magazine called “Men Talk.” [www.tcmc.org](http://www.tcmc.org)

---

**Minneapolis Sculpture Garden**
Chrysalis Center for Women provides health/legal and human service programs to women, children and families. www.chrysaliswomen.org

GenderBlur is a social event, cabaret and party for the Trans, Genderqueer and Allied communities. www.genderblur.org

Soul Essence Minnesota: Minnesota Soul Essence was founded in 2002 as the result of the need for a stronger presence of GLBT African Americans in the Twin Cities. Soul Essence exists to provide a model of unity and pride for African-American GLBT residents of the Twin Cities. www.soulessenceminnesota.org

Lavender Magazine: A bi-weekly Twin Cities based GLBT magazine, each issue profiles current trends and happenings in style, culture, cuisine, nightlife, travel, and news. You can browse a copy at the GSC (we get 12 copies of every issue!) or take a look online at www.lavendermagazine.com

Smitten Kitten, purveyors of fine quality sex products and toys. The friendly lesbian feminist owners have made this store into something unique in the land of sex shops: a queer-affirming, sex positive, fabulous place. See their store at 3010 Lyndale Avenue S. Minneapolis or visit www.smittenkittenonline.com

In addition, there are innumerable bars, the Twin Cities Polyamory Discussion Group, the Twin Cities Gay Men’s Chorus, Quorum (LGBT Chamber of Commerce), Out to Brunch (Local lesbian social group), Minnesota Lavender Bar Association, Knights of Leather (Providing opportunities for men and women to learn and explore BDSM), Feminist Eclectic Martial Arts, etc. For a more comprehensive listing see http://www.outfront.org/links/local.html or visit our website: http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/gsc/lgbt/offcampus/
Mark Your Calendars!

GSC Rainbow Reception Sunday, Sept 9th 12:30-1:15. Rainbow Reception! - Stop by the GSC for coffee and a snack and learn about LGBTA resources and student orgs on campus, +the Queer Peer mentor program! Sponsored the Gender and Sexuality Center. Everyone welcome!

Queers and Allies House Cookie Night Tuesday, Sept. 11, 8:00 p.m. Prentice House, everyone welcome!

Women’s Awareness House Chocolate and Chat Thursday, Sept. 13, 8:00 p.m. Berg House, everyone welcome!

Union Street Block Party Saturday, Sept. 15, 1-3 p.m. Cultural House Row on Union Street. Music, food, massage and dancing.

Men/Women of Color Retreats Friday, Sept. 21-Sunday, Sept. 23, Koinonia Retreat Center and Camp Courage. Register for participation by calling x4014 or e-mail: kaskelan@carleton.edu Buses leave from Sayles-Hill on Friday at 5:30 p.m. and return on Sunday by 1p.m.

National Coming Out Day Thursday, Oct. 11 (watch out for more details!)

1 in 4 Chapter Training! Sunday October 14 & Monday October 15 (midterm break). Email kwilliam for more info.

1 in 4 Presentation: “The Women’s Program” Tuesday, Oct. 16, 12:00 p.m., Alumni Guest House Meeting Room

1 in 4 Presentation: “The Men’s Program: How to Help a Sexual Assault Survivor, What Men Can Do” Tuesday, Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m., Great Hall