

LGBTQ Presidents Advise Job Seekers

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and questioning persons looking to become college presidents should be honest about their identities, advised members of the new LGBTQ Presidents in Higher Education group during the annual meeting of the American Council on Education.

The five panelists agreed that it is important to be honest about sexual orientation, but stressed that sexuality does not define one's presidency. They reminded job seekers to find a school that accepts their lifestyle.

"Personally, I am not going to apply to an institution that is not inclusive," said Charlita Shelton, president of the University of the Rockies, who came out as a lesbian eight years ago. "You've got to be in a place where you can flourish."

Panel members also advised LGBTQ job seekers to be upfront about sexual identity early in the job seeking process to avoid potential awkwardness during interviews.

The newly formed group plans to meet again this summer to find ways to mentor potential college presidents and offer workshops for those in the job-search process.

From *The Chronicle of Higher Education* on March 8, 2011.

ROTC Returns to Harvard After 40 Years

The Navy ROTC program will return to Harvard University after a 40-year ban, under an agreement by Harvard President Drew Faust and Navy Secretary Ray Mabus.

Harvard voted to kick ROTC programs off campus nearly four decades ago during Vietnam War protests and continued its ban in recent years due to the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy against gays.

After Congress voted to repeal the policy, Harvard decided to welcome ROTC back to campus. It will begin formally recognizing the program this summer, including taking full financial responsibility for ROTC students.

Mabus hopes that Harvard's decision will encourage other schools to re-open their doors to ROTC. "I really hope they see it the same way Harvard sees it, which is the opening up of opportunity," he said.

From *The Boston Globe* on March 5, 2011.

Tulane Okayed to Close Newcomb College

A Louisiana Supreme Court ruling recently ended a five-year legal battle to reopen Newcomb College.

Tulane University absorbed the women's college into its undergraduate college during restructuring of the school following Hurricane Katrina. The state Supreme Court voted 4-2 to let stand a lower court's ruling in favor of Tulane.

Supporters of the women's college had argued that dismantling the college ignored the wishes of Josephine Louise Newcomb, a 19th century donor who created it with about \$50 million in today's money to honor her daughter.

"By refusing to hear the appeal, the Supreme Court has relegated Newcomb College to the realm of memories and denied the future of a perpetual, living memorial to Sophie Newcomb as Mrs. Newcomb so clearly intended," said a statement by the group, the Future of Newcomb College.

During Tulane's restructuring, it eliminated Newcomb as a separate, degree-granting college and reinvented it as an institute to offer leadership and research programs for women.

From *The Chronicle of Higher Education* on February 21, 2011.

Feds End Inquiry of Sex Bias in Admissions

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has suspended its investigation into whether 19 liberal arts colleges discriminated against female applicants by lowering the admissions bar for men in order to better balance women and men on campus.

Panel member Dina Titus, a UNLV political science professor, claimed the data was suspect and advised ending the investigation. Her proposal passed by a 4-3 vote.

"We always have data collection problems," said Gail Heriot, a University of San Diego law professor who initiated the investigation. "If this one is canceled when it is almost done on that basis, then we had better cancel every project we were ever going to do and might as well go home." She called the cancellation a "travesty."

Advocates for women believed the investigation could lead into an inquiry on athletics, with some commissioners arguing that liberal arts schools could add men's teams to address gender imbalance rather than varied admissions standards, if it weren't for Title IX policies.

The 19 colleges involved in the investigation were initially named in 2009, but would reportedly be anonymous in the official report. Three of the 19 colleges refused to provide the data requested, according to *Inside Higher Ed* on March 16, 2011.

North Dakota State U Prez Agrees to Postpone Closing Its Childcare Center

North Dakota State University President Dean Bresciani said he would delay the closing of a campus daycare that serves 38 children of faculty and staff.

The announcement came only a day after officials said the center would close this summer to save money and because the center is not aligned with the school's core academic mission. Bresciani said he will delay closing the center until 2012 to allow for alternate funding.

NDSU employees had been planning a rally to show support for the center. They said closing the center would hurt faculty recruitment and retention, noted INFORUM of Fargo-Moorhead on March 10-11, 2011.

White Males Still Control College Athletics!

It will surprise no one that white men continue to control college athletics, but a recent report details the disparity.

In "The 2010 Racial and Gender Report Card: College Sport," author Dr. Richard Lapchick reveals three big areas of concern in equity in college sports:

- A complete lack of diversity in major athletics conference commissioners
- A lack of women athletics directors in Division I
- A drop in black men's basketball coaches.

All 11 of the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS, formerly Division I-A) conference commissioners are white men, as are 25 of 30 of all Division I commissioners. White women lead five Division I conferences.

Among Division I ADs, just 8% are women. In Division I men's basketball, the percentage of black coaches dropped from about 25% five years ago to 21% currently. The report gave college sports an "F" in these categories.