QUEER DISCUSSION GROUP FACILITATOR APPLICATION

July 10, 2015

The Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Life at Emory University is seeking graduate, undergraduate or professional students interested in gaining group facilitation experience through queer discussion groups offered during the 2015-2016 academic year. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain facilitation experience that can allow them to become better teachers, mentors, organizers, and leaders.

Program Outcomes

 Participant Outcomes
  o Provide a safe space for queer students to discuss issues and explore resources to address needs
  o Provide an entry point for students to connect with the Office of LGBT Life and other resources on campus and in the community
  o Create supportive micro-communities that enrich and sustain individuals personally, professionally, and academically
  o Increased sense of belonging and community on campus
  o Promote intercultural understanding and non-oppressive attitudes and behaviors

 Facilitators Outcomes (in addition to the above outcomes)
  o Create opportunities to increase facilitation skills
  o Promote student-student and student-staff mentoring among queer facilitators

Program Background

The queer discussion groups are weekly, hour-long groups focusing on topics related to sexual and gender identities. Groups for next year may include:
  - Bi/Pansexual Group
  - Black and Queer (BLaQ)
  - Queer and Asian (Q&A)
  - Queer Men’s Group
  - Queer Students of Color Group
  - Trans-Forming Gender Group

Two facilitators will be assigned to each group. The facilitators will be supervised by staff from the Office of LGBT Life.

Becoming a Facilitator

Facilitators do not need to be “experts” but should have a strong interest in the group’s focus, demonstrate the ability to be good listeners and facilitators, and have open minds. Facilitators are expected to attend training sessions, plan and facilitate weekly group meetings, attend weekly meetings with the group supervisors, promote and market groups, and be visible representatives (in publications, websites, etc.) of the Office of LGBT Life. Positions are unpaid.
Interested facilitators must
- Be an undergraduate/professional/graduate student enrolled in a degree seeking program at Emory University
- Have experience in supporting and referring students
- Be available for the full 2015-2016 academic year
- Be willing and able to represent the Office of LGBT Life as a group facilitator in publications and social media (name, picture, and bio)
- Be available to commit 2-3 hours/week for the discussion group, supervision, planning and training times including:
  - Fall training (August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 9am to 5pm)
  - Spring training (1.5 day training)
  - Weekly supervision meeting (1 hour/week)
  - Discussion Group planning/processing with co-facilitator (1 hour/week)
  - Discussion Group (1 hour/week)

Experience working with queer students is desired but not required.

Students can apply to become a facilitator by sending a cover letter and resume to the following address (electronic submissions preferred) by August 14, 2015:

Dr. Michael D. Shutt  
Emory University Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Life  
230 Dobbs University Center  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
mshutt@emory.edu

Please address the following questions in your cover letter:
- Why are you interested in facilitating one of the LGBT discussion groups?
- Describe any facilitating, teaching, coursework, mentoring or other experiences that have contributed to your ability to facilitate the group.

The review of applications will begin immediately.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Shutt, Ph.D.  
Interim Sr. Director  
Center for Diversity and Inclusion  
mshutt@emory.edu