Across the Fruited Plan

MIDWEST BISEXUAL LESBIAN GAY TRANSGENDER COLLEGE CONFERENCE

Hosted by University of Illinois at Chicago

February 20-22, 1998

Location	Session I Saturday 10:45—Noon	Session II Saturday 1:00—2:15 P.M.	Session III Saturday 2:20—3:10 P.M.	Session IV Sunday 8:30—9:20	Session V Sunday 9:30-10:45
Center 509	Student Groups	Culture		Other STD's	for TG Awareness
Chicago Circle	Making Visible	Sexual	Fight the	Hidden Obsessions	Organizing for
Center 605	Queer Celebrity	Orientation	Hate	Lesbian Represent ins	Equality
Chicago Circle	Inside the Athletic	Social Issues of the		Career Placement	Somewhere Over
Center 613	Closet	Transgender Comm'ty		Strategies	the Rainbow
Chicago Circle	HIV Prevention	For Whom the	What Do We Do	Out on Campus.	Female Bidentity
Center 713	Vaccines/Trials	Belle Toils	New?	Faculty/Staff	Women Tellin' It
Student Residence & Commons: Rathskeller				United We Stand, Divided We Fall	From the Page to the Stage
Lecture Center A2	To Queer a Small Campus				
Lecture Center A4	Transgender Issues	Advisoes' Roundtable	Integrating GLBT Scholarship		
Lecture Center A5	Co-Curricular Programming		Make a Friend! Delta Lambda Phi		
Lecture Center	Faculty/Staff	Lesbian & Bi-	Warming the	How Teachers Under-	Public Opinion and
B1	Leadership	Women's Health	Chilly Climate	stand G/L Content	LGB People
Lecture Center C1	Dotheads to Dyke Divas	It's Time to End the Gay Rights Movement	Queers R Us.		The Closet Door. Helping Those Behin
Lecture Center	Choosing to Label:	Creating a Positive	Why Engage the	The Causes of	To Be or Not To Be
C3	What's in a Name?	Bisexual Identity	Church?	Homophobia	Outing Oneself
Lecture Center	Beyond		Breaking the	Coalition Building:	During to be Dykes
C4	the Campus		Silence	Forming United Front	in Academia
Lecture Center	Implementing Human	Legally Speaking:	Amnesty Int'I: Human	Organizing a Grass-	Ethics in GLB
C6	Rights Ordinances	Safety & Support	Rights of LGBTs	roots Women's Group	Student Leadership
Lecture Center	Queer	PFLAG, Family,	Encountering Our	Out and	Newsletters and
D1	Parenting	and Society	Own Heterosexism	About	Online Publishing
Lecture Center	How Can I Ask if You	Sensuality, Sex &	GLB Life and	Struggling to Include	Shattered Stereotype
D2	Practice Safe Sex?	Safety	Activities at Ford	Sexual Orientation	Intro to Transgendere
Lecture Center D4	Doing it for Ourselves Teen Activists	The Doctor Says I'm Gay	Being a Campus Media Watchdog		Sexuality, Spirit, and the Sacred
Lecture Center	Education, Diversity	Identifying and	What You See Is		MBLGTCC
D5	and Sexual Orientation	Eliminating Sexism	What You Get		1999
Lecture Center	Multiplicity of the	1 Will Survive: Experi-	Bi the Way A Dis-	Queer @ Martin.	
El	Harvest; Diversity	ences of HS Students	cussion of Bisextality	Luther Edu	
Lecture Center	Grass Roots	Strengths & Challenges	Counseling in	Legal Fruit Loops	Becoming a Better
F1	Organizing Workshop	Bringing All of You	Genderland	(Faculty/Staff)	LGBT Activist
Lecture Center	Internet	Safe on Campus: Allies	A Circle of Friends	Transgender	Understanding the
F3	Activism	Support of GLBT	Should Never End	Queers	Needs of TG Familie
Lecture Center	Challenging	Intimacy Building in	What's in it		Same-Sex Sexual
F4	Homophobia	LGBT Relationships	for You?		Harrassment
Lecture Center F6	Legal Fruit Loops (Students)	We're Here We're Queer	Researching Our Own Lives: LBGT Students		
Lincoln Hall 202	Researching the Sexual		Mentor, Mediator, Advisor, Friend		Who Will Lead Us?
Taft Hall	Out in the Open:	LGBT Student	Awareness &	Voice of	
219	LGBT Univ. Housing	Discussion Groups	Sensitivity	Protest	

Midwest Bisexual Lesbian Gay Transgender College Conference

"Across the Fruited Plain"

February 20, 1998

Hey Queers,

Welcome to the Midwest Bisexual Lesbian Gay Transgender College Conference – wow, what a mouthful. It has been a year full of challenges, learning experiences, stress, compromises, and long hours of arduous meetings.

There is no way we could have been prepared for what was to happen over the last year. From the beginning, we wanted the conference to be bigger, better, and more inclusive than any previous conference. Just adding the word "transgender" to the title and coming up with the theme, "Across the Fruited Plain," all seemed to be very controversial, but important nonetheless. Controversy, in fact, seemed to drive the conference. The introduction of a wide range of topics, ideas, and viewpoints made it clear that we are truly a diverse community. Hopefully, we, as queers, can look at these differences and be open to them and be more receptive to inclusive discourse.

So now, go out there to learn, network and party! We hope that you have a great time and find the experience as rewarding as we have thus far.

Your very exhausted conference co-chairs,

angle Men

Sei & Sarabi

Angee Meen

Sofi Sarabia

Carl T. Wilson

History of the MBLGTCC Conference

The conference you find yourselves at has been a tradition in the Midwest for the past half-decade. First organized at Emporia State University (Kansas) in 1992 as the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay Collegiate Conference, it soon earned the title of "annual" conference when it was held at Iowa State University (Ames) in 1993-known as the First Annual Conference since that time.

The title of the conference has changed slightly since that time. "Collegiate" has since been rendered as "College" conference. Yet the BLG sequence of the original has been adhered to, until the 1998 Conference. where "Transgender" has been added for the first time.

The other venues the conference has seen are Earlham College (Greenville, Indiana, 1994), Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (1995), Beloit College (Wisconsin, 1996), and Indiana State University (Terre Haute, 1997), and now the University of Illinois at Chicago (1998). This year marks the first time the Conference has been held in a major metropolitan area.

A General Note About Your Workshop Presenters:

Accolades are due to all of the 1998 MBLGTCC workshop presenters, for they are all volunteers committed to community service for the benefit of the attendees. They receive no special compensation or favor outside of "the doughnut room", a bit of personal fulfillment or a resume item, and more importantly, your admiration.

In fact all the presenters must be registered and pay the same fees as everyone else. What's more, they have had to jump through all the hurdles of the 1998 Programs Committee review process.

Therefore, if you find the workshops you attend of particular relevance or merit, please take the time to thank the presenters or give your feedback to them. If you don't have the time following the workshop, please try at your next opportunity. Remember, we all have but a weekend. Make it your personal policy to connect sooner -- never later!

-- The MBLGTCC Programs/Workshops Committee

Sean M V Foley Willi Horner-Johnson Carl T. Wilson Patricia O'Brien Angela Johnson

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

Office of the Chancellor (M/C 102)2833 University Hall 601 South Morgan Street Chicago, Illinois 60607-7128

February 20, 1998

On behalf of the University community, I want to welcome you to the campus of the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). I am pleased that UIC is able to host the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, and Transgender College Conference, an event which has grown in size and importance every year.

It has been almost ten years since UIC initiated its Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues. During that time the Committee has worked to improve the climate of the campus for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender members of the community. Toward that end, students, staff, faculty, and administrators have conducted a climate survey, made policy recommendations, conducted workshops and lectures, organized a student paper award, done fundraising to try and establish a scholarship, and sponsored a great many social events. I am pleased that the work of this Committee continues to make UIC a more inviting place for everyone.

I see this conference over the next few days as further evidence that UIC recognizes the importance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender studies. There are many important issues of the day at stake in these studies, and I am glad that UIC can be host to important and timely discussions about them.

A great deal of effort went into making this conference possible. I want to acknowledge the initiative of the undergraduate students who made this conference possible. Without their motivation, talent, and energy, this conference would not have taken place.

The program for this conference is an interesting mix of lectures and workshops. I hope that your visit to UIC is pleasant and that the conference is full of rewards.

Chancellor

UIC