

Inventory of the

LGBT Resource Center

Records

In the
Northern Illinois University Archives

UA 30-8

INTRODUCTION

The University Archives acquired the records of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Resource Center in February 2010. Literary Rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the records.

4 boxes
1.75 linear feet
1970-2014

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records found in the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Resource Center Collection are sub-divided into two series, LGBT Programs, and the LGBT Resource Center. **Series I - LGBT Programs**, contains materials dealing with various lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender programs, groups, and activities on the Northern Illinois University campus, from 1970 to 2010, with the majority dating between 1997 and 2003. There is also one folder of referral information on non-NIU groups, located here. And also found in this series is biographical information on Margaret M. "Margie" Cook. **Series II - LGBT Resource Center**, contains materials information on the establishment of the Center in 2003, and events and programs, between 2003 and 2010. Photographic documentation of many LGBT activities from 1994 to 2009 is also located in this series.

Researchers should also consult related materials in the various gay and lesbian organization files located in the Student Activities collection (UA 35), and on the President's Task Force/ Commission on Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation, found in the Boards, Councils and Committees collection (UA 17).

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Student activism following the Stonewall riots that took place in New York in 1969, resulted in the establishment of the NIU Gay Liberation Front, a group which received recognition from the NIU Student Association on April 12, 1970. The Gay Liberation Front continued its activities, and in April of 1975 changed its name to the Gay Community Organization. The first Gay Awareness Day took place in April 1980 sponsored by the Gay Community Organization, which soon after changed its name to the Gay/Lesbian Union. On November 21, 1986 the NIU Student Association amended its constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. Two months later, a University wide Task Force on Discrimination was formed, and in the spring of 1988 NIU revised its constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. In the Fall of 1991 the Gay and Lesbian Alliance was established, the first organization specifically for faculty and staff. NIU President John LaTourette formed a Task Force on Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation in January 1992, and in the Fall of 1994

established the President's Advisory Committee on Sexual Orientation to monitor the implementation of the Task Force's recommendations. Meanwhile, with continued growth and awareness, the Gay/Lesbian Union changed its name to the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Coalition in the Fall of 1993. In April of 1996 the Presidential Committee on Sexual Orientation together with the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Coalition established the Eychaner Award to recognize positive contributions to the gay lesbian bisexual community. A Safe Zone Program was launched in February 1997, the first program involving allies in the LGBT community at NIU.

The culmination of all the growth of gay lesbian bisexual transgender organizations and activism came on August 17, 1998 when Northern Illinois University established a half-time staff position for a Program Coordinator of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Programs in the Office of University Programming and Activities. Margaret M. "Margie" Cook, was hired to fill the position, and just over a year later on October 1, 1999 the position became full time. The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Coalition changed its name to Prism in October 1998. The Presidential Committee on Sexual Orientation, in November 2001, recommended that a Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Resource Center be established at NIU. In October 2002 office space was officially designated for the LGBT Resource Center, and on March 17, 2003 the Center opened on the seventh floor of the Holmes Student Center. The Resource Center contains two offices for staff, an office for Prism, and a resource room with a library, computers, and other informational resources. After nearly twelve years of coordinating LGBT programs, Margie Cook left her position as Director of the LGBT Resource Center in April of 2010 to take a position as assistant director of the Center for Student Diversity at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. She was replaced by Molly Holmes.

[Most of the above information was taken from "Historical Timeline: Significant Events for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community at NIU and in DeKalb," compiled by Margie Cook, ca. 2004]

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
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Series I: LGBT Programs

1	1	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community, Historical Timeline, 1970-2003
	2	LGBT Programs, Correspondence, 1999-2002
	3	LGBT Programs, Press Releases, 1999-2002
	4	LGBT, Advertising/Flyers, 2000-2003
	5	NIU-LGBT Student Experiences, 1997
	6	Sexual Orientation Issues in the Residence Halls, (1997-2008)
	7	LGBT Programs, Reports, Fall 1998-2001
	8	LGBT Programming Committee, 2000-2001
	9	Straight Talk! Speakers Bureau [LGBT Programs], Training Guide, October 2002
	10	Transgender Support Group, ca. 2001
	11	LGBT Student Support Group, 2003-2004
	12	LGBT Relationship Workshop Series, April 4, 2000
	13	Brochure: Information Resources for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students, Faculty, and Staff, 1998
	14	Selected Bibliography - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Books, compiled by Margaret M. Cook, December 2002
	15	LGBT Video Resource List, November 2002
	16	Safe Zone Programs, and Related Materials, (1998-2003)
	17	Safe Zone Ally Training, 1998-2002
	18	LGBT Programs, Miscellaneous, 1999-2003
	19	Eychaner Award Dinner, (1998-2008)
	20	Eychaner Award, Nomination Forms, 2002, 2002, 2004
	21	Margaret M. "Margie" Cook, Resume and other Information, 1998-2002
	22	EPCO 522 - Student Development in Higher Education: Programs, Issues, and Practices, Margie Cook's Presentation Outline, February 1999
	23	Margie Cook, Nominations and Support Letters for others, 1998-2002
	24	Margaret M. "Margie" Cook, Letters to NIU Credit Union on Domestic Partner Status, 1999-2000
	25	President's Task Force on Undergraduate Life and Academics, Margie Cook's Correspondence, October-November 2000
	26	"Margie Letter: Celebrating the Splendid, Extraordinary, and Remarkable Margie Cook," upon her leaving NIU, April 2010

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
		Related Activities/Committees/Projects
2	1	Social Justice Coordinating Committee, 1996-1997
	2	Understanding and Preventing Sexual Harassment, January 6, 1999
	3	Ryan Moravcik, Memorial Service, February 7, 2002
	4	Campus Climate - Sociology Internship Research Project, Spring 2002
	5	Unity in Diversity, 2002-2003, 2007-2008
	6	Miscellaneous Materials, 2000-2005
		Referral Organizations
	7	P-FLAG of Northern Illinois, 1993-1995
	8	Room for All - Teen Drop-In Center, 1995
	9	Project Alliance, Flyer, n.d.; Honors Gary Judd, ca. 2003
	10	Spectrum Support and Discussion Group, NIU, ca. 2008
	11	LGBT Related Groups and Information, not NIU, (1970-1999)

SERIES II: LGBT Resource Center

3	1	LGBT Resource Center, Proposal Documents, 2001-2002
	2	LGBT Resource Center, 2003-2004, 2010
	3	LGBT Resource Center, Website Information, November 2010
	4	LGBT Resource Center, Guest Book from Center Opening, April 3, 2003
	5	LGBT Resource Center, Power Point Presentation, April 2003
	6	LGBT Resource Center, Publicity Guide, June 2003
	7	LGBT Event Calendars, July 2003-November 2004
	8	Q-Connect, Peer Support Program/NIU Ally Program, Business Cards, post 2003
	9	Ally Program, (2005-2009)
	10	Northern Pride, 2008
	11	Marriage Equality Resources, LGBT Resource Center, March 2004
	12	Sexual Assault Awareness Month's Speak Out: A Community United Against Sexual Violence, [Margie Cook, Director of LGBT Resource Center is one of the speakers], April 6, 2009
	13	LGBT Resource Center, Clippings, 2010
	14	LGBT - Flyers/Notices, 2003-2010
	15	PRISM Pride Letter, 2012
4	1	NIU and DeKalb LGBT and Ally Community Photo Gallery, 1994-2006 [photocopies]
	2-4	LGBT Resource Center Web Gallery, 2006-2009
	5-	Photographs from NIU and DeKalb LGBT and Ally Community Photo Gallery, 1994-2002

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4	6-8	Photographs from NIU and DeKalb LGBT and Ally Community Photo Gallery, 2004-2007	
	9	5 th Annual Lavender Graduation invitation, 2014	

Margie Cook, LGBT Resource Director, Personal Comments on Meetings and Curriculum, 1994-2006
[Restricted/Closed until February 19, 2035]