

Spring 2016 Campus Sustainability Fund Proposal  
"2016 North East LGBT Conference Trip"

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Participants: PSC Pride Club Members

Advisor: Ellen Gooch

Total Amount Requested: \$500.00

**Project Summary:**

- Goals:

In the Spring 2016 semester we've had an amazing increase in attendance for the PSC Pride club. This has resulted in a larger than usual number of club members interested in attending the NE LGBT Conference being held at Stony Brook University on Long Island this year.

In previous years, the North East LGBT Conference has been held closer to the school, resulting in less of a cost to the club, or the club has had significantly less members wishing to attend conferences held at colleges farther from our school. The PSC Pride club has been running many events this semester in order to gain popularity on campus, and more recently to fundraise for our trip.

The \$500 from the campus sustainability fund would go towards lessening the overall cost of the trip for our club to attend, and make the goal for all of our members to attend this weekend of learning that much more attainable.

- Project Justification and Relevance:

The NE LGBT Conference is a weekend (April 1st-3rd) hosted by a college (Stony Brook University) in the North East area, open to college students identifying in the LGBT+ Spectrum. This conference provides a wealth of knowledge for everyone attending, including both faculty advisors and students. During the conference, student, and professional-run workshops are open for all to attend. Coming from all over the North East, many students in attendance, us included, would not otherwise have access to the information being provided to conference-goers. The education we get during this weekend is vital to student growth, advisor knowledge, and potential growth for the student community back on campus.

In past years, club members that have attended the conference have brought back enlightened new thoughts and ideas to share with the club, advisors, and student body. In the academic year the PSC Pride club has been in the works with Ellen Gooch to create a presentation or workshop on inclusion for FYS classes next fall semester. We have all agreed that making inclusion a big part of welcome week for incoming freshman in the fall or including it in FYS classes will increase the effect of the strategic planning for inclusion the campus is already doing.

This is something we believe could be carried out by the dedicated members of our club and staff. The North East LGBT Conference is an integral part of being able to achieve these goals for the campus. While our club members are all very educated and dedicated to inclusion and education on campus, the workshops offered to us at the

conference will give the tools we need to be able to execute teaching students and faculty in a professional manner that will aid the efforts of making our campus more inclusive and safe for everyone.

The conference trip, as of now, is seemingly out of reach. The budget we have worked out in order for all qualifying club members interested in attending is above what we have in our club budget, and is an unrealistic sum to be able to fundraise (despite our best and constant efforts) before the registration deadline. The addition of \$500 from the Campus Sustainability Fund will *greatly* decrease the amount of money the club will still need to raise in order to attend the conference, and make this trip entirely more attainable.

- **Methods:**

The money granted to us from the Campus Sustainability Fund will go towards travel costs and registration cost for club members. The amount of money in our club account is only enough to cover part of the travel fees for the school vans.

So far we have booked out hotel rooms, confirmed that our two advisors accompanying us are Sarah Hart and Deborah Neybor, are waiting for the hosting college to post registration, and are waiting on a response to our request for a school van. We are also applying for further funding from SGA and continuing our fundraising efforts until we have covered the deficit in our budget. Our current fundraiser is a fudge and baked goods sale.

After attending the conference we will bring the new ideas, resources, connections, and information gained at the conference back to the PSC community. As students we will employ what we learn at the conference in the events that we run as a club in order to increase awareness and education about social issues surrounding the LGBT+ community. By bringing two faculty members with us as advisors we can extend this reach for into the classroom environment.

It is 100% our objective to foster social sustainability at PSC by attending this conference. By Fall 2016 semester we hope to have a program put together for Welcome Week, fall FYS Classes, or, ideally, both. We will have created new ideas for programs in the upcoming semesters, and have information to present to the diversity committee on campus to help further inclusion, safety, and diversity for out campus and community.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>	<b>Amount Left to Pay</b>
<b>Rooms (4)</b>	1152	576	576
<b>Registration (10 students, 2 advisors)</b>	1000	0	1000

<b>Vans (1)</b>	625	0	625
	<b>Funds</b>		
<b>Student Payment</b>	500		
<b>Student Activities (?)</b>			
<b>Counseling Center</b>	200		
<b>Sustainability Fund (?)</b>			
<b>Club Account</b>	137		
<b>Date Auction Revenue</b>	140		
<b>Candy Grams Revenue</b>	17		
<b>Total Available Funds</b>	994	<b>Total Left To Pay</b>	2201
		<b>Amount Still Needed By April 1st</b>	<b>1207</b>

**Budget**