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**University of Colorado Student Government**

**Legislative Council**

Date: 1/16/2014 80LCB05 – CUSG relationship with the GLBTQ Resource Center

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**A Bill to Expand and Clarify CUSG involvement with the GLBTQ Resource Center**

**Bill History**

In 2008, with 70LCB01, the University of Colorado Student Government (hereafter “CUSG”) established a policy and an agreement with the Provost and the Division of Student Affairs (hereafter “Student Affairs”) to establish the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Queer Resource Center (hereafter “GLBTQRC”) as a CUSG cost center, create an advisory board to serve as the governing and policy body, provide funding for the assistant director of the GLBTQRC and programs, maintain the current levels of funding from the Provost and Student Affairs, and establish CUSG’s responsibility for the future funding the operations of the center.

Since the passage of 70LCB01, CUSG’s role in funding the center has grown beyond just the Assistant Director position and a small contribution to programs. In spring 2011, Finance Board decided that unduckables related to the Assistant Director could be included in their budget. In spring 2012, Finance Board allowed the GLBTQRC to request enhancements and funds from the Small Cost Center Capital Fund because no other cost centers were prohibited from doing so. Finance Board also decided that, because the GLBTQRC contributed to SOR, they could also make requests from SOR. At this point, the GLBTQRC has received approval for requests for marketing materials, programs, and other expenses as enhancements and from SOR and fund balance.

However, because of ambiguity in the original bill, there has been contention and disagreement about the role of CUSG in funding the GLBTQRC. The original bill did not provide clear direction on how to address the future growth of the center or how to address the needs of the cost center over time. Over the years, Finance Board has requested clarification and an update on the relationship between CUSG and the GLBTQRC in order to make funding decisions. It is the Legislative Council’s duty to provide this funding and policy directive.

The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Questioning Intersex Ally Asexual (hereafter “LGBTQIA”) community continues to grow on-campus, while our support and services remain relatively stagnant. Too little progress has been made towards improving our campus climate and safety for the LGBTQIA community, creating an urgent imperative for CUSG to facilitate the growth and development of the GLBTQRC; empowering them to combat injustice, discrimination, and disparities that exist around gender, sexuality, race, class, and other interconnected issues.

**Bill Summary**

This bill amends 70LBC01 to clarify and expand the funding role of CUSG for the GLBTQRC. Specifically, the bill describes specific aspects of the resource center that CUSG will fund. This bill formalizes the name change from the GLBT Resource Center to the GLBTQ Resource Center. This bill also reaffirms CUSG’s support of the GLBTQRC, the commitments of funding from Student Affairs and the Provost, and sets the growth and funding for this center as a priority during the 2015 CUSG budget cycle.

**Whereas,** revenue from external grant funding is prone to fluctuate given a number of variables and cannot be relied upon as a permanent source of funding for essential functions of the GLBTQ resource centers such as programming, student support services, and advocacy;

**Whereas,** the GLBTQRC has new services that require permanent funding, such as increased programming, ally education for faculty, staff and students, increased number of student staff, a peer education program, support for a growing number of LGBTQIA student groups, an academic internship program, volunteer training, and increased need for advocacy and dissemination of new LGBTQIA-inclusive policies;

**Whereas,** the GLBTQ Resource Center plays a fundamental role in providing support and advocacy for CU Boulder’s LGBTQIA community, which continues to experience discrimination, injustice, and exclusion on campus**;**

**Whereas,** the GLBTQRC receives only $2,500 from the Student Opportunity Fee, which is significantly less than the $9,000 reported in 70LCB01;

**Whereas,** the GLBTQRC has educated 1500 students since 2010 through their peer education program;

**Whereas,** the GLBTQRC has trained 1200 staff, faculty, and graduate student teachers through the Safe Zone program since January 2012,

**Whereas,** the GLBTQRC serves a substantial number of members of the CU community including family, friends, and allies of LGBTQIA-identified people,

**Whereas,** the collaborative funding agreement between the Provost, Student Affairs, and CUSG has been an effective model.

**THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Boulder Student Government, THAT**:

**Section 1:** Replace in 70LCB01 all instances of “GLBT Resource Center” with “GLBTQ Resource Center”. GLBTQ Resource Center is established as the official name for this cost center.

**Section 2:** Repeal and replace 70LBC01 Section 7, which states:

“The GLBT Resource Center will also rely upon university funds, individual donations, and external grants to fund large-scale events, special projects, and initiatives. However, UCSU will be the primary provider for the GLBT Resource Center’s annual operating budget in order to maintain a student focus and involvement.”

With a new Section 7, which states:

“The GLBTQ Resource Center will rely on general university funds in order to fund the Director’s salary and provide support and education for faculty, staff and students; the GLBTQ Resource Center will rely on individual donations to fund student scholarships; the GLBTQ RC may apply for external grants to provide supplemental, one-time funding for special events and initiatives. However, CUSG will be the primary provider for the GLBTQ Resource Center’s annual operating budget.

**Section 3:** Repeal and nullify 70LBC01 Section 3, which states:

“The GLBT Resource Center shall retain its current Alumni and Community Advisory Board for guidance, fundraising, and community involvement purposes.”

**Section 4:** Amend 70LCB01 Section 4.A as follows:

“Membership in the GLBTQ Resource Center advisory board shall consist of one member from Representative Council, one member from the Council of Colleges and Schools, one ~~UCSU~~CUSG Executive or their designee ~~from executive staff~~, and five students-at-large ~~and two non-students~~. The Council of Colleges and Schools shall elect their representative from the CCS membership. The ~~UCSU~~CUSG Executive(s) shall appoint the member from Representative Council. The advisory board committee shall appoint the at-large students ~~and the non-students to the advisory board~~. The Legislative ~~c~~Council must ratify appointments made by the GLBTQ Resource Center advisory board by a majority.”

**Section 5:** Append 70LBC01 Section 5 with the following:

“This shall include enhancements intended to improve and grow the programs and services of the GLBTQRC.”

**Section 6:** Amend 70LCB01 Section 5.A.i to correct an inaccuracy in the original bill as follows:

“Student Affairs will contribute ~~$33,000~~$33,500 per fiscal year in addition to continuing budget in the general fund. Continuing budget from the general fund as of July 30, 2008 is $20,784.”

**Section 7**: Amend 70LCB01 Section 5.A.ii to correct an inaccuracy in the original bill as follows:

“The Provost will contribute ~~$33,000~~$30,000 based on current funding levels for the GLBTQ Resource Center.”

**Section 8:** Append 70LCB01 Section 6 with the following:

“Each year during the budget cycle, it will be the responsibility of the ~~UCSU~~CUSG Finance Board and the Legislative Council to ensure approval of the minimum budget and corresponding student fees request to continue operating the GLBTQ Resource Center without a sacrifice in the quality of service~~.~~ as it relates to the GLBTQRC’s core services: community building, education and outreach, advocacy for equal access and equity for LGBTQIA individuals, leadership development, and support for students.”

**Section 9:** Repeal and nullify 70LCB01 Section 8, which states:

“The advisory board will approve external university grants for specific GLBTQ Resource Center projects and programs. External university general operating grants to the GLBTQ Resource Center will be used for expenditures as outlined in the annual operating budget adopted by ~~UCSU~~CUSG. Grant monies from outside the university will be spent prior to spending student fee funds. Grant monies from outside the university shall remain within the specific line item for which it was designated at the end of the budget year will not transfer to the Supplemental Operating Reserve (S.O.R.) account.”

**Section 10:** CUSG understands that progress on LGBTQIA issues on campus is critical, and that CUSG should work towards supporting the LGBTQIA community to the greatest extent possible.

**Section 11:** This bill and 70LBC01 shall be reviewed every five years to ensure that the relationship between CUSG and the GLBTQRC continues to best support the LGBTQIA and campus communities.

**Section 12:** Upon passage, this bill will be shared with the Provost, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the GLBTQRC Director, the CUSG Finance Board Chair, and local media outlets.

**Section 13:** This bill shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

**Section 14:** Repeal and nullify 70 LCB 01 Section 5 A. III.

**Section 15:** Funding for the GLBTQRC shall not be limited to the funding of the Assistant Director position.

**Section 16:** This bill takes effect upon final passage by Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of the signatures of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

**Vote Count**

**01/16/2014 Passed on 1st reading with amendments Acclamation**

**01/23/2014 Amended to add sponsors Acclamation**

**01/23/2014 Passed on 2nd reading Acclamation**

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Christopher Schaefbauer Juedon Kebede

President of Student Affairs Legislative Council President

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Ellie Roberts Marco Dorado

President of Internal Affairs President of External Affairs