

Wesley E. Heath, M.A.

Assistant Director of Cross-Cultural Affairs, Office of Multicultural Affairs
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SKILLS & EXPERTISE

- Program Development
- Data Collection & Assessment
- Resource Center Operations
- Event Management
- Student Advocacy
- Design & Publication
- Diversity Workshops
- Intersectionality & Social Justice
- Course Design & Instruction

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Higher Education Administration
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA Anticipated May 2021

Master of Arts, Sociology
Ball State University, Muncie, IN May 2016
Thesis: "An Analysis of LGBT Youth Organizations and their Effectiveness at Reducing Anxiety and Empowering LGBT Young Adults"

Bachelor of Arts, Sociology and Psychology
Manchester University, North Manchester, IN May 2014
Senior Capstone Research: "Trans Student Expectations of College and University Campuses, Policies, and Procedures"

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Director for Cross-Cultural Affairs, Office of Multicultural Affairs
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 2016-current

Responsible for the development and implementation of programs contributing to the overarching Office of Multicultural Affairs and Office of Diversity goals and initiatives. An emphasis is placed on researching, designing, and implementing strategies that encourage students to work across social lines, exploring complex notions of diversity, intersectionality, and social justice. Serves as the primary adviser, coordinating academic achievement and leadership development for Hispanic, Native American, Asian American, and LGBTQ+ student organizations and committees. Directs the Genesis Mentoring and Genesis Tutoring programs, which are designed to support underrepresented students in their personal, professional, and academic lives. Provides administrative responsibility for training and development of the student staff and the Safe Spaces/LGBTQ+ Project Graduate Assistant. Works collaboratively with internal and external partners of OMA to provide holistic support for students.

- Oversaw office operations during major staff transition periods
- Updated and implemented new policies and practices for LSU's Safe Space training program, increasing the number of trained faculty, staff, and students by 400%

- Worked as Multicultural Student Leadership Conference (MSLC) Chairperson for 2018, and Logistics Chair for 2017
- Redesigned student worker hiring, on-boarding, and training procedures
- Served as committee member for Title IX LGBTQ+ Workgroup to advance LGBTQ+ policies on campus
- Redesigned department budget, allocating funds toward new initiatives, GA professional development, and student resources
- Implemented the LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Caucus, which grew to over 40 members in less than a month
- Expanded the Safe Space training program beyond LSU-Baton Rouge to other LSU Campuses for the first time in LSU History
- Updated office assessment tools to allow for better data collection

NCBI Trainer, LSU Chapter of the National Coalition Building Institute

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

2017-current

As an inaugural member of the LSU Chapter of NCBI, I have travelled across the state facilitating trainings that challenge our internalized records of oppression, uncover our implicit bias, and open intersectional dialog about diversity.

- Implement new strategies that help streamline the workshop as a Logistics and Assessment Committee Member
- Work as the Special Requests Coordinator to provide trainings to departments and offices across campus as needed
- Assisted with train-the-trainer workshops

Conference Chair, Multicultural Student Leadership Conference

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

2017-current

- Organize and implement conference marketing, programming, sponsorships, registrations, and logistics
- Increased attendance from previous year's Conference by 30%, and garnered registrations from 14 new colleges and universities from across the South for the 2018 conference

PREVIOUS STUDENT AFFAIRS EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant of Freshman Connections

Ball State University, Muncie, IN

2014-2016

- Designed and implemented eight programs per semester that helped first-year students navigate campus life and transition to college-level academia
- Created a new Common Reader social media plan that increased student involvement by over 450%
- Worked closely with Orientation Office during the 10-week orientation program to present the common reader to incoming students; spoke daily at orientation events to audiences of 500 students and families
- Organized the Freshman Common Reader's annual Discussion Day, which included 50 community members, 50 orientation staff members, 100 faculty members, and 4,000 first-year students

- Coordinated the Author Visit Day associated with the selected common reader, including supervising student staff and organizing the author's schedule of events
- Collaborated bi-weekly with the First-Year Experience committee to ensure student success in their transition to college, and to increase retention; provided analyzed data from student surveys to help create informed retention decisions

Resident Assistant

Manchester University, North Manchester, IN

2012-2014

- Supervised over 100 students directly, and over 400 students collectively during on-call emergency rotation
- Designed 27 educational programs, responded to 21 incidents and wrote the corresponding reports, and worked closely with campus safety on 15 drug violations
- Added new material to training by designing and facilitating Safe Zone and Conflict Resolution trainings for RAs during summer and January training sessions
- Created the Lead Mediator position that changed how conflict resolution was conducted in the halls; Supervised and trained eight RAs in mediation techniques
- Awarded Program of the Year in 2013 for my program that focused on cultural competency and disability

EDUCATOR

Course Design, Department of Sociology

Ball State University, Muncie, IN

May 2016

- Designed a new course on Sexuality and Gender, complete with formative and summative assessments, small group discussions, and a term paper that challenges students to think critically about their experiences with sexuality and gender in order to write a theory-driven autobiography

Guest Lecturer, Department of Social Work and Psychology

Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN

Mar. 2013

- Provided sociological outlook on LGBTQ+ culture and the Gay Rights Movement to a series of classes in an effort to fulfill needed curriculum coverage for social work licensure

Student Instructor, Department of Sociology,

Manchester University, North Manchester, IN

2012

- Developed 16 lectures and 27 assignments investigate how race, ethnicity and gender intersect in daily life, affecting business, relationships, and the perception of self

RESEARCHER

"An Analysis of LGBT Youth Organizations and their Effectiveness at Reducing Anxiety and Empowering LGBT Young Adults", Department of Sociology

Ball State University, Muncie, IN

2016

- Using a qualitative, semi-structured process, 17 participants of an urban, mid-western LGBT center were interviewed regarding four major areas: social support, positive peer interaction, positive adult role models, and safe spaces.
- Findings suggest that all four areas help reduce anxiety, and empower members similarly to what research shows for GSAs. Results from this exploration offers insights into the potential for large youth organizations to positively impact LGBTQ youth.

“Trans Student Expectations of College and University Campuses, Policies, and Procedures”, Department of Sociology

Manchester University, North Manchester, IN

2014

- Qualitative research design that explores the changing needs of Trans students on college campuses within the past 15 years

ADVOCATE

LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Caucus, Office of Multicultural Affairs

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

2017-2018

- Founded the caucus with the help of the LGBTQ+ Project and the Office of Diversity
- Work toward the advancement of all underrepresented students at LSU to create a campus that is inclusive and equitable
- Celebrate the achievements of queer students, and provide scholarships to students in need
- Advocate for students’ rights, progressive policies, and active recruiting of LGBTQ+ students to LSU

LGBTQ Campus Mentor, Office of Counseling Services

Ball State University, Muncie, IN

2014-2016

- Provided one-on-one counseling to LGBTQ+ undergraduate students
- Trained students, faculty, and staff on LGBTQ+ current events and history

Student Advisor, United Sexualities,

Manchester University, North Manchester, IN

2010-2014

- Reinvigorated the Safe Zone program by researching and developing a more current training booklet, marketed the availability of the program, and trained new facilitators; the program grew, starting with 20 safe spaces on campus in 2010 to over 240 by 2014
- Revived the annual Drag Show by incorporating auditions for performers, creating subcommittees to handle delegated tasks, and collaborating with offices across campus; from 2010 to 2014 the Drag Show attendance increased by 200%, quickly becoming the largest student-run event on campus; incorporated a charity component that raised over \$4,000 for local LGBT non-profits

Member of Board of Directors

Education for Conflict Resolution (ECR), North Manchester, IN

2013-2014

- Served as Manchester University Representative for Education for Conflict Resolution

Summer Camp Counselor

Wisconsin Lions Camp, Rosholt, WI

2012

- Directly supervised 250 campers and collectively supervised 3,000 campers with cognitive disabilities, visual and hearing impairments, and diabetes

Justice Member, Conduct Review Board,

Manchester University, North Manchester, IN

2011-2012

- Worked on a five-member team to adjudicate over 20 cases, hearing from each individual involved, to assign sanctions to responsible parties in accordance to university policy

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

Louisiana State University

Disability Faculty and Staff Caucus, Founder and Member	2018-current
National Coalition Building Institute, Assessment Committee Member	2018-current
LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Caucus, Member and Founder	2018-current
Multicultural Affairs Director Search Committee, Member	2018
Black Faculty and Staff Caucus, Group 100 Member	2018-current
Alternate University Hearing Panel, Panelist	2018-current
University Hearing Panel, Panelist	2017-current
National Coalition Building Institute, Facilitator	2017-current
Lighthouse Advocate	2017-current
Title IX LGBTQ Working Group, Subcommittee Member	2017
Geaux Lead Retreat, Facilitator	2017
Black Faculty and Staff Caucus, Member	2016-current

Ball State University

Sociology Alumni Committee, Founding Member	2018-current
AKD- International Sociology Honors Society, President	2014-2016

Manchester University

Culture Shock, Founder and President	2012-2014
AKD- International Sociology Honors Society, Founder and President	2012-2014
STAT- Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow, Member	2012-2014
United Sexualities, President, SGA Rep, and Advisor	2010-2014

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

NASPA- National Association of Student Personnel Administrators	2017-current
AKD- International Sociology Honors Society	2012-current

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENTATIONS

NASPA Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA	2019
Conference Attendee	
MBLGTACC (Queer and Ally) College Conference, Wichita, KS	2019
Presenter: "Designing a Safe Space Training on your Campus"	
Webinar and Workshop: "Finding Common Ground," NCBI	2018
Attendee and Working Group Member	
Workshop: "Experiencing Unplanned Pregnancies," Provide, Inc.	2018
Workshop Trainee	
Safe Space Train-the-Trainer Workshop, Shreveport, LA	2018

Facilitator and Program Director	
NASPA Multicultural Institute attendee, New Orleans, LA	2017
Conference Attendee	
SWASAP Conference, Baton Rouge, LA	2017
Pre-Conference Workshop Presenter	
WCRD 91.3 FM, On-air Safe Zone program	2016
Special Program Panel Member	
WCRD 91.3 FM, Improving the Lives of LGBT Youth	2016
Keynote Speaker	
Queer Health Conference, Fort Wayne, IN	2016
Workshop Presenter: "Queer Student Health at Universities"	
MSS-NCSA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL	2016
Presenter: "LGBTQ Youth and Mental Health"	
ACPA Student Affairs Conference, Montreal, Canada	2016
Conference Attendee and First-Gen Graduate	
35th Annual Conference on First-Year Experience, Orlando, FL	2016
Presenter: "Creating FYE Common Reader Programs"	
NCSA Annual Conference, Cleveland, OH	2015
Presenter: "Sex Work and Marx"	
MBLGTACC (Queer and Ally) College Conference, Normal, IL	2015
Conference Attendee	
All-Campus Leadership Annual Conference	2015
Presenter: "Trans' Student Experiences in Higher Education"	
Dean's List Research Symposium	2014
Presenter: "Conflict Resolution in Higher Education"	
Conversations in Social Sciences Seminar	2014
Presenter: "Trans' Student Experiences in Higher Education"	
MBLGTACC (Queer and Ally) College Conference, Chicago, IL	2014
Conference Attendee	
Resident Assistant Development Conference, Cedar Falls, IO	2013
Presenter: "The Importance of Safe Spaces in Residential Life"	
Professional Diversity Workshop	2013
Presenter: "Queer Experiences"	
Fort Wayne Teachers' Conference	2013
Presenter: "Queer Student Organizations"	
Certified Safe Zone Trainer (Train-the-trainer)	2011
Trainee	

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dean's List, Graduate School, Louisiana State University	2018
Office of Academic Affairs Staff Spotlight, Louisiana State University	2018
Rosenbury Family Endowed Scholarship	2010-2014
Dean's List Honoree	2010-2014
Trustee's Scholar	2010-2014
Certificate in Mediation	2013
Multicultural Advocacy Award, Office of Multicultural Affairs	2013
Student Leader of the Year Nominee	2013