

NEW WAYS MINISTRY CAMPUS MINISTRY CONVERSATION

December 9, 2020

Small Group Notes

BOOKMARK THIS LINK FOR CONTINUED ACCESS

https://docs.google.com/document/d/10e2IDkimhsDnTYyv2akREd_z6Jlt7Z3U-fZ172AfjRs/edit?usp=sharing

Breakout Room 1

Participants: Conor Reidy (Manhattan College), Jen Morin-Williamson (Dayton University--Marianist), Rodante Del Rosario (De La Salle Philippines), Melchor Oribe (De La Salle Manilla)

A. Approaches: Learning outcomes come from learning experiences, and flows from the ground up. This is especially true with the LGBTQ+ community.

- Integrated approach is very helpful for small staff who are already stretched so thin. Finding creative ways to ensure to address, serve, and minister to these questions within existing frameworks
- These approaches are excellent ways to integrate our pastoral approaches to a wide network of students in a culture that has very few spaces for our LGBTQ population

B. Video with alumni from University of Dayton (how they are welcomed, how gifts are recognized in their community). Video zoom meeting which featured conversations with alumni who spoke positively about their experience at Dayton, and then were encouraged to become prophetic voices in their own communities outside Dayton

- The power of prophetic witness of our communities beyond their time at the college--ie the alumni who may feel more assured of their own understanding of their identity
- The head and the hands: head is the "approaches", hands how we programmatically execute them
- How do we start to have programmatic conversations with those in our community who need education so that they are sensitive, open, and loving first, rather than judging.
- Safe zone spaces so administrators can learn to use the correct language with our LGBTQ youth

C. Safe zone training so we can get to a point where the existing LGBTQ community can feel safe enough to be out in our communities. There are LGBTQ folks in our communities, but do they feel as though they can be safe and open in our spaces?

Breakout Room 2

Fr. Charlie Donahue

Paul Covino

Carmel Puertollano

- Charlie is at Ohio State: Question becomes what will the local Bishop tolerate/allow.
- Try to be specifically Welcoming, social media becomes difficult as it attracts "trolls" and different students are differently comfortable with an LGBT identity.
- Carmel is in the Philippines, and there are groups that seem to thrive... currently trying to organize a solid group. "Uphill task, but younger folks are more vocal, and helping us
- Paul is at a smaller Catholic College where campus ministry has a group that had a long history of difficulty forming...Mostly about socialization, "hang out with people like them..." Self report that the group feels acclimated and accepted within the culture of the college...

- Charlie: I have noticed very different generational shifts. Most students today have come out in high school. When we are ready to help with self acceptance, they are past that...

Breakout Room 3 - NO PARTICIPANTS

Breakout Room 4

Breakout Room 5

Breakout Room 6

Joan Cavanagh (Fordham), Ed Nowak (Ohio) & Katie Haidemenos (La Salle Academy, RI)

- Trying to be attentive to the needs of the students (may not have a direct support group)
- Integrated approach is happening through the diversity committee
- Progress is happening to allow students to express themselves in various ways
- FILMS: "Prayers for Bobby" & "The Bible Tells Me So"
- Prism retreat (donor funded) has allowed students to share and "come out"
- "Who Am I to Judge?" - Joan doctorate dissertation

Breakout Room 8

Lounelle Godinez (De La Salle University Philippines): working on building a support group, but university-sponsored support for GLBTQ+ students is relatively new; also looking at work with parent group around better support for GLBTQ+ students

Patrick Cousins (SLU): a lot of one-on-one conversation, working on university-sponsored Safe Zone leadership team, staff leader for GLBTQ+ retreat sponsored by Campus Ministry

Breakout Room 9

Br. Ernest Miller, FSC (La Salle University, Philadelphia); Ma. Gina Cejuela (De La Salle University, Philippines); Andy Simeon (De La Salle University Philippines)

Since all the members in the group are from Lasallian tradition we were able to share the strengths and limitations we are facing. Br. Ernest shared his experience from Philadelphia with their Alliance group which he feels needs to be more visible in the University and they would require personnel and eventually some budget.

From De La Salle University Manila, we reflected on what is existing right now and how we can go back to the documents of the Brothers' Institute to guide us in this ministry.

Breakout Room 10

Peggy-Anne Tio (Brandeis University), Joseph Bach, OSF (St. Francis College, Brooklyn), Sister Gayle, OSF (University of St. Francis, IL), Alessandra Molina (Immaculate Heart High School in LA)

Immaculate Heart High School

- Support group during lunch at a high school:
- Changed name to LGBTQ+ Ally group
- Education: training for fac/staff in exercises with terminology and best practices
 - Asking students which pronouns student's would like to use

- Trying to figure out ways to bridge gap between families and students in the high school setting, but hard to navigate

St Anthony's High School

- Group that wanted a support group, but wasn't allowed.
 - So "equity team" was created
 - Sign "Franciscan Classroom" were created with inclusive language and hung up in rooms since no safe space flyers were allowed
- Integrated approach was used because they didn't want to single anyone out, although there was a need for a specific group
- Found that on-on-one to be very important

University of St. Francis

- Trying to be more integrated, but wondering how to get students engaged
 - Feel like it might be a bit intimidating

Breakout Room 11

Breakout Room 12

Prophetic Approach - we can understand how campus ministers might be prophetic, but how can we elevate students' prophetic voices.

How do we provide support to students who are not supported by their families.

I'd like to share a video created by the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative, LGBTQ+ issues team, there is a video on this site that is fabulous, and has provided a very good foundation for discussions on campus.

<https://msjc.net/lgbt-initiative>

Breakout Room 13

Maria Pollia, Colleen Ryan Mayrand, Catherine Kirwan-Avila

At Maria's HS- strong support group, but there is the perception that the LGBTQ support group is not part of the "Catholic part" of student life (even though its moderated by a Theology professor)

- Wants to break down the perception among the students who participate that the welcome they receive is despite the school's Catholic identity
- The struggle of exploring who the "Church" is

A new thought- take a more deliberate stance in inviting members of the LGBTQ community into liturgical spaces and other religious environments...

At Colleen's College- Center for Faith and Justice- applies more of the integrative approach but also partnering with other offices to show support

- There was an immersion experience to the Ruth Ellis Center which serves the LGBTQ community - desire for a faith centered space that isn't about being sad about their identity but about celebrating

At Catherine's college - Challenging last year with a situation that caused a lot of hurt... spent time rebuilding trust... some good conversations came out of the situation and meetings in which new initiatives aimed at inclusion were put forth which we are now working on bringing to life, together with students

Breakout Room 14

Breakout Room 15

Breakout Room 16

Kevin Mannara, [Michelle Sherman](#), [Patrick Aquino](#) , Sr. Rosarie Ollano, SdP

Do any of these models feel particularly applicable to your students/community?

What sort of programs/outreach might you envision in implementing using any of the approaches above?

- Integrated - working with Villanova Pride, Campus Ministry, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Single-person Restrooms, REtreat work, Oasis Support group for LGBTQ
- Support group during lunch at a high school:
- Students feel the concern and support of the Campus Ministry staff, welcoming, students come with much experience of rejection, reiterating that God created all as good
- Student group spearheaded by students, for years it operated underground, it finally received official recognition.
- Trans student asked to have a separate restroom for her. The community would not provide one for the student. This is a struggle. Some students are not welcoming and insist that she use the male restroom. Hope that the University will provide a safer space soon. Just last week, the University approved a *Lasallian Center for Inclusion, Diversity, and Well Being*

What might you need to integrate LGBTQ ministry in your existing ministry? Or, how might you enhance it?

- Difficulties with core-group of students who are hostile and don't want to be inclusive
- Support group question: is separation healthy or not?