

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues in Academic Studies Advisory Committee

Charge: To develop plans for making the [NCTE Annual Convention](#) a safe and welcoming place for lesbians and gay men to be out and at ease in their identities; to initiate, sustain, and provide a space for a conversation about the relevance of gendered, sexual and affectional identities to reading and writing lives, to teaching lives, and to the well-being of students; to promote inquiry into issues of sexuality and identity in the teaching of literacy and literature, to encourage proposals for presentation of such inquiry through public meetings such as the annual convention, and to support individuals in the production of publishable written reports of such inquiry; to move away from post-hoc preparation of sessions toward a program that is selected completely from sessions proposed by the deadline through the regular process; and to select excellent proposals for inclusion in the LGBT strand for annual convention.

What major actions or projects have been completed by your group since July 1, 2008?

Dr. John Pruitt (University of Wisconsin-Rock County) has completed two LGBT projects since July 2008. Thanks to a Diversity Research Grant provided by the American Library Association, his article "Gay Men's Book Clubs vs. Wisconsin's Public Libraries: Political Perceptions in the Absence of Dialogue" is forthcoming in *Library Quarterly*. A second article, "Accommodating the Diversity Needs of Straight, White Male College Students (You Must Be Joking!)" is currently under consideration for *Currents in Teaching and Learning*.

What projects, initiatives, or studies are "in progress" at this time?

Dr. John Pruitt (University of Wisconsin-Rock County) is currently writing a content analysis of the Lambda Book Report since the publication's inception. This project will hopefully lead to a book on the evolution of LGBT literacy movements through the present.

We are currently working on a document about language. We are also collecting bibliographic material for our literature table at the convention and informally discussing possibilities for professional development on LGBT issues for the NCTE membership.

Paula Ressler and Becca Chase co-edited the March 2009 issue of *English Journal* on Sexual Orientation and Gender Variance. Extra copies of the issue are available for \$6.00 for NCTE members.

We are continuing to work on updating our website with bibliographic and other links that will be of benefit to educators. We hope to update the website with materials from the special edition of EJ on sexual orientation and gender variance.

We continue to work on LGBT committee members serving in an advisory capacity to NCTE publications, to ensure that LGBT perspectives are included in NCTE publications and websites, such as ReadWriteThink.

Strategic Governance: Over the past few years, the NCTE Executive Committee has established outcomes and priorities relating to these key topics in our field: Multimodal Literacy and Technology, Research and Teaching, English Language Learners, Professional Development, Closing the Achievement Gap, Reading Research, 21st Century Literacies, Meeting the Needs of Audiences Currently Unserved/Underserved by NCTE, Attracting, Supporting, and Advancing Early Career Educators, and International Involvement, "Global English", and NCTE. Does your group have research findings or suggestions to contribute that are relevant to on-going work on these strategic governance topics?

We will be discussing the latest research in the field at our annual meeting. See last year's Annual Report for research findings and suggestions.

The Advisory Committee will need to address how we should divide the task of collecting the latest research.

Joseph Dial, Chair