



————— *2nd Annual* —————
DR. P.B. POORMAN AWARD
FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
ON BEHALF OF LGBTQ PEOPLE

Saturday, April 4th

2nd Annual

DR. P.B. POORMAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT ON BEHALF OF LGBTQ PEOPLE

Dr. P.B. Poorman played an instrumental role in the foundation of the UW System Inclusivity Initiative for LGBTQ People, as a member of the original Steering and Research Committees. Her contributions to improving the lives of LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff through research, teaching, service and advocacy all served to define and lay out the identity and activities of the systemwide Inclusivity Initiative. Dr. Poorman used her boundless energy, humor, and determination to bring about action within the group and to help the group gain recognition from the wider university community.

Among other accomplishments, Dr. Poorman carried out the research and laid the groundwork to bring in a nationally-known climate assessment expert to conduct a system-wide evaluation of the experiences of diverse people throughout the UW System. This achievement epitomizes Dr. Poorman's rich contributions to creating a welcoming university climate for all individuals.

To honor Dr. Poorman's legacy to the state of Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin System and the LGBTQ communities, the UW System LGBTQ Inclusivity Initiative has established an annual award in her name. The award is intended to recognize a UW System faculty, academic or classified staff, or registered UWS student for her or his excellence in advocacy, research, teaching, or service on behalf of the LGBTQ communities.

2009 P.B. POORMAN AWARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Denise Clark, UW-Oshkosh; Stephanie Srivotka Marshall, UW-Parkside;
Mary Beth Mackin, UW-Whitewater; Demetria Wiemann, UW System Administration;
Lisa Beckstrand, UW System Administration

2008 P.B. POORMAN AWARD RECIPIENT

Denise Clark, UW-Oshkosh

APPRECIATIONS

We would like to extend our gratitude to all those who have helped to make recognition of LGBTQ-related accomplishments visible in the UW System. PB led the way and carried us along. The achievements of our nominees and the incredible work they are doing every day on the campuses and in our communities go without saying. Thanks also to those who took the time to nominate a colleague for their lgbtq-related work, those who volunteered and served on the Award Committee, the Inclusivity members who initiated and developed the award criteria, Susan Simmons who has been an integral part of the discussions, Rebecca Martin (System Senior VP) who supported the award, and our terrific staff assistants Dace Zeps, Karin Wrzesinski, & Trina Clemente who take care of all the details!

CRITERIA

Outstanding Achievement as evidenced by performance that consistently and substantially has resulted in important and significant contributions to the LGBTQ communities within the UW System. These contributions must be above and beyond the assigned duties of the nominee's role. The recipient may not have previously received the award or be an acting member of the award committee.

The recipient will have:

- 1) significantly furthered the mission, vision and goals of the Inclusivity Initiative for LGBTQ People; and/or
- 2) performed at a high level resulting in distinction in one's profession – campuswide, systemwide, statewide, nationally or internationally for research, teaching or service regarding LGBTQ issues; and/or
- 3) published, presented, consulted, advocated, or used creative approaches to address LGBTQ issues within the classroom or in service to students.

2009 P.B. POORMAN AWARD RECIPIENT

Mariamne Whatley has been writing, teaching and advocating for LGBTQ issues at the UW-Madison and in the broader community for over 30 years. A pioneer in LGBTQ issues, Mariamne worked tirelessly on her campus to create UW-Madison's LGBT Studies Certificate. She helped design the curriculum, taught the only health/biology course in the program, and advised the LGBT Studies students. As a professor in Gender and Women's Studies, she has made sure that LGBTQ issues always play a central role in her women's health courses. As a dean and professor in the School of Education, she also integrated LGBTQ issues into her classroom and into the school as a whole "to help future and current teachers see that they have a major role in making the classroom a safe and productive environment for *all* their students." Mariamne won a grant to develop a course on *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Health*. This Gender and Women's Studies course in is now filled to capacity each time it is offered and will culminate in a textbook that examines how issues of sexuality and gender intersect with those of race/ethnicity, class, and disability to affect access to good healthcare outcomes for LGBTQI people. Mariamne has published books and articles on women's health and sexuality, constantly moving LGBTQ issues to the core of the argument. Her words best summarize the relationship between her teaching and scholarship: "In writing on these topics, I have always emphasized the need to avoid and counter homophobia, heterosexism, and heteronormativity in order to provide appropriate healthcare and sexuality/health education." Her education of students, future teachers, and the broader public is not limited to her teaching, writing, and administrative work. Mariamne collaborated with PB Poorman, with Christine Flynn Saulnier, and others to define and build the vision, mission, goals and structure of the UW System Inclusivity Initiative. She has since been a core member who, in the words of other initiative colleagues, brings her "political awareness, advocacy skills, and deep commitment" to the work of the initiative and remains a "consistent positive force" through which to bring its goals to fruition.

AWARD NOMINEE BIOGRAPHIES

R. Anne Abbott has been working for over ten years at UW-Stevens Point as a leader and advocate for LGBTQ issues to students, staff and faculty. Her contributions to the creation of a welcoming and equitable campus climate are far and wide. As a professor of Health Promotion and Wellness, Anne uses creative approaches to teaching to prepare students for a global, diverse and inclusive workforce. She took a lead role in the promotion and implementation of the UW System Climate Assessment (originally initiated by PB) and served on the first year of the Inclusivity Initiative founding committee. She organized an educational campus forum entitled “Constitutional Amendments (Marriage and Civil Unions),” and has been a tireless advocate of domestic partner benefits on her campus. Anne has been recognized by her provost for her work and service on the Diversity Task Force, and for her broader contributions to affirmative action issues and cultural diversity. In the words of her department chair, Anne has used her “passion to move faculty and staff beyond just words toward a true climate of equality.”

Deirdre Dalsing has been counseling students at UW-Platteville since 2003, and since that time she has made great strides to create a safe and welcoming climate for LGBTQ students. Motivated by a strong belief that “all students deserve to learn in an environment that is supportive and friendly,” Deirdre went above and beyond her job duties to create a “Safe Zone” Training for housing staff and the broader campus community. She served as an ally and mentor to LGBTQ students not only through her counseling work, but as member of the Student Organization, ALLIANCE. This work led Deirdre to further assess the heterosexist nature of some campus language, visuals, and messages and to create written materials and resources that would ensure a more welcoming environment to LGBTQ students. Her colleagues characterize Deirdre as someone who “challenges” other’s values, and constantly “strives to be a positive force in the lives of our LGBTQ students and an educator in the lives of our majority students.”

Scott Griesbach directs University Housing at the UW-Stout and has worked enthusiastically to hire, train, and support staff on issues of diversity, and in particular, to promote an understanding of LGBTQ issues on his campus. Scott’s proactive nature has led him to educate not only students, but their parents who sometimes fear having their son/daughter room with somebody who might be “different.” Scott has created housing application forms that enable students to request LGBTQ-friendly roommates. Among other accomplishments, Scott recently helped secure funding for the UW-Stout LGBTQ Resource Director position; he played a key role in the completion of the National Pride Index Assessment which resulted in his campus scoring a 3 out of 5 nationally; he has worked to develop campus seminars spotlighting political issues relevant to LGBTQ students; and helped to create a visually stunning website for the LGBTQ organizations and presence at UW-Stout. Chancellor Sorensen refers to Scott as “a tireless champion of inclusivity” who has demonstrated “leadership, style, and commitment” to the LGBTQ community and within the larger context of social justice for all individuals.

Dianna Hunter has been educating students, staff, and faculty on LGBTQ-related issues through her teaching, writing, and committee work at UW-Superior and in the wider community. As Coordinator of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, she worked to move the campus forward on gender and sexuality issues through one-on-one consultation, advocacy, informational programming and networking with campus committees and governing bodies. She has initiated campus Safe Zone workshops, an annual reception that honors LGBTQ campus and community leaders, and has served as advisor to the Queer and Allied Student Union. Her contributions to educating others go beyond the campus. In addition to serving as a representative to the systemwide Inclusivity Initiative, Dianna co-founded the Twin Ports Area Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Safer Schools Task Force that works with area public school administrators, teachers, and board members, and she recently won the Duluth-Superior Pride Dinosaur Award for "lifetime service in our Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Transgender, Allied, Queer, and Intersex Community." Finally, Dianna has reached the wider public through her creative writing of short stories dealing with themes of sexual and gender identities, fluid gender expressions and roles, and the personal politics of inclusion and exclusion in rural communities (see *The Artificial Inseminator's Wife*.) Her colleagues and chancellor regard Dianna as a "heartfelt and relentless advocate for the LGBTQ community."

Brian Stahlkopf has worked for over fifteen years in the University's Counseling and Health Center at UW-Green Bay. However, he is known for much more than his role as Senior Staff Counselor. His colleagues qualify him as "the most visible face of LGBTQ programming and advocacy on campus." Brian is known for bringing LGBTQ issues to the table regardless of the activity he is involved in, making sure that such a perspective is included in discourse on everything from facilities planning (accessible bathrooms for transgender students) to curriculum development to organizing campus-wide events. Some of his campus initiatives include: coordination of the university's S.A.F.E Program to train faculty and staff on LGBTQ issues; developing annual educational trainings on LGBTQ issues for students; serving as faculty advisor for the Straight and Gay Alliance; serving on the UW-Green Bay Diversity Taskforce; and as long-time committed member participant of the UW System Inclusivity Initiative. He has served as an advocate of LGBTQ issues in community organizations (e.g. GLSEN, Youthpride, Pride Alive) and made many presentations on the campus and in the broader community. He has been referred to as a "human clearinghouse of LGBTQ resources, knowledge, and initiatives and is always willing to share what he knows with other people."

Will Van Roosenbeek was nominated for this award because in Chancellor Joe Gow's words, "his work is the primary factor in UW-La Crosse's identity as an LGBTQ-friendly campus." His advocacy and outreach to students and faculty at UW- La Crosse began during his time as a student and has continued to develop and flourish in his role as the Pride Center Director. Over the past decade Will has initiated many new programs to create a welcoming and equitable climate for LGBTQ students, staff, and faculty. Such programs and activities include: a Rainbow Graduation Reception, A Day of Silence and Transgender Remembrance Week, UW-La Crosse's LGBTQ Alumni Organization, and on-going trainings and panels that serve the campus and community. Will was a founding member of the campus Hate Response Team and helped develop UW- La Crosse's exemplary "Hate Incident Reporting Form." His contributions to the UW System Inclusivity Initiative are too many to name, but most recently Will has developed a study abroad program in Paris that focuses on LGBTQ identity issues and is open to students throughout the UW System. Referred to by his peers as an "expert communicator" and "coalition builder," Will continues to develop and mentor LGBTQ-ally leaders for the next generation.

AWARD PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Welcome, Eric Trekell, Director of LGBT Campus Center,
UW-Madison

Introduction, Susan Simmons, P.B.'s former partner and honorary
member of the Inclusivity Initiative, Madison

Accomplishments of PB Poorman Award nominees, Lisa Beckstrand,
Director of Inclusivity Initiative, UW System

Presentation of the Award, Helen Klebesadel, Director of Women's
Studies Consortium, UW System

Keynote Speaker, Candace Gingrich, Senior Youth Outreach Manager
for the Human Rights Campaign, Washington, D.C.

*Since 1995, **Candace Gingrich** has served as a key advocate for issues of importance to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Her 1996 autobiography, *The Accidental Activist*, was a best seller in the GLBT community. In addition, Gingrich has been profiled in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *Newsweek*, and has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *Larry King Live*, *Prime Time Live* and other television shows. Her involvement in the movement for equal rights began when her brother, then-Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., was elected House speaker.*

In 1995, Gingrich traveled to more than 50 U.S. cities on behalf of the Human Rights Campaign to encourage Americans to raise their voices for GLBT equality. In 1996, Gingrich toured the country again to spearhead HRC's voter mobilization project — urging Americans to register to vote and participate in the political process. She has also contributed to HRC's seminars on political training. As senior youth outreach manager, Gingrich works to empower and engage GLBT and allied youth in the fight for equality.



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