

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF GAY MEN,
LESBIANS, BISEXUALS, TRANSGENDER PEOPLE, AND ALLIES
at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

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*THE INCLUSION OF NAMES
ON THIS LIST DOES NOT
INDICATE THE SEXUAL
ORIENTATION, GENDER
EXPRESSION, OR GENDER
IDENTITY OF AN
INDIVIDUAL MEMBER.
MEMBERS LISTED WITH AN
ASTERISK ARE OPENLY
GLBT.*

EUP Safe Zone

Providing Support to GLBTA Students, Staff, and Faculty

Purpose

- The EUP Safe Zone is a network of faculty and staff who:
 - (1) Are committed to providing a “safe zone” for anyone dealing with sexual orientation or gender identity/expression issues;
 - (2) Respect all people regardless of age, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity or expression; and
 - (3) Believe that diversity enriches our lives.
- EUP Safe Zone strives to reduce homophobia and heterosexism on campus through education, advocacy, awareness, and creating a visible network of allies. The program strives to develop a welcoming and supportive campus environment for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBTA) students, faculty, and staff.
- EUP Safe Zone provides an avenue through which individuals can actively show their support of GLBTA people.

The EUP Safe Zone program is being started this Spring and was developed from the example of ally (also known as “safe zone” or “safe space”) programs at other colleges and universities across the nation. These programs provide resources to a minority group often ignored by traditional university support systems (McRee & Cooper, 1998). Harassment and discrimination faced by GLBTA college students has been well documented (D’Augelli, 1992; Herek, 1993; Malaney & Geller, 1997). The EUP Safe Zone program is comprised of faculty and staff volunteers who are committed to making the EUP campus environment one where all students, staff, and faculty feel safe and supported.

Membership is open to all EUP faculty and staff, who are interested in volunteering to be a member of EUP Safe Zone. They must attend a training session. The Safe Zone Training includes:

- An overview of the purpose of EUP Safe Zone Program,
- Information on issues that GLBTA people may be facing,
- Information on resources and referrals,

- Questions and answers, and
- An opportunity to sign a contract.

The EUP Safe Zone Contract is an agreement to provide a “safe zone” for anyone dealing with sexual orientation or gender identity/expression issues. It emphasizes the expectations and responsibilities of a EUP Safe Zone member, what an member is (support and referral) and is not (professional counselor), and gives EUP Safe Zone Program permission to include that member’s name and contact information on the EUP Safe Zone webpage. Attending the EUP Safe Zone Seminar is required before anyone can hang an EUP Safe Zone sticker/card/poster, etc.

EUP Safe Zone Members are identified by displaying an EUP Safe Zone card at their worksite and/or on-campus living space. This is not to say that only people in the EUP Safe Zone can help GLBTA students. It simply helps students identify individuals who (1) have received some training in GLBTA issues; (2) strive to reduce homophobia and heterosexism on a personal and professional level; and (3) have made a commitment to providing support and referrals to GLBTA students while respecting the privacy of individuals who contact them.

Training Registration: If you would like to become a member of the EUP Safe Zone and receive an EUP Safe Zone card, you must attend an EUP Safe Zone Training, which will be held each Fall and Spring semesters. Even if you are not interested in becoming an EUP Safe Zone member, you are still very welcome to attend a seminar and learn more about GLBTA related issues. Space is limited so you need to pre-register to attend. Please fill out the registration form below and send it via campus mail to Dr. Daniel Burdick, 115 Alexander Music Center, Music Department, as soon a possible. Spaces will be reserved in the order that registration forms are received. Individuals will be contacted via email the week before the seminar.

E U P S A F E Z O N E T R A I N I N G R E G I S T R A T I O N

Online Registration is available at <http://www.edinboro.edu/departments/glbta/>

Name: _____

Circle one: Faculty Staff

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

Department or Office: _____

_____ I would like to register for the EUP Safe Zone Initial Training on Friday, October 10, 2008 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in Room 303B of the University Center. [Same session both days.]

_____ I would like to register for the EUP Safe Zone Initial Training on Friday, October 24, 2008 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in Room 303B of the University Center. [Same session both days.]

_____ I would like to register for the EUP Safe Zone Continuing Training on Friday, November 14, 2008 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in Room 303B of the University Center. [Optional]

_____ I am interested in attending an EUP Safe Zone training session. However, I cannot attend the one listed above. Please contact me as soon as the next training date has been scheduled.

Return to: Dr. Daniel Burdick, 115 Alexander Music Center – Music Department, or e-mail the information to dburdick@edinboro.edu, or call (814) 732-2647. Thanks!