

Western Regional LGBTQIA College Conference

General Information and History

The purpose of this document is to record information for future organizers of the WRC, and to maintain an “institutional memory.” Information was compiled by Nancy Tubbs, nancy.tubbs@ucr.edu, 951.827.2267 and Brittini Tanenbaum, brittini.tanenbaum.uclgbtqiaa@gmail.com, 951.206.7560.

What is the name of the conference?

Western Regional LGBTQIA College Conference

What does LGBTQIA stand for?

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer (Questioning) Intersex Asexual

Why don't you use LGBTQQIA?

Because some areas of the region are not yet comfortable with the word “Queer,” so they would have the option of saying “Questioning” for the “Q.”

Why don't you use the word “Annual?”

Because we skipped a year in 2006 and because it makes the name longer.

What should we not call the conference?

Please do not use “UC Conference,” even if a UC campus is hosting. This marginalizes non-UC participants. While the conference is often simply called the Western Regional, or the Queer Conference, informally, please use the formal and full name on press releases, print and web publicity.

Why is this the “Western” conference?

The conference name was changed in 2005 from the UCLGBTIA Conference & General Assembly to the Western Regional LGBTQIA College Conference to better reflect the hundreds of non-UC students and community members who participate every year. For the first time this year, a non-UC campus will be hosting the conference.

Why is this the “College” conference?

To remind the public that the primary conference audience remains the college campus community.

What states are included in the Western Region?

This has never been defined. It's an attitude, not state lines!

Who decides the future host campus site?

After input by campuses present at the current Western Regional opening ceremony, the decision will be made by the two past organizing campuses and the current organizing campus. The decision will be announced at the closing ceremony.

Why are the bids for both 2011 and 2012 available?

Currently, we are attempting to get into the process of deciding the conference organizer two years in advance. In order to do this, we need to have one year where we are deciding two conference hosts. As a campus, you can apply to host for only one year, or both 2011 and 2012, but a separate bid must be received for each year you are desiring to hold the conference.

Who has hosted a Conference?

Up until 2009, only University of California campuses have hosted an event called a Western Regional. In 2010, a non-UC will be hosting the conference. Here is the conference history, (with attendance):

Western Regional LGBTQIA College Conference

2010 @ Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (TBA)

2009 @ UC Santa Barbara – Cultivating Our Queer Community: Learn It, Live It, Love It (800)

2008 @ UC Los Angeles - "Viva La Queerevolution!" (500)

2007 @ UC Riverside - "Out Of the Rainbow & Into the Streets" (750)

2005 @ UC Davis - "Putting the Puzzle Together: Connecting Communities & Identities" (780)

UCLGBTIA Conferences & General Assemblies

2004 @ UC San Diego - "Through the Looking Glass" (627 + 200 waiting list)

2003 @ UC Riverside - "Coming Home Queer" (715)

2002 @ UC Berkeley - "Queer All Directions" (650)

2001 @ UC Santa Barbara - "Concepts of Community" (600)

2000 @ UC Davis - "Gayz Into the Millennium" (550)

1999 @ UC Los Angeles - "Somethin' Queer Is Bruin" (600)

1998 @ UC Santa Cruz - "Exposed!" (400)

1997 @ UC Irvine - "Bridges of Courage" (300)

1996 @ UC Berkeley - "Queer Safe Space" (220)

1995 @ UC Santa Barbara - "Perverse Policies & Queer Knowledge"

UCLGBTIA General Assemblies

1994 @ UC Santa Cruz

1993 @ UC Davis

1992 @ UC Los Angeles & UC Berkeley

1991 @ UC Riverside & UC Santa Cruz

1990 @ UC Davis & UC Santa Barbara

What time of year is the conference held?

Traditionally, the conference is held the Friday-Sunday of Presidents Day Holiday Week-end in February.

What is the conference web site?

The URL www.comeoutwest.org will point people to the current web site. This URL is owned by UC Riverside's LGBT Resource Center. The UCLGBTIA web site hosted the conference web site in 2003, 2005, 2007, and 2009.

Who attends the conference?

In 2007, 715 people from 54 campuses attended, including: 80% students, 2/3 people of color, and 17% trans or genderqueer.

What are the General Assemblies?

General Assemblies occur during the conference (ideally on Saturday) to bring together campuses with common interests. Traditional General Assemblies include: UC, CSU, private colleges, community colleges, high school.

How many workshops are offered?

In 2007, over 50 workshops were offered over 5 sessions.

What is the mission of the conference?

The host campus usually creates their own mission statement. Here is the 2009 mission statement by UCSB organizers:

The mission of the Western Regional College Conference is to educate and empower queer youth, students, families, professionals, community members, and allies by providing an all inclusive space to dialogue about critical issues, to network with other leaders, and to mobilize our community from the ground up. We strive to examine our communities and organizing through a social justice lens. We are committed to creating a conference that addresses issues of homophobia, heterosexism, transphobia, biphobia, gender oppression, racism, sexism, ableism, classism, religious oppression, and all other forms of oppression.

What is the conference budget, and how does it work?

In 2007, the conference budget was \$40,000. Registration covered \$15,000 of the costs. All other income came from co-sponsorships. The host campus keeps any remaining funds if the budget makes a "profit." Most years, the budget breaks even. Here's a breakdown of conference costs, although the breakdown will vary widely depending on the host campus:

2007 Conference Budget Overview

Publicity = **\$641.06**

Food = **\$6,449.77**

Supplies = **\$1,631.16**

T-Shirts = **\$1771.41**

Facilities = **\$9,108.70**

Media = **\$1,307.76**

Artist Travel = **\$2,547.95**

Artist Honorarium = **\$13,300.00**

Parking = **\$568.00**

Printing = **1,633.71**

Box Office Fees = **\$863.90**

Grand Total

\$39,823.42

What are the Registration rates?

In 2007, they were as follows (Note: The registration rate for the Midwest Regional Conference started at \$45):

Early Group Registration Rate:

\$25/person for 5 or more people (student and non-student)

Pre-Conference Rates:

\$30 – Student (any college or h.s.)

\$35 – Staff/Faculty (any college or h.s.)

\$45 – community

Payment Methods:

- Credit card (Visa/MC)
- Check, payable to “Regents UC”
- UC campus departmental Recharge

On-Site Rates:

\$45 – Any student

\$55 – Any non-student