CAMPUS RESOURCES

Hawai‘i Community College
Counseling, Advising and Support Services Center
934-2720

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
934-2509

EEO Officer
934-2527

University of Hawai‘i at Hilo
Women’s Center
974-7306

Rights & Resources
For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Students

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Discrimination

It is the policy of the University of Hawai'i to provide equality of opportunity in higher education, both in its educational mission and as an employer. The University is committed to compliance with all state and federal statutes, rules, and regulations that prohibit discrimination.

The University is committed to a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of race, gender, age, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, access to, and participation, treatment and employment in the University’s programs and activities.

In the event of harassment or discrimination, students should contact the Dean of Students and faculty and staff should contact their campus Equal Employment Opportunity Officer or union representative.

At the University of Hawai'i, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people have the same rights as others to learn, grow and discover themselves. Their feelings and needs are the same as heterosexuals. All members of the UH community are invited to learn about sexuality and gender issues.

Safe Zone

The Task Force on Sexual Orientation has initiated a Safe Zone program aimed at keeping the University System a comfortable place for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered population. A Safe Zone symbol identifies a person (student, teacher, staff, administrator) who will be understanding, supportive and helpful.

Rights & Resources

University of Hawai'i policy guarantees that all members of the University community are entitled to the same opportunities and protection. Therefore, knowing the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people on campus and being aware of available resources can help everyone’s development and growth.

Coming Out

The University offers a setting for self-understanding and growth. Often during college years, students reflect on their sexuality. For some, this process may result in the discovery that they are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered. Some individuals embark upon the process of “coming out” to friends, colleagues, and family.

For most people, the process of “coming out” is a challenging experience. Exposed daily to the negative reactions and stereotypes of American society, it is not unusual to have feelings of fear, isolation, guilt, and self-rejection. However, coming to terms with sexual orientation can also be positive. In moving beyond the myths about gay people, many find that initial feelings of anxiety are replaced by relief, self-acceptance and even a sense of liberation.