

Suggestions for How to Add “Gender Identity or Expression” Successfully to Non-Discrimination Policies

- learn the different steps for changing the non-discrimination policy
- identify the key decision makers at each step of the process
- educate these decision makers and other important administrators (the directors of Human Resources, Student Activities, Judicial Affairs, Residence Life, Recreational Sports, etc.) about anti-transgender prejudice and the experiences of transgender students
- decide what arguments will work best with different decision makers (an important student need, a human rights issue, keeping up with peer institutions, in line with state and/or city ordinances)
- involve as many transgender students, staff, faculty, and alumni as possible
- find ways to involve individuals who may not be open about being transgender in the process at their comfort level
- educate and involve LGB/LGBT student groups as advocates
- identify and cultivate influential allies (student leaders, administration officials, deans, department chairs, etc.)
- seek resolutions of support from the student government, faculty senate, staff council, and diversity committees
- anticipate possible questions and concerns (such as someone who appears male in a women’s bathroom or locker room, what the legal ramifications will be) and be prepared to respond to them
- turn to other people working in this area as needed

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