

## Wesley E. Heath, M.A.

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### CURRENT

**Assistant Director for Cross-Cultural Affairs**, Office of Multicultural Affairs  
*Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA*

2016-current

Responsible for the development and implementation of programs contributing to the overarching Office of Multicultural Affairs and Office of Diversity goals and initiatives. An emphasis is placed on researching, designing, and implementing strategies that encourage students to work across social lines, exploring complex notions of diversity, intersectionality, and social justice. Serves as the primary adviser, coordinating academic achievement and leadership development for Hispanic, Native American, Asian American, and LGBTQ student organizations and committees. Directs the Genesis Mentoring and Genesis Tutoring programs, which are designed to support underrepresented students in their personal, professional, and academic lives. Provides administrative responsibility for training and development of the student staff and the Safe Spaces/LGBTQ Project Graduate Assistant. Works collaboratively with internal and external partners of OMA to provide holistic support for students.

**NCBI Trainer**, LSU Chapter of the National Coalition Building Institute  
*Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA*

2017-current

With an initial three-day training, and continual monthly trainings, I am able to participate in and lead one-day workshops that help participants uncover how they have been taught to think and act as members of their social identities, and provides skills for bridging differences.

### EDUCATION

**Master of Arts**, Sociology

*Ball State University, Muncie, IN*

May 2016

**Thesis:** "An Analysis of LGBT Youth Organizations and their Effectiveness at Reducing Anxiety and Empowering LGBT Young Adults"

**Bachelor of Arts**, Sociology and Psychology

*Manchester University, North Manchester, IN*

May 2014

**Senior Capstone Research:** "Trans Student Expectations of College and University Campuses, Policies, and Procedures"

### PREVIOUS STUDENT AFFAIRS EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Assistant of Freshman Connections**

*Ball State University, Muncie, IN*

2014-2016

- Designed and implemented eight programs that helped first-year students navigate campus life and transition to college-level academia
- Created a new Common Reader social media plan that increased student involvement by over 400%

- Worked closely with Orientation Office during the 10-week orientation program to present the common reader to incoming students; spoke daily at orientation events to audiences of 500 students and families
- Organized the Freshman Common Reader's annual Discussion Day, which included 50 community members, 50 orientation staff members, 100 faculty members, and 4,000 first-year students
- Coordinated the Author Visit Day associated with the selected common reader, including supervising student staff and organizing the author's schedule of events
- Collaborated bi-weekly with the First-Year Experience committee to ensure student success in their transition to college, and to increase retention; provided analyzed data from student surveys to help create informed retention decisions

### **Resident Assistant**

*Manchester University, North Manchester, IN*

2012-2014

- Supervised over 100 students directly, and over 400 students collectively during on-call emergency rotation
- Designed 27 educational programs, responded to 21 incidents and wrote the corresponding reports, and worked closely with campus safety on 15 drug violations
- Added new material to training by designing and facilitating Safe Zone and Conflict Resolution trainings for RAs during summer and January training sessions
- Created the Lead Mediator position that changed how conflict resolution was conducted in the halls; Supervised and trained eight RAs in mediation techniques
- Awarded Program of the Year in 2013 for my program that focused on cultural competency and disability

## **EDUCATOR**

**Student Instructor**, Department of Sociology,  
*Manchester University, North Manchester, IN*

2012

- Developed 16 lectures and 27 assignments investigate how race, ethnicity and gender intersect in daily life, affecting business, relationships, and the perception of self

**Guest Lecturer**, Department of Social Work and Psychology  
*Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN*

Mar. 2013

- Provided sociological outlook on LGBTQ culture and the Gay Rights Movement to a series of classes in an effort to fulfill needed curriculum coverage for social work licensure

## **RESEARCHER**

**"An Analysis of LGBT Youth Organizations and their Effectiveness at Reducing Anxiety and Empowering LGBT Young Adults"**, Department of Sociology  
*Ball State University, Muncie, IN*

2016

- Using a qualitative, semi-structured process, 17 participants of an urban, mid-western LGBT center were interviewed regarding four major areas: social support, positive peer interaction, positive adult role models, and safe spaces.
- Findings suggest that all four areas help reduce anxiety, and empower members similarly to what research shows for GSAs. Results from this exploration offers insights into the potential for large youth organizations to positively impact LGBTQ youth.

**"Trans Student Expectations of College and University Campuses, Policies, and Procedures"**,  
Department of Sociology  
*Manchester University, North Manchester, IN*

2014

- Qualitative research design that explores the changing needs of Trans students on college campuses within the past 15 years

**ADVOCATE****Summer Camp Counselor***Wisconsin Lions Camp, Rosholt, WI*

2012

- Directly supervised 250 campers and collectively supervised 3,000 campers with cognitive disabilities, visual and hearing impairments, and diabetes

**Justice Member, Conduct Review Board,***Manchester University, North Manchester, IN*

2011-2012

- Worked on a 5 member team to adjudicate over 20 cases, hearing from each individual involved, to assign sanctions to responsible parties in accordance to university policy

**Student Advisor, United Sexualities,***Manchester University, North Manchester, IN*

2010-2014

- Reinvigorated the Safe Zone program by researching and developing a more current training booklet, marketed the availability of the program, and trained new facilitators; the program grew, starting with 20 safe spaces on campus in 2010 to over 240 by 2014
- Revived the annual Drag Show by incorporating auditions for performers, creating subcommittees to handle delegated tasks, and collaborating with offices across campus; from 2010 to 2014 the Drag Show attendance increased by 200%, quickly becoming the largest student-run event on campus; incorporated a charity component that raised over \$4,000 for local LGBT non-profits

**LGBTQ Campus Mentor, Office of Counseling Services***Ball State University, Muncie, IN*

2014-2016

- Provided one-on-one counseling to LGBTQ undergraduate students

**Member of Board of Directors***Education for Conflict Resolution (ECR), North Manchester, IN*

2013-2014

- Served as Manchester University Representative for Conflict Resolution

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENTATIONS**

WCRD 91.3 FM Panel Speaker, On-air Safe Zone program	2016
WCRD 91.3 FM Keynote Speaker, <i>Improving the Lives of LGBT Youth</i>	2016
Queer Health Conference Presenter, Fort Wayne, IN	2016
MSS-NCSA Annual Conference Presenter, Chicago, IL	2016
First-Gen Graduate, ACPA Student Affairs Conference, Montreal, CA	2016
35th Annual Conference on First-Year Experience Presenter, Orlando, FL	2016
NCSA Paper Presentation: "Sex Work and Marx," Cleveland, OH	2015
Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Ally College Conference, IL	2015
All-Campus Leadership Conference Presenter	2015
Dean's List Research Symposium Presenter	2014
Conversations in Social Sciences Seminar Presenter	2014
Resident Assistant Development Conference Presenter, Cedar Falls, IO	2013
Professional Diversity Workshop Presenter	2013
Fort Wayne Teachers' Conference Presenter	2013
Certified Safe Zone Trainer (Train-the-trainer)	2011

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Rosenbury Family Endowed Scholarship	2010-2014
Dean's List Honoree	2010-2014
Trustee's Scholar	2010-2014
Certificate in Mediation	2013
Multicultural Advocacy Award, Office of Multicultural Affairs	2013
Student Leader of the Year Nominee	2013