

How LGBTQ students can find the right fit

The college selection and admissions process can be quite an overwhelming experience to begin with, but for many students there is an additional component that can add to the challenges: finding a college that is a good fit for LGBTQ students.

First, let me start by acknowledging that this label is not perfect by any means and does not encompass the whole spectrum of gender and sexual identification. I am using this because it is what I come across when I tour colleges and go to conferences, but I am sure (and hopeful) that there will be and are improvements.

Second, if this is you or someone you love, then it is a good idea to know what to look for in a college, how to look for it and how to apply in a way that maximizes the likelihood of having the college experience that best suits you.

Let's start with factors to consider when researching colleges that will provide a healthy, enriching and vibrant college environment for LGBTQ students. A few key components are:

■ **Active LGBTQ community:** This can be assessed by the number and strength of active LGBTQ student organizations on campus



and whether there are visible signs of gay pride.

■ **Staff, faculty and students who are out:** Tour the campus, look online, read professor biographies and research areas, visit departments and walk through the student union to get a feel for the climate of acceptance.

■ **Non-discrimination policies:** Look for policies on the books that protect and promote a culture of acceptance and equal opportunity and specifically mention sexual orientation. Also, look for inclusive housing and bathroom policies to get a better sense of the campus culture.

■ **Climate around college:** Learn about the cultural and political atmosphere in the surrounding town or city and the region to get a read on what to expect when off campus.

The next step is to build a

college list of about eight to 12 schools that are the most LGBTQ-friendly. There are many lists and websites to consult to help formulate this list. Princeton Review (<http://bit.ly/2vL113N>), USA Today (<https://usat.ly/2sbD9rK>) and Campus Pride (www.campusprideindex.org/) are all valuable websites for assessing campus LGBTQ-friendliness.

Consistently at the top of these lists are schools like UCLA, University of Michigan and Ithaca College; closer to home are Southern Oregon University and San Diego State University.

Of course, taking into account the usual college characteristics such as school size, degree of urbanization, academic programs and weather is also a part of this list-building process.

Once the college list takes shape, college visits are essential (if resources and time permit). A quick and effective way to visit many schools at once is the Campus Pride National LGBTQ-Friendly College Fair Program. Check out www.campuspride.org/collegefair for more information.

In addition to the typical college tour questions, some ideas of good questions to ask are: Does the

school have a full-time employee who works on providing resources and services to LGBTQ students? How many LGBTQ events take place on campus? Are there health and counseling services designed for LGBTQ students?

Another part of the process that may require extra thoughtfulness is how to identify, if at all, during the application process. This is a very personal decision and there really is no right answer other than to do what you feel most comfortable with.

I have worked with students who have chosen a variety of options. Some chose to write their whole essay about coming out and becoming active in gay pride activities. I still remember one student whose essay merited a heartfelt response from the college admissions officer about how meaningful it was.

I have other students who did not touch upon the subject at all, not necessarily because they wanted to avoid the subject, but because they had other essay topics that interested them more.

And, then I have worked with students who did not come out to the colleges during the process because they had not come out to their parents and wanted to wait

to do so once they were on campus.

While we are on the subject of applications, I am happy to report that more colleges are allowing for a variety of choices when students fill out the spot for gender. For instance, there can be male, female, other and non-gender-conforming, depending on the school. Usually these questions are optional to answer. The bottom line when it comes to college admission is to build a list of colleges that are a good fit and then be yourself when applying.

Lastly, there are many wonderfully helpful resources online. A couple I find really useful are PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) at www.pflag.org, and Human Rights Campaign at www.hrc.org. In addition, many organizations offer scholarships specifically for LGBTQ students, so check out www.finaid.org/otheraid/lgbt.phtml.

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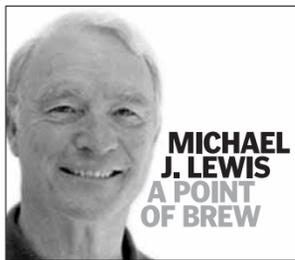
Hops and the value of those who harvest them

Hops make beer bitter and craft brewers use a lot of hops rather inefficiently. As a result, the American hop-growing industry has about doubled in size in recent years and, for the same reason, different hop varieties are now grown, favoring so-called aroma hops.

The industry also has substantially moved out of California.

I first set eyes on a few acres of the famous Sacramento hop-yards a long time ago near the point where Highway 16 from Woodland crossed the Sacramento River at the Elkhorn Ferry. I knew of these hop-yards because in Britain, at the time, materials imported from California were thought to add "sunshine" to British beers.

The main acreage for hops was not, in fact, at the river but on the continuation of Highway 16 at



Sloughhouse. Some remnants of the old hop industry remain there even today near the now-thriving fruit and vegetable stand on the highway.

In the 1960s I entertained a quite famous British hop chemist who was traveling the world and curious about California hops. I arranged for him to visit a large hop farm at Sloughhouse that was then owned by the Signorotti family.

Being British, we turned up for our tour dressed in a rather formal way in suits and ties; as we entered the growing area where the hops were being picked our

way was blocked by a large man with a machete and we became aware that the crowd of workers had downed tools and were moving rapidly away from us.

Much later we understood why.

During a recent trip to Carmel by the Sea we passed through miles of immensely productive farmland growing high-value crops such as strawberries and lettuce and artichokes, among many others. Gilroy wryly calls itself the Garlic Capital of the World.

Our own region is also immensely productive, with corn, tomatoes and sunflowers among many other crops. And, given the number of almond trees being planted locally, Davis soon may wryly call itself the World Capital of Nuts.

The constant in these two stories, from my hops story and from Carmel, were crowds of workers in the

fields tending to and harvesting the crops. I don't doubt that these workers were largely Spanish-speaking men and women and that among them were some undocumented and therefore illegal aliens.

I understand the wish to deport illegals of all stripes who are criminals, but those doing essential work need to be retained. Farmers in Florida (oranges) and Michigan (apples) among many other places struggle to find enough workers to tend and harvest their crops.

As our administration attempts to move to a skills-based immigration policy we need to recognize that a willingness and ability to do agricultural work is a necessary skill of national importance that needs to be protected.

Since such skilled immigrant farm workers are already here, let's deal with it. Let us think twice

before we harass, denigrate and deport them.

I am reminded of the many times when skilled labor has been withdrawn or locked out over the years. It causes chaos because those goods and services are no longer in sufficient supply.

It's even chaotic, for example, when unskilled workers replace skilled workers, as happens from time to time. A perhaps trivial but memorable occasion was when baseball players or umpires and their equivalent in football and soccer were replaced by inexperienced ones. It's much worse when those who withhold their labor are brewers, or mine workers or builders or nurses or teachers or transport workers or retail clerks or, the subject here, farm workers.

As a general rule of thumb, one should not go out of one's way to irritate those providing skilled ser-

vices. Seems to me that workers in agriculture should be pretty high on that hands-off list.

On a parallel note: I guess there is not enough going on in the world of our president because he has the time to take on professional football players (mostly black men), who are peacefully drawing attention to racial inequality in our nation. Some might object to the genuflective nature of the protest, but they have every reason to protest, every right to protest, a peaceful platform upon which to protest, and we should listen to that protest and understand and react to that protest.

We should not give farm workers or footballers the incentive to withdraw their labor.

— Michael Lewis is a Davis resident; his column is published every other week. Reach him at cymro@sbcglobal.net

Oklahoma will honor Davis professor as outstanding alumna

Enterprise staff

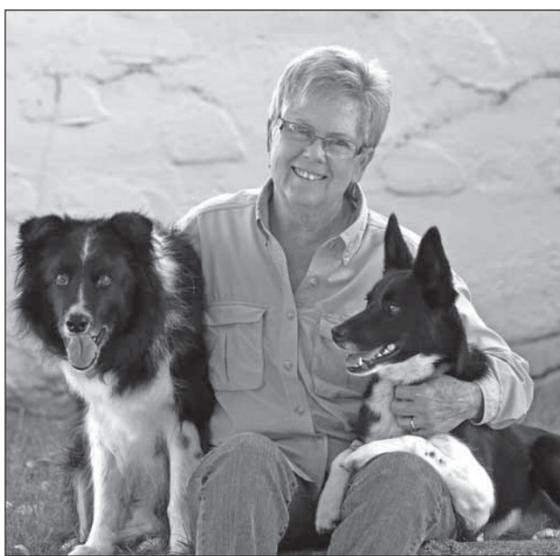
A Davis resident has been selected as the 2017 Distinguished Alumna of Oklahoma State University's Center for Veterinary Health Sciences.

Cleta Sue Bailey, DVM, Ph.D., is a professor emerita of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine department of surgical and radiological sciences. Originally from Bartlesville, Okla., she earned both her B.S. in pre-medical science (1967) and her DVM (1970) degrees from Oklahoma State University.

Bailey went on to complete an internship (1971), residency (1973) and Ph.D. in comparative pathology (1977), all at UCD. She was the first UCD Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital neurology/neurosurgery resident. In 1983, she became board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in the specialty of neurology.

In 1978, Bailey joined the faculty at the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine as an assistant professor in the department of surgery, and worked her way up to full professor of surgery. She instructed veterinary students, mentored graduate students and trained neurology/neurosurgery residents throughout her tenure.

Since retiring, she has enjoyed training and competing with her dogs in several dog performance



COURTESY PHOTO

Cleta Sue Bailey is pictured with her border collies, Skip, left, and Davie. She will be honored in November as the 2017 Distinguished Alumna of the Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences.

sports. With her border collie Skip, Bailey has successfully competed in agility trials from Washington to Texas, including three national championships.

She will be honored at a Distinguished Alumni Award Luncheon on Friday, Nov. 10, on OSU's Stillwater campus.

David High School alum William Avi Steele graduated this spring from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. Steele was an American studies major. He is the son of Jeffrey Steele and Linda Wayne of Davis.

Jieyu Ding of Davis has graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. Ding earned a master of arts in communication.

Lucy Brazil and Aidan Prien, both of Davis, received bachelor of arts degrees from The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, during commencement exercises on May 15.

A political science major, Brazil presented her senior independent study, "Communicating Identities: An Examination of Senatorial Bill Sponsorship in a Pre- and

NAME DROPPERS

Post-9/11 Context," at the 2017 Midwest Political Science Association Conference.

She was the member of COWBelles, a female cappella group, and a student disc jockey on WOO 91. Brazil is a graduate of Davis High School.

An international relations major, Prien earned induction into the Phi Alpha Theta (history) honor society. He was a member of the club hockey team and Xi Chi Psi social club. Prien is a graduate of Da Vinci Charter Academy.

Lindsay Brandt of Davis graduated with a bachelor of arts in history, magna cum laude, from Carleton College in Northfield, Minn., on June 10.

She is the daughter of Alf and Kristin Brandt of Davis.

Yolo Superior Court Judge David Rosenberg has been appointed to the California Judicial Council's nine-member Advisory Committee on Audits and Financial Accountability for the Judicial Branch. The appointment was made by California Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye. Rosenberg will chair the committee.

The committee will review audits of superior courts and courts of appeal and make recommendations to the

Judicial Council on promoting best financial practices to further fiscal responsibility and efficiency throughout the judicial branch.

Committee members include those with public and judicial branch financial backgrounds.

"One of our most important charges is ensuring that public dollars are properly spent in support of our mission to promote fair and impartial access to justice," Cantil-Sakauye said. "This advisory committee will help ensure the judicial branch continues to manage its finances in the most efficient and transparent way."

Rosenberg previously served as the Yolo court's presiding judge and has served as chair of the Judicial Council's Trial Court Presiding Judge Advisory Committee. He also brings extensive experience from outside the judicial branch, serving two terms as the mayor of Davis and as chairman of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.

— Do you know of someone who has won an award or accomplished something noteworthy? Email it to newsroom@davisenterprise.net or send it to Name Droppers, *The Davis Enterprise*, P.O. Box 1470, Davis, CA 95617

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