Debbie Bazarsky, Ph.D.

Service to the Consortium Award, 2016

Princeton University, Director of the LGBT Center, 2001-2015

Dr. Bazarsky’s commitment to the field and to the Consortium can also be seen through her direct leadership in the organization. She began her work on the Board as the Secretary in 2005. As a Board member, she was very involved in the day to day challenges of a volunteer driven organization. Her leadership eventually led to her role as the Co-Chair. As the Co-Chair, Debbie was uniting force for an organization that was examining its role in systemic oppression. Dr. Bazarsky had a remarkable skill in navigating important issues among consortium members, institutions of higher education, and other national LGBT organizations. In addition, as Co-Chairs, Dr. Bazarsky and Gabe Javier began the critical process to incorporating the Consortium as a nonprofit organization. Although this work was not complete for years after their tenure, their groundwork made it possible.

Dr. Bazarsky served as the liaison to Campus Pride for the Campus Pride Index for many years. She represented the many voices of the Consortium and our students. Dr. Bazarsky also served a key role in a long-standing conversation between the Consortium and the
Common Application. Many years ago, the Consortium identified several issues with the Common Applications related to how demographic information was collected from students. This was critically important because once a student shared this demographic information with the Common Application, all colleges and universities used it to make decisions related to the student (e.g. sex informed where colleges and universities housed students). The Consortium therefore made a strategic decision to engage with the Common Application staff to not only change their practices but to set a standard for all institutions, whether or not they used the Common Application. Dr. Bazarsky once again used her amazing leadership skills and persistence to move the Common Application. This work continues today. *(Taken, in part, from Dr. Bazarsky's nomination letter)*