

CONSORTIUM OF HIGHER EDUCATION LGBT RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS

Chicora Martin – Award for Service to the Consortium

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In the Consortium's early days, the listserv was our life's blood. It was literally the only way we had to ask questions -- questions we couldn't get answered anywhere else. We asked questions about safe zone trainings, housing, LGBT studies programs, and the basics of running an office on a college campus.

The functioning of that listserv rested entirely in Chicora's capable hands. She managed everything, from subscribing new members to updating people on listserv guidelines and providing tech support when postings didn't work. This also meant she received 150 out of office automatic replies each winter break. She handled the website and the frequently asked questions, providing visibility and support to countless users. She managed the lists and website from 2005 - 2012. This is an astounding length of time for a 16-year-old organization, not to mention the fact that this is on top of a full-time, demanding job at the University of Oregon.

Yet Chicora has done so much more for the Consortium. She held the position of co-chair in 2004 and 2005. Along with Todd Smith, they introduced the structural change of having a co-chair rather than a single chairperson -- a shift we are so grateful for. Chicora helped as the organization grew rapidly over this time, doing her best to connect with individual members and meet their needs. She led a strategic planning process, laying the groundwork for where we are today.

And now as the Consortium has transitioned to using a membership management software to handle our over 500 members, Chicora continued her service to our profession. She recently completed her doctorate in educational leadership, helping to bring visibility to our work within the academy. She continues to advise and support those of us on the board. And she remains a brave, dedicated professional on her own campus, where her students love her.

I am so excited to be able to honor Chicora Martin with the Service to the Consortium Award.



To critically transform higher education environments so that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students, faculty, administrators, staff, and alumni have equity in every respect.

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