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The Welcome Project Web Page Draft 2009

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Welcome Project Mission

The Welcome Project seeks to examine and address the climate for LGBTIQQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, and Questioning) people and diversity issues on URI campuses and beyond. Overall, the Welcome Project and its members strive to promote a safe, comfortable, and inclusive environment through dialogue, activism, and other strategies designed to promote a tradition of respect and acceptance for all.

Welcome Project History

The Welcome Project at URI began as a Center project involving students, faculty, and staff in response to issues and needs of URI's LGBTIQQ community. In conjunction with programs and activities sponsored by the URI GLBT Center, the Welcome Project has played a significant role in advancing URI to recognition in *The Advocate's Comprehensive Guide to Colleges and Universities with the Best Programs, Services, and Student Organizations for LGBT Students*. While substantial progress has been made at URI, the Welcome Project continues to address contemporary concerns of the LGBTIQQ community as part of the broader array of important diversity and multicultural needs.

The **Welcome Project Sticker** is an active symbol of support for the LGBTIQQ community, people, families and friends. Posting this sticker publicly demonstrates one's dedication to the Welcome Project and the LGBTIQQ community. Interested parties can obtain Welcome Project stickers in the following ways:

- 1) Attend a Welcome Wednesday or any other Welcome Project event.
- 2) Arrange a discussion with a Welcome Project or GLBT Center Representative.

Welcome Wednesday Schedule for Fall 2009

Welcome Wednesday meetings will be brown bag discussions held from 12pm-1pm in the GLBT Center in Adams Hall. All Welcome Project meetings and programs are open to everyone; all ideas and recommendations are strongly encouraged!

September 30: "Always Thinking Bigger, We Do!"

LGBT concerns and issues have been long-standing at URI and the Welcome Project aims to improve this climate. This meeting will be an open discussion as to how the Welcome Project will help progress URI to acceptance. Topics for future meetings will also be determined based on participant interest and/or need.

October 28: TBD

November 18: TBD

December 16: TBD