

1. Brown- Hello everyone, my name is David Brown, I am here on behalf of the LGBT advisory board to talk about gender inclusive housing. LGBT advisory board deals with different issues regarding diversity on campus and LGBT student concerns on campus. Gender inclusive housing is a form of housing where students who have opposite sex at birth can live with each other in the same space. Open to all residential students who fill out the housing application if they choose to. Really about giving students the choice to live with who they want to live with. Students pay about 2,500 dollars to live on campus, and they should have to have a say in who they get to live with . Gender inclusive housing is important because some students may feel more comfortable living with people of the opposite gender, and traditional housing alienates trans students. The options for trans students right now are releasing you from your housing contracts, or having the student live in a single. This takes away from the experience of the college life for trans students. Also assumes that men and women can't live together without a sexual relationship. Gender inclusive housing promotes a safe living environment for all students, regardless of their gender. A lot of trans students have horror stories about their living situations, and when you don't feel comfortable in your own space it affects your academic life as well. Gender inclusive housing allows married students to live together, and we don't have any option for those students. A lot of times having this option is a lot better options for married students on campus. A lot of universities have that option. This also allows siblings and family members to live together if they want to. The proposal is that we have a gender inclusive learning community in Falcon Heights or Founders because of the suite style living. The suite style living allows students to be gender inclusive and yet they still have the private bathroom. What USG can do- we want you to make it clear where the students stand on this issue, and pass legislation supporting this issue. RSA voted to support this 37-4. I want to stress that this is a choice, we aren't really forcing this on anyone, and we just want to offer students to have the choice to do this if they so choose.
  - a. Puccio- The floor plan that you shows, is that falcon heights or founders?
    - i. Brown- Falcon heights.
  - b. Sanderson- You mentioned special treatment for trans students, I thought it would be equal for all students.
    - i. Brown- I put that we should be putting special consideration for trans students because their situation is completely unique, and they would really benefit from this. It is not to exclude a group of people, but this is something that benefits them the most. It will work as a sort of consideration for them. Most communities have an application process, and there will be consideration for the students who will benefit the most.
  - c. Durkit- Through the application process, it is likely that all students who choose this will not be accommodated through it.
    - i. Brown- It's like that with any community, it's space.
  - d. Durkit- Have you done a survey to identify need?
    - i. Brown- The community is relatively small, and it will really be as big as it needs to be. Ohio University's gender inclusive housing is pretty small, so I don't really see it as getting too huge fast.
  - e. Supinger- How will you identify who needs it the most?
    - i. Brown- That will be determined by the office of residence life.

- f. Juzkiw- Do you have any reactions from the 55 universities that have done this to see how this has gone over?
  - i. Brown- I attended the webinar about this, and I don't think there are any or more than a few that have had any real issues. It's going to have issues like any other community.
- g. Juzkiw- You said res life would choose who would get in, would the LGBT advisory have a say in that?
  - i. Brown- What we are talking about now is just having the option, we can recommend the details later, but we are talking about the
- h. Pokorny- Have they thought about making a floor in Kohl or something like that, because the residence halls you mentioned are very expensive.
  - i. Brown- That could happen. It all depends on what the students want.
- i. Durkit- How would room reassignments work? Because there is limited space, if someone does need to be moved, it would seem like they would have to be moved out of the community.
  - i. Brown- That could happen in any community.
    - f. Durkit- I see this as being more difficult than that, because trans students may not feel comfortable anywhere else.
      - e. Brown- I don't see that as something that residence life won't be able to handle, and I think that would really be handled on a case by case basis.
- j. Durkit- what timeline are you looking for us to have some sort of legislation?
  - i. RSA voted on this before thanksgiving, and we are looking for this to happen next year, so preferably before we leave for winter break.