

The LGBT Discussion Group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month (w/a few exceptions). The group provides an opportunity for support and friendship with others sensitive to the experience of living in a society which, in large part, continues to treat lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals as second-class citizens. This is a discussion group—versus a therapy or support group—and topics, while generally of particular interest to the LGBT community, may range from the personal to the political to the scientific (this *is*, after all, Cal Tech!). The emphasis of the group is on establishing and maintaining community, and is open to any Caltech student, faculty or staff, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, who can offer an affirmative presence for LGBT issues.

Attendance implies acknowledgement of the policy that the names of participants and the personal issues discussed are maintained in strict confidence. We also ask—especially as a group for LGBT folks—that all participants are respectful of the diversity among group members in terms of perspective, personal experience and choices about how we each live our lives. *Groups are the safest for all when each member speaks from and about his/her own heart and respects the right of others to do the same. When responding to someone sharing personal information, advice-giving—unless specifically asked for—is rarely as beneficial as speaking of and from your own related experience.*