

## LGBTQ&A Pre-Conference

The LGBTQ&A (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Allies) Pre-conference has been in existence for 10 years at AERC. Prior to the pre-conference, a related caucus existed at AERC for concerns related to LGBTQ issues at AERC.

This year's theme is "Queering the Boundaries". We live in a context of global awareness and sexual awareness. Growing public awareness of the lives of LGBTQ&A (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and allies) continues to lead individuals to transgress the boundaries of the closet. We also see an awareness of the lives sexual minorities not only in North America but globally. Indeed, our politics of resistance as queers is not just local or national, but global as well. We see the queer migrations from countries with laws and policies that create hostile environments for LGBTQ people to those with laws and policies in place to protect the dignity and rights of LGBTQ people. Because of the variety of laws, policies, and cultural practices that affect sexual minorities on a global, state, and local level, being a sexual minority is a complex practice, involving negotiating identity, learning, and performance. As adult educators, we are faced with understanding the complexity of learners and the complexity of our own practice as educators who are LGBTQ&A.

Papers related to the theme of "Queering the Boundaries" or any other topics related to LGBTQ&A issues in adult education and learning are welcome. We welcome works in progress and work to create a safe nurturing space for those individuals who may or may not have mentoring related to research on these issues at local institutions. We value the networking that takes part as part of the pre-conference.

Please submit a pre-conference abstract by March 30th. Abstracts will be reviewed and individuals will be notified of acceptance soon thereafter. Abstract length is up to two pages single space and follows AERC guidelines. Full papers will be due April 20 – and are limited to six pages single spaced, per typical AERC guidelines. Please send all correspondence to Dr. Matthew Eichler, Texas State University, pre-conference organizer, at [me21@txstate.edu](mailto:me21@txstate.edu) with "LGBTQ&A Pre-conference" as part of the subject line.