

Six men (one postdoc, five grads, all from LPL) met from 12:05–12:40 PM today, 25 August. 2017. The primary focus for the meeting was to develop a list of objectives for the group. We articulated the following objectives, more or less:

- **Educate ourselves (several ways)**
 - Understand the problem better
 - Teach ourselves *and each other* to be better allies
 - Becoming aware of problems here at LPL and/or the UofA
 - Several expressed a desire to have a parallel group where we meet to discuss articles, books, etc. in greater detail
- **Raise awareness in our dept. (educating others)**
 - Encourage faculty to care more (and possibly create a similar group?)
 - Have several journal clubs and/or colloquia about these topics each year
 - Collecting/presenting statistics, demographics, etc. for LPL
- **Look for opportunities to take on some emotional load ourselves (don't leave it to women)**
 - E.g. taking the lead in leading colloquia and/or encouraging participation in discussions and/or activism
- **Consider developing some kind of support structure for handling problems at LPL (not fully understood or articulated yet)**
 - Let people know that we're safe/willing/available listeners (at least individually, but also corporately? informally/officially?)
 - Remind ourselves about existing policy (etc.) in terms of who to report problems to, etc.
 - [to be discussed/clarified in the future]
- **Build momentum**
 - Next meeting TBD, but sometime in mid/late September (scheduling poll to be sent out). Aim for *roughly* one meeting per month.
 - Get more involvement (esp. 1st, 2nd and 3rd years)

Other topics discussed:

- Whether to include faculty in our meetings: We didn't come to a consensus. Some felt that it might not be equitable or a balanced conversation. Some felt that the faculty should create their own, parallel group (if so, we could exchange representatives at our respective meetings). We all want more faculty interest, involvement and leadership in these issues.
- Transparency and Confidentiality: We want this group to be open and transparent (hence these emails being distributed to all and not only on our own, private listserv, for example). We also want participants to feel comfortable fully expressing themselves as we learn, work and grow together. Although we're sharing brief summaries of our meeting, these summaries will be anonymized to help preserve confidentiality. Participants may also request at any point during a meeting that their words be "off the record", too.

