Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Faculty and Staff Allies

What is an Ally?
An Ally is a person who is supportive of LGBT people. Washington and Evans (1991) define an ally as a "person who is a member of the dominant or majority group who works to end oppression in his or her personal life through support of, and as an advocate with and for, the oppressed population." In fact, Allies have been instrumental in affecting positive changes in the dominant culture.

What is the purpose?
This is a new initiative started this year by the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Student Assembly (GLBTA) with the support of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center. Its aim is to educate the campus community about LGBT issues through awareness. Our goal is to inform Faculty and Staff Allies about USC and local LGBT resources. For our first semester we have registered about 30 Faculty and Staff Allies. Next semester we want more!

How can I become an Ally?
- Attend one LGBT Ally Orientation and Introduction Session offered at the beginning of the semester. You will learn about the LGBT culture and some situations you may encounter with your students.
- You will be given an official USC Ally identification sticker.
- Once a month some Allies meet (voluntarily) to discuss current LGBT topics over lunch.

Want more information?
Email Vincent Vigil, LGBT Resource Center Coordinator at lgbt@usc.edu or visit www.usc.edu/lgbt

Another important supporter is the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) LGBT Concerns Committee