

# LGBTIQ and Ally Retreat (*deux*)



Photographer Ollie Wilson

In November GLBTSA held our second annual Triangle LGBTIQ and Ally Leadership Retreat. This year, sixty-three students from six different colleges participated (UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke, NC State, NC Central, Meredith, and Elon) in an incredible weekend filled with sailing, star gazing, and planning a collective effort to advance LGBTIQ equality.

While the retreat was just one weekend, it is part of something much bigger. We are laying the foundation for the critical activism work that lies ahead. This might be a tough year for our community with the North Carolina legislature expected to introduce a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. If we have any hope of stopping such an amendment, it will require a level of organizing unprecedented in the North Carolina LGBTIQ community.

The bonds made at the retreat are just one piece of building that network. With our campus communities working together, we can coordinate our efforts and make a much bigger impact than any of our groups could individually. The political future is uncertain, but this triangle community is stronger than ever and ready to face the challenges that lie ahead.

-Alex Kilikka, GLBTSA co-president, 2010



Photographer Alex Kilikka