

Dear SFS members,

Many SFS members are concerned about the 2017 annual meeting being held in North Carolina given the HB2 legislation (aka "The Bathroom Bill"), which effectively eliminated anti-discrimination protections for LGBTQ+ people in North Carolina (see SFS statement on the bill [here](#)).

State employees from certain states may not be able to travel to North Carolina as long as HB2 stands. SFS president Emily Bernhardt is supporting the formation of an ad hoc committee of SFS members who want to engage on this issue. We will develop recommendations for the annual meeting (e.g. engagement with local LGBTQ+ community, ally training, identifying safe and inclusive Raleigh businesses) as well as discuss inclusivity issues more broadly within SFS. If you are interested in serving on this ad hoc committee, please contact Michael Bogan (michaelthomasbogan@gmail.com) or Emily Bernhardt (ebernar@duke.edu). Our goal is to make SFS 2017, and SFS in general, a safe and welcoming place for all.

Best regards,
Michael