
Great News: The IEEE Board voted for LGBT inclusion in Code of Ethics

Sat, Dec 14, 2013 at 4:35 PM

Lynn Conway <conway@umich.edu>

To: [IEEE Letter Cosigners](#)

Cc: "Parviz Famouri" <pfamouri@ieee.org>, Michael Lightner <Michael.Lightner@colorado.edu>, "Karen S. Pedersen" <kspedersen@ieee.org>, Leandra Vicci <leandra@vicci.us>, Marilyn Wolf <marilyn.wolf@ece.gatech.edu>

Dear colleagues,

We have great news, just in time for the holiday season!

The IEEE Board of Directors has voted to amend the IEEE Code of Ethics to include sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. The newly-approved Code will be published on January 8th in the January on-line version of [THE INSTITUTE](#).

When we first raised the alert about the missing 'T', we had no idea how much support we'd find. It's been quite a ride as more and more IEEE thought-leaders co-signed our appeal for inclusion. Your willingness to openly advocate for inclusion made all the difference: this wouldn't have happened without you.

Many thanks also to Parviz Famouri and Karen Pedersen for their work in moving the alert forward, and to Marilyn Wolf for her efforts in this campaign. We especially want to thank Mike Lightner for his help in coordinating interactions with the Board.

The IEEE vote came just-in-time to stand in stark contrast with the horrific stigmatization of LGBT people in Russia and the recent recriminalization of LGBT people in India.

With over 425,000 members in over 160 countries, the IEEE is an international high-technology cultural force to be reckoned with. And it's just moved to the very forefront in support of diversity and inclusion.

Thank you again, from the bottom of our hearts, for your help in making this happen.

With best wishes,

Lynn Conway
Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Emerita
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Leandra Vicci
Lecturer and Director of the Applied Engineering Laboratory
Department of Computer Science
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

URLs: Original alert and updates

http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/CSE/IEEE/Codes&Policies/Letter_re_Ethics_Code_9-03-13.pdf

http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/CSE/IEEE/Codes&Policies/Letter_re_Ethics_Code_10-12-13.pdf

http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/CSE/IEEE/Codes&Policies/Message_to_Cosigners_10-29-13.pdf

http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/CSE/IEEE/Codes&Policies/Message_to_Cosigners_12-14-13.pdf