

Select location

Search



Sign In | Register



News A&E Biz Tech Money Cars Style Health Travel Nightlife Pride Calendar

Style » Food/Drink

Spelman College Opens Up to Transgender Women

by Winnie McCroy
EDGE Editor
Monday Sep 25, 2017

[PRINT](#) [EMAIL](#) [COMMENTS \(0\)](#)


In a September 5 letter to the community, the president of a historically Black women's college said that the school would open to consideration the admission of women regardless of their gender assignment at birth.

President Mary S. Campbell [wrote](#) that the school's mission calls for them to graduate global citizens who are agents of meaningful change in the world.

To that end, they are launching a new strategic five-year plan that takes "into account evolving definitions of gender identity in a changing world and taking steps to ensure that our policies and plans reflect those changes in a manner that is consistent with our mission and the law."

After assembling a task force of faculty, staff, students, alumnae, and trustees and benchmarking their policies against other single-sex learning institutions, they released a set of recommendations to the college. The result was that Spelman College shall now "consider for admission women students including students who consistently live and self-identify as women, regardless of their gender assignment at birth. Spelman does not admit male students, including students who self-identify and live consistently as men, regardless of gender assignment at birth."

Spelman said that this will affirm its core mission to educate and develop high-achieving Black women. The policy will go into effect for those enrolling in the 2018-19 academic year, after which an implementation committee will convene to consider the impact the policy has had on the campus.

A story in [AJC.com](#) notes that Spelman will continue to identify as a 'woman's college.' To that end, transgender students who identify as men will not be admitted, although they will be allowed to finish their studies if they transition after they've enrolled.

In that article, some students were critical of the change, while others were proud of their progress.

"I applaud my beloved alma mater's proactive stance while still honoring the institution's traditions," said Charmagne Helton, a 1994 graduate. "I am as proud of Spelman College as I was the first moment I set foot on campus more than 25 years ago."

Related Stories



Transgender Students Find Open Door at More Women's Colleges

NATIONAL | By Collin Binkley | Sep 5

Even as many schools embrace shifting views on gender, some have been reluctant to change amid lingering differences over the role of women's colleges.



War College Holds Conference About Women, Peace and Security

By Jennifer McDermott | Aug 11

An annual conference is being held at the U.S. Naval War College to discuss empowering women in conflict prevention and peace. The fifth-annual Women, Peace and Security Conference is taking place at the college's campus in Newport on Thursday and Friday.



6 Last-Minute Strategies to Pay for College

FINANCE | By Anna Helhoski | Aug 8

If you're still looking for financial aid to help cover your college tuition, you'll have to move fast. Here are six strategies recommended by people who specialize in college admissions.

Win Free Stuff!



OVERDRIVE on Blu-ray!

other publications, including The Village Voice, Gay City News, Chelsea Now and The Advocate, and lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Comments

[Add New Comment](#)

Comments on Facebook

0 Comments

Sort by [Oldest](#)



Add a comment...

Facebook Comments Plugin

INSIDE EDGE



33rd Annual White Party Week: Events Schedule



Talking 'God's Own Country' with No Topic Taboo



Retailers Look to Woo Shoppers from Rivals as Amazon Grows



Woman Must Pay Katy Perry for Interfering with Convent Sale



Felix Gray: Computer Glasses for a New Generation



Palm Springs Pride Parade :: November 5, 2017

Network Partners

- Atlanta, GA
- Atlantic City, NJ
- Austin, TX
- Baltimore, MD
- Boston, MA
- Buffalo, NY
- Charlotte, NC
- Chicago, IL
- Cleveland, OH
- Columbus, OH
- Dallas, TX
- Denver, CO
- Detroit, MI
- Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- Fire Island, NY
- Indianapolis, IN
- Key West, FL
- Las Vegas, NV
- Los Angeles, CA
- Miami, FL
- Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN
- Nashville, TN
- New Orleans, LA
- New York, NY
- Orlando, FL
- Palm Springs, CA
- Philadelphia, PA
- Phoenix, AZ
- Pittsburgh, PA
- Portland, OR
- Providence, RI
- Provincetown, MA
- San Diego, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- Seattle, WA
- Washington, DC

Things to do

- Get Newsletters
- Learn about EDGE
- Work here
- Visit our Press Room
- Advertise
- Write Feedback
- Read Privacy Statement
- Read Terms of Use
- Contact Us

Email Updates

Enter your email address below to receive daily email updates including news, giveaways and more.



Copyright © 2003-2017

EDGE Publications, Inc. / All Rights Reserved

Homotech, YouShoot, EDGE Media Network, Pride Labs and QueeryMe are registered trademarks of EDGE Publications Inc.

98.14.235.74