

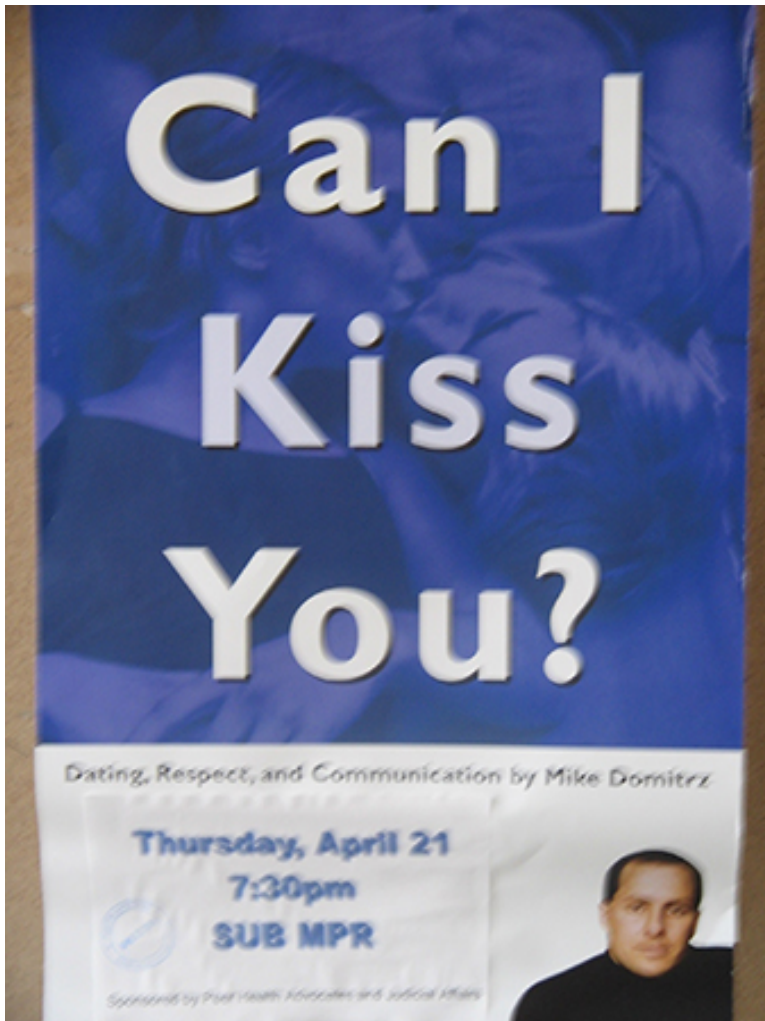
# gBLOG - Megan Leschly

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**April 24, 2005**

## **workshops on campus**

Workshops on Gallaudet campus are the best. Why? There are so many workshops that are hosted by many various groups across the campus. Not only the staff and faculty get to host them, it's also the students who get to host workshops as well. They represent many different groups of social and cultural groups. The greatest thing about it beside learning new information and socializing, it's 100% sign-based. You can expect it here at Gallaudet. If the speaker's hearing, then there'll definitely be interpreters at the workshop. I would never have to worry about communication barriers whenever I want to go to a workshop except worry about finding the time to go to every workshop on campus.



I definitely want to share with you about the last workshop I went last Thursday. It

was called, "Can I Kiss You?," hosted by the Peer Health Advocates (PHAs). (The PHAs are one of the paraprofessional groups on campus. The purpose of paraprofessionals is to allow the students have work experience here at Gallaudet. I used to be a PHA last year. It was a great job because I got to learn so much and teach about health and wellness issues on campus and build up my networking skills). Anyway, the workshop was presented by Mike Domitrz (go to [www.canikissyou.com](http://www.canikissyou.com) for more information) where he talked about consent, healthy dating and sexual assault awareness with us.

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The workshop was great. Presenter Domitrz made us re-think about our values of "asking the person for a kiss." In the beginning many of the participants thought it was awkward to ask a question just to get a kiss from someone, but he led us to several situations where it would be considered as "acceptable" and "comfortable" ways of asking. We had some laughs together because the topic was not pretty easy to talk about, but he broke the tensions up in the air. In the end, we all left the workshop with a good feeling.

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This workshop has definitely made me re-think about my approach to dating especially in the college environment. Dating can definitely be fun, but again it comes with responsibility. Communication is very important especially when you are trying to build a meaningful relationship.

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Now I wonder what workshop I'll attend next and put them in my treasure chest of knowledge and wisdom from the workshops I have attended on campus.

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Posted by megan at April 24, 2005 07:09 PM