TLGB Resource Center, Capen House now have new directors

by ANDREA GROSSMAN
Daily Editorial Board

This fall, there will be changes at the TLGB Resource Center. Todd McFadden will direct the African American Center, while Charlene Waldron will oversee the TLGB Center.

McFadden, who was a student at Johns Hopkins University, said he was at the African American Resources Center this year.

The experience he gained from his previous jobs has made him familiar with the concerns students face, he said. McFadden said he feels his experience and his "student-oriented" approach will allow him to better serve the African American community.

McFadden said he hopes to get involved with students outside of Capen House as well. "I have an open door policy," he said. "All students, not just black students, can sit and talk with me at any time."

"Both Tufts' prestigious reputation and the quality of its students attracted McFadden to the University. "When I interviewed here, I was very taken by the students themselves," he said.

Structurally, McFadden said he would like to change the African American Center so that it would "augment the academic mission of the University." Through programs, lectures and films, he hopes to turn Capen House into a resource center that would promote the study of the history and culture of Africa and the Americas.

Although McFadden said the new director will head the African-American Resource Center, it will be structured differently from the previous director. The new director will be more involved in the day-to-day operations of the center.

McFadden said he hopes to get involved with students outside of Capen House as well. "I have an open door policy," he said. "All students, not just black students, can sit and talk with me at any time."

She will be at the center each week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

The fact that the TLGBRC is a recognized part of the University is encouraging to Waldron. She said the fact that Tufts had an established center shows that the "community must be powerful and strong and have some type of influence on this campus."

This year, the center has moved from the first floor of Lewis Hall to the basement of Carmichael. Students can access the center through the dining hall entrance. Since there was no public entrance to Lewis, students had to call the center from outside of the dorm before they could enter.

At the new Carmichael location, Waldron said, "people can just drop in without feeling like everyone has to know."

Last Wednesday, there was a reception to honor the move to the new center. Waldron said about 50 people attended.

Aside from making the center a place "where people can sit down and hang out," Waldron said she would also like to build up its library. She will also meet with small groups and run workshops there.