

## Professionals Attend the 3rd Annual Florida LGBT-Allies Diversity Summit



**Attendees were welcomed to the summit by Florida's National Diversity Council chair members including Karen L. Wesley, MHR, SPHR, Sr. Regional Human Resources Generalist Walgreens**

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Florida Diversity Council hosted the Third Annual LGBT-Allies Diversity Summit at the Wyndham Orlando Resort in Orlando, Florida. The goal of this event was to promote workplace equality for Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, and Transgender people, as well as their allies and partners, and further the progression of today's leading organizations.

“This Summit is imperative because there is a strong need for dialogue and diversity programs that relate to the

LGBT-Ally community,” said Dennis Kennedy, founder and CEO of the Florida Diversity Council.

Attendees of the summit had the opportunity to hear from a plethora of experts, including keynote speaker John Tonnison, Executive Vice President & Chief Information Officer, Tech Data Corporation.

Multiple panelists were also featured including: Chevara Orrin, Founder, We Are Straight Allies; Ross More,

Director of Marketing, Hilton Grand Vacations; Jay Davenport, Manager in Learning Development, Wyndham Vacation Ownership; Pat Padilla, Critical Situation Manager, Symantec; and Ken Loury, VP & Division Controller, Wyndham Vacation Ownership.

The conference featured breakout sessions that included a workshop on the importance of allies in the LGBT community, a panel discussion about ERG's and the effect they have on organizations and a practicum about the different trends currently circulating in the LGBT community.

The Florida Diversity Council would like to thank all of the sponsors and panelists for helping to make the Third Annual LGBT-Allies Diversity Summit a success.