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SAFE ZONE

the symbol was created as a response from the general hostility towards the gays and lesbians in years past,” said Bartels.

Students like Brent Reinhand, co-president of URI’s Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Association, think the symbol is valid in today’s world where “coming out” is becoming more and more accepted.

“I think it’s a great idea,” said Reinhand. “I actually believe this concept should start with high school students, because more and more kids are coming out younger than before.”

Anyone who wishes to participate in the URI Safe Zone campaign can obtain the symbol from the Affirmative Action Office at 792-2442. For more information on the activities of the Committee to Eliminate Heterosexism and Homophobia contact William Bartels at 792-4784.

U. of R.I. promises ‘safe zone’ for gays of Rhode Island’s campus here to let gays and bisexuals know they are safe and welcome.

The stickers bear the pink and black triangles that have become symbols for the gay-rights’ movement. The sticker campaign was organized by the university’s Committee to Eliminate Homophobia and Heterosexism.

Diana Goodman, interim head of URI’s affirmative-action office and a member of the panel, said that displaying the sticker signifies that a person “will be non-judgmental, understanding, and trustworthy” towards gays and bisexuals. She added that the campaign is a response to “a sense of gay invisibility” on the campus.

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