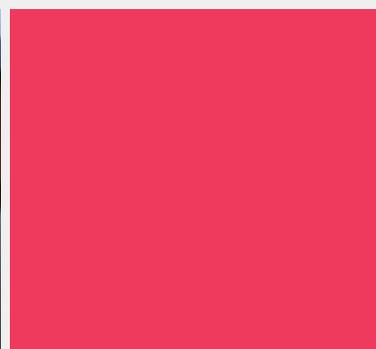


Pride Center for Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity

2023-2024 Annual Report



Dear Lehigh University Community,

Thank you for taking the time to read about the 2023-2024 year at the Lehigh University Pride Center! As I reflect on the past year, I find myself both celebrating our significant accomplishments and acknowledging the challenges we have faced. Nationally, over 500 anti-LGBTQIA+ laws were introduced, targeting queer and trans healthcare, inclusive education efforts, and parental rights. These bills aim to dim the incredible light of our queer community, but we remain resilient and steadfast in our mission. We are thankful to be at a university committed to building a world where people of all genders and sexualities are able to thrive.

Despite this challenging landscape, I find immense joy in the work we do at the Pride Center. Each day, I witness the incredible strength of the queer community. I am privileged to work alongside friends and colleagues across Lehigh who are deeply committed to ensuring that all students can fulfill our university's mission: to advance learning through the integration of teaching, research, and service to others. This mission is only possible when everyone can bring their full selves to all areas of Lehigh.

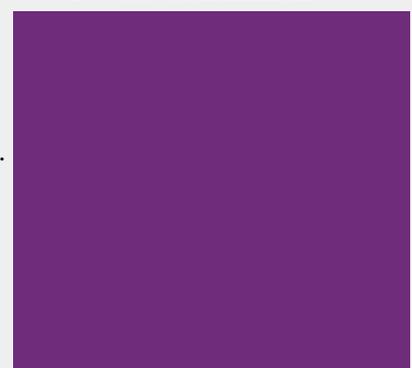
Over the past year, we have hosted incredible programs, dialogues, and celebrations as we strive to create a Lehigh where everyone can thrive. Here are some highlights from 2023-2024 (featured on the cover in numerical order):

- 1 **Bonding Across Offices:** For the first time, student staff members across the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity came together for a shared bonding experience. This event fostered relationship-building and broke down barriers between students in our various offices.
- 2 **Pride-A-Palooza:** With support from the Office of Admissions, our student staff planned and implemented our largest Pride festival to date. Their dedication and hard work were invaluable.
- 3 **Spring Pride Game:** In partnership with the Center for Gender Equity, the varsity softball team planned an inspiring spring Pride game, showing incredible support for LGBTQIA+ teammates.
- 4 **Therapy Dog Visits:** Thanks to Mel Kitchen and Gracie, our beloved therapy dog, we enjoyed many wonderful events throughout the year.
- 5 **Lehigh Valley Pride Festival:** Our Pride Center team and the Faculty and Staff Pride Network proudly tabled at the annual Lehigh Valley Pride Festival.
- 6 **Take Pride Graduation and Awards Ceremony:** This event remains a favorite as we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates and other community members.

As you read through this annual report, you will find more reflections on important programs and initiatives, as well as updates on our budget and programmatic efforts. If anything catches your eye, please do not hesitate to contact me at swb216@lehigh.edu or 610-758-4126. Our work would not be possible without partners like you. Thank you for taking the time to read our annual report!

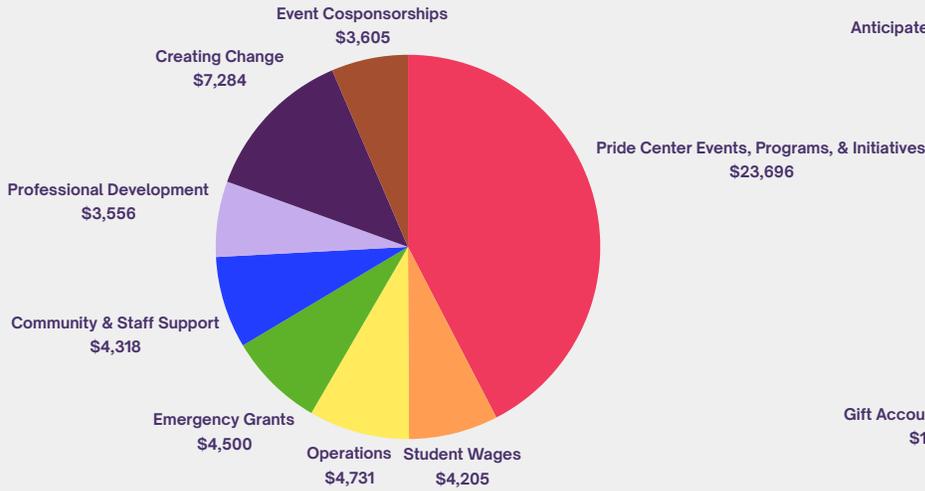
In pride and solidarity,

Scott Burden (any pronouns)
Director, Pride Center

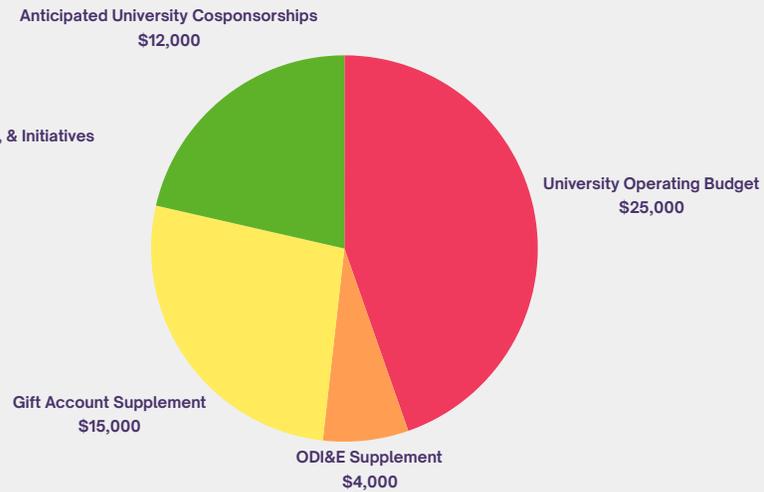


By the Numbers

Total 23-24 Fiscal Year Expenditures: \$55,895



2023-2024 Annual Budget: \$56,000



Remaining Annual Budget: \$105

13 paid undergraduate and graduate student staff and support space leaders

31 student organization events supported:

Over 100 total events/initiatives hosted:

150 graduate students, staff, and faculty participated in an LUally training

100+ individual uses of our food pantry

11 Spectrum events

25 educational workshops/activities

5 new student orientation activities

10 SPEAK workshops

30 community building events

10 oSTEM events

8 Fierce Film Friday screenings

Four student interns

Three students and one staff member at Creating Change in January 2024

Three student support spaces: TGNC, BPFQ, & QTPOC

5,460 participants in Pride Center related activities, approximately 2,000 unique participants

Summer/Fall 2023 Programs & Events

- 8/11/23 Provost Office LUally
- 8/14/23 LUally/Development and Alumni Relations
- 8/16/23 Faculty Chairs Orientation
- 8/20/23 Lehigh Valley Pride
- 8/22/23 Campus Partner Resource Fair - Gryphon & Res Life
- 8/23/23 OL Training
- 8/23/23 LUSI: Meet the ODI&E Team and Welcome BBQ
- 8/23/23 Graduate Student Life Orientation Resource Fair
- 8/26/23 OFYE Orientation DIE Session
- 8/28/23 Fall Club Expo
- 8/30/23 Student Leader Training with UCPS/HWC
- 9/1/23 oSTEM x LAD Art Night
- 9/6/23 ROCK the Block
- 9/7/23 Study Abroad Fair Tabling
- 9/7/23 FSCN/FSPN Welcome Back Event
- 9/15/23 Fierce Film Fridays
- 9/22/23 Big Queer Lunch
- 9/22/23 Movie Night: Red White and Royal Blue
- 9/27/23 Religion and Gender Identity Panel
- 9/27/23 XS Open House
- 9/28/23 MGT363 w/Dr. Washington
- 9/28/23 1st Year Seminar: What is Fascism w/Dr. Kautzer
- 9/28/23 FSPN Happy Hour
- 10/4/23 FSPN Networking and Leadership Lunch
- 10/11/23 Lehigh Women Engineer's Autumn Splendor Tabling
- 10/11/23 Pride After Lehigh
- 10/16/23 LUally w/UCPS
- 10/16/23 Banned Book Discussion w/Chamber of Commerce
- 10/19/23 LUally: LGBTQIA+ History
- 10/19/23 Anders Knopse First Year Seminar
- 10/20/23 Queer Board Games w/Nessie
- 10/20/23 Staff/Faculty Shabbat
- 10/27/23 Boo Queer Lunch
- 10/27/23 Fierce Film Fridays
- 10/27/23 Pumpkin Pride
- 11/4/23 FriendsGiving- (LAPA)
- 11/8/23 Queer Board Games w/Nessie
- 11/9/23 Queer Jeopardy: Transgender Visibility
- 11/13/23 Craft Night: Ornament, Friendship Bracelets, Buttons
- 11/16/23 Creating Queer Art w/Sonja
- 11/17/23 Lunch & Learn-Practicing Self Care
- 11/18/23 Lehigh-Lafayette LAPA Tailgate, Mixer, & Reception
- 11/18/23 Pride Center Tabling at Lehigh-Lafayette Football Game
- 11/19/23 TDOR Spectrum Event
- 11/30/23 LUally w/Robin --> Neurodivergent
- 12/6/23 FSPN FSCN End of Year Holiday Party & Ice Skating
- 12/12/23 Big Queer Cookies and HomoCocoa



Winter/Spring 2024 Programs & Events

- 1/22/24 Spring Club Fair Tabling
- 2/2/24 ODIE Student Staff with CCPD
- 2/8/24 Cake Off - ODIE Student Staff
- 2/13/24 Peer Health Advisor Class
- 2/16/24 UCPS Care Well with PC Student Staff
- 2/16/24 Queer Threads: Knitting
- 2/20/24 LUally-Intersections with OMA
- 2/21/24 Williams Hall Global Commons
- 2/23/24 Fierce Film Friday
- 2/27/24 IRIS Mentorship Cohort Meeting #1
- 2/28/24 ODIE Men's Basketball Game Tabling
- 2/29/24 Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo
- 3/6/24 Pink Washing Documentary Film Screening
- 3/17/24 ACPA Conference
- 3/19/24 LUally Intersections: Embrace the Tension
- 3/29/24 Fierce Film Friday
- 3/29/24 TDOV Social Media Campaign
- 4/2/24 AdviseLU LUally Workshop
- 4/5/24 Pride Shabbat
- 4/7/24 Queer Spirituality Retreat
- 4/12/24 Pride-A-Palooza
- 4/19/24 Drag Show Rehearsal
- 4/20/24 LAPA Pre-Drag Show Dinner
- 4/20/24 SPECTRUM Annual Drag Show
- 4/24/24 Take Pride
- 4/30/24 Pride Softball Game
- 5/7/24 Biq Queer Soup and Cookies
- 5/14/24 LAPA Dinners in Philly and NY
- 6/8/24 LAPA & LAN - Reunion - Tie Dye Event



AFTER ACTION REPORT

BIG QUEER EVENTS - FALL 2023

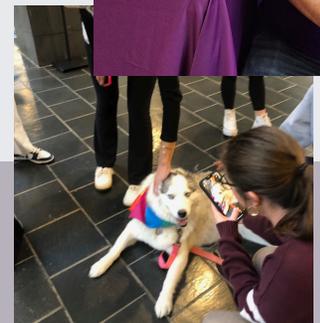
What:

- Big Queer Lunch - September
- Boo Queer Lunch - October
- Big Queer Soup, Cookies, Hot Homo Cocoa
 - & Gracie the Therapy Dog - December



Why: Why BIG Queer Events you say? These events are specifically named and planned with the intent to be OUT and about on campus. Our community gets “othered” in so many ways by the straight world. The BQ Events are our method of showing the campus that queer folks are no different than anyone else and to provide a space for queer community members to have fun, meet new friends and be free to be.

- We kick off each fall with BQL - our fun welcome back event. It unites community and draws not only students in but also new university faculty and staff members too.
- Halloween is the queerest of holidays and can't go uncelebrated by the Pride Center. The annual Boo Queer Lunch is a space for everyone at Lehigh to join in the fun. From costumes to tarot card readings, it's a great event.
- We finish the semester each year with the gift of hot soup, cocoa & cookies, as well as a visit from Mel's therapy dog Gracie and the sweetest, newest addition to the Pride Center family... baby Reese Burden at EWFM Library. From warm soup to warm doggie love, it's our pleasure to provide a respite for weary students as they study for end of semester exams.

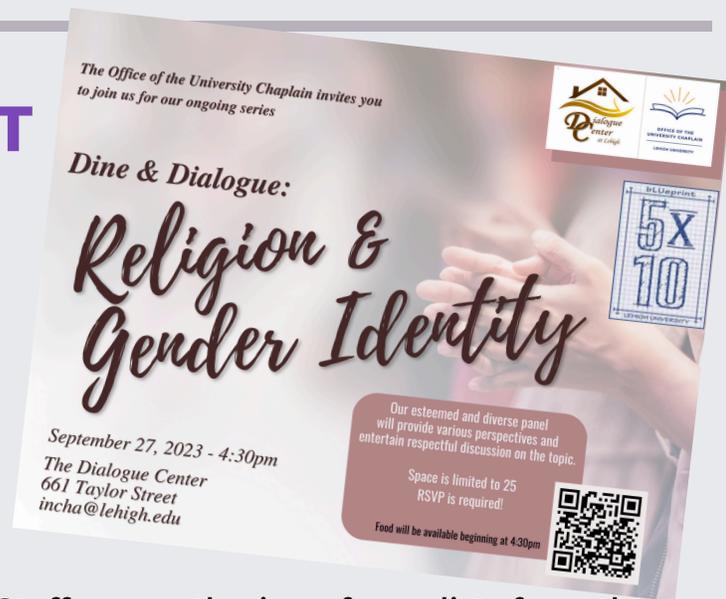


BIG QUEER EVENTS - FALL 2023

ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

- The Pride Center Student staff help to plan and execute the Big Queer Lunch and Boo Queer Lunch each fall. It's really a joy to see them lean into leadership spaces and take on responsibility for many aspects of these events, most especially if they are brand new to the university.
- Knowing we're providing a space for queer faculty, staff and allies to meet and get to know each other is such a pleasure to behold. Also enjoying the time with campus partners who attend is an affirmation of the work we do all year long to build community and campus relationships. And who doesn't like a short game of corn hole with campus friends??
- Would we do anything differently? Well there's never enough food when you're handing out free soup to students. It's a very good thing to run out - let's us know we're right where we need to be.

AFTER ACTION REPORT

RELIGION &
GENDER IDENTITY PANEL

What: Facilitated by University Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd Steffen, a gathering of panelists from the university and local community representing religious institutions and LGBTQ+ individuals from the Pride Center and the Jewish Student Center were invited to participate. Part of the Chaplain's Office Dine & Dialogue Series, the event was open to the campus community and presented as a 5x10 event for first year students.

When: September 27, 2023

Why: In the summer of 2023 several staff from The Pride Center, The JSC, and The Chaplain's Office which included the Newman Center's Catholic priest were involved in discussions about religion and gender identity. There was a desire to revisit the topic in the Fall and continue conversations.

The panelists were Father Mark Searles, Catholic Chaplain/Newman Center at Lehigh University, The Rev. Maryann Sturges, Cathedral Church of the Nativity/Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem, Scott Burden, Director/ Lehigh University Pride Center, Mel Kitchen, Coordinator/Lehigh University Pride Center, Tyler Katz, Engagement & Programming Associate/Lehigh University Jewish Student Center

RELIGION & GENDER IDENTITY PANEL

ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

- The panel was formed to continue conversations centered on LGBTQ+ people as a direct result of a homophobic Facebook repost by the Catholic Chaplain at Lehigh, Fr. Mark Searles in June of 2023 which defended the LA Dodgers decision to revoke an award they were to present to the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.
- Attendance was limited to 25 people at the Dialogue Center due to the capacity of the space. It was a standing room only crowd predominantly made up of students and staff.
- There was great engagement by students in the audience, with heartfelt questions and genuine want for dialogue centered on peoples lived experiences. It's a subject that is highly charged within many religious institutions, in this case namely the Catholic Church. Rev. Maryann Sturges provided a loving counter response from the Episcopal Church and has initiated a student support ministry within Church of the Nativity that is very queer friendly and welcoming.
- It needs to be stated that harm was caused during this event. Non-Binary and trans people were not seen or acknowledged by Fr. Mark. Clearly there is a problem in having this person assigned to minister to students at Lehigh. Discussions will be continuous where this is concerned.

AFTER ACTION REPORT

13TH ANNUAL OSTEM CONFERENCE

What: Conference for LGBTQ+ People in STEM

Where: Anaheim, California

When: November 9th-12th, 2023

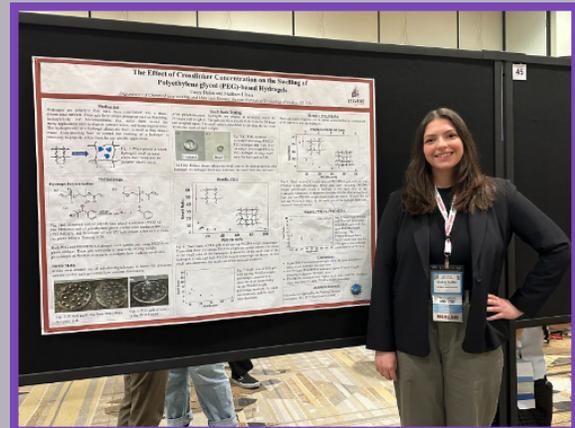
Why: The 13th Annual oSTEM Conference took place in Anaheim, California with 1,000+ LGBTQ+ students, professionals, and recruiters in STEM fields from across the country and around the globe. This space is designed for attendees to share their professional and personal experiences and learn from one another in an authentic and vulnerable way. Programs and content range from introspective (e.g., safer spaces to talk about queer issues and career development) to technical (e.g., discussing the latest in research conducted by our members). The Career & Graduate School Expo allows attendees to connect and network with professionals, academics, and colleagues from STEM industries and universities.

The Pride Center was able to support the president and secretary of Lehigh's chapter of oSTEM to attend the conference through the use of our gift account. It is through our donors that we are able to assist students in seeking these influential and meaningful opportunities that take them beyond their time at Lehigh University. The Pride Center for Sexual Orientation & Gender Diversity exists to build a just, equitable world through community building and the pursuit of change. We work to create a world where people of all genders and sexualities are able to thrive as their full, authentic selves. We feel opportunities like this, in conjunction with cultivating funds from our generous donors, allow us to do this work and really help shape a future after Lehigh for our bright and dedicated students.



OSTEM NATIONAL CONFERENCE ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

- o Casey Dolan, oSTEM Lehigh-Secretary
 - Attending the oSTEM conference was an invaluable experience. At the conference, I sat in on a number of workshops surrounding topics ranging from how to approach coming out during the job search to prioritizing financial wealth. At the career and grad school fair, I made numerous professional connections and identified graduate programs that I will be applying to next year. I especially enjoyed presenting my research poster at the conference-wide poster session, because it allowed me to share my research and connect with other members of my field. Seeing so many queer professionals and allies was impactful, as it showed me that my identity and my job won't have to be separate once I enter the workforce. Being in a space with so much queer energy renewed my sense of belonging in the community. The oSTEM conference was an incredible experience, and I am so excited to return next year with more Lehigh students.



AFTER ACTION REPORT

PRIDE CENTER, CGE, OMA- JOINT STUDENT STAFF MEETING

What: A session designed for students in The Pride Center, OMA, and CGE to familiarize themselves with one another to foster future collaborative opportunities.

Where: OMA Lounge

When: December 1, 2023

Why: The last time The Pride Center, OMA, and CGE were able to have a joint staff meeting was back in 2016. Due to changes in staffing, the pandemic, student schedules and their needs overall, joining together had become difficult. We are proud that this year the stars and student schedules aligned enough for us to be able to hold a joint staff meeting between our 3 centers. During our time together we were able to lead the students in 3 activities. The first was a "Get to Know ME" worksheet where students were able to express who they were, what they liked, and what they would like to work on. We then transitioned to an arts and crafts activity where students could construct a snowflake and write their wishes and aspirations for our offices to hang around our lounges. Finally, we had each student present their "Get to Know Me" worksheet so that students could fill out a "Get to Know Them" worksheet, which allowed students to record everyone's Name /Pronouns/Office they work in/work they are doing or work they are interested in.



PRIDE CENTER, CGE, OMA- JOINT STUDENT STAFF MEETING

ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

This event really helped our students connect on a personal level. It was a way for us all to not only get to know each other, but to build a stronger community within our ODIE STEM. We feel the students walked away feeling more comfortable with knowing each other and the staff members within our offices, and also provided a place where students could express their passion driven work in the hopes of future cross departmental collaborations. We hope to expand this in the Fall of 2024 with the chaplains office, Jewish Student Life, and the Center for Student Access and Success where we can further connect our students to the rest of our STEM. Sometimes, just allowing them to share space can be the start that they need to truly build a community and work together towards their intersecting passions and goals.



AFTER ACTION REPORT ODIE CAKE OFF

When: February 8, 2024

Where: HST L185 Community Room

Why: During our Associate Director Meetings in the Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Stem, our teams spoke through ways in which we could bring our student staff together to a stem team building retreat. Though made up of 5 different offices, we felt we wanted to foster community by creating a space where all of our students could not only build community, but work with students from other departments. The hope was for our students to feel more connected with one another and that it could lead to future cross-departmental collaboration amongst student across all of our offices. Thanks to the support of our teams and David Joseph with Sodexo, we were able to order pre-made unfrosted cupcakes. Students were randomly assigned to groups and were tasked with decorating their cupcakes cake with icing and toppings that went with the theme “What a Lehigh for everyone looks like to them”. We secured judges from ODIE and other offices, and our students enjoyed a time of creativity, community, and collaboration.



ODIE CAKE OFF!

ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

- In line with the strategic plan Lehigh has set forward, we felt that the message of “What a Lehigh for everyone looks like” was the perfect prompt for all of our students to engage with while working with their peers who also work in the ODIE offices. Though all different offices, each student would be able to bring to the forefront their needs and ideals on what a Lehigh for everyone looks like. By talking through this, designing their cupcakes, and creating an explanation to their choices, we created an environment of true collaboration, where every student has a voice and felt heard.
- We would like to do this at least one time each academic year, and eventually at least once a semester.
- We would need a budget to be able to plan this in advance and choose dates as a stem before each academic year starts.



AFTER ACTION REPORT

PINKWASHING EXPOSED DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENING

When: Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Why: Students from the Student Political Action Coalition and Spectrum approached the Pride Center and several academic departments to support a screening of the documentary *Pinkwashing Exposed*. Students wanted to host the film screening in response to the horrific violence taking place in Palestine, particularly in Gaza. Students who hosted the event spoke openly and honestly about their struggles over the past several months as ongoing violence struck Israel and Palestine. Students called for a release of all prisoners held by Hamas and also called on Israel and Hamas to enter into a ceasefire agreement in support of humanitarian efforts globally.

From the documentary director's website:

Pinkwashing Exposed is an hour-long documentary on anti-pinkwashing and Palestine solidarity activism in Seattle edited by Amy Mahardy and directed by Dean Spade.

"Pinkwashing" is a term activists have coined for when countries engaged in terrible human rights violations promote themselves as "gay friendly" to divert attention from terrible human rights violations, in this case diverting attention from the brutal colonization of Palestine. Israel is the country most famous for pinkwashing, engaging it as a strategy in their rebranding campaign for the last decade.

NO PRIDE IN APARTHEID

PINKWASHING EXPOSED FILM & DISCUSSION

Wednesday, March 6
7 pm at
Rauch Bus Ctr Room 184



for contact: spac@lehighgmail.com

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

The Pride Center is committed to supporting marginalized communities, including those impacted by violence and conflict. On October 7, 2023, horrific violence broke out in Israel when Hamas committed several acts of terror targeting innocent Israelis. Prior to October 7, Israel's policies and actions in the region have been deeply contentious and are viewed by many as part of a broader conflict over land and sovereignty. Students approached the Pride Center given our commitment to decolonial practices and asked us to help support the event. We agreed and asked for a deep discussion following the film to discuss current and past affairs that impact queer people in the middle east, particularly in Palestine. Our commitment in the Pride Center will always be one that centers love and works to promote LGBTQIA+ liberation throughout the whole world. Queer Palestinians are not able to thrive as their full authentic selves under constant threat of violence and it is essential that we all stand up to every act of violence whenever we can. We are also committed to being anti-war regardless of the why behind such efforts. If anyone wants to speak with me regarding this decision to support student groups hosting the documentary, I am always willing to listen and engage in potentially difficult dialogue.

Scott Burden (any pronouns), Director, Pride Center for Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity

AFTER ACTION REPORT

SPRING 2024 QUEER SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

When: April 7, 2024

Why: Studies have shown that people thrive and have better mental health outcomes when all of their needs are met. Of utmost importance is the need to address the LGBTQ+ community's spiritual needs right now. Our queer folks need a space to gather and be affirmed in the many ways they pursue their own spiritual journey and that's just what we do at this retreat.



As Bex Mui states in their article in The Advocate,

<https://www.advocate.com/commentary/2021/3/17/case-spirituality-mental-health-self-care-queer-folks>

“Why not admit to ourselves that believing in something bigger than us may be part of a mental health support system? Or that there is beauty and true restoration when we can admit that we don't have all of the answers, that we can ask for support even if we're not sure exactly how or when it'll arrive, and that coming together in community can help us to manage and even grow during prolonged times of uncertainty (see: current times)?”

SPRING 2024 QUEER SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

- Would we have liked to have more students attend the event? (Absolutely) However, the students who did attend were engaged and enthusiastic about the event. We shared a meal together, shared our journey that led us to the retreat and engaged in what to some may have been a completely new practice of body prayer and meditation outdoors. It was a beautiful event.
- We have at least one student who is very enthusiastic to cofacilitate a QS Support Space come Fall of 2024. We'll be engaging with students in the fall to see if there are others interested in joining them.
- Our Fall 2024 QS Retreat is scheduled for Sunday, November 17th. It's an incredible opportunity for us to gather and strengthen each other before heading home/or not for the Thanksgiving holiday where some of our LGBTQ+ community members may not feel accepted and openly loved. THAT is why we do what we do, because everyone must know how much they are loved for who they are always.



AFTER ACTION REPORT TAKE PRIDE GRADUATION & AWARDS CEREMONY

When: April 27, 2024

Why: Take Pride is our annual graduation and awards ceremony to recognize the accomplishments of our students, staff, and faculty.

We had a record number of graduates sign up to participate in the Spring of 2024. With nearly 50 graduates, we honored their accomplishments in persisting and graduating from Lehigh. Both undergraduates and graduates are invited to participate and they receive a rainbow cord, rainbow rose, and an alumni gift from the Lehigh Alumni Pride Association. We also honored several students, staff and faculty who contributed to the LGBTQIA+ community at Lehigh. The awardees were as follows:

Henry Baird Scholarship - Layla Izquierdo

Allyship in Action - Jean Barnard and Chloe Webb

OUTstanding Program or Initiative - Amplifying Multiple Perspectives - Kareem Hargrove and Mia Miranda

LAPA Change Agent Award - Tram Dinh and Erika Maaseide



TAKE PRIDE 2024 GRADUATES



AFTER ACTION REPORT PRIDE SOFTBALL GAME

When: April 30, 2024

Why: Students Rory Dudley and Abbey Tabaka approached The Center for Gender Equity and The Pride Center with the idea of a Pride Softball Game early in the spring semester with hopes of spreading unity and representation as queer players on the team. Both centers were happy to meet and thanks to their initiatives, we were able to have the first ever Pride Softball Game! As queer athletes it was important to them to show that they can thrive not only outside of their team, but within it as well. The Center for Gender Equity made many great giveaways, such as rainbow ribbons for hair, numerous buttons, and many other materials,

The Pride center was able to provide not only rainbow flags and information, but also include it as one of IRIS's spring events where food was provided for IRIS and everyone who attended the game. It was an afternoon of pride in queerness and gender, as Dr. Rita Jones, Director for the Center for Gender Equity threw the first pitch & the homerun Rory hit while Abbey was on base was the icing on the cake!



PRIDE SOFTBALL GAME

ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

- Representation and visibility matters! As queer people, it is paramount for our institutions to create spaces where all students can thrive while navigating the multiple identities they hold. Pride in sports is a particularly hot topic, with so many anti trans bills in sports. See below a blurb from <https://glaad.org/reference/sports/>.
- Young LGBTQ athletes face unique challenges participating in sports. Young LGBTQ people can be put in challenging positions as they navigate understanding themselves as LGBTQ while searching for supportive spaces. While a 2021 study showed an overwhelmingly positive response to high school and college athletes who came out to their teammates, other studies show massive reluctance to coming out or to playing at all. More than 80% of LGBTQ youth athletes are not out to their coaches and many report experiencing anti-LGBTQ attitudes participating in youth sports, according to a 2018 HRC study. That same study found that LGBTQ youth participate in sports at a much lower rate than their non-LGBTQ peers.
 - GLAAD. (n.d.). LGBTQ People and Sports | GLAAD. GLAAD | GLAAD Rewrites the Script for LGBTQ Acceptance. <https://glaad.org/reference/sports/>

AFTER ACTION REPORT

SUPPORT FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS



What: Student Organizational Support & Recap

Where: Various Locations

When: Various Dates and Times

Why: The Pride Center oversees 3 undergraduate student clubs (oSTEM, SPEAK, and SPECTRUM) and the Graduate Student club known as PRISM. Throughout the semester, these groups go above and beyond to create inclusive and engaging spaces on campus. These clubs have engaged with the lehigh campus community in various ways, from events to foster community, including learning opportunities powered by peer to peer connections.



The Pride Center supports these initiatives with oversight and counsel, but we also have available certain funds set aside from our gift account for our students to be able to tap into and spend the money it takes to make this all possible. There were even times where students may need additional funds for conferences or larger experiences, where The Pride Center supports, also through our gift account, following an application process where we can assess the requested experience and financial need to see if we can make it happen for our students.



Club Highlight: Spectrum:

Spectrum has held various events throughout the fall semester of 2023, here are some of the titles:

Movie Night: Red White and Royal Blue, Pumpkin Pride, Movie Night w/ Horror Club: Queer Horror Night- The Blackcoats Daughter, Queer Jeopardy: Transgender Visibility, Arts & Craft Night, Friendship Bracelets, Trans Day Of Remembrance, Movie Night: Holiday Movie and Hot Cocoa- Home Alone



STUDENT ORG SUPPORT ACTION ITEMS & TAKEAWAYS

- Community: Our student clubs provide a safe space for our students to come together in a safe space, themed in alignment with some of the shared identities that our queer students at Lehigh possess. Through these clubs our students build community, and strengthen those bonds through crossover and collaborative work across campus.
- Looking ahead to the spring, SPECTRUM will produces the annual drag show, which will include a Drag Workshop & Rehearsal space for students, faculty, and staff can come together and further explore the art of performance and gender expression.
- In addition to student clubs, The Pride Center also supports 3 student support spaces by hiring facilitators to create support spaces for specific queer communities on campus.

