

Emory LGBT News

Weekly news and information from the Office of Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual and Transgender Life

Stay up to date on all events and opportunities in
our office, on campus, in the community, and
around the country!



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Office of LGBT Life 20th Anniversary

Over the next year, the Office will be sharing about the events, people, and stories of the past **20 years**. Check out the **last page** of our newsletter each week to learn about how the Office became what it is today. Also, you can find more information about the Office's 20th Anniversary in the newsletter, on our website, and on our bulletin board outside Dobbs University Center 246E.



PSU Again Deficient in Leadership

By: *Mechelle Voepel*

You already have heard and will continue to hear a lot about the dismal situation at Penn State. It's spotlighting an apparent breakdown in responsibility and leadership at all levels in regard to alleged crimes of child sex abuse by former football assistant coach Jerry Sandusky.

Now football coach Joe Paterno and university president Graham Spanier are out of their jobs, with more upheaval surely on the way. People are asking about the dearth of leadership in State College, and how it could have come to this.

For those who follow women's college basketball, though, it brings up memories of how the school's administration handled the long tenure of coach Rene Portland and the lawsuit that essentially ended her career. Click [here](#) to continue story.

Office of LGBT Life

Queer Discussion Groups

The Office of LGBT Life and the Center for Women is offering weekly, hour-long discussion groups on topics related to sexual and gender identities:

Queer People of Color Group

Mondays, 7-8pm, Office of LGBT Life

This group provides graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to explore the ways to celebrate their identities and navigate a predominately white, hetero/ gender-normative campus as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and/or intersex people of color. The topic will be coming out.

Queer Women Group

Tuesdays, 7-8pm, Center for Women

This group provides graduate and undergraduate students with the opportunity to explore the joys and challenges of being a queer, trans, lesbian, bisexual, same-gender loving, and/or pansexual woman at Emory. This week the topic is: For the Bible Tells Me So: Discussion.

NEW Queer Interfaith Group

Thursdays, 7-8pm, Office of LGBT Life

This group explores ways of integrating one's religion, spirituality, sexual identity, and gender identity. This group is for students who identify as queer students of faith. This week's topic is a documentary: "The Believers (Faith, Gender and Religion)"

Click [HERE](#) to meet our facilitators!

Weekly Student Groups

LGBTQueer Muslim Group

This group provides Muslim graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to explore and celebrate their faith, culture, sexual identity and gender identity in a safe and supportive environment. Students who identify as Muslim and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, same-gender-loving, and/or queer are welcome to attend. For more information about this group, meeting time and location, contact Michael Shutt, Director of the Office of LGBT Life at mshutt@emory.edu.

Queer & Asian (Q&A)

Q&A is Emory's confidential group for students who wish to celebrate and explore their identities as lesbian, gay, bi, transgender, queer, questioning, and/or intersex people of any Asian heritage. For more information, contact Michael Shutt, Director of the Office of LGBT Life at mshutt@emory.edu or Dohyun Ahn at ddahn@emory.edu.

Emory Pride

This student organization provides Emory students with opportunities to engage in advocacy, education, and social interactions to create a stronger and more inclusive queer and allied community. The group meets on Wednesdays at 7pm. Email Kovonn Tanner (mktanne@emory.edu) or Brianne Rivera (bariver@emory.edu) for more information. This week, Emory Pride will be providing a study break and doing end-of-semester evaluations.

Transforming Emory

This group builds community for transgender, gender variant, transsexual, genderqueer, gender questioning people and their allies, friends, and partners. For additional information, email trans.emory@gmail.com or lgbt@emory.edu.

Safe Space Trainings

Want to raise your awareness and increase your knowledge of queer issues and concerns? Attend a 3.5 hour training and learn how to put what you learn into action. Trainings are open to faculty, staff, and students. Training dates for the spring are:

- Tuesday, Jan. 17th, 1-4:30pm
- Wednesday, Feb. 15th, 1-4:30pm
- Thursday, March 8th, 9am-12:30pm
- Friday, April 27th, 9am-12:30pm

For more information or to register, visit our [website](#).

World AIDS Day: Quilt on the Quad

December 1st 10:30am-4pm McDonough Field

Join us for the largest collegiate display of the AIDS quilt. Office of LGBT Life staff members will be reading from 11:00am to 11:15am. If you would like to join us in reading, please email Danielle at dmsteel@emory.edu.

Gay and Lesbian Alumni (GALA) Leadership Award Application Now Available

Emory student leaders are now invited to apply for the GALA Leadership Award. The \$2,500.00 award will be given to an undergraduate student who actively demonstrate leadership to positively impact the campus environment for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities.

For more information including details on how to apply, please click [here](#). The deadline to apply is January 9th, 2012.

News & Events at Emory

GALA-Emory's LGBTQ Alumni Planning Meeting

Still wondering how you can become involved with Emory after you graduate or as a current alum? Leave it to GALA, Emory's LGBTQ alumni group, to help you answer that question! Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012 is the next meeting date where you'll learn about what we do and share new ideas, network with fellow LGBTQ alumni, and maybe even shake things up a bit. After all, what's the point of being involved if you can't change something? We hope you can join us! Click [here](#) to let us know you're coming.

Holiday Social with GALA, Emory's LGBTQ Alumni

Thursday, December 8 @ 7:00 PM

Emory alumni are invited to celebrate the holidays in style at this annual holiday social. There will be lots of fun and plenty of cheer at Einstein's, a warm, yet trendy restaurant occupying three 1920s bungalow on the corner of 12th and Juniper Streets.

Cost is \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door, and includes appetizers and one drink ticket with a cash bar after your included drink. Please register by clicking [here](#).

Dr. Daniel Rivers Presents Radical Relations: Lesbian Mothers, Gay Fathers, and Their Children in the United States, 1945-2003

November 30th Noon-1pm African American Studies Conference Room, Candler Library Room 207

Daniel Rivers is a historian of U.S. radical social movements and LGBT communities in the 20th century, the family and sexuality, and Native American history with interdisciplinary training in American Literature and critical theories of gender, race, and sexuality. Part of the James Weldon Johnson Colloquium Series. RSVP to ddoward@emory.edu by TODAY, November 28th. Lunch will be served.

Feminists In Action Meetings *Wednesdays 5:45pm-7:00pm Center for Women*

FIA is a student-led grassroots organization at Emory that is dedicated to learning about, embodying, and enacting feminist principles and ways of life. Through educational, activist, and social opportunities, FIA examines and fights individual and systemic forms of oppression. For more information, contact Conrad Honicker chonick@emory.edu or visit [FIA's website](#).

The Student Hardship Fund

The Student Hardship Fund has been established to provide financial support to Emory University students who are experiencing a financial hardship due to a catastrophic event. We need your help to let your clubs, organizations, and groups know that it is available! Please forward to as many conferences, friends, and others that you can. Feel free to share it on Facebook and Twitter. Contact Stephen Ratner (stephen.ratner@emory.edu) or Jordan Stein (jordan.stein@emory.edu) for more information.

Events in the Community

The 6th Annual TRANSforming Gender Symposium

March 9th - 12th, 2012 8pm Glenn Memorial Auditorium

The University of Colorado Boulder's TRANSforming Gender Symposium is celebrating its sixth year! The Symposium hosts national and local transgender and genderqueer activists to address issues surrounding transgender, genderqueer and related identities. Previous presenters and participants have included academics, health professionals, community organizers, performance and visual artists, students, faculty, staff, youth, family members, community members and other interested folks.

The Symposium is free and open to the public! (We will be asking for a cost-free registration at a later date.) In addition to nationally recognized speakers, we are excited to be including workshops and panels throughout the day.

Click [here](#) for more information about the Symposium.

Testing Together

Ongoing AID Atlanta, 1605 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta

Testing Together is funded by MAC AIDS Fund and is a groundbreaking new HIV testing and counseling service for male couples that is being offered in Atlanta and Chicago. In 2011, as part of its special initiative focused on young MSM of color, MAF awarded a grant to Emory University to support an adaptation of Couples HIV Counseling and Testing (CVCT) for male couples, developed in response to the rising rates of HIV infection among MSM in the U.S.

Research Opportunities

Educational Experiences of LGBTQ Youth

Two openly gay researchers from the University of West Georgia are seeking LGBTQ individuals willing to share their experiences in educational settings (IRB #12_0117). The purpose of the study is to identify ways to enhance supports for LGBTQ students in secondary and post-secondary education by honoring the voices of our participants. We are hoping to recruit participants that represent the full range of diversity that exists in the LGBTQ community, including individuals who represent non-dominant race, ethnic, gender, socioeconomic, religious, political, and ability identities. For more information or to indicate your willingness to participate in an interview, please email Dr. James DeVita at jdevita@westga.edu.

PLEN's Women & Public Policy Seminar in Washington, DC, January 9-13, 2012

FINAL WEEK to Apply for the Need-Based Scholarship – November 18th! The Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN) is offering a one-of-a-kind opportunity for women students to learn first-hand how many different ways an individual can make and influence public policy on **January 9-13, 2012**. Students may now choose to focus on policy tracks in Finance, Education, Sustainability, or Healthcare! They're taught by women who influence national policy every day: top legislative staffers, White House officials and federal agency leaders, nonprofit advocates and corporate lobbyists. Seminar registration deadline is **December 2, 2011**.

Visit <http://www.plen.org/> for more information and on-line registration.

Relationship Between Gay Community Involvement and Well-Being

Study participation is anticipated to take between 10-20 minutes using our online survey. Your responses will be entirely anonymous and you have the option to exit the survey at any time. In order to participate, you must identify as a gay or bisexual male who is over the age of 18. Participants have the opportunity to win one of six \$25 Amazon.com gift cards. Access the survey [here](#).

A Study of Lesbians' Experience with Healthcare Professionals

This online study investigates lesbians' experiences with healthcare professionals, both the good and the bad. Participants can enter their email address for a chance to win 1 of 5 \$100 cash prizes - the emails are collected separately from the survey responses to prevent identifiability. Eligible participants are self-identified lesbians who live in Canada and are 16 years or older OR who live in the USA and are 18 years or older. Access the study at <http://www.uwindsor.ca/lesbianhealthstudy>. For more information, contact stpier4@uwindsor.ca or call 1-519-253-3000 ext. 4703.

Study on the Psychological Impact of the Threat of Identity Disclosure in the Workplace

Participants are needed for an online study of cognitive performance and workplace behavior. This study is being conducted through the Department of Psychology at Arizona State University. You will be asked to fill out an anonymous online questionnaire about behaviors in the workplace, which should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Anyone interested in participating can access the survey by following the link below: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BFJLSLR>. If you have any questions, please contact us at craig.nagoshi@asu.edu or gabrielle@asu.edu.

Examining the Academic and Social Experiences of Gay Male Undergraduates of Color

The purpose of this qualitative study is to understand the academic and social "lived" experiences of male undergraduates of color who identify as gay or bisexual. Using a semi-structured interview protocol, we elicit information about students' pre-college personal histories, decisions about disclosing their sexual identity to others, challenges and achievements they've experienced since entering college. Cues focus on issues of identity, socialization, environments, and interactions with others. Access the survey [here](#). Contact strayhorn.3@osu.edu or tillman-kelly.1@osu.edu for more information.

Motion Comic Focus Group

The CDC is seeking young gay men (15-24) to participate in focus groups the week of November 16-2011 regarding the development of an innovative new method of delivering HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STD) prevention messages. The focus groups will consist of questions about utilizing motion comics as a vehicle for prevention of HIV/AIDS and STD and will take approximately 2 hours to conduct. You will receive a \$25 token of appreciation for your participation. Your input is valued and the CDC looks forward to speaking with you about the possibility of participating in this focus group. For more information about participation, please contact the Motion Comic Team at (404) 639-822 or mocom@cdc.gov.

Project Let Us Stand Together and Speak

Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health is launching a community study on health issues in same-sex male relationships called Project Let Us Stand Together and Speak (*projectLUST Speaks*). Study participants can earn \$35 for participating in discussions on this topic. The ultimate goal is to enhance the Atlanta community's awareness and response to aspects of these important issues. How to join the conversation: If you are a gay or bisexual man between the ages of 18 and 45 who lives in Atlanta and may be interested in volunteering for a group discussion in the next month, [reply to atlantaspeaks@gmail.com with your first name, age and phone number](mailto:atlantaspeaks@gmail.com). Our staff will call you to see if you are eligible and to schedule you for our next group discussion. Discussions will last up to 2 hours. Also, if you know someone who may want to contribute, contact atlantaspeaks@gmail.com or call [404.727.3067](tel:404.727.3067) for more information.

Fellowships & Internships

The Clinton Global Initiative University Annual Conference

In order to attend the CGIU meeting, you must make a commitment to action. When you apply to attend the meeting, hosted by President Clinton, you pledge to attain your commitment's goal. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, January 17th. Applications are processed on a rolling basis and space is limited. We strongly encourage you to apply now if you want to attend CGI U 2012.

If you wish to be considered to receive Trip Assistance funding to attend the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U), you must APPLY before December 5th, 2011.

If you have any questions, please email cgiu@clintonglobalinitiative.org.

Global Experiences LGBT Internship Program

The Global Experiences LGBT Internship Program offers an unparalleled opportunity to gain valuable work experience in a career area that also has considerable resonance and personal meaning to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students around the globe. For ally friends or those pursuing careers in social work, human rights or progressive public policies, an internship with an LGBT organization can also be a rewarding, life altering experience.

Global Experiences offers LGBT international internships in Dublin, London, Paris and Sydney every season of the year. We also offer domestic internship opportunities in New York City and Washington, D.C. While these internships are a natural fit for those with graduate school interest in Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, they can also be a transformative experience for those LGBT students with more general interest in communications & marketing, website design/hosting, public relations, radio/TV, event planning, non-profit management or political campaign organization. Click [here](#) for more information. Contact Alex Paisner at (410) 267-7306 or at alex@globalexperiences.com.

Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Life



During the 1997-1998 Academic Year

- Summer– An Oxford faculty member attempted to have a commitment ceremony with his male partner at the Oxford Chapel but was denied by Oxford's dean
- President Chace denounced the dean's actions citing the nondiscrimination policy. Trustees affiliated with the Methodist Church led the President to ban all marriage and commitment ceremonies until policy could be clarified
- Policy was changed to allow any ceremony as long as it was affirmed by a recognized religious group
- The Office of LGB Life becomes the Office of LGBT Life to include Transgender students
- The President's Commission also changes its name becoming the President's Commission on LGBT Concerns