

LGBTQ LIFE



SUMMARY FOR 2015-2016



This report highlights programs and projects connected to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Life office at Johns Hopkins University. This report provides an overview of events from the academic year 2015-2016.

HIGHLIGHTS

Pride Parade – July 25.

LGBTQ Life was proud to lead a contingent of Hopkins students, staff, and faculty in the Baltimore Pride Parade. In our second appearance ever, we gathered more than 125 people from across Hopkins to send a message of inclusion and support. Our rainbow scrubs were a highlight of the parade!



Queer Chinese Identities –

November 9: Yige Dong of the Sociology Department

hosted a talk on queer identities and lived experiences in China. The program included viewings of two short documentaries. The 40 people in attendance enjoyed catered sushi by Bamboo Café afterwards. The event was cosponsored by the Chinese Students Association and aKDPhi sorority.

Dinner at Nichols House – November 10

Dinner with President Daniels and Joanne Rosen – November 10. 28 students and faculty were honored to have dinner with President Ron Daniels and Joanne Rosen at Nichols House, the president's Homewood Residence. We gathered for community building and to discuss experiences on campus.

LGBTQ Life Family Holiday Party – December 2. We enjoyed our annual holiday event, featuring crafts, karaoke, and snacks. OMA provided goody-bags for the party. About 55 people engaged in relaxed conversation as well as enjoyed some crafts, which included cookie decorating, picture frame decorating, and coloring books.

Alumni Weekend (April 9 – 10). About 30 alumni, students, staff, and faculty gathered in the LGBTQ Life office for an alumni weekend reception. We discussed LGBTQ history and our future. The following day we held an Alumni Brunch with students, at Gertrude's restaurant at the Baltimore Art Museum. The brunch was attended by about 20 people. We are grateful for the support of the JHU Alumni Association at this event.

Lavender Celebration (April 30). We concluded the year with a celebration of our graduating students and all we had accomplished this year. This marked the third Lavender Celebration at Hopkins. Graduating students invited friends to share introductions and memories as a part of the event. About 45 students, staff, faculty, and alumni enjoyed conversation, community, and rainbow cake.

LGBTQA ORGANIZATIONS

Hopkins is fortunate to have a wide range of organizations to support and serve the LGBTQA community. Students can take part in DSAGA, oSTEM, Gertrude Stein Society, Peabody PRISM, Carey Pride, and SAIS Pride. Other groups include the LGBT Working Group (SPH), The Network (JHMI), LGBTQ+ Curriculum Committee (SOM) and Allies in the Workplace (APL). The Center for Transatlantic Relations at SAIS sponsors an ongoing series of speakers about international LGBTQ issues. Finally, we have a great relationship with JHU Pride, which serves LGBTA alumni.

LGBTQ LIFE

LGBTQ Life was founded in 2013. The office provides support, education, and advocacy around sexual orientation, gender identity, and the intersections of those identities with other identities. In collaboration with our many campus partners, we are working towards making Hopkins a safer and more inclusive place for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Demere Woolway is the director for LGBTQ Life, which also houses four undergraduate interns.

Support

Demere Woolway meets regularly with students and other members of the Hopkins community, in order to provide **one-on-one support**, resources, and referrals. **Coffee hours** and **meet-ups** bring students to the LGBTQ Life office for connections around personal and professional experiences. LGBTQ Life continues to maintain and promote the **OUTlist**, an online directory of out LGBT members of the Hopkins community, which now has 163 out and proud members. We remain visible through **LGBTQnews** (a weekly email newsletter) and social media.

Education

Safe Zone trainings are 3 hour sessions that anyone can attend and learn more about the LGBTQ community. From June 2015 – May 2016, we trained 392 people in 31 sessions held across the Hopkins community, a 53% increase from the previous year. We continued our **LGBTQ+ intersectionality series**, with eight educational sessions. Many groups request shorter **presentations and trainings**. These smaller events brought us in contact with over 950 people.

Advocacy

Beginning in fall 2016, incoming first-year students will be able to request **gender inclusive housing**, which has been available to second-year students for the past two years. We are continuing the work on the **preferred name process**. In spring 2016, we sponsored a **needs assessment** to learn more about the needs of students at Hopkins.

LOOKING AHEAD

In fall 2016, we will create a **strategic plan** to act on some of the priorities identified in the needs assessment. We will continue to contribute to the **First-Year Workshop** alongside the other members of the Diversity and Inclusion team. We will also strengthen the structure for our identity-specific meetups.



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Transgender, and Queer Life**
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