

Staff Pride Network Newsletter – Issue 5

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Welcome to the February 2018 edition of the Staff Pride Network Newsletter!

Happy LGBT+ History Month! As part of a diverse calendar of events (see the events section below for details), on Thursday 8 February we will launch our new official University of Edinburgh Student LGBT+ Network. Following from Communications & Marketing, we've decided on two designs for LGBT+ and Ally staff members. With such an obvious symbol, we can show to new staff, students, alumni and visitors that our workplace is inclusive, and our campus can become a welcoming environment. You can choose between the 'University of Edinburgh' or 'University of Edinburgh LGBT+ Ally' designs. Pick yours up as an event, or email us and we will send it to you in internet mail. To reach out to the 13,000 staff across the university, we have additions to enhance our new LGBT+ Network logo on every school or building, and we've included a new LGBT+ community benefit on their regular contracts. On a corporate level, we've worked with Procurement to improve policy wording and they have now included a new LGBT+ community benefit on their regular contracts. As well as the regular Central & HR Lunchtime and evening socials and just staff student network monthly lunch, we've organised a programme of events: Transgender Day of Remembrance and on Monday 26th we've organised collection boxes in the building and a World AIDS Day discussion on HIV stigma. Finally I'd like to express my thanks to all the SNM volunteers for their time and dedication, resulting in the University raising 132 places in the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index in the last year. At their World Conference in November we were delighted to feature as a best practice example of a network starting up. We look forward to continuing our efforts to make the University an even more inclusive place to work and study.

Co-Chair, Staff Pride Network

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Socials - Date change and call for venue suggestions

Our monthly socials now occur on the first Friday of every month. This is just to make things a bit more consistent, and keep us all on the same page! We hope you like the new venue at Outpost on Bristle Place, again fully accessible. Catch us there from 9.30 till late.

World AIDS Day Fundraising



Huge congratulations to Angus Nelson who through his efforts managed to raise £81.85 for WorldAids Care and £28.87 for the National AIDS Trust. Well done!

SNM Book Group



The SNM Book Group has been meeting since October and we have a small group of passionate book readers choosing an eclectic set of books. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6pm in the St Andrew Reading Company in Portico (formerly The Betting Shop). Read more...

Take part in research on LGBT+ employees and business leaders

Do you want to contribute to the advancement of LGBT+ people at work and in business? If so, how do you think you can take part in an exciting project that aims to do just that. Also you will have opportunity of meeting & giving feedback to other researchers at whom University are conducting an online survey to better understand the psychological experiences of LGBT+ people within the workplace, either as employees or as senior managers of a business/social enterprise. The survey takes around 15 to 20 minutes to complete and yourself as well as your employer/organisation will remain anonymous. The study is being funded by the British Academy and will be used to inform policies and practices surrounding LGBT+ inclusivity within workplaces as well as enabling the growth of LGBT+ entrepreneurs within the UK economy. For more details and to receive an online link to the survey, please email: research@lgbt-employees.org

LGBT+ Football 5-a-side

Edinburgh's LGBT+ Football team, RedTies FC are having a 5-a-side competition in February for LGBT+ History Month. It is being held at the Corn Exchange in Edinburgh, on Saturday 17th February 2018, 10am-6pm. There will be complimentary soup and sandwiches afterwards at the venue. The fee for competition is £5 per player, and each team can have up to a maximum of 8 players. Go to www.redtiesfc.co.uk to sign up to participate.

Pride Saltire launch



The launch of Pride Saltire is only two weeks away! There will be much to do, with entertainment, a licensed social engagement bar, and socials in with the community and business fair, all held at the beautiful Colinton House in East Lothian. Keep an eye on the Pride Saltire Facebook and Twitter pages for more announcements to come.

LGBT+ British Muslims study

The Network has received a request from a PhD student examining psychological wellbeing, multiculturalism and identity amongst British Muslims of Pakistani heritage who have same-sex attraction. Read the full request: <https://www.staffpridenetwork.org.uk/2017/12/14/lgbt-british-muslims-study/>

Call for site rep volunteers



By the name of Peter Tennant and in 15th May I'm looking for volunteers from across the University to be Site Reps for next year. The main purpose of the role is to help to promote the SNM and upcoming events, but also act as a point of reference for feedback and ideas. Based at the Western General campus, I am a post-doctoral researcher working on therapeutic gene editing and in my spare time I love to bake, and I'm looking for a new career. I am really excited to take on this lead role and hope that through promoting Site Reps for all areas of the university, we can reach all LGBT+ colleagues and allies. I am passionate about ensuring that the great work we do benefits all LGBT+ colleagues and work with the SNM benefits all LGBT+ colleagues and allies. We meet where in the university they may be based. That's why we need you. Contact me if you're interested, we won't be work for you! If you wish to take part, please get in touch with me at Peter.Tennant@ed.ac.uk

Stonewall conference feedback

Carol Day attended the Stonewall Conference alongside our co-chair Jonathan, and she had some notes to feed back on the sessions she attended. Read more: <https://www.staffpridenetwork.org.uk/2017/12/14/stonewall-conference-feedback/>

Take part in a survey about homophobia in sport

We have been contacted by an undergraduate Sports and Exercise Science student from Napier University whose history project looks into the role of LGBT+ athletes, and homophobia in sport. Sport is historically the most homophobic area of society. We are looking for people to help us to carry out a survey about their experiences in or around sport. If you wish to take part, you can take the survey here: <https://www.staffpridenetwork.org.uk/2017/12/14/survey-about-homophobia-in-sport/>

Transgender Remembrance Day 2017

Transgender Remembrance Day 2017 was held on 18 November 2017. The event was organised by our Trans Rep Co-Rep, and more than forty people attended the event, staff and students, LGBT+ and allies. You can read more about the event on Co-Rep's website: <https://www.staffpridenetwork.org.uk/2017/12/14/transgender-remembrance-day-2017/>

TransEDU launch - report

TransEDU is a website and resource that provides data on and for transgender students and staff in further and higher education. Funded by Strathclyde University as well as the Leadership Council and the Scottish Grant Council, our Trans Representative Co-Rep was along to the launch at Strathclyde University on 14 December 2017. Read more: <https://www.staffpridenetwork.org.uk/2017/12/14/transedu-launch-report/>

Events

SNM and Pridefest Lunch

Date: Wednesday 7 February 2018
Time: 12:00 - 14:00
Location: Kings Building Centre
Facebook event

Poetry and Place: Queer Space

Date: Wednesday 7 February 2018
Time: 16:00 - 17:00
Location: 1st Floor, Geography Building
Event page on LGBT History Month site

Parish - SNM Film screening and panel

Date: Thursday 8 February 2018
Time: 19:00 - 21:00
Location: 1.16, 16 George Square
Facebook event

Queer AF Cabaret

Date: Saturday 10 February 2018
Time: 19:00 - 21:00
Location: Cabaret Bar, Pleasance
Facebook event

SNM Coffee Social - Central area

Date: Wednesday 14 February 2018
Time: 11:00-14:00
Location: David Committee Room
Facebook event

SNM Coffee Social - King's Buildings

Date: Wednesday 14 February 2018
Time: 11:00-14:00
Location: Huxtable Cafe, South Building
Facebook event

SNM LGBT+ Book Group

Date: Thursday 15 February 2018
Time: 17:00 - 19:00
Location: The Portico Shed
SNM calendar

Pride Saltire Launch

Date: 17 February 2018
Time: 12:00-15:00
Location: Colinton House, East Lothian
Facebook event

Panel event: Past, Present and Future of Proton

Date: Thursday 22 February 2018
Time: 18:00 - 19:30
Location: 1.16, 16 George Square
SNM calendar

SNM Queer Showcase: Performance Lecture "The Five Ages"

Date: Friday 23 February 2018
Time: 17:30 - 19:30
Location: 1.16, 16 George Square
Event page

SNM Queer Showcase: Queer Film Studies

Date: Friday 23 February 2018
Time: 17:30 - 19:30
Location: Practice Suite, 1.15 DB
Event page

SNM closing event: Let's Talk About Detransitionality

Date: Wednesday 28 February 2018
Time: 18:00 - 19:30
Location: Business School Auditorium
Event page

Full events calendar

Staff Pride Network
Contacts and Committee
Help, support and advice
StaffPRide@ed.ac.uk

