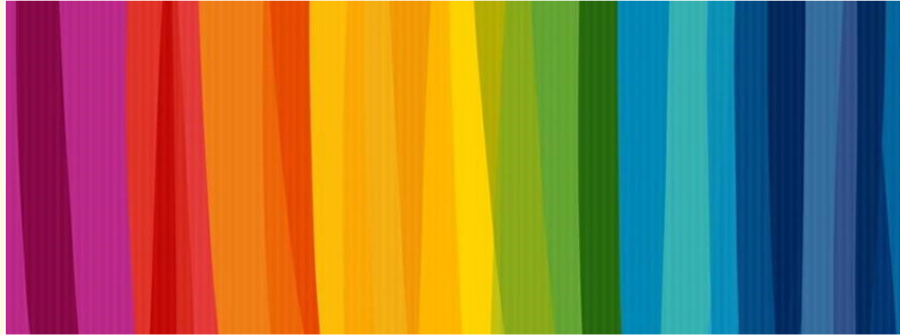


USQ ALLY

Network Newsletter



Issue #29 September 2018



Happy Queensland Pride Month! September is the month that Queensland celebrates its LGBTIQ+ diversity, which includes the Brisbane Pride Festival. See details in this edition, including the first ever USQ group to join in the march!

Please don't forget that we are always on the look out for interesting articles, information about events and professional development opportunities to include in the Ally newsletter. Please email ally@usq.edu.au to share your points of interest.

Ally Network Natters

Wednesday 3rd October, 12-1pm (please note half an hour earlier than usual to accommodate time difference for guest speaker)

Springfield Campus Room B154

Guest Speaker: Associate Professor Jeremy Birnholtz



Jeremy will be reporting on studies of activity on Facebook, Instagram and Grindr that explore how location-awareness and interacting with local and distant strangers affects the nature of our interactions and self-presentation, with a particular focus on certain apps and platforms and how they affect gay/bi young men and men who have sex with men.

Jeremy Birnholtz is an associate professor in the Departments of Communication Studies and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Northwestern University, United States of America. His experience includes visiting professor at Facebook, and publications in top HCI journals and conferences.

To register your interest in attending at USQ Springfield please email ally@usq.edu.au. If you are unable to attend in person, you can register to watch the presentation live online [here](#).

LGBTIQ+ Awareness Training

We are pleased to advise that there will be TWO more training opportunities coming up this year! Participants will be eligible to become formally recognised as a USQ Ally.

When? Friday 12th October, 12-2.30pm OR Tuesday 27th November, 10am-12.30pm

Where? Online webinar

How? Register [here](#) for the October session
Or [here](#) for the November session

or email Ally@usq.edu.au for more information

So please refer any interested parties so that we can build our numbers!



If you are reading a hard copy of this newsletter and wish to access the links, please go to <https://www.usq.edu.au/current-students/support/lgbtiq-community> where this and past editions are posted.

In the News

New Guide to Help Queenslanders Navigate Legal Issues Around HIV Disclosure

The Disclosing your HIV status guide, prepared by the HIV/AIDS Legal Centre (HALC) in partnership with Queensland Positive People (QPP), contains the most up-to-date and accurate information about relevant law around disclosure in Queensland. [MORE](#)



Transgender 13-year-old calls out Scott Morrison for his 'disrespectful' tweet

Morrison retweeted a news story by the *Daily Telegraph* which characterised teachers as 'gender whisperers' who were being taught 'to spot potential transgender students in the classroom—with experts claiming the move has contributed to a 236 per cent surge in the number of kids wanting to change sex in the past three years'. He tweeted in response, 'We do not need 'gender whisperers' in our schools. Let kids be kids.' [MORE](#)

Campaigners celebrate as India decriminalises homosexuality

Celebrations have erupted in India after the supreme court unanimously ruled to decriminalise homosexual sex in a landmark judgment for gay rights. [MORE](#)



Survivor of 'gay conversion' therapy petitions government to ban the practice in Australia

Chris Csabs survived 'gay conversion' therapy as a teenager and wants to ensure no one else has to endure the practice. The Australian campaigner collected more than 40,000 signatures on a Change.org petition addressed to the government, led by newly appointed prime minister Scott Morrison. [MORE](#)

I'm asexual and here are five things you need to know

Eleanor came out as asexual this year. Here she explains in her own words what it means to be asexual and how you can be a better ally. [MORE](#)



Events and Entertainment

Brisbane Pride Festival Report

There was a USQ contingent for the first time at the Brisbane Pride Festival this month! Proud USQ Allies and a representative from the student USQ Pride Club marched alongside fellow supporters, including a unified group comprising of other university Ally networks. We are excited about this first for USQ and hope to engage in the event as a new annual tradition. The festival has also seen some other wonderful celebrations, including eight same-sex couples who married in a public ceremony. [MORE](#)



Bi Visibility Day

23rd September was [Bi Visibility Day](#). Do you know how many people identify as bisexual? Take a look at some research (based in the United States) that looks more closely at the statistics [here](#).

Intersex Awareness Day

Coming in October on the 26th is Intersex Day, a day to acknowledge those in the population who identify as intersex and highlight their human rights.

[MORE](#)



Bachelor Australia slammed for portraying bisexuality as 'big' secret

Twitter is outraged by how the reality show hyped the coming-out of a queer female contestant. Critics pointed out that in 2018, queerness should not be framed as a shocking taboo. [MORE](#)

Sports

Hannah Mouncey slams AFL after withdrawing from AFLW Draft

Hannah Mouncey has said she will not nominate for the upcoming AFLW draft, citing the ongoing 'enormous' toll the process has taken on herself and her friends and family. [MORE](#)



Support Services

Bulk-billing LGBTIQ-friendly GP in Toowoomba

headspace Toowoomba has a bulk billing GP who works alongside their LGBTIQ group. She has a lot of experience with **headspace** centres and clients, and particularly with young people who are transgender. There are no wait times for appointments. Dr Violeta is available Mondays and Wednesdays at **headspace** and bookings can be made on 4639 9000.



QLife/Diverse Voices

QLife is Australia's first nationally-oriented counselling and referral service for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and/or intersex (LGBTI). QLife provides nation-wide, early intervention, peer supported telephone and web based services to people of all ages across the full breadth of people's bodies, genders, relationships, sexualities, and lived experiences.

3:00pm to midnight in your state, around Australia, every day.

CALL 1800 184 527

ONLINE CHAT

PFLAG

A support group for the family and friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Agender and other diverse people.



Toowoomba

Phone: 0478 735 242

Email: pflagtoowoomba@gmail.com



Brisbane

Phone: 0400 767 832

<http://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au/contact-us>



Ipswich

Supporting our GLBTIQ community, their families and friends

<https://www.facebook.com/pflagipswich>

My Big Gay Family My Big Gay Family is a safe, inclusive space to explore and celebrate the depth and diversity of all LGBTIQ families. **Informed. Connected. Empowered.**



The Pinnacle Foundation

The Pinnacle Foundation has been established to provide scholarships to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex and Queer students who are marginalised or disadvantaged.

[READ MORE](#)



Open Doors

Open Doors provides Advocacy and support

services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual and/or transgender, Intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) young people aged 12 to 24 and their families who live in South East Queensland.

<http://www.opendoors.net.au/>

Relationships Australia—Rainbow Program

Relationships Australia, Ipswich and Toowoomba, now provides The Rainbow Program,

striving to support the mental health and wellbeing of people of diverse bodies, genders and sexualities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender & intersex (LGBTI) people, as well as those questioning their gender identity or sexual orientation. Includes counselling and support groups. <http://www.raq.org.au/services/rainbow-program>



Our House Our Haven Inc. is a brand new registered charity organisation based in Ipswich. They are a nurse-led clinic providing care, psychotherapy and different treatment options for chronic and crisis mental health clients. Where staff are trained in supporting those who identify as LGBTIQ+ <https://www.ohoh.org.au/>

