



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



March 2018 Newsletter

Note from the Chair

Welcome to the Rainbow Network's March newsletter.

We are approaching the end of another successful LGBT History Month, and I would like to repeat my thanks to our colleagues across the University who contributed to the organisation of a varied programme of events, as well as to everybody who engaged with events throughout the month.

Of course, it is important to remember and celebrate LGBT history throughout the rest of the year rather than confine it to a single month. At the end of March we observe International Transgender Day of Visibility, and the committee are discussing the best way to commemorate this important day in 2018. Watch out for an email soon!

Come out for Trans Equality

Trans and non-binary people today face huge levels of abuse and discrimination just for being themselves. Opponents are trying to prevent them securing vital human rights. For this reason, Stonewall has launched a campaign to support trans and non-binary people in Britain and ask all those of you who believe in equality to join the campaign and Come Out for Trans Equality. Sign the pledge and find out more information on how to support the campaign [here](#).

**SOME PEOPLE ARE TRANS.
GET OVER IT!**



Dates for your diary

MARCH

Thursday 1st March
Zero Discrimination Day
(UNAIDS)

Tuesday 6th March, 17:30pm
March Network Social
Bratby Bar

Thursday 8th March
International Women's Day

Friday 9th March
Midday Committee Meeting
Law 204

Saturday 31st March
International Trans Day of Visibility

A full listing of this year's events
can be found on our [2018 Calendar](#)

Find out more: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/rainbownetwork
Join our mailing list: lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk



[/RainbowNetworkUoB](https://www.facebook.com/RainbowNetworkUoB)



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Experiences of LGB staff in UK Higher Education

In the academic year 2015-2016, 7685 people working in UK higher education (HE) identified as LGB or other, constituting 5.2% of all staff who disclosed their sexual orientation. Although quantitative data on disclosure rates about sexual orientation are very important, listening to the actual experiences of staff who identify as LGB in HE is equally important.

In ECU's first Research Insight, Dr Kevin Guyan uses qualitative data from staff who identified as LGB in the 2016 version of the Athena Survey of Science, Engineering and Technology (ASSET) to examine LGB staff experiences in UK Higher Education. You can read the Research Insight [here](#).

Alliance Network Quiz Night

The Alliance Network, which is made up of a core committee of LGBT leaders within Midlands based Organisations, will be holding their first Quiz Night this March. Tickets are £10 each and include a hot food buffet with proceeds going to Birmingham LGBT Centre. To register your team and find out more, please email [Mike Morgan](mailto:Mike.Morgan@alliancenet.org).

Date: Tuesday **6 March** 2018

Time: 5:30pm—9:00pm

Location: Primitivo, 10 Barwich Street, Birmingham, B3 2NT

International Transgender Day of Visibility

International Transgender Day of Visibility was founded by US-based transgender activist Rachel Crandall of Michigan in 2009 as a reaction to the lack of LGBT holidays celebrating transgender people.

Observed annually on **31st March**, the day is dedicated to celebrating transgender people and their accomplishments as well as raising awareness of discrimination faced by transgender people worldwide.

Stonewall Workplace Equality Index 2018

Stonewall have released the [Stonewall Workplace Equality Index 2018](#) listing the 100 most LGBT inclusive Employers in the UK. Unfortunately, the University did not make into the Top 100, which is disappointing given some of the initiatives spearheaded by the Rainbow Network in the last year. However, this indicates that there are more employers in the UK who are making an increasingly serious commitment to LGBT inclusion.



We will be receiving detailed feedback from Stonewall in a few weeks and we are fully committed to acting on any areas for improvement they identify.

Rhum and Clay: 'Testosterone'

Rhum and Clay Theatre Company presents a show inspired by the narrative of The Wizard of Oz and influenced by iconic movies, pop culture and pulp fiction. 'Testosterone' is a bombastic show about masculinity and identity with performers from different backgrounds, tastes and experiences of masculinity. Make a booking and find out more information [here](#).

Date: **Thu 29 & Fri 30 March** 2018

Time: 8:00pm

Location: mac Birmingham, Cannon Hill Park, Queen's Ride, Birmingham, B12 9QH

Next Rainbow Network Social

March's Rainbow Network social will be taking place on Tuesday **6th March** at 5:30pm in Bratby Bar. Come and join us for a pint and a catch up. Facebook event [here](#).

Look out for our lovely mascot if you're not sure which table we're at!

