



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



April 2018 Newsletter

Note from the Chair

Hello, and thank you for reading our April newsletter. International Transgender Day of Visibility is observed annually at the end of March, and this year we are pleased to be welcoming Stonewall to campus to speak about the impending review of the UK Gender Recognition Act (GRA).

The cultural changes made possible by a political review of this nature can bring unpleasant sentiments to the forefront, especially in the media, and the LGBT community has experienced this before during periods when activists have fought for our hard-won rights. It is therefore important that we all stand by the trans community through what is likely to be a trying time. Signing Stonewall's "[Come Out For Trans Equality](#)" pledge is a great start.

International Transgender Day of Visibility Event

The Rainbow Network will commemorate International Transgender Day of Visibility by hosting a presentation by Serena Sidaway, Stonewall Client Account Manager, and Jesse Ashman, Assistant to the Memberships Department at Stonewall. The talk will focus on the impending review of the UK Gender Recognition Act (GRA) and more specifically on the history and current state of the GRA, Stonewall's view on GRA reform and the context behind the need for reform. Register for the event [here](#).

Date: Wednesday **28 March** 2018

Time: 5:30pm—7:00pm

Location: University of Birmingham Watson building, Lecture Theatre B, Birmingham, B15 2TT

Dates for your diary

MARCH

Wednesday 28th March, 5:30pm-7:00pm, Watson building, LT B
Stonewall Presentation for International Trans Day of Visibility

APRIL

Tuesday 10th April, 12:00pm
April Lunchtime Social

Monday 16th April
Midday Committee Meeting
Watson Building 240

Thursday 26th April
Lesbian Visibility Day

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



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TransEDU website for HE and FE

The [TransEDU website](#) has been developed recently to provide open-access resources, guidance and training materials regarding trans people in the Education Sector. Since July 2016, Dr Mckendry and Dr Lawrence at the University of Strathclyde have been conducting research, funded by the Scottish Funding Council, on the experiences of transgender, non-binary and gender diverse people in colleges and universities, to provide information and data for the website. TransEDU is now a central resource for information on supporting trans applicants, students and staff in HE and FE.



Gender Diversity & Inclusion at P&G for EPS College

A seminar entitled “Gender Diversity & Inclusion at P&G: a perspective from the environment in industry” will be take place in the School of Chemistry which should be of interest to all EPS Schools. The seminar will include presentations by Elizabeth Alam and Jo Warble from Procter and Gamble Fabric Care Research and Development at the Newcastle Innovation Centre and will focus on policies, practices and cultural interventions that enhance and support an inclusive environment. More information [here](#).

Date: Wednesday **25 April** 2018

Time: 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Location: University of Birmingham Haworth Building, Room 203, Birmingham, B15 2TT

Microvolunteering Day Call for more Staff Profiles

Microvolunteering is defined as ‘bite-sized, on-demand, no commitment actions that benefit a worthy cause’. Microvolunteering Day is observed on 15th April and constitutes an opportunity for microvolunteering platforms, volunteer involved organisations and individuals to join together in a synchronised effort to show the empowering potential of the microvolunteering concept. The Rainbow Network would like to invite any colleagues who wish to volunteer to have an [LGBTQ staff profile](#) produced for themselves to email the Rainbow Network committee at lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Stonewall's Global Webinar

Stonewall will hold their next global Webinar this month, which will focus on the first steps to trans inclusion globally. The Webinar will provide participants with a brief introduction to gender identity, with a specific focus on trans identities. The session will allow organisations to hear from Stonewall and a variety of organisations, including IBM and Accenture, who will be able to share their experiences of working towards trans inclusion in their own context. The Webinar will take place on 10th April 2018, 13:00pm – 14:00pm. Register for the event [here](#).

Lesbian Visibility Day

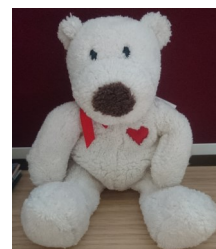
Observed annually on **26th April**, the Lesbian Visibility Day is dedicated to celebrating lesbians and their accomplishments as well as remembering that not all lesbians are free to express their sexuality. Many lesbians across the world are still facing punishment, persecution or even death for just being themselves.



Next Rainbow Network Social

In an attempt to be more inclusive of people who find it difficult to attend after-work socials, February's Rainbow Network social will be taking place on Tuesday **10th April at 12:00pm** in the Noble Room (Staff House). Facebook event [here](#).

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



Find out more: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/rainbownetwork

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