



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



February 2019 Newsletter

Note from the Chair

Hello and thank you for reading our February newsletter.

This is always an exciting time of year for the Rainbow Network and the wider LGBT community as we begin to focus on and celebrate the history of the brave and pioneering LGBT people who have achieved so much for us. The University has a varied and stimulating programme of events throughout February in recognition of LGBT History Month, and I hope you will be able to join us for some of them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our new committee members for joining us – it is the contributions of our members that allow us to remain strong and operational.

Stonewall ranking rise

The University of Birmingham has gone up by more than 50 places in the Stonewall [Top 100 Employers](#). The UK Workplace Equality Index assesses organisations' achievements and progress on LGBT equality, and UoB has risen from 152 to 101 in the last 12 months. This is, in part, due to work undertaken by the Rainbow Network, and represents a real achievement.



Dates for your diary

FEBRUARY

LGBT History Month

Friday 1st February

[Time to Talk Day](#)

Thursday 7th February, 5:30pm

January Rainbow Network Social

Costa, University Centre

Monday 11th February, 12pm-1pm

Rainbow Network Committee

Meeting

Nuffield, G19

Tuesday 12th February, 12:30pm

Staff Network coffee

Bramall mezzanine

A full listing of this year's events
can be found on our [2019 Calendar](#)

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



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



[@RainbowUoB](https://twitter.com/RainbowUoB)

Welcome to new committee members

We are thrilled to welcome three new members of the Rainbow Network Committee. Victoria Cabrera-Sharp has taken on the role of Secretary, Tom Lingard is now the Events Officer and Sally Xerri-Brooks is the new Communications Officer.

The committee meets once a month, to discuss issues relevant to LGBT staff across the University. In recent times, this has included providing advice to the University about the new Dubai campus, the implications of the New Core update and co-ordination of LGBT History Month with neighbouring organisations.

All members are welcome at committee meetings, and there is always room for additional committee members. Email lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Queer Quiz

Pink Sou'westers invite you to their tenth annual Queer Quiz on Wednesday 6th February at 7pm. Organised as part of LGBT History Month, the event will be held in the Penthouse Suite (above Loft Lounge), in Bromsgrove Street, B5 6RG.

It's free to enter, and is a chance to show off your knowledge of all things lesbian, gay, bi and trans+ from past to present.

Comes as a team of five (max), or alone— the group will find you teammates.

Further info: swbgroup@blueyonder.co.uk

LGBT History Month Conference

The University of Birmingham and University Hospitals Birmingham are holding a conference to raise awareness and improve understanding of sexual orientation and gender identity. This event is open to all staff and will feature a diverse range of speakers.

The conference takes place on Monday 25th February between 8.45am and 4pm in the Education Centre at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

[Full details can be found here.](#)

Find out more: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/rainbownetwork
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LGBT History Month

February is LGBT History Month, and the University has a series of events planned to mark it. This begins on 2nd February with a Queering the Collection session at the Barber and a Birmingham Professional launch event on 4th February, which will be led by Academic Registrar Stephen McAuliffe. Stephen will be talking about the importance of creating an LGBTQ-inclusive campus as well as reflecting on his own career journey. As the month draws on, there will be other exhibitions, lectures and films for both staff and students, as well as some partnership events with the University Hospitals Birmingham.

[Full information on all the events.](#) #UOBLGBTHM

Finding a Voice

Finding a Voice—LGBT and faith identities will provide a conversation about the intersection between religion/faith and the LGBT community. This will include personal accounts from individuals of different faiths and beliefs and a panel discussion will bring together different views to explore approaches to living in a contemporary multi-faith and LGBT-inclusive society.

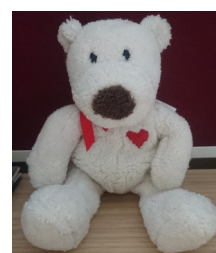
This event takes place on Thursday 21st February between 6.30pm and 8.30pm in the Arthur Thompson Hall in the Medical school.

[More information available here.](#)

Next Rainbow Network Social

February's Rainbow Network social will be taking place on Thursday **7th February** at 5:30pm in Costa, University Centre

Come and join us for a catch up. Facebook event [here](#). Look out for our lovely mascot, "Bow" - the teddy bear, if you're not sure which table we're at!



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