Welcome Back!

Happy 2018! Welcome to the first edition of The Rainbow Connection, a newsletter with updates from Safe Zone, SOGE and Lambda GSA. I hope you find this to be a much more eye-catching delivery of information than my usual emails! Look out for the next issue on March 26 and thereafter on a three month-rotation. Thanks to Barb Balogh-Allie, Kristin Broka and Jarrod Zickefoose for making this a reality.

If you have any tidbits to contribute to the next newsletter or know of a Tri-C student or employee to feature, be sure to share with me by March 2. Thanks for all you do to make Tri-C a safe, inclusive space for everyone!

Michelle Nicopolis, LPCC, Licensed Psychologist
Counselor/Professor and College-wide Safe Zone Coordinator
michelle.nicopolis@tri-c.edu
216-987-5397
Western Campus, WSS G-108
Pronouns: She/her/hers/they/them/theirs
New in the News

Tri-C became the first Ohio community college to join Ohio Business Competes on November 8, 2017! Learn more.

With the upcoming transition to Banner 9, we are hoping for widespread use of a preferred name field, which allows students and employee to list their preferred name. Learn more.

Fact Check! For Ohio's policies regarding birth certificates and gender marker changes, workplace discrimination, conversion therapy, hate crimes, parenting, public accommodations and more visit the Human Rights Campaign and Lambda Legal websites.

SOGE News

SOGE Council (Sexual Orientation and Gender Equality Council) is excited to welcome our new officers! Learn More.

Be sure to take some time to check out all of the spring 2018 Diversity Series events! www.tri-c.edu/diversityseries

Lambda GSA

Name change!
This fall, the Western Campus Lambda GSA made a constitutional amendment to change their name for greater inclusion. The GSA, traditionally standing for Gay Straight Alliance, was updated to Gender Sexuality Alliance to include folks across all gender identity and sexual orientation spectra. Way to make change, students!

Campus Advisors
Print out the following list of current Lambda Advisors at each campus location. Please refer any students you think would enjoy being part of a student organization to promote gender and sexuality equality to any of the following advisors. Learn More.

Do you know how Lambda GSA started at Tri-C?
Read about it here written by Lambda's first President and founding member Jim Buccini,
Safe Zone

Spring Training Dates
Safe Zone Training sessions have been added to the calendar for Spring 2018. Please refer to the calendar here and register through TEC.

College Coordinators
We're fortunate to have Safe Zone Campus/Location Coordinators across the College. If you have any questions about Safe Zone please approach these folks. If needed, they will refer you to Michelle. Remember, if the issue is a discrimination or legal concern, contact the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at x0204 ASAP. Coordinators are listed at the bottom of the Safe Zone webpage.

Resources

LGBT Center
LGBT Center of Greater Cleveland offers many support groups, social programs, educational events, and resources. Check them out here.

PFLAG Cleveland
PFLAG is the largest family and ally organization in the United States. The Cleveland Chapter meets every second Tuesday of the month at 6:45 p.m. in Trinity Cathedral (Euclid Ave & E 22nd St). All are welcome. Learn More.

Visit the Safe Zone website!