PROGRESS REPORT: SUMMER 2018
STUDENT & COMMUNITY LIFE

LGBTQIA Support and Education

Three primary themes emerged from the recommendations in relation to LGBTQIA support and education. The first, infrastructure development, incorporates the needs for the continued development of the LGBTQIA Resource Center and securing the appropriate financial and staff support. The second, expanded offerings of programs and trainings, include both the expansion of existing offerings and the development of more specific training content around queer issues. The third theme, policy exploration and development, encompasses the greater need for the development of policies that support LGBTQIA students.

Infrastructure Development

Progress:

- **Grand Opening** of the new [LGBTQIA Resource Center](#), August 23, 2018
- Hiring of new full-time staff member, LGBTQIA Coordinator, May 2018.
- 71 inclusive bathroom signs installed in 34 buildings as of August 2018.

6-12 Month Outlook:

- All remaining inclusive bathroom signage in academic and support buildings to be installed by December 2018.
- Continued development with the design team to include the LGBTQIA Resource Center in the new student center plans.

Programs and Trainings

Progress:

- Continued expansion and capacity building of [SafeSpace](#) for student organizations and faculty/staff groups.

6-12 Month Outlook:

- Continued development of trainings and opportunities with topics including but not limited to LGBTQIA oppression and cross-sections of identity in LGBTQIA communities. These include:
  - Enrolling the second cohort of faculty and staff in Level Up: An Advanced Allyship Training Course
  - Launching Reading Rainbows, a new diversity and inclusion reading group for faculty and staff.
  - Continuing with two key partnerships: The Black Queer Lives Matter Initiative with AASU and the LGBTQIA Interfaith Lunch and Learn with campus ministries.
Continuing with Greek Allies, Safe Space, Safe Space: Peer Education, and Trans 101 trainings.

- Implementation of additional mental health programs and resources, including:
  - Rising Up, a weekly group for LGBTQIA students focused on developing resilience and self-care skills.
  - The Oasis, a space within the new LGBTQIA Resource Center that features stress reduction tools and activities and that hosts office hours with campus partners who provide advocacy and support. These partners include the Counseling Center’s Let’s Talk program and Health Initiatives’ the VOICE Advocates.

- The development of online delivery for trainings and programming.
- Creation of affinity groups including those based on alumni, graduate students, and STEM.

**Policy Exploration and Development**

**Progress:**

- Pronouns are included on student profiles in Banner as an option.
- Preferred names can appear on the front of BuzzCards for students and staff. Legal names appear on the back of the card.

**6-12 Month Outlook:**

- Implementation of a formal gender-inclusive housing application and selection process.
Graduate Student Support

The themes that emerged within Graduate Student Support involve specific programming that address graduate students’ needs. This includes a graduate student convocation, graduate student orientation and expansion of Grad Groups. The other area focused on continued training and support to further communication around graduate student stipends and workload that would create consistency among departments.

Programming

Progress:

- On August 29, the Graduate Student Association in collaboration with Georgia Tech Special Events will hold the first annual Graduate Student Welcome in McCamish Pavilion.
- Grad Groups, which began in fall 2014 as a pilot, is being offered in fall 2018 for the first time as a one-credit-hour, pass-fail course (GT8801) for graduate students. Organized into eight themed weeks, the course covers topics that will benefit a new graduate student at Georgia Tech, delivered via a blended learning model using Tech’s new Learning Management System, Canvas.

6-12 Month Outlook:

- Graduate student specific programs, both social and academic, will continue to be introduced.
- Graduate Studies will partner with The Center for Teaching and Learning’s Teaching with Technology Partnership to continue to further develop the curriculum for GT8801
- A comparative review of graduate student stipends will be initiated.
- Faculty will continue to be educated regarding workload and providing clear financial information to students.