



LGBT Staff Newsletter

WELCOME !

Welcome to the latest LGBT Staff Update. As you may know, the group has had a very active couple of months and the pace shows no signs of abating! IDAHO, Manchester Pride and Stonewall are just some of the projects that we are currently involved in and more details can be found in this newsletter.

It goes without saying that the group can only continue to thrive with involvement from all members and the more successful the group, the more LGBT issues will be on the agenda of the wider University.

If you feel the network could support you and your individual needs/interests then please let us know as there may be others in a similar situation.

Network Update

As ever the network has been extremely busy since the last newsletter. LGBT History Month was our most successful yet with people from all areas of the University participating in the programme of events. If you managed to attend an event, then thank you for your support. If you could not, then we look forward to seeing you at a future event!

We were fortunate to have Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell as a special guest at our last network meeting. We updated Nancy on the history, work and future of the group and concentrated on some specific areas including Stonewall, our survey and Diversity Champions. As a result of this we now have a nominated Diversity Champion from the senior management team! This will be a real boost to our activities and Stonewall application. We'll be meeting with the new champion next week and to find out who this is, please come along to the next Network Group Meeting on Wednesday 9 May.

You'll see from this edition that there's plenty coming up over the next few months that you can get involved in. And as always our events and activities are open to everyone, so please continue to spread the word and get your colleagues involved in what we're doing.



IDAHO 2012

17 May 2012 is the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHO) which marks the day on which the World Health Organisation (WHO) removed homosexuality from the list of mental health disorders on the "International Classification of Diseases" (only as recently as 1992).

This day is marked by events all over the world and The University of Manchester will be no exception. Throughout the day, the University will fly a rainbow flag from the Whitworth Street Building to demonstrate support for IDAHO and the LGBT community.

The Staff Network Group in collaboration with the Manchester Museum will also be organising guided tours of the Alan Turing Exhibition throughout the day (at 12:30, 13:30 and 15:00) before a private event for network members that will include a drinks reception, talks and a guided tour of the exhibition from 16:30. The daytime tours will be open to all staff and students however pre-booking is essential. Please also book if you wish to attend the private event later in the day to ensure that all guests are sufficiently catered for.

To book a place or seek further information on IDAHO or University events, please email:
lg.bt@manchester.ac.uk



Manchester Pride 2012

The theme for Manchester Pride 2012 is "**Queer'd Science**" in honour of Alan Turing and his centenary year. The University has exceptional links and heritage with Turing and therefore we must not let this go unmarked. Members of the group have had initial discussions with the organisers of Manchester Pride to start generating ideas however these will only be a success with **your** support and involvement—particularly if we are to have an entry in the parade on 25 August. If you would like to be involved in any way (no matter how big or small) then please attend the next meeting or contact Stephen: Stephen.Johnston@manchester.ac.uk

Please remember that you do not need to be LGBT to celebrate Pride so feel free to enlist colleagues from across the University to make this an occasion befitting Alan Turing and The University of Manchester.

World Diversity Day

The UN General Assembly has declared 21 May 2012 as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. Their website states that:

"Cultural rights are an integral part of human rights, which are universal, indivisible and interdependent...All persons have therefore the right to express themselves and to create and disseminate their work in the language of their choice, and particularly in their mother tongue; all persons are entitled to quality education and training that fully respect their cultural identity; and all persons have the right to participate in the cultural life of their choice and conduct their own cultural practices, subject to respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms."

<http://www.un.org/en/events/culturaldiversityday/>



Stonewall Project Group

Following our placement as 235th on 'Stonewall Top 100 Employer Index' in 2011, we are starting our application for 2012 in earnest!

In order to improve our standings, we need volunteers to help gather supporting documentation and information to demonstrate what a diverse and inclusive organisation the University is.

For more information on the project, please contact Daniel: daniel.taylor@manchester.ac.uk



21 May 2012 is World Diversity Day. To celebrate this and to help the Equality and Diversity Team to understand the University community they support, all staff are being encouraged to log onto MyView and update their data. Information about staff diversity can help to produce anonymous, statistical reports that will direct time and resources to promote equality and diversity for all.

To find out how to use MyView, please visit: www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/employment/myview

Information held in the Human Resources Information System and viewed through MyView is subject to the Data Protection Act 1998, and as such will be treated responsibly and held securely.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next network group meeting will be held on Wed 9 May at 12:30 in room 4.38/4.60 Simon Building. It's a food and drink building, so you can bring your lunch. Agenda items to lg.bt@manchester.ac.uk

Forthcoming Events

BOOK: The next meeting of the book group will be **Thursday 21 June** in Kro Bar (opposite the Student's Union) from 5pm. The meetings are very informal and a great opportunity to meet other network members over a glass (or two) of wine (should the mood take you!). The chosen book is "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot. Why not pick up the book and join us in June to discuss and share your thoughts? Email Stephen for details:

Stephen.Johnston@manchester.ac.uk

WALK:

13th May marks the fifth anniversary of the walking group. To mark this the walk will be something slightly different - a guided walk across Morecambe Bay

To find out more details or to join the walker's mailing list then please contact:

Richard.Savage5555@yahoo.co.uk or

James.St-Andre@manchester.ac.uk

SOCIAL: Following the Alan Turing exhibition event on 17 May, the group will be heading to TROF at 5:30 for drinks and a bite to eat. If you cannot make the exhibition then please come along afterwards.



For general enquiries or to be added to the **confidential** mailing list please email: lg.bt@manchester.ac.uk or for Equality and Diversity Issues: Paul.Marks-Jones@manchester.ac.uk

