

#### WE SUPPORT STUDENT WELL-BEING AND SUCCESS. OUR VISION IS FOR STUDENTS TO DISCOVER THEIR PASSION, PEOPLE, AND PURPOSE.

Student Affairs Updates

March 25, 2022



# Message from the VP for Student Affairs

As many of you know, there has been recent legislative activity across the country affecting K-12 public school curriculum and student participation in gender-designated sports based on biological sex. This discussion has deep impacts for our transgender and nonbinary communities. I want to share that I am committed to supporting these members of our community.

Student Affairs professionals are constantly working to improve the ways we show up to support each other and work to create a more inclusive and welcoming world. This week's Day of Collective Action at the U was a step toward being more vocal on topics of marginalization and discrimination. As a leader, I want our community to know that I remain committed to our trans and non-binary students and employees. You are valued, and I want to remind you that the U has a variety of support and resources available:

For trans and non-binary students, the LGBT Resource Center has online <u>Trans</u> <u>Resources</u> or can be visited in person in the Union. The <u>Women's Resource Center</u> and <u>University Counseling Center</u> can provide confidential counseling services.

For trans and non-binary employees, Human Resources offers the <u>Employee</u> <u>Assistance Program</u> for counseling support. Anyone who is transitioning can seek additional support from HR for name changes and to work with colleagues on your team, if necessary. Additionally, the HR team has updated systems to include individuals' <u>chosen name</u>, which includes the campus directory, Kronos, Bridge, new employee applications, and more.

If you experience harassment or discrimination, visit the <u>Office of Equal Opportunity</u>, and please report.

To colleagues who are cisgender and are seeking education, <u>The Trevor Project</u> is a great place to start. U Health has created a <u>Transgender Health Program</u>, which is a great resource for trans and non-binary people, and also hosts several seminars that are educational for those interested in supporting the trans community.

## Being in Solidarity with Your Trans Colleagues & Students

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Below are some resources and steps from the LGBT Resource Center that you can

from the LGBT Resource Center that you can take toward being in solidarity with our trans community at the University of Utah.

**Talk** to friends/family/colleagues about trans athletes, trans healthcare and the importance of trans representation across all areas of public life. Consider starting a book club with titles like: "<u>Histories of the Transgender Child</u>," "<u>Trans\* In College</u>," or "<u>Testosterone: An Unauthorized Biography</u>," or organize a viewing of "<u>Changing the Game</u>" or "<u>Disclosure</u>."

• You can check out the LGBT Resource Center staff's discussion of "Changing the Game" from last year on their Instagram and Facebook feeds.

**Interrupt** oppressive and discriminatory behavior, and educate. Try using these phrases:

- "That word isn't appropriate and has been used as a slur to hurt and demean trans people."
- "Stereotypes aren't funny because they reduce marginalized identities and experiences to a silly caricature"

**Learn** about actions people and organizations in your community are taking, and support them through attendance, spreading the word or financial donations.

• Some local organizations advocating for trans people in Utah include <u>TEA of</u>

#### Utah, Utah Pride Center, and Equality Utah

**Listen** to trans students and colleagues about how the current climate has been impacting them, and connect them to support resources on campus and in the community.

- Some campus resources that offer students specific support around trans identity and experiences include the <u>LGBT Resource Center</u>, the <u>University</u> <u>Counseling Center</u> and the <u>Women's Resource Center</u>.
- Some community resources include:
  - Latino Behavioral Health Services contact.lbhs@gmail.com
  - <u>SafeUT</u> 833-372-3388
  - <u>Utah Pride Center</u>



#### Next All-Staff Meeting

The Student Affairs All-Staff Meeting is scheduled for Apr. 7 at 11 a.m. Please make sure to register below. We look forward to seeing you!

Register for April Here

### Day of Collective Action Debrief: April 1

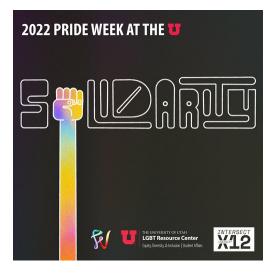
On March 22, the University of Utah held its first <u>Day of Collective Action (DCA)</u>. This day served as a campus-wide moment of reflection and action designed to propel our collective goal to



create an inclusive community. You can find key takeaways from the sessions in this <u>@theU article</u>.

We would like to create a space for Student Affairs staff to process their experiences with the day's events and share their feelings, thoughts, and feedback. If you would like to participate, please <u>register</u> to attend: Friday, April 1, 9-10 a.m. If you are unable to join but would like to share your feedback with Student Affairs leadership, please email <u>studentaffairs@utah.edu</u> or reach out to your associate vice president.





#### Pride Week at the U

Pride Week at the U is an annual event honoring LGBTQIA+ histories, cultures and lives. The 2022 Pride Week will highlight LGBTQIA+ movements and leaders who work in solidarity with multiple marginalized communities. This will include coalition with racial justice movements, defending trans communities under attack, protecting the sovereignty of indigenous nations and building an LGBTQIA+ movement that works for the liberation of all people.

Find a list of events, virtual backgrounds and the opportunity to volunteer <u>here</u>.

### Collective Action Against Hate

A special 90-minute addition to the Friday Forums on Racism in Higher Education series will focus on the threat towards Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Black spaces at



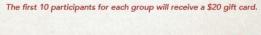
the University of Utah and universities across the country. Together with the Council of 1890 Universities, we will gather together presidents from HBCU institutions to discuss:

- How institutions are faring in the wake of the threats
- What support institutions are providing students, faculty and staff
- What can be done on a national level to support and protect these spaces

Learn more about the speakers and register to attend <u>here</u>.

#### Minoritized people have historically been left out of the conversation on dating and sexual violence. We want to change that. **LISTENING GROUPS** The McCluskey Center for Violence Prevention wants to hear undergraduate students' thoughts on preventing dating and sexual violence. We are holding 1.5 hour listening groups for each of these student groups:

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Sign up to participate: bit.ly/MCVPLG

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

McCluskey Center for Violence Prevention listening groups

The <u>McCluskey Center for</u> <u>Violence Prevention</u> wants to hear undergraduate students' thoughts on preventing dating and sexual violence. The center is holding 1.5-hour listening sessions for each of these student groups:

- Queer students
- Students with disabilities
- Black students
- Latinx students
- Asian-American students
- American Indian students
- Undocumented/DACA
  students
- International students
- Multiracial students

The first 10 participants for each group will receive a \$20 gift card. Sign up <u>here</u>.

## Register for the Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion graduation

#### ceremony

Attend the inaugural Equity, Diversity,



and Inclusion Graduation Ceremony on May 5, 2022, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Cleone Peterson Eccles Alumni House.

This year, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion will be hosting a graduation ceremony to honor and celebrate the graduation of our diverse students. Whether you never joined or are closely connected to one of the EDI centers (American Indian Resource Center, Black Cultural Center, Center for Equity and Student Belonging, Dream Center, LGBT Resource Center) and student groups, you are welcome to join us at our graduation ceremony. More information can be found in this <u>@theU article</u>.

Register here



## Tickets to attend George Takei Keynote address

The University of Utah MUSE (My U Signature Experience) Project will host George Takei as a keynote speaker on April 21, 2022. The event will take place at Kingsbury Hall at 12 p.m. and a book signing will follow. Tickets for both students and the general public are free but required to attend.

Student tickets will be available beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 29, with code MUSE online or with UIDs

at the Kingsbury box office. Tickets for staff, faculty and the general public will be available beginning at 10 a.m. on April 5 online and at the box office, no code needed. Find more details in this <u>@theU article</u>.

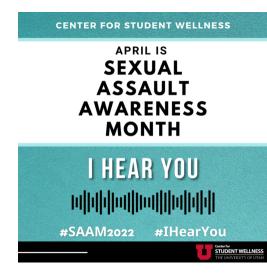
#### Save the dates for U Remembers

U Remembers is an annual week of events at the University of Utah that reflects on the historical effects of racial discrimination and invites us to make connections between the past and contemporary social issues. U Remembers is planned by a volunteer committee of students, faculty, trainees and staff collaborating across the university. All are welcome to get involved and participate.





U Remembers 2022 will take place April 25-29. The theme is "Protecting the Truth." Read more in this (atheU article.



# Sexual Assualt

Awareness Month April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Each year, the <u>Center for Student</u> <u>Wellness</u> leads a campus-wide initiative to promote awareness, address prevention and prompt response surrounding sexual harassment, assault, abuse and violence. The Center for Student Wellness will be hosting events

to connect socially, educate on how to support the survivors around us and

advocate for change in our communities.

#UofUSAAM is a time to become aware of and reflect on the skillsets we have and how we can utilize them to minimize sexual assault on campus and support survivors. The entire campus community is encouraged to engage in sexual assault awareness throughout the month of April. Together we are strong, powerful and resilient. Please use the following hashtags to follow along and join our efforts online: #IHearU #UofUSAAM #SAAM2022. Find more information in this <u>@theU article</u>.

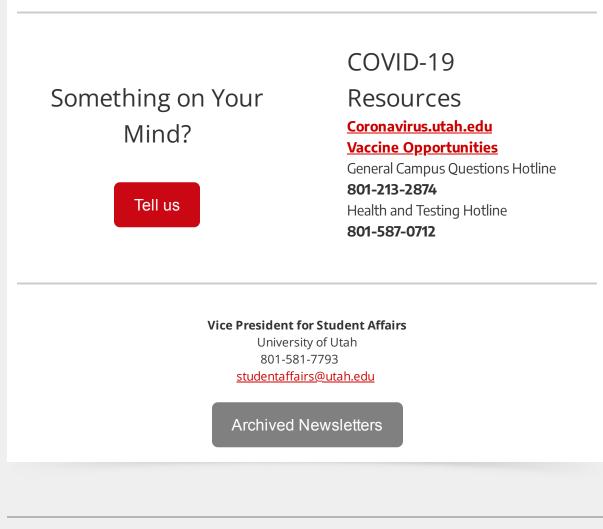
## Legacy of Lowell Saturday Service Projections

The Bennion Center is hosting its Environment & Sustainability Saturday Service Project on Saturday, April 9, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

This is a great opportunity for students to get involved with their community and bond with others who value community



engagement! There are 70+ spots still available to register for different volunteer projects that day. Some of these projects include Tree Utah, Fife Wetlands Restoration, Social Justice Gardens and more! You can learn more <u>here</u>.



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