Bucknell Celebrates National Coming Out Day!

October 11, 2010, was National Coming Out Day, a day celebrated at college campuses around the country and at a wide variety of national events.

As it has become a tradition over the past nine years, once again, Friends of Lesbians and Gays & Bisexual and Transgender (FLAG&BT) and The Office of LGBT Awareness compiled a list of Bucknell faculty, administrators, and staff who pledge to provide an open mind and a supportive atmosphere for LGBT students.

This list, known as the Bucknell National Coming Out Day Support List was published in the Bucknellian and can also be viewed at http://www.bucknell.edu/x56566.xml

Furthermore, on October 12, the faculty, students, and staff at Bucknell gathered in front of the Rooke Chemistry building—wearing their “gay? fine by me” shirts—to take the National Coming Out Day Photo to demonstrate their support for the LGBT community on campus.

In light of the tragic suicides committed by young LGBT people over the past couple of months, the event carried an especially important message of support and hope for a better future.

LGBT EVENTS YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS

- **Friday, October 29:** Reception at the Towne Tavern Shanty 7:30-10pm Cash Food and Bar
- **Saturday, October 30:** Homecoming—GALABI 20th Anniversary Celebration Noon/ $8 Adults & Alumni/ $5 Students; To register, contact Laura Ball at (570) 577 1375
- **Tuesday, November 16:** Transgender Remembrance Day -Mara Keisling 7:00pm/ Rooke Chemistry Lecture Hall, 116
- **Thursday, November 18:** Transnational Queer Identities Lecture Series The Passages of a Queer Québec 7:00pm/ Willard Smith Library/ VL 125
- **Wednesday, December 1 until Tuesday, December 7:** AIDS Memorial Quilt Samek Art Gallery

For details and more information go to: http://www.bucknell.edu/x5724.xml
The Founder of Al-Fatiha Visits Campus

By Karel Parve

On October 20, 2010, Faisal Alam, a queer-identified Muslim activist of Pakistani descent came to talk to the Bucknell student body.

Alam was the organizer of the first-ever gathering of LGBT Muslims, which led to the founding of Al-Fatiha, an organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex & questioning (LGBTIQ) Muslims, and their allies.

Al-Fatiha is dedicated to Muslims of all cultural and ethnic backgrounds who LGBTIQ or exploring their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, and their families, friends and allies.

The organization promotes the progressive Islamic notions of peace, equality and justice. We envision a world that is free from prejudice, injustice and discrimination, where all people are fully embraced and accepted into their families, faith and communities.

Since founding Al-Fatiha, Faisal has traveled across the country and around the world to meet with LGBTIQ Muslims to build a global queer Muslim movement. Faisal’s queer Muslim activism has been featured in LGBT and mainstream media including the New York Times, BBC World News, Al-Hayat, and the Washington Post. Read more about Alam at http://www.hiddenvoices.info/biography.php

This event was sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Department of Geography, French & Francophone Studies Program, Women and Gender Studies Program, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity and Gender, International Student Services, Multicultural Student Services and Office of LGBT Awareness.

Bucknellians Walk to Support AIDS Victims

By Karel Parve

On Saturday, September 25, 2010, Bucknell University hosted the fifth annual AIDS Walk, which the Office of LGBT Awareness was a co-sponsor for.

The Bucknell University AIDS Walk which is a joint effort between many offices and students groups at Bucknell was created with the aim to support the AIDS Resource Alliance and part of the University’s effort to raise awareness about the disease. In the past, Bucknellians have contributed more than $13,000 to the organization. This year alone, 250 walkers raised more than $4000.

AIDS Resource Alliance is a non-profit organization that provides critical education programs, prevention and outreach efforts to help stop the spread of HIV/AIDS in the local community.

The organization also provides assistance for those who are living with HIV/AIDS, including food, transportation, nutritional supplements, medical and pharmaceutical assistance as well as rental and utility bills assistance, and counseling.

Did you know, Bucknell University was the 14th University in the U.S. to establish an LGBT Resource Center with a paid LGBT professional staff person in 1992?
Bucknell Holds First ANNUAL Tea Dance to Celebrate National Coming Out Day

By Spencer Whalen

On Sunday, October 10th, Bucknell's FLAG&BT, Office of LGBT Awareness, and Residential Education and Fraternity/Sorority Affairs sponsored a tea dance to bring the community and local universities together to jointly celebrate National Coming Out Day (NCOD). Penn State, Bloomsburg University and Susquehanna University were all invited to attend the event. The event was hosted at Uptown featuring DJ Dopestar and great food! As always, the event was complete with cake and plenty of dancing! This co-sponsored event is going to be held again next year in hopes of more success and recognition of NCOD by the surrounding community.

Meet the Executive Officers of FLAG&BT

President: Sarah A. Thibault, 2012
Vice-President: Evan T. Kaufman, 2012
Secretary: Bridget G. Cornwell, 2012
Treasurer: Spencer D. Whalen, 2013

An Evening with Julie Goldman

By Karel Parve

On September 30th, 2010, Bucknell was graced by the hilarious presence of Julie Goldman—a Jewish and openly lesbian comedian.

Goldman starred in the first three seasons of “The Big Gay Sketch Show,” a sketch comedy show on the Logo television network. She is the founder of an all-women's stand-up and variety show called "OFFENSIVE WOMEN" and was the main driving force behind their biggest show to date at The Zipper Theater in New York City.

Goldman is a frequent guest on Johnny McGovern’s weekly podcast “Gay Pimpin’ with Johnny McGovern.” At the current moment, she is working on raising money for Nicest Thing, a feature-length, lesbian romantic comedy that she co-wrote with Brandy Howard.

The event was co-sponsored by Campus Jewish Life, Bucknell Hillel, the Office of LGBT Awareness, Women's Resource Center, and FLAG&BT.

Did you know that since 2004, over 5000 “gay? fine by me” t-shirts have been given away free by the Office of LGBT Awareness?

Unity Jam: Stop the Hate Rally

By Karel Parve

Bucknell University and the Lewisburg community joined forces once again for the annual Unity Jam: Stop the Hate Rally on September, 27.

The rally is part of a national effort calling for people of faith and good will to act nonviolently as agents of healing in their communities, to speak up for the victims of hatred and intimidation, and to raise a united voice against hate-inspired violence. The national rallies began the year after the hate crimes and killings of James Byrd and Matthew Shepard in 1998.
“A safe space is a place where anyone can relax and be fully self-expressed, without fear of being made to feel uncomfortable, unwelcome, or unsafe on account of biological sex, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, cultural background, religious affiliation, age, or physical or mental ability; a place where the rules guard each person’s self-respect and dignity and strongly encourage everyone to respect others.”

2010-2011 SAFE SPACES

Fraternities:
- Chi Phi (chapter & house)
- Delta Upsilon (chapter)
- Kappa Sigma (chapter)
- Lambda Chi Alpha (chapter & house)
- Phi Kappa Psi (chapter)
- Tau Kappa Epsilon (chapter & house)
- Theta Chi (chapter)
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon (chapter & house)
- Sigma Phi Epsilon (chapter & house)

Sororities:
- Alpha Chi Omega (chapter & suite)
- Alpha Delta Pi (chapter & suite)
- Kappa Delta (chapter & suite)
- Delta Gamma (chapter & suite)
- Kappa Alpha Theta (chapter & suite)
- Kappa Kappa Gamma (chapter)
- Pi Beta Phi (chapter)

Athletics:
- Men’s Cross Country Team
- Women’s Cross Country Team
- Men’s Track and Field Team
- Women’s Track and Field Team
- Men’s Swimming and Diving Team
- Women’s Swimming and Diving Team
- Men’s Lacrosse Team
- Women’s Lacrosse Team
- Women’s Field Hockey Team
- Women’s Rowing Team
- Women’s Softball Team
- Women’s Water polo Team

Other:
- Social Justice Residential College

http://www.bucknell.edu/LGBT.xml

The Office of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Awareness, is committed to making Bucknell a safe place for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. This is accomplished by supporting student groups and efforts to educating and increase awareness about LGBT issues and current public policy concerns. The office is guided by an Advisory Board comprised of students, faculty, staff, and administrators who are interested in and committed to the mission of the Office.

Given that Bucknell is dedicated to prepare its students to be morally responsible citizens, and given that societal attitudes are changing, the University attempts to promote attitudes and behaviors among its students which will create a climate of mutual respect and empower us all to appreciate diversity.