The WCU Celebrates Diversity Series is sponsored by the Office of Social Equity. We cordially invite you to join us as we continue building our inclusive community. The WCU Celebrates Diversity Series responds to our changing community by providing a series of programs intended to enlighten and empower us as a community. If you would like further information on any of our programs, or if you would like to register for any of the presentations in our series, please call West Chester University’s Office of Social Equity at 610-436-2433.

Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available on request by calling the Office of Social Equity at 610-436-2433. Please make your needs known as soon as possible, but no less than one week in advance of the event, to allow time to make the necessary arrangements.

Please check out the Office of Social Equity website for updates throughout the semester for new programs added each week!

**Black History Month**

**FEBRUARY**

**The Period Project**

**February 1-28, 2018**

Imagine this: You are going about your day and your period comes unexpectedly. You can go home, shower, and get the supplies you need. Now imagine getting your period while homeless. You may not be able to do laundry or shower consistently, let alone afford a box of tampons or pads. Join the Center for Women & Gender Equity and Wellness Promotion as we collect unopened tampons and pads for menstruating people experiencing homelessness in Philadelphia. Drop off available in Student Health Services and the Center for Women & Gender Equity. For more information, e-mail womenscenter@wcupa.edu.

**LASO Annual Gala**

**February 3, 2018 from 7PM – 12:00AM**

Sykes Student Union Ballrooms

Join LASO as they host their Annual LASO Gala to raise funds for the Puerto Rico Relief Fund. We’ll be highlighting some student leaders and celebrating the night with food, music, performances and fun! This year’s theme is “Masquerade” and to enter its $5 with a mask and $8 without a mask. For more information contact Jairo Henao at jhenao@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273. Sponsored by LASO and the Lawrence Dowdy Multicultural Center.

**The Untold Story of Leon Ford: A Story of Forgiveness and Healing in the Face of Adversity**

**February 7, 2018 at 6:30 PM**

Sykes Student Union Ballrooms

Leon Ford is a Pittsburgh native who is a victim of police brutality. He does not preach hate or separation, rather he speaks about love, healing, and forgiveness in the face of adversity. Leon will share his story and help to advocate for unity among communities where tension resides. Sponsored by the Student Government Association, Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center, Black Student Union, Sisters United, Off-Campus and Commuter Association.

**LGBTQ 101 Training**

**February 9, 2018 11:00 AM – 12:00PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

**February 13, 2018 3:30 PM – 4:30PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

**March 22, 2018 12:30 – 1:30PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

**April 11, 2018 9:30AM – 10:30AM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

Part 1 - A one hour training session that provides participants with an overview of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Asexual history, terms, and current issues. Sessions are open to all students, faculty and staff. To register, please contact lgbtqa@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147. Sponsored by LGBTQ Services.

**Sadie Hawkins Valentine’s Day Dance**

**February 16, 2018 at 8:00 PM**

Sykes Student Union Ballrooms

Rams After Hours and BSU will be collaborating to host a Sadie Hawkins Valentine’s Day dance along with Valentine’s novelties. Students have the opportunity to spend the night dancing away while creating make and take items for their loved ones, such as stuff-a-plush and custom engraved rings. Sponsored by Rams After Hours and the Black Student Union.

**Trans 101 Training**

**February 9, 2018 11:00AM – 12:00PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

**February 20, 2018 3:30PM – 4:30PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

**March 29, 2018 12:30PM – 1:30PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

**April 18, 2018 9:30AM – 10:30AM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255**

Part 2 - A one hour training session facilitated by peer educators who identify within the transgender community for “graduates” of LGBTQ 101. Reviews gender, sex, and sexuality but focuses on what it means to be transgender and how to support trans people on campus. Sessions are open to all students, faculty and staff. To register, please contact lgbtqa@
Sankofa Conference at Bloomsburg University

February 16-17, 2018

The Sankofa Conference recognizes the need for students to learn, understand, and appreciate the rich cultural heritage of people of African descent. The conference develops as a way to promote unity and understanding among students and to provide a forum for discussion and learning. Join us as we take a trip to Bloomsburg University for this amazing annual conference. Sign-ups will go out soon! For more information contact Tammy Hillard-Thompson at thilliard-thompson@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273. Co-Sponsored by the Lawrence Dowdy Multicultural Center, Office of Residence Life and LGBTQA Services

Islamophobia in Perspectives:
Dr. Maryam Kashani

February 19, 2018 from 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Sykes Student Union, Room 115

This talk will draw on ethnographic research and theories of race and gender to chart how Islamophobia facilitates discourses regarding culture, race, gender, and sexuality in many ways that are more accurately articulated as anti-Muslim racism. It will discuss how Muslim women, in terms of their relationships, rights and practices are impacted by such discourses and how they respond. Sponsored by Women’s & Gender Studies, Center for Women & Gender Equity, Muslim Student Association, departments of Philosophy, English and Languages & Cultures, Ethnic Studies Institute, Lawrence Dowdy Multicultural Center, and the University Forum

Diversity Breakfast

February 21, 2018 at 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Enjoy a full breakfast with employers and learn about their diversity initiatives and experiences during their career path. Pre-registration on OrgSync required. Sponsored by the Twardowski Career Development Center and Center for Women and Gender Equity

PA Black Conference on Higher Education (PBCOHE)

February 22-24, 2018 at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel

The 2018 PBCOHE Annual Conference theme is "Valuing Diversity to Cultivate & Sustain Student Success". For more information about the conference, please visit www.pbcuhe.com or contact PBCOHE President, Dr. John Craig at JCraig@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3133.

Ally Training

February 23, 2018 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

February 27, 2018 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

April 5, 2018 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM in Sykes Student Union, Room 10A

April 25, 2018 9:30 AM– 10:30 AM in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

Part 3: A one hour training session that provides LGBTQ & TRANS 101 "graduates" with the understanding and resources to be an advocate and ally to LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff. Allies are provided with a resource folder and a door sticker identifying them as an LGBTQ Ally. Sessions are open to all students, faculty and staff. To register, please contact lgbtqa@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147. Sponsored by LGBTQA Services

Cultivating Change Conference

February 25, 2018 from 10:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Sykes Student Union

Social change doesn’t happen alone or overnight. This conference will give you tools, action steps, and community to empower you to cultivate change on campus and beyond. Pre-registration required via OrgSync. Lunch provided. For more information, contact the Center for Women & Gender Equity at womenscenter@wcupa.edu. Sponsored by the Center for Women & Gender Equity, Office of Wellness Promotion, Office of Social Equity, Women’s and Gender Studies Department, Philosophy Department, and Peace and Conflict Studies

Just Act

February 27, 2018 from 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Sykes Student Union Theatre

Join us for this student-led, participatory theatre program designed to engage the West Chester community through real-world examples and audience interaction of how to objectively respond to instances of prejudice, bigotry and discrimination. Be part of the conversation and become part of the solution. Sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs

The Women’s Empowerment Project is a campus-wide programming initiative in recognition of Women’s History Month (March 2018). The goal of the project is to coordinate programs, campaigns, and events focused on empowering women. If you are interested in participating, e-mail womenscenter@wcupa.edu

Frederick Douglass Institute

Lunch (En)Counters Panel Discussion: The Color of Law:
A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America

March 1, 2018 from 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM

Sykes Student Union Theater

Sponsored by WCU Frederick Douglass Institute

Women of Color Day Celebration

March 1, 2018 11:00 AM - 1:15 PM

Philips Autograph Library

Join us for lunch and networking as we celebrate and recognize the achievements of women of color at WCU! Registration required: please contact lgbtqa@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147. Sponsored by LGBTQA Services

#Talk@Tanglewood

March 7, 2018 from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Tanglewood

Are you interested in engaging in a conversation about diversity and inclusion at WCU with President Fiorentino? The next #Talk@Tanglewood is scheduled for March 7th. If you’re interested in attending, email president@wcupa.edu and provide your name, job title, and department. Space is very limited.

Digital Health w/ SheAPP by She’s It

March 21, 2018 from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Sykes Student Union, Room 210

SheAPP by She’s It, LLC was created by women for women to provide ALL women a wholistic 360° health, wellness, and fitness experience focused on adding value to women’s lives. SheAPP combines six apps into one to take women’s well-being “beyond the scale”. We believe that “everybody is different and every BODY is different”. The SheAPP experience allows women to combine meaningful data points in My Personal Body Blueprint, sync their fitness wearable, track food and moves, create a plan for their individual Healthy Wealthy Journey, and connect to thoughtful
and engaging ELM conversations. Tam Williams, Founder, President and co-owner of She’s It, LLC is one of the only African American women in the country to create and launch a mobile, healthcare app of its kind. For more information, review the She’s It website: https://www.shes-it.com OR contact Dr. tonya thames taylor, Director of African American Studies at 610-436-2970 or LTaylor@wcupa.edu.

**It’s On Us Art Gala**

**March 28, 2018 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Philips Autograph Library**

Join us for the It’s On Us Art Gala brunch to kick of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This Art Gala will show off West Chester University student’s experiences or ideas about rape culture on West Chester’s campus through some form of art. The intent is to give students an outlet, raise awareness, and spark a campus dialogue. Contact womenscenter@wcupa.edu with questions. Hosted by the Center for Women and Gender Equity

**Trans Visibility Day**

March 31st is Trans Visibility Day. On this day, we honor and celebrate trans identities and experiences. Additionally, we strive to raise awareness and take action against the violence and discrimination that trans communities face. Contact LGBTQQA Services at lgbtqa@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147 for more details about programming and ways to be in solidarity.

**Brothers of Excellence Conference**

**March 31, 2018**

**Sykes Student Union**

The Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center in collaboration with Brother II Brother, and Black Men United present the 2nd Annual **Brothers of Excellence Conference**. The goal of this conference is to provide West Chester University multicultural male students with the knowledge, motivation, confidence, and skills necessary to make positive decisions regarding their personal, professional and academic growth. Join us for a day of workshops, seminars, and speakers that will help you develop leadership skills necessary to positively contribute to your own communities and personal experiences. More information to come! For more information contact Jheno Henao at jhenao@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273.

*Co-Sponsored by the Lawrence Dowdy Multicultural Center, Brother II Brother and Black Men United*

**APRIL**

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

**Peace Works**

**April 4, 2018 from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

**Sykes Student Union, Room 252**

April 4th marks the 50th anniversary of the 1968 assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We will commemorate the day with a host of events and interactive workshops centering in the interrelatedness of peace, community, scholarship, iconography, and film, so come at anytime between 10 AM-6 PM. For more information, contact Dr. tonya thames taylor, Director of African American Studies, at 610-436-2970 or LTaylor@wcupa.edu

**Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Interdisciplinary Conference & Fourth Annual Frederick Douglass Debate Society System-wide Tournament**

**April 5-6, 2018**

**Sykes Student Union, West Chester University**

Registration required via the Frederick Douglass Institute webpage. For more information, please contact FDI director, Dr. Chris Awuyah at CAwuyah@wcupa.edu. Sponsored by the State System Frederick Douglass Collaborative, WCU Frederick Douglass Institute, University Forum, and West Chester University

**Pay Equity Workshop**

**April 8, 2018 from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

**Sykes Student Union Ballroom C**

Join the Association for Women’s Empowerment, American Association for University Women and African American Studies in its third annual Pay Equity Workshop, where one can learn how to negotiate salary and develop/nurture brand. Prior registration required. For more information, contact Dr. tonya thames taylor, Director of African American Studies, at 610-436-2970 or LTaylor@wcupa.edu

**Diversity Week**

**April 9-13, 2018**

Join the Student Government Association for its annual Diversity Week celebration from April 9-13, 2018. Enjoy a week filled with a myriad of diversity awareness and educational activities and events coordinated by our very own student organizations. Sponsored by the WCU Student Government Association

**Frederick Douglass Institute Lunch (En)Counters Panel Discussion Police and Race: Questions and Answers**

**April 11, 2018 from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

**Sykes Student Union Theater**

Sponsored by WCU Frederick Douglass Institute

**Free Cece Screening**

**April 11, 2018 at 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

**Sykes Student Union Theater**

Join us for a screening of the documentary, **Free Cece**, and a conversation with the filmmaker. **Free Cece** tells the story of CeCe McDonald, a trans woman of color who was convicted of second-degree manslaughter after defending herself from a harasser. Sponsored by the Women’s and Gender Studies Department, Center for Women & Gender Equity, and Office of Wellness Promotion, LGBTQQA Services

**Remnants: A Public Reading with Dr. Rachel Elizabeth Harding**

**April 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm**

**Location TBD**

“Remnants integrates scholarship, memoir and creative writing. After Rosemarie died in 2004, her daughter, Rachel, created the text from instructions, recorded interviews, Rosemarie’s journal entries and previously published essays, and from a lifetime of kitchen-table conversations with her mother. Remnants is fundamentally about spirit, compassion and family – recognizing how these fed Rosemarie’s life as an activist and how they offer vital lessons and encouragement to readers of all kinds.”

*Sponsored by the Center for Peace & Conflict Studies and University Forum*

**Tamagawa University Taiko Drumming & Dance Troupe**

**April 11, 2018 at 7:30 PM**

Nearly 30 drummers and dancers from Tamagawa University, Japan, make a return appearance on our campus for an athletic and graceful performance that includes thundering Taiko drumming and Japanese folkoric dance. As one of the top-ranking taiko groups in Japan, their amazing stage show has received rave reviews from the New York Times and other media. With growing numbers of fans every year, they return to the U.S. to perform at the Cherry Blossom Festivals in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. This is a WCU Live event. Purchase tickets by calling 610-436-2266 or visit www.wcupatix.com
Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available on request by calling the Office of Social Equity at 610-436-2433.

Please make your needs known as soon as possible, but no less than one week in advance of the event, to allow time to make the necessary arrangements.

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