



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!

MLK, Jr. Brunch Celebration

January 25, 2018 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Sykes Student Union Ballrooms

Join the Frederick Douglass Society and West Chester University in commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tickets will be available at the SSI Ticket Office. For more information, visit <https://www.wcupa.edu/mlk/> or contact Mrs. Andria Young at AYoung@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3416. Sponsored by the Frederick Douglass Society MLK Brunch Committee and West Chester University

Spring Organization Fair

January 26, 2018 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Sykes Student Union

Want to learn about and meet with a variety of student organizations? The Student Organization Involvement Fair is coordinated by the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement to help student organizations advertise and recruit members for their rosters. The fair includes fraternities, sororities and all multicultural student organizations. Sponsored by Student Involvement & Leadership. For more information contact Jackie Aliotta at jaliotta@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2117. *Sponsored by the Office of Student Leadership & Involvement*

FEBRUARY

Black History Month

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*

LGBTQA 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 LGBTQA 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 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 16, 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 LGBTQA 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@wcupa.edu

wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147.
Sponsored by LGBTQA Services

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.pbcohe.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 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 LGBTQA & TRANS 101 "graduates" with the understanding and resources to be an advocate and ally to LGBTQA students, faculty, and staff. Allies are provided with a resource folder and a door sticker identifying them as an LGBTQA 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*

MARCH

Women's History Month

Women's Empowerment Project

March 1-31, 2018

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: <https://goo.gl/forms/ZqJUyrWmhu5kzmmwB2>. *Sponsored by the Center for Women and Gender Equity, Commission on the Status of Women, Larry Dowdy Multicultural Center*

#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 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 off 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 LGBTQA 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 Jairo 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 branding. 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, LGBTQA 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 folkloric 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

Spirituality and Social Justice featuring Rachel Harding & Gloria Smith

April 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Location TBD

Harding and Smith are co-directors of the Veterans of Hope Project, "a community-based, educational initiative on religion, culture and participatory democracy. We gather and share wisdom from elder activists about the role of spirituality and creativity in their work for racial, gender, economic and environmental justice" (<http://www.veteransofhope.org/about-us/>). The workshop is for students, faculty, staff and community members who are, "interested in the conjunctions of spirituality, history, healing and social change".

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

It's On Us Open Exhibit

April 19, 2018 from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Sykes Student Union, Ballrooms B/C

Join for the It's On Us Open Exhibit that will showcase the art of West Chester Students who created pieces about their experiences or ideas about rape culture on West Chester's campus. Hosted by the Center for Women and Gender Equity

International Student Essay Contest Award Ceremony

April 20, 2018 from 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Sykes Student Union Room 115

Come join the 2018 International Student

Essay Contest Winners as they receive their awards. Coffee and conversation will follow right after the award ceremony. For more information, please contact Mr. Charity Alinda at 610-436-3515 or calinda@wcupa.edu.

Sponsored by the Center for International Programs

Rams After Hours Drag Show

April 20, 2018 at 8:00 PM

Rams After Hours and SAGA will be collaborating to host the Annual Drag Show. A special guest host will come and WCU students can showcase their talents on stage at the event. Stay tuned for more info – information will be posted on the Rams After Hours Facebook page. Sponsored by Rams After Hours and SAGA

MAY

**Asian American Pacific
Islander Heritage Month**

May Day! "Why We Work."

May 1, 2018 from 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Sykes Student Union, Room 254

Interactive conversation about Communism and Socialism in American, particularly among African Americans. Dr. tonya thames taylor of African American Studies, at 610-436-2970 or LTaylor@wcupa.edu.

Lavender Graduation

May 3, 2018 from 4:00PM – 6:00PM

Sykes Student Union Ballroom B & C

Lavender Graduation celebrates graduating LGBTQA students and recognizes their many contributions and accomplishments. The ceremony also highlights the year's achievements for both the department and student organizations. Additionally, scholarships and recognition awards will be presented. For more information, please contact lgbtqa@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147.

Sponsored by LGBTQA Services

Kente Celebration Ceremony

May 11, 2018 at 7:00 PM

Hollinger Field House

Join us for our 26th Annual Kente Ceremony, an event which recognizes, acknowledges, emphasizes, and celebrates the educational achievement of multicultural graduates through a heritage tradition. More information to follow! For more information contact Tammy Hillard-Thompson at thillard-thompson@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273.

Global Awareness Society International (GASI) Conference

May 24-27, 2018 in Atlanta, GA

To learn more information about the Global Awareness Society International, please visit www.globalawarenesssociety.org. For more information about the conference, please contact GASI President, Mr. Hiram G. Martinez at hmartinez@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2433 ●



**DIVERSITY
SERIES**

SPRING 2018

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