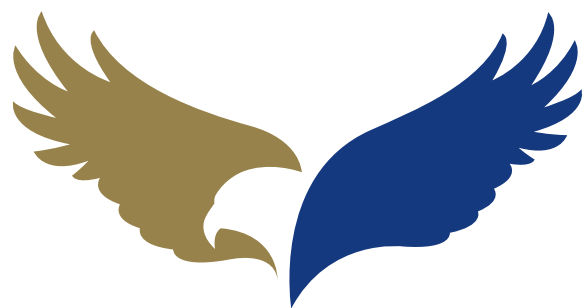




A Report on the **Presidential Commissions** **2017-2018**

Prepared by:
The Office of Social Equity
Amy Salsgiver, M.A.



CLARION
UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON **DISABILITIES**

Co-Chair Lynne Fleisher: lfleisher@clarion.edu
Co-Chair Erin Lewis: elewis@clarion.edu

Members:

Amy Love, Christina Hearst, John Massa, Stephen Gendler, MaryPat McCarthy, Young-Gyoung Kim, Juanice Vega, Jennifer May, Erin Neely, Kristina Dworek, G. Chad Thomas, Lori Taylor, Morgan Hevel, Latrobe Barnitz and James Maccaferri.

Accomplishments

SAFETY AWARENESS DAY

Presidential Commission on Disabilities sponsored a Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day featuring Ms. Deborah Casadei, PennDot Public Information Officer via a Facebook Live session for the Clarion Borough and Clarion University of Pennsylvania. The Commission conducted their annual safety walks, one in fall and one in spring, to identify areas that may be unsafe or to make recommendation to improve a certain area.

SPEAKERS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

The Commission successfully sponsored speakers for the spring 2018 semester: Ms. Stacy McMillan, Nationally Certified School Psychologist, and Ms. Heidi Underwood, Clarion alumnus and certified Speech Language Pathologist, to keynote, "TBI Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI): An Overview of Pre and Post Injury in Learning Environments." We hosted a panel comprised of students, head athletic trainer at CU, a military veteran, and other community members sharing their stories of how TBI has affected their lives and shared pathways to making a difference.

The Commission successfully sponsored speakers for the fall 2017 semester Ms. Stacy McMillan, Nationally Certified School Psychologist and Ms. Kathy O'Donnell to keynote, Executive Director of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Butler County to keynote, "Making Services Count – A Disabilities Discussion." We hosted a panel comprised of students sharing their stories of how their differing disabilities have affected their lives and shared pathways to making a difference.

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

Co-Chair Matthew Shaffer, mshaffer@clarion.edu
Co-Chair Kari Morris: kmorris@clarion.edu

Members:

Jason Hendershot, Tia Deshong, Corey Negley, Andrew Keth, Jim McGee, Elsa Wise, Shelia Kazar, Mariah Treiber, Cristin Ketley, Ron Radaker, Taylor Callahan and Lexis Twentier



Alyssa Snyder, student; Naomi Bell O'Neil, faculty; Baron Snyder, student; Jada Coppage, student. Photos by G. Chad Thomas.

Accomplishments

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

On October 17, 2017, the Commission sponsored Domestic Violence and Abuse Awareness Day (DVAA). This event included a panel discussion led by Alyssa Snyder, student, with representatives from the Clarion University Police, Clarion County SAFE, Venango County PPC Violence Free Network and Jefferson County Crossroads at Community Action. Additionally there was a gallery showing with photography and a Resource Hour. This event was co-sponsored by the Presidential Commission on Sexual Harassment, The DVAA Day Planning Committee and the Office of Social Equity. The photos for this event were taken by G. Chad Thomas. The models were Clarion University students and employees. The models were painted to represent three common types of abuse: physical (red), emotional (blue) and financial (green).



Denim Day: Interim President Pete Fackler. Photo by Amy Salsgiver.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH (SAAM)

During April 2018, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), various events were held. The SAAM events were co-sponsored by the Presidential Commission on Sexual Harassment, Allies, BSN Club, Interhall, Passages and SAFE.

Day of Action was held on April 3. This event included tabling with tea available to discuss consent, handing out teal and white ribbons to represent SAAM, and providing adult coloring pages that represented the theme of Embrace Your Voice and support for survivors.

Tabling was done in Gemmell, the Carlson Library, Valley View and Campus View Suites and the Suites on Main North and South. Tabling was also done on April 5 in Gemmell prior to the Drag Show and also included tea, ribbons and adult coloring pages.



Denim Day: Amy Salsgiver, Director of Social Equity and Emily Tyson, student. Photo by Emily Tyson.

The final event was Wear Denim Day which was held on April 25. Tabling in Gemmell, the Carlson Library, Valley View and Campus View Suites and the Suites on Main North and South included tea, ribbons, and adult coloring pages. Campus employees and students were encouraged to wear denim and post to social media with the hashtag #CUDENIMDAY.

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN

Co-Chair Young Kim: ykim@clarion.edu
Co-Chair Jane Walsh: jwalsh@clarion.edu

Members:

Jamie L. Phillips, Kathleen McIntyre, Laurie Pierce, Laurie Bladen, Maria Jessica Crespo, Cate Stiller, Amy Love, Jeffrey Diamond, Sandra R. Trejos, Naomi O’Neil, Janet K. Knepper, Carol BrennanCaplan, Peggy Apple, Briana Steele, Alexis White, Tia DeShong and Tina Horner

Accomplishments

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY LUNCHEON

Presidential Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) successfully hosted the Second Annual International Women’s Day luncheon in cooperation with Office of International Program (OIP). Students and employees gathered in the OIP to enjoy international cuisine prepared by Chartwells and members of the Commission. The event is a global celebration of the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

To celebrate Women’s History Month, which is recognized in March, the PCSW members profiled women who contributed at any level changing many people’s lives and emailed all Clarion University members. Several members of the Commission wrote the pieces and chose to highlight the following local, national and international individuals from the past to the present: Kim Schwabenbauer, Sultan Kaikhusrau Jahan - Begum of Bhopal (1858 - 1930), Betty Griffith, Katherine Wilson Sheppard, Barbara Morgan Harvey, Philippa Foot and Vonnie Michali. Information on these extraordinary women is an email search away!

The PCSW cosponsored nonfiction movie *Hidden Figures* featuring three brilliant African-American women at NASA. After the movie, Dr. Kathleen McIntyre, facilitated a short discussion on the various themes of race and sex.

FOOD CHAINS

Katie McIntyre, Treasurer, and Jane Walsh, Co-Chair hosted a pizza party in the Women and Gender Studies office for the Coalition of Immokalee Workers from Florida. Nely Rodriguez, a farmworker leader of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, was present to be the CIW representative on campus. She, along with Clarion alum and current CIW intern, Natalia Naranjo and Alliance for Fair Food staff member, Yaissy Solis, provided classroom visits and facilitating a pre-/post-film discussion of the film *Food Chains*, which was shown in the Clarion University Theatre. The CIW just launched a “Harvest without Violence” campaign to highlight the need to end sexual violence against women in the fields. This pizza party was a time to informally chat with Nely, Natalia, and Yaissy about these important topics.



PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON LGBT CONCERNS

Co-Chair Ronald Radaker: rradaker@clarion.edu
Co-Chair Dana Bearer: dbearer@clarion.edu

Members:

Robert Levy, Mark Lepore, Ellen Foster, Todd Spaulding, Shawn Hoke, Scott Courtney, Melissa Brydon, Corey Negley, Jana Ashley, William Naugle, Jessica Thomas, Kurt Regester, Morgan Woodin, Sierra Nicholes and Elizabeth Pelesko

Accomplishments

During the 2017-18 academic year the commission participated in the following benchmarks:

- Provided opportunities for meaningful dialogue through the Safe Zone Allie Training Workshop for faculty and staff.
- Supported ALLIES Club Drag Show Event.
- Co-coordinated EquityEgg Scavenger Hunt.
- Participated in the Domestic Violence and Awareness Event.
- Hosted the Second Annual Lavender Graduation.

SAFE ZONE ALLY TRAINING

The Commission provided three Safe Zone Ally trainings throughout the academic year which resulted in all three locations, Clarion Campus, Venango Campus and Pittsburgh Site, now having a Safe Zone Ally trained office available to university students and staff. Hosted on October 19, October 20 and November 17, the trainings were attended by 31 campus employees.

These trainings provided visibility to the university's commitment to diversity by creating a greater awareness of diversity, equity and inclusion. Further, these trainings engaged the campus community in dialogue based on the program content and topic discussions.



*ALLIES Drag Show co-hosts
Morgan Woodin and Scott Courtney.*



Equity Eggs created by Billiana Kovacs, student.

CLARION UNIVERSITY EQUITY EGG HUNT

The Commission co-coordinated the Social Media Clarion University Equity Egg Hunt for Clarion Campus and Venango Campus and the Clarion Online Hidden Picture Equity Egg contests. The on-campus events consisted of painted rocks with messages of equity, diversity and inclusion which were hidden on Clarion Campus Fall 2017

and on Venango Campus Spring 2018. The Hidden Picture contest was held Fall 2017. Participants were encouraged to find the eggs, post a picture to social media with hashtag and then re-hide the egg (on-campus participants only.) Those who found the eggs were entered into a drawing and three winners were selected for each contest.



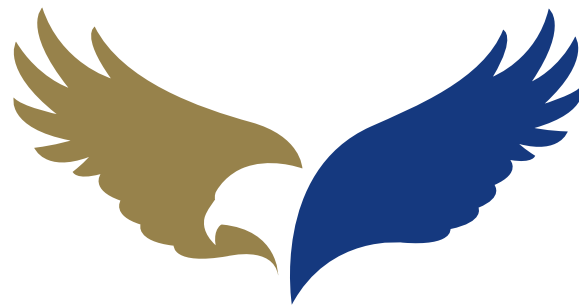
Sidney Kohute, student.

LAVENDER GRADUATION

The Commission also hosted the Second Annual Lavender Graduation. This year 15 graduates participated in the event which was held in the Community Room at Reinhard Villages. The Keynote Speaker was Tyler Titus who is the first openly transgender male to be elected to office in Pennsylvania. Interim Chancellor, Karen Whitney, assisted Amy Salsgiver, Director of Social Equity, in presenting the cords and pins for the ceremony. This important event allows for greater understanding and appreciation for diversity and inclusion.



*Hidden Picture,
created by Billiana Kovacs, student.*



CLARION UNIVERSITY

It is the policy of Clarion University of Pennsylvania that there shall be equal opportunity in all of its educational programs, services, and benefits, and there shall be no discrimination with regard to a student's or prospective student's gender, gender identity, race or color, ethnicity, national origin or ancestry, age, mental or physical disability, religion or creed, genetic information, affectional or sexual orientation, veteran status, or other classifications that are protected under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other pertinent state and federal laws and regulations. Direct inquiries to the Title IX Coordinator, Clarion University of Pennsylvania, 103 Carrier Administration Building, sfenske@clarion.edu or phone 814-393-2351, or the Director of Social Equity, 210 Carrier Administration Building 16214-1232; Email asalsgiver@clarion.edu or phone 814-393-2109. Inquiries may also be directed to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201.