Dear Clarion University family and friends,

As we finish up another semester at Clarion, I want to share the progress we have made toward our shared commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.

In fall 2018, we had the annual Domestic Violence and Abuse Awareness Day, sponsored by the Presidential Commission on Sexual Harassment and the Office of Social Equity. Representatives from the tri-county area provided resources to students and staff, and the campus community submitted poetry related to domestic violence. The poems were tragic, but beautiful.

Last spring was our Third Annual Lavender graduation to acknowledge students who identify as LGBT+ and/or allies. We also provided Safe Zone training to employees and were able to add more than 20 new offices to our current list.

We created the Presidential Commission on Racial Equity, which provided vast resources and sponsored a talk by Dr. Joe Harmon during Holocaust Remembrance Week. Social Equity worked with the Remembrance Committee to show “Who Will Write Our History.”

Social Equity also partnered with The Presidential Commission on the Status of Women for the first Women in History Door Contest. Offices from all over campus participated, and we were blown away by the creativity!

Together, we promote an environment of civility and common understanding. Through that work, Clarion University is truly a wonderful place to live, learn and grow!

Buildings with single use/all gender restrooms

Becht Hall
Becker Hall
Campus View Suites*
Carrier Administration Building
Eagle Commons Dining Facility**
Gemmell Student Complex
Harvey Hall
Marwick-Boyd Fine Arts Center
McEntire Maintenance Building
Speech and Hearing Clinic
Suites on Main North
Tippin Gymnasium
Valley View Suites*

ALL-GENDER RESTROOMS

Clarion University has designated all-gender restrooms in 11 buildings on the Clarion campus and in one building on the Venango campus. Other all-gender facilities will be added as buildings are scheduled to be renovated.

All-gender restrooms are not specific to transgender people. She said they are an option for anyone wanting privacy or for a parent with a child.

* Residents only; Building not open to public
** Access limited to customers
CU Serve has been an integral part of the student life at the Venango Campus since the early 2000s. Though for most of the club’s existence members have been primarily students from Venango Campus, membership now includes students from the Clarion campus.

The purpose of CU Serve is to connect and engage students through fellowship and service. Members are devoted to the principle of volunteer service, and through these learning experiences they are provided with opportunities to grow in their understanding of the world.

CU Serve selects unique service projects with which students can volunteer. They have built ramps to make buildings handicap accessible, organized fundraisers, and collaborated with Mustard Seed Missions of Venango County to renovate a housing center in Franklin.

Each spring break, CU Serve completes a large service project in another part of the country. They have traveled to Mississippi, Georgia and, most recently, New Orleans, where they volunteered at food pantries, nursing homes and victim shelters.

Most importantly, CU Serve members strive to be examples for their peers. Their attitude gives hope to a world that is often pessimistic about young people.

CU Serve students excel in the classroom and are active in a wide variety of campus activities and outside organizations. They exemplify the qualities of equity, social justice, civility, fairness, and compassion.

In 2012, for example, Shulamit Basktacky, who suffered in the Holocaust as a child, shared her story. Born in 1941 in Vilnius, Lithuania, she was one of the “Hidden Children” of the Holocaust, hidden and saved by non-Jews. Along with Ms. Basktacky’s talk, the Cantor of B’nai Abraham Synagogue sang songs that were composed during the Holocaust. Gendler’s astute vision, sensitivity, and insight has inspired countless such events, bringing to Clarion experts ranging from the academic to the artistic, including Holocaust survivors to share their stories. Often, student groups collaborate with the Holocaust Remembrance Committee by providing funding to support speakers, and faculty connect a portion of their instructional time to the particular Holocaust-related topics the visitors present.

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