Welcome to Academic Year 19-20

Welcome back to another exciting year on the Clarion University, Venango, West Penn and Somerset Campus’! Amy and I are very excited for this new year! We are planning on providing more support to our Safe Zone Members and establish an Advisory Board for Safe Zone.

The idea of an Advisory Board is to help us stay true to our mission and assist us on maintaining a diverse, inclusive, and civil environment in our Safe Spaces. The Advisory Board will be made up of 5 existing Safe Zone Members to help us engage with our mission and to advise on best practices/policies. Feel free to nominate yourself or nominate someone else on the current Safe Zone roster for an Advisory position. Please just send an email to me at rradaker@clarion.edu with SAFE ZONE ADVISORY BOARD NOMINEE in the subject line by October 14th.

"If you are always trying to be normal you will never know how amazing you can be. “

-Maya Angelou
The Campus Pride Index is a premier LGBTQ National Benchmarking tool for colleges and universities to create safer, more inclusive campus communities. The free online tool allows prospective students, families/parents and those interested in higher education to search a database of LGBTQ friendly campuses.

Follow the link to learn more about the Campus Pride Index www.campusprideindex.org/

We are currently a 4 out of 5 stars! We hope that we can achieve a 5 star rating soon.

“To express yourself as you are is the most important thing.” – Shunryu Suzuki

**Days of Celebration**

**September 23rd**
- Celebrate Bisexuality Day

**October**
- U.S. LGBT History Month
- 8th – International Lesbian Day
- 11th – National Coming Out Day (paint the Apple)
- 17th – International Pronoun Day
- 19th – Spirit Day (wear purple to stand with LGBTQ youth and speak out against LGBTQ bullying)
- 26th – Intersex Awareness Day

**Presidential Commission on LGBT+ Concerns**

**Become a member of a presidential commission!**

The Presidential Commission on LGBT+ Concerns is to ensure and strengthen a visible, safe, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming community for students and employees of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions at Clarion University through education, advocacy, assessment, community engagement and activism. Please review some of our greatest Points of Pride for the 2016-17 year.

For more information on the Presidential Commissions, please contact the Social Equity Office at:

The Office of Social Equity
210 Carrier Administration Building
Clarion, Pa. 16214
Telephone: (814) 393-2109
Fax: (814) 393-1618

Co-Chairs: Robert Levy, ext. 2285, and Corey Negley, ext. 2355
In the News:

Last August Governor Tom Wolf established an Executive Order to establish a Commission on LGBTQ Affairs. Its goal is to advise the Governor and state agencies regarding policies, programs, and legislation that impact LGBTQ communities and to serve as a resourceful intermediary between LGBTQ communities and state government. It is composed of appointed commissioners from across the Commonwealth, each acting as a representative and advocate for LGBTQ communities.

For more information on the Executive Order please follow the link; https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/executive-order-2018-06-pennsylvania-

“And at last you’ll know with surpassing certainty that only one thing is more frightening than speaking your truth. And that is not speaking.” --Audre Lorde

HELPFUL TERM:

Sex:: refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that define men (males) and women (females).

Gender: refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that society considers appropriate for men (masculine) and women (feminine).

Gender Identity: is the internal sense of gender which is not visible to others. One’s gender identity may or may not align with one’s assigned sex at birth.

Sexual Orientation: refers to whom one is sexually attracted. Gender identity and sexual orientation may affect one another but they are not the same.

Trans or Transgender: is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity or expression does not match the gender they were assigned at birth.

Cisgender (Cis): is someone whose gender identity matched the gender assigned at birth.
100% Free – Help is just a touch away.

**Who:** The Just In Case app is for students, family, friends, faculty, and staff.

**What:** The Just in Case app makes it easy to provide potentially life-saving information in times of a mental health crisis, drug and alcohol incidents, relationship issues, and behavioral health concerns.

**How:** Just download the user-friendly app by going to this short link, or downloading the app from iTunes app store or Google Play.

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**Nondiscrimination Statement**

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.