

# GSS General Assembly Meeting

December 1st, 2021

## Agenda

- Final GA of the Fall!
- Today's Speaker: Chris Carter
- Evolving Concern Survey Pilot and Resources
- Winter Photo Contest
- End of Semester Check-In
- Announcements
- Open Floor

## Speaker: Chris Carter



**Chris Carter**

Associate Vice President for  
Government Relations

[ccc317@lehigh.edu](mailto:ccc317@lehigh.edu)

610-758-5424

- Carter's office presents to government officials the interests of Lehigh community. They bring in the legislative force to further the interests of the community in higher education policy, student financial aid, immigration and international students affairs, campus safety issues, Title IX and sexual assault cases.
- Current bills that Carter's office is looking over are related to innovation and competitiveness issues in graduate studies, how certain fields are funded at federal level and industry, NSF graduate students mental health bill, an expansion of STEM mentorship program which will be an opportunity for more mentorship across the country.

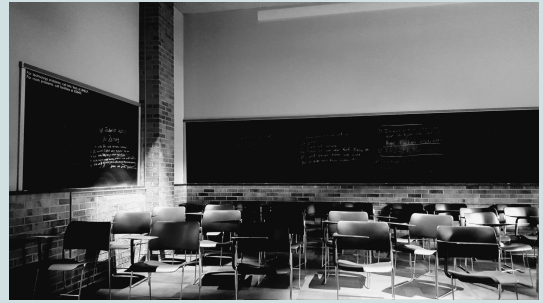
## Launching Over Winter Break...

- First iteration of the Resource Series (this is an evolving project, but expect it to roll out before the start of the Spring Semester)
- Evolving Concern Survey
  - Will launch **shortly!** [In the construction phase → pilot phase]
  - This will primarily be **broad** and will have sub-sections regarding pressing issues as they arise
  - Current topics you'd like to see included?
- **CLUBS:** Expect us to set up a meeting with a club representative to review the fiscal governance either over Winter Break or at the start of the Spring semester

- Topics that students would see included in the evolving Concern Survey:
  - Food Security
  - Healthcare for dependents
  - Adequate funding and cost of living analysis for graduate students
  - Parking and transportation
  - Generally health insurance and its cost
  - Childcare support
  - Accessibility issues

## Winter Photo Contest

- Stay tuned for our winter photo contest!
- We will post several categories (e.g., Lehigh Around the World)
- We will select winners. Prizes will be awarded for the winner of each category & for best overall
- Pictures will be due at the beginning of the Spring semester



## End of Semester Check-in

- As the fall semester wraps up, it's important to check in regarding any developing or previously existing challenges grads are facing.
- Soliciting feedback:
  - What concerns were brought to light this semester?
  - Do you have any concerns as we transition to the spring?

- From the mid-survey, students mentioned needing more social life/stress-relief, shorter messaging from administration.
- Students reported that unvaccinated staff members who are not granted exemption are continuing to work on campus which is raising concerns for the students and putting them at risk. Kathleen will look into this to make sure the information relayed is correct and acted upon.
- Joan will take up with CRT regarding a potential Covid booster clinic on campus, their plans for entry/exit testing for Spring semester and Isolation protocol. She will ask clarification on if students need to upload the booster vaccination information to the HWC portal.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

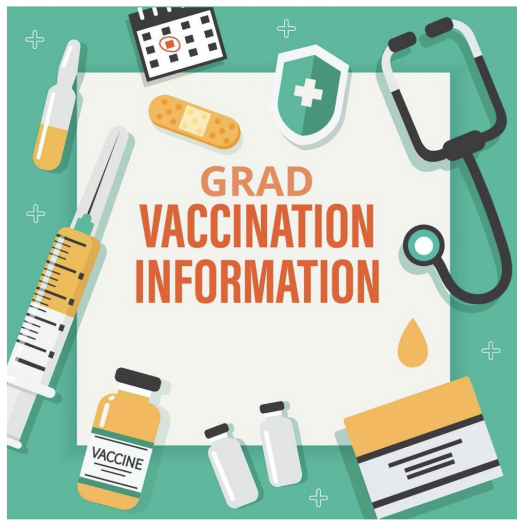
## University Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity Strategic Plan

- Any **concerns, suggestions, comments, or praises** about what the Strategic Plan includes or does not include? This could be anything from grammar and language to specific content and initiatives named across all sections.
- How do you see your individual needs as a graduate student fitting into the Strategic Plan? Do you feel represented?
- Are there any goals of the Expanding Student Access and Support section that should be considered a priority to address for graduate students? Are there any additional goals you would add?
- **Email Princess Neely (pon216) or Natania Lipp (nsl319) with remarks or submit about this or other DI&E concerns with our Anonymous Google Form!**

Scan for Anonymous  
Google Form







The University has decided that a COVID vaccine will be required this fall for all Lehigh undergraduate and graduate students participating in on-campus programs and activities. More information can be found [here](#).

More information can be found here:

[-https://coronavirus.lehigh.edu/](https://coronavirus.lehigh.edu/)

-COVID-19 Policies for Graduate Students: [all COVID-19 Guidelines here](#).

# Writing Resources

## Keep your writing momentum going!



**Join GWS virtually each Monday from 4pm-6pm and Friday from 2pm-4pm and on one Saturday each month from 9am-5pm. 📝**

Links to Zoom rooms and registrations can be found on the events web page at [go.lehigh.edu/gradwritingevents](https://go.lehigh.edu/gradwritingevents)

 *Grad  
Guidance*



## Overcoming Writer's Block featuring:

Yvonne Lee, Ph.D.  
Director of Graduate Writing  
Graduate Education & Life

*career ready = life ready*  
Center for Career & Professional Development

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3NfjrGAZ6Y>

# Career Development Resources



**National Center for Faculty  
Development and Diversity**

Free for Lehigh  
Students

**Grads, do you  
need help with  
your writing,  
time management,  
productivity?**

- Grad student On-line resources
- Grad student Membership is free for Lehigh students
- Programs include Dissertation Success, a 12 week program to get you writing, impostor syndrome, publishing perils, writer's block, and mentoring among many others.

<https://goo.gl/6pGfzi>

Graduate Life Office - [gradlife@lehigh.edu](mailto:gradlife@lehigh.edu)



# Educational Talks/Conferences

Pride Center, Center for Gender Equity,  
& DI&E Committee



THE PRIDE CENTER FOR  
SEXUAL ORIENTATION &  
GENDER DIVERSITY



**IT'S A QUEER WORLD**

## FALL 2021

### QUEER MORNING BLESSING

**MON & FRI MORNINGS**  
8:30AM-8:45AM  
IN PERSON IN OUR LOUNGE UC212  
& VIRTUALLY AT  
[GO.LEHIGH.EDU/VIRTUALPRIDECENTERLOUNGE](http://GO.LEHIGH.EDU/VIRTUALPRIDECENTERLOUNGE)

### LUNCH & LEARNS

**OCT. 5 (5X10)**  
**NOV. 9**  
12:30-1:30PM IN PERSON - UC8025 OR  
IN OUR VIRTUAL LOUNGE AT  
[GO.LEHIGH.EDU/VIRTUALPRIDECENTERLOUNGE](http://GO.LEHIGH.EDU/VIRTUALPRIDECENTERLOUNGE)

### FIERCE FILM

### FRIDAYS

**SEPT. 17 (5X10)**  
**OCT. 15 (5X10)**  
**NOV. 19**  
2:00-4:00PM IN PERSON - UC8025 OR  
IN OUR VIRTUAL LOUNGE AT  
[GO.LEHIGH.EDU/VIRTUALPRIDECENTERLOUNGE](http://GO.LEHIGH.EDU/VIRTUALPRIDECENTERLOUNGE)

### LUALLY SESSION

**NOV. 17 - SUPPORTING TRANS PEOPLE**  
12:00PM-1:30PM HYBRID SESSION - IN UC8025  
& OUR VIRTUAL LOUNGE  
REGISTER AT [GO.LEHIGH.EDU/LUALLY](http://GO.LEHIGH.EDU/LUALLY)

### MENTAL HEALTH MONDAYS

**SEPT. 27 - ATTACCA  
QUARTET (5X10)**  
**DEC. 6 - THERAPY DOG**  
2:00-3:00PM UC FLAG POLE

**QUESTIONS? WANT MORE INFO?**  
**EMAIL US AT [PRIDECENTER@LEHIGH.EDU](mailto:PRIDECENTER@LEHIGH.EDU)**

The Pride Center is committed to making each and every one of our programs and initiatives accessible and inclusive. If you are planning to attend a program and have any accessibility needs or desires, please contact Mel Kitchen at [mbk411@lehigh.edu](mailto:mbk411@lehigh.edu) in advance of the program for coordination.

[pridecenter@lehigh.edu](mailto:pridecenter@lehigh.edu)

The pride center is committed to making each event and every one of our programs and initiatives accessible and inclusive. If you are planning to attend a program and have any accessibility needs or desires, please contact Mel Kitchen at [mbk411@lehigh.edu](mailto:mbk411@lehigh.edu) in advance of the program for coordination.

The pride Center  
**QUEER**  
SPIRITUALITY

*nourish your heart*  
*affirm*  
*acknowledge*  
*begin*  
*awaken*  
*build community*

**QMB  
Queer  
Morning  
Blessing**

To our queer community members and allies...what sustains and fulfills your heart? Let's begin and end our week together as we center ourselves in the shared knowing that we do this life best when we create space for gratitude and compassion.

Open to students, staff & faculty in person in our lounge UC212 and virtually at: [go.lehigh.edu/virtualpridecenterlounge](https://go.lehigh.edu/virtualpridecenterlounge)

**8:30am-8:45am**  
**Mon & Fri**

facilitated by Dom Ocampo, Mel Kitchen, Mark Wonsidler & Rabbi Steve Nathan

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## Center for Gender Equity



- [Click here for the latest virtual events and news!](#)

# Graduate Life Office



# Reimbursement

**Grads! Do you need a reimbursement from the Graduate Student Senate travel grants, your graduate club OR your department?**

Find the details in the link below:

<https://grad.lehigh.edu/financial-support/reimbursement>



**FREE**

# *Grad Student Cookie and Cocoa Hour*

*Two locations!*  
*Packer House Porch 2-3pm*  
*Jacocca Siegel Lobby 3:30-4:30*

Wednesday  
**Dec 8**

  
**GIVEAWAY**

Brought to you by the Graduate Life Office and Auxillary Services

Brought to you by: University Business Services, LU Bookstore, Dining Services, Johnny's Bagels, and The Cup



Farrington Square

LIGHT UP

NIGHT

Thursday, December 2  
4:30 - 6:00 pm



Cocoa + Cookies

Ornament Decorating

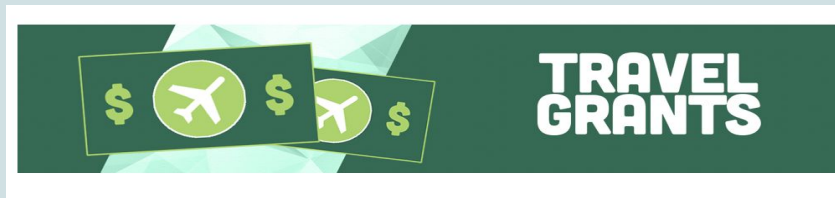
Give-aways

Holiday Music

Farrington Square lighting at 5:15 pm

# Funding Opportunities





Greetings from the Graduate Student Senate!

In an effort to increase efficiency and reduce paper waste, the GSS Travel Grant application process is now electronic. Revised applications are available as a **PDF form (here)** to be completed electronically and submitted via email to [GSSTravelGrants@lehigh.edu](mailto:GSSTravelGrants@lehigh.edu).

Please see our website to access the application and instructions for the new submission process: <https://gradlife.web.lehigh.edu/node/170>.

Any questions should be directed to the GSS Travel Grant Officer at [GSSTravelGrants@lehigh.edu](mailto:GSSTravelGrants@lehigh.edu). Thank you for your help in making this transition!

**Funding Opportunity:  
The Sustainable Initiative Grant**

Grants of up to \$2,000 are available to Lehigh students, faculty, and staff!

The Sustainable Initiative Grant is available to members of the Lehigh community for projects that contribute to sustainability on Lehigh's campus and the surrounding area.

You can find more information about how to submit an application at:

<https://sustainability.lehigh.edu/sig>

## Other Graduate Resources & Information

# STITCHING CIRCLE

SUPPLIES  
AVAILABLE

Bring any kind of creative project and join us!  
Wednesdays @ 7:00pm EST  
In the CGE Lounge (CUC c207) or via Zoom.  
Register at [go.lehigh.edu/stitch](http://go.lehigh.edu/stitch)



 LEHIGH  
UNIVERSITY



We want all our events to include everyone.  
Contact Rita at [rmj207@lehigh.edu](mailto:rmj207@lehigh.edu) with requests.

OPEN FLOOR

**GSS Meetings**  
**Graduate Student Senate Meetings**



**Fall 2021 General Assembly Meeting dates**

Every other Wednesday  
12:10-1:00pm

September 1st  
September 15th  
September 29th  
October 13th  
October 27th  
November 10th  
December 1st

When we can meet in person, a pizza lunch is included at every meeting.