

Q tips

The Queer
Community
Newsletter of Tufts
University

September 2004

Vol. 10 Issue 1

**The
Lesbian
Gay
Bisexual
Transgender
Center**

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Welcome Class of 2008 & Returning Students

The LGBT Center supports Tufts students, faculty, and staff by providing programs for and about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their allies. Drop by any time we're open to talk to a student staff member, watch a video in our TV room, check out materials from our library, study, chat, or use our computers. You can also call or email to make an appointment to talk to our director, Dona Yarbrough, or go to her office hours (see page 2). In addition to our many regular discussion groups and meetings (see page 3), we have a lot of exciting academic and social events planned for this year, including a Queer Scholars Series that will bring cutting-edge queer studies professors to Tufts. If you don't see the kind of programming you want, let us know and we'll help you plan something that works for you. We are located in Bolles House (along with the Latino Center) on College Ave. between Professors Row and Talbot Ave.

What about Straight People?

Are straight people allowed to come to the LGBT Center? YES!!!! We welcome everyone — straight people, queer people, questioning people, i-hate-labels people — it doesn't matter. But we particularly want to encourage our many straight allies to participate in LGBT Center events. Why? Because our programs are fun, entertaining, and educational. Drop by the Center to learn about the cutting-edge field of queer studies, do research on gender and sexuality topics, experience LGBT culture, find out how to be a super ally, have great conversations, eat great food, watch great movies — and much, much more. Plus, we need you to help us create a safe and supportive community at Tufts and beyond. Contact us to find out how you can get involved. We make no assumptions about who comes in, so don't worry about it! (Besides, some of our best friends are straight . . .) Look inside this newsletter for upcoming events!

September Events

For the latest information, check out
<http://ase.tufts.edu/lgbt/calendar>

LGBT Center Open House, Wed, Sept. 1

Students, parents, faculty, and staff are invited for refreshments and a tour of the center. Meet the Center Director, Dona Yarbrough, and members of the student staff. 3-5 PM LGBT Center

\$1000 Welcome Dinner, Tues, Sept. 7

The food is cheap, but the \$1000 prize is fabulous! LGBT and ally students are invited to meet new friends, hug old ones, and find out what the all the hoopla is about! 7 PM, LGBT Center.

Faculty & Staff Welcome Reception, Wed, Sept. 8

All faculty and staff are invited to this wine and cheese reception, where we'll toast our colleagues who were legally married over the summer! 4:30-6:30 PM, LGBT Center

First-Year Family Night, Thurs, Sept. 9

LGBT and ally first-years only! Meet at the center for ice cream and a movie. 8:30 PM, LGBT Center

TTLGBC Forum, Mon, Sept. 13

Let everyone know what YOU want this year's TT to be! 9:PM, Barnum 104

Grad Student Wine and Cheese, Tues, Sept. 14

Come meet other queer & ally grads at this always-fun reception! 6-8 PM, LGBT Center

TT General Interest Meeting, Mon, Sept. 20

Everyone who's anyone comes to this meeting! Learn more about TTLGBC on the next page. 9 PM, Eaton 202

Rainbow House Barbeque, Thurs, Sept. 23

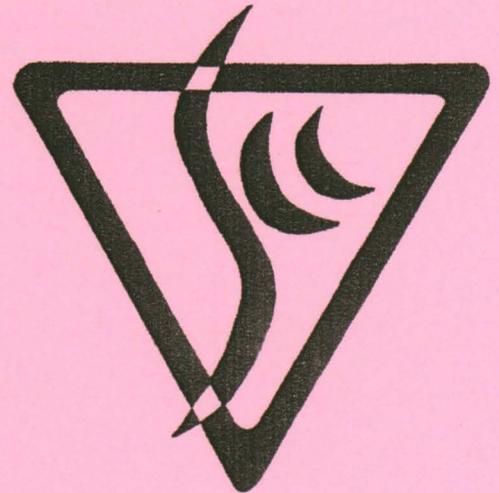
For undergrad and grad students, faculty and staff — Everyone comes to this annual event! 7 PM, on the lawn at Hillside Residence Hall

LGBT & Ally Fac-Staff Lunch, Tues, Sept 28

All LGBT and ally faculty and staff are welcome.
 Noon—1 PM, LGBT Center

Want to Make Your College Safe? Safe Colleges Conference

Every spring, hundreds of queer and straight ally college students head for Tufts University for our annual Safe Colleges Conference. Being part of the planning committee is a great way to meet people AND do something important for LGBT students all over New England. The conference features nationally-known speakers; inspirational, informative, and fun workshops; and a coffeehouse and dance. To be part of the plan (the planning committee, that is) email safecolleges@tufts.edu, or call Conference Coordinator Sarah Sahn at 617-627-3771.



Ask a Queer Professional

Questioning your sexuality?
 Coming out? Doing research on LGBT or queer issues? LGBT Center director Dona Yarbrough holds **confidential office hours** on Wednesdays from 12-2 PM, Campus Center Room 218, starting September 8.

No appointment necessary!

Student LGBT Community Groups

Tufts Transgender, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Collective

Hey Undergraduates!

Welcome back (and welcome to new freshmen)! Hope you all had fabulous summers and are excited for the new school year.

TTLGBC (TT) stands for Tufts Transgender, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Collective. We are a student organization, and we provide a wonderful opportunity for queer students, questioning students, and their allies to come together and have discussions. TT meets every Monday night at 9:30 p.m. This year, TT's co-coordinators (co-cos) are excited to revamp TT a bit to make it fit the needs of the queer, questioning, and ally community even more. To contribute your ideas, come to our Community Forum on Monday, September 13, 9:30 p.m. If you have suggestions but can't make the forum, please feel free to contact Gabe Blanco (Gabriel.Blanco@tufts.edu), Laura Janowitch (Laura.Janowitch@tufts.edu), or Allie Bohm (Allison.Bohm@tufts.edu).

Our first regular meeting, the General Interest Meeting that will introduce (or reintroduce) you to TT, will be Monday, September 20, at (you guessed it) 9:30 p.m. The location of both the forum and the General Interest Meeting are To Be Announced, so check the LGBT Center calendar for updates: ase.tufts.edu/lgbt/calendar.

We hope to see you on Monday nights!

Sincerely,

The Co-Cos (Gabe, Laura, and Allie)

Women's Group

Calling all queer women! Women's Group has been an inspirational, fun, and lively group in years past, and we're expecting the same for this year! If you'd like to meet other LBT and queer women and talk about the things that are on your mind, this is the group for you. Conversations range from the very frivolous to the more serious. Women's Group meets every Friday at 2 p.m. in the LGBT Center. First meeting is September 10!

Men's Group

Yeah, yeah, everyone says men can't group, but last year we had record-breaking attendance! This group is an opportunity not only to meet other GBT and queer men on campus but also to take the conversation in whatever direction appeals to you. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, so come to the LGBT Center every Friday at 3:30 p.m. First meeting is September 10!

QSOCA: Queer Students of Color and Allies

Interested in joining a weekly conversation and support group with other LGBTQ (or whatever label you prefer) students of color and their allies? While especially for queer students of color, this group is also for students of all races, ethnicities, genders, and sexualities who want to explore what being a non-heterosexual person of color is about personally, culturally, and politically. Check the LGBT Center web calendar to find out when the first meeting will be, or email undergrad co-facilitator Rahel Menghestab at rahel.menghestab@tufts.edu.

TEAM



Team Q is a speakers bureau composed of Tufts LGBT students and straight allies who speak to campus groups, classes, local area high schools, religious organizations, and anyone else who requests us! Team Q members tell their personal stories and answer questions in order to dispel stereotypes and provide positive representations of the queer community. Members are trained at our awesome annual retreat in Provincetown (a.k.a. THE queer beach resort in Mass.), which will be October 8-10. Want to work on your public speaking skills, learn more about the LGBT community, AND make the world a better place?

Join Team Q! Call the LGBT Center or email Laura at laura.janowitch@tufts.edu for more info, or to request Team Q for your organization or class.

The Rainbow House

One of many special interest housing units at Tufts, the Rainbow House is a safe housing space for undergraduate LGBT people and straight allies. We chose the rainbow as our symbol to represent our diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, religion, and of course, sexual orientation. Located in the Hillside 160s, the house is a cornerstone of queer social life at Tufts, hosting community dinners, social nights, and parties like our (in)famous annual Halloween Party. Come to our **Annual Barbeque on Thursday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m.**, on the lawn at Hillside for free food and fabulous company!

JQUEST: Jewish and Queer Students @ Tufts

Sponsored by Tufts Hillel, JQUEST welcomes all students with an interest in learning how Jewish and Queer identities intersect. In conjunction with the LGBT Center, we've got a ton of fantastic events lined up for this semester! Email Matthew.Pohl@tufts.edu for more info.

GLBT Fletcher Student Group

This group raises awareness of sexual and gender minority issues both in the field of international relations and at the Fletcher School. The group is open to all Fletcher LGBT students and their supporters. Contact Everett Peachey (F'05) at everett.peachey@tufts.edu for more information.

LGBT Faculty-Staff Caucus

The Faculty-Staff Caucus was instrumental in gaining domestic partner benefits for Tufts employees and in starting the LGBT Center, but we don't plan to stop there! This group is for LGBT and **Ally Faculty and Staff** who are interested in queer issues and/or in serving as role models and mentors for LGBT students. Please come to our lunch on Tuesday, September 28, noon, at the LGBT Center for more information!

Sign Me Up!

The LGBT center helps people stay in touch with different listservs for Tufts undergraduates, graduate students, alumni, and faculty and staff. In addition, we have an announcements listserv that promises to send you **ONLY ONE** email a week to tell you about upcoming LGBT events. Sign up at <http://ase.tufts.edu/lgbt/listserv.html>.