Office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay & Transgender (LBGT) Student Services

The office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay & Transgender (LBGT) Student Services provides support, education, and advocacy to the WMU community to create an environment in which all people are supported and welcome, inclusive of their gender identity/expression and sexual orientation.

SpeakOUT! Speakers Bureau Program
SpeakOUT! is a panel discussion program designed to increase awareness about people of different sexual orientations and gender identities through peer contact and conversation with audience members. Trained panelists share their experiences coming out as LBGT or allies and engage audiences in question-and-answer style discussion. Training for new panelists is held each fall and spring semester.

Fall Fab Fest
Fall Fab Fest is a welcome event offered at the beginning of the fall semester to support LBGT and ally students in the greater Kalamazoo area. The event features an information tent with representatives from LBGTA-friendly resources available on area college campuses and in the local community.

Pride Alliance
Pride Alliance is a cohort of first year students who meet in a relaxed, inclusive, and safe space to find a peer support while learning more about LBGT history, social justice, and LBGT-supportive resources. The Alliance prepares students to succeed by addressing many of the unique challenges facing LBGT and ally individuals while providing the tools to thrive in a university environment.

Lavender Graduation
Lavender Graduation is a celebration that recognizes graduating LBGT and ally students’ contributions to the university and acknowledges their achievements throughout their college experience. Students are recognized for their leadership, success, and achievement. The ceremony recognizes students, faculty, staff and groups who have made significant contributions to LBGT inclusion at WMU.

LBGT Resource Room and Library
The Resource Room is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters. As a safe, non-judgment space, the Resource Room is open to students, faculty and staff as a place to study, find resources, rest between classes, watch movies, and more. Walk-ins are always welcome.

LBGT Student Advisory Council
The Student Advisory Council meets with various university units to inform the Office of LBGT Student Services on diversity and inclusion efforts. The council works to identify areas of opportunity throughout the university with a focus on creating a safe and welcoming campus inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Spectrum House
Residence Life’s newest learning community, launching in fall 2016. Students of diverse gender identities/expressions and sexual orientation, including allies, will live and learn together in an inclusive and supportive community. Located in Britton Hall, the community works with the office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services.

Preferred Name Policy
Student may indicate a preferred name at WMU that is different from their legal name. Students who choose to may also opt to update their Bronco ID card and email address. For more information, please visit the WMU Registrar’s website at http://www.wmich.edu/registrar/policies/preferred-name.