



Fall 2018

## 2018 Fall Pride Alumni Community Newsletter

Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/pac\\_docs](https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/pac_docs)



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Illinois Wesleyan University, "2018 Fall Pride Alumni Community Newsletter" (2018).

*Related Documents*. 7.

[https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/pac\\_docs/7](https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/pac_docs/7)

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@iwu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@iwu.edu).

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.



# ILLINOIS WESLEYAN PRIDE ALUMNI COMMUNITY

*Our mission is to connect LGBTQ+ alumni, friends and allies to Illinois Wesleyan University*

## Newsletter

*Issue Two, Fall 2018*

### Events

**MLK Teach  
with Charlene Carruthers '07**  
Monday, Jan 21, 1:00-4:00pm  
IWU

Charlene is a strategist, writer, and community organizer in today's movement for Black liberation. She has also authored bestselling book *Unapologetic: A Black, Queer and Feminist Mandate for Radical Movements*. [Learn more about Charlene.](#)

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Drag Ball**  
Saturday, Feb 2, 7:00-11:00pm  
Doors open at 7:00pm  
Performances begin at 8:00pm  
Hansen Student Center, IWU

The Drag Ball is an annual tradition of the Pride Alliance and a fundraiser. This year's proceeds will be donated to the Pride Alumni Community Endowed Scholarship. Hosted by Sharon Sharealike, performers this year include Freddie Fahrenheit, Ceduxion Carrington, and Foxie Sharealike.

**PAC-Pride Alliance Brunch**  
Sunday, Feb 3, 11:00am-1:00pm  
IWU  
*Details in next newsletter*

**Pride Summit**  
Saturday, Feb 8, 2:00pm-6pm  
Memorial Center, Turfler Lounge  
*Details in next newsletter*

**PAC Brunch**  
Sunday, Mar 3, 11:00am-1:00pm  
[Inspiration Kitchens](#)  
3504 W Lake St, Chicago  
*Details in next newsletter*

*PAC events and activities are open to all members of the university community: alumni, faculty, staff, friends, family, and often, students. Like Pride Alliance gatherings, everyone is welcome, privacy is respected, and no assumptions are made!*

This year's [Campus Pride Index](#) gave IWU 4 out of 5 stars, with highest marks for LGBTQ+ Support and Institutional Commitment (4.5 / 5) and LGBTQ+ Housing and Residential Life (5 / 5).  
GO TITANS!

As noted by College Choice, who ranked IWU 38th among best LGBTQ+ friendly campuses, "At IWU there are strong LGBTQ+ social and support organizations, such as the IWU Pride Alliance and Safe Zone, or the Pride Alumni Community which serves alumni, students, faculty, and staff. The IWU Pride Alliance is a student-led organization ... interested in supporting the LGBTQ+ community and offering resources for their support and development." Dear alumni, that's YOU!



ILLINOIS WESLEYAN  
PRIDE ALUMNI COMMUNITY

## From the PAC Chair

If fall is my favorite season, then homecoming is my favorite weekend of my favorite season. It was wonderful to see many of you this year back on campus. During our annual Sunday brunch, I had the pleasure of announcing the newly established Pride Alumni Community Endowed Scholarship! Before you cheer too loudly, please note that I said newly established, which is not the same as newly established *and funded*. To fund an endowed scholarship, we need to raise \$25,000. That said, we are well on our way, with more than half of that money pledged and collected. Some have asked me if this scholarship replaces the PAC Annual Scholarship, now in its 8th year. No. That scholarship, funded through the PAC Giving Circle, will continue with gifts pledged and collected

through the year. The PAC Endowed scholarship is an effort to expand student support by creating a scholarship that will self-fund, year after year, and ensure that IWU recognizes and honors LGBTQ and TGNC students for their leadership and community involvement.

I encourage you to [read more about this scholarship](#) and consider [making a donation](#) to help us reach our goal. As always, our mission is to connect students, alumni, and friends with IWU and one another.

With TITAN PRIDE,  
[Jim Richter](#) '93  
Co-Chairperson  
Pronouns: he/him

## Points of Pride

- A student-drafted petition for mandatory diversity training for faculty, staff, and students was passed! This effort received support from Karla Carney-Hall, Dean of Students, and Provost Mark Brodl. Through their leadership and guidance, this training is planned for 2019. The petition was specific calling the need for education on LGBTQ+ identities, endorsed by the [IWU Pride Alliance](#) and your own [Pride Alumni Community](#).
- [SafeZone](#) training continues! Alanna Scoggins '20 is creating two versions of SafeZone to enable the [Office of Diversity & Inclusion](#) (ODI) to expand programming. The first will be introductory in level, the second will be intermediate, and advanced to follow next semester for queer folks and strong allies.
- The entire Humanities department requested a SafeZone training for the end of November.
- [Hannah Mesouani](#), Assistant Director of ODI, has developed training on "Pronouns and the Singular They," that was well-attended by faculty, staff, and grounds crew. She will

present to several classes in the coming weeks and reports, "Support at all levels feels really tangible."

- [Provost Mark Brodl](#) approached the RA of the [Rainbow Floor](#) to financially assist with decorating the space and supplying any resources our students might need. A huge step for the space! Contact [Jim Richter](#) to donate.
- The School of Theatre Arts recently presented *Stop Kiss*. Set in New York in the late 1990s, the story explores the friendship between Callie and Sara and the impact of their first kiss. The production was well received, and talkback afterwards gave members of the IWU and BloNo community an opportunity to discuss how queer lives are demoralized by the current administration and lack of sincere ally-ship. Many conversations focused on the importance of queer representation. [Read more](#) about the IWU production.

*Thank you to Hannah Mesouani for contributing to Points of Pride.*

---

Jim Richter '93, (he/him), Editor  
Amelia Smith '15, (she/her), Writer  
Jerry Lee '97 (he/him) and Chris Papic (he/him), Copyediting and Design  
Caroline Marchi (she/her), Pride Alliance, Alumni Liaison

*Please send comments, suggestions, and ideas to [Adriane Powell](#), Director of Alumni Engagement*