

# UCF PRIDE



## Faculty & Staff Association

NEWSLETTER FOR THE UCF LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY



**JUSTIN ANDRADE**  
(HE/HIM/HIS)  
PFSA PRESIDENT

*Celebrating Black  
History Month and  
Month of the Womxn*

### Leadership Message

Dear PFSA membership,

Greetings, PFSA! First, Happy New Year. I hope you have settled into Spring 2021 and that you are all finding harmony amidst the state of the world. This newsletter is special because we are celebrating the current Black History Month and the upcoming Month of the Womxn. Within PFSA, our value of community acknowledges and uplifts the intersection of queer black communities and transgender and gender diverse people.

As society continues to evolve (in spite of what seems like resistance from those in opposition), the acknowledgement of queer black leaders, queer womxn, gender diverse, and a combination of one or more of these identities, within pivotal moments in our country has become more widely known. Breaking down stigma and educating others through visibility is so important. While I know that it is not possible for everyone to share their story because of safety or because they are questioning, the more we remember those before us who helped catapult the LGBTQ+ movement forward, the more real it becomes for our younger black, brown, and gender queer family to feel loved and be themselves openly. These next couple of months, find time to pause, to attach yourself to an organization in support of these communities, or even watch a documentary to learn something you didn't know. As always, PFSA is here to support you.

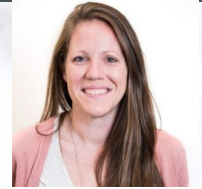
**Yours in Pride,**

*Justin*

# Special PFSA Events

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

## Future Events In The Works



**ERIN PAULIN**  
(SHE/HER/HERS)  
PFSA SPECIAL EVENTS  
CHAIR

## On Campus Student Resources Legal Services

407-823-2538  
stulegal@ucf.edu



**DR. ADRIENNE FRAME**  
(SHE/HER/HERS)  
PFSA CO EX-OFFICIO

The office of **Student Legal Services** provides enrolled students at UCF with legal counseling and court representation in various areas of the law. The staff attorneys interview each client individually to advise in the areas of law that concern the student. Cases which are not covered by the program guidelines are referred to appropriate agencies or private attorneys through a lawyer referral service. The operation of the program is subject at all times to the rules and regulations promulgated by the Supreme Court of Florida and the Board of Governors of the Florida Bar. The program is approved by the Florida Bar and is staffed by licensed attorneys.



**DR. LIZ KLONOFF**  
(SHE/HER/HERS)  
PFSA CO EX-OFFICIO

**Mission:**

The mission of **Student Legal Services (SLS)** is to help students resolve legal problems that may adversely affect their well-being and interfere with their academic and professional goals. We offer legal advice, services and court representation in select areas of law that students encounter most often and for which it would be difficult to obtain other legal representation at affordable prices. Moreover, as a law office funded by student fees, Student Legal Services is committed to educating students about their legal rights and responsibilities, both individually and through legal education programs and materials.

**Goals:**

- Educate and assist students in preventing legal issues
- Help students resolve or minimize existing legal problems
- Provide students with easy access to legal information, advice, and representation, as well as appropriate referrals

## Get to know: *Hank Lewis*

**Name:** Hank Lewis

**Dept:** Academic Program Quality

**PFSA Role:** Founding Treasurer - I have been Treasurer every year except the one when I was president.

**Zodiac:** Capricorn, INTJ - Both are pretty accurate

**Favorite genre of music:** NPR, Rock (and Pop when the kiddo is in the car)

**Guilty Pleasure:** Bubble Gum

**Favorite Candy/sweet treat:** Caramel Cake

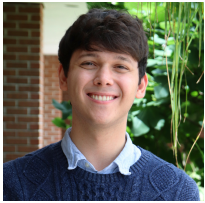
**What made you join PFSA council:** Prior to PFSA and the Allies program there was little in the way of support for LGBTQ+ faculty and staff. A group of us saw a need and got busy. Grateful for all who laid the groundwork for what we have been able to do at UCF.

**About me:** Co-parent to a 9 year old. Unity credentialed leader (spiritual not religious). Old enough to remember when most of our LGBTQ+ freedoms did not exist and pleased that many do exist now. Appreciative of all PFSA members and supporters knowing that it takes very little to lose what has been gained. Keep up the good fight!



**HANK LEWIS**  
(HE/HIM/HIS)  
PFSA TREASURER





**MIRO STEIN**  
**(THEY/THEM/THEIRS)**  
**PFSA STUDENT**  
**ADVOCATE CO-CHAIR**

# What's Happening in Social Justice & Advocacy?

### SJA Events

Your Experience @ UCF - 2/25/21 Facebook Live @12pm  
In Her Honor - 3/1/21 Teaching Academy @6pm

### LGBTQ+ Events

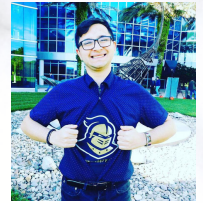
Reading the Rainbow: LGBTQ+ Book Club - 2/25/2021 @6pm  
Reading the Rainbow: LGBTQ+ Book Club - 3/11/2021 @6pm  
Painting with Lavender - 3/26/21 @7:30pm  
Picnic with the Arboretum - 4/2/21 @3pm

### MSC Events

ZUZU African Acrobats- 2/26/2021 Memory Mall @6pm  
Pride Chat - 3/2/2021 Zoom @3pm  
Pride Chat - 3/23/2021 Zoom @3pm  
Pride Chat - 4/6/21 Zoom @3pm

### AMP Events

Socially Distance Hangout - Lake Claire 3/18/21 @11am



**MICHAEL NUNES**  
**(HE/HIM/HIS)**  
**PFSA STUDENT**  
**ADVOCATE CO-CHAIR**



Don't miss out on...

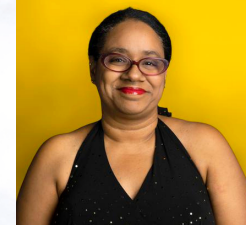
*Drag Divas!*



**March 23, 2021**  
**7:00-9:00pm**  
**Facebook Live**

PHOTO COURTESY OF  
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

## Anjella's Corner



**ANJELLA WARNSHUIS**  
**(SHE/HER/HERS)**  
**PFSA VICE PRESIDENT**

Hi Everyone,

It's been a long time since we've talked. I hope that you're doing well. I, like many of us I imagine, have been thinking a lot about the kind of life I want to live. I want to live a life full of love and joy. Even if it's simply appreciating my ability to continue paying my bills during a pandemic. Life is full of plot twists but there's almost always some happiness to be found if only we look for it.

This year began with a tumultuous start but in the last few weeks we have already seen some encouraging changes with transgender people once again being allowed to enlist in the military under their identified gender and the recent Supreme Court ruling in Bostock V Clayton County that has provided the framework for the Florida Commission on Human Relation (FCHR) to formally announce the inclusion of protections from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity as part of the civil rights of Floridians. We all know rules and laws only go so far in terms of protections but hopefully we are coming closer to the day when everyone regardless of their identity is able to safely and equitably participate in our society.

**"In our work and in our living, we must recognize that difference is a reason for celebration and growth, rather than a reason for destruction." ~ Audre Lord **

**Want to help outside of UCF?**

CHECK OUT VOLUNTEERING WITH

[WWW.UCFPRIDE.ORG](http://WWW.UCFPRIDE.ORG)







# A Touch of History

## Laverne Cox

Let us celebrate March, Women’s History Month, by spotlighting one of the most influential women, actresses, and advocates of today, Laverne Cox.

Laverne Cox, and her twin brother, were born and raised in Mobile, Alabama by a single mother and grandmother in the church. Cox has shined light on the difficulties of being bullied by classmates for “not acting the way someone assigned male at birth was supposed to act” after developing feelings for her male classmates, enduring conversion therapy, and being assaulted on the street by strangers. Despite these hardships, she continued and focused on her schooling.

Her later education was widespread and dynamic, much like her current life, as she describes it. She went on to graduate from the Alabama School of Fine Arts, where she first studied creative writing before switching to dance, transferred to Indiana University Bloomington, and then transferred again to Marymount Manhattan College in New York, changing her major from dance to acting.

Cox gained traction quickly in the Big Apple; after appearing as a contestant on the first season of I Want to Work for Diddy, she launched her revolutionary series TRANSform Me, which made her the first black, transgender person to produce and star in her own TV show. Both shows were nominated for GLAAD Media Awards in 2009 for Outstanding Reality Program, Cox later accepting the award for Diddy and giving an influential speech that touched countless audiences. Cox continued to act in films and TV shows as recurring or smaller roles until 2013 when she landed Orange is the New Black. Sophia Buset, a trans woman sent to prison for credit card fraud, was a groundbreaking and multi-dimensional character that redefined the word transgender and created a narrative and representation that had never been seen before.

The fame from Orange is the New Black gave Cox a platform to speak on the rights of trans people, shining a spotlight that created discourse and a space for education. Through interviews, covers, and articles, she bravely told her story and responded with poise and professionalism when more than one interviewer asked “clueless” and “invasive” questions, as described by Salon and Huffington Post in reaction articles.

In 2014, Cox made the cover of Time magazine and was interviewed for the article “The Transgender Tipping Point” by Katy Steinmetz, a piece that tackled topics as “The Generation Gap” and “The Person is Political” and how they related to the trans experience. In 2015, she executive-produced and narrated Laverne Cox Presents: The T Word, for which she won a Daytime Emmy, becoming the first openly trans woman to win a Daytime Emmy as an Executive Producer. In 2016, she was the cover of Entertainment Weekly’s “totally not-straight issue.” In 2019, she became the first openly transgender woman to appear on the cover of British Vogue after Meghan, Duchess of Sussex chose fifteen of the most influential women of the year.

From being the first trans person to be nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award in any acting category to being the first openly trans person to appear on the cover of Time magazine, Laverne Cox has proven herself a trailblazer for the transgender community. Her impact and prominence in the media have led to a profound and growing conversation about transgender culture, love, and life. This March, we toast to her!



**JULIA THOMAS**  
**(SHE/HER/HERS)**  
**PFSA HISTORIAN**



**ELIJAH MIZELL**  
**(HE/HIM/HIS)**  
**PFSA TRANSGENDER**  
**ADVOCATE**



**NICOLE HENRY**  
**(SHE/HER/HERS)**  
**PFSA ORLANDO**  
**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**  
**CO-CHAIR**



**MAXWELL KAPLOWITZ**  
**(HE/HIM/HIS)**  
**PFSA ORLANDO**  
**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**  
**CO-CHAIR**



# SCHOLARSHIPS

## Dively-Dupuis LGBTQ Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

**Overview:** The Office of Undergraduate Research is excited to announce a new initiative to support undergraduate researchers in all disciplines who are engaging in scholarship related to LGBTQ issues and rights during the Summer 2021 term. We expect to award one fellowship to a student who is working with faculty on summer projects that investigate LGBTQ scholarship, broadly defined.

Applicants should be currently conducting or preparing to conduct research on any element of LGBTQ scholarship and/or its impact on society. The scope of acceptable projects can be at the university, regional, national, or international level. We are recruiting projects from all disciplines and want to create a small multi-disciplinary group of researchers.

Accepted applicants will be part of the 2021 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program.

**SURF Requirements:** SURF fellows must attend six professional development workshops throughout the summer (Fridays 10:30 a.m. - Noon) and present a virtual poster at UCF's Summer Scholars Symposium on July 30. SURF scholars typically commit 10-20 hours weekly on their project through the Summer C term.

SURF students must graduate after December 2021 and be in good standing with UCF (e.g., not on academic probation).

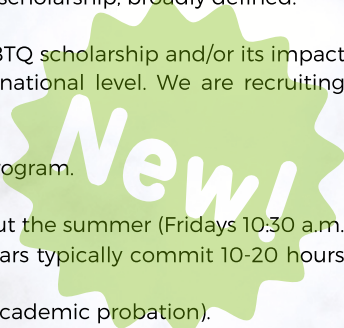
**Compensation:** Undergraduate fellows will receive a \$1,500 scholarship. Students must enroll in at least one course in summer A or C to receive the academic scholarship; they can enroll in Directed Independent Research 4912 credit, if appropriate.

**To Apply:** Applications should be submitted here: <https://our.ucf.edu/summer-undergraduate-research-fellowship/> (Select that you would like to be considered for this Endowed Fellowship in your application.)

Applications for all SURF Fellowships are due on **March 8th, 2021**.

Applications require a research proposal, a cover letter and resume, and a faculty letter of recommendation.

Questions? Email [our@ucf.edu](mailto:our@ucf.edu) or call 407-823-0101



## Dively-Dupuis LGBTQ Scholarship

Dr. Martin Dupuis, associate dean of the Burnett Honors College, and Mr. Michael Dively, community activist and philanthropist, established the Dively-Dupuis LGBTQ Scholarship in 2017. It annually awards \$1,400 to a high-achieving undergraduate who demonstrates leadership and activism within the LGBTQ community. The scholarship recipient will receive \$700 in the fall and spring semesters.

The Division of Student Learning and Academic Success and the Pride Faculty Pride Association will select the scholarship recipient based on the following established criteria:

- Full-time UCF undergraduate student who demonstrates leadership and activism within the UCF LGBTQ community, as well as locally, nationally, and/or internationally
- A cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.5
- Preference will be given to juniors and seniors
- The criteria for awarding the scholarship will be consistent with the UCF Office of Student Financial Assistance guidelines.

**Award: \$1400**

**Deadline: 04/02/2021** *Scopes: Undergraduate Studies*

### Supplemental Questions

1. Please write an essay that shares your personal, educational and career goals
2. Please write an essay illustrating your current leadership and activism—as well as your future plans—within the LGBTQ+ community
3. Please submit two reference letters including the individuals' names, phone numbers and email addresses.

<https://ucf.academicworks.com/opportunities/13320>

## Ferrante Family LGBTQ Scholarship

Michael '15MS and Pamela '85, '95MA, '00Ed.S Ferrante established the Ferrante Family LGBTQ Scholarship in recognition of UCF's commitment to the LGBTQ student community. The scholarship, which is awarded annually, supports students who identify as LGBTQ and exhibit academic excellence through their coursework and academic endeavors. The scholarship awards \$1,000 annually. The scholarship recipient will receive \$500 in the fall and spring semesters.

The scholarship recipient will be selected based on the following established criteria:

- Applicant must be enrolled at UCF as a part-time or full-time undergraduate student in any major.
- Applicant must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Preference will be given to applicants who identify as LGBTQ and exhibit academic achievement.
- The criteria for awarding the scholarship will be consistent with the guidelines established by the UCF Office of Student Financial Assistance.

**Award: \$1000**

**Deadline 04/02/2021** *Scopes: Undergraduate Studies*

### Supplemental Questions

1. Please write an essay on your educational goals and career aspirations.
2. Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ community?
3. What academic learning opportunities do you participate in beyond your coursework (e.g., internship or undergraduate research)?

<https://ucf.academicworks.com/opportunities/13322>






# Have You Seen This?

The Center for Distributed Learning enabled **Pronoun Choice** in Webcourses@UCF on Tuesday, October 27. This "soft launch" allowed CDL to collect feedback from faculty, students, and organizations before it is announced to all UCF members through social media (<https://twitter.com/WebcoursesUCF>) and Webcourses beginning Monday, November 9th.

This feature has been enabled at several other universities using Instructure's Canvas (the software behind Webcourses@UCF), and UCF benefitted from their experiences in testing and in crafting our messaging to the University community. The process actually began in January of 2020, but was delayed (but not defeated!) by the shift to managing COVID-19.

Step-by-step directions for faculty and students who want to enable their pronouns is found here: <https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/How-do-I-select-personal-pronouns-in-my-user-account-as-a/ta-p/456>. If there is a desired pronoun set missing from the drop-down options, please email Webcourses@UCF Support. Requests will be collected and reviewed on a semesterly basis and additions will be added to the drop-down menu.

At this time, pronouns do not push through to myUCF or Zoom, but you can customize your name in Zoom to include your pronouns by following these steps: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201363203-Customizing-your-profile>

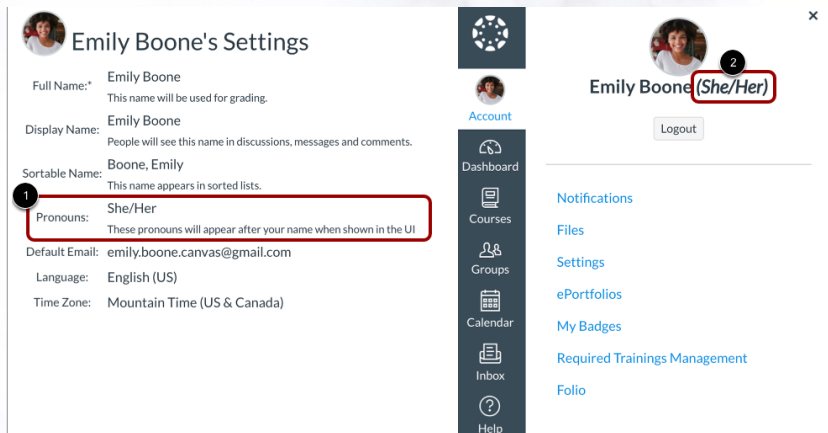
A big  thanks to the folks at CDL who helped this process advance- this has been a bright spot in a difficult year. :)

Elisabeth Greenwood  
(She/Her/Hers)  
Webcourses@UCF Support Team Lead

### SPECIAL UPDATE:

The selections of He/They, She/They and "Ask me my pronouns" have been added to the list!!

*many thanks*



## Connect With Us

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

/UCFPFSA



Have You  
Paid Your  
20/21 Dues?

\$25



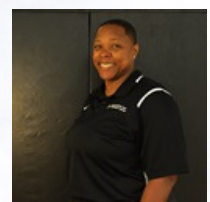
Click here to  
pay now!



MELISSA GILLIS  
(SHE/HER/HERS)  
PFSA COMMUNICATIONS  
AND SOCIAL MEDIA CO-CHAIR



DR. LINDSAY NEUBERGER  
(SHE/HER/HERS)  
PFSA RECRUITMENT AND  
CONNECT CAMPUS CHAIR



ANDREA SNEAD  
(SHE/HER/HERS)  
PFSA COMMUNICATIONS  
AND SOCIAL MEDIA CO-CHAIR