College is a time for growth, experimentation and change.

It is also an opportunity for many students to begin exploring their own identities, including sexual orientation, gender expression and much more.

Whether students are seeking a confidential support group, campus involvement opportunities, or resources for becoming an informed ally, the department of Multicultural Student Services (MCSS) is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment for all members of the LGBTQQA community (Lesbian, Gay, Transgendered, Questioning, and Allies).

In an effort to encourage exploration of queer resources, this guide gathers a number of on-campus community services available to students. It also details many Puget Sound practices, policies and offerings relevant to queer-identified people on our campus.

For more information, contact us at:

**Multicultural Student Services**
Wheelock 203  
Tel. 253.879.3374  
mcss@pugetsound.edu

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**Puget Sound Policies & Procedures**

- Puget Sound Equal Opportunity Policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Puget Sound domestic partner benefits are available to both faculty and staff.
- Procedure for bias or hate crimes reporting are brought directly to the Dean of Students.

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**Gender-Neutral Restrooms**

There is a recognized need to offer more gender-neutral restrooms on campus. The following locations have gender-neutral restrooms in public spaces:

- Anderson Langdon, 1st Floor
- Howarth Hall, 1st Floor
- Weyerhaeuser Hall, 1st Floor
- Wheelock Student Center, 2nd Floor
- Weyerhaeuser Hall, 1st Floor

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**Housing & Roommates**

Residence Life strives to provide an inclusive, welcoming environment for all students. When completing housing forms, students may identify their gender as “Male”, “Female” or “Other” and also indicate their preference for a “gender-neutral roommate assignment”.

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Puget Sound at Puget Sound
**Student Organizations**
- **Beyond** (Transgender Student Organization)
- **Q&A** (Queer Student Alliance)
- **VAVA** (Vulva Anti-Violence Alliance)
- **SAFE Men** (Sexual Assault Free Environment)
- **VOX** (Voices for Planned Parenthood)

**Annual Events & Programs**
- **Annual Drag Show** is a gender-bending evening of song and dance. Sponsored by Q&A.
- **SIRGE** (Sexuality Issues, Relationships, and Gender Education) Sponsors Take Back the Night.
- **Green Dot** is a simple shared vision to create cultural change toward intolerance of power-based personal and sexual violence.
- **Lavender Graduation** celebrates graduating students who have made a contribution to the LGBTQA community at Puget Sound.
- **Inclusive Space Program** poster program indicates inclusive space where members may be able to freely express their identity.
- **LGBT Leadership Scholarship** recognizes students who have made a contribution to the LGBT community at Puget Sound, awarding $4,600.

**Campus Services**
- **Student Diversity Center** conducts student-directed activities featuring groups that have been historically underrepresented. The SDC is also home to many of the student organizations listed here.
- **Counseling, Health & Wellness Services** (Wheelock, 216) provides physical examinations, testing for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and “Between the Lines” a confidential peer support group for queer students.
- **Career & Employment Services** (Howarth 101) makes the extra effort to provide LGBT job seekers with the information they need to achieve a successful and fulfilling work life. A number of resources are provided on the CES website.

**A History of Inclusion**

University of Puget Sound is a proud pioneer for queer inclusion since the late-1980s. Through dedicated efforts of our staff, faculty and students, LGBTQA awareness remains a relevant topic on campus.

In the August 2006 issue of *The Advocate*, Puget Sound was recognized as one of the 20 Best Campuses for LGBT students in the nation. Today, our campus scores 4.5 stars (83%) in an independent LGBT-Friendly Campus Climate survey sponsored by Campus Pride.

These achievements are testament to our progress both as a campus community and a civil society – and the continued work needed. As the LGBTQA community face new challenges for rights and recognition, our campus remains committed to a conversation of inclusion.

We invite our students, staff and faculty to engage with these issues, to examine their own values and choices, and to recognize the intrinsic worth of all who work and study here.

*Go Loggers!*