



CAL POLY
Robert E. Kennedy Library

**California Polytechnic State University
Special Collections & Archives**

**Pride Center
UA0081**

Collection ID: UA0081

Title: Records of the Cal Poly Pride Center

Dates: 1973 - 2018

Creator: Cal Poly Pride Center and Gay Student Union

Extent: 3 linear feet: 7 boxes, 2 flat files

Abstract: Documents related to the development and activities of the Pride Center and the former Gay Student Union.

Language: English

Repository: California Polytechnic State University
Robert E. Kennedy Library
Special Collections and Archives
1 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
Phone: 805-756-2305
Email: archives@calpoly.edu
URL: <http://www.lib.calpoly.edu/specialcollections/>

Provenance: Transferred

Accessions: 2018.0014, 2022.0002

Processed by: Berlin Loa, 2018, Amanda Tejada, 2022

Preferred Citation Records of the Cal Poly Pride Center, Special Collections and Archives, California Polytechnic State University



**California Polytechnic State University
Special Collections & Archives**

Historical Note:

Although there was an LGBTQIA presence on campus at an earlier date, 1972 is the first recorded effort to develop a formal presence on campus. In 1972 students began the process of applying for a Gay Student Union (GSU), creating a formal association with the original bylaws dated in the fall of 1974. Facing resistance from campus administration and other campus constituents, as well as from the public, following a five year court battle that involved the state Attorney General, the GSU was granted official recognition as a student organization by the University and by the Associated Students, Inc. in 1976.

The Gay Student Union was a membership organization developed to provide a forum for the study of "homosexuality on campus and community level". The organization provided a forum for discussion and intellectual development for the gay community and the campus as a whole. Despite initial resistance to the organization, many community members and organizations on and off campus were in support of the GSU including local churches and CSU students, professors, and staff.

Scope and Content:

Documents related to the development and activities of the former Gay Student Union and the present-day Pride Center. Includes bylaws, minutes, surveys, event announcements, and correspondence in opposition to the formation of the GSU from campus administration and ASI (Associated Students, Inc.) as well as other campus constituents. Includes photocopies of newspaper clippings from campus and community papers documenting the LGBTQIA experience on campus, later documentation of authorization of the GSU, and a letter of support from President Bill Clinton.

Includes documentation of GSU members work to oppose legislation denying rights on the basis of sexual orientation and the Gay Campus Community Hotline; campus flyers for events such as National Coming Out Day, human rights, and LGBTQIA and gay rights activism.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged as a single series. Original organization of the records has been preserved where possible. Materials may have been reorganized or rehoused for preservation and access purposes.

Related Collections:

MS0203 Records of the Central Coast Queer Archive Project
UA0088 Records of the Pride Faculty Staff Association
MS0184 Cal Poly LGBTQIA Oral History Project

Sources:

Pride Center. <https://culture.calpoly.edu/PrideCenter>

Access:

Collection is open to researchers by appointment only. For more information on visiting, access policies, and reproduction requests, please visit our [Reference Services](http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/collections-and-archives/reference-services/) page online at <http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/collections-and-archives/reference-services/>.



CAL POLY
Robert E. Kennedy Library

**California Polytechnic State University
Special Collections & Archives**

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

Digital Copies are provided to researchers for the purpose of study, research, and personal use only, unless otherwise specified in writing. Materials that are the property of Cal Poly Special Collections and Archives require written permission prior to publication. No complete collection may be reproduced.

For print and online publication, please visit our [Reproduction Services](http://lib.calpoly.edu/support/sca-policies/reproduction/) page online at <http://lib.calpoly.edu/support/sca-policies/reproduction/>. Special Collections and Archives reserves the right to review all reproduction requests and to withhold permission if scanning would endanger the material, would violate copyright law, or would violate institutional restrictions.

Copyright:

© 2022 Trustees of the California State University. All rights reserved.



**California Polytechnic State University
Special Collections & Archives**

Series 1

Box 1

- Box 1 Folder 1.1 LGBT History Research documents / artifacts [research notes and collected documentation including 1972 - 2015], circa 2015 – 2018
- Box 1 Folder 2 Sins Invalid: An unashamed claim to beauty, film screening and workshops promotional flyer, 2016
- Box 1 Folder 3 Lavender Commencement programs, 2014
- Box 1 Folder 4 Lavender Commencement programs, 2016
- Box 1 Folder 5.1-5.7 [posters see flat files]
- Box 1 Folder 6 Memorabilia, yellow star-shaped magnet with painted red heart balloon, and pink clothes pin, undated
- Box 1 Folder 7.1 Historical Queer 1995-1999, three-ring binder [collected documentation 1974-1999], newspaper clippings, flyers and correspondence, 1974 – 1999
- Box 1 Folder 7.2 Historical Queer 1995-1999, three-ring binder [collected documentation 1974-1999], newspaper clippings, flyers and correspondence, 1974 – 1999
- Box 1 Folder 7.3 Historical Queer 1995-1999, three-ring binder [collected documentation 1974-1999], health and rights brochures and pamphlets, 1974 – 1999
- Box 1 Folder 8 GLBU History “Red Binder”, three ring binder scrapbook, newspaper clippings, flyers and correspondence, 1974 – 1994
- Box 1 Folder 9 GLBU logo and event flyers, undated
- Box 1 Folder 10 GALA News and Reviews, Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast newsletter, Volume 9, Issues 5, 1998



**California Polytechnic State University
Special Collections & Archives**

- Box 2**
Box 2 Folder 1 Timeline of Cal Poly LGBTQIA history on campus, undated, circa 2012
- Box 3**
Box 3 Folder 1 Commencement Tassel, undated
- Box 4**
Box 4 Folder 1 History of Cal Poly's Pride Center, scrapbook, 1973 – 2010
- Box 5**
Box 5 Folder 1 LGBT Center and Pride Center campus activities and newspaper clippings, scrapbook, 2002 – 2004
- Box 6**
Box 6 Folder 1 GLBU 2001-2001, scrapbook, 2001-2002
- Box 7**
Box 7 Folder 1 Lavender Commencement Planning Documents, 2013 – 2017
Box 7 Folder 2 Pride Alliance VHS Tape, May 16, 2002
Box 7 Folder 3 Pride Center plaque photographs, circa 2015
Box 7 Folder 4 Pride Center event flyers and advertisements, circa 2007 – 2011
Box 7 Folder 5 Pride Month programs, poster, and planning documents, 2010, 2014 – 2015
Box 7 Folder 6 PRISM President's Diversity Award and program, circa 2015
Box 7 Folder 7 Pride on campus reports, 2003 – 2005
Box 7 Folder 8 CommUNITY Pride planning documents, flyers, and agendas, 2001 – 2004, 2008
Box 7 Folder 9 Pride on campus photographs, circa 2012
- Flat File 293 Folder 1** It Takes Pride to Be a Mustang, poster, undated
Cal Poly Pride Week, poster, circa 2014
Cal Poly Pride Month: Level Up with Pride, poster, 2016
20th Annual Western Regional LGBTQIA College Conference, poster, 2010
Laverne Cox, speaking engagement, poster, 2010
Cal Poly Pride Month: To Equality and Beyond, poster, 2012
8: A New Play by Dustin Lance Black Chronicling the Federal Trial for Marriage Equality, poster, 2012
- Flat File 293 Folder 2** Two illustrations by Felix D'eon