

"Out at Fresno State" Video Series

2018-2019 CAIFE Project

CAIFE Team Overview



OBJECTIVE: To develop a series of videos and recommendations for faculty and staff that will help create a more inclusive campus culture for the LGBTQ+ community.

WHO WE ARE:

- ▶ **Esra Hashem**, Marketing Strategist
University Brand Strategy and Marketing
She/Her/Hers
- ▶ **Deyanire Del Toro**, Coordinator of LGBTQ+ and Gender Programs and Services
Cross Cultural and Gender Center
She/Her/Hers
- ▶ **Dr. Jonathan Pryor**, Assistant Professor
Department of Educational Leadership
He/Him/His
- ▶ **Kiana Medina**, Student
Liberal Studies Program
She/Her/Hers
- ▶ **Peter Robertson**, Director of Development
Fresno State Alumni Association
He/Him/His

Why Is This Important?

- ▶ LGBTQ+ college students consistently report unwelcoming campus climates and face discrimination at significantly higher rates compared to their cis/straight peers.
- ▶ Transgender and gender non-conforming students experience challenges in the college classroom related to their gender identity and expression.
- ▶ In a national study of the campus climate for LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff, nearly three-fourths of respondents believed that transgender people were more likely than other population groups to be harassed at their colleges and universities.
- ▶ Campus nondiscrimination policies include the categories of "sex" and sometimes "sexual orientation," but neither category necessarily covers transgender people, who face discrimination based on their gender identity and expression rather than their biological gender or sexual identity.
- ▶ Inclusive institutional policies, practices, and programs support LGBTQ+ student success and help recruit and retain LGBTQ+ students.



The Final Videos

Our CAIFE team interviewed seven students and four faculty and staff. We created the three following videos for the "Out at Fresno State" series:

Part One: LGBTQ+ Student Experiences

Four LGBTQ+ students share their unique coming out stories and experiences at Fresno State.

"Speak. We hear things all the time, like people making jokes about LGBTQ people, how they look or what they're doing. I feel like people are oftentimes afraid to speak about that situation. Do it. Speak about it."

– Connor Calaway, Graduate Student, He/Him/His

Part Two: Trans Student Experiences

Three transgender students share their unique coming out stories and experiences at Fresno State.

"I think that my feelings about how I felt when I first came to Fresno State are kind of tied to my gender identity. Because my first day of being on campus here was my first day of living 'full-time' as a woman. I think that it was kind of scary."

– Adrian Carli, Graduate Student, She/Her/Hers

Part Three: How to Be an Ally

Four faculty and staff experts discuss best practices and share how fellow faculty and staff can become allies to the LGBTQ+ community.

"If it wasn't for allies, we certainly wouldn't have seen the progress that we've seen for the LGBTQ community. We need them, and we need you. We need you as an ally."

– Dr. Jonathan Pryor, Assistant Professor, He/Him/His

Watch the videos at bit.ly/FresnoStateLGBTQ