



Mid **Atlantic**
LGBTQA **Conference**

**Unmasking Prejudice and Dispelling Myths
in the LGBTQA World**

November 1 - 2, 2013
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

Save the date!

The Seventh Annual Mid-Atlantic LGBTQA Conference

November 7-8, 2014

Bloomsburg University

The Seventh Annual Mid-Atlantic LGBTQA Conference would like to announce next year's conference dates of November 7-8, 2014. Please mark your calendars. Be on the lookout for a Call for Papers which will be circulated in early 2014.

2013 Mid-Atlantic LGBTQA Conference Planning Committee

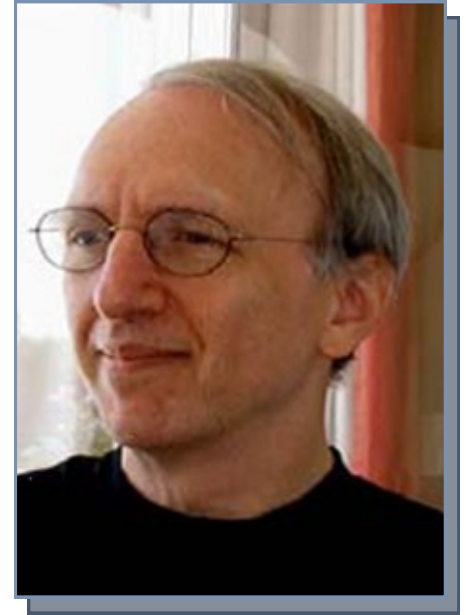
Anna Turnage, Chair
Kelly Tenzek, Co-Chair
Matthew Barcus
Debra Chamberlain
Jean Downing
Joe Hassert
Asa Kelley
Karli Jayne Miller
John Shirley
Craig Young

The Committee would like to thank the following people for their valuable contributions to the Conference:

Bloomsburg University
David L. Soltz, President
Robert Wislock, Office of Social Equity
American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania
Bloomsburg University Gender & Sexuality Alliance
Ken Dunlap, Media Services Coordinator, Kehr Union Building
Kristi Getty, Scheduling Coordinator, Student Activities
Mary Prout, Facilities Scheduling
Maria Bauman, General Manager, ARAMARK
ARAMARK at Bloomsburg University
Bloomsburg University Police

About our Keynote Speaker

William S. Meyer, MSW is the Director of Training for the Department of Social Work and is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and OB/GYN at Duke University Medical Center. He has been a supervisor and team leader of 3rd year psychiatry residents for over 25 years. He is a past-president of the American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work and is a former Secretary of the National Academies of Practice. He is on the faculty of the Psychoanalytic Education Center of the Carolinas and he holds faculty appointments at The University of North Carolina and Smith College. He has lectured and written extensively on mental health related topics.



NOTES

Schedule—Friday, November 1, 2013

7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

The Moose Exchange, 203 West Main St., Bloomsburg

Registration & Entertainment

Halloween Theme Dance and Bowling hosted by the Bloomsburg University Gender and Sexuality Alliance.

Schedule—Saturday, November 2, 2013

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

McCormick Center Lobby

Registration & Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 9:15 a.m.

McCormick Center 1303

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Anna Turnage, Mid-Atlantic LGBTQA Conference Chair, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies

David Soltz, Bloomsburg University President

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. — Session 1

Religion and the LGBTQ Community

Session 1A — McCormick Center 1303

This panel addresses the religious/spiritual concerns of the LGBTQ community. Over the past few decades various faith traditions have striven to meet the needs of the community, and for this reason the panel is comprised of a variety of clergy representing affirming religious institutions and groups.

Moderator: *John Shirley*, Bloomsburg University

Pastor Tedd Cogar, Luther Chapel

Reverend Canon Katherine Harrigan, Rector of St. Paul's

Reverend Darlene Little, First Presbyterian Church

Karl A. Polm-Faudre PhD, Chaplain & Educator

The State of Equality in Pennsylvania

Session 1B — McCormick Center 1316

This session will review the ACLU efforts to secure marriage equality in Pennsylvania.

Melissa Morris, Equality Organizer, ACLU

LGBT Challenge in Africa's University Campuses**Session 1C — McCormick Center 2303**

Why should homosexuals be seen as agents of the devil on our campuses? Why should homosexuals engage in their activities in secrecy on our campuses? The modern information 'super- highway system' has synchronized the global education network to operate upon the 'principle of no form of discrimination or arbitrariness', and homosexuals must therefore be treated equally as such. Universities in Africa must open centers that will promote LGBT activities to ensure sexuality fairness.

Kwaku Apiah Danquah, Director, Diplomatic Intelligence & Solutions

Post Queer Aesthetics**Session 1D — McCormick Center 2314**

The Queer Rights Movement has rapidly progressed over the past 40 years. Throughout this period, the arts have been crucial in furthering political actions and creating community. The first half of the workshop will cover the overarching historical art and activism themes and concepts and how they led into ongoing events in queer politics and art. With this shared narrative, the group will delve into a discussion about the futures of queer activism and arts. As the movement and technologies progress, what venues present opportunities for artistic expression and change?

Jon Henry, Graduate Student, James Madison University

10:45 - 11:45 a.m. — Session 2**Slamming Myths and Prejudices: Queer Spoken Word****Session 2A — McCormick Center 1303**

Spoken word and slam poetry are important modes for the expression of queer identity and activism. They can be used to speak back to power, counter misconceptions, and challenge injustices. In this session, presenters will discuss and show video examples of the work of queer slam poets Ragan Fox, Andrea Gibson, and Julia Serrano. The presenters will also discuss their own experiences with writing and performing poetry in order to encourage other LGTBQA people to unmask prejudices and dispel myths through the spoken word.

Joe Hassert, Instructor of Communication Studies, Bloomsburg University

Surviving or Thriving – Maintaining Wellness from a Marginalized Context**Session 2B — McCormick Center 1316**

The pressure to overcome prejudice and navigate discrimination can be overwhelming for advocates focused on justice and equality. This session will explore the challenges that members of the LGBTQQIA community experience relative to their identities within a marginalized community. The presenters will challenge participants to explore how they maintain a sense of "being" and "self-care" while recognizing that those same identities are part of our work as advocates and change agents.

Brian Patchcoski, M.Ed., Director, Office of LGBTQ Services, Dickinson College

Tedd Cogar, M.Ed., Assistant Director, Center for Student Life/Student Conduct, Pride Alliance Advisor, Chair, LGBT Commission, Indiana University

Beth Bradley, M.Ed., Assistant Director, Center for Ethics and Religious Affairs, The Pennsylvania State University

Where's Does Your Campus Stand? Assessing LGBTQ Campus Climate

This session will offer an overview of assessing campus climate, including designing surveys, conducting those surveys, and then reporting the results. Special emphasis will be placed on assessing climate with minimal resources available. Practical advice on finding sources will be offered. Participants will be provided with time to discuss campus specific issues as well. Participants will leave the session with research based knowledge, practical advice, and networking opportunities for campus climate assessment.

Rick Schulze, D.Ed., MCHES, Chairperson, President's Commission on LGBTQ Affairs/Assoc. Professor, Lock Haven University

Tara Mitchell, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology, Lock Haven University

Active Allies: Connecting Campus and Community

The Allies at Clarion University and Venango College of Clarion University have in recent years raised their profiles on campus and in the community via social networking, campus and community activities, and open forum discussions. In this roundtable discussion, officers of Allies will share their successes as well as their disappointments to open a "what works for us" exchange of ideas among the panelists and audience members. Audience members are encouraged to bring information about their 'best' and 'worst' experiences in developing effective Allies organizations across campuses and local communities.

Corey Negley, Student, Clarion University

Randi L. Stephenson, Student, Venango College of Clarion University

Diana Winget, Student, Venango College of Clarion University

Ellen Foster, Associate Professor, Allies Faculty Advisor, Clarion University

Todd Spaulding, Assistant Director for Residence Life Services; Co-chair, Presidential Commission on LGBT Concerns, Clarion University

Ron Radaker, Director of Learning Support Center, Clarion University

Closet Door to Real World: GLBTQ Student Issues Beyond "Coming Out"

Session 2D — McCormick Center 2314

There's a step-by-step instruction on how to do it on the internet, a national day dedicated to it, and there's even a song about it. Undoubtedly, the act of "coming out" to friends, family, and even oneself has become one of the most poignant life moments for GLBTQ people. But what are the more practical issues that students face after they come out? Can a gay student receive financial aid without parent or guardian consent? Is it safe to be out in the workplace? This PowerPoint presentation will examine the next step for students, after the closet door is opened.

Amy Sutton, Academic Advisor, Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh

Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Kehr Union, Multipurpose Room 345

Lunch

Greetings from *Craig Young*, BU LGBTQA Commission Chair, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood and Adolescent Education

1:15 - 2:15 p.m.

Interactive Workshop — Kehr Union, Ballroom

Bounce II

This workshop will be about collaboration, communication, interacting, and most importantly having fun with as many people as you can in attendance at the conference. Many times a conference doesn't have time set aside for meeting other people in attendance but this is that opportunity. The activities will be led by the Quest team at Bloomsburg University whose focus is experiential programming with clients of all ages, sizes, and abilities. You will be tasked to discuss and solve problems with rapidly changing teams during this fast-paced activity session.

Brett Simpson, Executive Director, Bloomsburg University Quest

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Keynote Address — McCormick Center 1303

ON THE DIAGNOSIS AND 'TREATMENT' OF HOMOSEXUALITY: WHEN PREJUDICE MASQUERADES AS SCIENCE

Few people know the civil rights struggle of how the diagnosis of homosexuality evolved and was finally deleted from psychiatry's official nomenclature. This multi-media presentation begins in the 1950's and takes the audience through the tumultuous 60's and 70's up to the present to demonstrate the legacy and implications of psychiatry's once implacable position that "homosexuality is treatable psychopathology." Attendees will see a scholarly but compelling power point presentation, view clips of once popular movies, and hear audio interviews from gay activists and establishment psychiatrists of that era, to see how internalized prejudicial attitudes affect everyone, including those who come asking for help and those who provide treatment.

William S. Meyer, MSW, Director of Training for the Department of Social Work and Associate Clinical Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and OB/GYN at Duke University Medical Center

3:45 - 4:45 p.m. — Session 3

PANEL: Myths and Marginalized Voices

Session 3A — McCormick Center 1303

Prosthetically Speaking: Default Passing and Invisible Disability

This paper examines how disability studies and queer/closet theory can be expanded to positively influence each other. This is analyzed through a critique of the social model of disability for the lack of inclusion of invisible disabilities, as well as the ways that invisible disabilities (or disabilities which can be hidden) comment on the closet. Disability passing is a common practice and should be emphasized in closet scholarship. Aimee Mullins as a prominent disability activist, model, and athlete is examined as an example of disability passing and what this says about societal pressures for disabled individuals specifically and closeted identities in general.

Jessica Kerley, Graduate Student, Syracuse University

Breaking Down the Walls: Dispelling the Myths & Stereotypes of the Gender Binary, Gender Identity and Sexuality to Create a Safe Space

Stereotypes and myths regarding gender identity and sexuality are rampant in our schools and communities. They have become the basis for existing dialogue surrounding gender identity and sexuality while fueling the discrimination and harassment that has permeated our schools and communities in the form of bullying and the institutionalization of homophobia and heterosexism. This session will examine/dispel the myths and stereotypes associated with the gender binary, gender identity and sexuality and provide strategies to create an inclusive and safe space for LGBT youth in our classrooms and communities.

Janice Bechtel, Graduate Student, Millersville University

Blaise Liffick, Professor, Chair of the LGBTQIA Committee, Millersville University

Scott Richardson, Assistant Professor, Co- Director of the Sexuality & Gender Institute, Millersville University

Do you want to make a difference in the world? Do you like working with young people? In this highly interactive workshop, participants will explore the possibility of becoming an LGBTQ teacher. We will discuss the myths surrounding being an LGBTQ teacher and weigh those myths against the vital need for LGBTQ diversity among K-12 teachers. We will also consider the unique circumstances and decisions LGBTQ teachers have to prepare for and the steps participants can take to explore becoming a teacher. Don't rule out teaching as a career based on myths! Attend this workshop and discover the possibilities!

Laura Angell Katunich, Academic Advisor, Penn State University, College of Education

PANEL: Myths and Movements**Session 3C — McCormick Center 2303****Children and Fools: Harry Hay, Mattachine, and Early Ideologies of Gay Liberation**

This paper retells the story of the founding of the Mattachine Society – America's first gay rights organization, which activist Harry Hay founded in Los Angeles – with an eye towards that history's relevance to the ideological development of Gay, and by extension LGBTQ, rights in America. Based on original research conducted using Hay's personal papers and the papers of the Mattachine Society, this paper concerns itself with the period between 1933 and 1953, finding that Hay used Marxist cultural theory to fuse elements of folk music, medieval fooling, and Native American religious and gender traditions into a gay identity that could serve as the basis for political activism, radically challenging existing gender and sexual norms in ways that are too often forgotten in the mainstream literature of LGBTQ history.

Ben Miller, Student of History, with Honors, New York University

K. Kevyne Baar, Associate Adjunct Professor of History, New York University

Linda Gordon, Florence Kelley Professor of History, New York University

Mythical Rhetoric in Harvey Milk's Hope Speech

This paper presentation focuses on the notion of myth as it is rhetorically presented in Harvey Milk's 1978 "Hope Speech." The analysis looks at Milk's assertive discursive powers as he persuasively attempts to defy the myriad of gay myths being perpetuated at a time of cultural backlash thanks to a new American Conservative force. Different myths are explored including the identity myth and how it intersects with the perversion myth of gay men. This study also explores the modern application of the myth of hope as it was presented through Milk's classic oration.

Christopher S. Perrello, Adjunct Faculty, Communication & Rhetorical Studies, Syracuse University

The Big Picture: LGBTQ History as Inspiration

Queer college students don't learn much about the rich history of their community in school. This presentation will focus on why they should and how they can. The new free mobile app, Quist, is one tool with this goal. The app's creator, 27-year-old Sarah Prager, will speak to the power of LGBTQ history.

Sarah Prager, QuistApp.com

CommUNITY Build**Session 3D — McCormick Center 2314**

In this interactive workshop we will construct representations of the LGBTQ community and discuss how to build ally bonds between these communities.

Ari Daniels, President, Alfred University's Spectrum

Beth Johnson, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Alfred University

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. — Session 4

The Critical Work of the BU LGBTQA Commission

Session 4A — McCormick Center 1303

Members of the Bloomsburg University LGBTQA Commission will describe the important present and future work of the commission and its significance to broader campus issues.

Craig Young, BU LGBTQA Commission Chair, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood and Adolescent Education

Gretchen Osterman, BU LGBTQA Commission Vice-Chair, Assistant Dean of Students for Greek Life

Asa Kelley, BU LGBTQA Commission Secretary, Instructional Media Specialist

Matthew Barcus, Coordinator of LGBTQ Student Services

Joe Hassert, Instructor of Communication Studies

Straight A's: Queer Youth of Color in our Public Schools

Session 4B—McCormick Center 2314

This interactive session hosted by Teach For America will open with statistics around the experiences of LGBTQ youth in schools, zeroing in on the additional challenges queer youth of color may face and how visibility of LGBTQ role models and allies can make all the difference. Participants will reflect on their own experiences within K-12 education as well as learn how they can support queer youth and students in low income communities while still a student themselves and after graduation.

Joe Picini, Recruitment, LGBTQ Partnerships, Teach for America

Youth-led Organizing: We are Powerful

Session 4C — McCormick Center 2303

Youth of the LGBTQ community are stigmatized as being uninformed, apathetic, and incapable when it comes to equality issues. This session will challenge the attendees to think critically about the roles youth currently play, especially in widespread client-provider models. It also will work to inspire youth to take a more serious role in understanding the potential of youth-led organizing. Students have the power to create meaningful change in their communities. This session will provide practical lessons in effective youth-led organizing which they can take back to their communities to help inspire authentic and sustainable youth leadership.

Faith Elmes, Student, The Pennsylvania Student Equality Coalition/ Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Kevin McKeon, Student, The Pennsylvania Student Equality Coalition/ Penn College of Technology

Building Campus Partnerships to Benefit LGBTQ Study Abroad and International Students

Session 4D — McCormick Center 2314

Forming partnerships with international education offices presents two challenges that affect LGBTQ students differently. Study abroad students often do not realize the potential risk of going abroad to countries with different socio-political views and laws regarding different LGBTQ populations. At the same time, international students who come to the United States hold certain myths that they bring from their home country. This session will discuss best practices to support and pool resources to benefit both groups of students.

John Gradel, Assistant Director, Institute for International Studies, Lock Haven University

Tara Mitchell, Associate Professor of Psychology, Lock Haven University

6:15 - 6:30 p.m.

McCormick Center 1303

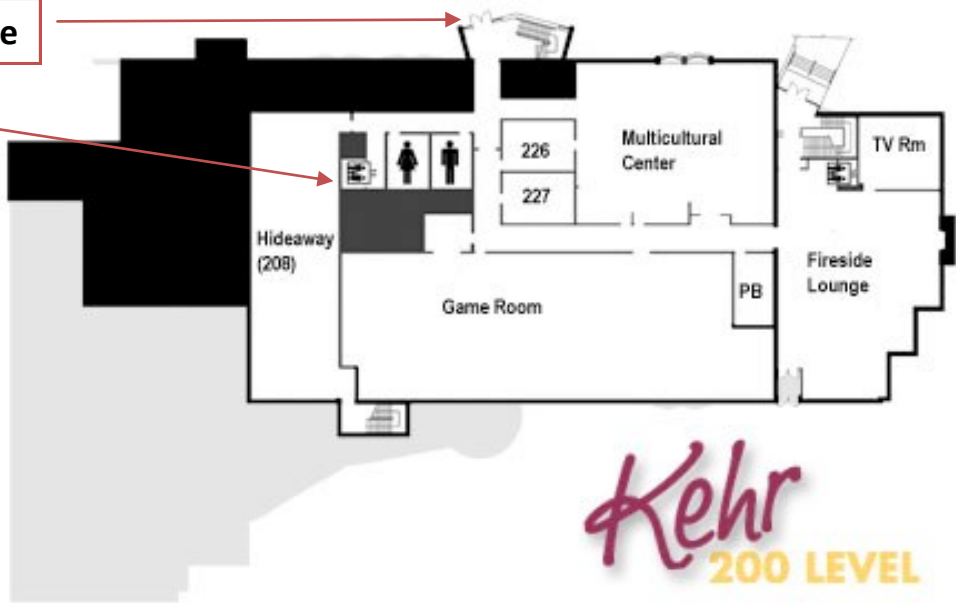
Closing Remarks

Kelly Tenzek, 2014 Conference Chair, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies

Room locations within Kehr Union

Lower Entrance

Elevator



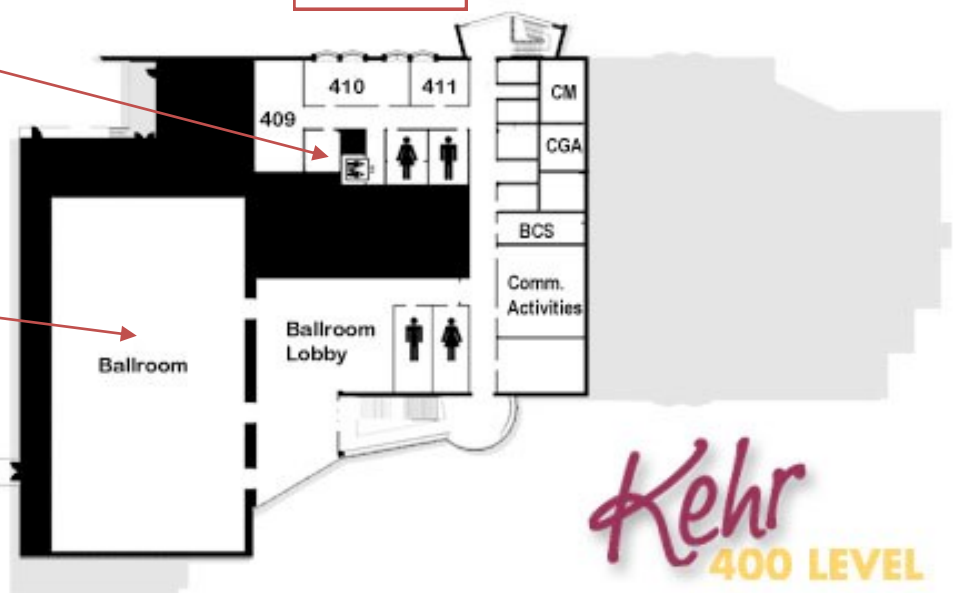
Elevator

Lunch

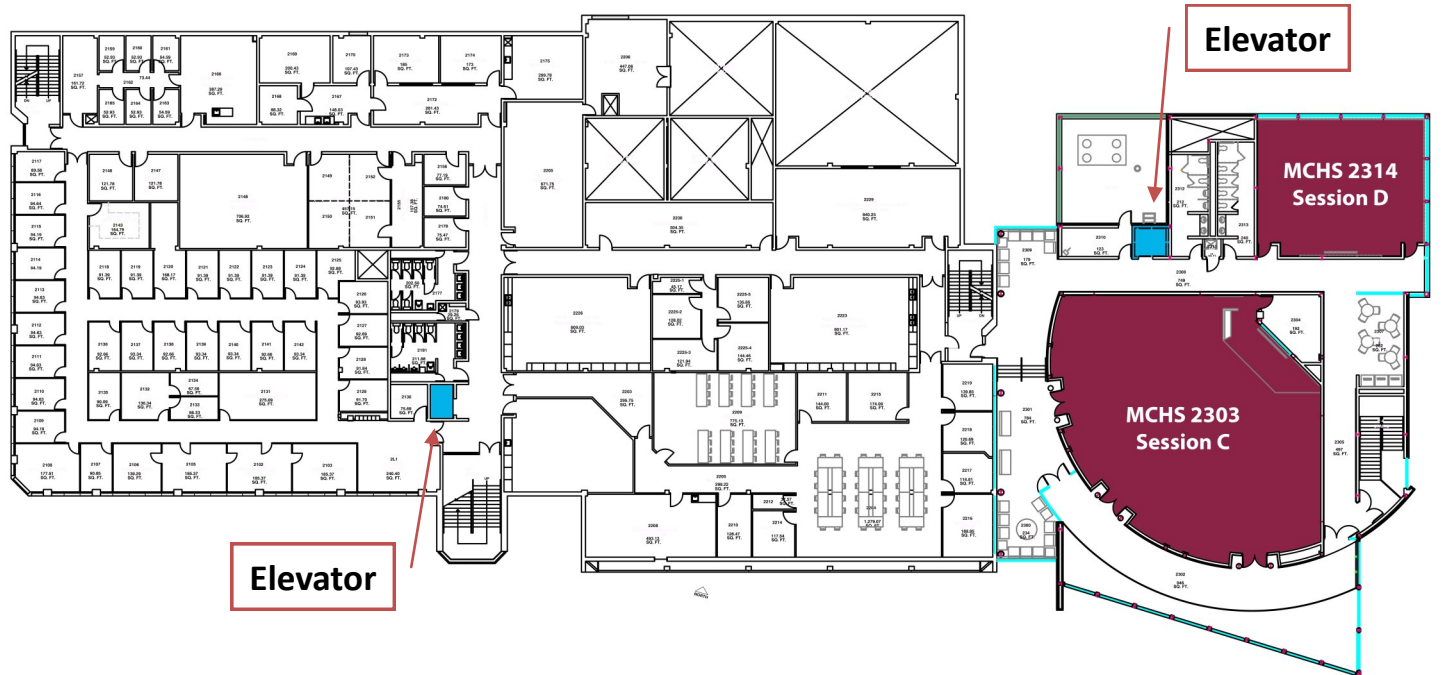
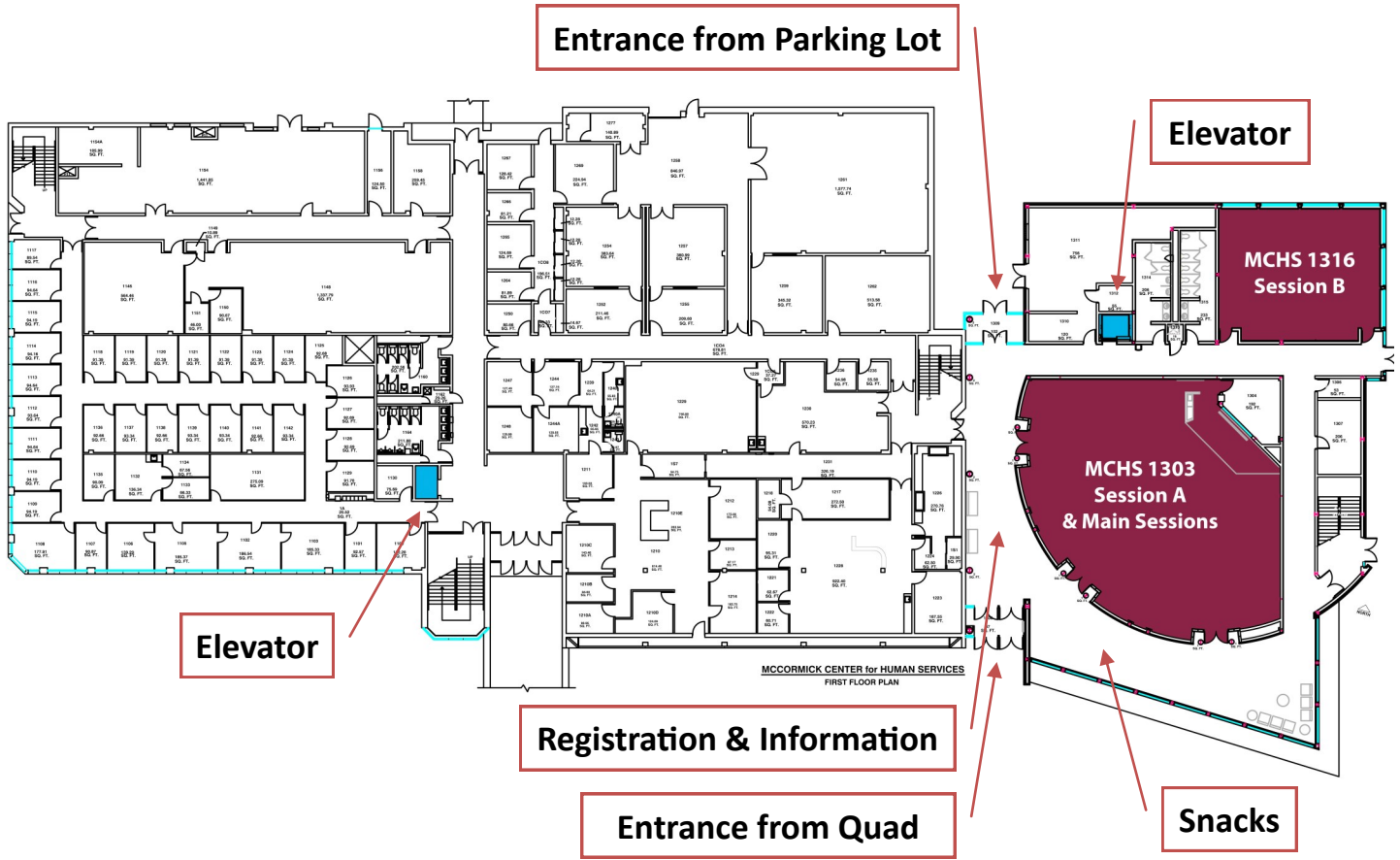


Elevator

Bounce - Interactive Workshop



Room locations within McCormick Center



Internet Access

For your convenience, wireless internet access is available throughout campus. To access the internet from a laptop or other portable device, connect to the bloomu-guest network and open your web browser. You will be redirected to the bloomu-guest login page. You must enter the guest account credentials below. Once you authenticate, you will be able to browse the Internet.

Username: lgbtqa — Password: november

Campus Map

