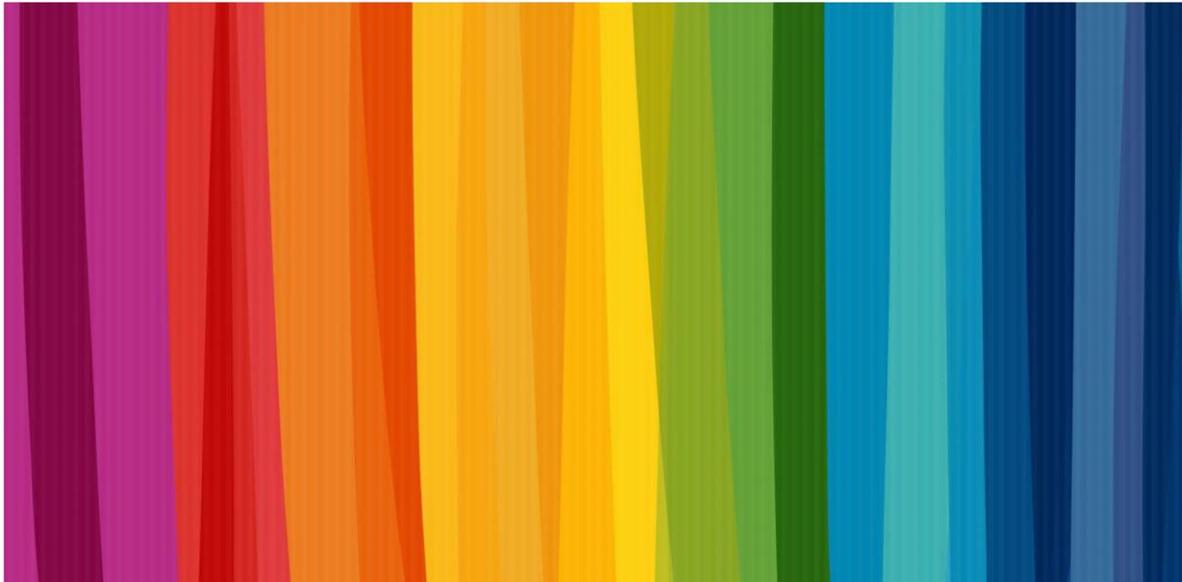


# USQ Ally Network Newsletter



[usq.edu.au/ally](https://usq.edu.au/ally)

Issue #50 October 2021



Dear Allies,

Welcome to the October edition of the Ally Network Newsletter, which is also the 50<sup>th</sup>! I feel some sort of celebration is in order for this 😊. Thank you to all the Allies who have been with us on the journey, both long time members, and those who may only just have joined us. We are pleased to report that the new Ally Training has launched with great success. We have received positive feedback on the updated content, and we have been busily registering new members with the two sessions we have held so far. Welcome to all our newcomers 😊. We have one more session this year on 24<sup>th</sup> November, so if you would like to participate in this training, even if you are already an Ally, we welcome one and all! Please see our [website](#) or further on in the newsletter for details, and don't forget to refer anyone else you know at USQ who may be interested.

We are also nearing the end of the year already. This will therefore be the last newsletter of the year! We hope 2021 has treated you well.

Please remember that we are always on the lookout for interesting articles, information about events, and professional development opportunities to include in the Ally newsletter. Please email [Ally@usq.edu.au](mailto:Ally@usq.edu.au) to share your points of interest.

## What's going on at USQ?

### Become an Ally

We have one more Ally training session in the calendar for 2021, which will take place on a Wednesday between 12 – 1.30pm (approx.). If you know anyone who wants to become an ally please pass on the following date and the webinar link.

- [24th November 2021](#)

### LGBTIQ+ Graduating Students



The USQ Ally Network would like to acknowledge the achievements of our graduating LGBTIQ+ students by offering a Lavender pin as a memento.

The Lavender Pin originated as a tradition in North America, where Lavender Graduation Ceremonies are celebrated across many universities. The colour lavender has a significance in LGBTIQ+ history and is today used as a symbol of pride.

To claim a pin, please email: [Ally@usq.edu.au](mailto:Ally@usq.edu.au) from your uemail account with the following details:

- Your name and student ID
- The congratulations email from the VC regarding your graduation (a screen shot or you can forward the email)
- If you would like to collect the pin from the Student Success and Wellbeing office, and which campus: Toowoomba, Ipswich, or Springfield
- If you cannot collect, a mailing address we can send your pin to. This will be in a USQ envelope but not identified on the outside as from the Ally Network.

### SafeZone App

Safety is important for all of us. SafeZone is a free app that connects you directly with the University's Campus Security team or Emergency Services. SafeZone is available free for all staff and students. This is a safety app for your phone which allows you to request assistance from USQ Campus Security easily and discreetly. Download it, and log in with your uni email address! [MORE](#)



## What's going on outside of USQ?

### News



#### Sydney's big beach rainbow is officially being made permanent

A Sydney council will make Coogee Beach's giant rainbow walkway permanent but some councillors want community consultation because the installation "is a political statement". [MORE QNews](#)



#### Queensland trans community honours PFLAG legend Shelley Argent

Members of Queensland's transgender community have honoured PFLAG legend and rainbow mum Shelley Argent's years of LGBTIQ community activism with a special award. [MORE QNews](#)



#### Germany elects first two transgender MPs to country's parliament

Two transgender women have made history in Germany after they were the first to be elected to the country's parliament. [MORE QNews](#)



#### Biden calls out anti-LGBTQ+ legislation on national coming out day

"To LGBTQ+ people across the country, and especially those who are contemplating coming out: know that ... you will have a community — and a nation — to welcome you." [MORE Advocate](#)

## Entertainment



### New Superman comes out as bisexual in DC Comics series

DC Comics' new Superman Jon Kent, the son of original Superman Clark Kent and Lois Lane, is bisexual in a new comic series. [MORE](#) *QNews*



### Melissa Etheridge explores a new side of her life through music

This will be Etheridge's 15th studio album, featuring previously unreleased songs from Etheridge's early back-catalogue alongside two other previously unreleased songs recorded at an intimate and boisterous 2002 concert at the Roxy in West Hollywood. [MORE](#) *Star Observer*

## Sport



### Tom Daley wants Olympics to ban countries where being gay is punishable by death

Out British diver Tom Daley is on a "mission" to get the Olympics to ban countries where homosexuality is punishable by death. [MORE](#) *Star Observer*

## Important Dates



For support if feeling affected around this day:  
USQ Students can access [free confidential counselling](#)  
USQ Staff can access [EAP](#)  
LGBTIQ+ specialised support at <https://qlife.org.au/>

### Trans Day of Remembrance

Trans Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is an annual observance on November 20 that honours the memory of the trans lives lost to acts of transphobia and discrimination. [MORE](#)  
To learn more about gender diversity: <https://trans101.org.au/>

# Supports

## LGBTIQ resources and referrals

Please remember that the USQ Ally Network keeps a list of LGBTIQ resources and referrals available for download on the [Ally website](#). Scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the downloadable list. This is a useful tool for you when supporting those who identify or who have people close to them who identify.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office.

Kind regards,  
**USQ Ally Network**

E: [ally@usq.edu.au](mailto:ally@usq.edu.au)

Student Services Division | University of Southern Queensland | Queensland | Australia

