The Lucy Cross Center for Women and Their Allies

2014-2015 Annual Report

The Lucy Cross Center provides a comfortable, welcoming space for students, staff, and faculty; advocates for women and their allies; and collaborates with the Rollins community to provide educational events and leadership/mentorship opportunities.
## Lucy Cross Numbers

### Activities
- 25+ events were hosted by Lucy
- 700+ people attended events
- 3 departments used the space
- 5 community organizations partnered with Lucy
- 20+ Rollins organizations and departments collaborated with Lucy
- $7,500 annual budget allotted
- 30 books were donated

### People
- 1 director, Dr. Michelle Stecker
- 1 coordinator, Nicole Inclan
- 2 work-study students, Jamaica Reddick and Kerrysha Matos-Soto
- 4 interns from the Master’s in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program: Jillian Blueford, Rachel Richardson, Stephanie Rancour & Ashley Williams
- You!

“The Lucy Cross Center is a place where I can go and find myself again after a long day. I wish I knew about this office sooner because it’s a strong group of supporters that are always there with open arms. There have been times when I would go to the office after a long day to be by myself and gather my thoughts.” - Kerrysha Matos-Soto ’16
Lucy Cross Center Events
Fall 2014

Planned Parenthood Open House
June 30
Planned Parenthood hosted a timely conversation on the recently passed buffer bill concerning clinics offering abortion services and on the SCOTUS ruling with Hobby Lobby that allowed corporations not to cover birth control for employees. Facilitators discussed upcoming events, and what they do, and answered questions from attendees.

Co-sponsor: Planned Parenthood of Greater Orlando
Attendance: 10

“Bob’s Burgers” and Pizza
July 30
“Bob’s Burgers” was streamed on the TV in the Chase Hall Lobby and pizza was provided. Students on campus over the summer were invited to enjoy a free lunch and hang out.

Attendance: 10

“Bob’s Burgers” and Pizza activity white board comparing what women are told to do to avoid sexual assault and what men do to avoid sexual assault.

Open Houses
Aug. 26 & 28
The Lucy Cross Center and Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement held joint open house events to welcome new and returning students to the fall semester. Cupcakes were provided as students met with staff and learned what each center had planned for the semester.

Sponsor: Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement
Attendance: 70+

A Conversation with Sallie Latch
Sept. 3
Activist and feminist artist Sallie Latch came to campus to meet with classes and talk to students about her work and experiences as a vagabond world traveler.

Co-sponsors: Department of Art and Art History; Sexuality, Women & Gender Studies Program; and the Department of Philosophy and Religion
Attendance: 21

Rollins Improv Players: “Miss” Understood
Sept. 10
The Lucy Cross Center sponsored and met with improv performers to create a show based on misconceptions of feminism. The show was sold out!

Co-sponsor: Rollins Improv Players

Provide Me Sweets Pajama Party
Sept. 24
An evening of health presentations, “Sex & Chocolate” Q&A, and discussions were hosted at the Lucy Cross Center. Chocolate and other sweets were provided!

Co-sponsors: Wellness Center, Women’s and Girls’ Cancer Alliance
Attendance: 25

RAINN Day 2014
Sept. 25
A moment of silence for survivors of sexual assault and a conversation with Title IX Coordinator Diane Willingham were held in honor of RAINN Day.

Co-sponsors: Voices for Women; Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement; Sexuality, Women’s and Gender Studies Program
Attendance: 30

Nicole Inclan, Denise Lee, and Kerrysha Matos-Soto tabling for Provide Me Sweets Pajama Party
Lucy Cross Center Events

Fall 2014 Thomas P. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Artists

LGBTQI+ Counseling Concerns for Professionals
Oct. 1
TPJ Distinguished Visiting Artist Martie van der Voort held a workshop on LGBTQI+ counseling concerns for mental health professionals, addressing how to be aware and sensitive counselors working with LGBTQI+ populations.

Co-sponsors: Thomas P. Johnson Foundation, Rollins College Department of Graduate Studies in Counseling
Attendance: 50+

Body Image Awareness Workshop
Oct. 2
Martie van der Voort held a workshop on the feminist critique of the thin body ideal for LGBTQI+ populations.

Co-sponsors: Thomas P. Johnson Foundation, Spectrum
Attendance: 20

TransFormations
Oct. 2
Martie van der Voort performed an interactive full length theatrical production depicting the stories and lives of transgender characters. Based on interviews, writings, and personal relationships, the show invites the audience to walk a mile in the characters’ shoes.

Co-sponsors: Thomas P. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Scholar & Artist Foundation; Sexuality, Women’s, and Gender Studies Program; PRISM; Rollins College Master’s in Mental Health Counseling Program; Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement; Voices for Women
Attendance: 25

Just Desserts with Janis Hirsch
Nov. 6
Students involved in feminism and social justice, and the departments of Theater, English and Writing were personally invited to join TPJ artist Janis Hirsch in a private dessert luncheon to ask questions about the writing profession, television industry, gender, and other topics.

Attendance: 25

The Boob Tube: How to be a Woman Writer for Television Without Really Trying
Nov. 6
Janis Hirsch ’72, Rollins alumna, producer and writer known for Will & Grace, 8 Simple Rules, My Wife and Kids, Frasier and The Nanny, and contributor to the National Lampoon Magazine and the New York Times, discussed her career and life experiences. Open to the community.

Co-sponsors: Sexuality, Women’s, and Gender Studies Program; Alumni Relations, Theater and Dance Department; Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement; Voices for Women
Attendance: 100+

Kerrysha Matos-Soto, Martie van der Voort, Jamaica Reddick, Nicole Inclan, and Dr. Jill Jones after the TransFormations performance.
The Lucy Cross Center sponsored the launch of a new performance series in Orlando run by two Rollins College alums. Orlando community members were invited to share hidden identities, or parts of themselves they feel they need to keep secret or that others would not expect of them.

Co-sponsors: IDeclare
Attendance: 20

Activist Candace Gingrich discussed how she became a nationally renowned activist for gay rights.

Co-sponsors: The Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement, Diversity Advisory Council
Attendance: 30

The kick-off event for the Anti-Catcalling Campaign created by the Lucy Cross Center coordinator consisted of students, faculty, and staff making anti-street harassment posters using construction paper, magazines, markers, glitter, and creativity!

Attendance: 30+

The Lucy Cross Center celebrated its 4th birthday at Rollins with mini cupcakes, cookies, and a Rollins Improv Players Workshop! Led by Lucy Cross work-study student Jamaica Reddick.

Co-sponsors: Sociology Department, Rollins Improv Players
Attendance: 20
Anti-Catcalling and Street Harassment Campaign

The Lucy Cross Center Coordinator Nicole Inclan was inspired to take action by results of the Spring 2014 Campus Climate Survey that revealed women on campus are experiencing frequent street harassment. She started a campaign to counter catcalls and harassment. Rollins College students created posters that were distributed on campus and on Park Avenue, the Orlando Sentinel filmed an interview with Nicole and wrote an article on the issue of catcalling, and student Public Service Announcements against street harassment were recorded and shared on student affairs social media. Olin Library also used some of the students’ posters as their computer screensavers for several weeks and displayed some of the digitalized posters on their patio television. Thanks to this collaboration, over 8,000 people were reached through Olin Library alone! Images of the posters and related catcalling events were shared on social media such as Instagram, Facebook, and Tumblr throughout the year.
Spring 2015

Lucy Cross Center Reception
Jan. 23
Global Links Scholar Dr. Sharmistha Banerjee attended a reception/Spring open house in the Lucy Cross Center where the Rollins community had an opportunity to welcome her.

Co-sponsor: Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainability Initiative (SESI)

Attendance: 15

The Power of the Collective: Women’s Craft Co-Operatives in India
Feb. 10
Professor of Philosophy and Religion Dr. Margaret McLaren led a discussion about her experiences and research in India regarding women’s craft co-operatives.

Co-sponsor: The Center for India & South Asia

Attendance: 10

Black Women in America
Feb. 17
A follow-up to last year’s event, the Lucy Cross Center hosted a discussion on how PWIs (Predominately White Institutions) can cultivate an environment that supports Black women.

Co-sponsors: Rollins Student Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery; Department of English; Department of Sociology; Voices for Women; Black Student Union

Attendance: 50+

Dirty Paki Lingerie
Mar. 12
The Lucy Cross Center co-sponsored Aizzah Fatima’s performance of a one-woman show where sex, religion, and politics collide as six American-Pakistani Muslim women air their dirty lingerie.

Co-sponsors: Diversity Advisory Council, Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement

Attendance: 20

“Machinal” Advertisement
February
The Lucy Cross Center placed an ad promoting the center in the playbook for the Annie Russell Theater’s performance of Machinal, a fictionalized play based on the first woman to be executed in the United States.

Reach: 500+

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Lucy Cross Drop-In Discussion: Empower Path
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Local writer and entrepreneur Elizabeth Gifford led an interactive workshop on finding your power and passion, and overcoming obstacles.

Attendance: 12

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Attendance: 50+
Meet Christina Weber
March 31
At “Fishing with Christina Weber,” the speaker discussed her trials, tribulations, successes and overwhelming devotion to fishing while challenging students to discover their identity and passion, and ways to apply it!

Co-sponsors: Rollins Sports Fishing Association
Attendance: 10

Ready to Launch
Apr. 9
Social Justice Intern Ashley Williams created and hosted an event for graduating seniors to watch TED Talks, enjoy pizza and discuss thoughts about graduation and post grad plans.

Co-sponsor: The Center for Career & Life Planning
Attendance: 7

Rollins Rally Against Violence Tabling
Apr. 7
Lucy Cross and Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement Graduate Assistants held a table at the Sexual Assault Awareness Month rally where they encouraged participants to make pro-consent flyers and record brief anti-catcalling public service announcements.

Sponsor: Title IX Office
Attendance: 100+

*Miss Representation*
Apr. 16
Social Justice Interns screened the documentary “Miss Representation,” a film about media portrayal of women, followed by a facilitated discussion on reactions to the film.
Attendance: 8
Improving the Status of Women Worldwide

Over 70 students, faculty, staff, and community attended a forum on the status of women worldwide. Experts immersed in raising awareness of women’s issues discussed the work in their fields. Over dinner, guests selected breakout sessions based on the experts’ topics and brainstormed ways to make change in their own communities.

Distinguished Speakers and Topics

♦ Rep. Patricia Schroeder ‘01H Former Congresswoman: Women in Politics
♦ Judith Kaplan, National Women's History Museum: Women & History
♦ Dr. Sharmistha Banerjee, Global Links Scholar: The Status of Women & Girls in India
♦ Elinor Steele ‘01MBA, Tupperware Brands VP: Entrepreneurship & Women’s Empowerment
♦ Dr. Ruth Edwards, Winter Park Public Library Director of Civic Engagement: Race & Gender
♦ Sandy Saccullo ’02, OneClique Entrepreneur: Bullying & Violence
♦ Nicole Inclan ’14, Lucy Cross Center Coordinator: Catcalling & Street Harassment
♦ Barbara Zdravecky, Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida CEO: Reproductive Health
♦ Dave O’Connor, UNA-Orlando President: Men Advocating for Women
♦ Dr. Mary Conway Dato-on, SESi Faculty Director: Facilitator
♦ Dr. Michelle Stecker, Lucy Cross Center Director: Emcee

Photo credit: Scott Cook
Collaborations

Rollins College Departments & Organizations

- Alumni Relations
- Black Student Union
- Center for Career & Life Planning
- Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement
- Center for India & South Asia
- Center for Leadership and Community Engagement
- Democracy Project
- Department of Art History
- Department of English
- Department of Graduate Studies in Counseling
- Department of Philosophy and Religion
- Department of Sociology
- Department of Theater and Dance
- Global Links Program
- Office of International Students & Scholarly Services
- Olin Library
- Rollins Improv Players
- Rollins Sport Fishing Association
- Rollins Student Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery
- Sexuality, Women's, & Gender Studies
- Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainability Initiatives (SESi)
- Spectrum
- Student Leadership Team
- Title IX Office
- Thomas P. Johnson Foundation
- Voices for Women
- Wellness Center
- Winter Park Institute

Committees and Campus Involvement

Lucy Cross Center staff served on various committees on campus and supported campus events. Committees and organizations include:

- Campus Climate Survey Committee
- Diversity Advisory Council
- Orlando Pride 2013
- Thomas P. Johnson Scholar and Artist Committee
- SESi (Social Entrepreneurship & Sustainability Initiative)

Dr. Sharmistha Banerjee, Global Links Scholar, and guest at Lucy Cross
Collaborations

Community Organizations and Partnerships

- Planned Parenthood
- Women’s and Girls’ Cancer Alliance
- IDeclare
- United Nations Association-Orlando
- Tupperware Brands
- Beacon Network
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida
- The Center
- Come Out with Pride
- Equality Florida
- Florida Hospital Innovation Lab
- Hope CommUnity Center
- Watermark
- Winter Park Public Library
- Zebra Coalition
Reflections

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as the founding faculty director of the Lucy Cross Center the last three years. The Center has grown from a cozy room the size of a closet on the second floor of Chase Hall, to a comfortable space with plenty of natural light that can hold up to 25 people. Hundreds of people have walked through the doors and used the space for student and faculty meetings, drop-in sessions, trainings, Fulbright scholarship interviews, parties, open houses, events, and homework gatherings.

Lucy Cross is a strong voice for sexuality, women’s, and gender issues on campus and the larger community. We regularly collaborate with a diverse group of organizations to provide cutting-edge programming and training sessions. One of our highlights this spring was partnering with the United Nations Association-Orlando to present the “Women’s Forum: Improving the Status of Women Worldwide” featuring Rep. Patricia Schroeder and a slate of distinguished speakers. Two Thomas P. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Artists – Martie van der Voort and Janis Hirsch – provided high-quality presentations last fall that were well-received.

I want to thank Niki Inclan, Lucy Cross Coordinator, our student workers, and social justice interns for all of their efforts this year. I also want to thank the members of the Lucy Cross Advisory Council, who advise and support me, and serve as ambassadors for Lucy Cross in the community: Kimberly Dennis, Margaret McLaren, Jill Jones, Anna Eskamani, Connie Briscoe, Jackie Brito, Gregory Cavenaugh, Karen Castor Dentel, Gina Duncan, Karen Hater, Marty Haine, Abby Hollem, Lisa Johnson, Ann McLure, Michele Meyer, Scott Rubarth, Maria Ruiz, Samuel Sanabria, Jayashree Shivamoggi, Anne Stone, Eren Tatari, Tonia Warnecke, Oriana Jimenez, Mahjabeen Rafiuddin, and Joe Saunders.

I wish Dr. Jill Jones, our new Lucy Cross director, the very best and look forward to her leadership at the helm of Lucy Cross in August. It has been a great three years!
Working Together,
Michelle Stecker