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

Activities

- 17 events were hosted by Lucy
- 500+ attendees
- 3 departments used the space
- 5 student organizations met in Lucy
- 2 Rollins classes collaborated with Lucy for class projects and events
- $7,500 annual budget
- 50 books were donated

People

- 1 director, Dr. Michelle Stecker
- 1 coordinator, Nicole Inclan
- 2 work-study students, Joy Bible and Mari Salcedo
- 2 Interns, Precious Maxwell and a high school student
- 1 volunteer, Archie Brechin
- You!

“Lucy has given me a space to be a male feminist without stigma.”
-Peter Ruiz ‘15

“I love the Lucy Cross. It’s definitely a home away from home because at the end of the day I can find great people to come talk to and a wonderful, cozy place to sit.”
-Alaine Jolicoeur ‘14
Lucy Cross Center Events

Fall 2013

Challenges to LGBT Equality Around the Globe: Questions and Answers with Stuart Milk Sept. 10
With the upcoming Sochi Winter Olympics, LGBT equality in Eastern Europe, Asia and the Middle East had never been more compelling. Renowned activist Stuart Milk had just returned from the region and shared his experiences and insights at this singular and timely event.
Sponsors: Office of Multicultural Affairs, Office of Community Relations, Watermark, The Center and Come Out With Pride
Attendance: 70+

Stopping Sexual Violence on Campus Sept. 26
Students, faculty, and staff stopped by the Lucy Cross Center to sign our “These Hands are NOT for Hurting” pledge and join our “Take a Stand” discussion with the director of the Wellness center. Part of National RAINN (Rape Abuse, & Incest National Network) Day observance.
Sponsors: RAINN, The Wellness Center, Students Against Sexual Assault and Voices for Women
Attendance: 70

The Coming Out Monologues Oct. 10
LGBT/Ally students, staff, and faculty shared their personal coming out stories as we celebrated National Coming Out Day at Rollins College.
Sponsors: Spectrum, PRISM, OMA
Attendance: 30+

LGBT Roundtable: How Does a Gay Atheist Become a Village Chief in Ghana? Oct. 21
Student Scott Novak shared his story of spending time abroad and discussed LGBT+ issues in Africa.
Sponsors: Spectrum and Prism
Attendance: 10

Women in TV: I Love Lucy Oct. 22
Two episodes of the classic sitcom were screened, followed by a discussion on what the show said about gender roles, sexuality and women.
Sponsors: Cornell Fine Arts Museum
Attendance: 12

Tough Guise Oct. 28
We screened a film exploring the relationship between images in pop culture and the social construction of male identity in the U.S.
Sponsors: X-Club Fraternity, Women’s Studies Program, OMA
Attendance: 32

Lunch with Lucy Nov. 6
Communication Campaign students arranged and publicized a lunch to help students learn what the Lucy Cross Center can do for them.
Sponsor: COM 325 class
Attendance: 12
Lucy Cross Center Events
Fall 2013

Lucy Cross Center Roundtable: Feminist Theater
Nov. 7
Dr. Greg Cavenaugh, Associate Professor of Communication, led a discussion on feminist theater.
Sponsor: Voices for Women
Attendance: 12

Lucy Cross Center Roundtable: Marriage and Family Life
Nov. 14
Dr. Amy McClure, Assistant Professor of Sociology, led a discussion on modern marriage and family life.
Sponsor: Voices for Women
Attendance: 16

A Journey to Leadership with State Representatives
Nov. 14
Florida State representatives Joe Saunders and Karen Castor Dental discussed their respective experiences as public officials and answered student questions about getting involved in politics.
Sponsors: Rita Bornstein Leadership Forum, Office of Student Involvement and Leadership, Voices for Women, Spectrum
Attendance: 30

For disability accommodations please email buelen@rollins.edu before November 10
Spring 2014

“A Conversation with Sean Strub” AIDS Activist and Author
Feb. 11
Sponsors: Office of Community Relations, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Diversity Advisory Council, Spectrum, Watermark, Zebra Coalition, The Center
Attendance: 60

Nadine Smith Presents the State of the State
Feb. 25
Nadine Smith, executive director of Equality Florida, discussed the state of LGBT affairs in Florida.
Sponsors: Office of Multicultural Affairs, Diversity Advisory Council, Spectrum
Attendance: 15

Lucy Cross Center Roundtable: Feminism and Psychology
Mar. 11
Dr. Maria Ruiz, Professor of Psychology, spoke to students about her feminist research in psychology and her experiences as a woman in the field.
Sponsor: Voices for Women
Attendance: 10

Black Women in America: Past, Present, & Future
Mar. 17
Students, staff, and faculty discussed their experiences as black women at different stages of their lives.
Sponsors: OMA, Black Student Union, African/African-American Studies Program, Sociology Department, Communication Department, Women’s Studies Program, Hannibal Square Heritage Center, and Winter Park Public Library
Attendance: 20

Lucy Cross Center Roundtable: HIV Talk
Mar. 27
A community woman spoke to students about how she has lived with HIV for 18 years, how it affects her business, and what role medication plays in her life.
Sponsor: The Wellness Center
Attendance: 10

Be a Kid Again Picnic
Apr. 9
Students were invited to channel their inner child with hula hoops, chalk, bubbles, and Play-Doh and enjoyed popcorn and pretzels. With finals coming up, Lucy Cross wanted to offer students a chance to hang out and de-stress!
Attendance: 45
Michelle Stecker’s Strategies for Changemakers students worked closely with Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida during the Spring semester. After spending 15 hours throughout the semester working hands-on with the kids, we brought 50 members of the clubs to campus on April 23rd for a scavenger hunt-style tour of the campus. The Rollins students led groups of 9 kids around campus to visit highlights like Olin Library, Alfond Sports Center, the Cornell Fine Arts Museum, the Annie Russell Theater, the Office of International Programs, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and, of course, the Lucy Cross Center. Volunteer students and staff “hosted” the groups at each site and explained what each location offers college students. Thank you to Patricia Haley, Sally McGuren, Danny Powell, Dr. Julian Chambliss, Dr. Rachel Simmons, Peter Ruiz, Alaine Jolicoeur, and Mari Salcedo for being wonderful hosts!

The day culminated with a pizza party and brief panel consisting of financial aid representative Cindy Griffin, former Boys & Girls Club member and Goings Scholar Leeann Noel, and other Changemakers students discussing how to apply to college and why they chose Rollins.

It was a fun-filled day that allowed us to share our campus with inspiring young people. We look forward to working with The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida again very soon!

Thank you to the Office of Community Engagement, Yadira Elrod, and Micki Meyer for their support and help with this fantastic day!
Collaborations

Rollins College Departments & Organizations

- African/African-American Studies Program
- Annie Russell Theater
- Black Student Union
- Communication Department
- Communication Campaign Course
- Cornell Fine Arts Museum
- Diversity Advisory Council
- International Programs
- Office of Community Engagement
- Office of Community Relations
- Office of Multicultural Affairs
- Office of Student Involvement and Leadership
- Olin Library
- PRISM
- Rita Bornstein Leadership Forum
- Sociology Department
- Spectrum
- Students Against Sexual Assault
- Voices for Women
- Women’s Studies Program
- X-Club Fraternity

Committees and Campus Involvement

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

- Diversity Advisory Council
- Diversity Advisor Council Steering Committee
- Creating Change 2014 Conference Field Study
- Gender Influences on Maternal Health in Low Resource Settings
- Hunger Banquet Committee
- Lavender Graduation Committee
- Orlando Pride 2013
- Thomas P. Johnson Scholar and Artist Committee
- SESi (Social Entrepreneurship & Sustainability Initiative)

Thomson P. Johnson Scholar Nominees

Lucy Cross Coordinator Niki Inclan submitted two grant proposals to bring Rollins Alum and writer Janis Hirsch and Martie van der Voort, therapist and one woman performer of Trans* issues, to campus Fall 2014. Lucy Cross received funding for both guests!
Collaborations

Community Organizations and Partnerships

- Beacon Network
- Boys & Girls Club of Central Florida
- The Center
- Come Out with Pride
- Equality Florida
- Florida Hospital Innovation Lab
- Hannibal Square Heritage Center
- Hope CommUnity Center
- Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida
- Watermark
- Winter Park Public Library
- Women’s Residential Counseling Center
- Zebra Coalition
Reflections

Time really does “fly!” It has been my privilege to serve as the first faculty director of the Lucy Cross Center for the last two years. “Lucy” – as the students fondly call it – continues to be a warm and inviting home for diverse student groups, provocative roundtable discussions, and engaging lectures by faculty and members of the community. On most days, you will see students hanging out, eating a snack, or preparing for their next exam.

In collaboration with partner organizations, our Lucy Cross team provides transformative educational opportunities, and serves as a strong social justice advocate for our community. I am grateful that Lucy Cross Coordinator Nicole Inclan, a mid-year 2013 Rollins grad, has been working at Lucy since my first day in office. Niki has been invaluable and the reason why Lucy has been so successful providing such a wide variety of top-notch events. Student workers Joy Bible (class of 2014) and Mari Salcedo (class of 2015) complete our terrific Lucy Cross team!

What’s next for Lucy? In our desire to “step up our game” as advocates and educators, we will begin using a human-centered design approach – used so successfully at the Florida Hospital Innovation Lab – to discover solutions to challenges facing our campus and beyond. Instead of focusing on problems, Lucy will serve as a radical place of innovation. We invite you to stop by to learn, to be inspired, and to dream—our door is always open!

Working Together, Nicole Inclan

I have had the privilege of being involved with the Lucy Cross Center through most of my college career. Lucy was first a safe place to discuss feminism, social justice, and human rights with peers and mentors. It was a place to brainstorm how we students could change the world. As a recent graduate, I can say Lucy has evolved over the years into a center that offers current students (and myself!) fulfilling work, provides resources and support to students, empowers Rollins community members of all genders, and makes an effort to amplify the voices of many intersectional identities. The collaborative nature of the center’s staff has allowed us to find allies and support throughout the community. Together we can do our part to fulfill Rollins’ title as a Change-maker Campus. I look forward to being a part of Lucy’s future!

Warmly, Nicole Inclan

I ❤️ Lucy