



February 27, 2018

Dr. Cheryl Schrader
President
Wright State University
250 University Hall
Dayton, Ohio 45435

Dr. Schrader:

We, the undersigned members of the Allies at Wright State (Organization for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Ally Faculty and Staff) are writing you to support ongoing efforts by the University's Office of LGBTQA Affairs, Division of Student Affairs, Chief Diversity Office, Office of Equity and Inclusion, and Student Government to modify existing restrooms within each building on our campus into all-gender restrooms. Currently, five buildings on campus have restrooms that anyone, regardless of their gender, can use: the Student Union, the Student Success Center, White Hall, Allyn Hall, and the main lobby of the Creative Arts Center.

Transgender, gender-queer, and gender nonconforming individuals often face difficult decisions when taking care of basic needs. Using a restroom where one is perceived to be violating social norms that many hold can be anxiety-provoking and even dangerous. We feel that Wright State's students would be best served in an environment that allowed them to focus on their academic, personal, and social growth rather than to worry about where they can safely use the restroom. Moreover, any visitor, potential student, or parent visiting campus will find an environment that is more fully inclusive than many other places in the surrounding region.

We advocate for the transformation of at least one restroom in each campus building into one that anyone might use. We also advocate for the maintenance of traditional gendered restrooms in all buildings as well. The Offices of LGBTQA Affairs and Equity and Inclusion have identified restrooms that might be easily and economically converted into all-gender restrooms with the addition of signs placed outside of those restrooms; other signs can be installed directing people to traditional gendered restrooms for those more comfortable in those spaces.

We know that our campus is emerging from difficult economic times, but we hope that by enhancing the climate of inclusion on campus, more students might consider Wright State as the right place for them to further their education. Additionally, this will make our campus more appealing to future employees. Thank you for considering this issue.

Sincerely, members of Allies, LGBTQA Faculty and Staff at Wright State,

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