Celebrating LGBTQ Pride Month

June 2, 2022

Dear URI community,

June is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month, established to recognize the impact that LGBTQ+ individuals have had throughout history locally, nationally, and internationally and to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. In June 1969, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn staged a mass uprising to the police harassment and persecution to which LGBTQ Americans were commonly subjected to during the time. This ultimately marked the beginning of a movement to ban discriminatory laws and practices in the United States. The first Pride march in New York City was held on June 28, 1970, one year after the uprising, and today, celebrations around the world include parades, picnics, parties, marches, symposia, and events.

Here at URI, we acknowledge and remember the challenging history of the LGBTQ+ community and bring visibility and awareness to issues that many still face. However, we can also find opportunities for joy and celebrate the accomplishments of the movement and the diversity LGBTQ+ individuals bring to our community. We are committed to ensuring equality for all of our faculty, staff, and students on campus and fostering a welcoming environment for everyone.

There are many resources, including the Gender and Sexuality Center, on our campus to learn more, support, and engage with members of the LGBTQ+ community. I hope you will join me in recognizing the significance of this month and stay tuned for more information about upcoming events.

Kind regards,
Marc Parlange