

~ Flag Request PILOT Application ~

The Application Process

- a) The proposal will be submitted to the college governance council for consideration and recommendation.
- b) Governance council members will consult with their respective constituent groups for consideration and recommendation on the proposal
- c) After consideration of the proposal by all constituent groups, and final review by the college governance council, the proposal is submitted to the President for approval.
- d) The proposal is submitted to Chancellor's Cabinet for review and final approval.

The Application

- *Your application MUST contain the following components to be considered*
 - 1) Attach/Upload a visual replication (image or PDF) of the exact flag.



- 2) What are the dimensions of the flag? (length and height)
Any proposed flag may NOT be larger than the college's current American Flag
The flag is about 30x60. It is the same flag we raised during Pride Month.
- 3) How does the proposed flag support the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District's vision, goals, and/or mission? (not to exceed 200 words)

Raising the pride flag on National Coming Out Day shows the college's support for historically marginalized LGBTQ+ students. Since Pride is based in the summer, there are few times during our main semesters where the college shows support, and it's easy for most students to miss the celebrations in June and July. LGBTQ+ students and staff identified National Coming Out Day as an opportunity for the college to keep the support and celebration going into the fall semester where we have the most students and in particular first semester students. This sets the tone for the culture of the college as being inclusive for queer communities.

- 4) What is the proposed time frame for raising and flying the flag (no longer than 1 month)?

The flag will be raised just for one day on October 11th to celebrate National Coming Out Day.

- 5) Attach/Upload letters of support from faculty/advisor/sponsor (combine all letters into one document and attach/upload)

Re: Flag Raising

June Yang <June.Yang@gcccd.edu>

Fri 9/22/2023 6:42 AM

To: Joel Castellaw <Joel.Castellaw@gcccd.edu>; Niko Crumpton <niko.crumpton@gcccd.edu>; Abby Algarin <abby.algarin@gcccd.edu>

Hi Niko and Abby, thank you for taking the lead on this application. And Joel, your statement is moving, and extremely powerful. Thank you for sharing your experiences with us and the decision-makers. Here is mine to add to the application advocating for equity and inclusion for our SOGI students. Happy Friday! -June

Statement in Support of Raising the Progress Pride Flag from 10 AM to 4 PM in the Quad on October 11, 2023: National Coming Out Day.

During the first week of classes, flyers inviting interest for the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Club (SOGI Club) were posted around campus. In my long years of service to our school, I have never seen an interest form grow so quickly, and it is still growing. It became abundantly clear that our SOGI student population is not only numerous, but ready to come together and support one another with fun and engaging activities.

For example, our SOGI students meet twice a week for SOGI Study Hall, which serves as a safe space to socialize and study together. They also thoroughly enjoyed a Pride Karaoke night last Thursday. There were at least 25 students in attendance at our Griffin Gate, and their collective song of the gay anthem, YMCA, was both exuberant and inspiring.

As one of the club's co-advisors, it is rewarding to watch our SOGI students rise together in support of one another whenever they meet, in particular because many of the high schools they come to us from were not supportive of them, too often even hostile towards them. Their enthusiasm for the SOGI Club shows that they have found a place of belonging here at Grossmont College, one which they are eager to foster and grow.

On October 11, 2023, there will be four groups in the Quad supporting our students, especially our SOGI students. These groups are Classified Staff, Latinx Alliance, API Committee, and the SOGI Club. We are scheduled from 10 AM to 4 PM and would like to raise the flag in our Quad for that time period. Grossmont College was the first community college in the SDICCCA area to raise the Progress Pride Flag two years ago during June, the month of Pride.

Let us continue this courageous, equitable, and inclusive tradition and raise the Progress Pride Flag in our Quad in support and celebration of our SOGI community of Grossmont College on the occasion of National Coming Out Day.

Thank you for your consideration,
June

June Yang, PhD, Professor of Philosophy

Co-Advisor, SOGI Club

Phone: (619) 800-6585; Preferred Pronouns: she, her, hers

<https://www.grossmont.edu/>

"One of the things that make community colleges so special is they do not

pick and choose their students - they work with all students."

-Jill Biden

From: Joel Castellaw <Joel.Castellaw@gcccd.edu>

Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2023 12:04 PM

To: Niko Crumpton <niko.crumpton@gcccd.edu>; Abby Algarin <abby.algarin@gcccd.edu>; June Yang <June.Yang@gcccd.edu>

Subject: RE: Flag Raising

Statement in support for Progress Pride raising for National Coming Out Day.

When I came of age in the late 1970s and early 1980s, coming out was perilous and frightening. Harvey Milk had been assassinated. A bigoted attempt to prevent LGBTQ people from being employed as public school teachers in California had been defeated, but still left scars. Marriage equality wasn't even on the radar.

The amount of progress toward LGBTQ equality that I have experienced in my life has been breathtaking. By the mid-2010s, it seemed like LGBTQ rights in our country were pretty secure. But a backlash began, and it just keeps getting worse.

I did a sabbatical project in 2019 in which I interview LGBTQ students, faculty, staff, and administrators about their coming out experiences, and our students shared with me that the coming out experience continued to be characterized by fear of rejection, and that it remained challenging to be an LGBTQ young person. Through my interaction with our LGBTQ students in the years since then as an advisor to the SOGI club, I have seen our students' resilience, but also their challenges and fears. Many still can't be authentically themselves at home, and some don't always feel safe being themselves everywhere on campus.

Flying the Progress Pride Flag on National Coming Out Day – a day when we are also planning activities on campus in support of our LGBTQ students – will serve as a powerful affirmation to our students that Grossmont College stands by them. I strongly encourage decision makers to approve the request to fly the flag.

With love, and with pride,
Joel

Prof. Joel Castellaw (he, him, his)
M.A. Speech Communication, M.A. Theatre Arts
Communication department co-chair
Grossmont College

From: Niko Crumpton <niko.crumpton@gcccd.edu>

Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2023 9:52 AM

To: Abby Algarin <abby.algarin@gcccd.edu>; Joel Castellaw <Joel.Castellaw@gcccd.edu>; June Yang <June.Yang@gcccd.edu>

Subject: Fw: Flag Raising

Hi everyone,

I just filled out a bit of the flag raising application to raise the pride flag for National Coming Out Day.