Dear ALGBTIC Members,

With the impact of COV-19, we find ourselves in a unique experience in uncertain times. As you may have heard, ACA has just cancelled the national conference (https://www.counseling.org/news/updates/2020/03/13/2020-aca-annual-conference-expo-cancelled), we know that many of you may be disappointed that we will not be able to connect as we typically do at the national conference. I wanted to make you aware of the things ALGBTIC is doing to maintain connection in the absence of our national conference.

For All Members, we will have an Open Member Meeting where you can meet the Board, hear about our initiatives this year and next, ask questions, and learn how to get involved with the organization. Register here: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_c35iLpCOR_OfBJtXh9Ctw
If you have any questions, contact me at ginicolam2@southernct.edu

For any ALGBTIC member that had an ACA accepted presentation on any issue related to LGBTGEQIAP+ people, we want to offer you some options to still present your work this year. You can go to our ALGBTIC portal for ACA Accepted Presentation Proposals here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6PHVHKN and enter your information. You can select any of the following.

1. On Friday, April 17th, we will offer webinars all day long. You can opt to choose a time during this day.
2. You can choose to do a webinar on a day of your choosing during the year.
3. You can choose to present at our Virtual Conference on October 10th-11th this year.
If you have any questions, contact me at ginicolam2@southernct.edu

For Queer and Trans People of Color, we will have a virtual gathering on Saturday, April 18th at 12:00 p.m. EST. If you are a Queer or Trans Person of Color, please come join us for connection and community. Register here: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/u5Msdu2srTgqrUGIKtDmeBrVLEfkuL9zg
If you have any questions, please contact Tamekia Bell at tamekiabell018@gmail.com

For Graduate Students, we will have a virtual gathering on Saturday, April 18th at 2:00 p.m. EST. If you are a graduate student, please come join us for some connection and self-care! Register here: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/vpcqd-upz8qNj0nmoi_EmfpP8PjX5nWng
If you have any questions, please contact Joshua Allton at jallton110@gmail.com.

Awards: We will be presenting the awards to our award winners at the next ACA Conference in Orlando in 2021.

Reception: We will be having our reception at the next ACA Conference in Orlando in 2021.
Rainbow Run: The Rainbow Run Committee will host a Virtual Rainbow Run 5K & 1K Walk. This means that, wherever, you are, you can register for the event, follow our livestream event, and run, walk, or sashay right near your own home! Participants who run the Virtual 5k race or 1k walk will still receive a medal and we will host a live stream of our race director running a 5K in Cleveland, Ohio! We would like participants to post with a hashtag (#2020VirtualRainbowRun), on Facebook, Instagram, and/or Twitter.

By making registrations virtual, we can still donate a portion of the race proceeds to support the North County LGBTQ Resource Center – an excellent LGBTQ center that is devoted to the community and providing mental health resources, referrals, and services. Read more about them here: https://www.ncresourcecenter.org/ If you have any questions, please contact Race Director Pete Finnerty at pete@growwellcle.com or Amanda Brace at abrace@counselingforwellness.com.

As Queer, Trans, and Allied People, we are no strangers to difficult and challenging times. We are resilient. We are innovative. We are survivors. I know we will make our way through this next challenge and come out the other side of this even stronger as a community and as an organization.

To you, my ALGBTIC family: Thank you for your patience and your willingness to try something new with us. Stay safe, stay calm, and stay connected.

In solidarity,

Misty Ginicola
ALGBTIC President, 2019-2020