

Need Help?

**Have
questions?**

Contact us!

Naomi Carton

Director /BILAGA ADVISOR

Phone: 508-831-5645

Email: letendre@wpi.edu

Kristin Conti

Assistant Director

Phone: 508-831-5175

Email: kconti@wpi.edu

Rich Landry

Complex Coordinator

Phone: 508-831-5645

Email: rlandry@wpi.edu

Karolina Markle

Complex Coordinator

Phone: 508-831-5645

Email: kmarkle@wpi.edu



BiLaGA is available to provide social support and a voice for WPI students who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning or straight allies. BiLaGA shall provide a community for its members and offer social activities, educational programming and a network of support.

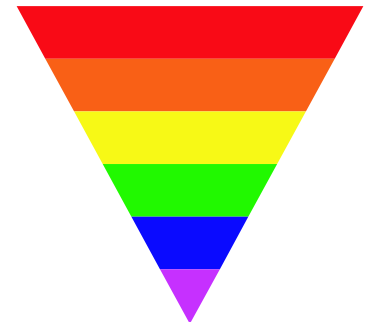
Residential Services strives to provide on-campus residential facilities that are attractive and well-maintained. Recognizing that student learning takes place in the living environment, the staff enhances and enriches the student experience by providing services and opportunities for personal and intellectual growth, and by creating a community that fosters an appreciation of diversity.

Please visit our websites:

<http://users.wpi.edu/~bilaga/>

**[http://
wpi.edu/Admin/RSO/](http://wpi.edu/Admin/RSO/)**

Tips and Resources for Coming Out to your Roommate



Presented by:

***The Office of
Residential
Services
and BILAGA***

Thinking of coming out to your roommate?

Here are some things to think about:

- Coming out is a personal decision and a process. It is important that you come out when you are ready to do so.
- Let your roommate get to know you first.
- When talking to your roommate, do not be defensive. Be patient and calm.
- If you decide to come out and do not feel comfortable doing it alone, talk to your R.A. or a C.A.
- You may also talk to your Complex Coordinator if a situation seems out of control.
- Go to a BILAGA meeting to meet allies and talk about coming out to your roommate.
- If you are uncertain how your roommate might react, come out several days before room change. Room change is usually 2 weeks after classes start. If things do not work out, see the Director of Residential Services to talk about a room change.
- If you are feeling alone, there are allies and persons all over campus to give you moral support. You may send an email to bilagasc@wpi.edu.

Things to Consider When Your Roommate Comes Out to You

Despite what your feelings may be at the moment, try to remember that it wasn't necessarily easy for your roommate to disclose this information to you. You may both be feeling equally uncomfortable or uneasy. Be open and honest about your feelings while also being sure to maintain respectful relations with your roommate.

Sometimes backgrounds and values of people are different. In our diverse world, it is important to be respectful of others and to learn more about each person as an individual. Be sure to respect both similarities and differences.

If you believe this situation might conflict with your educational experience because of your background and personal beliefs, talk to your roommate, R.A., C.A., or a member of the Residential Services Staff.

If you have questions about persons who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered, check resources and information at <http://users.wpi.edu/~bilaga>, meet with a counselor at the West Street House, or talk with a friend/staff member at the Office of Diversity Programs.

It is important to be respectful toward all individuals regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, ability, national origin, religion, appearance, sexual orientation, veteran status or additional individual differences. This is what being a good citizen, leader or ally is all about.

