

Press Release

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SPECIAL CHAIR FOR LGBT WORKPLACE INCLUSION TO BE CREATED AT LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

KPN to be major sponsor of world's first LGBT workplace-dedicated University Chair

Despite the expanding dialogue on Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) topics around the world, there is still insufficient empirical data on LGBT inclusion in the workplace. This leads to uninformed decisions and lack of progress for both businesses and employees. There is clearly the need for a theoretical base and a roadmap with practical guidelines for employers to work with.

Amsterdam-based non-profit organization, Workplace Pride Foundation and Leiden University are pleased to announce the intention to create the:

Workplace Pride Chair at Leiden University *Endowment for International LGBT Workplace Inclusion*

The first of its kind in the world, the Chair will provide a focused and scientific multi-disciplinary approach for how to improve LGBT inclusion in the workplace and allow the development and enhancement of scholarship in this priority area of study. While firmly rooted in the Dutch model for LGBT inclusion in society, the Chair will be both domestic and international in scope and will foster recruitment of faculty members from among the best scholars in the world.

KPN will be the first major funder of the new Chair:

"This initiative is a milestone in the field of LGBT inclusion. KPN is committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace and we want people to feel free to be themselves. By supporting this initiative, we want to go further and really contribute to research on this topic.", said Janine Vos, Chief Human Resources Officer, KPN

Simone Buitendijk, Vice Rector of Leiden University, who will detail the new chair at the [Workplace Pride 2015 International Conference](#) today at the specially-built pavilion on Gustav Mahlerplein at Amsterdam's Zuidas, says:

"Serious academic study on LGBT inclusion in the workplace has been a long time coming and Leiden University is proud to be part of this groundbreaking work"

Keynote speakers at the conference include:

- **Randy Berry:** U.S. State Department Special Envoy for LGBT Human Rights, and
- **Rik van de Westelaken:** Anchorman at NOS Journal

who will relate their own experiences about LGBT workplace inclusion.

Editor's Note for more information regarding Workplace Pride contact:

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The Workplace Pride Foundation was founded in 2006 and is the international platform for inclusion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people at work. Its 43 members * employ more than 2 million people worldwide and share the vision to *'Change workplaces around the world to be truly inclusive, ensuring that Lesbians, Gay, Bisexuals and Transgenders are fully visible, valued, empowered, and leading the way for others'*

*Current Workplace Pride Members

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www.workplacepride.com