

# Student Resource Center Restructuring Updates: Know What's Changing And What You Can Do

Across Kennesaw State University, identity-based student centers and programs are being restructured or eliminated due to federal and state mandates.

## What's Inside

- Breakdown of what's changing
- Impacts on students & communities
- Upcoming meetings you can attend
- Actions you can take now
- Link to student run queer resource hub



Scan for Comprehensive Notes from each meeting as well as a digital version of each publication used in this information campaign

Full Transition Deadline: August 2025  
These changes are scheduled to begin on May 12, with a full transition completed before the start of the Fall 2025 semester. Updates and notifications about the changes will be sent through OwlLife pages of each center.

Please subscribe to the Owl Life pages of each center you want updates on.

Contact the Division of **Student Affairs** with concerns and questions

Made April 10<sup>th</sup>, subject to change

## LGBT Center

### Forced Compliance with Federal & State Mandates

- KSU is restructuring student affairs due to federal and state restrictions on identity-based resources.
- Failure to comply would result in severe funding losses

### Elimination of Identity-Based Centers & Services

- LGBTQ Resource Center, Women's Center, and similar Resource Centers will be replaced with generalized student support centers.
  - The LGBT Center will be replaced with the Commuter and "Self Exploration Center"
- Programs like queer therapy and the Queer Closet will be mainstreamed to fit broader student needs.
- Current staff will remain, but new hires will be vetted for neutrality.

### Plans for Future "Generalized" Student Support

- Identity-based centers will be rebranded with neutral names as "Hubs" for the Student wellness center (e.g., LGBTQ Center → "XYZ Hub").
- Physical spaces will remain intact, allowing for potential policy reversals in the future.
- National heritage months (Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, etc.) will still be recognized.

### Uncertain Future for Housing & Student Resources

- Stonewall Housing Collective will likely be dissolved by Fall 2025, though current residents will not be displaced.
- Student Affairs has not provided concrete answers on whether similar spaces will be available moving forward.
- Other student support programs are being reviewed and could face similar restructuring.

### Student Action is Crucial for Survival

- Students must spread awareness, provide feedback to student affairs, and organize alternative spaces.
- Protests and direct action may face increased scrutiny, but student advocacy is necessary to preserve community support structures.
- RSOs were specifically suggested by faculty



Student Run Queer  
Resource Hub

## Women's Center

### WRC is Being Eliminated Due to Federal & State Mandates

- WRC being dismantled and restructured into a broader hub.
- Dedicated space and resources specifically for women will be lost.
- This change is due to federal and state mandates, without them the school will lose Federal/State funding.
- Events and things that can be considered "unnecessarily targeted" will go away, but resources that only apply to women will stay (pads, etc.)

### Shift to Broader Support Hub Model

- The WRC will transition into a more "holistic" support hub.
- The focus will expand beyond women to include a wider student population.
- Programming will need to have broader appeal.

### Limitations on Identity-Specific Programming

- Programming specifically for women is considered identity-based.
- Such targeted programming will no longer be permissible.
- The WRC will not be able to offer programs solely focused on women's issues.

### Loss of Dedicated Center Identity

- The WRC as a distinct, women-focused center will cease to exist.
- Its identity and dedicated mission will be absorbed into the new hub.
- The physical space and resources will be repurposed for a broader audience.

### Increased Role for Student Organizations

- Student organizations (RSOs) may need to take on activities previously managed by the WRC.
- RSOs focused on women's issues can still operate within university policy.
- The university can advise RSOs on procedures.

# Cultural Awareness Center

## **CARC is Being Eliminated Due to Federal & State Mandates**

- The Department of Education requires universities to move away from identity-based programming.
- KSU is restructuring CARC into a more "holistic" program to avoid scrutiny.
- The perception that CARC is too focused on identity contributed to its targeting.

## **Cultural Programming Will Continue—But With Uncertainty**

- Events like Juneteenth and other cultural celebrations are still planned, but may be scaled back.
- Cultural programming will shift from a dedicated center to being managed by a general department.
- The long-term future of these events is uncertain as restructuring continues.

## **Rebranding is Not Enough—Structural Changes Are Being Made**

- The term "culture" itself is seen as too politically charged and could be reported under new guidelines.
- Instead of simply rebranding, CARC is being fully restructured to comply with state and federal policies.
- New resource hubs will focus on general student categories (e.g., transfer students, out-of-state students).

## **AAMI (African American Male Initiative) is Losing Funding**

- AAMI will no longer receive state funding as of July 1st, per directives from the University System of Georgia.
- While the university claims some resources will remain available, the loss of funding threatens the program's sustainability.

## **Student Organizations & Advocacy Are Crucial Moving Forward**

- RSOs can still receive funding to support cultural initiatives, though university-led programming is changing.
- There is an opportunity for student-led efforts to fill gaps left by CARC's restructuring.
- Students must stay engaged, communicate with leadership, and explore alternative ways to maintain cultural awareness efforts.

# Global Village

## **GV is Being Eliminated Due to Federal & State Mandates**

- Federal and pending GA legislation mandate the cessation of identity-based centers.
- The Global Village, in its current dedicated form, will cease operation by Fall 2025 to comply with these regulations.

## **Transition to Broader "Shared Experience Hubs" with a Shift in Focus**

- The university is restructuring centers into "shared experience hubs" to serve wider student demographics.
- The Global Village specifically is likely to be refocused, potentially with a greater emphasis on serving out-of-state students.
- Expect a less targeted approach to international student support within these new, more generalized hubs.

## **Individual Support Continues**

- While identity-based centers are ending, the university states that individual student support services will continue to be offered, though potentially through different administrative structures.
- To stay informed about the specifics of these new hubs and resources, students should actively subscribe to relevant pages on Owl Life.
- A new case management system is being developed to assist students in finding communities and resources within the new hub framework.

## **Student Input is Being Considered; GV Compiling Key Resources:**

- The university is still in the process of working out the specific details of this transition and are taking student input into consideration as these new structures are developed. (Please reach out to Student Affairs)
- Recognizing the unique needs of international students, the Global Village is currently in the process of compiling important resources relevant to this population (such as information regarding interactions with ICE).

## **Increased Role for Student Organizations**

- Student organizations (RSOs) may need to take on activities previously managed by the GV.
- Forming or actively participating in RSOs focused on international student support, cultural exchange, or specific cultural identities will be vital for preserving community bonds and continuing focused activities.

# Unity Center

## **Restructuring due to Federal & State Mandates**

- KSU is restructuring Student Affairs due to federal and state restrictions on identity-based resources. This includes the Unity Center.
- Failure to comply would result in federal funding being pulled.

## **General Changes**

- The Unity Center is being restructured as a "STEM and Marietta Campus Connection Hub" of sorts, in order to have broader student appeal in compliance with these new restrictions. This will take impact starting in Fall 2025.
- These changes are in addition to looking at opportunities for new programming for Marietta specifically.
- This new hub will continue to operate in the same physical space and with as much existing programming as possible intact in order to make going back to how it was before easier in the event of a policy reversal.
- Pending approval, existing social media and Owl Life pages will be archived.
- All current Unity Center staff will remain.
- More information about these changes will be given near the end of April.

## **Student Action is Crucial**

- Feedback to Student Affairs about how this is being handled is critical, and student organization to spread awareness and create alternative spaces will become increasingly important.

# HOLA Programs

## **The Name Is Being Erased**

- Due to federal guidelines, KSU can no longer operate identity-based programs. As a result, the HOLA program will be renamed, although many of its current services are expected to remain in some form.

## **Cultural Decorations Must Be Removed**

- Decor and visual markers tied to cultural or identity-based themes—such as those in the HOLA lounge—will be taken down across all centers. KSU administration has said they will try to "maintain the feel" of the spaces, but without culturally specific visuals.

## **Funding and Scholarships Are Being Reevaluated**

- Some major scholarships connected to HOLA are under review and may be revised to comply with new federal regulations. Funds previously allocated to HOLA and other identity-based centers will be redistributed to support broader student populations.

## **Events Can Continue, But with Limitations**

- Cultural events will continue but cannot be organized or directly funded by departments. Instead, RSOs can lead these efforts. RSOs can still collaborate with the new departments.