Statement on the Shooting at Club Q in Colorado Springs

For Immediate Release:
PITTSBURGH, PA (November 25th, 2022) — The Student Government Board stands in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community in the wake of the harrowing attack at Club Q in Colorado Springs, Colorado on November 19th. We continue to see the destruction and fear gun violence brings to our communities, and we are heartbroken to hear of the violence that unfolded Saturday night. Our thoughts are with the victims, their families, and their friends.

These tragic losses fall just a day before the internationally recognized Transgender Day of Remembrance, a memorial of the lives lost to transphobia. Anti-trans rhetoric is on the rise in our country and abroad, with 2021 being the deadliest year on record for trans and gender nonconforming people. Queer people are victims of violent crime at a rate many times more than the national average, with queer people of color at a dramatically increased risk of victimization, a statistic that makes it is impossible to ignore the way racism and white supremacy fuels this violence. The attack at Club Q represents a devastating outcome of the cycles of hate we have seen play out in our schools, sports, and communities. Hate speech and bullying becomes legislation and fear mongering, and the conclusion is the violence we witnessed this weekend. SGB denounces this vile hate and calls on us all to do our part to stamp out transphobia and homophobia on our campus and beyond.

We stand with LGBTQ+ students, staff, faculty, and community members here in Pittsburgh and abroad. In the aftermath of such senseless and disturbing violence, we must care for each other and do what we can to support our community.

Resources for Students:

University of Pittsburgh Counseling Center: Open to all Pitt Students. No appointment is necessary. Closed Nov 24-27 in observance of Thanksgiving. Telephone support will remain available through the holiday at 412-648-7930. Any student interested in receiving support at the University Counseling Center should utilize Drop-In Services by calling 412-648-7930 Monday-Friday, between 9am-4pm.
The Pitt Concern Connection: Accessible by text at 412-903-3456 or by phone at 800-468-5768.

LGBT National Hotline: Anonymous, free, and confidential support and referrals to local resources. Available 4pm to midnight, Mondays through Fridays, and noon to 5pm on Saturdays. Accessible by phone at 888-843-4564.

Resolve Crisis Services: Accessible by phone at 1-888-796-8226.

Western Psychiatric Hospital: Accessible by phone at 412-624-2100.

In solidarity,

Danielle Floyd

2022-2023 Student Government Board President

Isabel Lam, Bhuvitha Chagantipati, Derek Dressler, Alison Linares Mendoza, Sophia Shapiro, Ryan Young, Daniel Temmallo, and Corbin Makar

2022-2023 Student Government Board

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