57% of people who overheard anti-LGBT comments at work said they were too scared to say anything
43% of STEM researchers don’t feel comfortable being ‘out’ at work

Journal of Homosexuality, October 2015
DOI: 10.1080/00918369.2015.1078632
1 in 3 lesbian, bi or gay researchers and more than 1 in 2 trans researchers have been advised to stay in the closet

American Physical Society study 2015
“We can only see a short distance ahead, but we can see plenty there that needs to be done.”

--Alan Turing
Students from sexual minorities are 8% more likely to leave STEM

Science Advances, March 2018
DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.aao6373
59% of trans people said they avoided using a public toilet because they were afraid of confrontations. 1/3 limit the amount that they drink to avoid it.

US Transgender Survey, 2015
National Center for Transgender Equality
42% of LGBT students hid or disguised that they are LGBT at university in the last year because they were afraid of discrimination.
LGBTQ people are 20% less represented in STEM fields than expected.
Izzy Jayasinghe
Lecturer in Cardiovascular Science

Being trans has influenced me to stay within an academic career path. In research environments, they offer the freedom to be who you are and exercise your creative skills. However, for much of my career, I remained in the closet. As a result of a few isolated incidents and observations, I often found myself looking to move on to better workplaces.
Andrew Walley
Senior Lecturer in Human Genomics

I think being LGBT affected my decisions about my career a number of times. The main negative one was my decision not to do Medicine at university. I would encourage everyone to take part in any local LGBT groups or form their own if they don’t exist.
Most of the reactions from colleagues [about my sexuality] have been neutral to positive. I did have one guy who worked with me, very briefly, say he thought people were nice to me despite my orientation because I “don’t look gay”. I can’t say I was a huge fan of that comment.
Given my childhood interests, becoming a biologist seemed like an obvious career choice. Meeting scientists from diverse backgrounds early in my career journey gave me something to aspire towards, and taught me the power of visibility and representation in STEM. I’m hoping to pay it forward.
Megan Mullis
PhD Researcher in Marine Biology

I am a lesbian and have been a marine biologist since I was 10 years old. I was fascinated by the natural world and wanted to explore everything around me. At university I was out to everyone except for the science department for fear of exclusion. Moving to do my PhD allowed me to start over and become exactly who I wanted to be from the beginning.
I have always been fascinated with science since I was in middle school back in India. Growing up in a country where I had to hide my identity in a closet for a long time was definitely tough but as we progressed, so did my country. I am a proud human being and want to be even prouder by committing to science and contributing to the community in every possible way irrespective of my sexuality!
Rochelle Diamond
Flow Cytometry Facility Director

My claim to fame is that I was a member of the City of Hope/Genentech research team that cloned the synthetic human gene for insulin in 1978. I came out as a lesbian in 1981, and lost my job because of it. I’ve been an LGBTQ+ activist ever since, and am an advocate for LGBTQ+ diversity and inclusion as chair of the NOGLSTP Board of Directors.