

NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Spring 2001

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NOGLSTP, PO BOX 91803, Pasadena CA 91109, phone/fax: 626 791-7689, <http://www.noglstp.org>

Queer Chemists Convene at American Chemical Society National Meeting

A handful of lesbigay chemists attending the ACS convention this past April made time to socialize together at Hamburger Mary's in San Diego's gay Hillcrest area. Although small in turnout, dinner attendees collectively represented local section and national ACS leadership, undergraduates, post-docs, and seasoned chemistry professionals. Conversation ranged from mentoring the undergraduate to discussing strategy for organizing the next queer chemists' get together at the upcoming August ACS meeting in Chicago. The intimate evening was finished off with a tasty trip to the local triple-death-by-chocolate dessert café.



Some of NOGLSTP's ACS Chemists, from left to right: Rochelle, Barbara, Robert, Chris, Sam

Kudos to Our Own

NOGLSTP Board Member Dr. Mark Tumeo has been appointed to the position of Vice Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies at Cleveland State University, Ohio, effective July 1, 2001. Congratulations, Mark!

LBGT Biotechnology Association Forms in San Diego

Congratulations to the Lambda Biotechnology Association, a newly formed organization of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members of the biotechnology and life sciences communities within the greater San Diego area.

Their mission is to provide an environment for networking and socializing, as well as to promote education and outreach within our community and to the community at large.

Their 65+ membership currently represents Research, Manufacturing, Clinical Research, Corporate Communications, Quality, Business Development, Sales and Marketing, Facilities, and Information Services from over 35 local biotech companies and academic institutions.

For more information, point your web browser to <http://www.lambdabiotech.org/>

Controversy Supplies Momentum to the GLBTQ Astronomy Community

NOGLSTP Astronomers report that Sky Publishing (of *Sky and Telescope*), a public astronomy icon, is currently being sued by a former transsexual employee under Cambridge Massachusetts non-discrimination law.

Rather than defend their innocence, Sky Publishing has chosen to legally seek to overturn the law entirely. Coalesced by their outrage at this legal maneuver, but taking no position on the merits of the original discrimination allegation, the GLBTQastro community has threatened to actually organize itself for the first time. They have initiated a web petition against Sky Publishing (<http://www.PetitionOnline.com/chro/petition.html>), and will be getting together at the American Astronomical Society meeting this June to decide if they want to lobby for official society recognition (there are separate committees on minority status and women, but no representation of gays and lesbians).

Privacy

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has published new regulations that would require health care providers to turn your medical records over to the federal government -- which could then share them with third parties such as private marketers, police agencies, and even foreign governments.

President Bush has publicly stated that the regulations will go into effect as scheduled on April 14, 2001, but that HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson will work to "modify" the rules to make them more "workable." On March 15, 2001, Representative Ron Paul (R-TX) introduced H. J. RES.38, which would repeal this regulation. The deadline for passage of H.J. Res. 38 is June 15, 2001. To view an up-to-date status of this bill, and have the opportunity to share your opinion on the issue with your congressperson, point your web browser to <http://capwiz.com/liberty/issues/bills/?bill=18446&size=full> (*all one line*)

NOGLSTP has always been concerned about privacy of personal and medical records, and has long advocated laws and policies which assure privacy and explicit consent in the release of such information. To learn more about medical privacy issues, point your web browser to <http://forhealthfreedom.org/Publications/Privacy/>

Safe for Sex

It's now safe for people like us to have sex in the state of Arizona, thanks to a recent repeal of their 100-year-old ban against sodomy, oral sex, cohabitation, and sex that is not intended to conceive children. Arizona Governor Jane Hull listened to both sides of a debate that has been in the Legislature for the past 20 years before signing the bill that repealed these archaic laws. In the end, she criticized extremists on both sides of the issue, and "returned to one of my most basic beliefs about government — it does not belong in our private lives." Opponents to the decision are now trying place a referendum on the ballot to block the new bill from taking effect.

Fifteen states remain with "sodomy" laws on their books. In five of these states, the laws apply only to homosexuals. To keep up-to-date on the states where you can live and love legally, point your web browser to <http://www.sodomylaws.org/>

Funding Available for LGBT Health Research

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, the National Institutes of Health has released a program announcement (PA-01-096) calling for research on LGBT health. Announced on Monday, May 21, 2001, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) invite submission of grant applications for behavioral, social, mental health, and substance abuse research with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and related populations. The announcement can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/2001/01.05.25/index.html>.



Sociologists Challenge Data on Gay Parenting

Metro Section, LA Times, April 27, 2001

Taking issue with two decades of research findings in the politically charged arena of gay parenting, two USC professors say sexual orientation of parents makes more of a difference than researchers have been willing to admit.

In a paper reexamining data from 21 studies dating to 1980, the USC sociologists argue that, while the emotional health of the children raised by homosexual and heterosexual parents is essentially the same, they diverge in some notable ways that have been downplayed. Most of the children studied were raised by women, a factor that -- apart from sexual orientation -- may contribute to the differences.

The paper, published in April in the *American Sociological Review*, finds that the offspring of lesbians and gays are more likely to depart from traditional gender roles than the children of heterosexual couples. They are more open to same-sex relationships, the study says. Teenage boys are more sexually restrained than peers in heterosexual households, while teenage girls show the opposite trend, the researchers concluded.

Sounds like a good thing!—Editor

Meetings Calendar

Meetings that some NOGLSTP members will be attending this season.... Perhaps you'll run into somebody you know...

June 3-7, 2001: American Astronomical Society 198th Meeting, Pasadena, CA; <http://www.aas.org/meetings/aas198/program/>

June 22-23, 2001: National Lesbian Health Conference 2001: Changes of the New Millennium, University of California San Francisco, Laurel Heights Conference Center; <http://www.glma.org/conferences/nlhc/2001/index.html>

July 20-22, 2001: The National Organization for Men Against Sexism presents The 26th Conference on Men and Masculinity: MANifesting Global Justice: Creating Inclusive Communities, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado; <http://www.nomas.org>

July 21-July 25: Plant Biology 2001, a joint meeting between the American Society of Plant Physiologists and the Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists, Providence, Rhode Island, at the Rhode Island Convention Center; <http://www.aspp.org>.

August 5 - August 10, 2001: 86th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of American, Monona Terrace Convention Center and University of Wisconsin; <http://esa.sdsc.edu/madison/> (an official queer event has been scheduled)

August 26-30, 2001: American Chemical Society, 222nd ACS National Meeting Chicago, Illinois; <http://www.acs.org/meetings/chicago2001/> (general meeting info); <http://www.noglstp.org/lgbchem/meetings.html> (queer gathering info, TBA)

September 29-October 1, 2001: Gay and Lesbian Medical Association's 19th Annual Conference: COMMITMENT, CARING, AND ADVOCACY, 20 YEARS OF GLMA, Sheraton New Orleans; <http://www.glma.org/conferences/annual/2001/>

October 5-7, 2001: OUT AND EQUAL WORKPLACE SUMMIT, Cincinnati OH; <http://www.outandequal.org>

October 21-25, 2001: American Public Health Association (APHA) annual meeting and expo: "One World, Global Health", Atlanta GA; <http://www.apha.org/meetings/>

IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Check your mailing label. If it says 200106-200108, it is time to renew your dues. If it says 200103-200105, or 200102, it is past time to renew or join, and this will be your final newsletter unless we hear from you. We need and appreciate your continued support. Please fill out the form below (and on the other side of this page), and return it with your check to NOGLSTP, PO Box 91803, Pasadena CA 91109. Remember to add \$5US if you are subscribing outside of the US. Thank you. You may also use this form to inform us of any address or area code changes.

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Membership Form

To renew your NOGLSTP membership or become a member of NOGLSTP, support its activities, and receive a newsletter, complete this form and send it with a check or money order to:

NOGLSTP
PO BOX 91803
Pasadena CA 91109

Annual Membership Dues are:

\$15-25 (sliding scale) (tax deductible after the 1st \$10)

\$10 for students and unemployed*

*inquire about our limited free memberships to 'starving students'

\$5 extra for memberships outside of the US
(for the extra postage) (US Funds only, please!)

Renewal New Info change only

Name: _____

Address: (don't forget your zip code!)

Telephone: _____

Email/URL: _____

Technointerest or profession:

Latest Degree/Subject:

Do you want your name and phone/email printed on a membership roster to be released to other NOGLSTP members?
 YES NO

Do you want your email/URL to be placed on the NOGLSTP web page?
 YES NO

Don't forget to fill out the other side



Queer Scientist of Contemporary Note: Rupert Barneby

An alert NOGLSTP member has drawn our attention the biography of Rupert Barneby, gay Curator Emeritus in The New York Botanical Garden's Institute of Systematic Botany, who died last winter at the age of 89.

Rupert Barneby met his long-time companion, Dwight Ripely, when both of them were teenagers and amateur naturalists living in Western England. In the absence of any inspiring teachers to help mold his love of natural history, Barneby gravitated to friends and colleagues with whom he could share and develop his interests. Dwight Ripely was foremost among these people. Their relationship lasted 50 years, until Ripely's untimely death caused by complications of alcoholism. Their shared love of plants was largely expressed in terms of gardening, in particular rock-gardening. In 1940, the couple settled in the United States, first in Hollywood, California, later in New York state. At each residence, they constructed rock gardens, stocking them with plants collected during spring treks to the American Southwest.

Membership/Renewal Form (continued):

Please list any other professional organizations that you belong to:

Special Techno-Interests or Expertise:

For New Members: How did you learn of NOGLSTP?

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP US WITH? (CHECK ANY THAT INTEREST YOU)

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- HOLD OFFICE
- AAAS
- FUNDRAISING
- NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
- EDIT NEWSLETTER
- PRODUCE NEWSLETTER
- NEW PAMPHLET TOPICS
- GRANT WRITING
- G/L/B/T CAUCUS OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES (which one?)
- OTHER _____

Barneby's association with the NYBG spanned nearly half a century, first arriving in the early 1950's as a visiting scholar to use the herbarium. A self-taught botanist, Barneby rose to become a world expert in Leguminosae (the bean family) and Menispermaceae (the moonseed family). He spent his career at the Garden curating and studying the world's best collection of New World Leguminosae. Barneby was known for his talent for discovering or rediscovering rare and local species. In the course of his five decades of research, Barneby described and named over 1,100 different plant species new to science. Barneby had not only 25 different species named after him, but also, four genera (groups of species sharing common characteristics, such as roses or oaks) of plants—Barnebya, Barnebyella, and Barnebydendron, and Rupertia. Clearly, Rupert Barneby made his mark on the botany of the Americas, but more importantly, he has made his mark on American botanists.

Sources: <http://www.nybg.org/bsci/herbsh/herboct.html#1>
<http://www.nybg.org/pr/barnebyobit.html>
Brittonia 53: 1-40.

ABOUT NOGLSTP

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF GAY AND LESBIAN SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS, INC., is a nation-wide organization of lesbian and gay scientists and technical professionals, regional and caucus groups, and others interested in technical matters and the gay and lesbian community. NOGLSTP's goals include dialog with professional organizations, providing information, improving our member's employment and professional environment, opposing homophobia and stereotypes, educating the gay, scientific and general communities, and fostering inter-city contacts among our members. National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals, Inc. is a tax-exempt educational organization under IRS section 501 (c)3, incorporated in the State of California (TAX ID # 95-4358685). Written correspondence may be addressed to: NOGLSTP, PO BOX 91803, Pasadena CA 91109-9813. For more information, see our web page at <http://www.noglstp.org/>

Board of Directors:

Rochelle Diamond, Chair, Pasadena CA	626 791-4393
Diamond@its.caltech.edu	
John Burke, Member at Large, Dallas TX	972 503-6867
J-burke@raytheon.com	
Mark Tumeo, Member at Large, Cleveland OH	216 687-4860
M.tumeo@csuohio.edu	
Arnold Zwicky, Member at Large, Palo Alto CA	
Zwicky@csl.stanford.edu	

Newsletter

The **NOGLSTP Bulletin** is published quarterly. Articles are encouraged and gratefully received. e-mailed articles to the NOGLSTP office c/o editor@noglstp.org are preferred. Next publication deadline: July 1, 2001.

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