

# NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Fall 2012

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

## 2012 NOGLSTP Recognition Award Winners

The recipients of the 2012 NOGLSTP Recognition Awards are Martin Lo - Scientist of the Year, Charles Lickel - Engineer of the Year, Mark Pope - Educator of the Year, and Amy Ross - Walt Westman Award. The awards will be presented at the gala banquet at the Out to Innovate™ summit in October.

2012 NOGLSTP Scientist of the Year, Martin Lo, Ph.D., has been working in the aerospace field since 1980. Dr. Lo is currently in the Instrument Software and Science Data Section, High Capability Computing and Modeling Group at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Caltech. Dr. Lo's research interests are in nonlinear astrodynamics and dynamical astronomy, with applications to space mission design. He is also interested in the analysis of high dimensional data using differential geometric and topological methods, the goal of which is to use advanced mathematics and computation to support the exploration and development of space and to create new capabilities for new types of space missions to explore the universe and extend human presence in space. Dr. Lo has received numerous NASA achievement awards and published over 50 papers in his field. While working with a student in investigating the existence of low energy trajectories between planets, he used invariant manifold theory from dynamical systems to discover the fact that the Solar System is actually connected from one end to the other by ultra-low energy trajectories forming an end-to-end transportation system travelled by the comets and asteroids since the time of creation of the Solar System. Dr. Lo has named this system the "Interplanetary Superhighway," which will ultimately make space travel simpler. Using this research, he is able to explain the unusual orbits followed by the Jupiter Family of comets that often become temporarily captured, as in the case of the Shoemaker-Levy 9 Comet that crashed into the planet Jupiter. Dr. Lo lives in Altadena, CA with his partner of 31 years and their adopted cat.

The 2012 NOGLSTP Engineer of the Year Award recipient is Chariles W. Lickel, formerly Vice President of Software Research at IBM. Now retired, Mr. Lickel, joined IBM in 1978 and held many prominent positions within their software divisions. Prior to joining IBM Software Research in 2005, Mr. Lickel was Vice President for systems software and storage development at IBM's Systems & Technology Group, leading a team of over 8000 people. In that role, he was responsible for all storage systems product development, disk and tape storage systems, storage software and products for network attached storage (SAN and NAS), as well as UNIX (AIX and Linux Technology Center) and software development for IBM eServer zSeries, iSeries and xSeries families of products. Mr. Lickel is a senior fellow of the American Leadership Forum in Silicon Valley; serves on Out and Equal's Board of Directors, sits on the advisory boards of The Guidance Center, SUNY Albany, Pace University and the NJ Institute of Technology, and is a member of the Human Rights Campaign. Recognized as a leader of diversity within IBM, he was

appointed the co-chair of the corporation's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) corporate diversity task force in 1998. In 2001, he was honored as one of the "Gay Financial Network 25" for his effectiveness in shaping a diversity-friendly climate at work, as well as for service as a role model in business leadership. Mr. Lickel currently lives in Tarrytown, NY with his partner.

The 2012 NOGLSTP Educator of the Year is Dr. Mark Pope, Professor and Chair since 1997 of the Division of Counseling and Family Therapy at the University of Missouri, St Louis. Dr. Pope is a licensed psychologist and has authored over 100 scholarly publications with much of his research focused on career development and LGBTQ issues. Dr. Pope's scholarly work has contributed greatly to the multicultural and social justice counseling movement. He has illuminated the diversity which exists within LGBTQ communities, and has served to greatly expand understanding of LGBTQ issues in counseling and psychotherapy among a generation of counseling psychologists, counselors, and other mental health professionals through workshops and mentoring. Dr. Pope has served as President of the American Counseling Association (ACA) and was ACA's first openly gay president. He was instrumental in advancing the inclusion of LBGTQ issues into the multicultural discourse of the profession. His presence in ACA as an openly gay man has served as a role model for other psychologists and counselor educators who were reluctant to be themselves in their places of higher learning and/or employment. Dr. Pope was recently elected President of the American Psychological Association's Division 44, which is the Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues.

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## Out to Innovate™ is Coming Soon

On-line registration is now available for NOGLSTP's Out to Innovate™ Career Summit for LGBT People in STEM. Join us for a weekend of workshops, sharing, networking, gala awards banquet, career fair, recruiters, and more, October 13-14 at Fawcett Center, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. Two types of student registration scholarships are being offered. One is supported collectively by the event sponsors. The other is supported by the American Chemical Society Division of Professional Relations. Point your web browser to <http://www.noglstp.net/outtoinnovate/out-to-innovate-2012> for details, registration links, and scholarship applications links.

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# If Only the World Had Known Sally Ride Was Gay

by Barbara Belmont

When Sally Ride became the first US woman astronaut, I was thrilled for so many reasons. Finally, our country was sending a woman into space! And this woman in particular was a physicist, which meant she was, well, probably, a nerd, just like me. She had that certain tone of voice that tickled my nascent gaydar, so I hoped she was a lesbian, just like me. That fantasy was quickly put aside when I read that she was married to another astronaut. "Oh well," I thought. "A Woman Astronaut Scientist. Three out of four is enough to look up to."

And I didn't give it another thought until I read of Ride's death from pancreatic cancer this summer. My wife and I always try to read between the lines in the obituaries, looking for clues of queerness through innuendo and litany of survivors, looking for hints of people like us. In this case, there it was: "survived by her partner..." The sadness we felt at the loss of a great role model to girls everywhere was quickly replaced by the conspiratorial thrill of discovery of another overlooked lesbian relationship.

And then, a different kind of sadness evolved -- a sadness of lost opportunities. If only the world had known Sally Ride was gay, we LGBT scientists might have enjoyed more visibility and recognition. If we had known, we could have had a mentor-muse, our role-model, a ...spokesperson! Ah. But Sally Ride was a very private person, and would never have agreed to being such an icon.

Fortunately, this lesbian scientist has another outlet for networking with people of a like mind. I am a proud member of National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals, also known as NOGLSTP. Pronounce it Naw'-gull-step. This non-profit organization empowers LGBT individuals in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by providing education, advocacy, professional development, networking, and peer support. It also educates all communities regarding scientific, technological, and medical concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people.

Like Sally Ride, most of us LGBT people in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) are very focused on our careers. It's easy to get caught up in the excitement of scientific discovery and engineering challenges, and those endeavors themselves bring immense satisfaction to our lives. It's easy to keep our private lives separate from our professional lives, and historically that's what has been expected of us in the STEM professions. The consequence is that people in the STEM world are surprised to learn that there are queers among them, and people in the LGBT world are surprised to learn there are scientists and engineers among them. It doesn't help matters that the STEM professions represent only 6% of all jobs (reference 1). With a little less than 4% of the adult population identifying as LGBT (reference 2), this means the chance of meeting an actual LGBT person in science or engineering is slim. (The teacher in me encourages you to do the math). We LGBT STEM-folk are undercounted and invisible, but not for much longer. As our society begins to value science and scientists, we will finally be noticed.

In the meantime, NOGLSTP seeks to make the STEM professions a welcoming and inclusive space for LGBT people, as well as help fill the STEM career pipeline with LGBT people. We accomplish these goals by organizing symposia to explain LGBT concerns to the scientific community, organizing events to explain science to the

LGBT community, providing visibility and inspiration through our Recognition Awards Program, providing resources to students and early career professionals through our Scholarship and Mentoring programs, networking and collaborating with various professional societies, and through career advocacy workshops and summits. We are particularly proud of our signature event, Out to Innovate™, a bi-annual weekend career summit for LGBT people in STEM. Inspired by Obama's Educate to Innovate program, Out to Innovate™ brings young LGBT in STEM together with seasoned LGBT STEM professionals for workshops, mentoring, networking, and career advice. All this has been developed by volunteers with day jobs who want the upcoming LGBT generations to know that it truly does get better.

Perhaps if Sally Ride had heard of NOGLSTP, she would have joined our cause. Maybe she would have met some fellow physicists who were out of the closet. Maybe they would have inspired her to mentor a science-minded youngster who thought they were the only queer kid in the calculus class. Perhaps she, too, could have enjoyed practicing science with PRIDE!

## References:

1. US Dept of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, [http://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2011/ted\\_20110615.htm](http://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2011/ted_20110615.htm)
2. The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law, "How many people are lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender?" April 2011

*Barbara Belmont, M.S., earns her living as a chemist. She runs an independent laboratory that performs investigative chemical analysis on commercial products, and also teaches analytical chemistry at CSU Dominguez Hills. A long time NOGLSTP volunteer, Barbara is also active in American Chemical Society, where she currently serves as the LGBT Representative to the ACS Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Board. Barbara is married to Rochelle Diamond, who is a research biologist at Caltech and Chair of the NOGLSTP Board of Directors. Needless to say, the opinions expressed in this essay are the author's, and not necessarily official NOGLSTP or ACS positions.*

This editorial originally appeared in the *San Francisco Bay Times* on August 23, 2012.

## New Faces of Engineering

Do you know a young LGBT engineer deserving of recognition? Maybe you are a young LGBT engineer deserving of recognition. The National Engineers Week Foundation's annual New Faces of Engineering highlights the professional achievement of young engineers in various technical-based professional societies, as well as among diversity-based professional organizations. As a founding partner of the EWeek Foundation's Diversity Council, NOGLSTP, along with other founding members of the Council, is soliciting nominations, including self-nominations, for this recognition. The selection process is multi-tiered, with NOGLSTP's awards committee reviewing NOGLSTP nominees, and sending one to the Diversity Council. The Diversity Council's awards committee then reviews the nominees from each of the founding partners, selecting one to appear in the New Faces recognition, a full-page ad in *USA Today* during Engineers Week in February. Nominees must be 30 years of age or younger as of 31 December 2012 and hold a degree in engineering (not engineering technology or computer science) from an ABET accredited engineering program (or equivalent). Our NOGLSTP nominee must be a member of NOGLSTP. The nomination form is available at [www.eweek.org/Site/Engineers/newfaces2013/nomination\\_form\\_2013\\_web.doc](http://www.eweek.org/Site/Engineers/newfaces2013/nomination_form_2013_web.doc) Completed nominations must be submitted to Tim Wilson at [tw-board@noglstp.org](mailto:tw-board@noglstp.org) no later than Friday, 19 October 2012.

## News and Announcements

### gAyGU Dinner During AGU Fall Meeting Week

The annual gAyGU dinner will be held in San Francisco during the week of the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union (AGU), December 3-7. gAyGU is a GLBT social group that revolves around, but has no official ties to, the American Geophysical Union and AGU's annual Fall Meeting in San Francisco. One needn't be a member of AGU nor attend the meeting to attend the dinner or to join the gAyGU Facebook group -- all you need is the desire to enjoy dinner or converse with a bunch of queer geoscientists. Details of the annual dinner will be posted on the gAyGU Facebook page in October at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/GayGU/139998976049829>. Those interested in joining the gAyGU mailing list can e-mail Aron Meltzner at [meltzner@caltech.edu](mailto:meltzner@caltech.edu).

### LGBTIQ Astronomers at AAS Winter Meeting

The American Astronomical Society (AAS) recently chartered a Working Group on LGBTIQ Equality. WGLE (pronounced "wiggly") will sponsor three major events -- a workshop, a reception, and a networking dinner -- at the January 2013 AAS meeting in Long Beach, California. The workshop, entitled "How to Be a Better Professor or Teaching Assistant for Your LGBT Students," to be held on Sunday, January 6, will be conducted by Jami Grosser, Pride Center Coordinator at Cal Poly Pomona and SafeZone trainer for Caltech. The reception, for LGBTIQ astronomers and their allies, will take place on Monday evening, January 7. The dinner will follow the reception. For more information, visit [wgle.aas.org](http://wgle.aas.org) or write to [wgle@aas.org](mailto:wgle@aas.org).

### New Faces of Engineering, College Edition

Each year, New Faces of Engineering, College Edition recognizes the best and brightest 3rd, 4th, and 5th year engineering students, whose academic successes and experiences in the engineering field have positioned them to make an impact. Winners will be announced on Facebook, featured in print ads and online venues, and will be recipients of a scholarship! The application will be available at [www.facebook.com/collegeedition](http://www.facebook.com/collegeedition) starting September 18. The deadline is November 16. College Edition is a program of the National Engineers Week Foundation (EWeek) and its partners.

#### *NOGLSTP Recognition Awards (continued from p. 1):*

The Walt Westman Award is named after one of NOGLSTP's founders. This award is the highest national award given to a NOGLSTP member who has shown dedication and commitment to the advancement of NOGLSTP's mission. This prestigious award recognizes the unselfish and outstanding contributions of the honoree, whose activities -- carried on continuously over a period of years -- have brought honor and esteem to the NOGLSTP by their very character. This year, NOGLSTP is proud to honor Dr. Amy A. Ross with the Walt Westman Award. Dr. Amy Ross has been active in the LGBTQA community for over 30 years. She was a founding member of Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists and an early member of NOGLSTP. She has presented innumerable workshops and symposia on medical and scientific issues that relate to the LGBT community, many of them sponsored by NOGLSTP. In addition she has been instrumental in putting together the NOGLSTP Mentoring Program and MentorNet Affiliated Plus Partnership Program for NOGLSTP, serving in the role of coordinator since its inception and mentoring young people in the program. She has represented NOGLSTP at many professional society meetings, staffing booths and receptions, and acting as a spokesperson for NOGLSTP. Most recently she has co-chaired and coordinated both of NOGLSTP's Out to Innovate™ summits for LGBTQA people in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Flying across the country on behalf of NOGLSTP, she has secured funding for the summits by talking to sponsors and helping to write grants on NOGLSTP's behalf. Dr. Ross's unselfish and outstanding contributions of her time, her generous personal contributions, and her tireless efforts on NOGLSTP's behalf over many, many years have brought NOGLSTP the recognition that now accounts for much of the organization's success over the last few years.

## IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Check your mailing label. Your renewal date is in the upper right section of your address block. Your membership number is just to the left of your expiration date. If you have a trial membership, it says "trial" instead of a membership number. You may renew online at [www.noglstp.org/memberservices](http://www.noglstp.org/memberservices), or 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. You may also use this form to inform us of any address or area code changes. LAGLS and NOGLSTP-CR people: please renew through your regional group to enjoy discounts on dues.

### 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:

\$25-40 (sliding scale) (tax deductible after the 1st \$10)

\$20 for postdocs

\$45 NOGLSTP/National Postdoc Association discounted joint membership dues

\$10 for students and unemployed\*

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

Please pay in US Funds only.

Renewal     New     Info change only

Date:

Name:

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

Newsletter preference:  print     email

Telephone:

Email/URL:

Latest Degree/Subject:

Job Title:

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**



## Mark Your Calendars

- September 25-28: NOBCChe Annual Conference, Washington, DC
- October 13-14: Out to Innovate™ Summit, Columbus, OH
- December 3-7: AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- January 6-10, 2013: AAS Winter Meeting, Long Beach, CA
- February 14-18, 2013: AAAS Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

## Thanks to Out to Innovate™ Sponsors

Out to Innovate™ garners financial support from many sponsors. NOGLSTP salutes the active support from the sponsors of Out to Innovate™. They include:

Founding Sponsor: Battelle Memorial Institute

Supporting Sponsors: eBay, Genentech, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, Raytheon, Owens Corning,

Event Sponsors: American Chemical Society Division of Professional Relations, The Dow

Chemical Company, The Clorox Company, GE Aviation, National Security Agency, Ohio

State University Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Procter and Gamble, Texas Instruments

Event Associates: Campus Pride, DiverseScholar.org, Generous Individuals, oSTEM at OSU,

The Trevor Project

Media Sponsor: ScienceCareers.org



Membership/Renewal Form (continued):  
Special Techno-Interests or Expertise:

Please list any other professional organizations/societies that you belong to:

Are you a member of any of these groups?

- American Chemical Society
- Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists
- Mathematics Association of America or American Mathematical Society
- National Postdoctoral Association
- NOGLSTP—Chesapeake Region
- NOGLSTP at Indiana University
- NOGLSTP at Purdue
- OSTEM
- San Diego QuEST

For New Members: How did you learn of NOGLSTP?

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

- Serve on Board of Directors
- Serve as Chair or Secretary
- Help at AAAS events
- Organize or host local event
- Write newsletter articles
- Edit the newsletter
- Speak about/on behalf of NOGLSTP at an event
- Serve on recognition awards committee
- Assist with the Mentoring Program
- Assist with Out to Innovate career summit
- Write a grant proposal
- Evaluate scholarship applications
- Help with fundraising
- Start/represent a GLBT caucus at my professional society: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOGLSTP at Purdue Receives University Award

The chapter of NOGLSTP at Purdue received an Outstanding Program Award from the Office of the Dean of Students, Student Activities and Organizations at Purdue University, in recognition of their organization of a LGBTQ film festival on campus. The group is planning a second edition of the festival for next semester.

Their activities also include events for Transgender Day of Remembrance (November 15), and writing a proposal for a joint event called "Diversity in Comic Books" to bring writers, artists and editors who advocate for minority representation in terms of race, religion, ethnicity, and sexual orientation in the comic world. Congratulations to NOGLSTP at Purdue!



### ABOUT NOGLSTP

National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals is a 501(c)(3) educational organization and professional society of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people (and their advocates) employed or interested in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) fields. NOGLSTP empowers LGBTQ individuals in STEM by providing education, advocacy, professional development, networking, and peer support. NOGLSTP educates all communities regarding scientific, technological, and medical concerns of LGBTQ people. Written correspondence may be addressed to: NOGLSTP, PO BOX 91803, Pasadena CA 91109-9813. For more information, see our web site at [www.noglstp.org](http://www.noglstp.org)

**Board of Directors (append each incomplete address with [noglstp.org](mailto:noglstp.org)):**

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