

NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Fall 2001

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

A State of Mind

Editorial by Rochelle Diamond

Recent events have put me in a state of mind. I have been in a suspended state of disbelief for 3 months now. I read, listen, and watch the news, commentaries, and programs with a jaded ear and eye. Maybe my perspective is all wrong, but I just can't believe what I am perceiving. As chairperson of NOGLSTP, I have always pointed out that one needs to be aware of wherein the United States one lives and works. America is not homogenous, or homogenous. Every state is different in the way their citizens feel about queers. Many states have adopted non-discrimination laws, and many have not. A few have adopted domestic partnership benefits and most have not. Location. Location. Location is everything. September 11th survivor benefits is a perfect case in point. How is it that in the state of New York, Governor Pataki moved quickly to assure glbt domestic partners would be afforded benefits. Yet, Peggy Neff may lose her home she shared with her partner of 18 years because the state of Virginia decided GLBT families do not qualify for benefits. Other families may likewise be excluded from such benefits. The Red Cross has specified gay and lesbian family criteria in its official relief guidelines for those who lost loved ones, but Federal compensation remains in limbo. Even though Congress established a Victim Compensation Fund after the attacks, the Justice Department won't release a final draft of eligibility rules until Dec. 22. The draft is expected to offer guidelines on whether to include the partners of gays and lesbians but must have 90 days of public review. This is not what I call quick relief. Thank goodness the Human Rights Campaign is creating the HRC Relief Fund which will solely benefit GLBT families impacted by the September 11th tragedy. As always we need to take care of our own. Donations can be made to: Human Rights Campaign Relief Fund, 919 18th St, 8th Floor, NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 628-4160



NOGLSTP Chair Rochelle Diamond (left) visits with fellow technoqueers at the Pasadena Pride Picnic this past September

The End of Summer as We Knew It

Editorial by Barbara Belmont

Two days after the Summer 2001 NOGLSTP newsletter went to press, our Nation's symbols of capitalism and military were attacked by terrorist-guided missiles otherwise known as hijacked passenger airplanes. Just four days after the terrorist attacks, queer folks in Pasadena CA got together for a mellow "family" picnic in the park for this year's Pasadena Pride activity. It was just a picnic (not a festival), and about 100 people attended, including some US Flag-waving characters from National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals (see accompanying photo) "Just a picnic" was just what we all needed to regain a sense of balance in uncertain times.

And these indeed are uncertain times. As our nation acts in response to these attacks, we all are going to have to face the ugly reality that THINGS HAVE CHANGED. There's controversy about trading some of our basic freedoms for more security. There's talk of loss of privacy, and a national-level "neighborhood watch" for potential breaches in homeland security. We who have long advocated privacy and personal freedoms have much to be concerned about. Also, although the military has invoked a "stop-loss" order to not process any discharges during the war in Afghanistan, the "don't ask don't tell" policy is still in effect. Three to four lesbigay people per day are being discharged, despite their desire to serve their country, and the military's need for their skills.

But there are things we can hope for, too. First, with the nation's focus on security against terrorism while sending a clear message that hatefulness against our citizens of particular origins is not okay, maybe some of that anti-hate rhetoric will spill over to us queers. Already, Jerry Fallwell and Pat Robertson have egg on their faces for their nasty comments blaming gays, lesbians, feminists, abortionists and non-Christians for God not protecting the nation from the terrorist attacks. Nobody bought what they said, and everybody came down hard on them for saying it. Maybe we'll see more of that intolerance for hatefulness. The State of California slipped in new (and better) provisions for registered Domestic Partners while no one was paying attention. The other thing we have to look forward to is the coalescing of the American Psyche for the Common Good. Patriotism and solidarity promote cooperation, and a cooperative culture will benefit us all. So here's to hope, healing, and tolerance, and peace in the New Year. We're gonna need it.

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Congratulations....

To NOGLSTP Board Member and Secretary Mark Tumeo, for being elected to the rank of "Fellow" in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), for "distinguished efforts to expand diversity in engineering, for sustained research in environmental engineering, and for continuing work to include science and technology in public policy."

Medical Peer Recognition

The American Medical Association (AMA) has voted to include the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) in its Specialty and Service Society.

The decision is the first step in the process that could allow the nation's largest LGBT medical association to vote on resolutions and policies brought before the nation's largest and most powerful association of physicians. GLMA represents the interests of thousands of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender physicians, medical students and other health professionals as well as millions of LGBT patients throughout North America.

AAAS Symposium and Reception Coming Soon

Keep your calendars marked for President's Weekend 2002 for the the American Association for Advancement of Science Annual Meeting and Science Innovation Exposition (AAAS AMSIE) in Boston MA. NOGLSTP Chair Rochelle Diamond, and AAAS Section X Secretary Stephanie Bird are co-organizers of the symposium "Scientific & Ethical Perspectives on the Risks of HIV/AIDS Therapeutics", to be presented Saturday February 16, 2002, 9am - generation. Also that same weekend is NOGLSTP's Annual Business Meeting on Sunday February 17, 11:30-1:30, and the catered NOGLSTP Reception, Sunday February 17, 4:30-6:30. You do not need to register for the conference to attend the Business Meeting or the Reception.

Social Opportunities for TechnoQueers

For those of you who really like to network with other professionals, or those of you who seek the companionship of another scientist for social purposes, we direct your attention to The Gay Professional Network, and Alt Science Connection.

6PC is an international, informal and free network of "gay professionals". This could relate to many backgrounds, as long as the members have something to "offer", in the sense of professional or personal expertise. Point your web browser to <http://www.alegriamedia.com/6PC>

Alt Science Connection is a network for social rather than professional purposes, and is expected to serve as a catalyst for many a romance and friendship, as has its parent organization, Science Connection, which has been facilitating opposite-sex contacts among single science and nature enthusiasts for ten years. Point your web browser to <http://www.sciconnect.com/asc>

Motorola, IBM, Kodak, Avaya, Disney World Honored for LGBT Workplace

This past October, Out & Equal Workplace Advocates honored Motorola and IBM, along with individuals and groups from Kodak, Avaya and Walt Disney World with "Outie" awards, for their efforts to make workplaces safe and equitable for LGBT employees.

The Significant Achievement Award for a company that has made the most significant progress toward LGBT equality in the past year went to Motorola, Inc. IBM was given the Workplace Excellence Award for companies that have historically supported LGBT employees. Cathy Brill and Lisa Vitale of Kodak were given the Champion Award honoring straight allies who have played a pivotal role in championing equal treatment of LGBT employees. Mary Ann Horton of Avaya received the Trailblazer Award for an LGBT person who has made a significant contribution to advancing workplace equity. The "Outie" for Employee Resource Group of the Year went to PRIDE at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Motorola was nominated by its Gay and Lesbian Business Council, one of five officially sanctioned employee associations formed by the company in 2000 to support various ethnic and cultural groups. Motorola's award recognizes such achievements as the inclusion of same sex domestic partnership benefits in the standard benefit package, allowing same sex partner beneficiaries for retirement plans, extending travel discount benefits to same sex partners, and recognizing the needs of same sex partners when hiring and relocating new employees.

IBM has included sexual orientation in its non-discrimination policy since 1984 and offered domestic benefits in 1997. IBM has actively tracked and encouraged its gay and lesbian executives, sponsoring both internal and external leadership development activities. The company also supports a mentoring program for gay and lesbian employees. IBM has also provided much support to LGBT community organizations and recently created a full time LGBT sales and talent team to focus on selling to and recruiting from the LGBT community.

advertisement

Ready for a change? Ready to bring your love of Science into NY city's public schools? Become a New York City teacher!

How would you like to help bring positive change to NYC public education, while earning a fully paid Master's Degree? Founded by Board of Education Chancellor Harold Levy, the New York City Teaching Fellows is a highly selective program that mobilizes talented graduates and professionals to teach in one of NYC's most challenging classrooms.

No previous teaching experience or coursework is required to become a Fellow. Key components of the program include:

- Full teacher's salary and benefits (\$31,910 - \$40,180)
- An accelerated, *fully paid* Master's Degree
- Intensive pre-service training with living stipend
- On-going school and district support

NYC Teaching Fellows is currently accepting applications for its September 2002 program. For more information about the NYC Teaching Fellows, please visit www.nycteachingfellows.org or call 877-NYFELLO.

Renew Your Dues On-Line!

In an effort to embrace technology in its entirety, NOGLSTP is pleased to announce that it is now possible for you to pay your membership dues and advise us of changes online.

In this current implementation of on-line dues management, we have partnered with PayPal to process your Visa and Mastercard dues payments to NOGLSTP. PayPal is the world's largest internet payment network, and provides a means for small businesses such as NOGLSTP to accept credit card payments without having to pay a monthly service charge. It's free, easy, and secure for individuals to make credit card payments through PayPal. PayPal will invite new users to join their network (they would like you to keep your funds in their money market), but you do not need to do so to use their service. However, if you do join their network, NOGLSTP will receive a \$5 commission.

So check your mailing label, and if it's time to renew your dues or you need to make corrections, just point your web browser to the NOGLSTP home page, <http://www.noglstp.org>, and follow the link to Member Services.

Consider Contributing to NOGLSTP

If you are one of those people who likes to be philanthropic at the end of the tax year, we hope you will consider NOGLSTP as one of your recipients. Right now, NOGLSTP is trying to raise funds to support the 2002 AAAS reception and symposium, but we are grateful to receive your gift for any purpose.

You probably already know that NOGLSTP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and that donations you make to us are tax-deductible. What you may not know is that it is easy for you to make donations online, via the non-profit advocate Helping.Org. Just point your web browser to <http://www.helping.org>, search for NOGLSTP, click on our organization name, and select the "donate now" link. 100% of your donation goes to NOGLSTP. (Helping.Org's administrative expenses are funded by a grant from AOL Time-Warner). You can designate how your donation should be used (e.g., to support AAAS projects, to support educational pamphlets, to support a local symposium) or you can make it unrestricted.

We hope you will help.

Events Calendar

December 13, 2001: gAyGU Dinner, San Francisco CA; more information <http://users.erols.com/barton96/fall2001.html>

February 16, 2002: NOGLSTP Symposium at AAAS AMSIE, Boston MA

February 17, 2002: NOGLSTP Annual Meeting and Reception at AAAS AMSIE, Boston MA

IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Check your mailing label. If it says 200112-200202, it is time to renew your dues. If it says 200109-200111, or trial2, 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. You may renew online (and pay with a credit card), 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. 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:

\$15-35 (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: Joan Roughgarden. Ph.D.

Joan Roughgarden, Professor of Population Biology at Stanford University, is one of the world's most influential theoretical ecologists. Dr. Roughgarden's research focuses on the relationship between evolutionary biology and ecology, and involves a combination of theoretical ecology and field studies. Her research group works on the mathematical description of processes such as the evolution of community structure, and population dynamics in varying environments. In addition to continuing studies of the *Anolis* lizards in the Caribbean, Dr. Roughgarden and her students have been examining populations of barnacles in the marine intertidal zone of central California to develop new models appropriate to organisms that are free swimming as larvae and anchored as adults. Dr. Roughgarden's research aims to improve the understanding of the life histories of populations, so that both nature reserves and the populations that provide us

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 _____

with food and other raw materials can be more effectively managed.

Some books authored by Dr. Roughgarden are *Anolis Lizards of the Caribbean: Ecology, Evolution, and Plate Tectonics*, *Perspectives in Ecological Theory*, *The Science of Ecology*, *Theory of Population Genetics*, and *Evolutionary Ecology: An Introduction*.

Born Jonathan Roughgarden in 1946, she became Joan in 1998.

Volunteer Opportunity:

Edit the NOGLSTP newsletter. Involves collecting and creating content, laying out with desktop publishing software, and delivering electronic version to NOGLSTP Office via email on a quarterly basis. One year commitment, minimum. No pay, just glory. Inquire at editor@noglstp.org



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/>

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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: February 20, 2002.

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