

# NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Spring 2010

©National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals, Inc.  
NOGLSTP, PO BOX 91803, Pasadena CA 91109, phone/fax: 626 791-7689, www.noglstp.org

NOGLSTP presents  
**Out to Innovate**  
October 9, 2010

Just one day after the Out and Equal Workplace summit ends its Los Angeles debut, NOGLSTP will present **Out to Innovate**. Inspired by the Obama administration's call to "Educate for Innovation" to provide a technologically educated workforce for the 21st century, **Out to Innovate** is a one-day career summit for LGBT students, faculty and professionals in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. Conceived and organized by NOGLSTP, and hosted by University of Southern California Lambda LGBT Alumni Association and the USC LGBT Student Association at the new USC Tudor Campus Center, **Out to Innovate** will include plenary lectures from out and prominent scientists and engineers, interview opportunities with LGBT-friendly companies and institutions, a student poster session contest, and workshops to inspire students, faculty, and professionals alike. We invite all interested people to join us for a day of sharing, mentoring, learning, and networking — as attendees, presenters, or volunteers. As it becomes available, more information about **Out to Innovate** can be found at [www.outtoinnovate.org](http://www.outtoinnovate.org). Summit registration will be available on line this summer. Please contact the NOGLSTP office to volunteer or offer financial or in-kind support. As of this newsletter publication time, **Out to Innovate** has the following support and endorsers:

#### Founding Sponsors:

Northrop Grumman     Harvey Mudd College

#### Event Sponsors:

Battelle     Booz Allen Hamilton  
Caltech Center for Diversity     Genentech  
USC Viterbi School of Engineering Center for Diversity

#### Event Supporters:

Dow Chemical Company     Generous Individuals  
Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists

#### Event Partners:

American Association for Advancement of Science  
Out and Equal Workplace Summit     Point Foundation  
[sciencecareers.org](http://sciencecareers.org)     USC Lambda Alumni Association  
USC LGBT Resources Center

#### Endorsing Organizations:

American Chemical Society Division of Professional Relations  
National Engineers Week Foundation  
National Postdoctoral Association  
Society for Advancement of Chicano and Native Americans in Science  
Society for Women Engineers

## Dean Hamer to be Keynote Speaker

at NOGLSTP's Out to Innovate LGBT STEM Career Summit

Dr. Dean Hamer will be the keynote speaker at NOGLSTP's inaugural Out to Innovate Career Summit for LGBT Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Students and Professionals. Dr. Hamer is the Chief of the Gene Structure and Regulation Section of the Vaccine Branch of the National Cancer Institute. A leading geneticist, Dr. Hamer's research on the genetics of personality, addiction and spirituality has revolutionized the understanding of human nature and what people can and cannot do to change themselves. His research has led to contributions in a variety of areas including recombinant DNA, drug and vaccine production, and gene regulation. He was a co-inventor of animal cell gene transfer, and recently has begun a program on molecular therapeutics for HIV/AIDS. He also has focused on new treatments for HIV, advocating for a scientific approach to the worldwide AIDS epidemic. Dr. Hamer holds three patents in the biotechnology area.

NOGLSTP worked with Dr. Hamer on a 1993 AAAS symposium featuring his discovery of the "gay gene" — the Xq28 portion of the X-chromosome that linked gayness in a cohort of male twin studies — which sparked a national debate over nature vs. nurture. (*Subsequent studies have indicated Xq28 has a significant but not exclusive effect, and several additional linked regions on other chromosomes have also been found.*)

When he's not in the research lab, Dr. Hamer is an author (*Science of Desire, Living with Genes, The God Gene*), gay activist, and documentary producer. His latest film, "Out in the Silence", portraying LGBT life in small town America, will premier at the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival, followed by a National PBS broadcast.

### Inside this Issue:

- Page 1: NOGLSTP presents Out to Innovate October 9, 2010; Dean Hamer to be Keynote Speaker at Out to Innovate
- Page 2: NOGLSTP Joins Presidential Advisory Coalition — Experts Wanted; American Chemical Society Establishes LGBT Subdivision; NOGLSTP Gay Pride Month Activities; Changes in Policy Put Forward by Obama Administration for Pride Month
- Page 3: Roundtable Discussion: Best Practices for Asking Questions on Sexual Orientation on Surveys; Mark Your Calendars; Passports for Transgender People; Two New LGBT College Presidents Chosen; NOGLSTP Membership Form
- Page 4: Recap: NOGLSTP Presented Widely Respected AIDS Symposium at AAAS 2010; About NOGLSTP

## NOGLSTP Joins Presidential Advisory Coalition - Experts Wanted:

### Apply for a Presidential Appointment

The Presidential Appointments Project of the Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute has created a coalition of 16 national LGBT organizations, to help the Obama administration learn about and appoint openly LGBT professionals to federal jobs and fill seats on boards and commissions that advise the administration on important policy issues. Currently, there are more than 100 openly LGBT presidential appointees in the Obama administration — several of them NOGLSTP members — and the administration is looking for more. Appointed officials have the power to set or influence the policies of the many federal departments and administrative agencies that make up the executive branch of government. NOGLSTP and the coalition are working to make sure LGBT Americans have a fair shot at these appointments and create a talent bank for openly LGBT professionals seeking appointed positions in the presidential administration. The community has to be ready with candidates when positions open up as high profile positions sometimes have only a few days to fill and other communities will be putting names forward as well. NOGLSTP has already submitted four names to the coalition for consideration which have been successfully vetted and passed on to the White House office of Presidential Personnel. So, if you've ever considered working for the federal government, now is the time to start thinking about whether you have what it takes to work for the president to help change the country. For more info see: Presidential Appointments Project Coalition Partners, at <http://www.glli.org/presidential>

## American Chemical Society Establishes LGBT Subdivision

The American Chemical Society Division of Professional Relations is pleased to announce the establishment of a new subdivision: the Subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies. The new subdivision represents the first formal outreach by the American Chemical Society to members of the lesbigay-trans community, and those concerned about their professional interests and issues. The subdivision goals are inclusion, advocacy, recognition, mentoring/networking, ACS programming, and collaboration/outreach with NOGLSTP and other organizations.

For over a decade, NOGLSTP has organized a caucus of ACS members under the name LGBT Chemists and Allies. The caucus has met formally at each Fall ACS National Meeting since 2002, and informally for dinner at many of the Spring National ACS Meetings. Since 2008, the formal reception has been an ACS Presidential Event, thanks to the efforts of Chris Bannochie. The Division of ACS Professional Relations hopes to attract these caucus members and their allies into the new subdivision to provide them with a formal divisional home with the American Chemical Society.

Newly appointed subdivision chair, Barbara Belmont, is now putting together subdivision leadership and membership infrastructure. If you are a NOGLSTP member and an ACS member, think about how the subdivision can serve you, how you might serve the subdivision, and how NOGLSTP and ACS should continue to enjoy mutually beneficial collaborations. Don't be surprised when you hear from Barbara, and be ready to help the ACS Subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies become successful and sustainable.

## NOGLSTP Gay Pride Month Activities

NOGLSTP at Purdue and NOGLSTP at IU joined together at IndyPRIDE in Indianapolis, Indiana to march under the NOGLSTP banner and staff a NOGLSTP information booth. Many NOGLSTP at Purdue and NOGLSTP at IU members wore newly made NOGLSTP t-shirts while others wore paraphernalia in support of their schools. NOGLSTP-Chesapeake Region participated in DC Capital Pride, and Baltimore Pride.

A two-block section of 17th Street, N.W. in Washington DC, in the heart of one of the city's most visible gay neighborhoods will be renamed during Capital Pride as "Frank Kameny Way" in honor of the veteran gay activist credited with founding the city's LGBT civil rights movement. Frank Kameny began organizing efforts to secure gay civil rights in the late 1950s after he lost his job as a civilian astronomer with the U.S. Army Map Service when authorities discovered he was gay. He founded the Mattachine Society of Washington in the early 1960s, the city's first LGBT group and is credited with playing a leading role in shaping the local and national LGBT rights movement for the next 40 years. Frank worked with NOGLSTP many years ago on security clearance issues. Congratulations Frank!!

## Changes in Policy Put Forward by Obama Administration for Pride Month

The White House issued a proclamation signed by the President regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. The proclamation recognizes gender identity, LGBT seniors, LGBT youth and LGBT families. It notes Administration efforts on LGBT action items such as hate crimes, banning gender identity discrimination in federal employment, hospital visitation, HIV/AIDS funding, discrimination in housing and "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Besides the proclamation for Pride month, President Obama extended a wider range of benefits to the same-sex partners of eligible federal workers, including access to medical treatment, relocation assistance, credit unions and fitness centers. The move goes beyond the memo signed last June, which permitted same-sex partners to use the government's long-term-care insurance and other fringe benefits. The Office of Personnel Management issued a statement that same-sex partners will now become eligible for such insurance in July. Obama also ordered federal agencies last year to identify other benefits that could be offered to same-sex partners. A review by the Office of Personnel Management and Justice Department determined that at least some agencies could also permit credit union and gym memberships and access to counseling services, adoption counseling, and agency events or outings. A limited number of intelligence and financial regulatory agencies, Obama's memo said, will be able to provide reimbursements for health-insurance premiums, dental and vision insurance, business travel accident insurance and tax reimbursements for gym memberships, physical exams and homeowners' insurance. Though Obama has extended a greater number of benefits to gay federal workers than any of his predecessors, he is prevented by federal law from providing full benefits to same-sex partners. To that end, he reiterated support for House and Senate legislation that would grant all federal benefits to same-sex partners.

Roundtable Discussion:

## Best Practices For Asking Questions on Sexual Orientation on Surveys

The American Statistical Association Committee on Gay and Lesbian Concerns will be sponsoring a roundtable lunch discussion during the upcoming Joint Statistical Meetings in Vancouver on Tuesday August 3, 2010 from 12:30 – 1:50 PM. Led by Elizabeth Saewyc (University of British Columbia), the talk - TL28- “Best Practices For Asking Questions on Sexual Orientation on Surveys”, will focus on the recommendations included in the best practices document produced by the Sexual Minority Assessment Research Team (SMART), which was sponsored in part by the Ford Foundation. Dr. Saewyc was one of the report authors. You can download the full report at: [http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute/pdf/SMART\\_WI\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute/pdf/SMART_WI_FINAL.pdf)

The committee will also hold on Tuesday, 8/3/2010, its annual business meeting during the late afternoon that same day with light snacks provided. Participants are invited to join together for an ad hoc dinner afterwards. It will be open to all and will provide a time for conducting committee business as well as socializing. This will replace the separate social meeting they have had in past years.

### Mark Your Calendars

- August 24, LGBT Chemists and Allies Reception at ACS National Meeting, Boston MA; [www.noglstp.net/lgbtchemists](http://www.noglstp.net/lgbtchemists)
- Sept 30-Oct 3: SACNAS Annual Meeting, Anaheim CA [www.sacnas.org](http://www.sacnas.org)
- Oct 5-9, 2010: Out & Equal Workplace Summit, Los Angeles CA [www.outandequal.org](http://www.outandequal.org)
- October 9, 2010: OUT to Innovate Summit for LGBT STEM Community, Los Angeles CA [www.outtoinnovate.org](http://www.outtoinnovate.org)
- Nov 1-3, 2010: SWE Annual Meeting, Orlando FL [www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org)

### Passports for Transgender People

The U.S. Department of State has just introduced new policy guidelines on changing the sex marker on passports. Surgery will no longer be a requirement for changing gender on a passport. Beginning June 10, 2010, when a passport applicant presents a doctor's certification that he or she has undergone treatment for gender transition, their passport will be updated to accurately reflect their sex. Sex reassignment surgery is no longer required to change the gender on an American passport. Under the new policy, it is also possible to obtain a temporary passport in the appropriate sex if a physician's statement shows that an applicant is in the process of gender transition. Adoption of this safety-focused policy is a giant step forward in protecting transgender Americans. The State Department has made a commitment to protect all Americans when they travel, work or live overseas. Transgender Americans face extreme danger when traveling abroad in the many countries that are hostile to them. Many also experience harassment when entering and leaving the United States. Previously, individuals had to provide documentation from a surgeon that sex reassignment surgery had been performed on them, according to the National Center for Transgender Equality.

### Two new LGBT College Presidents chosen

Grinnell College announced in February that they have chosen Raynard S. Kington, M.D., M.B.A., Ph.D., and National Institutes of Health Deputy Director as their 13th President. A leading scientific researcher on the role of social factors as determinants of health, Dr. Kington, his partner, Peter T. Daniolos M.D., a child psychiatrist at Children's National Medical Center and George Washington University; and their two young children plan to move to Grinnell during the summer and occupy the president's home at the college.

New Montgomery College in Maryland has picked DeRionne P. Pollard as its 9th president. Pollard, with 15 years of teaching and leading community colleges on

(Continued on page 4)

## 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!)

Telephone:

Email/URL:

Latest Degree/Subject:

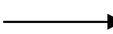
Job Title:

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 

## Recap: NOGLSTP Presented Widely Respected AIDS Symposium at AAAS 2010

NOGLSTP members Andrew Hebbler and Rochelle Diamond organized a symposium, "Targeting HIV/AIDS Prevention: New Research and Future Avenues", presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Advancement of Science February 21. The symposium goal was to bridge epidemiology and basic science to review the current state of research including vaccines and the development of prophylactic or therapeutic interventions that ultimately may lead to eradication of HIV transmission. The symposium — sponsored by NOGLSTP, with travel support from the AAAS Section on Societal Impacts of Science and Engineering — made top of the hour news stories and headlines around the globe, including CNN's breaking news. The speakers — Ken Mayer (Brown University), Dennis Burton (Scripps Research Institute), Robert Grant (Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology), and Brian Williams (South African Centre for Epidemiological Modeling and Analysis) — came directly from the CROI Conference held in San Francisco to report on the latest research findings and promote the idea of establishing universal, voluntary HIV screening programs combined with immediate antiviral treatments for infected individuals in high-risk regions to reduce the rate of infection by lowering viral loads. The concentration of the virus drops by a factor of 10,000 with antiretroviral treatment, resulting in 25 times the reduction of infectiousness. According to Brian Williams, HIV/AIDS could be eradicated within 40 years following such a policy. Williams stated that while universal testing and antiviral treatments would require start-up capital and operational research, "the only thing more expensive than this plan, for health care costs and deaths, is doing nothing." Dennis Burton



**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

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
- MENTORING PROJECT
- NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
- EDIT NEWSLETTER
- PRODUCE NEWSLETTER
- NEW PAMPHLET TOPICS
- GRANT WRITING
- G/L/B/T CAUCUS OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES (which one?)
- OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

summarizing the state of vaccine research was hopeful that a vaccine will be generated following new avenues of research. Kenneth H. Meyer cited statistics that while the number of HIV-infected people in the United States is 1 in 300, it's much higher in hot spots like Washington, D.C., where the prevalence is 1 in 15 people. He added that 20-25% of HIV-infected people in the United States are unaware of their disease. Robert Grant discussed his research on pre-exposure prophylactic treatment for high risk individuals.

### *LGBT College Presidents (Continued from page 3)*

her resume, has been the president of Las Positas College in Livermore, Calif., since 2008. During that time, the community college has seen nearly a 15 percent increase in enrollment. Pollard is a member of the Commission on Research and Emerging Trends for the American Association of Community Colleges and the Presidents' Round Table of the National Council of Black American Affairs. She received her doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies in higher education from Loyola University in Chicago, and both her master's and bachelor's degrees in English from Iowa State University. Pollard and Robyn A. Jones, her partner of over 20 years, have a 3-year-old son.

### **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 scientific or high technology fields. NOGLSTP's goals include educating the scientific and general communities about LGBT issues in science and the technical workplace; educating the queer community about relevant topics in science; dialogue with professional societies and associations; improving members' employment and professional environment; opposing queer phobia and stereotypes by providing role models of successful LGBT scientific and technical professionals; and fostering networking and mentoring among our members. 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](http://noglstp.org)):**

Rochelle Diamond, Chair, Pasadena CA, [rd-chair@](mailto:rd-chair@noglstp.org)  
 Chris Bannoche, Member at Large, August GA, [cb-board@](mailto:cb-board@noglstp.org)  
 John Burke, Member at Large, Dallas TX, [jb-board@](mailto:jb-board@noglstp.org)  
 Danielle Cherniak, Member at Large, Cohoes NY, [dc-board@](mailto:dc-board@noglstp.org)  
 Steven Jacquier, Member at Large, Pahoa, HI, [sj-board@](mailto:sj-board@noglstp.org)  
 Marcie Mathis, Member at Large, Bremerton WA, [mm-board@](mailto:mm-board@noglstp.org)  
 Ken Shepard, Member at Large, Ossining NY, [ks-board@](mailto:ks-board@noglstp.org)  
 Tim Wilson, Member at Large, Debary FL, [tw-board@](mailto:tw-board@noglstp.org)  
 NOGLSTP—Chesapeake Region rep: Robert Ryan, [rjr-chesapeake@](mailto:rjr-chesapeake@noglstp.org)  
 NOGLSTP at Purdue rep: Alex Reyes, [agreyes@](mailto:agreyes@noglstp.org)  
 NOGLSTP at Indiana University rep: [affiliates@](mailto:affiliates@noglstp.org)  
 Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists rep: Rochelle Diamond  
 LGBT Chemists and Allies rep: Barbara Belmont, [bbelmont@](mailto:bbelmont@noglstp.org)  
 Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Mathematicians rep:  
 David Crombecque, [david.crombecque@](mailto:david.crombecque@noglstp.org)

**Treasurer:** Barbara Belmont, [office@](mailto:office@noglstp.org)

**Mentoring Program Coordinator:** Amy Ross, [aross@](mailto:aross@noglstp.org)

**University Group Affiliation Director:** Kay Johnson, [affiliates@](mailto:affiliates@noglstp.org)

**Newsletter:** The *NOGLSTP Bulletin* is published quarterly, most of the time. Contributed articles are encouraged, and may be e-mailed as plain text to [office@](mailto:office@noglstp.org). Next publication deadline: Sept 1 2010. Please acknowledge the *NOGLSTP Bulletin* as your source if you choose to reproduce any of these articles.