

NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Fall 2014

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

2014 NOGLSTP Recognition Award Recipients

The recipients of the 2014 NOGLSTP Recognition Awards are Nergis Mavalvala - Scientist of the Year, Rickie Christine Bland - Engineer of the Year, and Tim Atherton - Educator of the Year. The awards will be presented at the gala banquet at the Out to Innovate™ summit in November.

2014 NOGLSTP Scientist of the Year, Nergis Mavalvala, is a Professor of Physics at MIT. Nergis Mavalvala received her Ph.D. in Physics from MIT in 1997, and a B.A. in Physics and Astronomy from Wellesley College in 1990. She is currently the Curtis and Kathleen Marble Professor of Astrophysics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prior to coming to MIT in 2000 to join the MIT LIGO Laboratory, she was a postdoctoral scholar and research scientist at Caltech, working on the Laser Interferometric Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO). She has been involved with LIGO since her early years in graduate school at MIT and her primary research has been in instrument development for interferometric gravitational-wave detection. Dr. Mavalvala's efforts in quantum metrological methods have earned her numerous accolades, including the 2013 Joseph F Keithley award for advancements in measurement science and a 2010 MacArthur Fellowship ("Genius Award"). In addition to her technical accomplishments, Dr. Mavalvala, a Pakistani born, out lesbian physicist, has a partner and young daughter. She gave the keynote speech at NOGLSTP's 2012 Out to Innovate™ Summit. She is an inspiration for all minority scientists that proves that there are no limits to what you can do just by being yourself.

The 2014 NOGLSTP Engineer of the Year Award recipient is Rickie Christine Bland of Lockheed Martin. Christine Bland has a degree in engineering and has worked for Lockheed Martin for over 25 years. She is currently working on NASA's Orion program to create the next generation of space vehicles to take humankind to the Moon, and ultimately into deep space. Christine worked on many projects for Lockheed Martin in the Deep Space Exploration Group, including Stardust, Spitzer Infrared Space Telescope, Genesis, Odyssey Orbiter, Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, GRAIL, and JUNO (Jupiter Orbiter). Christine's crowning career achievement to date is fault management electronics, originally built for the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter and currently being used on numerous other space vehicles. Christine has also been an adjunct lecturer in the engineering department at Denver Technical College and she designed computer system process telemetry for astrophysics rockets at the University of Colorado. In 2011 Christine informed Lockheed Human Resources that she would complete the transition process to change her gender. Since that day, she has been a highly visible role model in the company, actively involved with the Lockheed Martin LGBT Forums at the corporate level. She has participated on multiple panels, including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) outreach at a number of universities. She is the Chair

of the Lockheed Martin Transgender Council, delivering policy and procedure guidance and facilitating numerous on-the-job gender transitions, as well as co-Chair of the Leadership Forum workshop. She also served as the Vice-President for the Gender Identity Center of Colorado. Her leadership brought Lockheed Martin to become the first aerospace/defense company to recruit at transgender career fairs in Denver and other locations.

The 2014 NOGLSTP Educator of the Year is Tim Atherton, an Assistant Professor of Physics at Tufts University. He completed his undergraduate degree in Theoretical Physics in 2003 at the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom, studying abroad at Central Michigan University. Tim received his Ph.D. in Physics in 2007 from the University of Exeter in the UK, where he studied frustration phenomena in liquid crystals as a member of the Electromagnetic Materials group with Professor Roy Sambles. *(continued on p.2)*

Out to Innovate™ 2014 / 4th oSTEM National Meeting

NOGLSTP's biennial signature event, Out to Innovate, is rapidly approaching. OTI 2014 will be held at the Georgia Institute of Technology's Hotel and Conference Center in Atlanta, Nov. 7 – 9. This year's program will be a joint event with the 4th oSTEM (Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) National Meeting. Registration and check-in will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 7. Optional tours of the CDC, World of Coke, and/or the Georgia Tech campus will begin around noon. Friday will close with a speaker dinner at 7:00 p.m. The full program begins on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 8:00 a.m. and concludes around 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 9. See the meeting website at www.outtoinnovate.org for program details. Registration is now closed, as we have filled the conference capacity. Keynote speakers include an opening address by Mr. Kei Koizumi (Saturday opening), Ms. Lynn Conway (Saturday), and Dr. Tam O'Shaughnessy (Sunday). The program includes approximately 30 workshops, two "Flash" sessions (short 10 minute presentations by students), a poster session, Vendor/Sponsor Exposition, and membership meetings for NOGLSTP and oSTEM. If you have questions or want more information, please send an email to outtoinnovate@noglstp.org

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NOGLSTP Responds to Ill-Advised *Science* Magazine Cover

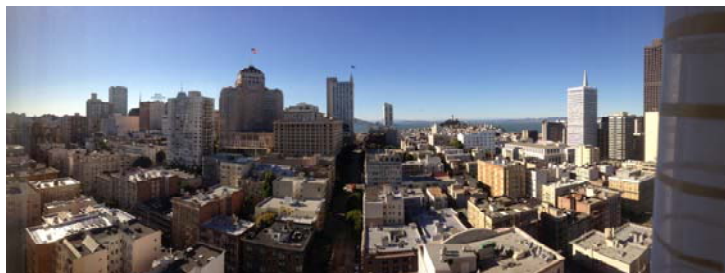
Science, one of the most-read scientific journals in the world, published a July 11 special issue on HIV/AIDS to coincide with the 20th International AIDS Conference. The editors, after talking with inside advisors, used a cover of "transgender sex workers in Jakarta, Indonesia." However, none of the articles in the issue had actual content in the articles about HIV prevention, care, or treatment efforts in these transgender communities. Rochelle Diamond, chair of the NOGLSTP Board of Directors, responded by convening an ad hoc committee of NOGLSTP members, advisors for GLAAD, and the National Transgender Center for Equality to discuss the issues and tone of response, which was sent to *Science* as a letter to the editor. The edited letter rebuking the ill-advised cover of the HIV/AIDS special issue was published on August 15, along with an apologetic response from the Editor in Chief, Dr. Marcia McNutt. NOGLSTP and Dr. McNutt are using this incident as a teachable moment to correct the prejudices of those who are insufficiently familiar with LGBTQ communities and their concerns. As an affiliate of AAAS, NOGLSTP stands ready to advise and assist to prevent misunderstandings and hostile environments. NOGLSTP has now established an advisory connection with Dr. McNutt for any issues and concerns that might arise. The published letter can be downloaded from <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/345/6198.toc#Letters>

NOGLSTP Recognition Awards (continued from p.1):

He then spent two years as a postdoctoral scholar at Case Western Reserve University in the Rosenblatt group, contributing to a diverse range of projects from Rayleigh-Taylor instability to direct imaging of liquid crystalline order via the technique of optical nanotomography. He joined the faculty of Tufts University in the Department of Physics and Astronomy in Fall 2011. For the last three years, he's been working as a co-organizer of the national organization LGBT+Physicists (www.lgbtphysicists.org) to improve the climate for sexual and gender minorities. Tim became an organizer shortly after the group was formed, and has contributed to many of the major projects undertaken by the group. Within Tufts, Tim has been a powerful advocate in support of LGBT students. He's the faculty advisor for the campus oSTEM group, and has played a key part in the growth of this organization by supporting the student leader and helping to recruit speakers for events. He has worked with the LGBT Center to help raise awareness of the needs of LGBT scientists among the student body, and recruited straight faculty to attend training sessions on inclusion. When the Physics Department was planning a new building, Tim raised the issue of gender neutral restrooms in a faculty meeting and they are now incorporated into the design. His commitment for inclusion extends beyond LGBT issues. He's also a strong supporter of the new Women in Physics group and has acted as mentor to the Society of Physics Students group. This willingness to engage and facilitate student networking has been a tremendous asset to his department, improving the learning community at Tufts. Tim is one of the champions within the department for physics education research-based teaching, including use of clickers, class discussion, pre-lecture quizzes ("flipped classroom") and lecture demonstrations. This style of pedagogy empowers students by placing them at the center of the classroom and allowing the course to adapt to more fully meet their needs. As a particularly collegial member of the faculty, he's also helped colleagues adapt these practices for their own classes, thus broadening their reach. Highlights of Tim's classes are documented on his research group website: sites.tufts.edu/softmattertheory.

ACS Presidential LGBT Reception in San Francisco

ACS President Prof. Tom Barton, the Division of Professional Relations (PROF) Subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies (GTCA), and NOGLSTP's LGBT Chemists Caucus hosted a reception at the 248th American Chemical Society National Meeting in San Francisco on August 12. The reception was a huge success, with the room filled to capacity and many guests overflowing into the foyer area of the 30th floor Marriott Union Square Hotel location to enjoy the panoramic view of San Francisco.



Seeing the success of the SF reception, ACS President-Elect Dr. Diane Grob Schmidt volunteered to increase the budget for the 2015 reception in Boston to \$5000, a significant increase over all past support for this event. If you missed this year's event and plan to attend the 250th ACS National Meeting in Boston next August, be sure to mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 18, 2015 and stop in to the reception for refreshments and to network with your colleagues.



NOGLSTP Reception at SACNAS

NOGLSTP hosted a reception at the 2014 SACNAS (Society for Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science) National Conference, October 16 in Los Angeles. Entitled "Out and up: Building a LGBTQA Network with Pride," the event provided professional networking and mutual support for gay, bisexual, transgender people, and allies. The reception featured a welcome from Maggie Werner-Washburne, SACNAS President, a short oral history of LGBTQ+ activity at SACNAS by Jenny Kurzweil, and a brief journey share from Scottie Henderson, David Bradley, and Rochelle Diamond.

News and Announcements

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists (L'GASP) News

L'GASP's proposal, entitled "Interacting with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Parents and Caregivers in Healthcare Settings and the Schools," has been accepted for presentation at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Orlando, FL for November 2014. The presentation reviews LGBT family demographic data and terminology, addresses current literature, and introduces problems unique to LGBT parents and caregivers. Recommendations to facilitate the involvement of LGBT parents in their children's education, and spouse/partner's healthcare will be addressed, as well as how to deal with questions from children's peers.

NOGLSTP at Purdue Sponsors LGBTQIA Film Festival

A film festival at Purdue on October 3 was coordinated by the student organization NOGLSTP at Purdue and jointly sponsored by the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Center, the Native American Education and Cultural Center, and the Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program. The movies shown at the festival explore the intersections of faith, race, age, national origin, gender identity and expression, marital status, disability status and sexual orientation. Genres ranged from comedy and short film to horror and documentary. Many films included fascinating brief discussions following the screenings.

NOGLSTP at WE14 + ICWES16 Conference EXPO

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) National Conference will be convening in Los Angeles California at the LA Convention Center, October 23-25. This year's theme will be, "A Global Exchange for Change" and WE14 will host the International Conference of Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES16). NOGLSTP will exhibit in the exhibition diversity area for the three days. Come by and see us!

gAyGU Annual Dinner in December

gAyGU will be holding its annual dinner during the week of the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) in San Francisco (December 15-19). gAyGU (or 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 does not need to be a member of AGU nor attend the meeting to attend the gAyGU dinner or join their Facebook group -- all that is needed is the desire to enjoy dinner or converse with a bunch of queer geoscientists. Details about the date and location of the annual dinner will be available in October, and will be posted on the gAyGU Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/GayGU/139998976049829>. Facebook users can "like" gAyGU's page and will get Facebook notifications with updates about the annual dinner. To get on the mailing list for e-mail updates on the gAyGU dinner and other announcements, contact Aron Meltzner at meltzner@caltech.edu.

NOGLSTP Working with DiscoverE

Rochelle Diamond, NOGLSTP chair, has been named a thought leader for the DiscoverE Global Marathon - For, By and About Women in Engineering & Technology®. The Global Marathon is the only free, virtual event uniting E&T women that coincides with International Women's Day. There will be interactive webcasts and Champion (locally organized) satellite events. As a thought leader, Rochelle will advise on topics and presenters, and tap into NOGLSTP's networks to help increase audiences. She will also have first access to developing a live session for the marathon if there is enough NOGLSTP interest. This is an opportunity for the women of NOGLSTP to share their journeys and innovations as lesbians and transwomen. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rochelle at the NOGLSTP office. For more information on the marathon go to: <http://www.discovere.org/our-programs/global-marathon>

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, 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:
\$40

\$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'

\$1000 for Lifetime Membership

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

- October 16-18: SACNAS National Conference, Los Angeles, CA
- October 23-25: SWE National Conference, Los Angeles, CA
- November 7-9: Out to Innovate™ Summit and oSTEM National Meeting, Atlanta, GA
- December 15-19: AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA



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 Astronomical Society
- American Chemical Society
- L'GASP: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists
- LAGLS: 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: _____
- Don't know but would like to help with something

Census Bureau Refining How it Asks People to Report Marital Status

In hopes of getting more accurate measures of same-sex couples when it counts couples in the 2020 decennial census, the Census Bureau is trying to establish a more comprehensive picture to reflect family status. The new American Community Survey data is categorizing same-sex married couples as families. Just under 0.5% of the total of all married couples were same-sex couples. Same-sex couples who live together but are not married are still counted as “unmarried partners,” the same designation for unmarried opposite-sex couples. The Census Bureau has counted same-sex couples since 1990.

White House Names Megan Smith as America's Chief Technology Officer

Google's Megan Smith has been chosen by the Obama Administration to lead the nation forward for technology and innovation. Smith, an out lesbian, is an MIT-trained mechanical engineer and entrepreneur and comes from a position as a vice president at Google's next generation project program. She led the company in acquiring the technology for Google Earth and Google Maps.

Congress Requests Written Update from HHS on Blood and Tissue Donation Policy

Eighteen senators and 51 members of the House sent a September 8 letter to HHS Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell asking for a written update on the department's progress assessing its current policy on blood and tissue donations. The policy prohibits men who have sex with men from donating blood for life, and tissue for five years. These measures were instituted at the height of the AIDS epidemic. The American Medical Association (AMA), the nation's largest physician organization, passed a resolution last year opposing the current policy as discriminatory. HHS has indicated that the re-evaluation will conclude by the end of this year.

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

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