

NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Summer 2014

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

NOGLSTP's Out to Innovate™ 2013 Scholarship Winner Graduates *Judging Underway for this Year's Scholarships*

Congratulations to Mateo Williams, last year's Out to Innovate™ Scholarship winner, who graduated from the University of Arizona this spring. Mateo writes "to express my immense gratitude for the support NOGLSTP gave me this past year. Last week I graduated with a BS in Microbiology and a BA in Spanish Translation and Interpretation from the University of Arizona! Since I did not have to work full time this year while attending school, I was able to complete an honors thesis and gain research experience while setting up a PCR protocol in our Ag lab to detect E. coli O157:H7 in beef. I am applying this cycle to med schools, looking especially at schools that are working on LGBT and gender health issues... Completing my last year of college really wouldn't have been possible for me without the help from NOGLSTP. I feel so grateful and relieved. The financial aspect of college made for a very difficult journey, and I'm now ready to break that silence because it is hindering our students and future scientists! My experiences among low-income and homeless college students have led me to spend this next year working with homeless youth in Newark, NJ as a Global Health Fellow. I'm glad I will have time to continue my advocacy for LGBT youth and raise my voice against conversion therapy this coming year. That is a dream." Mateo will be traveling to Out to Innovate™ this November to meet more NOGLSTPers.

The NOGLSTP Scholarship program application process for 2014 has closed and now the judging begins. Applications were received from across the country for the \$5000 awards given to one undergraduate student and one graduate student. Decisions will be announced on August 1.

Nominations Open for NOGLSTP Awards *Deadline August 1*

It is once again time to nominate your fellow queer peers for the NOGLSTP recognition awards to be presented at the Out to Innovate™ conference this November at Georgia Tech University in Atlanta. Nomination forms are available on the NOGLSTP website, www.noglstp.org, under the Programs/Recognition Awards links, and we are accepting nominations for Scientist of the Year, Engineer of the Year, Educator of the Year, Walt Westman Award, Institution/Organization Award, and Corporate Award. The purpose behind these awards is to recognize the incredible work being done by our own to ensure that the queer community does not get overlooked for its tremendous contributions to science and technology. Please look around at your friends, coworkers and associates and consider nominating them to increase the awareness of their work and our cause. All nominations are due by August 1, 2014, and details are available on the website and in the nomination form.

Out to Innovate™ Update

The joint summit of Out To Innovate™ 2014 and oSTEM's 4th National Meeting is upcoming on November 8 and 9 at the Georgia Institute of Technology campus in Atlanta. The summit expects to bring at least 400 STEM students and professionals together for presentations and workshops on LGBT diversity and paths to professional success. More information is available through the website: OutToInnovate.org.

Registration for the summit opened on July 1. Please consider attending and participating, and pass the word on to any students and student groups who would be interested. Poster submission deadline is September 5.

NOGLSTP is also seeking additional sponsor organizations willing to support the summit and attend the recruiting and exhibition fair. Contact OutToInnovate@NOGLSTP.org with any potential sponsorship leads.

GoDaddy Founding Sponsor of Out to Innovate™ 2014



We are pleased to announce that GoDaddy is a Founding Sponsor of Out to Innovate™ 2014, NOGLSTP's biennial career summit for LGBTQ+ people in STEM.

This \$10,000 level of support will go a long way - not only to help subsidize registration fees, but also to specifically support three student registration scholarships. GoDaddy is the world's largest technology provider dedicated to small businesses. Since 2002, GoDaddy has donated over \$14 million to hundreds of charities and has championed causes meaningful to our community.

To learn more about GoDaddy, visit www.GoDaddy.com

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NOGLSTP Supports ASEE Diversity Efforts

By Tim Wilson

NOGLSTP was one of several professional organizations and institutions that made it possible for the Diversity Council of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) to deliver multiple Safe Zone training sessions at the ASEE Annual Conference at Indianapolis in June 2014. Safe Zone training introduces prospective allies on college campuses to information and best practices in supporting LGBTQI students at their institutions. A Safe Zone could range from the office of an individual faculty member to an academic department to an entire campus, depending on the degree of influence of the ally. Safe Zone session facilitators were recruited from among those with experience in presenting safe-space education, as well as attendees to the conference with previous efforts toward LGBTQI equality in academic settings who would be attending the conference. Facilitators included Jonathon Clark and Sheila Lopez-Acquire of NOGLSTP partner, the American Indian Science and Engineering Society.



NOGLSTP's TJ Ronningen of Battelle (l) and Tim Wilson of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (r) at the ASEE Diversity Booth.

Also, after an absence of a year, the ASEE Diversity Booth returned to the conference, with a prime location at the entrance to the conference's exhibition floor. TJ Ronningen and Tim Wilson of NOGLSTP and Diane Matt of the Women in Engineering ProActive Network (WEPAN) joined members of ASEE's Diversity Committee in staffing the Diversity Booth during exhibition

hours. NOGLSTP provided material regarding this coming November's Out to Innovate™ conference as well as information about NOGLSTP Out to Innovate™ Scholarships, LGBTI career opportunities in high-tech companies, and NOGLSTP's recognition awards.

The financial support of NOGLSTP, along with that of several other professional organizations (Society of Women Engineers, WEPAN, National Action Council on Minorities in Engineering, Society of Manufacturing Engineers), and academic institutions (Texas A&M University, Michigan Technological University, Rowan University, Viterbi School of Engineering at the University of Southern California) made possible both travel for Safe Zone session moderators and the Diversity Booth itself.

The LGBTQI-supportive nature of the conference was evident in the large number of conference attendees who picked up a rainbow ribbon at the Diversity Booth for display on their conference badge, from student attendees to ASEE leadership. At its meeting during the conference, the ASEE Board of Directors adopted a resolution for ASEE to undergo a Year of Action on Diversity, mandating diversity activities among the more than fifty divisions and geographic entities within ASEE.



Sheila Lopez-Aguirre (l) and Jonathan Clark (r) of AISES (American Indian Science and Engineering Society) at the ASEE Diversity Booth's NOGLSTP display.

LGBT Astronomers Celebrate Pride at the White House

By Jane Rigby

A few weeks ago, I got an invitation to attend the public White House tour. To commemorate Pride Month, several protest signs would be on display inside the White House. The signs were from one of the first public protests for LGBT rights: the 1965 protest of the White House by several brave souls, organized by Dr. Frank Kameny. We got the invitation because WGLE had helped persuade the American Astronomical Society to recognize Dr. Kameny with a special award in recognition of his lifetime efforts to promote equal rights for LGBT people. The award was particularly poignant because Frank was a Harvard-trained astronomer before being fired by the federal government in 1957 for being gay. He never worked as a scientist again. Sadly, the 2012 award from the AAS was posthumous, as Frank had died three months before.

I was allowed to bring guests, so I brought my WGLE compatriot Van Dixon, and my wife Andrea Leistra. Van, Andrea, and I rearranged our calendars, put on suits, and joined the polite line of tourists waiting to enter the White House. In line, we ran into Charles Francis, Dr. Kameny's literary executor. He showed us a newly-unearthed document from the Kameny Papers: the letter that Dr. Kameny gave a guard at that 1965 White House protest, to give to the President, listing the protesters' demands. He also told us that the Library of Congress had just posted online Lilli Vincenz's documentary film of the 1968 protest at Independence Hall. Lilli was attending the tour later that day, though we didn't get to meet her. We filed through security. Immediately on entering the White House, we were handed a flyer announcing the National Park Service's new initiative to identify important places and events associated with LGBT history in America. They hadn't singled us out -- every visitor was given the flyer.



Lilli Vincenz at the White House, in front of one of the pickets she carried in 1965. Lilli was the first lesbian member of the Mattachine Society of Washington, D.C. and edited their publication, *The Homosexual Citizen*.

We followed the tour line and turned a corner, and there in the sumptuous East Room was a sign from the Smithsonian explaining who Frank Kameny was, along with three protest signs: "Gay is Good," "End Official Persecution of Homosexuals," and "State Dept Policy on Homosexuals CREATES Security Risks." I'll admit it, I cried. "Gay is good" was a slogan that Kameny invented at a time when positive, affirming messages about homosexual identity were almost non-

existent. A time when gay people had no rights in this country, and were seen as pariahs and criminals. Yet here they were, two signs from that protest, quixotically demanding fair treatment from a White House that had done its best to purge homosexuals from federal employment. These signs had a place of honor within the White House.

Then the Gay Men's Chorus of DC started singing. (Really!) They sang a few songs while the tourists filed past: gentle, a capella pop songs about being able to love whoever you choose. We stopped to listen. The chorus finished, and we all walked out into the sunshine of a beautiful June day.

NOGLSTP-CR Expands Science Fair Participation

The Chesapeake Region caucus was successful this year in securing some additional corporate funding from Northrop Grumman and Exelon to use for local science fair awards. In the past several years, we have had NOGLSTP-CR members participate in judging the Anne Arundel Regional Science and Engineering Fair and provide awards from NOGLSTP for our criterion "The Responsible Use of Science." The additional funding enabled us to expand our visible participation into the Baltimore Science Fair and Prince George's County Regional Fairs as well this year. Those who help with the judging find this a rewarding and enjoyable experience, and we look forward to future participation.

NOGLSTP-Chesapeake Region also continues to have other events for its members. In the past, these have included getting together for the Sci-Fi Spectacular with George Takei, participating in SWE Capitol Hill Day, and outings to the International Spy Museum and the National Cryptology Museum. We also have several social dinners and barbecues throughout the year to stay in touch, and are always looking for new members to join; feel free to contact us at CR-Chair@NOGLSTP.org.

American Chemical Society Presidential LGBT Reception in San Francisco

ACS President Tom Barton will co-host, along with the ACS Division of Professional Relations and NOGLSTP, a reception for LGBT chemists and allies during the 248th ACS National Meeting in San Francisco. The reception will be held on **Tuesday, August 12, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.** at the **Marriott Union Square Hotel, 30th Floor Russian Hill Room**. A host bar and hors d'oeuvres will be served. The ACS Division of Professional Relations Subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies welcomes new members; dues are \$12/year (\$7/year for students) and can be made online separately from your ACS membership renewal. Please check the final online program for any last minute location changes, or contact Dr. Chris Bannochie at 706-294-2994. We look forward to sharing a spectacular view of San Francisco with you during the reception.

LGBTQ+ Themed Presentations at the ACS National Meeting in San Francisco

During the session on "Chemistry Plus Passions, Interests: Careers on the Road Less Traveled," Chris Bannochie will present "One chemist's reflections on the alleys and paths that border the road less traveled." This session is organized by the ACS Division of Business Development and Management, and will be held at Moscone Center, North Building, Room 132 on August 10 from 2:05-2:35 p.m.

The Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies subdivision of the ACS Division of Professional Relations has organized a session on "Workplace Issues Facing the LGBT Chemistry Community." The session will start with Barbara Belmont presenting "LGBTQ in ACS and the workplace: Status report," followed by a round-table discussion involving all session attendees. It will be held at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square, Union Square 17/18, on August 11 from 1:30-3:20 p.m.

DiscoverE Diversity Council Meeting News

Rochelle Diamond attended the National Engineers Week Foundation (now known as DiscoverE) Steering Committee and Diversity Council meeting in Las Vegas on June 9. She presented information on NOGLSTP's signature program, Out to Innovate™, NOGLSTP's recognition award program, and its mentoring program with MentorNet. Many on the council expressed great interest and took information for their companies and societies. In return, DiscoverE is looking for speakers and ideas for their next Global Marathon, mentors for their Future Cities program, and story ideas for their "Dream Big" documentary. For more information see their website at www.discovere.org.

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

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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

- August 1: NOGLSTP Recognition Awards nomination deadline
- August 10-15: ACS Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- November 8-9: Out to Innovate™ Summit and oSTEM National Meeting, Atlanta, GA

NY Times Article Describes Uncovered Evidence of Historic Federal Employment Discrimination

A May 20, 2014 *NY Times* article by Matt Apuzzo brings to light the collection of documents that LGBT archivists, projects and societies have worked hard to obtain to fill in the historical gaps of the US government's anti-gay policies. Using public records requests, they have collected hundreds of documents, with thousands more to come, that discuss homosexuals and policies toward them. These include writings from the FBI and J. Edgar Hoover's Sex Deviate program; unfortunately many pages of these documents were incinerated in 1977. After taking office, President Eisenhower issued Executive Order 10450, which authorized investigations into "sexual perversion" in the federal workforce to ensure "suitability" of federal employees. Many LGBT people lost their jobs or were turned down for jobs during this time, including astronomer Frank Kameny, who fought the good fight. See page 2 of this issue for an account of a recent White House commemoration of a 1965 protest organized by Frank Kameny.

Our Stories Matter

Binbin Chen was featured on National Public Radio on June 3, 2014 for NPR's StoryCorps. StoryCorps is one of the largest oral history projects of its kind, documenting people's lives. Binbin, a recent graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology and now at Stanford University, was nominated by NOGLSTP and selected as one of the 2013 New Faces of Engineering College Edition for the National Engineering Week Foundation. During the interview, Binbin told the interviewer how being a part of the Lavender Graduation at Georgia Tech meant having "the" talk with his Mom, because in the Chinese culture, sex is not something you just talk about. The story was recorded in partnership with the Atlanta History Center, which hosts Atlanta's StoryCorps booth. Take a listen at: <http://wabe.org/post/storycorps-binbin-chen>

A Shoutout for Diversity Inclusion of LGBTQ People in STEM

David A. Anderson, Director of Science Education at the International Preparatory School in Santiago, Chile and a NSF Graduate Research Fellow, wrote a wonderful letter to the editor of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* in response to the journal's recent special issue on Diversity in Academe, remarking on the absence of consideration of LGBT scholars. He sent the letter to our NOGLSTP LinkedIn list. Thanks to David for writing that letter and making us aware of it!

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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LGBT Chemists and Allies rep: Barbara Belmont, [bbelmont@](mailto:bbelmont@noglstp.org)
NOGLSTP — Chesapeake Region rep: Robert Ryan, [rjr-chesapeake@](mailto:rjr-chesapeake@noglstp.org)
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Queer Engineers, Scientists, and Technical Professionals of San Diego; rep: Rosa Leon, [sandiegoquest@](mailto:sandiegoquest@noglstp.org)

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

Mentoring Program Coordinator: [mentoring@](mailto:mentoring@noglstp.org)

Out to Innovate Co-Chairs: TJ Ronningen, [ronningent@](mailto:ronningent@noglstp.org), Chris Bannochie [cj.bannochie@](mailto:cj.bannochie@noglstp.org)

Newsletter Editor: Daniele Cherniak, [editor@](mailto:editor@noglstp.org)

NOGLSTP Bulletin is published quarterly, most of the time. Contributed articles are encouraged, and may be e-mailed as plain text to [editor@](mailto:editor@noglstp.org). Next publication deadline (for Fall newsletter): **September 15, 2014**. Please acknowledge the **NOGLSTP Bulletin** as your source if you choose to reproduce any of these articles.

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
- NuclearPride
- 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