

American College Personnel Association

Out on Campus

The Newsletter of the Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Awareness

Summer 2003

A Post-Convention and Post-Mid Year Meeting Edition

Inside This Issue

- ✓ Welcome from the Chair – Page 1
- ✓ Community Service Involvement in Support of LGBT Youth – Page 2
- ✓ Changes to Election Procedure and Congratulations to the New Directorate Members! – Page 3
- ✓ New Directorate Member Biographies – Page 4
- ✓ ACPA/NASPA Consolidation – Building on our strengths – Page 5
- ✓ Record attendance at the 5th Annual Cabaret – Page 6
- ✓ Have you checked your box lately? – Page 6
- ✓ 2003 Lambda Mentor Program a HUGE success! – Page 7
- ✓ State Liaison Update – Page 8
- ✓ Your new Gender Advocate has arrived on the scene!!!! - Page 9
- ✓ History Making in Boston...Again - Mid-Year Meeting Update – Page 9
- ✓ Wellness Spotlight - Moving On: Finding a Health Care Provider Right for You! – Page 10
- ✓ Transgender Health – Page 11
- ✓ Want to get involved with the SCLGBTA? – Page 13
- ✓ ACPA Call for Programs – Convention 2004 – Page 13
- ✓ New Structure for ACPA Convention 2004 in Philly
- ✓ Advertisements – Page 14

Newsletter Co-Editors

Christopher O'Connor, University of Southern Maine, occonnorc@usm.maine.edu

Amanda Eckenroad, Carleton College, aeckenro@acs.carleton.edu

Want to contribute to **Out on Campus**? We need you! Email us!

Welcome from the Chair

Keith Humphrey, Chair

Hello SCLGBTA!

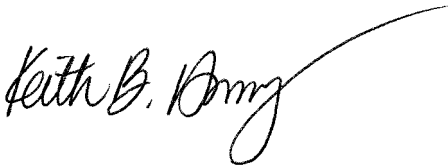
It is my honor to write my first newsletter welcome as your Chair. I am thrilled to be leading this dynamic group and to serve as your voice on association-wide issues.

Our Standing Committee has a long history of success and accomplishment in ACPA. There is still much for us to do to improve the quality of life for GLBT professionals and our students. Domestic Partner legislation and policies are not in place in a great number of our institutions. Equal Opportunity clauses in hiring practices are not enforced at even more. The SCLGBTA is committed to advocating for the installation of such policies and enforcement on every college and university campus.

The success of this Standing Committee is due in large part to the outstanding leadership of our past Chairs. I know that I have personally received countless hours of advice from these individuals over my career and count them among my mentors and friends. One of these mentors and friends is transitioning into her role as immediate Past-Chair of the SCLGBTA. Please join me in honoring the hard work and dedication of Gisela Vega, from Florida International University, for her two years as Chair.

Much of our activity focuses around the annual convention, but a great deal of our work occurs year-round. In this issue you will find some of our year-round activities highlighted. It is my hope that reading this issue will stimulate creativity among our membership. We want to hear about your ideas, suggestions or comments! Please feel free to contact me directly at khumphrey@arizona.edu.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the 2004 Convention in Philadelphia!



Community Service Involvement in Support of LGBT Youth

Melissa Pon, Outreach Coordinator

At the 2003 ACPA National Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, ACPA's Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Awareness (SCLGBTA) participated in a community service project to raise funds for District 202. District 202 is the first and only permanent space in Minnesota by and for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) youth, ranging in age from 13 to 21. District 202 is a nonprofit youth community center committed to providing social, cultural and educational opportunities by and for LGBT youth and their friends. Through a collaborative process with adult and youth staff, this strong community of youth determines the activities of the center. For nearly a decade, District 202's exceptional model of empowering youth has set a high standard of honoring youth voices, building strength, and empowering LGBT youth and their friends to be themselves. Over the years, thousands of youth have become involved in the center. They have created theater, dance, community education, conferences, art, and much more. They have become involved in the community, created opportunities for leadership, and have lots of fun in the process.

The SCLGBTA raised funds for District 202 through two coordinated events at the conference. The SCLGBTA would like to give a special thank you to T. Todd Masman for coordinating the community service connection with District 202. Our first social event was our "Dinner OUT on the Town" coordinated by Andrea Conner, SCLGBTA's Minneapolis Local Arrangements Coordinator. The event was held at AZIA, a restaurant offering a wide selection of Asian dishes. Prior to the dinner, attendees had the wonderful opportunity to take a shuttle to District 202, receive a guided tour, meet the director, and also meet the youth of the center. The youth at the center shared personal thoughts and experiences on the importance of the center in their lives. We were even treated to a special dance performance choreographed by the youth of the center. After the tour, we took a stroll to the restaurant

for dinner with members of the standing committee and staff of District 202. At the end of the night, \$200 was raised from individual contributions for District 202!

Our second fundraiser effort for District 202 was held at ACPA's Carnival event. Melissa Pon, SCLGBTQA's Outreach Coordinator, coordinated a festive SCLGBTQA booth at the Carnival to promote membership outreach, standing committee awareness, conference event promotion, and a silent auction to raise funds for District 202. There were over twenty-five donated silent auction items ranging from a University of California, Berkeley t-shirt on the west coast to a t-shirt representing the University of New Hampshire on the east coast. The highest bid received for an item was \$50 for a Burt & Ernie t-shirt! Not only did we distribute 400 rainbow stickers to promote LGBT and ally visibility but we also raised \$400 for District 202 through our silent auction fundraising efforts!

SCLGBTQA's fundraising efforts will help support the creation and management of empowering programs for LGBT youth at District 202. Programming efforts focus on building a community, community education, and outreach. Donations from individuals and the community account for almost 40% of their budget. More information on District 202 can be found on their website at <http://www.dist202.org>. SCLGBTQA plans on building a tradition of community service at each national conference location to give back to the LGBT community.

Changes to Election Procedure and Congratulations to the New Directorate Members!

Julie Wood, Sr. MAL for Membership and Development

As was referenced in the pre-Convention newsletter, the standing committee used some new criteria to structure our elections this year, eliminating our gender quotas of two men and two women for our Member-at-Large (MAL) positions in an effort to be more trans-inclusive, and instead electing the top four vote-getters regardless of gender. We will try this new approach for a year to see whether it is effective and is meeting the needs of our membership and would appreciate any comments or feedback.

Our elections this year were packed with outstanding candidates, and we had more MAL candidates than in recent years, making the race close. Please congratulate the following new MALs!

- Shari Lupton– Junior MAL for Advocacy and Outreach
- Eric Ramsey– Junior MAL for Visibility and Recognition
- Matt Johnson – Junior MAL for Membership and Development
- Claire Williams – Junior MAL for Health and Wellness

We also had a large number of people interested in our appointed positions. The decisions were hard, because of the strong qualifications of all of the people interested, but provided a diverse and rich pool of new talent for the standing committee. Please congratulate the following new directorate members!

- Sarah Hallas – Intern
- Jessica Pettitt – Gender Advocate
- Rob Anderson – Incoming Program Chair
- Steve Crudup and Will Cribby – Wellness Coordinators
- Dawn Dooley – Lambda Mentor Coordinator
- Robert Schoenborg – Local Arrangements Coordinator
- Amanda Eckenroad – Co-Newsletter Editor

- Patrick Romero-Aldez – Diversity Advocate

We are excited about the work that the standing committee is doing, and are so proud of our new members! Welcome! To help you get acquainted with some of them, here are some brief biographies for our new members:

New Directorate Member Biographies

Steven A. Crudup, Co-Wellness Coordinator

Steve has been active with the standing committee as a mentor and mentee with the Lambda Mentor Program since 1997. Back on campus, he is an Area Coordinator for University Housing at Clemson University, where he also works directly with the First Year Experience program and *Tiger Fitness*, Clemson's Fitness and Wellness housing. A graduate of Florida State University for both his Masters in Higher Education Administration and Bachelors in Social Work, he enjoys competitive volleyball and tennis, as well as working as a ropes course facilitator on the side. Steve also has a passion for diversity education efforts, facilitating Prejudice Reduction workshops for the National Coalition Building Institute, helping develop Safe Zone programs, among other endeavors.

Dawn Dooley, Lambda Mentor Program Coordinator

Greetings from Alaska! Dawn has been living and working in Alaska as the Director of Residence Life at the University of Alaska Anchorage for the past three years. She received her bachelor's in secondary education and master's in counseling and guidance from the University of Alaska Anchorage. In her free time, Dawn enjoys snowboarding, snowmobiling, hiking, walking with her dog "Healy", and everything the amazing outdoors of Alaska has to offer. She looks forward to working with the members of the SCLGBTQA as she continues to build on this already amazing program, and looks forward to involving you as members in this opportunity to build relationships, give and receive professional support, network, and find your involvement niche in ACPA.

Keith Humphrey, Chair

Keith is currently the Director of Orientation at The University of Arizona where he is also a Doctoral Student. He is proud to have received his undergraduate degree at The College of William & Mary and his Master's at James Madison University. Keith's ACPA involvement includes serving the SCLGBTQA as Outreach Coordinator and Member at Large and being a member of Core Council for Member Services & Interests. In his free time his favorite things are running, chinese food, coffee, The West Wing and Madonna. Keith's family includes his partner, Brett (and son Owen), two dogs, Cosmo & Zoey and one cat, Melvin.

Matt Johnson, Junior Member-at-Large for Membership and Development

A native of Albert Lea, Minnesota, Matt is in his fourth year at Cornell College and is currently the Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life. Matt received his BA in English and Speech-Communication from Saint Olaf College and his MA in College Student Personnel from Bowling Green State University. Matt has received several awards for his contributions to student affairs, including the 1998 Outstanding Service Award from the ACPA Standing Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Awareness. He is active in local, state and national organizations and was a founding

member of the California College Personnel Association. Outside of work, Matt can often be found cooking for friends and family or indulging his two dogs, Alexis and Dexter (yes--as in "Dynasty").

Shari Lupton, Junior Member-at-Large for Advocacy and Outreach

Shari currently lives in Miami, FL where she works as a Residence Life Coordinator at Florida International University. When she is not working she considers herself to be a movie buff. Her favorite movie happens to be When Harry Met Sally. She also enjoys reading and claims to be an average golfer. Lastly, Shari would add that she considers it a privilege to be a member of the Directorate Body and looks forward to all that she will contribute and learn from this experience.

Karen Proulx, Senior Member-at-Large for Visibility and Recognition

Karen currently lives in New Hampshire and is in flux professional as she is in the midst of job searching. She is a recent grad, just having received her MEd in Higher Ed Administration from Suffolk University in Boston, MA (site of our summer Mid-Year Meeting). Karen's hobbies include reading, painting, sewing, writing poetry, crafts in general, and music. If any one is still hiring (editor's addition), Karen's functional areas of interest are student activities, residence life and first year programs.

Patrick Romero-Aldaz, Diversity Advocate

Patrick is currently the Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life at Virginia Tech. He is excited to be serving the standing committee and hopes to help increase ACPA's understanding and celebration of diversity both within and external to the GLBT community. If you have any ideas as to how he can better educate the general membership continue the development within the SC please do not hesitate to contact him at promeroa@vt.edu.

Claire Williams, Junior Member-at-Large for Health and Wellness

Claire currently works as the Coordinator for Recruitment Programs and Outreach with the Department of Resident Life at the University of Maryland. She has been at UM for 5 years. Claire attended Western Illinois University for her graduate work. In her spare time, she volunteers for the Washington DC Rape Crisis Center

ACPA/NASPA Consolidation – Building on Our Strengths

Keith Humphrey, Chair

Conversation has been under way during the past year about consolidating ACPA and NASPA into one professional association. To date, the process has examined the benefits and drawbacks of consolidation. One of the benefits is being able to bring the strengths of each association together into one. At the center of the conversation has been ACPA's long tradition of advocacy. This includes ACPA's advocacy for members of the GLBT community.

Many of our members have expressed concerns about loss of culture or a safe professional home for GLBT individuals as a drawback of possible consolidation. These concerns are being heard and are valued as conversation continues amongst both associations. It is important to point out that as a community we have been quick to highlight the things we would "lose" as part of a consolidation, rather than the things we would gain.

ACPA and the SCLGBTA have long traditions of continuing to expand, grow and welcome new groups - even though doing so has changed how we operate and what we value. Recent examples include the creation of the Standing Committee on Disability and the inclusion of transgender in the title, mission and focus of this Standing Committee. Where would we be if we had not expanded and changed?

Your input in this process is extremely valuable. I welcome your feedback/suggestions/concerns as the conversation about consolidation continues. A formal decision regarding consolidation has not been made - and no date to make the decision has been set. In the meantime, SCLGBTA and ACPA remain as strong and dedicated to its members as ever.

Record attendance at the fifth SCLGBTA Cabaret

John Fox, Development Coordinator

The SCLGBTA hosted its 5th Anniversary show under the direction of the one and only Joey Greenwell. What a show and the Gay 90's was a wonderful club to work with and space for our committee - the largest space to date. We unfortunately bid farewell to our wonderful hostesses with the mostesses, Coretta Scott Queen (Vernon Wall) & Wild Cherry Sucret (Tony Kearney). In addition, we bid farewell to Joey as our Cabaret Coordinator.

We hosted a whopping 17 performers, including one King this year! The crowd seemed to love it as always and I am a little biased, but I think the opening 'Cell Block Tango' from Chicago really got the crowd going!

Special thanks to all of our supporters who attended and tipped the performers. Also, many thanks to those who volunteered to work the event and took on special tasks like greasing up some of the queens so they could slide into their outfits...just kidding)!

Hope to see everyone next year in Philly!!

Have you checked your box lately?

Keith Humphrey, Chair

Each person receiving the email that proceeded this newsletter has completed an important task. They have checked the box on their ACPA membership application or renewal indicating they want to be a member of the SCLGBTA.

Many of us do not know that the selections we indicated by checking boxes expire as ACPA membership expires. Each time you renew your ACPA membership, please make sure you check the box for the SCLGBTA.

You can always update your membership selections online at www.myacpa.org and logging into the "members" section to update your personal information.

2003 Lambda Mentor Program a HUGE success!

Jessica Pettit, Past Lambda Mentor Coordinator

2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successfully matched 12 mentor/mentee pairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23 participants in 6 Mentor Partner groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26 participants in 5 Mentor Partner groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighted the program in each newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Published article in <i>Developments, Out of Campus</i>, and on the updated web site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Published article in <i>Developments, Out of Campus</i>, and on the updated web site
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contacted each program coordinator listed in ACPA's Directory of graduate programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sent a solicitation email and a reminder email to all Lambda Mentor Alumni, all SC LGBTA members on the past contact lists, current SC members, and all Higher Education Graduate Preparation Programs found on ACPA's on line directory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sent a solicitation email and a reminder email to all Lambda Mentor Alumni, all SC LGBTA members on the past contact lists, current SC members, and all Higher Education Graduate Preparation Programs found on ACPA's on line directory
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertised program in various student affairs listservs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted updated information on the web page <http://www.geocities.com/sclgbta/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noticed error on web page link and contacted Jared to fix link and upload new information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted updated information on the web page www.sclgbta.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially contacted all Mentor Partner participants and followed up after groups were assigned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted updated information on the web page <http://www.geocities.com/sclgbta/> & www.sclgbta.org
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answered all correspondence within 24 hours from each participant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially contacted all Mentor Partner participants and followed up after groups were assigned
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted extensive research on mentoring program to update resources and reference links on web site and to provide theoretical structure to program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answered all correspondence within 24 hours from each participant
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created an evaluation form to assess Lambda Mentor Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted new links for Mentoring on web site and made information available to participants
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organized and delivered acquired information for archivist to prepare for next year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributed an evaluation form to assess Lambda Mentor Program for second year

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organized and delivered acquired information for archivist to prepare for next year while keeping Mentor binder current and complete
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up Mentor_Coordinators Yahooogroup for all the coordinators to stay in touch over summer to try to start working together

State Liaison Update

Bob Coffey, State Liaison Coordinator

Greetings from New Hampshire!

Even as the welcome warmth and light of mid-summer has arrived, it seems like only a short time ago we were gathered together in Minneapolis for the National Convention. As the State Liaisons Coordinator, it's my role to help connect the work your Standing Committee does for LGBT student affairs practitioners with our members across the country. It was a pleasure meeting with so many of our current and prospective State Liaisons in Minneapolis, and I'm confident that the next several months will reveal new opportunities to further build and strengthen this valuable network.

Historically, State Liaisons have played an invaluable role in gathering and disseminating information and data considered vital to those of us active in LGBT advocacy within the profession. Most notably, State Liaisons were a crucial link in the successful completion of a report published by the Standing Committee that detailed which institutions had implemented domestic partnership benefits.

In recent years, it's been less clear about what the future goals and purpose for the SLs were. However, thanks to the wonderful ideas, energy and input provided by our enthusiastic corps of volunteers, and with the Directorate Board's approval, we're about to launch two exciting projects. Our goal is to provide new benefits for our members as well as new opportunities for you to get involved.

The "Hospitality Network":

First suggested by Nick, our fantastic new State Liaison for Wisconsin, our hope is to further expand our web of volunteers across the country and in doing so, create a network of friendly contacts whom can help when you're traveling, job-hunting or planning to relocate. Attending a conference in New Orleans? Let our friendly liaison in the Big Easy recommend a hotel or restaurant they've enjoyed, or point you in the direction of a fun night out on the town! Searching for your dream job in the nation's capital? Our liaison in Washington, DC can help you with your search: identifying position openings, helping you network with prospective employers in the region, offering advice and feedback and giving you the lowdown on campus climate.

If you're knowledgeable about your community and don't mind using your resources and connections to help a colleague in the field, you're just the person we're looking for!

The "LGBT Workshop Facilitators & Trainers Network"

You've developed a can't-fail workshop on homophobia that's going to change the world, one RA at a time, and they love you for it. Isn't it time you took your show on the road? Similar in purpose to a campus speakers' bureau, we're hoping to match knowledgeable colleagues with experience in presenting on a particular topic related to sexual orientation and/or gender identity with colleagues in their area. If you're looking for more experience in presenting, want the challenge of

working with different audiences or have information you'd like to share, then please consider adding your name to our growing list of volunteer presenters!

Involvement in ACPA through volunteering is a great way to expand your professional connections within the organization, and the State Liaison Program is the perfect place to develop or renew those ties. If you're interested, please feel free to contact me via phone at 603/862-4528 or via email at bob.coffey@unh.edu

Best wishes for the upcoming academic year! See you in Philadelphia!

Your new Gender Advocate has arrived on the scene!!!!

Jessica Pettit, Gender Advocate

After working with the Lambda Mentor Program, Jessica will be serving you and the Standing Committee for LGBT Awareness as the Gender Advocate. This position was newly created to bridge the gaps in assumptions between gender roles in the student affairs profession as well as to provide a safe space for gender identity/expression inclusion. Jessica will be collaborating with the Standing Committee for Men and the Standing Committee for Women to design the Gender Advocate position. However, she needs your help too! The SCLGBT membership is welcome to pass along ideas, thoughts, questions, and real life experiences so that the Gender Advocate position, as it takes shape, represents you!

The Gender Advocate will also serve the Directorate similar to the Diversity Advocate's position on issues relating to gender diversity by advocating within and throughout the directorate, SCLGBT and ACPA on gender diversity issues (including advocacy for binary gender equity on the Directorate). The Directorate hopes to work toward greater inclusion on the SC, Directorate and in ACPA for non-binary folks (transgender & transsexual folks). Jessica also will be gathering and sharing resources to help further discussion around gender, intersex, and transgender related needs for SC & ACPA members and communicating that to the Directorate and coordinating efforts to meet those needs.

History Making in Boston...Again - Mid-Year Meeting Update

Keith Humphrey, Chair

The SCLGBT Directorate held its Mid-Year business meeting on June 27-28, 2003 at Suffolk University in Boston, MA. Boston is a city of historical significance for the SCLGBT...it was an annual convention in Boston that ACPA officially awarded Standing Committee status to the SCLGBT. New history was created as new and returning members of your directorate met twenty-five stories above Boston Harbor.

Advocacy was at the core of the two-day discussion. Strengthening our commitment to transgender and cultural advocacy resulted in passionate discussions and informed plans of action before our association next meets in Philadelphia.

Continuing our tradition of showing our members a good time in our host convention city was also paramount. Highlighting Philadelphia venues to host our Cabaret and Dinner OUT as well as identifying a local GLBT youth organization to focus our service efforts upon were all discussed at great length. Look for some exciting innovations at our traditional events.

Of course, the two days were not all work. Walks were taken along the Freedom Trail, local clubs were visited, and we were fortunate enough to be in town on the night of a FREE outdoor concert by Blondie! We were truly in rapture...

All members left the meeting with many projects to tackle in the nine short months before Convention 2004. It is work that is critical to the success of GLBT professionals and students, and each member is honored to have the opportunity to serve. We will next meet in Philadelphia and will hold our 2004 Mid-Year business meeting on June 29-30 at The University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona.

Wellness Spotlight - Moving On: Finding a Health Care Provider Right for You!

Steven Crudup, Co-Wellness Coordinator

Since this is the post-convention issue, there's an assumption being made that at least a few of you might be looking at new opportunities for employment. As professionals in student affairs, we often move around the country to find that perfect institution and position. In order to do that, we often have to leave our comfort zone, including ending relationships we have with health care providers.

When finding a new provider, there's always an additional stress for LBGT individuals. First and foremost, you know you should be honest and up front with your provider. However, what if this is not the most comfortable situation? I know first hand how difficult it can be when you want to be honest with your provider, but also don't want to be thought of "differently". I can relate a personal account when I was going around meeting new doctors and the first question I was asked after saying I was gay was "So have you been tested for HIV lately?" and watched the person write down "homosexual" in notes. Not only had this new provider made assumptions, but who is completely ready to be noted as "homosexual" in their medical records that are going to be seen by their brand new insurance carrier? I'm certain that I'm not alone in this feeling.

So what do you do to find that "perfect provider", especially when you're not sure about the climate of support in a new place? Since those days, I have taken it upon myself to ensure that providers I'm working with have an understanding of gay health issues before committing to them. It's not always easy to discuss the first time you meet a potential physician, but it's worth having the discussions before going too far. Following are a few specific ideas to help you in your search:

- **Use a LGBT friendly provider search** – Websites such as GayHealth.com and The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA - <http://www.glma.org>) offer search capabilities. Gay.com also provides a link in their "Health & Fitness" section that links to the GLMA database request form.
- **Once in the office of the provider, scan it for clues to find out how supportive the environment is** – The GLMA also provides guidelines to health care providers encouraging ways to "Create a Safe Clinical Environment for LBGT and Intersex Patients":
 - Are there posters showing any same-sex couples or LGBTI organizations?
 - Do you see rainbow stickers/pink triangles, unisex bathroom signs or other LGBT friendly symbols?
 - Are there supportive brochures about issues important to LGBTI individuals (see below)?
 - Is there a visible non-discrimination statement stating that equal care will be provided to all patients that includes sexual identity and/or gender identity?

- Are there LGBTI specific magazines or media available to read in the waiting area?
- **Even if you can't find a local provider who's listed in a provider search or if you're uncertain about the office environment, there are key issues you can discuss with a potential provider** – The GLMA website also provides a “Top 10 Things” list that both gay men and lesbians should discuss with their doctor. Even if you're in an area that's not totally supportive of LGBT issues, your doctor can still be supportive if he or she is open to discussing these concerns with you in an open and honest environment. For more specifics on these issues, go to the GLMA website:

Gay Men Health Concerns

1. HIV/AIDS, Safe Sex
2. Substance Use
3. Depression/Anxiety
4. Hepatitis Immunization
5. STDs
6. Prostate/Testicular/Colon Cancer
7. Alcohol
8. Tobacco
9. Fitness (Diet & Exercise)
10. Anal Papiloma

Lesbian Health Concerns

1. Breast Cancer
2. Depression/Anxiety
3. Gynecological Cancer
4. Fitness (Diet and Exercise)
5. Substance Use
6. Tobacco
7. Alcohol
8. Domestic Violence
9. Osteoporosis
10. Heart Health

I hope that this information will help you in your quest to find that “perfect provider”. As we all know, one way to ensure that we feel comfortable with ourselves is to feel comfortable talking openly with those we trust. By developing a trusting and open relationship with your physician, you’re making a huge step toward reducing stress and taking control of your health!

For more information and links to LGBT health issues, check out “Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Health Links” at <http://hsl.maclester.ca/tomflem/gay.html>

Transgender Health

From LGBT Health Channel On-line, <http://www.gayhealthchannel.com>

Transgender (TG or transsexual) refers to people who for various reasons identify with a gender identity that differs from their original physiological and psychological status (i.e., as male or female, man or woman). "Transitioning" to another gender may involve dressing and living as a different gender and adopting an identity associated with the opposite biological sex, without surgery. This includes transvestites and cross-dressers (who wear clothes conventionally associated with the opposite sex) and people who are intersexed (possessing genitals and reproductive organs of indeterminable sex). Transgender also refers to those who are transitioning between two sexes by taking sex hormones or surgically removing or modifying genitals and reproductive organs. Transgender people may identify strongly as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transsexual. They may identify as being male or female, man or a woman, or they may not identify with any of these.

Many transgender people claim to be uncomfortable with their biological sex and assigned gender role and may be diagnosed with gender identity disorder (GID) as defined by the American Psychiatric Association (APA). For these people, gender reassignment surgery, hormone therapy, and gender role changing allow them to feel "right," or "natural." This section deals mostly with medical and health care concerns surrounding surgery and hormone therapy.

Transgendered people have specific **health care concerns** related to the following:

Medical care

- Bias and discrimination in the medical community
- Delayed medical care
- Lack of cohort studies and lack of research on long-term hormone effects

Mental Health

- Few providers who are experienced with TG patients
- Reluctance to seek care; limited access to care due to insurance policies
- Negative exposure to insensitive providers

- Negative reaction to sex and gender transitioning from peers

Hormonal Therapy

- May not be covered by insurance
- Risks associated with unsupervised therapy

Surgical alteration of body

- Cost prohibitive
- Few experienced surgeons
- Post-operation complications

Health Care Guidelines

In addition to getting good health care from an experienced, sensitive primary care provider, transgender people have two main medical concerns:

Care of the initial anatomical sex

Care of anatomical changes

- Resulting from hormone therapy (HT)
- Resulting from surgery

Male to Female (MTF)

The following health care guidelines are important to males transitioning to females:

Hormone therapy supervision

- Approved by mental health care provider
- Physical examination
- Review of personal and family health history

Postorchiectomy (removal of the testicles) care

Routine clinical and self-breast examinations (following HT or breast construction)

Routine clinical and self-testicular examinations (before testicle removal)

Routine clinical prostate examinations

Routine mammograms in accordance with general preventive care

Routine clinical vaginal examinations and Pap smear (after vagina construction)

Sigmoidoscopy (view of the sigmoid colon) in accordance with general preventive care

Female to Male (FTM)

The following health care guidelines are important to females transitioning to males:

Examination of uterus and ovaries (before hysterectomy)

Hormone therapy supervision

- Approved by mental health care provider
- Physical examination
- Review of personal and family health history

Routine clinical and self-breast exam and mammography before breast removal, then less frequently

Routine clinical penis examinations (following penis construction)

Sigmoidoscopy

Vaginal examination and Pap smear, where anatomically viable (before penis construction)

Mental Health Care Guidelines

Mental health care is required before the use of hormones and certainly before undergoing elective sex reassignment surgery. An experienced mental health care provider can help transgender people deal with their emotions and the transition between genders and sexes. Research shows that some

transgender people experience anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts, which also may be seen in people who experience chronic health problems, divorce, or long-term discrimination.

The provider has two main objectives: to assess the patient's mental state with regard to gender identity and any coexisting psychiatric conditions, and to evaluate the patient's readiness for transgender surgery or hormone therapy.

A provider may do the following:

- Diagnose gender identity disorder (GID; also called gender identity dysphoria)

- Diagnose and treat coexisting psychiatric conditions:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Bipolar disorder (manic depression)

- Diagnose and treat underlying substance abuse

- Provide psychotherapy and counseling for gender issues

Gender Identity Disorder (GID)

Transgender people must undergo psychiatric evaluation before electing transgender surgery and before taking hormones. The American Psychiatric Association defines the criteria for GID in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. There are two essential criteria. The person must demonstrate a consistent identification with the other gender, which is apparent in the desire to be a member of the other sex. And the person must demonstrate a consistent aversion to his or her sex and its associated gender role, which is apparent in the desire to escape it. GID causes duress and impairment on social and personal levels.

GID is distinguished from the behavior of some people who do not support stereotypical gender roles and who do not feel an aversion to their genitals or their sex. The desire to transition to the other sex, where the associated gender role is comfortable, by electing transgender surgery or hormone therapy is the distinguishing factor.

When evaluating a patient's readiness for surgery or hormone therapy, a mental health care provider relies on the criteria set forth in *The Standards of Care for Gender Identity Disorders*, by the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association.

Announcements

Want to get involved with the SCLGBT?

Our standing committee is always looking for volunteers, both at the conference and throughout the year. There are limitless opportunities to get involved. Consider writing for Out on Campus, being a reviewer for program proposals or serving as a state liaison. If interested in getting involved contact Melissa Pon at mpon@uclink.berkeley.edu.

ACPA Call for Programs – Convention 2004

It's not too late to submit a program proposal for the 2004 Annual Convention. Educating the general ACPA membership on GLBT issues is pertinent to the work we do as a Standing Committee and as professionals within the field of higher education. Whether you are proud of a model program on your campus, just finished your graduate thesis or have just conducted an assessment of the climate on your campus for GLBT students, please consider sharing your knowledge with the rest of ACPA.

Program proposals can be submitted on-line at <http://cdms.hbp.com/>. The deadline for submissions is September 8, 2003.

New Structure for ACPA Convention 2004 in Philly!

This year, the days of ACPA are different than many previous years. The dates for the Philadelphia Convention are April 1-5, which means the Convention runs from Thursday through Monday. Be sure to make plans to stay through Sunday night because you don't want to miss the following events hosted towards the end of Convention:

- ✓ AIDS Memorial
- ✓ Cabaret
- ✓ CultureFest
- ✓ Closing Speaker and Reception

Advertisements

The Duke LGBT Safe Space Ally DVD

A free training and development resource for LGBT Safe Space Ally Programs

Until now there has been no resource to help colleges and universities develop a SAFE Space/Safe Zone program. This DVD provides the tools to create these programs. Modeled after the program at Duke University, this DVD is based in the latest student development theory and uses the latest in digital technology.

Preview and order on-line at <http://lgbt.studentaffairs.duke.edu/safe.html>

One copy per institution.

Call for Research Participants

The Trans Project

If you identify as transgendered, you have a sibling who does not identify as transgendered, and you and your sibling are 18 or over, you can help bring the voices and experiences of trans people into psychology.

My name is Rhonda Factor/RJ and I am a doctoral student in psychology at the University of Vermont. My doctoral dissertation is designed to illustrate the various ways we experience and express our gender identities. While as a group, there are many differences among us; we also share the experience of not identifying fully with the sex/gender to which we were assigned at birth. Our experiences are also similar to and different from individuals who do identify fully with the sex/gender to which they were assigned at birth. This project is also designed to explore these similarities and differences by comparing your experiences with those of your "conventionally gendered" siblings.

The surveys administered to your siblings will simply be entitled "The Family Project" and will not focus on gender identity. In fact, that survey only asks about sex in the conventional way. Therefore, individuals will not be "outed" by sending a survey to their siblings. It is my hope that this project will contribute to a culture that understands, supports, and celebrates the varieties of our gender experiences.

"Trans research should be community-based because of our specific sensitivities, understanding,

experience, and consciousness." - Leslie Feinberg

This project was designed in collaboration with trans communities and trans researchers. Questions in areas of research important to trans people were developed through attendance at trans conferences, exploration of trans listservs, and consultation with trans individuals, mental health providers, and researchers. Interviews were conducted and questions based on the responses were incorporated into the questionnaire. Drafts of the questionnaire were shown to consultants and feedback was incorporated. The study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board at the University of Vermont.

To participate:

Please email me the following information so I can mail the surveys to you and your sibling. If you would rather have your sibling's survey sent to you and then forward it yourself, let me know. In that case, I'll send you both surveys.

I. Your Name

Your Address

Your Email

(Name your sibling knows you by if different from "your name" above)

II. Your Sibling's Name (If more than one, the one most likely to respond. If more than one likely to respond, the one closest in age.)

Your Sibling's Address

Your Sibling's Email

III. (If there is another sibling I can contact if the first one does not respond.)

Other Sibling's Name

Other Sibling's Address

Other Sibling's Email

Thanks again for helping to create a more trans-affirming culture. Please feel free to contact me if you have any more questions.

Warmly,

Rhonda J. Factor/RJ

The Trans Project

Rhonda J. Factor

Psychology Department

University of Vermont

John Dewey Hall

2 Colchester Avenue

Burlington, VT 05405-0134

Phone: 802-656-3015

E-mail: Rhonda.Factor@uvm.edu