

LESBIAN AND GAY CAUCUS OF PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS

"in official relations" with the American Public Health Association

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Chairperson's Column - Andrea Aiello, MPH

Hello and welcome to the Spring edition of the Lesbian and Gay Caucus of Public Health Workers Newsletter.

As chair, I am encouraged by the continual dedication of all you long time members who renew your membership without fail every year, and I am excited by the new members who have recently joined. Without your support, we would not have a presence in APHA. And a presence we did have in Chicago this past fall... We sponsored/cosponsored 16 sessions at the Annual Meeting (some of which were overflowing in attendance); our booth was very visible, as were the pink triangle stickers we distributed; and our Annual Dinner broke two records...it was attended by 64 people, 50% of whom were women!

As I think about the 1989 Annual Meeting, I can't help but reflect on my experience at my first Lesbian and Gay Caucus Business Meeting in Washington, DC in 1985. The meeting consisted of a small group of gay men; if I wasn't the only woman, I certainly felt like it. Needless to say, I did not connect with any lesbians or gay men during my stay in DC.

Now, as chair of the Caucus, I want to make sure that we are very visible at the Annual Meeting and that everyone who wants to know about us (and even some who don't), does. For this task, I need your help. Encourage your friends and colleagues to join the Caucus. If there are any ideas you have for the Caucus to gain more visibility, call me at 415/464-7906.

As your chair, my top priority for this year is increasing Caucus membership. My second priority is increasing lesbian and gay visibility within APHA. I would like to encourage Caucus members to become involved in your Sections, and to encourage/support members interested in running for an Association office or seeking appointment on an Association committee. In an effort to encourage such involvement, the next newsletter will focus on the "ins and outs" of APHA.

I will close here, wishing all of you a healthy and safe year.

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Lesbian and Gay Caucus Executive Committee, 1989-90

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<u>Secretary/Newsletter Editor:</u>	David Horowitz 301/539-4137 (home) 301/955-3910 (office)	The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health Department of Mental Hygiene 624 N. Broadway Baltimore, MD 21205
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News from APHA

- o The Executive Board of APHA has recently informed caucus chairs that it will be enforcing its policy that all caucuses be comprised exclusively of APHA membership. This means that if you are currently a Lesbian/Gay Caucus member and not a member of APHA, you are now required to join APHA.
- o APHA is seeking recommendations for new committee and board members. It would be especially appropriate for the Caucus to recommend a Caucus representative to sit on the Equal Health Opportunity Committee (EHOC). Most members of this committee are individuals representative of groups often discriminated against in our society and its health system. While caucuses do not formally designate members to this group, their recommendations are given heavy weight in the Executive Board's decisions. Suggestions must be in to APHA by April 20, 1990. Anyone who is interested in serving on this committee or nominating someone to serve, call Andrea Aiello at 415/464-7906.

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Caucus News - Andrea Aiello

By-Laws

Draft By-Laws for the Caucus have been developed and are currently being reviewed by Caucus officers. Upon approval by Caucus officers, the By-Laws will be available at the Caucus Booth during the Annual Meeting and will be voted on by Caucus members attending the Caucus Business Meeting. If you have any questions, please call Andrea Aiello.

Resolutions

The following two resolutions have been submitted to the APHA Executive Board by Brian Dobrow through the Lesbian and Gay Caucus:

- 1) U.S. Immigration Policies and Communicable Disease
- 2) Cost of HIV Drugs and Treatments

Minutes of the Caucus Business Meeting of Tuesday, October 24, 1989, Chicago

Due to the length of the minutes in their printed form, we were unable to include them in this newsletter as originally intended. Copies have been mailed to all Caucus officers and are available to interested Caucus members on request to David Horowitz.

Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide

The Caucus wrote a letter to Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan supporting Paul Gibson's study "Gay Male and Lesbian Youth Suicide" and denouncing Secretary Sullivan's homophobic comments on the report.

Spring Social

If you're attending "The New Public Health, 1990: A Statewide Conference on the Future of Public Health in California" in Los Angeles, **April 25-27, 1990**, please join us for a Lesbian and Gay Caucus spring reunion. The Caucus will have a table reserved during the Thursday (April 26) luncheon. Look for us at the conference - thanks to Jonathan Goldman for the idea!

1990 Annual Meeting Program - David Jernigan

Below is a list of program topics for which the Caucus solicited papers for the 1990 annual meeting in NYC. In addition, 23 unsolicited abstracts were received by the Caucus for review as

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of the 2/12 deadline. We sponsored 13 sessions on our own in Chicago, and will probably get the same number of slots this year. The abstracts are currently under review and most will be decided upon before the 3/12 room request deadline. We are looking for other sections and caucuses to cosponsor these sessions. Call David Jernigan to volunteer your ideas and time and to find out which programs are on the final list.

Lesbian Health Issues
Internalized Homophobia
Social/Behavioral Science Research and AIDS
Early Intervention and Treatment for AIDS
Community-Based AIDS-Related Clinical Trials
Treatment Issues in Lesbian/Gay Mental Health
Activist Approaches to AIDS Services
Psychosocial Prevention Programs for Black Gay Men
Lesbian/Gay Alcohol and Other Drug Use
Cultural Diversity and AIDS Prevention
Lesbian/Gay Youth Suicide and Depression
Coalition-Building Between Lesbian/Gay and Other Minority
Health Organizations
Lesbian/Gay Parenting

Calendar

APHA Calendar:

3/12/90

Session Information/Room Requests due

9/30/90-10/4/90

APHA 118th Annual Meeting

New York

"Forging the Future:

Health Objectives for the Year 2000"

Other Dates of Interest:

6/20/90-6/24/90

VI International Conference on AIDS

San Francisco

information: Conference Secretariat 202/347-5900

7/18/90-7/22/90

National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation

3rd International Lesbian and Gay Health Conference/

8th National AIDS Forum

Washington, DC

information: NLGHF 202/797-3708