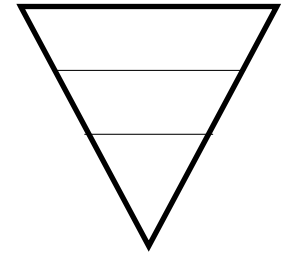


# LGBT NEWS



In official relations with the American Public Health Association

November 2005

## Chair's Column

In choosing what to write in this column, I looked back at the previous newsletter and reviewed what I had written last spring. At that time, I highlighted the fact that this Caucus provides “a visible home for public health professionals, regardless of whether or not LGBT health is your primary field”. Since last year’s Annual Meeting, there have been a number of significant changes in my life, both personal and professional. One of these was the decision to pursue a new career opportunity outside of the LGBT health world.

While still involved deeply in health care, I am now working for a company where the acronym “LGBT” is never employed as a means to understand the populations with whom we work. This experience has given me a new appreciation for the role of the LGBT Caucus, as well as the people who help to keep it running. After nearly 10 years of being able to work on LGBT health as a part of my job responsibilities, I now find myself on the other side of the fence—using my “spare” time to catch up on news, see what good work my friends and colleagues are doing, and maintaining relationships with those I’ve met over the years.

The LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers offers a vital link to the world of LGBT health, and the upcoming LGBT Caucus Program at the APHA Annual Meeting next month once again underscores the value of this Caucus. Our scientific program offers an array of learning opportunities on topics within LGBT health, exploring the diversity within LGBT populations and providing evidence-based information to shape how we can support future programming, policy, and research. The Caucus Business Meeting will review successes of the past year and lay the ground work for the next twelve months. The Caucus social and our annual dinner allow for unstructured time where we can relax, have fun, meet new people, and catch up with those we’ve known for years.

*(continued Page 2, column 1)*



*African-American Museum on Arch Street in the “Old City” neighborhood in Philadelphia, PA*

## Program Chair's Report

The 2005 APHA Annual Meeting will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from December 10-14, 2005. This year’s LGBT Public Health Workers Caucus program promises to be an exciting time for our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. In keeping with this milestone, a special round-table discussion entitled “Help Create Training in LGBT Research” moderated by Dr. Anthony Silvestri (former LGBT Caucus Chair) will take place on Tuesday, 12/13 from 12:30—2:00PM. I encourage you to attend, and also hope that our program of sessions and activities will provide those of you who are able to participate in any or all of these sessions with a well-rounded educational experience as well as opportunities to socialize and network with other LGBT public health professionals and allies. This year’s annual scientific program contains 9 sessions in addition to our annual Business Meeting and Social. Be sure to stop by our LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers Booth to pick up a detailed list of this year’s program!

*—Rich Trevino*

*Editor's Note: See Program schedule on Page 3.*



*Nina and Jodi at the LGBT Caucus Social at the APHA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC in November 2004*

*Chair's Column, continued from Page 1*

This group affords us opportunities to remain involved in the critical work being done by APHA, and my interactions with Caucus members remind me of all the good work we are involved with across the country. As I hand over the stewardship of LGBT Caucus Chair to the highly capable Andy Miller, I am confident that we will continue to provide both a home for colleagues and a voice for the community.

Thank you for all that you do!

—*Jodi Sperber*

## **Booth Volunteers Needed!**

We will need volunteers to staff the Caucus Booth (Booth #539) in the Exposition Center at the APHA Annual Meeting again this year. Shifts will be scheduled in one or two hour intervals during Expo hours. We lucked out this year and APHA changed the Expo hours to open one hour later than in the past, so you can even sleep in a little more before coming to help out! So check your schedule for free times and grab a friend and come join the fun! The Booth Organizer (Jay Harcourt) will have a sign up sheet at the business meeting and welcome social. Or you can drop by the booth to sign up for shifts.

You can also renew your Caucus membership at the same time. Even if you can't volunteer, I hope that you stop by the Booth and say hello!

—*Jay Harcourt*

## **LGBT CAUCUS-SPONSORED SESSIONS AT THE APHA ANNUAL MEETING**

Please check the on-line APHA Annual Meeting Program or the LGBT Caucus Booth in the Expo Hall (**Booth #539**) for location of sessions.

### **Monday, 12/12/05**

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM: Transgender Health

2:30PM – 4:00 PM: Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM: Special Topics: Poster Session

4:50 PM – 6:00 PM: ATOD within LGBT Populations

### **Tuesday, 12/13/05**

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM: LGBT Youth Research

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM: Help Create Training in LGBT Research

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM: Sociocultural Aspects in LGBT Communities

### **Wednesday, 12/14/05**

12:30 PM- 2:00 PM: Health Disparities Among LGBT Populations

2:30PM – 4:00 PM: LGBT Populations and Domestic Violence

## **Schedule of LGBT Caucus Social/Business Events at the APHA Annual Meeting**

Sunday, 12/11/05, 4:00PM – 5:30PM:  
LGBT Caucus Business Meeting

Sunday, 12/11/05, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM:  
LGBT Caucus Welcome Social

Tuesday, 12/13/05, 7:00 PM:  
LGBT Caucus Annual Dinner (For more info, stop by the Caucus Booth #539.)

## Editor's Column

This issue of the Newsletter was created at the last minute due to some confusion (as well as malaise) stemming from the logistical changes of the APHA Annual Meeting necessitated by the devastation in New Orleans from Hurricane Katrina. New Orleans was supposed to be the site of this year's APHA Annual Meeting in November, and normally the fall issue of the LGBT Caucus Newsletter is produced just prior to the Annual Meeting. It is a testament to the skills of the APHA organizers that the APHA Annual Meeting has been rescheduled for December in Philadelphia. It is also a testament to the LGBT Caucus Board that we have managed to get this Newsletter out with our Program schedule in it so you can read it ahead of the Annual Meeting!

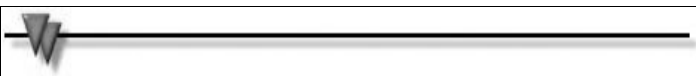
With the holiday season approaching, I would be remiss if I did not suggest that, as members of the LGBT Caucus, we make a donation to help the hurricane victims. The following are a few LGBT organizations accepting donations to aid LGBT victims of Hurricane Katrina:

- The National Youth Advocacy Coalition's "Hurricane Katrina LGBT Relief Fund" (see: [www.nyacyouth.org](http://www.nyacyouth.org))
- Rainbow World Fund's "Hurricane Katrina Relief Campaign" (see: [www.rainbowfund.org/donate](http://www.rainbowfund.org/donate))
- The Metropolitan Community Church's "Katrina Relief Center" (see: [www.mccchurch.org/katrina/index.html](http://www.mccchurch.org/katrina/index.html))

The holiday season can be a stressful time if you have a home and community. Let's not forget the people of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast who have so recently lost theirs.

See you in Philadelphia in December!

—Elizabeth Samit



## Announcements

On January 9-11, 2006 the Office of Minority Health (OMH), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its Co-Sponsors will hold the National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health (Summit).

The Summit will bring together leaders from all levels of government, academia, public health, mental health, minority-serving institutions, and minority communities to advance key issues and opportunities for improving minority health and closing the health gap.

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### **NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE REINSTATES GAY-FOCUSED MEDICAL STUDENT GROUP**

After a year of protest and pressure from students, faculty, and national interest groups such as the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) and the American Medical Student Association (AMSA), officials at New York Medical College (NYMC) have decided to permit a student group focused on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) concerns to organize on campus. On September 25, 2005, the Treasurer of the group received word that funding had been allocated to the organization.

The reorganized group, known now as "People of Every Orientation Protecting Liberty & Equality in Medicine" (PEOPLE), has as its purpose "to improve the health care delivery to GLBT patient populations." 66 students have signed up to be members of the club, which includes gay and straight students, 14 of whom are identified as LGBT. Last year, the group had a total of 9 students, all LGBT identified.

(continued Page 4)

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- The deadline for submissions for
- the next issue of the newsletter is
- February 1, 2006.
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- Please address all correspondence
- and submission of articles to the
- Editor at the email address listed
- above.
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**Announcements** *(continued from Page 3)*

In the fall of the 2004 academic year, the LGBT student group at the NYMC, previously called the "Student Help" organization, changed its name to the "NYMC Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender People in Medicine," a name used by dozens of other groups across the country. After the group changed its name, NYMC's administration revoked the group's charter, meaning that, unlike other student groups, the group lost its funding, was prohibited from using space on campus for its activities, and could not use the school's e-mail system.

After the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association and American Medical Student Association raised awareness about the school's action, the school came under a great deal of pressure from institutions it partnered with, including Pace Law School, which had a joint MPH-JD program with NYMC, and Westchester County government. Additionally, the school's student and faculty Senates and the American Medical Association passed resolutions recognizing the students' right to organize.

In addition to reinstating the gay-focused club, the school has established a Task Force charged with making sure that appropriate information regarding LGBT health is included in the school's curriculum.

**Membership Lapsed?**

**Please renew!**

**The LGBT Caucus Membership**

**Application & Renewal Form can**

**be downloaded from the Caucus**

**web-site at:**

<http://www.stophiv.com/lgbtc>