



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2009 Issue

In official relations with the American Public Health Association



Letter from the Chair

By Patrick M. High, DrPH

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am the new Chair of the APHA LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers. I began as the Chair-Elect (a one-year term) following the November 2008 meeting; however in March I assumed the duties and responsibilities of Chair 8 months early.

I would like to thank our Immediate Past Chair, Rich Trevino, MPH, for all the work he has done for the Caucus through the many positions he has held as a member of the Executive Committee. I'd also like to thank the previous Past Chair, Andy Miller for his work too. Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who has previously served on the Executive Committee of the Caucus. Without your willingness to serve in these roles, our organization would not be able to continue the progress it has made.

Now, I'd like to take a moment to tell you a little about myself. I completed my Doctor of Public Health (Dr.P.H.) degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics in 2008 at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) in Bethesda, Maryland. USUHS is a uniformed medical and civilian graduate school. While at USUHS I was the first openly gay graduate student president.

My dissertation was a national survey on primary care physicians risk assessment practices. My interests then and continue to be HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and access to healthcare.

I currently work at Westat, an employee owned survey research corporation in Rockville, Maryland as a Study Manager overseeing the day-to-day activities of multiple studies.

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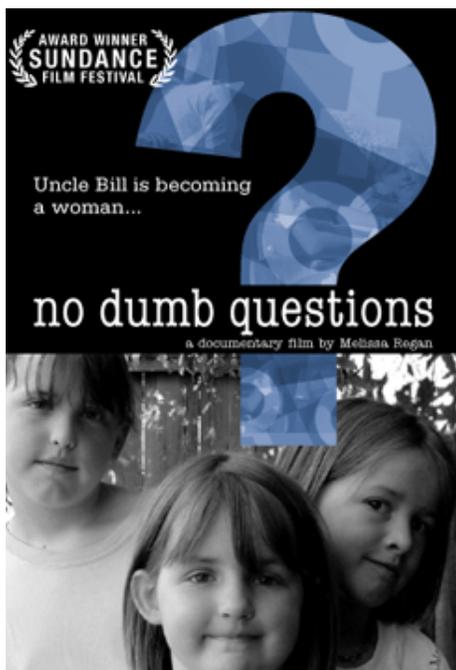
Letter from the Chair Continued on page 3

National LGBTQ Tobacco Summit

by Joseph G. Lee, MPH, CPH- UNC School of Medicine

The 7th Annual National LGBTQ Tobacco Summit will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on June 9th. All ages, experiences, and backgrounds are welcome. Workshops will include: Choosing to reject tobacco industry funding, social marketing in LGBT tobacco prevention, tobacco control in Latino communities, and introduction to evaluation on a shoestring budget. Registration is open through May 15th or at the door.

For more information and registration go to the Summit site: <http://2009summit.googlepages.com/>



No Dumb Questions

By Monica Canfield-Lenfest

No Dumb Questions is a Sundance award-winning 24-minute funny and touching documentary about 6, 9 and 11 year old sisters whose Uncle Bill is becoming their new Aunt Barbara. The film has appeared on Oprah, HBO/Cinemax, PBS, and LOGO, and is already being used in classrooms, faith communities, and workplaces around the world. Now available on DVD, *No Dumb Questions* is a unique and essential resource for sparking dialog about the transgender experience, talking to children about transgender and all LGBT issues, child development, and family acceptance. To see clips and add this valuable film to your collection, please visit:

<http://www.newday.com/films/NoDumbQuestions.html>

Letter from the Chair-continued

In my previous life, I spent approximately 9 years in the Illinois Army National Guard. I was an enlisted soldier for 7 of those years as a Combat Medic in a medical company and achieved the rank of Sergeant. The last two years of my tenure I was a Commissioned Officer (Second Lieutenant) in command of a Treatment Platoon of approximately 60 soldiers. I joined the military in 1995 when I was 17 and resigned my commission in 2004 and received an Honorable Discharge. My medical (enlisted) and officer (commissioned) basic training was at Fort Sam Huston, San Antonio, Texas in 1996 and 2003, respectively.

With this, I'm happy to announce the Caucus has joined Facebook! (More information can be found in the Facebook article in the newsletter.) With movement toward this new social media, I look forward to seeing you on-line, putting a face with your name, and discussing public health in real-time. If you are not a member of Facebook this is a great reason to join!

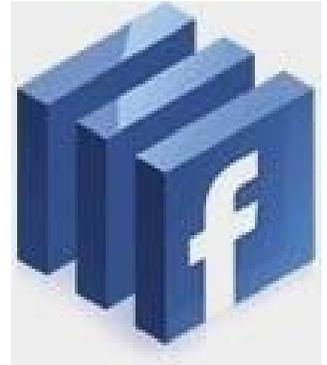
That's all for now. I look forward to meeting all of you on-line and in in-person. You will be hearing from me regularly to stay up-to-date on what the Caucus Executive Committee is discussing and our movement toward more involvement within the public health community.

Cheers!

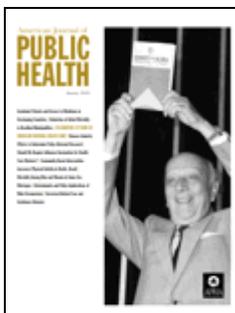
Sincerely,



Chair
LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers
<http://www-personal.umich/~brsinco/aphalgbt/>
APHA
www.apha.org



Join the LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers Facebook Group! You can post your questions to our discussion board, let your fellow members know about future events and even chat with other members on-line. Not a member? Sign up by logging on to www.facebook.com, and then search for LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers in the Groups section. If you are a member, just go to the group page and then click "Join Group" on the right hand side of the page. The direct link to our page is; <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=68394323392>



January 2009 AJPH Cover

Recent Articles in the January 2009 *American Journal of Public Health*

Protective Factors in the Lives of Bisexual Adolescents in North America

The authors compared protective factors among bisexual adolescents with those of heterosexual, mostly heterosexual, and gay or lesbian adolescents. Six school-based surveys in Minnesota and British Columbia were analyzed. Sexual orientation was measured by gender of sexual partners, attraction, or self-labeling. Bisexual adolescents reported significantly less family and school connectedness than did heterosexual and mostly heterosexual adolescents and higher or similar levels of religious involvement. In surveys that measured orientation by self-labeling or attraction, levels of protective factors were generally higher among bisexual than among gay and lesbian respondents. Adolescents with sexual partners of both genders reported levels of protective factors lower than or similar to those of adolescents with same-gender partners. Bisexual adolescents had lower levels of most protective factors than did heterosexual adolescents, which may help explain their higher prevalence of risky behavior. Social connectedness should be monitored by including questions about protective factors in youth health surveys. Correspondence: Requests for reprints should be sent to Elizabeth M. Saewyc, University of British Columbia School of Nursing, T201-2211 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, BC, V6T 2B5 Canada (e-mail: saewyc@interchange.ubc.ca)

Out Yonder: Sexual-Minority Adolescents in Rural Communities in British Columbia

Sexual-minority adolescents living in rural communities were compared with their peers in urban areas in British Columbia, exploring differences in emotional health, victimization experiences, sexual behaviors, and substance use. Many similarities and several differences were found. Rural sexual-minority adolescent boys were more likely than were their urban peers to report suicidal behaviors and pregnancy involvement. Rural sexual-minority adolescents, especially girls, were more likely to report various types of substance use. Rural status was associated with a lower risk of dating violence and higher risk of early sexual debut for sexual-minority girls and a higher risk of dating violence and lower risk of early sexual debut for sexual-minority boys. Location should be a demographic consideration in monitoring the health of sexual-minority adolescents. Lesbian, gay, and bisexual adolescents in rural communities may need additional support and services as they navigate adolescence. Correspondence: Requests for reprints should be sent to Colleen S. Poon, The McCreary Centre Society, 3552 East Hastings St, Vancouver, BC, V5K 2A7 Canada (e-mail: colleen@mcs.bc.ca).

[See the January AJPH for more LGBT related articles](#)

Executive Committee of the Caucus

The Executive Committee thought it might be interesting to the membership to learn more about the members of the committee. We begin with the members in charge of planning the scientific sessions at the annual meeting.



Name/Degree(s): Paul Gilbert, MSPH
 APHA Caucus Position: Scientific Program Chair
 Employer/Position: PhD student, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health
 Contact: paul.gilbert@unc.edu
 Interests: Social production of disease via social networks, social support, and pathways of embodiment; participatory research methods.

Michael Plankey-
 Scientific Program Chair-Elect
 Investigator for the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study (Baltimore-Washington, DC MACS SHARE) and Women's Interagency HIV Study (Washington DC Consortium WIHS) with research expertise focusing on social-psychological and behavioral factors on HIV seroconversion and disease progression among sex-drug risk-taking MSM, intersection of recreational drug and prescription drug use for pain management among HIV-infected men and women, perception of HBV vaccination among MSM, body image perception changes associated with adherence to antiretroviral medication and quality of life among HIV-infected men and women, and evaluation of behavioral, immunological and virological risk factors for hearing and balance loss among HIV-infected compared to HIV-uninfected men and women. Research epidemiologist at Whitman-Walker Clinic Gay Men's Health Clinic in Washington, DC.



GLMA Executive Director Position Open- Application Deadline May 15, 2009



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – GAY & LESBIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

The Gay & Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) is the leading organization in North America committed to ensuring equality in health care for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals and health care professionals. Established in 1981, GLMA is a membership organization of multi-disciplinary health care professionals that achieves its goals by using medical expertise in professional education, public policy work, patient education and referrals, and the promotion of research. Headquartered in San Francisco, the organization has an annual budget of approximately \$900,000 and employs 5 FTEs. Please visit www.glma.org for more information.

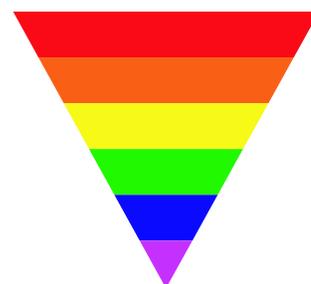
POSITION OVERVIEW

Based in San Francisco, the Executive Director will be responsible for leading and managing GLMA's fund raising, program development, personnel management and development, marketing, and community/public relations. The Executive Director is also an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors of the organization.

LGBT Caucus Officers

Patrick High DrPH-Chair patrickhigh@westat.com	Richard Trevino, MPH-Immediate Past Chair rptrevino@mac.com
Paul Gilbert, ScM- Program Chair paul.gilbert@unc.edu	Michael Plankey, PhD-Program Chair Elect mwp23@georgetown.edu
John Grima, MHA-Treasurer jfjtg@aol.com	Jay Harcourt, MPH-Booth Chair jayby@earthlink.net
Chongyi Wei-Student Chair chw57@pitt.edu	Jennifer Hayes, MEd, MPH-Newsletter Editor jhhayes@dhhm.state.md.us
Jason Gagnon, MPH-Social Chair jgbumc@bu.edu	Brandy Sinco-Webmaster altotenor@comcast.net

Positions Currently Open-Secretary and Membership



<http://www-personal.umich/~brsinco/aphalgbt/>