



# NOGLSTP

*Bulletin Summer 2000*



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

## NOVEMBER 2000: ONCE IN A GENERATION

*By Virginia M. Apuzzo*

The year 2000 is the type of election that comes along once in a generation -- an election which, for better or worse, dramatically changes our political landscape. It is not unlike John F. Kennedy's "passing of the torch to a new generation" in 1960 or Ronald Reagan's pledge to "make America strong again" in 1980.

This year's election may well be a generational election because of everything it portends: Control of Congress, control of the White House and the Supreme Court appointments that will follow, and control of state legislatures throughout the country that will redraw state and Congressional boundaries for the next decade. It is abundantly clear, then, that the fallout from this election will remain with us for a generation to come.

So what are we in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) community in a position to do about it?

Political pundits argue that control of the White House and Congress could depend on what happens in five key, urban, industrialized states: Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Each of these states has two things in common: the two parties are in close competition, and the gay, lesbian and bisexual (GLB) electorate (unfortunately, exit polls still don't measure transgendered voters) is potentially huge.

Today's GLBT movement has something that it lacked in previous elections in 1980, 1984 or 1988: We have political infrastructure on the ground. We now have GLBT groups in every state in the country and in hundreds of towns and cities as well. This local political infrastructure can serve as an organizing force to register GLB voters and propel them to the polls. An analysis of our potential voting strength demonstrates the impact we could have on close races up and down the ballot.

We know roughly how many GLB voters live in large cities, mid-sized cities, suburbs and rural areas. We also can measure the differences in voter turnout between urban and non-urban voters. Therefore, we can make certain assumptions about the potential size of the GLB voting block in the five key states of Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania. We know, for instance, that GLB voters tend to make up about 9 percent of the electorate in large cities (populations of 500,000 or more), 7 percent of the electorate in mid-sized cities (population 50,000 to 500,000), 3.7 percent in suburbs and 2.3 percent in rural areas.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH WEBSITE

KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON - Today, Public Health - Seattle & King County becomes the first local public health agency in the United States to offer health webpages specifically targeting the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) communities. The GLBT Health webpages can be found on Public Health's server at <http://www.metrokc.gov/health>.



These landmark webpages cover more than twenty health topics that differentially affect GLBT people, including hate crimes, breast cancer, cervical cancer, smoking, domestic violence, finding a sensitive health care provider, sexually transmitted diseases and youth suicide. The pages also offer guidance to health care providers to create an environment welcoming to GLBT people, a quiz on GLBT health, and links to other local and national resources.

"Addressing disparities in health is our highest priority as a public health agency," said Dr. Alonzo Plough, Director of Public Health - Seattle & King County. "Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons deserve health information that is accurate and culturally sensitive, and we are proud to be on the cutting edge in this effort."

"Access to reliable information is a first step in getting care and preventing the health problems that disproportionately affect our community," added Marsha Botzer, Co-Chair of the City of the Seattle Commission for Sexual Minorities. "These webpages will serve as an excellent resource for sexual minorities in Seattle and around the world."

"It is difficult to find culturally appropriate health information for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people on topics other than HIV on the Internet," said Dr. Donald Abrams, President of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. "These webpages will help to make important health information accessible to our communities."

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**REMEMBER  
TO VOTE ON  
NOVEMBER 7!**



## NOVEMBER 2000

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Looking at the unique demographic patterns of each state as well as average turnout rates for the past two federal elections, we conservatively estimate that at least 900,000 GLB voters will go to the polls in the five swing states. Consider the impact of a strong GLBT voter turnout:

- ▽ In Illinois, based on recent turnout patterns, we project that the likely GLB turnout in the November elections will be about 230,000. In the closely contested 1976 presidential election, only 92,974 votes separated the two major party presidential candidates. In the dramatic 1960 election, only 8,858 votes separated the two candidates. It is clear, then, that the GLB voting block will be larger than the margin of victory in the 1960 and 1976 elections (and even larger than 1988, when Vice President George Bush defeated Michael Dukakis by 94,999 votes).
- ▽ In Michigan, we project that the likely GLB vote will be about 173,000. That is larger than the margin of victory in 1960 (66,841 votes) and approaches the margin of victory in 1976 (197,000 votes).
- ▽ In New Jersey, we project a GLB turnout of about 114,000. That is larger than the margin of victory in the 1960, 1968, 1976 and 1992 presidential elections.
- ▽ In Ohio, we project a GLB turnout of 190,000; that is more than double the margin of victories in the 1968, 1976 and 1992 presidential elections.
- ▽ In Pennsylvania, we project a GLB turnout of 207,000 voters, larger than the margin of victories in 1960, 1968, 1976 and 1988.

These figures confirm what we in the GLBT community already know: we have formidable power and a real potential to create change this November.

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Apuzzo served as the Assistant to the President for Administration and Management from 1997 to 1999. She was the highest-ranking gay or lesbian official in the White House. Today, Apuzzo fills the Virginia Apuzzo Chair for Leadership in Public Policy at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute.

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Founded in 1973, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force works to eliminate prejudice, violence and injustice against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people at the local, state and national level. As part of a broader social justice movement for freedom, justice and equality, NGLTF is creating a world that respects and celebrates the diversity of human expression and identity where all people may fully participate in society. This message was issued by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Communications Department. If you have a question regarding this post, please direct it to the contact at the top of this message. To reach the NGLTF Communications Department at NGLTF, please call David Elliot, Communications Director, at 202-332-6483 x3303 or pager 800-757-6476

## PUBLIC HEALTH WEBSITE

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Examples of health concerns facing lesbians and gay men include:

- ▽ lesbians and gay men are more likely to smoke than heterosexuals
- ▽ GLBT are at increased risk for hate crime victimization
- ▽ lesbian and bisexual women are less likely to have regular gynecological exams than heterosexual women, and have an increased risk for cervical cancer as a result
- ▽ syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea rates among gay and bisexual men have increased dramatically in many urban areas in the United States
- ▽ GLBT youth are at increased risk for suicide and homelessness because of societal stigma and discrimination.

Public Health staff determined content for the webpages through interviews and focus groups with the GLBT community, as well as a review of the scientific literature. Prior to launching, the webpages were tested with the community in order to assure that they are appropriate and effective.

This project was supported in part through a generous grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. For more information, contact Carolyn Halley 206/ 205-542.

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## LESBIANS IN SCIENCE GATHERING IN MICHIGAN

On Saturday morning, August 12, a group of about 25 womyn gathered for the Lesbians in Science workshop at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. The womyn attending were undergraduate and graduate students, post-docs, professors, teachers, scientists at government agencies, medical and computer technicians, etc. Disciplines represented included archeology, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, geology, mathematics, medicine, and physics. Participants hailed from New Zealand, Canada, England, and Germany, as well as from the US.



The workshop was very informal -- we just gathered to chat about issues such as coming out/being out at work, how to survive graduate school, ethical considerations involved in our work and research, and how being lesbian might affect how we do science. Only a few of those attending were already on the LIS listserv, so we passed out information on how to subscribe. Welcome to any new members who have signed on already!!

Karen S. Bartels, Assistant Professor of Earth Science and Women's Studies Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N St Louis Ave, Chicago, IL 60625 Ph: 773-794-6564, FAX: 773-794-6689, Web: <http://www.neiu.edu/~deptesci/welcome.htm>  
[K-Bartels@neiu.edu](mailto:K-Bartels@neiu.edu)

## SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIP SURVEY

Michael Henderson, a gay graduate student working on his PhD at Claremont Graduate University is writing his dissertation on same-sex relationships, particularly the ways in which same-sex couples maintain their relationships in a society that doesn't always value them. This study has very important implications for our community, particularly in this time of intense debate over legal rights for same-sex couples.

Mr. Henderson invites anyone who has been in a same-sex romantic relationship for at least 6 months to help complete this project by taking an on-line survey. The survey is completely anonymous -- no names or e-mail addresses are captured or linked to respondent's information. The survey is located at:

<http://acad.cgu.edu/~henderson/survey/page1.html>

The login is: *survey*

The password is: *pride*



## NEW ONLINE BOOK STORE FOR LESBIANS

Lesbian romance fiction lovers take note! Naid Press, publisher of our beloved trashy love stories went out of business. But avail you not, for Bella Books has taken their place. Point your web browser to <http://www.bellabooks.com> for more information.

## SALUTARIS CELEBRATES PRIDE MONTH

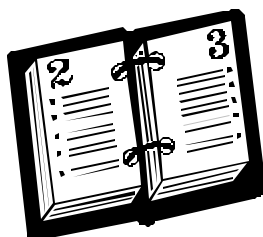
In recognition of June PRIDE month, Salutaris, the National Institutes of Health Gay and Lesbian Employees Forum sponsored their annual "Noons In June" lecture series. Among the forum topics were:

- ∇ "Diversity Is Alive and Well at the NIH" presented by Don Popcke, Executive Officer of NLM.
- ∇ "AIDS, Borders and the Politics of Sexual Identity" presented by Gerard Ferguson, Ph.D.
- ∇ "Has the Laboratory Been A Closet? Gay and Lesbian Lives in the History of Science" presented by Bert Hansen, Ph.D., Professor
- ∇ "Being Out In the Workplace: How to Avoid Sissyphobia" presented by Tim Bergling, author and Producer of the Late News for News Channel 8

You can visit the Salutaris website at URL  
<http://www.recgov.org/glef/>

## SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday February 18, 2001  
4:30 PM—6:30 PM PST  
NOGLSTP reception  
AAAS convention  
San Francisco



## IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Check your mailing label. If it says 200007-200010, it is time to renew your dues. If it says 200003-200006, or trial2, it is past time to renew or join, and this will be your final newsletter unless we hear from you. We need and appreciate your continued support. Please 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. Remember to add \$5 US if you are subscribing outside of the US. Thank you. You may also use this form to inform us of any changes.

cut here and return form

cut here and return form

### 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:  
\$15-25 (sliding scale) (tax deductible after the 1st \$10)  
\$10 for students and unemployed\*  
\*inquire about our limited free memberships to 'starving students'  
\$5 extra for memberships outside of the US  
(for the extra postage) (US Funds only, please!)

Renewal  New  Info change only

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: (don't forget your zip code!)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email/URL: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Technointerest or profession:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Latest Degree/Subject:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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 →

cut here and return form



## QUEER SCIENTISTS OF HISTORICAL NOTE

Florence Nightingale - 19th century British Nurse, organized the world's first school for nurses, expert and reformer for hospital hygiene, sewage treatment, and regularized medical practices. Although there is no specific documentation that Nightingale had physical homosexual relationships, she shared her emotional life primarily with other women, and adamantly rejected any offer of marriage that came her way. Nightingale played a vital role in the opening up of legitimate careers for women outside the home and, in this way, helped create the social and economic conditions that made the modern lesbian (and heterosexual working woman) possible. Source: *The Gay 100*, Paul Russell, Citadel Press, Carol Publishing Group, NY, 1994

Louise Pearce - 20th century pathologist at the Rockefeller Institute who helped develop a treatment for African sleeping sickness (trypanosomiasis). She, along with fellow pathologist Wade Hampton Brown, and two chemists, developed trypanamide. The Rockefeller Institute sent Pearce to the Belgium Congo in 1920 "trusting her vigorous personality to carry out an assignment none too easy for a woman physician and not without its dangers". Pearce also studied syphilis, for which trypanamide was standard treatment until penicillin replaced it. With Brown, she discovered and developed the Brown-Pearce tumor, systematically studied syphilis in rabbits, explored how a virus might spread cancer, and researched immune reactions to rabbit pox. Source: *The History of the Rockefeller Institute, 1901-1953*, G.W. Corner, Rockefeller Institute Press, NY, 1964

### Membership/Renewal Form (continued):

Please list any other professional organizations that you belong to:

For New Members: How did you learn of NOGLSTP?

### WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP US WITH? (CIRCLE ANY THAT INTEREST YOU)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HOLD OFFICE

AAAS

FUNDRAISING

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

EDIT NEWSLETTER

PRODUCE NEWSLETTER

NEW PAMPHLET TOPICS

GRANT WRITING

G/L/B/T CAUCUS OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES (which one?)

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

### ABOUT NOGLSTP

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF GAY AND LESBIAN SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS, INC., is a nation-wide organization of lesbian and gay scientists and technical professionals, regional and caucus groups, and others interested in technical matters and the gay and lesbian community. NOGLSTP's goals include dialog with professional organizations, providing information, improving our member's employment and professional environment, opposing homophobia and stereotypes, educating the gay, scientific and general communities, and fostering inter-city contacts among our members. National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals, Inc. is a tax-exempt educational organization under IRS section 501(c)3, incorporated in the State of California (TAX ID # 95-4358685). Membership dues are \$15-25 (sliding scale) annually for non-students. Student dues are \$10 annually. After the first \$10, dues are tax deductible. \$5 extra for memberships outside the US for the extra postage. Please, US dollars only. Written correspondence may be addressed to: NOGLSTP, PO BOX 91803, Pasadena CA 91109-9813. For more information, see our web page at <http://www.noglstp.org/>

#### Transitional Board:

Rochelle Diamond, Chair, Pasadena CA <i>diamond@its.caltech.edu</i>	626 791-4393
Mark A. Tumeo, Member at Large, Cleveland OH <i>m.tumeo@csuohio.edu</i>	216 687-4860

#### Regional/Caucus Board Representatives:

##### Actuaries Caucus:

Ron Gebhardtsbauer, Washington DC <i>gebhardtsbauer@actuary.org</i>	202 244-8395
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##### Alternative Modalities Caucus:

Alice Rozic, Athens OH <i>ar176589@oak.cats.ohiou.edu</i>	614 592-1709
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##### Atmospheric Scientists' Caucus:

Sim Aberson, Miami FL <i>ABERSON@aoml.noaa.gov</i>	305 361-4334
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##### LGBT Chemists and Allies:

Barbara Belmont, Pasadena, CA <i>barbara@dreamweaverproductions.net</i>	626 791-7689
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##### Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists:

Rochelle Diamond, Pasadena, CA <i>diamond@its.caltech.edu</i>	626 791-4393
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##### Natural History Group:

Lionel Ruberg, New York, NY <i>LionelRuberg@bestweb.net</i>	914 276-0654
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##### Statisticians' Caucus:

Frank Vitrano, Baltimore MD <i>fvitrano@census.gov</i>	410 366-0906
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#### Newsletter

The **NOGLSTP Bulletin** is published quarterly. Articles are encouraged and gratefully received. Handwritten, typed, and magnetic (3.5" pc-FD) may be sent to the NOGLSTP office. If you have internet access, articles may be emailed the NOGLSTP Newsletter Editor, Charles Harless, at [charless@cs.ucla.edu](mailto:charless@cs.ucla.edu). Unauthorized reproduction, quotation, distribution, or plagiarism of this or any other NOGLSTP publication without the express consent of and attribution to NOGLSTP is prohibited.

FALL NEWSLETTER INFORMATION  
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: **OCTOBER 30**  
PUBLICATION MONTH: **NOVEMBER**