

# NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Summer/Fall 2010

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

## Register Now for **Out to Innovate** October 9, 2010

NOGLSTP movers and shakers are delighted to present **Out to Innovate**, a one-day career summit for LGBT people in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The event will be Saturday October 9, all day, just one day after the Out and Equal Workplace summit ends its Los Angeles debut. Hosted by the University of Southern California Lambda LGBT Alumni Association at the new USC Tudor Campus Center in Los Angeles, **Out to Innovate** will offer something for STEM people at all levels of their career paths. Seasoned career scientists and engineers, college professors, high school science teachers, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, undergraduate students, and even high school students will benefit from attending **Out to Innovate**.

Kei Koizumi, from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, will deliver a motivational address to kick the summit off. Following this, Shirley Jahad, from Southern California Public Radio, will moderate a panel discussion on "Being Out in the STEM World". The morning breakout session theme is "Your Community", during which workshops on "Leadership and Activism", "Mentoring in the Classroom and Workplace", and "Gender Identity and Gender Expression in the STEM Workplace" will be held. Dean Hamer, from the National Cancer Institute, will deliver the keynote address during the early part of lunch: "Out in Science: Science, Sex, and Society". After the keynote address, attendees will have an opportunity to network with people from similar STEM disciplines. The afternoon breakout session theme is "Your Career", during which workshops on "STEM Careers in Government", "Careers in Healthcare", "Careers in Research and Engineering", "Being a Minority within a Minority", and "Careers in IT/Entertainment" will be held. After the workshops, there will be an exposition featuring all of our sponsors, as well as focus tables on resume writing, minority issues, and mentoring. And let's not forget the poster session — an opportunity for principle investigators and community activists to toot their horn about a research project, an interesting experiment, or a successful LGBT community. Any registered attendee is welcome to put up a poster, and prizes will be awarded at the end of the day in each poster category.

If you are going to be anywhere near Southern California on October 9, you must make plans to attend this first-of-its-kind LGBT STEM summit. The event location, University of Southern California, is just 5 miles south of Los Angeles civic center, blocks away from the L.A. Convention Center, a 20-minute drive from LAX, and a drivable trip from regions outside of the greater Los Angeles County. Registration is easily affordable, includes breakfast and lunch, and is now available on-line. Be there!

## Hats off in Gratitude to **Our Out to Innovate Sponsors**

**Out to Innovate** would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors:

**Founding Sponsors:**  
Harvey Mudd College  
Northrop Grumman  
Raytheon

**Event Sponsors:**  
Battelle, Booz Allen Hamilton,  
Caltech Center for Diversity, Genentech, Intuit, Texas  
Instruments, USC Viterbi School of Engineering Center  
for Engineering Diversity

**Event Supporters:**  
Chevron, Creative Brokers, Dow Chemical  
Fortify Software, Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists,  
Los Angeles Frontrunners, Rochelle Diamond, Amy Ross,  
Tim Wilson

**Event Partners:**  
AAAS ScienceCareers.org, MentorNet,  
MinorityPostDoc.org, National Postdoctoral Association,  
Out & Equal Workplace Advocates, Point Foundation, USC  
Lambda LGBT Alumni Association, USC LGBT Resource Center

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## News from American Chemical Society

LGBT Chemists and Allies enjoyed a lovely reception at the National ACS meeting in Boston this past August. The reception was sponsored by ACS President and ally, Joe Francisco. Despite dreary rainy weather and competing events, the room was full of people of all persuasions meeting, greeting, noshing, and sipping.



L to R: NOGLSTP Board Member Chris Bannochie (also PROF Chair-Elect and Savannah River Section Councilor); ACS President Joe Francisco; NOGLSTP Treasurer Barbara Belmont (also Chair of Subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies)

Earlier that month, the new ACS Subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies held its first organizational meeting by teleconference to identify goals and roles. The organizing committee is comprised of NOGLSTP members who are also ACS members, led by appointed chair, Barbara Belmont. One important decision made by the organizing committee is to fold NOGLSTP's *ad hoc* LGBT Chemists and Allies into this official ACS Subdivision. That is, the NOGLSTP caucus of chemists will be this subdivision, and all NOGLSTP chemists will be encouraged to join this subdivision. The subdivision website is at [prof.sites.acs.org/lgbtandallies.htm](http://prof.sites.acs.org/lgbtandallies.htm)

We will be slowly migrating the *ad hoc* yahoo group communications to official ACS channels, namely the ACS Network.

To join the subdivision, you must also join its parent, the Division of Professional Relations (PROF). When you renew your ACS dues, you can pay an additional \$12 to join PROF and the Subdivision for Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies. Just write in subdivision M27 on your renewal form (if it's not already on it), or renew on-line at [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org). You do not have to be an ACS member to join PROF and its subdivisions. A membership application can be found at [prof.sites.acs.org/join.htm](http://prof.sites.acs.org/join.htm)

### Nominate Someone for a Presidential Appointment

NOGLSTP Partnered with the Presidential Advisory Coalition to suggest science and engineering candidates for federal panels and commissions. As part of the Presidential Appointments Project of the Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute, NOGLSTP can nominate candidates for federal jobs and seats on boards and commissions that advise the administration on important policy issues. NOGLSTP and the coalition are working to make sure LGBT Americans have a fair shot at these appointments and create a talent bank for openly LGBT professionals seeking appointed positions in the presidential administration. The community has to be ready with candidates when positions open up as high profile positions sometimes have only a few days to fill and other communities will be putting names forward as well. Most commissions and panels are advisory and not paid full time positions, however they are prestigious with travel, per diem, and honorarium paid for participation. For more info see: Presidential Appointments Project Coalition Partners, at [www.glli.org/presidential](http://www.glli.org/presidential)

## Call for Nominations for NOGLSTP Annual Recognition Awards

Do you know a GLBT colleague who conducts important scientific research, develops critical engineering applications, or mentors GLBT students in science or technology? If so, please nominate them for one of NOGLSTP's 2011 GLBT Recognition Awards. The NOGLSTP Recognition Awards were established as a means of identifying, honoring, and documenting the contributions of outstanding GLBT science, engineering and technology professionals. The categories and descriptions for these recognition awards are as follows:

**GLBT Scientist of the Year:** for the GLBT Scientist who has made outstanding contributions to their field with sustained contributions in design, management, or research

**GLBT Engineer of the Year:** for the GLBT Engineer who has made outstanding contributions to their field with sustained contributions in design, production, management, or research.

**GLBT Educator of the Year:** for the GLBT Educator who has enabled significant growth for GLBT students in science or technology - through teaching, counseling, advocacy, role modeling, or other educational roles. Allies, as well as GLBT people, are eligible for this award category.

Nominees need not be well known to the science/technology/engineering public at large, but they should be "out", and willing to serve as role models. Self-nominations are accepted. The nomination deadline is November 15 for the 2011 Awards.

Point your web browser to [http://www.noglstp.org/?page\\_id=10](http://www.noglstp.org/?page_id=10) for more information and nomination instructions.

## New Faces of Engineering Call for NOGLSTP Nominations

NOGLSTP is a founding member of the National Engineering Week Foundation's Diversity Council. As such, NOGLSTP as a professional society has an opportunity to nominate a candidate for *New Faces of Engineering 2011*, a recognition program for Engineers Week 2011. The candidate must be 30 years of age or younger as of 12/31/2010 and have a degree in engineering from a recognized college or university. Needless to say, NOGLSTP's nominee should be an out LGBT person. Nominations should be submitted to NOGLSTP Board Member Tim Wilson at [wilsonti@erau.edu](mailto:wilsonti@erau.edu)

*New Faces of Engineering* strives to promote the accomplishments of young engineers by highlighting their engineering contributions and the resulting impact on society. The campaign is designed to enhance and improve the image of engineering. The top individual New Faces will be featured in a full-page ad in *USA TODAY* during Engineers Week, February 20-26, 2011. National Engineers Week Foundation will also profile each of the top individuals at [eweek.org](http://eweek.org). NOGLSTP's 2009 Nominee, environmental engineer Rob Castor, was a featured New Face of Engineering.

## Member Services

The NOGLSTP member services site allows for self-serve member update and automated renewal notices. This member services area is also the gateway to access protected members-only areas, such as the Membership Roster, the NOGLSTP OutList, the opt-in e-list, and links to our social networking groups on Facebook and Tribe, and our professional networking group on LinkedIn.

Point your web browser to [www.noglstp.org/memberservices](http://www.noglstp.org/memberservices) and log in to explore or update your profile, or to renew your annual dues. Of course, you're welcome to renew or join the old-fashioned way with pen, paper, and check. You can use the clip-out form in this newsletter, or fill out a downloadable form from our website. We're happy to have your support any way you want to give it! *Attention LAGLS and NOGLSTP-CR Members: Please renew manually through your regional group and enjoy a significant discount on your NOGLSTP annual dues.*

### Mark Your Calendars

- Sept 30-Oct 3: SACNAS Annual Meeting, Anaheim CA  
[www.sacnas.org](http://www.sacnas.org) ; LGBT Reception October 1, hosted by NOGLSTP
- Oct 5-9, 2010: Out & Equal Workplace Summit, Los Angeles CA  
[www.outandequal.org](http://www.outandequal.org)
- October 9, 2010: OUT to Innovate Summit for LGBT STEM Community, Los Angeles CA [www.outtoinnovate.org](http://www.outtoinnovate.org)
- October 11, 2010: National Coming Out Day
- Nov 1-3, 2010: SWE Annual Meeting, Orlando FL [www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org)
- January 2011: Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Mathematicians reception at the Joint Mathematics meeting, New Orleans LA.
- January 2001: Meteorologists Annual Meeting
- February 2011: NOGLSTP Reception and Annual Meeting at American Association for Advancement of Science meeting, Washington DC

### NOGLSTP Affiliate Pride

Members of NOGLSTP at IU and NOGLSTP at Purdue marched together at IndyPRIDE this past June in downtown Indianapolis. They also staffed an information booth at IndyPRIDE (Attendance 55,000) and at Spencer Pride.



Both groups have been busy since the start of the Fall term, starting with a call out during the first week of school to recruit new members, to weekly business meetings and frequent social activities. For more information, point your web browser to [www.noglstp.net/iu](http://www.noglstp.net/iu) and [www.noglstp.net/purdue](http://www.noglstp.net/purdue)

## IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

*Check your mailing label. Your renewal date is in the upper right section of your address block. Your membership number is just to the left of your expiration date. If you have a trial membership, it says "trial" instead of a membership number. You may renew online at [www.noglstp.org/memberservices](http://www.noglstp.org/memberservices), or 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. You may also use this form to inform us of any address or area code changes. LAGLS and NOGLSTP-CR people: please renew through your regional group to enjoy discounts on dues.*

### 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:

\$25-40 (sliding scale) (tax deductible after the 1st \$10)

\$20 for postdocs

\$45 NOGLSTP/National Postdoc Association

discounted joint membership dues

\$10 for students and unemployed\*

\*inquire about our limited free memberships to 'starving students'

Please pay in US Funds only.

Renewal  New  Info change only

Date:

Name:

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

Telephone:

Email/URL:

Latest Degree/Subject:

Job Title:

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 

# Off-label Prenatal Use of Dexamethasone Stirs Controversy

Time magazine (6/18/2010), the Los Angeles Times (8/15/2010), and bioethicists (Hastings Center Report July-August) have brought a spotlight onto the controversial off-label use of a risky Class C steroid, dexamethasone, by some physicians to treat fetuses at risk of congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH). CAH results in an excess of androgens prenatally that can lead to the masculinization of female genitalia or ambiguous genitalia. Clinical trials have not been performed to look at the long term effects on children exposed to this treatment, so effects are not known for either sex exposed. What seems to be known is that the drug does have some effect on external genitalia but does not treat the underlying genetic condition nor does it preclude the need for lifetime treatment of the condition. However, certain researchers are claiming that prenatal use does affect the behavior of treated girls, making them behave more traditionally, ie feminine, docile, with no lesbian tendencies. Could this be having an effect on the androgenization of the brain? What does this mean about gender expression and identity? Should such research be done? What are physicians telling the families about the use and why have the studies escaped the oversight of institutional review boards? All of these questions remain to be answered and more.



**Membership/Renewal Form (continued):**  
Special Techno-Interests or Expertise:

Please list any other professional organizations/societies that you belong to:

Are you a member of any of these groups?

- American Chemical Society
- Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists
- Mathematics Association of America or American Mathematical Society
- National Postdoctoral Association
- NOGLSTP—Chesapeake Region
- NOGLSTP at Indiana University
- NOGLSTP at Purdue
- OSTEM

For New Members: How did you learn of NOGLSTP?

**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP US WITH?** (CHECK ANY THAT INTEREST YOU)

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- HOLD OFFICE
- AAAS
- FUNDRAISING
- MENTORING PROJECT
- NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
- EDIT NEWSLETTER
- PRODUCE NEWSLETTER
- NEW PAMPHLET TOPICS
- GRANT WRITING
- G/L/B/T CAUCUS OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES (which one?)
- OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

## NOGLSTP Bulletin to Get New Editor

Former NOGLSTP Board Member Danielle Cherniak has volunteered to edit the *NOGLSTP Bulletin*, beginning with the Winter 2011 issue. Under the new editorship, the *Bulletin* target publication dates will be:

Winter 2010/2011: Jan 15, 2011  
Spring 2011: March 19, 2011  
Summer 2011: June 18, 2011  
Fall 2011: Sept 17, 2011  
Winter 2011/2012: Jan 14, 2012

Content submission deadlines will be decided and announced by the new editor in the About NOGLSTP section, below.

### ABOUT NOGLSTP

National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals is a 501(c)(3) educational organization and professional society of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people (and their advocates) employed or interested in scientific or high technology fields. NOGLSTP's goals include educating the scientific and general communities about LGBT issues in science and the technical workplace; educating the queer community about relevant topics in science; dialogue with professional societies and associations; improving members' employment and professional environment; opposing queer phobia and stereotypes by providing role models of successful LGBT scientific and technical professionals; and fostering networking and mentoring among our members. Written correspondence may be addressed to: NOGLSTP, PO BOX 91803, Pasadena CA 91109-9813. For more information, see our web site at [www.noglstp.org](http://www.noglstp.org)

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**Newsletter:** The *NOGLSTP Bulletin* is published quarterly, most of the time. Contributed articles are encouraged, and may be e-mailed as plain text to [editor@](mailto:editor@noglstp.org). Next publication deadline: January 5, 2011. Please acknowledge the *NOGLSTP Bulletin* as your source if you choose to reproduce any of these articles.

