

NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Fall 2020

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

Out to Innovate™ Scholarships Awarded to Grigorian, Meashy, Abrams, Matsuda, Pham, and Barkakati

NOGLSTP is proud to announce the winners for the 2020 Out to Innovate™ Scholarships, made possible by an Innovation Generation grant from the Motorola Solutions Foundation.

The winner of the 2020 Out to Innovate™ \$8000 Undergraduate Scholarship is **Arpiar Avetis Grigorian**. Arpiar is a senior majoring in Physics and Math with minors in Creative Writing and Art Practices at the University of Colorado, Boulder campus. Arpiar's



objective is to be a cosmologist and astrophysicist and write science fiction. "One of my goals, as an aspiring scientist, is to help LGBTQ+ students reach their potential in STEM. Because of my own experience as an LGBTQ+ person, I am aware of the obstacles that LGBTQ+ students encounter on their STEM journeys. I want to translate my negative experiences into actions that will help remove these obstacles and allow LGBTQ+ people to contribute unique, creative solutions to scientific problems."

The winner of the 2020 Out to Innovate™ \$3000 Undergraduate Scholarship is **Jay Meashy**. Jay is a non-traditional student who has come back to an academic setting after years of being in the workforce. Jay is a senior at Salisbury University with a major in Urban and Regional Planning with a career objective of becoming a city planner. "The Out to Innovate™ scholarship from NOGLSTP means so much to me. It is a recognition of commitment to learning and to service for our community – which I like to think of as our family! My technical education in urban planning is informed by my experience as an out gay man. My personal background equips me to be a more nuanced, sensitive, and aware planner, and to be an ally to other communities that have experienced historical exclusion or marginalization in the area of planning."



The winner of the 2020 Out to Innovate™ \$8000 Graduate Scholarship is **Matthew Abrams**. Matthew is entering his third year of medical school at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine. Matthew was previously named a U.S. Fulbright Scholar, among other honors. After medical school, Matthew hopes to specialize in psychiatry and pay forward the optimism and compassion others have shown, with the ultimate goal of providing addiction treatment and rehabilitation services to underserved LGBTQ+ and Latinx communities (including undocumented and uninsured patients) and treat them with the empathy and quality of care that they deserve. "It means

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Out to Innovate™ 2020 + 10th Annual oSTEM Conference Goes Virtual and is Free!

The Executive Committee and Board of Directors at oSTEM and NOGLSTP have announce a fully virtual conference for the 10th Annual oSTEM Conference + Out to Innovate™ 2020. We are excited at this opportunity to reinvent our event and are working hard to bring you a fabulous virtual conference experience. Please plan to join the event, with programming running from November 12-15. This will be an incredible opportunity to connect with other LGBTQ+ people in STEM across generations, professional fields, and geographic locations. The virtual format will include presentations, interactive sessions, a career fair/expo, a hackathon, and opportunities for networking. There will be dedicated events for NOGLSTP members to meet one another and the leadership team. There will be a special NOGLSTP members program on November 15th when the NOGLSTP leadership will make some exciting announcements that will bring NOGLSTP into the future. Don't miss it!! To learn more about the event, go to: <https://www.ostem.org/page/conference-2020>.

NOGLSTP and Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Enter into Memorandum of Understanding

NOGLSTP and SWE have signed a mutual memorandum of understanding for joint discounted memberships and efforts to increase interaction between NOGLSTP members and SWE members through a range of activities. In addition, both organizations will work together on diversity and inclusion goals within their respective organizations which include education, research, and networking.

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Out to Innovate Scholarship Winners

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the world to me to be recognized for my service to marginalized communities and my efforts to promote inclusivity for everyone no matter their race, gender, sexual orientation, or documentation status. Throughout my career I will continue to use science and evidence-based medicine to break down the language, cultural, socio-economic, and structural barriers that LGBTQIQ communities, racial minorities, and immigrant patients face when accessing culturally-informed treatment plans. Thank you again NOGLSTP for your amazing financial support of my path to becoming a physician and medical educator. Especially given all the uncertainties surrounding Covid-19, this scholarship has lifted a huge burden off my shoulders and I am so grateful. As a NOGLSTP Scholarship recipient, I hope to inspire others to advocate for the LGBTQIQ community.”

The winner of the 2020 Out to Innovate™ \$3000 Graduate Scholarship is **Shayle Matsuda**. Shayle is entering the final year of a PhD program in Marine Biology at the University of Hawaii, Manoa working on the susceptibility of coral reef bleaching. Shayle already has an impressive 14 professional publications and presentations and was previously a Point Foundation scholar. “Being LGBTQ+ and a graduate student in marine biology has its challenges. While my commitment to enhancing diversity in STEM is an integral part of my academic identity, it is work that is primarily volunteer, and seldom recognized or valued as part of the career path in STEM. But with support from the Out to Innovate scholarship and the NOGLSTP community, I am better able to achieve my academic and social justice goals.”



Peter Pham is recipient of a 2020 Out to Innovate™ Community College Transfer Scholarship for \$1500. Peter Pham is transferring from Foothill College to the University of California, Berkeley this fall. His major is Environmental Engineering, with a career objective of becoming a lawmaker. Peter is a first generation student and one of only a few community college students to be selected to be a 2020 Udall Scholar for work on renewable energy, conservation, and sustainable transportation in the Bay Area. “Neither of my Vietnamese immigrant parents went to college and came to this country with a third grade education. I never saw a clear future for me in higher education and constantly struggle with belonging. Being gay only adds to the imposter syndrome and feelings of not being good enough. Being a recipient of a NOGLSTP scholarship is an affirmation that I have achieved great things. But more importantly, a NOGLSTP scholarship connects me to a national community of queer scientists and STEM professionals that I can look to as role models, and I’m excited to contribute to scientific inquiry, discovery, and application for the common good.”



Leonie Barkakati has been awarded a 2020 Out to Innovate™ Community College Transfer Scholarship for \$1500. Leonie is transferring from Holyoke Community College to the University of Florida with a major in Civil Engineering. Leonie plans to become a materials scientist to help create carbon-neutral cement. Leonie has previously been named a National Science Foundation Scholar. “I feel so lucky to have stumbled upon NOGLSTP. This organization is such a great contradiction to the feeling of



“I’m the only one” that I carry with me as a queer person in STEM. I am honored to be recognized for my work in the STEM and LGBT communities. My dream is to complete my master’s degree and develop climate change solutions as a transportation engineer. I am so grateful to NOGLSTP for getting me one step closer to that goal.”

InPHi Undergraduate Physics/Engineering Scholarship Awarded to Jakob



NOGLSTP is proud to announce the winner for the 2020 Inphi Scholarship in Physics and Engineering.

A \$5000 scholarship was awarded to **Alexa Jakob**, who is a junior at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, majoring in Electrical Engineering. Her career objective is to be a hardware engineer.

Alexa has won the Society of Women Engineers GE Women’s Network Scholarship, among others, and is the President and founder of oSTEM@Cooper and the President of the Cooper Union section of SWE.

David McClennan Memorial Undergraduate Engineering Scholarships Awarded to Rojas and Ayala

NOGLSTP is proud to announce the winners for the 2020 David McClennan Memorial Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship. This memorial scholarship honors David McClennan, the donor’s uncle, who helped the donor go to college her first year.

A \$2500 scholarship was awarded to **Sam Ayala**, who is a senior at the University of Notre Dame in a 4-1 Dual Degree Program with Saint Mary’s College. Sam graduated cum laude from Saint Mary’s in 2019 with a bachelor’s degree in Physics and is currently finishing up a second bachelor’s degree in Physics and Mechanical Engineering from Notre Dame with a concentration in Design and Manufacturing. Sam has passion for optimizing mechanical design for both operations and manufacturing.



Kelly Rojas is also receiving a \$2500 scholarship. Kelly is a senior at Florida International University with a major in Biological Engineering and a career objective of working as a rehabilitation engineer. Kelly previously received a United Nations Millennium Fellowship and a Ronald E. McNair Fellowship, among other scholarships.



A special award category for the David McClennan Memorial Scholarship for the 2020/2021 academic year was created by the niece of David McClennan. This one-time scholarship gives \$2500 to each of two LGBTQ+ undergraduate engineering students. All undergraduate engineering students who applied for NOGLSTP’s Out to Innovate™ Scholarships were considered for this one-time award. David McClennan, a gay man, was a pilot in the Korean War who earned his doctorate on the GI bill. Dr. McClennan, an electrical engineer, did consulting work for NASA and dreamed of becoming an astronaut.

New Board Officers

In October, the board elected four new officers and re-elected a fourth. TJ Ronningen has been elected as Chairperson, Kei Koizumi as Acting Chairperson, Barbara Belmont as Treasurer, Dane Samilo as Secretary, and Shelley Diamond as Chair Emeritus. These members volunteered to serve in these roles and were elected unanimously by the board. Thank you to all of them for their willingness to serve!

Ronningen has served as a board member since 2017, has co-chaired the Programs committee, and has led the organization of the joint Out to Innovate/oSTEM National Meeting. Koizumi has been the affiliate representative from gAyGU since its formation, is leading the Membership Committee, and was elected to the board this year. Belmont is a founding member of NOGLSTP and has served as treasurer, web master, and ultimate problem solver for several decades. Samilo joined NOGLSTP last year and is using this service as a chance to get more involved. Diamond is also a founding member of NOGLSTP, has served as chair for three decades(!), and provides invaluable service to the board and the organization.

Recognition Awards

Nominations for 2021 Recognition Awards are now open. Please nominate deserving candidates as the LGBTQ+ Scientist, Engineer, or Educator of the Year. Nominations will remain open through mid-December. Read more about the awards and the nomination process here: <https://www.noglstp.org/programs-projects/recognition-awards/>

Chair's Statement



I am honored to receive the support of the NOGLSTP board and be entrusted with the role of Chairperson. I am committed to NOGLSTP's mission of empowering LGBTQ+ people in STEM, and I am excited to have this chance to work with everyone in the NOGLSTP community to achieve this mission.

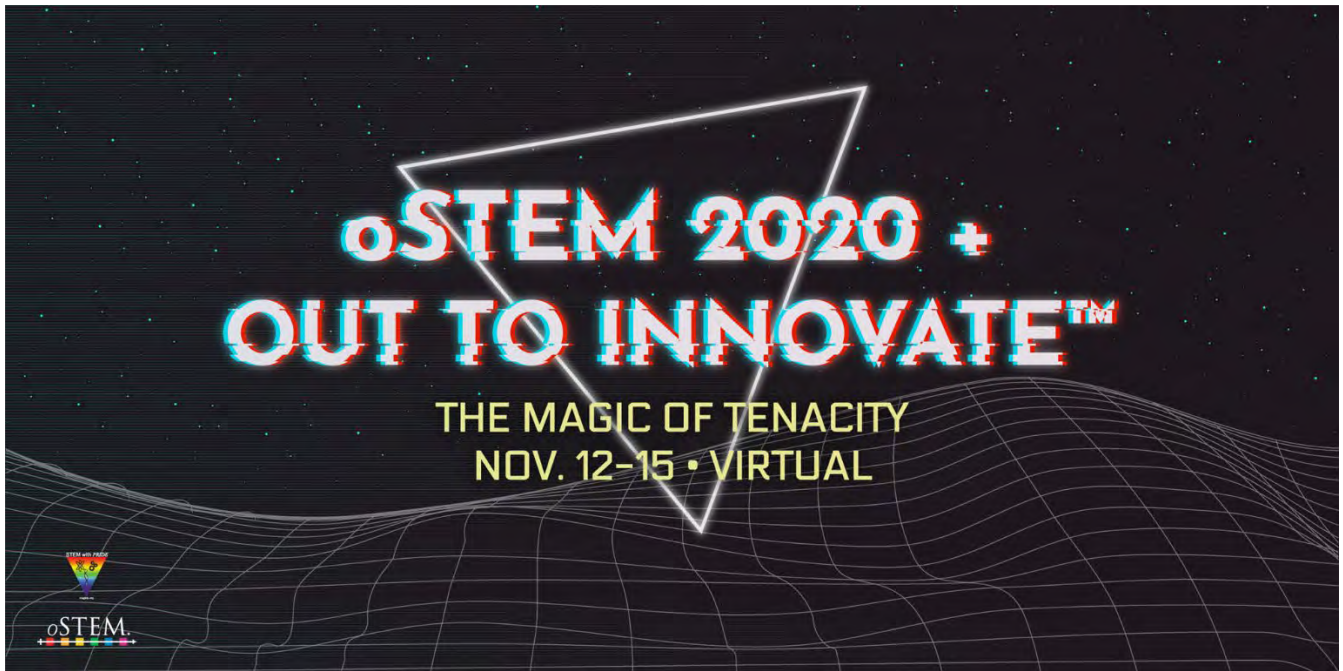
I am a queer, white, cis-gender man working at The Ohio State University as a Research Scientist. Prior to this position I worked as a Senior Research Scientist at a contract R&D firm called Battelle. At Battelle, I learned about NOGLSTP through an employee resource group and jumped at the chance to attend and support the Out to Innovate™ summit. These events filled me with encouragement, hope, and a confidence in my place in the STEM and LGBTQ+ communities. I will work to ensure that all NOGLSTP members feel that sense of community.

I have worked with Shelley Diamond and the board over the last year to increase our impact by organizing into committees. Over the next few months, you will see some of the fruits of our committees' efforts in our rebranding, our expanded agenda for programs in 2021, and our new member communication platform. For me, enabling members' communication with one another and with the board is essential, and I am excited to use this new platform to hear from you. NOGLSTP is and will remain a member-driven organization. I encourage all of you to reach out to board members and to join committees in order to share your ideas on how to advance our mission and advance our community.

The last nine months have been an earthquake for the United States and around the globe. I am confident that NOGLSTP members will use our skills, our empathy, our pain, and our hope to drive forward with the rebuilding that is now needed. I am excited to contribute to that rebuilding and to lead this organization during a time of opportunity for systemic change.

I look forward to seeing ALL of you at Out to Innovate (Nov. 12-15) and our all-members meeting that Sunday. This year's Out to Innovate is a joint event with oSTEM's National Meeting. The joint event is fully virtual and free. It will be an incredible opportunity to meet your fellow NOGLSTP members from across the country and to reach the upcoming generation of LGBTQ+ students in STEM. I will be thrilled to see hundreds of NOGLSTP members there, and I hope you will be among them.

Sincerely, TJ Ronningen



Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics in collaboration with the National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals ([NOGLSTP](https://noglstp.org)) is pleased to invite you to attend the virtual 10th Annual Conference + Out to Innovate™ 2020.

Registration deadline is November 6.

Register here:

<https://ostem.org/events/conference-2020>

Registration is free, but you will have to join oSTEM as a Global Member during the registration process. Decline the suggested oSTEM membership dues to proceed without paying.

NOGLSTP Receives \$40K Grant for its Out to Innovate™ Scholarship Program from the Motorola Solutions Foundation

Through this grant, NOGLSTP will fund rising LGBTQ+ undergraduate, graduate, and community college STEM students. This is the final piece of funding from a two-year grant that was awarded in 2019. The Motorola Solutions Foundation awards grants each year to organizations such as NOGLSTP that support and advance education initiatives in science, technology and engineering. In addition, the Foundation has a long-standing commitment to supporting programs that benefit underrepresented populations, including females, people of color, people with disabilities, veterans and others. “This year, the Foundation’s grants will support programs that help millions of students, teachers, first responders and community members around the globe,” said Karem Perez, executive director of the Motorola Solutions Foundation. “We are thrilled to partner with organizations like NOGLSTP that are actively making a positive difference in their communities.” For additional information on the Motorola Solutions Foundation grants program, visit: motorolasolutions.com/foundation.

The Motorola Solutions Foundation is the charitable and philanthropic arm of Motorola Solutions. With employees located around the globe, Motorola Solutions seeks to benefit the communities where it operates. The Foundation achieves this by making strategic grants, forging strong community partnerships and fostering innovation. The Motorola Solutions Foundation prioritizes its funding on public safety education, technology and engineering education, disaster relief, and employee volunteerism.

AAAS Accepts NOGLSTP’s Scientific Session Proposal

NOGLSTP will present a virtual Scientific Session on Queer STEM Statistics entitled: “Resolving LGBTQ Challenges in STEM Requires Demographic Data” at the AAAS 2021 Annual Meeting Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Eastern time. Growing evidence points to troubling LGBTQ disparities in STEM, but major data collections of our STEM educational system and workforce have not included sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) demographic questions. The speakers in this session will explain how the future of a diverse and inclusive STEM ecosystem necessarily depends on such demographic data. SOGI data are needed to better understand and address LGBTQ disparities in STEM and to build a STEM pipeline that is inclusive to all. Speakers will include Dario Sansone, Postdoctoral Scholar at Vanderbilt University; Alexandra Suppes, Research Associate at New York University, Abu Dhabi; Jon Freeman, New York University; and Bryce Hughes, Assistant Professor at Montana State University, as respondent to the speakers.

Binoculars on Federal Policies

In a time of hurried policy announcements, NOGLSTP is keeping an eye on policies that affect the LGBTQ+ STEM community. More than two dozen colleges and higher education groups, including Stanford University and Caltech, are suing the Federal government to stop changes to a key visa program for highly skilled workers, students, researchers and collaborators. Regulations announced earlier this month from the U.S. Departments of Labor and Homeland Security narrow eligibility requirements for H-1B visas and increase how much employers must pay workers hired through the program. In another announcement, the Federal government has banned diversity training for federal workers, calling the training “anti-American”. In a document released by Office of Management and Budget, Director Russel Vought effectively bans all federal agencies from using taxpayer dollars on racial sensitivity or other diversity and inclusion initiatives for workers.

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. You may renew online at <https://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 members: please renew through your regional group to enjoy discounts on dues.

Membership Form

To renew your NOGLSTP membership or become a member of NOGLSTP, complete this form and send it with a check or money order (US Funds only) to:

NOGLSTP, PO Box 91803, Pasadena CA 91109.

Annual membership dues enclosed:

- \$40 for working professionals
- \$20 for post-docs
- \$10 for students and unemployed
- \$1000 for Lifetime Membership

Circle payment type:

Renewal New Info change only

Date:

Name:

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

Circle newsletter preference: print email

Your pronouns:

Telephone:

Email:

URL:

Latest Degree/Subject:

Job Title:

Employer (or school if student):

Alum of (latest degree):

Do you want your name and contact information in the NOGLSTP membership roster (to be released to other NOGLSTP members)?

Yes No

Don't forget to fill out the other side →

Over 180 Applications Received for NOGLSTP's Ben Barres Fellowship

Applications are in and review is underway for NOGLSTP's Ben Barres Fellowship. The Ben Barres Fellowship is a \$2000 to \$5000 award for professional development of trans, intersex, and non-binary graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The Ben Barres Fellowship is a merit-based award, and the support provided is intended, broadly construed, for the recipient's professional development. Award decisions will be announced in the first week of December. If any money is left, there will be additional rounds of awards until all the funds have been awarded. The fellowships are named after Ben Barres, a distinguished transgender scientist at Stanford who researched the role of microglia, an immune cell of the brain, and its interaction with neurons in development and disease. Barres was an ardent campaigner for equal opportunity in science, advocating for underrepresented groups, and was a valued mentor to young scientists. He told his story through a posthumous memoir released after his death from cancer in 2017 at age 63.

Mark Your Calendars

– November 12-15: Out to Innovate™ and oSTEM Joint Virtual Symposium



Membership Form (continued)

Special Techno-interests or expertise:

Please list any other professional societies that you belong to:

Are you a member of any of these groups?

- American Astronomical Society
- American Chemical Society
- American Geophysical Union
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- American Nuclear Society
- L'GASP Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists
- LAGLS: Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists
- Mathematics Association of America or American Mathematical Society
- National Postdoctoral Association
- NOGLSTP at Oklahoma State University
- NOGLSTP at Purdue
- NOGLSTP at U Nebraska - Lincoln
- PrideSTEM at Texas Tech
- Queer Science (U Minnesota)
- Queer in STEM at CSUN
- Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace

For new members: How did you learn of NOGLSTP?

What would you like to help us with?

- Serve on Board of Directors
- Serve as Chair or Secretary
- Help at AAAS events
- Organize or host local event
- Write newsletter articles
- Edit the newsletter
- Speak about/on behalf of NOGLSTP at an event
- Serve on recognition awards committee
- Assist with the Mentoring Program
- Assist with Out to Innovate career summit
- Write a grant proposal
- Evaluate scholarship applications
- Help with fundraising
- Start/represent an LGBTQ+ caucus at my professional society: _____
- Don't know, but would like to help with something

Benny Chan Named American Chemical Society Fellow

Benny Chan, chemistry professor at The College of New Jersey, was recently named a Fellow by the American Chemical Society. Chan was nominated for the honor by the ACS Committee on Minority Affairs. Chan has developed training modules to educate committee members on sociology and recent research on cultural competency, diver-sity, equity, and inclusion, allowing them to better understand the complex social identities of the society's members. The fellows program began in 2009 as a way to recognize ACS members for outstanding achievements in and contributions to science, the profession, and for their service to the Society. Chan joins Barbara Belmont, Chris Bannochie, and Jennifer Lewis as NOGLSTP members who are ACS Fellows.

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, transgender, asexual, queer people, and allies employed or interested in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) fields. NOGLSTP empowers LGBTQ+ individuals in STEM by providing education, advocacy, professional development, networking, and peer support. NOGLSTP educates all communities regarding scientific, technological, and medical concerns of LGBTQ+ people. Surface mail may be addressed to: NOGLSTP, PO BOX 91803, Pasadena, CA, 91109-9813. For more information, see our website at www.noglstp.org.

Board of Directors (append each address with noglstp.org)

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Dane Samilo, Secretary
Barbara Belmont, Treasurer, Pasadena CA, [bbelmont@](mailto:bbelmont@noglstp.org)

Affiliates: (more info at: <https://tinyurl.com/y9kq2lps>):

500 Queer Scientists
AAS SGMA: American Astronomical Society (AAS) Committee for Sexual Orientation and Gender Minorities in Astronomy
AIChE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers).
CSUN QueerSTEM
gAyGU (American Geophysical Union)
L'GASP: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists
LAGLS: Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists
LGBTQ Chemists and Allies (ACS PROF Gay and Transgender Chemists and Allies)
NOGLSTP at Oklahoma State University
NOGLSTP at Purdue
NOGLSTP at University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Diversity and Inclusion in American Nuclear Society Committee (formerly NuclearPride)
LBGTQ STEM at Oklahoma State University
PrideSTEM at Texas Tech
Queer Science (University of Minnesota)
Spectra: The Association for LGBT Mathematicians
SPEEA: Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace
Mentoring Program Coordinator: [mentoring@](mailto:mentoring@noglstp.org)
Scholarship Program Coordinator: [scholarships@](mailto:scholarships@noglstp.org)
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