

# NOGLSTP *Bulletin*

Summer 2020

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

## Trans and Non-binary People in STEM: Apply for a Ben Barres Fellowship *Deadline September 30*

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. Examples of eligible purposes include research support; conference or workshop attendance or research travel, equipment and supplies; research assistant or translation services; and/or other professional uses. The fund is not intended to support personal expenses unrelated to research, such as food or rent.

To apply for the Ben Barres Fellowship, applicants will provide a brief description of their current research and research/career goals, a 2-3 paragraph funding proposal, a personal statement, their CV, and answers to demographics questions. Each application must have one letter of support, which may be written by any of the following: PI, mentor, advisor, or colleague. The letter of support will be submitted by the recommender (not the applicant). Applications will be evaluated on clarity of written proposal, impact of proposed funding on the applicant's career, contributions to STEM and LGBTQ+ communities, and the strength of the support letter. If awarded funds, the recipient will upload a brief report and expense receipts within 6 months of receiving the award.

Recipients of the fellowship will retain the option of remaining anonymous in public announcements of the award. Alternatively, they may choose to be publicly acknowledged in NOGLSTP's publicity campaigns. Awards will range from \$2000 to \$5000 per recipient.

Application deadline for the first round of awards is September 30, 2020. Award decisions will be announced the first week of December. If any money is left, there will be additional rounds of awards until all the money has been awarded.

The link to the application portal is on the NOGLSTP website: <https://www.noglstp.org/programs-projects/ben-barres-fellowship/>

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 own story through a posthumous memoir released after his death from cancer in 2017 at the age of 63.

## Out to Innovate™ 2020 + 10th Annual oSTEM Conference Goes Virtual

It is with great care and concern for the safety of our members, attendees, volunteers and staff that we, with full support of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors at oSTEM and NOGLSTP, have decided to transition into a fully virtual conference for our 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 new format is taking shape now, and it 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.

In addition, you can help shape the event by proposing a program. Our Request for Programs is open now and will close August 14. We look forward to experiencing the outstanding programs that have formed the core of our community programming for a decade now, and brand-new programs made possible by this year's virtual format.

Learn more about the event and submit your presentation ideas at the event website: <https://www.ostem.org/page/conference-2020>.



### Inside this Issue:

*Page 1: Ben Barres Fellowships; Out to Innovate™ Joint Event with oSTEM in 2020 Goes Virtual*

*Page 2: New NOGLSTP Board Members; NOGLSTP Submits Support Letter to NSF in Support of Including SOGI Statistics in STEM Workforce Census; NOGLSTP Takes Stand Against Racism and Bigotry*

*Page 3: Spectra Invited by AMS to Write Opening Letter for June 2020 Publication of The Notices; American Statistical Society Joins NOGLSTP as an Affiliate; American LGBTQ+ Field Networks Forming; Member Services*

*Page 4: Calendar; NOGLSTP Submits an AAAS 2021 Virtual Scientific Session Proposal; Calling All NOGLSTP Members*

## New NOGLSTP Board Members

Four NOGLSTP members were elected in June to be members of the organization's Board of Directors. The board welcomed and congratulated these new board members at the July board meeting. The new board members are:

### **Christine Bland**

Christine Bland is part of the Electronics Engineer Senior Staff at Lockheed Martin and, since 2009, has been the Digital Subject Matter Expert for Project Orion. Christine Bland is a transgender woman, was awarded NOGLSTP's Engineer of the Year Award in 2014, and founded the transgender council at Lockheed Martin.

### **Rebecca Callahan**

Rebecca Callahan is a AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow working with the National Science Foundation in their Office of Legislative and Public Affairs. Callahan describes herself as a "science-advocating, queer, white, cisgender PhD Chemist who is interested in supporting advocacy for all LGBTQ+ scientists and engineers."

### **Kei Koizumi**

Kei Koizumi is currently an independent consultant in science policy, a new role after tenures at AAAS, NSF, and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Kei's educational and professional background are in science policy. Kei is a gay, Asian-American man who has been a featured speaker at five Out To Innovate™ events and supported the formation of the AGU NOGLSTP affiliate.

### **Vallesha Parker**

Vallesha Parker is a freelance science writer and consults with various scientific publications. Vallesha earned her Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry and went on to earn an MS in Biotechnology and an MBA in Business Administration. Vallesha has been active in supporting diversity efforts in STEM and is an active member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

## NOGLSTP Submits Support Letter to NSF in Support of Including SOGI Statistics in STEM Workforce Census

NOGLSTP has written to the National Science Foundation in support of a June 29, 2020, letter from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a New York University investigator, the Whitman-Walker Institute, and the American Educational Research Association commenting on NSF's proposed information collection request related to the 2021 National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG). NOGLSTP is in full support of NSF's National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics' goal (NCSES) of including sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) measures in NCSES surveys, most notably the NSCG, Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), and Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). Unfortunately, NSF is not planning to add SOGI questions to the 2021 cycle. NOGLSTP and others are working with allies to find other ways of achieving this goal.

## NOGLSTP Takes a Stand Against Racism and Bigotry

In a letter dated 7/27/2020, the NOGLSTP Board of Directors took a stand confront racism and bigotry in all its forms. "We must advance the cause of those historically left at the margins of society, and promote the inclusion of all people in the fruits and benefits of society." Below is the statement.

Since the arrival of the first slave ships in 1526, racism has been a facet of our society with detrimental effects that exist to this day. The cruel death of George Floyd, callous in its execution, has brought forth another example of the result of America's original sin -- racism. It is the latest series of violent actions committed against Americans of African descent.

A democratic society that supposes itself to be based on the precepts of liberty and justice for all cannot coexist with an ideology that demeans and debases members of that society. LGBTQ people, especially LGBTQ Black people and LGBTQ people of color, have long been victims of this brutality born of bigotry.

The LGBTQ community's early uprisings starting in 1959, ten years before Stonewall, were in reaction to such police brutality.

We, the members of the National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals (NOGLSTP), are no strangers to the ills of bigotry. We have no illusions of our ability to single-handedly solve this societal illness known as racism. We also acknowledge that to simply be aware of racism is another form of inaction. If we are not part of the solution, then we are part of the problem. We need to acknowledge our weaknesses and set meaningful goal to address them. We need to be committed to real and lasting change. Successful innovation in science and technology is dependent on an open, diverse, and inclusive workforce that brings all minds to bear on finding solutions to our enigmas. We stand for inclusion, diversity, education, equity and accessibility. We stand with our Black colleagues and people of all races and ethnicities against injustice and systemic racism.

We call on all of our colleagues to fight for an end to oppression and inequity.

We therefore pledge ourselves to honor our core values to:

- Encourage outreach and commit to the amplification of the voices of communities of color as it applies to STEM.
- Engage with STEM organizations of color to foster strategic alliances to promote STEM education, intersectionality, and vocations as a way of combating social and economic inequality.
- Support efforts to combat systemic racism in the STEM fields to ensure a more just and fair society.
- Strive to be inclusive as an organization, learning from and empowering our members to share knowledge.
- Support racial justice and equity in all institutions.
- Solicit the help of our local, state, and nationally-elected officials, demanding their commitment to racial and economic equality and justice.

We must finally and effectively confront racism and bigotry in all its forms. We must advance the cause of those historically left at the margins of society, and promote the inclusion of all people in the fruits and benefits of society.

## Spectra Invited by American Mathematical Society to Write Opening Letter for June 2020 Publication of *The Notices*

Spectra, the association of LGBTQ Mathematicians, was invited by the American Mathematical Society (AMS) to write the Opening Letter for the June 2020 publication of *The Notices*. This is the first the time Spectra was invited to write an article for Pride Month for this monthly publication of the AMS. The article can be found at:

<https://www.ams.org/journals/notices/202006/rnoti-p762.pdf>

## American Statistical Society Joins NOGLSTP as an Affiliate

Please welcome the American Statistical Society (ASA) as the newest NOGLSTP affiliate. They have an LGBTQ+ advocacy committee who are planning a networking event to be held outside of the August Joint Statistical Meetings so that people not registered can participate. The ASA also has a working group on best practices for asking about diversity in sex and gender. The ASA NOGLSTP representative to the board will be Donna LaLonde. Donna is a staff member of the ASA. Previously she was a faculty member at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas and has a background in teacher education.

## American LGBTQ+ Field Networks Forming

Sarah Banet and William Westwood, two field biologists, have initiated an organization which aims to provide field workers who identify themselves as members of the LGBTQ+ community with an online platform to execute their jobs as safely as possible and minimize their risk around the world. The platform will have easy access to legal and cultural information, country-specific legislation and information on their rights. In addition, they hope to create a support network of fellow fieldworkers and safe contacts on the ground, with emergency contacts and evacuation funds available. They can be reached at LGBTQ Field Network [lgbtqconservationnetwork@outlook.com](mailto:lgbtqconservationnetwork@outlook.com).

Separately, a second group of 13 societies is organizing around similar issues in field biology. Dr. Travis Boon, a wildlife biologist in Alaska, has been organizing the group.

## Member Services

The NOGLSTP member services site allows for self-serve member update and automated renewal notices. 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 members: Please renew through [lagls.org](http://lagls.org) to enjoy a significant discount on your NOGLSTP annual dues.

## 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 →

## Mark Your Calendars

- September 30: Ben Barres Scholarship application deadline
- November 12-15: Out to Innovate™ and oSTEM Joint Virtual Symposium

## NOGLSTP Submits an AAAS 2021 Virtual Scientific Session Proposal

Rochelle Diamond has organized a AAAS 2021 Virtual Scientific Session to present the latest research on Queer STEM Statistics entitled: “Resolving LGBTQ Challenges in STEM Requires Demographic Data.” 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 of 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.



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  
American Ornithological Society  
American Statistical Association  
L’GASP Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists  
LAGLS: Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Scientists  
Mathematical 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

## Calling All NOGLSTP Members

We need your help to refresh what it means to be a NOGLSTP member. We want to make NOGLSTP membership more compelling and more rewarding. The Board of Directors is forming a working group of NOGLSTP members to revise our member services and benefits. If you’d like to participate as a working group member for a few meetings over the late summer/early fall, or if you’re willing to be interviewed on why you became and remain a NOGLSTP member, please send a message to Kei Koizumi at [kkoizumi@gmail.com](mailto:kkoizumi@gmail.com). You can also send Kei suggestions or ideas of how to make membership more attractive to non-members.

### 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](http://www.noglstp.org).

### Board of Directors (append each address with [noglstp.org](http://noglstp.org))

Rochelle Diamond, Chair, Pasadena CA, [rd-chair@](mailto:rd-chair@noglstp.org)  
Chris Bannochie, Member at Large, Augusta GA, [cb-board@](mailto:cb-board@noglstp.org)  
Terry Demby, Member at Large, Lancaster CA, [td-board@](mailto:td-board@noglstp.org)  
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TJ Ronningen, Member at Large and Secretary, Columbus OH, [tj-board@](mailto:tj-board@noglstp.org)  
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)  
American Ornithological Society (Rainbow Lorikeets)  
American Statistical Association  
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 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)  
Recognition Awards Program Coordinator: [awards@](mailto:awards@noglstp.org)  
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**NOGLSTP Bulletin** is published quarterly, most of the time. Contributed articles are welcome and encouraged, and may be e-mailed as plain text to [editor@](mailto:editor@noglstp.org). Next publication deadline (for Summer newsletter): **July 17, 2020**. Please acknowledge the NOGLSTP Bulletin as your source if you choose to reproduce any of these articles.

