# NOGLSTP Bulletin

Fall 2013

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# Out to Innovate™ Scholarship Winners Announced

The recipients of the 2013 Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> scholarships are Mateo Williamson, a senior at the University of Arizona, and Samuel Brinton, a graduate student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The NOGLSTP Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> 2013 undergraduate scholarship recipient, Mateo Williamson, is a senior this fall at the University of Arizona. Mr. Williamson is a transgender pre-medical student currently studying microbiology, as well as Spanish translation and interpretation. A native Arizonan, his dream is to become an LGBTfriendly family physician for underserved population in southern Arizona, and especially along the border. He has been actively working on both sides of the border for social justice, addressing issues such as religious persecution of LGBT people, ex-gay/ conversion therapy, minority health disparities, and immigrant abuse. An honors student, Mr. Williamson has received many travel awards to conferences and retreats to address these issues. On receiving the NOGLSTP Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> Scholarship, Mr Williamson commented, "When I came out a year ago, my early experiences as a transgender person led me to fear that I would be marginalized and never fully accepted within society, much less the scientific community. But this support from the NOGLSTP community has affirmed to me that the world really is changing, precisely because of the kind of advocacy work that this organization does. I am incredibly grateful to have this support in order to finish strong in my degrees and be successful and to pass on that same hope to other LGBT students by being a visible advocate."

The NOGLSTP Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> 2013 graduate scholarship recipient, Samuel Otis Brinton, is a bisexual, gender-fluid Nuclear Science and Engineering student working on his Ph.D. and a dual master's degree in Technology Policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mr. Brinton graduated at the top of his class and was a McNair Scholar at Kansas State University, and organized the first Pride march in Manhattan, KS. He was Speaker Pro Tempore of the Kansas State Student Senate, where he wrote a resolution supporting protection of LGBT people in Manhattan, KS, which was unanimously approved by the students and adopted by that city's Commission. An advocate for conversion therapy survivors, Mr. Brinton is working to end the torture of LGBTQI youth. In the meantime, Mr. Brinton has co-founded NuclearPride and is the newly elected Student Director of the American Nuclear Society, and the first out member of their board of directors. On receiving the NOGLSTP Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> Scholarship, Mr. Brinton commented, "Receiving the 2013 NOGLSTP Out to Innovate Graduate Scholarship is one of the greatest honors I can imagine. As one of the only scholarships available to the LGBT science and engineering community, it provides a foundation on which students like myself can express both their passion for research in science as well as their passion for bringing LGBT issues to the forefront of their technical field. When I cofounded NuclearPride, an organization dedicated to supporting the (continued on p.2)

### Out To Innovate™ 2014 Update

Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> 2014 will be held in Atlanta, GA in November 2014. The Georgia Institute of Technology has agreed to be the host for the event, and they seem very engaged on the issue of LGBT diversity. The event is now planned for 2 full days. More information will be posted to <u>outtoinnovate.org</u> as planning moves forward.

The Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> organizing committee welcomes the help of any and all NOGLSTP members in preparing for the event. If you are able to assist with any of the following, please contact the committee through <a href="OutToInnovate@NOGLSTP.org">OutToInnovate@NOGLSTP.org</a>. Opportunities to support Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> include:

- Provide contact information and in introduction to a potential sponsor. If you know of an organization (employer, LGBT community organization, publications) that might be willing to support Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> as a sponsor, please let us know about them. Having an introduction or a point of contact within that company is tremendously helpful.
- Volunteer to be an Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> ambassador. Over the next year, we want to spread the word at college campuses, professional society meetings, STEM institutions and Pride festivals. If you are attending an event and would be willing to serve as an Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> ambassador, we are happy to provide you with literature and presentation materials.
- Follow NOGLSTP and Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> on social media sites. NOGLSTP is on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> is on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

Thank you for your support, and we hope to see you at Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> in 2014.

- Chris Bannochie and TJ Ronningen, Out To Innovate<sup>TM</sup> 2014 co-chairs

#### NOGLSTP at SACNAS Conference

Join NOGLSTP for a reception at the 2013 SACNAS National Meeting in San Antonio, TX on October 3 to provide professional networking and mutual support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people, and allies. The reception is entitled: "Out and Up -Building a LGBTQA Network With Pride." David Bradley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy, will lead this "journey sharing" session.

#### Inside this Issue:

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# NOGLSTP Committee on LGBTQI Issues in Biomedical Research Formed

On June 27, Dr. Francis Collins, Director of the National Institutes of Health, held a listening session on LGBT research, soliciting input to determine the highest priority research areas regarding the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people. This request included engagement of researchers, identification of gaps in LGBTI health research, methodological and other challenges to addressing these gaps, scientific advances on which further research could be built, and effective ways to engage with the LGBTI health research community. Such input would help to shape and inform a future NIH LGBTI Research Strategic Plan.

NOGLSTP Chair Rochelle Diamond participated in that call and took the opportunity to form an on-going committee on LGBTQI issues in biomedical research. The committee is preparing a draft letter in response to the session, which will not only cover health issues, but outreach to LGBTQI researchers in the STEM community. Anyone interested in joining the committee should contact Rochelle at the NOGLSTP office.

# Attention Student Members! 2014 New Faces of Engineering: College Edition Goes Live on October 1

The National Engineers Week Foundation's New Faces of Engineering: College Edition celebrates the achievement of third, fourth, and fifth year engineering students. Scholarships from sponsoring organizations are awarded to those recognized. Last year, New Faces and NOGLSTP awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Binbin Chen, who was then a senior in Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech.

NOGLSTP is again proud to sponsor a \$1,000 scholarship to its 2014 New Faces awardee. Student members of NOGLSTP in the third, fourth, or fifth year of an ABET-accredited undergraduate engineering program with a 3.0/4.0 or 4.0/5.0 GPA are invited to apply for New Faces recognition. Evidence of engineering accomplishments, leadership within student organizations, and service outside the engineering community will be considered in the selection process. Applications will be accepted between October 1 and November 15, 2013 on Facebook at facebook.com/college edition, with nominees being announced on Thursday, February 13, just before EWeek 2014, and winners announced on April 2, 2014.

#### Scholarship Winners (continued from p.1):

LGBT community in nuclear science and engineering, I did so because I felt alone. This scholarship has provided me with a voice to say that we are not alone and together we can change the technical fields we represent to include the many diverse voices of the LGBT and allied community."

This year's scholarships were funded by a Motorola Solutions Foundation Innovation Generation Grant. The scholarships were originally established following NOGLSTP's inaugural Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> Career Summit in 2010. These ground-breaking scholarships for LGBT and ally students in STEM fields would not have been possible without the commitment and generosity of Motorola Solutions Foundation Innovation Generation Grants. Innovation Generation is a part of Motorola Solutions' larger commitment to engaging youth in STEM education. Beyond funding, NOGLSTP will receive ongoing support from Motorola Solutions employee volunteers, who will act as mentors, tutors and experts in STEM careers.

NOGLSTP Chair Rochelle Diamond states, "These scholarships are for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics programs who are either lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or an active ally of the LGBT community. These scholarships are designed to promote academic excellence and increase visibility of talented LGBT students in STEM career paths. The selection process was extremely difficult this year and the voting closer than ever before." Congratulations to all the applicants on their remarkable accomplishments. They are the embodiment of Pride in our LGBT and STEM communities. In recognition, NOGLSTP is pleased to offer each applicant a complimentary student membership in NOGLSTP and complimentary registration to NOGLSTP's 2014 "Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup>" Summit to be held at Georgia Tech in November 2014. The winners will also receive a travel scholarship to the event.

### New Faces of Engineering is Back!

Are you a young (30 years old or younger on December 31, 2013) LGBT engineer who graduated from an ABET accredited engineering program (or international equivalent)? Do you know such an engineer? If so, NOGLSTP would like to see you or that person nominated for New Faces of Engineering. New Faces of Engineering is a recognition program sponsored by the National Engineers Week Foundation. During EWeek in February, nominees from EWeek partner societies are featured in a full-page ad in USA Today. As a founding member of the EWeek Diversity Council, each year NOGLSTP nominates an outstanding young LGBT engineer for this recognition. Previous NOGLSTP nominees have been Tye Jordan, now of HDR Engineering; Heidi Bauer, then of CH2M Hill; and Jonathan Dell, now of Hamilton Sunstrand (United Technologies). One of our nominees, Robert Castor, then of Freescale Semiconductor, was the Diversity Council's representative in their full-page ad that year. The full slate of Diversity Council nominees receives recognition annually on the EWeek website.

If you are or if you know of an up-and-coming young engineer, please submit a nomination for New Faces of Engineering. Find the nomination form at http://www.noglstp.org/?p=1017. To submit the nomination or to find out more, please contact Tim Wilson at tw-board@noglstp.org. Nominations are due on or before Friday, November 1, 2013.

# Tammy Baldwin Comes Out for Scientific Research

Openly lesbian U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), announced in August that she was introducing a bill this month entitled "The Next Generation Research Act" to establish an NIH initiative to direct efforts to promote new researchers in the sciences. It calls for boosting support for young scientists through mentoring, helping with grant writing, and directing the National Academy of Sciences to produce a report on the challenges facing early-stage researchers. The sequestration cuts for the NIH are taking a toll on many researchers and may cost us the next generation, and possibly future generations. The NIH budget will fall by \$1.71 billion this year alone. This means it will fund 703 fewer grants than it did in 2012. Baldwin's bill will not reverse the cuts, but may give encouragement to students and young researchers. Baldwin has previously introduced a bill to boost the amount of venture capital available to researchers in the life sciences industry.

#### News and Announcements

### Dow AgroSciences GLAD Chapter hosts LGBT Reception at the Fall ACS National Meeting in Indianapolis

The Dow AgroSciences' Gays and Lesbians at Dow (GLAD) Indianapolis chapter hosted a reception at Chef Joseph's Restaurant in Indianapolis on Tuesday, September 10 during the ACS National Meeting. The event was listed in the print and online programs for the meeting and fliers were seen across the ACS meeting venues. Turnout was excellent considering the number of conflicting events, including the 90th Anniversary of *Chemical & Engineering News* (*C&EN*), and the offsite location that was selected. Officers of GLAD expressed interest in again sponsoring Out to Innovate<sup>TM</sup> 2014 and noted that the Georgia Institute of Technology is one of Dow's Strategic University Partners, so sponsoring an event there should be good fit for the company.

#### gAyGU Annual Dinner in December

gAyGU will be holding its annual dinner during the week of the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) in San Francisco (December 9-13). gAyGU (or GayGU) is a GLBT social group that revolves around, but has no official ties to, the American Geophysical Union and AGU's annual Fall Meeting in San Francisco. One does not need to be a member of AGU nor attend the meeting to attend the gAyGU dinner or join their Facebook group -- all that is needed is the desire to enjoy dinner or converse with a bunch of queer geoscientists. Details about the date and location of the annual dinner will be available in October, and will be posted on the gAyGU Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/GayGU/139998976049829">https://www.facebook.com/pages/GayGU/139998976049829</a>. Facebook users can "like" gAyGU's page and will get Facebook notifications with updates about the annual dinner. To get on the mailing list for e-mail updates on the gAyGU dinner and other announcements, contact Aron Meltzner at <a href="meltzner@caltech.edu">meltzner@caltech.edu</a>.

#### oSTEM October Gala

The oSTEM (Out in Science Technology, Engineering & Mathermatics) organization is holding their annual national meeting on October 26 in New York City. As part of the event, they have issued an open invitation to their STEM Gala for any and all LGBTQ and Ally STEM professionals interested in mentoring LGBTQA STEM students. The Gala is being held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, October 26 at Liberty Science Center (Jersey City, NJ). Dinner and refreshments will be provided and registration is free, with an option to donate. Seating is available for up to 150 STEM professionals, and you can reserve your spot and learn more at <a href="http://gala.ostem.org">http://gala.ostem.org</a>. NOGLSTP and oSTEM have been searching for opportunities to work together more collaboratively, and this will provide a wonderful opportunity to meet oSTEM members from around the country .

#### Lesbians Who Tech

Lesbians Who Tech has sprung up in various geographical locations – New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston, Washington DC, Seattle, London. They are using http://www.eventbrite.com/org/2950706365 to announce their meeting locations on the web. Whether you work at a tech company, have a technical job or just love technology, they invite you to join them. The group is designed to be bring people together to be more visible to each other and to others and to get more women and lesbians into technology.

### **New Dues Category**

NOGLSTP is pleased to announce a new dues category – Lifetime Membership. Pay \$1000 once and receive uninterrupted NOGLSTP member benefits for life. Pay once and never think about it ever again!

### 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, 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: \$40 \$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' \$1000 for Lifetime Membership Please pay in US Funds only. □Renewal □New □Info change only Date: Name: Address:(don't forget your zip code!) Newsletter preference: □print **□**email 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 Do you want your email/URL to be placed on

the NOGLSTP web page?

Don't forget to fill out the other side

☐ YES

# NOGLSTP to Participate in the USA Science and Engineering Festival

NOGLSTP has been invited to have a networking table at the 3<sup>rd</sup> USA Science and Engineering Festival, to be held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington DC. April 25-27, 2014. This is touted as the largest science festival in the United States. This event will also host the U.S. News STEM Solutions National Conference, which brings together major corporations, leading educators, top policy makers, and education technology companies to advance the agenda for national change in STEM education, policy and workforce development. NOGLSTP-Chesapeake Region will take the lead on behalf of NOGLSTP to staff and participate in this outreach endeavor.



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 Astronomical Society
- ☐ 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
- San Diego QuEST

For New Members: How did you learn of NOGLSTP?

What would you like to help us with? (CHECK ANY THAT INTEREST YOU)

- 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 a GLBT caucus at my professional society:
- ☐ Don't know but would like to help with something

# IEEE Proposes Adding Sexual Orientation to Fairness Clause of Code of Ethics

At its July 2013 meeting, the IEEE (the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers) Board of Directors approved publication for the purpose of soliciting comments on a proposed change to the IEEE Code of Ethics. The change would replace the item "to treat fairly all persons regardless of such factors as race, religion, gender, disability, age, or national origin" with "to treat fairly all persons and to not engage in acts of discrimination based on race, religion, gender, disability, age, national origin, or sexual orientation." NOGLSTP members who are also members of IEEE who wish to comment on the proposed change should contact IEEE Directors Parviz Famouri (p.famouri@ieee.org) or Karen S. Pedersen (kspedersen@ieee.org) on or before November 7, 2013, and reference the proposed change's publication at <a href="http://theinstitute.ieee.org/briefings/business/proposed-changes-to-ieee-code-of-ethics">http://theinstitute.ieee.org/briefings/business/proposed-changes-to-ieee-code-of-ethics</a> or in the September 2013 issue of *The Institute*.

# Follow Interesting Posts at NOGLSTP's LinkedIn

Suzanne Kennedy, NOGLSTP's resident tweeter, has turned us on to an interesting blog site, Autostraddle. They are now featuring a blog by Vivian (a scientist who writes to blow off steam) who has interviewed several NOGLSTP members. In the first blog, NOGLSTP is featured: <a href="http://www.autostraddle.com/queer-scientists-the-legend-of-the-unicorn-187054/">http://www.autostraddle.com/queer-scientists-the-legend-of-the-unicorn-187054/</a> and the second article featured Erin Cech, an engineer turned sociologist: <a href="http://www.autostraddle.com/queered-science-why-social-justice-and-stem-fields-should-hang-out-more-often-187609/">http://www.autostraddle.com/queered-science-why-social-justice-and-stem-fields-should-hang-out-more-often-187609/</a>

Thanks Suzanne - keep it coming!

# Mark Your Calendars

- October 3-6: SACNAS National Meeting, San Antonio, TX
- Ocotber 26-27: oStem National Meeting, New York City, NY
- December 9-13: AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- April 25-27, 2014: USA Science and Engineering Festival, Washington, DC

#### 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 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. 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

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