IPS/AGLP New York 2006
October 5-8, 2006
Gene Nakajima, M.D., and Roy Harker, Executive Director

AGLP’s next major event marks a milestone in our history of advocacy and mission – the first presentation of the John Fryer Award. Over the past year, the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists has raised $50,000 to endow the John E. Fryer, M.D., award, for a public figure who has made significant contributions to LGBT mental health. Dr. Fryer was known as Dr. Anonymous when he gave a courageous speech at the 1972 annual meeting, which led to the declassification of homosexuality as a mental illness. Barbara Gittings and Franklin Kameny, Ph.D., who were on the same panel as Dr. Fryer in 1972, will both be recipients of the first award.

To honor the new award, the Institute on Psychiatric Services (IPS) will feature a day of programming on LGBT mental health. AGLP will also hold its Fall Board Meeting and sponsor two receptions during the IPS.

The AGLP Track will include lectures on “Lesbian and Gay Families, Sex and Sexuality and Special Populations Among Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual People”; The Fryer Award Lecture itself, entitled, “Gay, Proud, and Healthy: From Heresy to Humdrum”, featuring Dr. Kameny and Ms. Gittings; and “Demons, Satan, Science, and Homosexuality: A Film Analysis”, featuring the recently-completed documentary Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-

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During this time I had two polar experiences. On the one hand I wanted to be one again with my ever connected life and the other was I relished not having to be on duty 24/7. Not having my email and net connections highlighted the integration of technology in my life. As my email correspondents expected me to hear their electronic calls I too assume that I can reach out to anyone, everywhere. If I need to make a reservation for dinner, or find the ranking of poker hands or pay my bills, I expect to be able to do this 24/7. Now. Not when I find the right reference or the bank opens. Courtesy of my net connections and cell I live in an “enriched now” that is as expansive as any manic’s grandiose delusions. I have the belief that I am more efficient than ever. “I can do so much more and still have plenty of time left over!” But my daily life seems to contradict this as I feel ever more pressed to do more.

My time away from email and the net allowed a brief glimpse at being disconnected. I was still there, still available but not to the point of over saturation. I didn’t have to check my email before I ran off to work or be confronted with sorting spam at the end of the day. And while I did spend many hours trying to address my computer’s meltdown, I also had the guilty pleasure of being “laid up” and not expected to be on call to the world. A brief respite which was secretly pleasurable.

But I’m back to my old ways and swimming in connectedness once again. While I can’t function without technology, I hope I can find some balance.

As I write this, I think with all that time that I save being ever so efficient I’ll be able to find the balance in other activities. Why is it that the word “relapse” comes to mind?

A few weeks ago I was plunged back in to the eighties as my computer’s operating system became corrupted. I don’t remember that time as being so frustrating but this version was. I spent hours on tech support unsuccessfully trying to first correct the problems and then later after having seen the “Blue Screen of Death,” I needed to do a complete reinstall. With this and every turn of events I felt that if I just spent another hour doing this one last step that all would be well.

Well… Not so much. After the reinstallation, the critical updates required to coordinate all my email accounts wouldn’t load. More hours and more frustration. I finally decided to abandon ship and get a new computer. Which of course required more hours to reinstall all the essentials.

One of the unfortunate things about this turn of events was that while I was back in the pre-computer, pre-email years of the 80’s, the rest of the world was perking along in the new century. When fully reconnected to my email I had to confront the huge backlog of emails sent by people who assumed I would respond to in a timely manner.

The Newsletter of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists accepts limited advertising depending upon space and applicability to issues affecting psychiatrists who either are gay or lesbian or treat gay and lesbian patients. The mailing lists for AGLP are confidential and never sold or provided to any vendor.

Full Page Ad $300
Half-Page Ad $200
Business Card $100

Community service announcements are printed without charge, but are accepted only on a limited basis depending upon space limitations and applicability.

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George Harrison, M.D.
President’s column: Pride
Dan Karasic

It’s Pride Festival season. And we have much to take pride in this year.

This has been a great year, since the last Pride Festival, for AGLP and LGBT mental health activism. Last July, the American Psychiatric Association (APA) endorsed same sex civil marriage. In Toronto in May, AGLP received the APA’s Distinguished Service Award, for AGLP’s efforts in promoting better mental health care and policy for LGBT people. And in Toronto, AGLP and the APA screened AGLP’s just-completed documentary, "Abomination," on the dangers of reparative therapy.

This past year, AGLP successfully raised the money to endow the APA’s newest honor, the John Fryer Award. The John Fryer Award was named after “Dr. Anonymous,” the first psychiatrist to speak at an APA panel on being a gay psychiatrist. At that time, just 34 years ago, one could lose one’s job and even one’s medical license for being gay. Given this, Dr. Fryer appeared in a Nixon mask and fright wig, and had his voice electronically altered. Dr. Fryer was recruited for this appearance by two pioneering activists, Frank Kameny and Barbara Gittings, who had been working to convince the APA to remove homosexuality from the DSM. The work of Fryer, Kameny, and Gittings, among others, was critical to raising the issue of removing homosexuality for the DSM.

At the APA’s Institute for Psychiatric Services this October, Gittings and Kameny will be the recipients of the APA’s first annual John Fryer Award, for their contributions to LGBT mental health. There will be an entire day of LGBT mental health presentations at IPS. This historic day is not to be missed. The AGLP day at IPS is listed here:


As we honor our pioneers, we try to nurture tomorrow’s leaders.

Since this May, AGLP has 37 (and counting) new members. We welcome you to AGLP, and encourage you to get involved in the work of the organization.

We have a number of newly appointees to AGLP committees, some of whom you’ll read about more in this newsletter. Jonathan Koelle is chairing the San Diego local arrangements committee for AGLP; if you’d like to help him with local arrangements, please contact Jonathan and join the committee.

David Scasta is the new AGLP Representative to the APA Assembly. He will serve until AGLP holds an election for this position.

Ubaldo Leli, AGLP’s President-elect, has agreed to chair the search committee for Jack Drescher’s replacement as editor of the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy.

Karl Jeffries is a new member-in-training representative. Karl is a first-year resident at UCSF. As a medical student, he helped revamp the UCSF curriculum to make it more LGBT friendly. Also while a med student, Karl and his partner adopted children.

We welcome three new medical student representatives: a gay man, a lesbian, and a trans man. Marc Manseau is currently in his third year at Columbia in NYC. He has been very active in AMSA, as well as with the Physicians for Human Rights, and a homeless outreach clinic. Shelly Cohen is in a dual MD/JD program at University of Illinois. She has been active in UI law school’s LGBT group and interned for the ACLU and other advocacy groups. Nathan Sharon is president of the medical student Psychiatry Club at Texas Tech. He told me that fellow students and faculty there have been very supportive, which is very heartening.

I’m excited to work with our new members and new representatives, and I look forward to seeing everyone in New York in October.

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Photos from the Annual Meeting

Toronto 2006

The Women’s Dinner Attendees

Vice President Ashley, Past President Barber, Executive Dire

Womens’ Dinner

Welcoming Party

Toronto Local Arrangements Committee

AGLP Members at Saturday Symposium

Discussions at the Annual Business Meeting
Film Project Committee Recognized at the Banquet

Attendees at the Closing Banquet

AGLP salutes Dan Hicks, M.D.

APA Representative Mark Townsend in Foreground at the Welcoming Reception

Howard Rubin and Local Arrangements Chair Chris McIntosh

Film Project Committee Recognized at the Banquet

Carolyn Robinowitz, M.D., President Elect of the APA Addressing AGLP members at the Opening Reception

President Karasic Addresses the Annual Business Meeting

Plans are Made to Coordinate With LAGCAPA Reception

President Karasic Addresses the Annual Business Meeting
AGLP Board and Advisory Council Meeting

Saturday, May 20, 2006
1:00-5:00pm

DELTA CHELSEA HOTEL; TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

Members Present: Roy Harker, Executive Director; Dan Karasic, MD, President; Kenn Ashley, MD, Vice President; Mason Turner, MD, Secretary; George Harrison, MD, Newsletter Editor; Mary Barber, MD, Immediate Past President; David Scasta, MD, Film Committee; Ubald Leil, MD, Psychoanalysis Committee; Michael Golder, MD, Development Director; Phil Bialer, MD, Caucus Representative; Andy Tompkins, MD, Residency Committee Chair; Chris McIntosh, MD, Local Arrangements Chair

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 pm by Dr. Dan Karasic, President of AGLP.

Local Arrangements, Chris McIntosh

Dr. McIntosh provided an update regarding various events to be held during the Annual Meeting, including the Welcome Reception at the home of Dr. Solomon Shapiro; Symposium on Reparative Therapy at the Delta Chelsea Hotel; Opening Reception at Vagile Restaurant; Women’s Dinner at Slack’s Restaurant; Child Psychiatry Reception after the Tuesday Business Meeting; and Closing Banquet at Casa Loma. He also detailed the various component meetings, including International Psychiatrists/Psychiatrists of Color Dinner; Medical Student/Early Career Psychiatrists Reception and various significant other events.

Roy Harker noted that the Closing banquet needs 80 attendees to become revenue neutral. Dr. Karasic also reported that the trend for this, and possibly future, AGLP meetings should be to remain as revenue neutral as possible by obtaining grants and charging admission for the Closing Banquet. In fact, $7000 of this Annual Meeting budget was provided by grants from the Gill Foundation and Haworth Press, with two pharmaceutical grants pending.

Treasurer’s Report

Due to an emergency, Dr. Robert Mitchell was not in attendance at this meeting. Discussion of the financial status of the organization and budget was provided under the Executive Director’s report.

Executive Director’s Report, Roy Harker

Finances

Mr. Harker presented the Executive Director’s report, detailing numerous concerns regarding the financial health of the organization, and in particular, concerns about cash flow after the Annual Meeting. He described the importance of recruiting members during the Annual Meeting in order to generate cash flow. Given financial commitments that will be due in early June, AGLP will be at a $4000 cash shortage if recruitment efforts fail.

The organization is expecting $5000 from a lost property claim from Pennsylvania (grant funds that were not received), but this will likely not be available for six months. The Frank Rundle estate is also due to disburse approximately $20,000 to the organization, $15,000 of which is earmarked for the Fryer Award, in the next few months. Even given these receipts, AGLP will likely be running at a deficit by August 2006. Mr. Harker stressed the importance of generating revenue, including development of grant proposals for operating expenses as soon as possible, as well as generating a surplus to provide for financial stability during times of crisis such as this.

Ideas for cutting expenses through the summer were generated by the Board and Council, including elimination of the paper copies of the August newsletter, at a savings of $2200, and the far more radical step of closing the AGLP office during the summer.

Mr. Harker also thanked the efforts of the local San Francisco contingent for aggressive recruitment, and encouraged everyone to be more active in soliciting individuals to join AGLP. Because there were not sufficient funds to produce new brochures prior to the Annual Meeting, it was decided by the Board and Council to offer a mid-year discount to individuals who joined during the Annual Meeting by allowing them to pay 2006 dues at the 2005 rates.

A general discussion was had by the Board and Council, emphasizing the role of AGLP and the need to provide added value to membership. It was generally agreed that given our web resources, an “Ask the Experts” column or listerv would be a value-added addition, particularly for more rural members. Expanding the referral directory to provide a more consultative function for members (i.e., a psychotherapy or addiction consultation from a fellow member) was thought to be an interesting idea to pursue as well. A suggestion was also made to offer medical or malpractice insurance, but was rejected due to the difficulties in obtaining agents for the insurance, and the lack of success of other organizations in actualizing this.

The Board and Council were in agreement that AGLP should market itself more aggressively to subspecialty meetings (such as the American Association of Addiction Psychiatrists and the American Society of Addiction Medicine annual meetings) and continue to enhance our position in the APA. Dr. Karasic suggested that an additional, smaller AGLP event should be scheduled outside of the Annual or the Institute of Psychiatric Services meetings, possibly in San Francisco and/or NYC. It was agreed that AGLP should consider rolling admission year pricing, as well as the possibility of joining in September for the remainder of that year and all of the next. These ideas will continue to be developed by the Executive Director and Board. Finally, the importance of a functioning Membership Committee was emphasized and the need for the Board to insure that all Committees of the organization had chairs and members in order to broaden the reach of the organization.

Mr. Harker also thanked the efforts of the local San Francisco contingent for aggressive membership recruitment.

Budget

Mr. Harker presented the Board with a preliminary budget of $93,950 for FY2007. Changes made to the draft budget included the removal of the Student Travel anticipated receipts and expenses to a separate operating account that would be used exclusively for that purpose, as donations are directed toward this program and not to the general operating budget. The Closing Banquet budget was reduced by $1000 to offset this deletion. Additionally, the Symposium Fees were eliminated, as the primary cost of the Symposium is the provision of CME credits. An attempt will be made to procure sponsorship for these credits in the future (see below) at no cost to the organization. A motion was made by Mary Barber, MD, to approve the budget, seconded by Mason Turner, MD, and approved unanimously with these revisions by the Board.
American Psychiatric Association Assembly Report, Phil Bialer, MD; Mary Barber, MD

Allied Organization Representative: Because AGLP was granted Allied Status by the APA, the organization now has an additional seat in the APA Assembly. Selection of this representative is not currently explicit and should be clarified by the Board. It was agreed that the position should not be an officer of AGLP, and could be either appointed or elected. If elected, a Bylaws change may be necessary. If appointed, the process must be detailed as soon as possible, and has been referred to the Business Meeting in October. Dr. Barber is currently serving in this position, but will be unable to continue through the year due to family commitments. It was also noted that AGLP will be responsible for travel expenses for the Allied representative and a budget line item must be added to cover this expense.

Action Papers: Dr. Bialer reported on an Action Paper by the Minority Under-Represented Committee that would allow allied organizations permission to contact individuals who self-identify certain demographics on their APA applications.

Newsletter Editor Report, George Harrison, MD

Dr. Harrison reiterated that the Board and Council should continue to encourage participation by the Membership in receiving the newsletter in PDF format as a cost savings. Paper copies will continue to be required for publicity purposes, but should be reduced in number if at all possible. The idea of having an “Ask the Experts Column,” as detailed in the discussion on Membership Development and added value of membership was re-emphasized as a potential added value to the Newsletter. More discussion and planning to follow at the Business Meeting in the fall. Dr. Harrison also thanked Mr. Harker for his help in publishing and formatting the Newsletter, with the entire group expressing appreciation to both he and Dr. Harrison for producing a high quality product that enhances the organization dramatically.

Development Report, Michael Golder, MD

Dr. Golder stressed the importance of grant applications in supporting the financial stability of the organization. The idea of utilizing the Philadelphia Foundation for large donors (over $10,000) to receive annuity payments on their contributions was introduced as a means of generating high revenue donors. A column will be planned for the next Newsletter to solicit members for both the Membership and Development Committees. Mr. Harker also reported that he is seeking information on additional grant opportunities, including pharmaceutical grants, as well as government and foundation grants, to enhance the development profile and financial stability of AGLP. He also reported that a Combined Federal Campaign grant application was declined due to a lack of regional diversity in the membership of the organization. Other opportunities within this organization are being explored, including appealing this rejection.

Journal Editor-in-Chief Report

Dr. Jack Drescher was not present to make this report. However, it was noted that he will be stepping down from this position as soon as a replacement is identified. Although Dr. Drescher has compiled two years of material, a firm deadline of the Fall Business Meeting was set to identify the new Journal Editor-in-Chief.

Nomination Committee Report, Mary Barber, MD

The slate of candidates for 2006-2007 is as follows:
- Dan Karasic, MD: President-Elect (second term)
- Kenn Ashley, MD: Vice President
- Mason Turner, MD: Secretary
- Petros Levounis, MD: Treasurer

Dr. Barber noted that Ubaldo Leil, MD, also plans to seek a floor nomination for President-Elect and will be added to the ballot if nominated.

Awards Committee Report, Mary Barber, MD

The following awards will be given at the Closing Banquet at this year’s Annual Meeting:
- Distinguished Service Award: R. Douglas Elliott
- Paulsen Award: Daniel Hicks, MD
- Stewart Nichols Award: The Clinic for HIV-Related Concerns; Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Barber also reported on the progress of the Fryer Award, noting that the first award will be presented this fall at the Institute of Psychiatric Services meeting in NYC. She continues to lobby the APA to have the award presented at the APA Annual Meeting, but the cycling of the award presentation is extremely ambiguous. The award is fully funded, except for $15K, which is due from the Frank Rundle estate in the coming months. The Fryer Award selection committee consists of Mary Barber, MD; Dan Karasic, MD; Mason Turner, MD; and Phil Bialer, MD.

Film Committee Report, David Scasta, MD

Dr. Scasta noted that the film is now complete, and distribution continues. A $3000 shortfall for the film project currently exists and funding efforts are underway to eliminate this deficit. The Film Committee is continuing to sell magnets as a fund raiser for the project and has applied for several grants.

Psychoanalytic Committee Report, Ubaldo Leil, MD

Dr. Leil reported that the workshop on Shame in Psychotherapy will be presented as part of the Annual Meeting. He also reported that he is continuing to collaborate with several students and professionals in China regarding both psychoanalysis and how homosexuality is treated as part of the psychoanalytic treatment.

Member-in-Training Committee, Andy Tompkins, MD

Dr. Tompkins noted that residency membership continues to drop, and he is actively trying to recruit new residents, both for leadership within the organization and as new members of AGLP. He has also been working on projects to bring educational programs regarding LGBT issues in residency training to various programs, including developing a library of such presentations from AGLP members.

Medical Students

No one was available to provide a report on medical student activities in AGLP, as the previous leadership has graduated and will be entering residency training. Medical student membership in AGLP is low, and Mary Barber reported that she recently emailed the LGBT listserv at the American Medical Student Association to recruit members. Dr. Tompkins also reported that he will try to work with AMSA to enhance recruitment and educational opportunities.

Institute of Psychiatric Services, New York City, October 2006

AGLP will have a strong presence at this meeting, with a full day symposium on LGBT issues in mental health care, including Lesbian and Gay Families, Sex and Sexuality and Special Populations among LGBT individuals, a film discussion, and presentation of the first John Fryer Award to Barbara Gittings and Frank Kameny, PhD with accompanying lecture. The Fall Business meeting will also be held at this meeting.

Annual Meeting 2007, San Diego

Symposium planning for this meeting should begin immediately, in order to secure grants for funding, with likely topic of addiction in the LGBT population. Once again, the planning committee will attempt to reinstate CME credits (possibly with the California Society of Addiction Medicine), but in a revenue neutral fashion, either through registration fees or grants from CME sponsoring organizations. A local arrangements chair is
AGLP Board and Advisory Council Meeting
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AGLP Annual Membership Meeting
Tuesday, May 23, 2006
5:30-7:00pm
Delta Chelsea Hotel; Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Dan Karasic, President of AGLP, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Caucus Report, Phil Bialer, MD

Dr. Bialer reported on two specific issues that are currently being addressed in the APA Assembly. Specifically, he reported on a motion to allow individuals to be represented under two different caucus groups. This has typically been difficult to get through the Assembly as this might lead to over-representation. To date, this has not been approved by the Assembly, but remains a topic of discussion. He also reported that the Assembly is working on a position paper on gender identity disorder.

The minutes from the membership meetings for the 2005 Annual Meeting were then reviewed by the Membership and approved.

Local Arrangements Committee

Dr. Karasic thanked the efforts of all involved in making the Annual Meeting a success, including Dr. Kenn Ashley, Vice President and Dr. Jack Drescher, Journal Editor-in-Chief and coordinator for the Symposium, as well as the entire Local Arrangements Committee: Andy Cheok, Darren Higgins, Nathan Kolla, Chris McIntosh (Chair), Jon Novick, David Robertson, Darrell Schuurman, Solomon Shapiro, Glendon Tait, and Paul Westlind.

A general discussion by the Membership, regarding improving the Annual Meeting events, followed. Suggestions were made to move the Symposium back to the Saturday of the meeting and to possibly reverse the Awards (Closing) Banquet and Opening Reception, so that the awards and dinner ceremony would be held early in the meeting, and a formal reception to close. This would likely improve overall attendance at the Awards Banquet and allow for greater visibility of the organization. Dr. Marshall Forstein also suggested moving the Opening Reception to a hotel, as he felt that the location of this year’s reception, at a small restaurant, did not allow for many guests of that expansion. The committee is also lobbying to remove references to “ego-dystonic homosexuality” and is currently organizing a workshop on the “down-low” cultural groups, and that this committee is working to ensure that LGB issues are a part of that expansion. The committee is also lobbying to remove references to “ego-dystonic homosexuality” and is currently organizing a workshop on the “down-low” among African-American men who have sex with men.

Dr. Drescher discussed the research agenda for DSM-V as related to LGB issues, noting that cultural issues will be an important addition to DSM-V, particularly epidemiology of cultural groups, and that this committee is working to ensure that LGB issues are a part of that expansion. The committee is also lobbying to remove references to “ego-dystonic homosexuality” and is currently organizing a workshop on the “down-low” among African-American men who have sex with men.

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Award Winners Round Up
George Harrison

As with every year our annual awards were presented at AGLP’s banquet held during the APA convention. This year we were proud to confer the Distinguished Service Award to Douglas Elliott, the attorney that brought forward and successfully argued the case that allowed equal marriage rights to be shared with all Canadians. The Clinic for HIV-Related Concerns of the Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto was awarded the Stuart Nichols Award for the provision of leadership and expert care for the mental health needs of the HIV community. Dr. Peter Deroche, director of the clinic, accepted the award. And Dan Hicks received the James Paulsen Award for his long service to AGLP. His leadership on the Board, his positions as Vice President and President as well as his continued efforts to press forward with our issues in the APA was acknowledged.

This year we asked our recipients questions about the awards and some thought about the issues that are critical to us all. Here are the responses:

Douglas Elliott, 2006 Recipient of the Distinguished Service Award

Editor: What did it mean to you to receive the Distinguished Service Award from AGLP?

Mr. Elliott: It was a complete surprise to be told that I would receive this award. As someone who has been deeply interested in both mental health issues and queer rights for decades, receiving an award from this organization was very meaningful to me. When I realized what wonderful people had received this award before me, and that I was the first lawyer advocating for queer rights to be so recognized, it was very humbling. In many ways, I realized that I was accepting this award for my country in recognition of our nation’s progress on equal marriage, and that made me proud to be Canadian. Thank you, AGLP!

Editor: Your work was instrumental in challenging the ban on homosexual marriage in Canada. Do you have any thoughts about the social changes that will occur because of this clarification of citizen’s rights?

Mr. Elliott: Canada has had a long history of commitment to human rights, including our role in the Underground Railroad. We do not aspire to be the world’s most powerful country, but we do strive to be the most just.

As a result, most Canadians take great pride in the fact that we are the home of the world’s first legal same-sex marriages, celebrated on January 14, 2001. Within Canada, we were already very close to achieving full equality with heterosexuals, and this will ensure that process will be complete. However, the impact internationally will likely be even more profound. We are still the only jurisdiction in the world that will legally marry a same-sex couple regardless of their citizenship or place of residence. We can offer the joy of marriage to couples around the world who have only dreamed about it. We have demonstrated to our neighbours to the South and others that the sky does not fall when you have same-sex marriage - heterosexuality remains surprisingly popular in Canada! There is also a direct impact on the law of other countries. The Ontario precedent was cited with approval by the Massachusetts court in the Goodridge case, and by the South African court in their marriage ruling. Couples married in Canada are currently seeking recognition of their marriages in the USA, in Hong Kong, New Zealand, Israel, Ireland and the UK. Canadians are proud exporters of equality!

Dan Hicks, 2006 Recipient of the James Paulsen Award

Editor: Please tell our readers your reactions to receiving this award and any thoughts that you have about our organization.

Dan Hicks: I am humbled and gratified to be honored by the professional organization that I love the most, and to join the impressive list of leaders and mentors who have received the Paulsen award. Jim Paulsen and Frank Rundle took me to my first concert at the Kennedy Center during an APA meeting before I moved to Washington. AGLP has played a significant part throughout my personal and professional career. I remember coming to some meetings of the Caucus (prior to AGLP), as a resident in Atlanta and Chicago in 1978 and 79, but things were much less organized and more ‘underground.’ I met people like David Kessler, Frank Rundle, Ed Nix, John Fryer, Phil Cushman, and Stu Nichols. Bob Schwartz asked me to participate in my first workshop on therapy with gay men, which helped me realize how I could get involved. In later meetings, I met AGLP members like Terry Stein, Jim Krajeski, Bob Cabaj, Marshall Forstein, who were national leaders in psychiatry. Their encouragement and friendship helped me return to Indiana to set up LGB teaching programs.
Introducing AGLP’s Newest Medical Student Representatives
George Harrison

AGLP is pleased to welcome our newest medical student representatives. As Dan Karasic has pointed out, AGLP depends on current trainees becoming invested in our organization. While we will hear more from them in future issues of the Newsletter I asked them to tell our readers a bit more about themselves as an introduction.

Shelly Cohen
Greetings from [one of] your new medical student representatives. There are three of us this year – and I will be holding up the Midwestern front. Although coastal by origin (California), I have been at the University of Illinois, in the non-stop cultural center of Urbana-Champaign, for the last five years. I am one year away from completing a joint MD/JD – and no, it’s not so that I can sue myself. I will be starting my fourth and final year of medical school in a few weeks and hope to apply for a Psychiatry residency for either the next year or the following one. While I have been fairly active in the GLBT legal world, I look forward to becoming involved in the GLBT medical community. Plans are underway – we hope to continue the mentoring program, plan networking events at the APA conferences and educational events at AMSA conferences, and increase student AGLP membership. I would also like to extend a warm invitation to anyone who has other suggestions, ideas, or needs. Please feel free to contact me throughout the year. I very much look forward to serving AGLP this coming year and to meeting you all.

Nathan Sharon
I am Nathan Sharon, a second year medical student at Texas Tech School of Medicine. I serve as president of the psychiatry club. Additionally, I work in a neuroscience research lab studying NMDA receptor function. Prior to medical school, I worked for seven years as a research assistant in a behavioral psychopharmacology lab in Houston, Texas. I was also active in the Houston LGBT community, including writing ballet and theater reviews for The Texas Triangle and forming a book group for local area lesbians.

I came out as transgendered [female-to-male] a year ago and began my transition this summer. This has propelled me toward both a personal and professional interest in incorporating transgendered issues in health care, particularly mental health care. I am extremely excited to have this opportunity with the AGLP and fellow representatives Marc Manseau and Shelly Cohen. I hope to further the understanding and awareness of LGBT mental health issues, particularly in areas like West Texas where they are so badly needed.

Marc Manseau
I am currently at the beginning of my third year at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City, and am just about finished with my first rotation – psychiatry. To be honest, the first two years of medical school were rough for me. Memorizing an enormous volume of scientific and clinical facts from various text books was not my favorite activity. But I can already tell that my life has changed – and improved - in many ways forever. As evident from my first rotation, patient care is one of the most exciting and rewarding things that a person can do, and my commitment to being a physician is finally being affirmed on a daily basis. I am sure folks would like to know a bit about me prior to medical school. I was born and raised in Manchester, NH, where I went to a large public high school. I then attended Brown University, and graduated in 2002 with a degree in Human Biology. I then worked as an HIV prevention counselor at the Fenway Community Health Center in Boston. After a year at this job, I returned to Brown for a year to pursue an MPH. I focused on environmental and urban health. I began medical school in the fall of 2004. In medical school, my extracurricular activities have revolved around social justice, student activism, and community service.
AGLP Day at the Institute on Psychiatric Services, New York, NY Saturday Oct 7, 2006

The preliminary brochure for the Institute of Psychiatric Services (October 5-8) is now available. It has the Statute of Liberty on the cover, and information about the AGLP Day of Programming is on page 6. Please note that in the printed version, there is a mistake on page 3, which lists the AGLP Day on Friday October 6. This error has been deleted on the online version. The AGLP fall business meeting will be on Sunday October 8, 2006 and is open to all AGLP members who want to become more involved with the organization. Remember that IPS is interdisciplinary so it should appeal to social workers, psychologists, and primary care providers. The online version of the brochure (12 pages) can be downloaded at www.psych.org/ips2006


The World Psychiatric Association International Congress will take place from Nov 28th- Dec 2nd, 2007. The deadline for submission for workshops and symposiums will be November 30th, 2006. If you are interested in participating in a HIV or LGBT workshop, please contact GnakaJima@alumni.stanford.org by November 10th with a title, a three-sentence description, and your contact info. For details about the meeting see www.wpa2007melbourne.com/

AGLP Newsletter Available in Electronic Format

All AGLP Members with a working email address on file with the National Office received the August 2006 issue of the Newsletter in electronic PDF format. The Executive Committee of AGLP is hoping that you find this format more convenient than the traditional print version and will elect to continue to receive this newsletter in this format.

There are many benefits to receiving the Newsletter in this PDF format:

- PDFs are currently the industry standard for this type of document and read easily by all computers.
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- This issue, and every issue of the AGLP Newsletter is available any time through our website at www.aglp.org
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Email continues to be the most efficient way for AGLP Members to stay in touch. If you have not supplied us with an email address, please consider adding it to your profile.

While you are there visiting your profile, make sure your email address and contact information is all up to date. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please be in touch with Roy Harker in the National Office.

The AGLP Membership Directory is now available to members online. You can search the directory by name, location, phone - any criteria at all. You can edit/update your profile at any time and even see whether or not your dues are paid up. This new service also includes the master calendar of events, a bulletin board for posting ideas, and polling capabilities. Visit www.aglp.org and click on "Members Area" to begin using this new tool. Your username and password are required to enter this area. If you forget your password, you can have it sent to you automatically. If you have any questions regarding this new service, please contact Roy Harker at rharker@aglp.org or call 215-222-2800.
for med students and residents, to start a gay and lesbian counseling center, and HIV support groups. I used my convertible to help lead AGLP to a Greek restaurant in Chicago in 1987, planned local arrange- ments in DC, then served as Vice-president and (finally!) president for 2 years. I continued my involvement on the LGB Committee of APA as we fought for position statements on gay parenting, reparative therapy, and finally same sex marriage.

I feel like AGLP and APA have come a long way in improving mental health care for the GLBT community. However, the President and Congress just proposed an amendment against same sex marriage, and many states are actually passing legislation against recognizing our relationships and families. The Religious Right is continuing to propose and foster unethical and dangerous attempts to ‘convert’ people from homosexuality, now targeting confused youth. And AGLP is losing members and floundering in debt. Many of us live in urban Meccas like San Francisco, New York, DC, LA, where we have comfortable lifestyles and can be out and open in our lives. However, the world is still not safe for many in our community, and even for some of our colleagues who are struggling with their sexuality. We need to approach our friends and colleagues and ask them to join AGLP and donate at higher levels, to get involved, to continue to speak up and make changes. This organization’s purpose and mission are still vital and necessary. Please keep fighting the good fight to make the world safe for all of us.

Clinic for HIV-Related Concerns, 2006 Recipient of the Stuart Nichols Award, accepted by the Director, Peter Deroche, MD

1) As the Director of the Clinic for HIV-Related Concerns, what did it mean to you for the clinic to be selected for the Stuart Nichols Award from AGLP?

The award came at a very good time for our service. While HIV remains a profoundly significant public health and mental health problem, we know that it has received less attention from public media as the years have passed. The consequence of this is that the important associated issues are less in the awareness of administrations, funding agencies and the public at large. The award has clearly helped elevate the profile of the program in Mt. Sinai Hospital’s Department of Psychiatry, the hospital administration and in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. It acknowledges the value and success of the program and will clearly contribute to our ongoing efforts to preserve our resources so that we can continue to do this valuable work.

2) The Clinic for HIV-Related Concerns has a long history of providing mental health services to HIV positive patients. Do you have a sense of what the important mental health service issues will be for the HIV community in the in the coming years?

HIV will continue to challenge our patients’ capacities for effective coping. Stigmatization, uncertainty about the course of illness, concerns about contagion, worries about desirability and rejection, and limitations on lifestyle and employment are some of the persistent themes our patients bring to us. This has been the case throughout the epidemic even as we have moved from the experience of HIV as a terminal illness to that of a chronic manageable illness. It continues to be a life-threat- ening illness both in its own right but also due the cardiovascular and metabolic consequences of anti-retroviral therapies.

As we gain more control of the illness our patients will experience increased pressures from insurance carriers to return to work. This issue has been a source of distress for our patients for years and we can anticipate that this will become an even greater concern for our long-term survivors in the years to come.

More needs to be done to understand the complex psychological determinants of unsafe sexual behaviors and the barriers to universal precautions necessary for controlling spread of the disease.

As the years pass, prevalence of HIV in the community will continue to rise as more people are infected and as more people live longer with the disease. Specialized resources will need to keep pace with the complex mental health needs of this population.
Gay Movement. All lectures will be at the Marriott Marquis in New York.

AGLP Members and associates Ellen Haller, M.D., Susan Vaughn, M.D., Robert P. Cabaj, M.D., Robert Kertzner, M.D., Ronald Hellman, M.D., Samantha Kelleher, M.D., David Scasta, M.D., Alicia Salzer, M.D., Mary Barber, M.D., and the Reverend Larry Waltz will be featured speakers and presenters.

A reception for the John Fryer Award winners will be hosted by AGLP member Phil Bialer, M.D., on Saturday, October 7, starting at 6:00pm.

In lieu of our Annual Fall Meeting, held during the APA Component Meetings in Washington, AGLP will have its Executive Board and Advisory Committee Meeting on Sunday, October 8, from 8:30am to 5:00pm at the Marriott Marquis in New York during IPS.

An additional reception is being planned for GLBT residents on Thursday evening, sponsored jointly by the APA NY Co DB, GLNY, and NYC Residency Training Directors.

The host hotel for IPS is the New York Marriott Marquis, 1535 Broadway, New York, NY 10036 (212) 398-1900 • www.nymarriottmarquis.com/. Our group contact is Daniela Minnuci and her phone number is 212-532-1660 ext 2051. All reservations are made on a space-available basis. After the cut-off date of September 5, 2006, discounted rates may not be available. Room Rates are $246 Single, $266 Double (plus applicable taxes). For reservations call (800) 843-4898. For internet reservations [best bet] visit www.nymarriottmarquis.com or [www.aglp.org]. You will need to supply the following Group Codes to qualify for the discounted rates: APAA= Single; APAB= Double. For full details see www.aglp.org.

Schedule of the AGLP Symposium at IPS, New York
Saturday, October 7, 2006
Invited Lectures - 8:00-9:30a Lesbian and Gay Families
Susan Vaughn, MD, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Columbia University, faculty, Columbia Psychoanalytic Institute, and author, The Talking Cure.

Ellen Haller, MD, Professor, University of California, San Francisco.

Workshop - 10:00-11:30a
Sex and Sexuality and Special Populations Among Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual People Robert Cabaj, MD, Robert Kertzner, MD, Ronald Hellman, MD, and Samantha Kelleher, MD.

Topics that will be discussed will include metamphetamine abuse, midlife issues, major mental illness, and eating disorders.

APA John Fryer, MD Award Lecture - 1:30-3:00p
Gay, Proud, and Healthy: From Heresy to Humdrum
Frank Kameny, PhD and Barbara Gittings.

Kameny and Gittings will provide an illustrated historical talk on their as well as Dr. H. Anonymous’ role in protesting the APA’s position on homosexuality and in facilitating the examination of scientific data which led to the elimination of homosexuality as a mental illness in 1972.

Workshop - 3:30-5:00p
Demon, Satan, Science, and Homosexuality: A Film Analysis
David Scasta, MD, Alicia Salzer, MD, Mary Barber, MD, and Reverend Larry Waltz

This workshop will feature the AGLP-produced film entitled Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-Gay Movement focusing on the harms of conversion or "reparative" therapy.

IPS offers a daily registration fee category, so it is possible to register just for Saturday’s events, which will include the AGLP program. Since the timing for the one-day session is coordinated with other IPS activities, you will be able to attend IPS workshops or symposia that day as well.

AGLP would like to encourage medical students and residents who have never attended an APA meeting to come to New York! The IPS conference is free for medical students and only $60 for advanced registration for APA members-in-training. We would like to offer housing for LGBT medical students and possibly residents who will be attending the conference from outside of New York City. If you need housing or can offer housing in the NYC area, please contact Jose Vito, MD at josevito@yahoo.com.
THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING WHO HAVE GENTLY SUPPORTED AGLP DURING 2006

Founding Members

- Jack Drescher, M.D.
- Michael Golder, M.D.
- George Harrison, M.D.
- David Rudolph Kessler, M.D.
- William Resnick, M.D.

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Donations to AGLP Film Project

- William A. Kern Foundation, John Sweet, M.D., Trustee
- Henry van Ameringen Foundation
- William Resnick, M.D.
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- Dennis Turner, M.D.
- Milton Wainberg, M.D.
- Robert Wolks, M.D.

Donations to the John E. Fryer, M.D. APA Award

Donations to Student Travel

- Christine Aamis, M.D.
- Brent Anderson, M.D.
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- Curley Bonds, M.D.
- Jura Buono, M.D.
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- Stuart Sanders, M.D.
- Carlos Santiago, M.D.
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- Solomon Shapiro, M.D.
- Ronald Taylor, M.D.
- Joshua Thornhill, M.D.
- David Tompkins, M.D.
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- Douglas Vanderburg, M.P.H.
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- Thomas Welch, M.D.
- Frank Young, M.D.
- Keith Young, M.D.
AGLP Annual Membership Meeting
Continued from page 8

International Committee, Gene Nakajima, MD

Dr. Nakajima reviewed upcoming World Psychiatry Association meetings, including Istanbul in mid-July 2006 and the upcoming World Psychiatric Association congress in Melbourne in 2007. He also reported that the European Association of Psychiatrists is holding its meeting in Madrid this year. He is actively soliciting Membership participation in these conferences, and has been very active in ensuring that LGB and HIV issues are covered at these international meetings. He also requested that the Board consider changing the international dues structure for AGLP membership to reflect a lower-fee scale for individuals in less developed countries.

Finally, Dr. Nakajima encouraged the Membership to begin considering opportunities for planning of events at the Annual Meeting in San Francisco in 2009, including a possible history of AGLP exhibit at a local museum (possibly the library) in San Francisco.

Psychoanalytic Committee Report, Ubaldo Leli, MD

Dr. Leli reported that the workshop on Shame in Psychotherapy was a great success. He also reported that he is continuing to collaborate with several students and professionals in China regarding both psychoanalysis and how homosexuality is treated as part of the psychoanalytic treatment.

Member-in-Training Committee, Andy Tompkins, MD

Dr. Tompkins noted that residency membership continues to drop, and he is actively trying to recruit new residents, both for leadership within the organization and as new members of AGLP. He has also been working on projects to bring educational programs regarding LGBT issues in residency training to various programs, including developing a library of such presentations from AGLP members.

APA AIDS Commission Report, Marshall Forstein, MD

Dr. Forstein reported on recent educational programming of the Commission, particularly at the APA Annual Meeting this year, including workshops on crystal methamphetamine and increased HIV risk and meetings of psychiatrists from international locations doing primarily HIV-related psychiatric treatment throughout the world. Dr. Forstein stressed the importance of educating primary care physicians and mentoring individuals through the HIV Minority Fellowships.

Executive Director Report, Roy Harker, MD

Please refer to minutes of the Executive Board and Council meeting for more detailed information. In short, Mr. Harker stressed the importance of ongoing membership development and solicited support from the entire Membership in tiding AGLP through the next few months. He also reported that when the Frank Rundle bequest is received and processed, the Fryer Award will be fully funded. The Film Project continues to need additional funds, with several grant applications in place.

Mr. Harker also provided a review of membership development, focusing on the need to fill empty vacancies in committee chairs and described many of the value-added elements of membership detailed in the Executive Board and Council meeting, including an “Ask-the-Experts” column on the website and in the Newsletter, as well as the Member’s Only section of the website, including an online membership directory.

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Karasic at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mason Turner

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Views of Toronto. For more photos see page 4.

Photo by George Harrison