

GAY ▾ LESBIAN ▾ BISEXUAL ▾ TRANSGENDER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

REACHING OUT

Indiana University Alumni Association • Vol. 9 • No. 1 • Winter 2005–06

Fall dinner and auction: People, poker ... party!

This year's annual event for your IU GLBT Alumni Association took place in the fall and was significant for a number of reasons. Erica De Santis became the group's new president, and a silent auction associated with the dinner resulted in money to fund a second year of scholarships and other philanthropic activities.

De Santis replaced Kim Davis as president of the GLBTAA, though Davis remains on the board. Davis had served two terms as president. De Santis hopes to build on the programs Davis helped set in place by increasing membership and becoming more active on all of IU's campuses.

A silent auction was held for the second year in a row at the annual event, and for the second time, the auction raised enough money to help fund another year of scholarships for GLBT students and allies.

The first auction raised \$2,321, while this year the profits totaled \$3,700. Last year the money helped pay for two general scholarships for IU students and two emergency scholarships for IU students who have lost financial support from their families as a result of their sexual orientation.

Once again, board member Nancy Kalina was responsible for organizing the auction and contacting businesses and individual to contribute items.

"As for the generosity of the merchants, I think it is incredible. I am often pleasantly surprised at the generosity of the people I ask. Country Walkers, for example, offered a gift worth a minimum of \$2,000 within five minutes of talking to me. I had never spoken to their CEO prior. It is always wonderful

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At the fall event in September, Kim Davis, past president of the GLBTAA, accepts an award for her dedicated service to the group.



Sue Wanzer, from left, Melanie Payne, and Beth Ellis

Fall event

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to see people willing to donate to help make life better for GLBT students on Indiana University campuses," she said.

While the auction has become a major source of income, it's not necessarily the highlight of the annual gathering. This year, participants also enjoyed a poker tournament and dancing after dinner.

"I would not say that the silent auction is the centerpiece of the annual event. I would say that we are still trying to figure out all the key elements that will bring people into the event and keep people coming back in the future. However, I believe that the board all agrees at this time that the silent auction works well to raise money for scholarships and other philanthropic activities of the IU GLBT Alumni Association," Kalina said.

Michael Nichols, left, and Matt Holley



Gordon Whitaker, seated, Terrill Cosgray, left, and Joe Boes

▼ Mark your calendars!

- Join the IU GLBT Alumni Association for a Night with the Indiana Pacers on Friday, April 14. For details and to order tickets, visit our Web site, www.indiana.edu/~glbtaa, or use the order form in this newsletter.
- Our next end-of-summer gathering is planned for Saturday, Sept. 9, 2006. Please plan to join us!



Susan Langsdale



IUAA staff Nicki Bland, left, and Anne Fagan



Sandy Bate relaxes between games.

Auction raises money for scholarships, philanthropic activities



Will O'Berry, a 2005 scholarship recipient, spoke at the fall event.



President Erica De Santis, right, highlights past president Kim Davis's accomplishments



Rae Prepster, left, and Matt Holley

The following items were generously donated for sale at the annual auction that raises money for GLBT student scholarships and other philanthropic activities.

- Bella Books gift basket
- Autographed books from DS Bauden
- Beck Chapel signed print
- Two-night stay at the Kirby House in Saugatuck, Mich.
- Country Walkers, buy one, get one free, gift certificate for a trip
- Hand-crafted wood table from Chris Valliant
- Chicago weekend, includes two-night stay at the Palmer House Hilton, two tickets to the Museum of Contemporary Art, and gift certificate to any Lettuce Entertain You restaurant
- Four tickets to an Indiana Fever game and signed portfolio from Tamika Catchings
- English Ivy Restaurant gift certificate
- Olly's Restaurant gift certificate
- JR Stallsmith clothing gift certificate
- Four tickets to the Bloomington Pride Film Festival
- Dinner for two at Chapman's Restaurant
- Brunch for two at Chapman's Restaurant
- Villa Restaurant gift certificate
- Four tickets to the IU Auditorium to see Ballet Flamenco Jose Suzanne Sturgeon gift certificate for legal work
- Massage from Lu Sclair
- One-hour soak at Spaah
- Microsoft wireless keyboard and mouse
- Quilted wall hanging and earring holder from Kathy Loser
- One World Commissary gift certificate
- Outword Bound Bookstore gift certificate
- Two rounds of golf and cart at IU golf course
- Amici's Restaurant gift certificate
- Two stained-glass items from Atlantis Glass Designs
- Framed photographic art by Sandra Bate
- Gift certificate from BLU Culinary Arts for a private two-hour pastry and baking class for two people
- Subscription to *Out Traveler* magazine
- A bella bella arts mirror made by Lara Moore
- Photographic art by David Goodrum
- Human Rights Campaign beach kit
- Scholar's Inn gift certificate
- Handmade jewelry box made by Jerry Bowles
- One-night stay at the Rocking Horse Bed and Breakfast in Louisville, Ky.
- Original screen print by Laura Cope
- Hand-thrown rice bowls by Cindy Stone
- Two hours of chair massage from Millie Jackson
- One-hour massage by Millie Jackson



The GLBT Alumni Association extends thanks to the businesses and individuals who donated services and goods for the annual silent auction.

Letter from the president

GLBTAA has much to do in the years ahead

Greetings! I can't tell you all how proud I am to be serving as the president of our IU GLTBT Alumni Association! Since I came on board four years ago, I have been blessed to work with the most amazing individuals — our diverse and talented alumni are what make us so beautiful and strong.

As a group, we have gained incredible momentum. Under the leadership of Kim Davis's presidency, we have created an ambitious strategic plan and are poised to forge an even greater legacy in the years to come. At the top of our agenda is to advocate for the inclusion of transgender individuals in IU's nondiscrimination policy. Gay, lesbian, and bisexual individuals already receive this protection at IU under this nondiscrimination policy. Now is the time to ensure that we also win these rights for our transgender family and friends. We urge IU to show the transgender community that they are welcomed and valued at IU. We, as a community, can stand for nothing less.

Over the upcoming years, we also plan to greatly grow our support for GLBT students on all IU campuses. Our scholarship programs, launched in the spring of 2005, demonstrated our commitment to supporting students. By increasing the number of scholarships we have to offer, we can support even more students in future years. In addition, we plan to grow our grant supports to the GLBT Student Support Services office at IU Bloomington, where our donated funds can be used to support even more student-initiated and -directed programs.

Although much of our focus is on the IU Bloomington campus, we are not forgetting the GLBT students, alumni, faculty, and staff on the other IU campuses. With renewed energy, we are again focusing our attention on forging ties with all eight IU campuses, and we remain committed to our vision of serving as a resource to all GLBT people associated with IU, wherever they may be.

Our goal to grow our support for students doesn't stop there, how-



Erica De Santis

ever. More ambitious plans are in the works. We are now working to create internship experiences for GLBT students so that these young individuals can refine their leadership abilities and professional skills. Under this inventive program, we plan to further nurture the next generation of GLBT community leaders. Giving back is what we are all about!

Of course, we also have great plans to help keep all of our wonderful alumni and friends connected to each other and to IU. By listening and responding to the wishes of our members, we will be offering more attractive and accessible opportunities to reconnect with old friends — and make some new ones. We plan to host more events, both here in Indiana as well as in large cities around the nation where pockets of our GLBT family can be found.

We also hope to refine our means of communicating with our members. As our membership base continues to grow, so do the costs of communicating with our members. To keep our costs low, we plan to increase our communication via e-mail. However, this can only be effective if we have valid e-mail addresses for our members! If you haven't received an e-mail from us lately, please take a moment to ensure we have your current e-mail address. We promise never to share your e-mail with anyone, and we pledge that our e-mail communications will be fun and informative.

With so many important plans, we are once again counting on the time, talents, and generosity of our members to help us succeed. Each of you has something you can contribute — whether it be by stepping forward to volunteer with other GLBT alumni or talking to your friends and family about the work of our GLBT Alumni Association; whether you would like to help us seek corporate sponsorships to underwrite our events and programs or simply write a check to further our philanthropic goals — we would be most grateful to accept your support and show you how *you* can help to make a difference for GLBT individuals at your alma mater.

There is much for which we can be proud, but much work also remains to be done in the years ahead. Thank you for your interest in the IU GLBTAA!

— Erica De Santis

GLBT alumni outrun cancer

A group of representatives from your Indiana University GLBT Alumni Association took part in the Hoosiers Outrun Cancer event in September. Hoosiers Outrun Cancer is the largest 5K Run-Walk in the history of Monroe County. A fundraising event of the Bloomington Hospital Foundation, the event's proceeds benefit the hospital's Olcott Center for Cancer Education. Each year, more than 3,500 people participate and 200 volunteers work together to make the run/walk a meaningful, fun, and successful event. Since 2000, more than \$750,000 has been raised to support cancer patients, their families, and caregivers.

Meet the members of your IU GLBTAA board

Doug Bauder has been the coordinator of IU's GLBT Student Support Services office since 1994 and, by virtue of that job, an auxiliary member of the GLBTAA and the GLBT Anti-Harassment Team. He is a founding member of Bloomington United (anti-hate, community response team) and currently working on an interfaith Web project called "Stories of the Spirit" as part of BU. Bauder is an active member of St. Thomas Lutheran Church, sings with the Quarryland Men's Chorus, and delights in his new title of "Gramps" (as of March 2005).



Doug Bauder

J. Bradley Blankenship is a first-year PhD student in the higher education and student affairs program at Indiana University Bloomington and is new to the GLBTAA. Originally from Virginia, Blankenship attended George Mason University, where he received his BA in psychology, after which he "journeyed on to the great state of Indiana" to work on his master's degree. He has since worked in university admissions, GLBT student services, and residence life and study abroad programs.

Kim Davis received her adapted physical education graduate degree from IU in 1978 and that year also became an IU employee at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, where she is currently an autism consultant for the state of Indiana. Davis served one year as a GLBTAA board member before serving two terms as president. She is proud of the work the board accomplished while she was president, and she expects the board and organization to grow and thrive in the future. Davis also serves



Kim Davis

on the GLBT Student Support Services office advisory board at IUB.

Erica L. De Santis, of Bloomington, Ind., received her BA in psychology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1993 and her JD from the IU School of Law in 1996. She has served in the nonprofit sector since graduation and is currently director of communications and the Franklin Initiative for the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce. De Santis has been involved with the GLBT Student Support Services office since it opened in 1994 and has served on the GLBTAA board since 1999. She also serves on the board of the Leadership Bloomington-Monroe County Alumni Association.

Lucas Elliott is a junior at IUB, where he is pursuing a BA in Spanish. He is currently the president of OUT, IU's GLBT Student Union, and is in his second year of serving on the OUT executive board.

Matthew Holley, of Indianapolis, received an MS in higher education student affairs from IU in 2000 and his MA in philanthropic studies from the IU Center on Philanthropy at IUPUI in 2005. With a professional background in leadership development and fundraising, he currently works for the United Way of Central Indiana, implementing and facilitating leadership programs.



Matthew Holley

David Johnson, known as "DJ" to his friends, is a 2000 IUB School of Journalism graduate and is currently the membership and organizational relations manager at the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association in Washington, D.C. While at IU, he was very active in the IU gay community, including being chair of the GLBT Student Support Services advisory board for two years and a COMMUNITY Educator for Residence Life.

Nancy Kalina, of Bloomington, Ind., received her BS in rehabilitation

psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987. She then received her MS in 1998 in rehabilitation counseling from Syracuse University. Kalina obtained her teaching license from Indiana University in 2002 as she left the university environment and went to work at Bloomington High School North. Currently, she coordinates the work-study program for students with disabilities.



Nancy Kalina

Deane Lahre is a 1976 graduate of the IU School of Business with a degree in finance. She rode in the 1974 Little 500, joined Delta Sigma Pi Business Fraternity, and was a statistics tutor for the Athletic Department while in Bloomington. After a 24-year career in the futures industry and five years of writing financial engineering software, she has returned to the Bloomington area to promote gender-identity inclusion in employment and in our basic civil rights.



Deane Lahre

Anne Massey, of Bloomington, Ind., received her PhD from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1991. She is a currently the information systems department chair within the Kelley School of Business at IU. She has served as the faculty adviser for Kelley's MBA Gay-Straight Alliance and was actively engaged in creating a GLBT and Allies faculty, staff, and student group within Kelley.

Jeffrey S. McKinney earned his doctorate in higher education (2004) and an MA (1997) and BA (1992) in speech communication from Indiana University. He is currently the associate director for the Indiana Project on Academic Success in the Office of the Vice President for Institutional Development.

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Graduate student earns GLBT Spirit Award

Graduate student Tahirah Akbar-Williams was presented with the 2005 GLBT Spirit Award in November. The award is presented to the individual, group, office, or department that embodies the strength, character, and spirit of the Indiana University GLBT Student Support Services office.

Akbar-Williams has tried to create a community of acceptance for African-American GLBT residents in the area. She said they face multiple layers of discrimination. She encourages people of color to come out and to talk about their issues to educate the public.

The award, she says, was a surprise. "It did come out of the blue. I've just been here for three years, and there has been just such a void of people of color talking about GLBT issues. Either people didn't feel safe enough or they didn't feel it was the right climate. The award was a surprise because I was just trying to mobilize people of color to come out of the closet to speak about issues that are important to our community."

Akbar-Williams founded the campus organization Blacks Like Us in 2004. In May 2003, Sakia Gunn, a 15-year-old black lesbian, was stabbed to death while she waited for the bus in Newark, N.J. While the murder of Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old white gay male, in Laramie, Wyo., five years earlier triggered a media storm nationwide, Gunn's murder received little attention from the mainstream press or gay publications. That discrepancy bothered Akbar-Williams and hit home the different and unique realities black gays and lesbians face.

"Something needs to be done because people are just not talking about this," Akbar-Williams said. "That helped me to understand we're operating in two separate communities." Not one to wait for others to do something, Akbar-Williams began to seek out other black gays and lesbians with an eye to forming a group in Bloomington to discuss issues unique to their community. In September 2004, her work began to pay off when Blacks Like Us held its first meeting in June.



Tahirah Akbar-Williams

Akbar-Williams said the attention now should not focus as much on her as it should on the issue of getting people of color to come out and be advocates for themselves in the GLBT community.

"I think a lot of people, because of the double or triple consciousness in racism and homophobia, ... don't step out. My biggest accomplishment has been showing them that you can be one community and be proud of your orientation, and you don't have to hide it. I wanted people to see that. The award was icing on the cake, but most important, I wanted people to

see that there is a presence and we don't have to be fearful of it."

Akbar-Williams has been a leader in a number of GLBT causes while at IU. Last year, she participated in a lively discussion at the Unite Against Silence forum, a preliminary event for the Day of Silence. "When we talk about oppression, it's a triple-edged sword," she said. "Education is the key. Reaching out to people is the key."

Akbar-Williams likened education about oppression to the domino effect, where one person can educate another, who can, in turn, enlighten another. She said her initial response to oppression was to "educate as many people as I can."

This year, Akbar-Williams facilitated a panel discussion of Indiana ministers who discussed ways to create spaces for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people within church and community settings.

"I'm hoping people will be empowered to go back to their community and their churches and begin a dialogue about GLBT people, and how they can support and welcome them in their church," she said. "Religious organizations lay the groundwork for how people will treat each other in their communities."

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Law students analyze equality in legal system

What is equality? A dedicated group of law students here at IU have banded together to discuss and analyze this question, specifically concentrating on how equality applies to our legal system. These students founded EQUAL, an advocacy and social group for LGBT law students and allies. Already we have found immense interest in issues confronting the queer community from all segments of the law school.

Gay marriage has been the spotlight issue in today's campaign for equal rights, and Indiana has not escaped the drama. EQUAL is partnering with Indiana Equality to develop a database of case law pertaining to marriage and equality issues. Through the analysis and summary of relevant

cases and statutes, we will enable legal advocates of gay marriage to quickly and efficiently argue the case for gay marriage in Indiana courts. This project is currently in its infancy and will continue throughout the year, with much of the research happening over the winter break.

In addition to research projects, EQUAL is working to promote diversity and education on issues involving the LGBT community. We are bringing speakers to the school to talk about queer issues in all aspects of the law, as well as creating discussion forums for law students to debate and learn about these issues. There is a need here at the law school, and at all of Indiana University, for better understanding of LGBT legal issues — a

need that EQUAL is ready to address.

On the lighter side of life, EQUAL students are finding an open community to gather, share their experiences, and have a little fun outside of the confines of the law school. In addition to participating in the student/professor law school softball game, we are enrolling two teams in the campus Halloween euchre tournament. While our members are quite adept at planning casual social gatherings, EQUAL is planning a formal social event to for the spring semester.

If you would like more information about our organization or want to participate in any of our events and projects, feel free to e-mail EQUAL at kressmey@indiana.edu.

— Eric Bowers

Board

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opment and Student Affairs at Indiana University. McKinney directs an action research inquiry process for 16 college campuses in Indiana, focusing on organizational change and evidence-based decision making. He has taught at Indiana University for the past 10 years. He teaches courses on diversity, white privilege, communication skills, time management/goal setting, and sexual orientation. McKinney is also actively involved with local community organizations and nonprofits.

Rachael "Rae" Maffenbeier Prepster, of Jasper, Ind., received her BGS with concentrations in business, anthropology and religious studies from IU Bloomington in 1998. She is a financial systems business analyst for OneAmerica Financial Partners in Indianapolis. She volunteers for the United Way of Central Indiana and the Damien Center.

David Reinwald, BS'01, is a native of Chicago and is a cantorial student in his final year at Hebrew Union College in New York City. He is the student cantor of Temple Beth-El of Jersey City, N.J. This is Reinwald's second year on the board and as an IU GLBTAA repre-

sentative in the NYC area.

Michael D. Shumate received his BS, with distinction, in accounting from the IU Kelley School of Business in 1967. He received his JD from the University of Virginia Law School in 1970. Following law school, Shumate practiced law in Indianapolis for 10 years and also was a part-time instructor of accounting at IUPUI and Butler University. In 1980, he joined the international law firm of Jones Day Reavis & Pogue, where he practiced corporate tax law. Jones Day is the second-largest law firm in the world. Shumate served as the administrative partner of the firm's Los Angeles and New York offices and also chaired its pro bono program, where he committed firm resources to a variety of important causes. He retired early from the firm in 1996. Shumate is a CPA and is a member of the Indiana CPA Society and the legal bar associations in the states of Indiana, California, and New York. He is currently a member of the board of governors of the Kinsey Institute in Bloomington and the advisory board of the Accounting Department of the Kelley School of Business. At IU, Shumate was president of his class. He received the Elvis Stahr Award and Rawles Key Award (presented

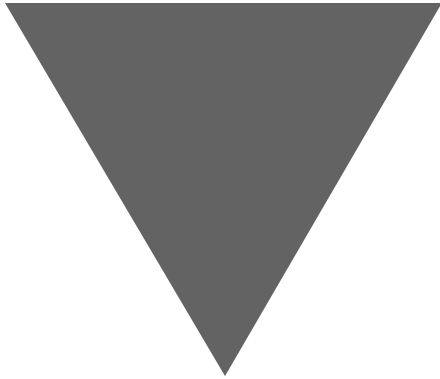
to the School of Business senior with the most distinguished record). At the University of Virginia Law School, he was vice president of his class. In Indianapolis, he was president of the IU Alumni Club (now the Indianapolis Chapter of the IU Alumni Association). Shumate has always championed women's rights and the rights of minority groups. He served as chair of the Human Rights Commission of Indianapolis and Marion County early in his career. Indiana Gov. Otis R. Bowen awarded him a Sagamore of the Wabash for his community service.

Sharlene Toney completed her BS in education at IU in 1999 and graduated from IUPUI with her MSW in 2003. While at IU, she chaired the GLBT Student Support Services advisory board for two years and spent a year-and-a-half as program coordinator for the GLBT office. Toney moved back to Bloomington in November 2004 and currently works as an academic adviser with the University Division at IU Bloomington.



Sharlene Toney

GLBT resources abound at Indiana University



Indiana University in Bloomington is proud of its GLBT Student Support Services office! The small office on Seventh Street provides resources, counseling, and a safe space for GLBT students and allies on campus. In addition to the services provided by the office, there are a variety of student groups on campus for GLBT students and allies. IU GLBT alumni may be curious about the groups. Here is a summary of those at IUB.

Bisexual Support and Social Group

Bi-Chat is a group to provide women and men comfortable with or exploring their sexuality. A peer-supported environment to discuss issues unique to being bisexual, this group is open to all IU students and community members.

Blacks Like Us

Blacks Like Us is dedicated to fostering connections between LGBT black and/or bi-racial people in the Bloomington area. This group is open to students and people in the Bloomington population. We welcome people who are at various stages of understanding the coming-out process, questioning or accepting their sexuality, or understanding the LGBT community.

Crossroads

Crossroads is an organization for GLBT students that provides a way for GLBT graduate students in different departments and undergraduates

over 21 to meet in a safe and friendly atmosphere through social and cultural activities such as dinners, hikes, and going to the opera together, etc.

Gender Dialogue

A CLOSED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND FACILITATED discussion and support group for students, staff, faculty, and community members from the surrounding area, this group is for those who are questioning issues of gender, transgender, and gender binary. We'll explore questions and more about gender and sex, and the differences. All the meetings are facilitated.

Girls Like Us

Ever wonder why you like girls in that special way? Come to Girls Like Us and talk about your feelings, thoughts, fears, hopes, and dreams with women like yourself — and make friends in the process! Girls Like Us is a support group for lesbian and bisexual women age 25 and under. The group provides an opportunity for meeting others, sharing information, and engaging in conversation in a facilitated, CLOSED AND CONFIDENTIAL, secure atmosphere.

Hoosier Rights Campaign

The Hoosier Rights Campaign is a Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, and Ally political advocacy and education group here on IUB's campus. The Hoosier Rights Campaign seeks to be the political voice for IUB's GLBT community on a wide variety of issues, ranging from the campus climate on GLBT issues to gay marriage.

In addition to providing a political voice for IUB's GLBT community, the Hoosier Rights Campaign will be working closely with the state chapter of the Human Rights Campaign to help lobby and educate our state representatives on issues of employment non-discrimination, hate-crime legislation, and gay marriage.

Human and Questioning

A support and social group open to anybody and everybody interested in sexuality, is open-minded and supportive, and wants to hang out with like-minded people for support or a social network. Human and Questioning is a caring group for people with questions and people who are just people, no labels.

Kelley School of Business GLBT Organization

A private, confidential listserv for members of the Kelley GLBT community and allies to share announcements of events and to support professional and educational GLBT networking opportunities.

OUT/IU's GLBT People's Student Union

OUT is the umbrella organization for the GLBT student community. We meet every Thursday at 7:45 p.m. OUT sponsors coffeeshouses, dances, educational programs, group meetings, and other special activities, including the annual Miss Gay IU pageant. This is IU's largest GLBT student organization.

Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority

Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority is the most diverse sisterhood available on Indiana University's Bloomington campus. We promote leadership, multiculturalism, and self-improvement through academic excellence, involvement in and service to the campus and community, and being living examples of sisterhood across different races, cultures, religions, backgrounds, and lifestyles.

For more information on these groups and the GLBT Student Support Services office, check out their Web site at www.indiana.edu/~glbt/.

— Kim Davis

GLBTAA committees work to keep you connected

Advocacy

Members: Bradley Blankenship, Kim Davis, Erica De Santis, Deane Lahre, Jeff McKinney, and Sharlene Toney

The Advocacy Committee's mission is to work toward getting IU to include gender identity protection under the anti-discrimination clause. Since this group is not mentioned at all, we feel we must move this forward. The committee has laid some groundwork and realizes this will take some time; it is not something that will be accom-

plished within the year, but inroads can be made.

In the past, a survey for transgender individuals has been on the IU GLBTAA Web site, and we still welcome responses. We are considering how to adapt the survey to use on the campus at large to document the campus climate regarding transgender issues. We also want to promote more transgender panels in classes to help awareness and ultimately to develop allies on campus to help move our agenda forward.

Membership

Members: Doug Bauder, Erica De Santis, Luke Elliott, Matt Holley, Nancy Kalina, Deane Lahre, Jeff McKinney, Rae Prepster, David Reinwald, Mike Shumate, and Mike Vogt

The membership committee has been spending its first few meetings reorganizing itself. We thought that we would like to try some new things this year. Therefore, we have spent time brainstorming amongst ourselves to see what we could offer the Indiana University GLBT Alumni Association that would be interesting and fun.

We have folks who would like to put energy into Indianapolis. In the past, we have done one event per year there. However, we would like to beef up our presence in the state's capitol. We are already planning a few happy hours. Check our Web site for details. Also, look for e-mails from the IU GLBTAA listserv. Come join us!

In addition to the happy hours, we will be hosting a large spring event at Conseco Fieldhouse on the top floor. We will have a happy hour and silent auction before the Pacers basketball game (participants will need to buy their own tickets to the game). The money that we raise from the silent auction will go toward student scholarships and other philanthropic activities for the GLBTAA and the GLBT Student Support Services office. The date for this event has been set for Friday, April 14.

Finally, we will be moving our annual event out of the summer months and into September. Put Saturday, Sept. 9, 2006, on your calendar. You will not want to miss our annual event.

Come out and join us at any or all of these events. We look forward to seeing you and making new friends!

GLBTAA sponsors

The following people and organizations have made financial contributions to the IU GLBTAA.

Corporate sponsors

Lisa J. Baker
Beth Ellis, Realtor
Royal on the Eastside
Bloomington Bagel Co.
Ellen Epstein
Avers Electric
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Doug Bauder
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Erica De Santis and Jane Fleig
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David Johnson
Nancy Kalina
James Langhammer
Susan Langsdale
Loran Martin
Linda Perdue
Bryan Sirtosky
Marcia Stanger
Owen D. Sutkowski
Ann Wesley

Communications

Members: Kim Davis, Erica De Santis, Millie Jackson, DJ Johnson, Sharlene Toney, and Ann Wesley

The Communications Committee is focusing its energies on areas that will continue to allow all GLBTAA members to easily stay connected and informed of upcoming events, IU news, and opportunities. The committee is exploring new ideas for tailoring the GLBTAA newsletter, in addition to working on updating the Web site and including more pictures from past events.

Finally, the committee wants to be sure that all GLBTAA members have the opportunity to stay connected, so if you have a change of address, change of e-mail address, or are not yet on the listserv, please visit the following link and click on the GLBTAA membership form to update your information: www.indiana.edu/~glbtaa/join.shtml.

Finance

Members: Erica De Santis, Matt Holley, Nancy Kalina, Ann Massey, Jeff McKinney, Rae Prepster, and Mike Shumate

The Finance Committee is focusing its efforts on increasing both individual and corporate giving. The committee will be giving out its second set of scholarships out this spring. Again, we are able to do this because of the wonderful donations from alumni and the success of our annual silent auction at the annual event.

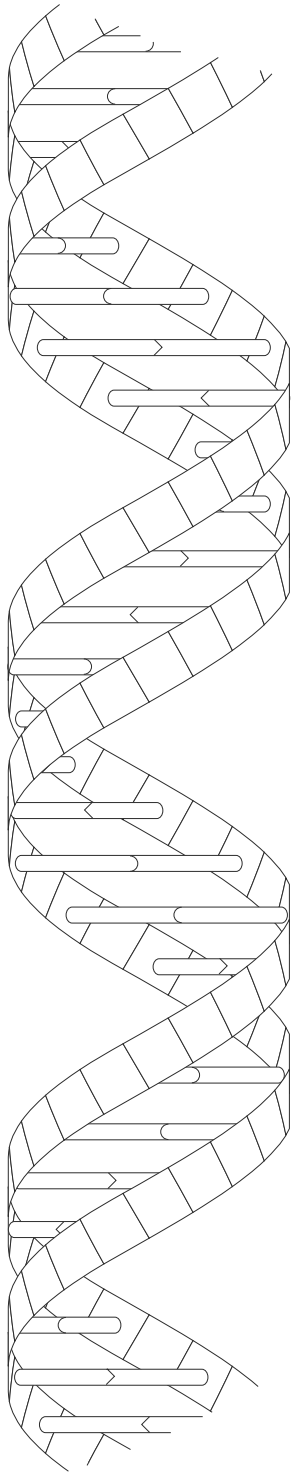
Stay connected!



Visit us online at
www.indiana.edu/~glbtaa

Members making a difference: Brian Mustanski

Name: Brian Mustanski
Job title: Assistant professor
Institution: University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Psychiatry
IU degree: PhD of philosophy in psychology, 2004, IUB
Age: 29



When it comes to sexuality, the question of why some people fall in love with the same sex is still a question that intrigues both the American public and the scientific community. Chicago resident and IU graduate Brian Mustanski received national and international attention last year for his research regarding the relation between sexual orientation and the location of specific genes.

"I reported on a study, along with my collaborators for the National Institutes of Health and the University of California at San Diego, on the genetics of male sexual orientation," Mustanski said. "It was the first study to look for the location of genes that are linked to male sexual orientation across the entire human genome."

Participants in the study were 146 families that had two or more gay brothers. The largest finding was a statistically suggestive linkage to a region on chromosome 7 called 7q36, and the second-largest link was found on chromosome 8, in a region called 8p12. There was also an interesting finding on chromosome 10, in the region called 10q26, where the linkage to sexual orientation only occurred if that region was inherited from the mother. This is likely a result of the recently discovered phenomenon that geneticists call "genomic imprinting." Given the complex nature of sexual orientation, it is not surprising that multiple genetic regions were implicated.

Mustanski, the lead author of the study, said, "Our study helps to establish that genes play an important role in determining whether a man is gay or heterosexual. It expands upon previous research with twins, which has consistently found evidence for genetic influences on sexual orientation. The next steps will be to see if these findings hold up in a new sample and then

identify the particular genes within these newly discovered chromosomal regions." Mustanski emphasized that finding the specific genes would have implications beyond uncovering the cause of homosexuality. Their identification would also greatly advance our understanding of human variation, evolution, and brain development.

While the study did not identify the exact genes that could affect male sexuality, it did narrow down the regions where these genes are located. Future studies will seek to reproduce these findings and identify the specific genes that are associated with male sexuality.

Results of the study were reported in newspapers, magazines, radio, and television programs around the world,

Our study helps to establish that genes play an important role in determining whether a man is gay or heterosexual.

— BRIAN MUSTANSKI

in both the mainstream and LGBT press. Mustanski found this newfound notoriety exciting.

"It is interesting how quickly you get used to speaking to journalists and lose

the nervousness that went along with the first few interviews," Mustanski commented. "I am really enjoying it and have been really impressed with how well the mainstream media has done at reporting the story."

Mustanski also hopes that other scientists will work with the media because it is the best way to educate the public about important issues.

During his time at IU, Mustanski was inspired by professors and colleagues studying sexuality, as well as by contact with one of IU's most well-known institutions. "I miss the Kinsey Institute, which is one of the most amazing research centers in the world," Mustanski said. "It combines art, history, and science in a way that is very special."

IU GLBTAA members live all over the world and are making amazing accomplishments. If you have a story you would like to tell, please contact DJ at fyresnake77@gmail.com.

— David Johnson

ANNOUNCING

IUAlumniCareers.com



The IU Alumni Association's new online career services center, **IUAlumniCareers.com**, is officially open! This Web site provides online career and mentoring services for IU alumni. Register at **IUAlumniCareers.com** to search for jobs posted by employers, post your résumé for review by employers, or search for an alumni mentor for career advice.

IU alumni are invited to register as mentors to give career advice to their fellow alumni. As a mentor, you may choose how often and in what manner you wish to be contacted, and you may opt out of the mentor program at any time.

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Only IUAA members may search for jobs and mentors, so activate your membership today! Contact the IUAA membership department at iuaamemb@indiana.edu or (800) 824-3044.



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Alumni news

Christian M. Carroll, BA'91, of Seattle, is senior buyer of computer peripherals for Amazon.com. He and his partner, Michael, live in the house of their dreams, a 1910 Craftsman home. His address is christian.carroll@alumni.indiana.edu.

In August, **Brian M. Dodge**, MS'99, PhD'02, joined the faculty of the College of Public Health and Health Professions at the University of Florida. As an assistant professor in the social and behavioral sciences concentration, he teaches and is continuing his research in sexual health and HIV/AIDS. Dodge completed his postdoctoral training at the HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies at the Columbia University Department of Psychiatry and the New York State Psychiatric Institute. He was a fellow in the Behavioral Sciences Research in HIV Infection program. His ongoing research projects include HIV risk and prevention among at-risk men who have sex with men and women (MSMW), health and well-being among bisexuals, and assessments of sexuality education in public schools. Dodge and his wife, **Eriko**, BGS'01, lives in Gainesville, Fla., with their dogs, Barney and Ernie. His address is bdodge@phhp.ufl.edu.

James D. Fielding, BA'87, was promoted to executive vice president of global retail sales and marketing for Walt Disney Consumer Products. Based in Burbank, Calif., he is responsible for key account management, marketing, creative product development, and brand management for Disney licensed and vertical businesses worldwide. He lives in Pasadena, Calif.

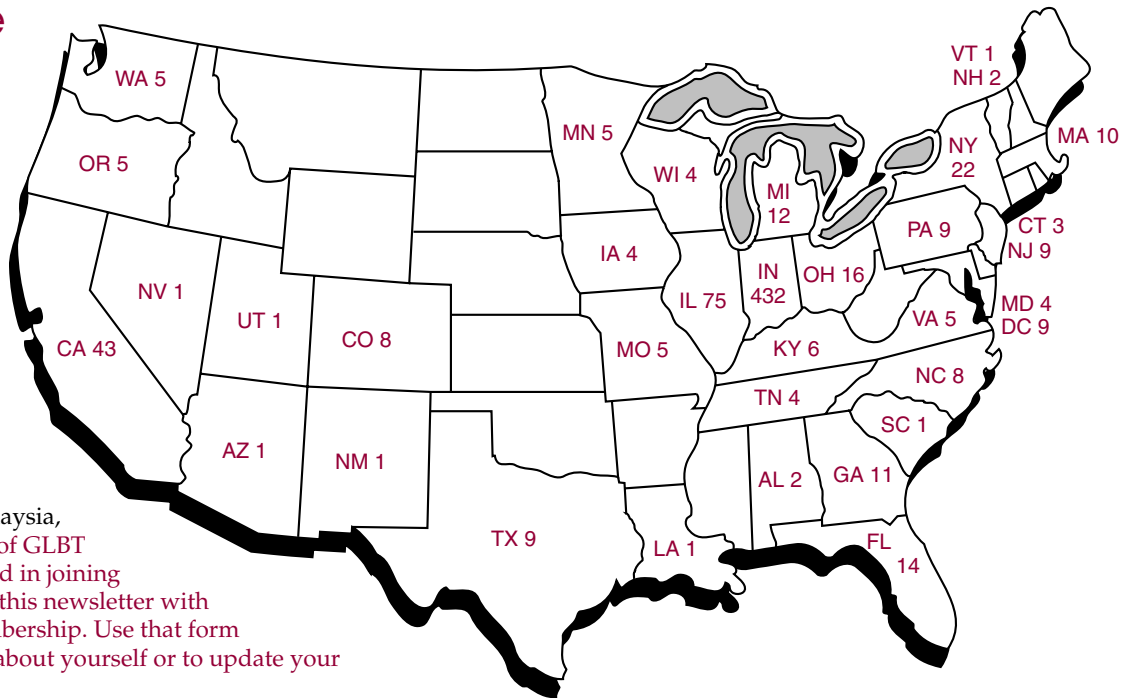
David "DJ" Johnson, BAJ'00, was promoted in October 2005 to director of membership and outreach at the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association in Washington, D.C. Johnson can be reached at dejohnson@nljga.org.

In September 2005, **Ann Wesley**, BA'92, opened Bloomington Pet Pals Inc., a new in-home pet-sitting business. The business is co-owned by Diane Stuercke and Lori Bauden. Wesley also continues to work as marketing director for WTIU public television.

Where We Are

Membership in the IU GLBT Alumni Association continues to grow! Thanks to the industrious activity of our membership committee (see committee updates on page 9), more and more alumni and friends of the university have joined our ranks. We now stand at more than 800 strong.

The map at right shows the distribution of our membership throughout the continental United States. In addition, we have members in Hawaii, Belgium, Canada, Malaysia, and Switzerland. **If you know of GLBT alumni who might be interested in joining our organization, please share this newsletter with them. Below is a form for membership. Use that form as well to send us a class note about yourself or to update your contact information.**



Please join us!

Your membership in the GLBTAA is **free**, although we do encourage you to become a dues-paying member of the IU Alumni Association. Your IUAA membership supports activities of the GLBTAA and includes membership in your local alumni chapter and your school alumni association.

- I want to become a member of the IU GLBT Alumni Association, which is free. *Membership, ID numbers, and mailings are kept confidential.*
- I want to join the IU Alumni Association, which is a dues-paying organization.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Home phone _____ Soc. Sec. # (or IU student i.d. #) _____

IU degree(s)/yr(s) _____

E-mail address _____

Second member's name _____

Relationship _____ Soc. Sec. # (or IU student i.d. #) _____

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E-mail address _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Comments/News _____

May we publish your news in IUAA newsletters and magazines? yes no

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REACHING OUT

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