



GREEN LIGHT

Volume 11, Issue 2 *Newsletter of Dartmouth's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Alumni/ae Association* December 2006

DGALA Alums Fund Four Students in New Program

The DGALA/DCF Scholars Program, launched just last February in a joint program between DGALA and the Dartmouth College Fund (DCF), is off to a very strong start. Under the Scholars Program, all contributions made by DGALA alums to the DCF are now applied to provide financial aid to needy LGBT students at Dartmouth. (DGALA alums are free to designate their contributions to go to other priorities if they prefer.) For every \$20,000 collected under the DGALA/DCF Scholars Program, one full financial aid package for one student for one year will be funded. During the most recent DCF fiscal year (ending last June 30), a record percentage (43.8%) of DGALA alums responded to the new program by contributing to the DCF, allowing for four LGBT scholarships to be funded.

The four students named to receive this year's

Scholarships. continued on

SAVE THE DATE! **DGALA ALL-CLASS MINI REUNION** **June 15-17, 2007**

**PLANNING IS NOW UNDERWAY FOR AN ALL-CLASS
DGALA MINI REUNION ON CAMPUS
DURING THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 15-17, 2007**

**CURRENT PLANS INCLUDE DGALA DORM HOUSING,
INTERACTIVE EVENTS WITH STUDENTS, ALUMS,
FACULTY AND STAFF AND MORE!**

**REUNIONING CLASSES THAT WEEKEND INCLUDE
'77, '82, '91-93, AND '02**

**BUT ALL DGALA ALUMS ARE INVITED
TO JOIN DGALA IN A FUN SUMMER WEEKEND**

DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN

DGALA STUDENT/ALUM PANEL IN NYC DISCUSSES GAY STUDENT ATHLETES

On June 28th of this year, DGALA presented a panel discussion in New York City entitled "Wearers of the Green: We Are Gay Athletes." DGALA cosponsored the event with the Dartmouth Alumni Association of New York City (DAANYC), and the nearly 100 registrants included DGALA alums, DAANYC members, students family and friends, including members of other Ivy League GALAs.

A mix of DGALA young alums and LGBT students comprised the panel: Tim.

DGALA Alums Enjoy June Reunion on Campus

Fine sunny weather welcomed a record group of DGALA alums to campus during the June reunion weekend this past summer. Some sixty alums, family and friends joined with faculty, staff and students at the annual DGALA breakfast (our first hot one!) at the Faculty Lounge in the Hop on Saturday morning. A highlight of that event was



President Wright Embraces Joanne Herman '75

President Wright's presentation to DGALA member and openly transgender woman Joanne Herman '75 of her new Dartmouth diploma with her new name since her transition to her true (female) gender. President Wright and Joanne both spoke movingly and embraced during the ceremony.

Other weekend events included an open house at the LGBT Student Center and an all-affiliated group dessert reception in the Hop. More events are planned for next June, so make plans to join us! ♦

New Constitution Not Approved

Despite strong support from DGALA alums (and many other members of the College community), the new alumni constitution failed to gain the required 2/3 majority vote during the election period earlier this fall. A total of 24,834 ballots were cast, with 49% in favor and 51% opposed. A total of 38.5% of all alumni/ae cast votes, a record for any College alumni election.

The constitution would have promoted more representative outcomes in alumni elections of College trustees as opposed to the current system that has enabled conservative "petition" candidates to win the last three trustee elections with small pluralities (those three trustees were the only ones to oppose the new constitution). The constitution also would have enhanced the voices of historically marginalized alums, including LGBT alums, by granting two seats in the new alumni assembly to affiliated groups. Reactionary alums opposing the constitution, such as the Hanover Institute, called this proposal a "stunningly wrongheaded" plan to provide representation "based solely on the color of a

Constitution, continued on page 6

SUSI KANDEL '00 NAMED NEW DGALA PRESIDENT AS TREVOR BURGESS '94 TAKES NEW POST OVERSEAS

At its regular meeting in October 2006 DGALA's board of directors named Susi Kandel '00 as DGALA's new President, taking over the reins from Trevor Burgess '94, who stepped down as President (but will remain on the Board) after accepting a promotion and transfer to London, England from his employer. From London, Trevor passes along the following to DGALA:

As departing President, I would like to congratulate and thank Susi Kandel for taking on the role of our next President. As I have been transferred out of the country, I thought it best for us to have a US-based President to continue DGALA's tireless efforts on behalf of Dartmouth's LGBTQ community, and I know Susi will do a great job.

We have much to be proud of. Among other achievements this year, we successfully lobbied for inclusion of gender identity in the College's non-discrimination policy, and we set up and funded the first year of the DGALA/DCF Scholarship program.

This fall, the new proposed alumni constitution did not pass, which is unfortunate, for among other things, it would have allowed for two seats per affiliated group, including DGALA. Conservative forces will likely continue to press their anti-diversity agenda. What can you do? Show your support for a progressive Dartmouth in every way you can, including writing to the daily *Dartmouth* (readable on line) or the *Alumni Magazine* when you see something out of line with your beliefs; writing to the Trustees or the President in appreciation of their support of diversity, and letting them know, if you can, that you will increase your support of the Dartmouth College Fund; and continuing your support of DGALA. We need to be more engaged than the forces that would like Dartmouth to return to a time without diversity or tolerance.

All my very best for 2007. Trevor

Green Light

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(L to R) Nick, Tim, Allie, Jamal, Andrew, Pam
and Beth

Andreadis '07 (track), Allie Owens '06 (water polo and diving), Jamal Brown '08 (track), and Andrew Goldstein '05 (lacrosse). All were or are openly gay while competing on their Dartmouth teams. Pam Misener, Dartmouth assistant dean and advisor to LGBT students, moderated the panel. DGALA director Nick Chamousis '73 and DAANYC's Beth Krakower '93 were key organizers of the event. Andreadis was elected this spring as the College's first openly gay student body President, and Goldstein, a 2006 GLAAD award winner, was featured by ESPN in 2005 as an openly gay All-American lacrosse goalie.

The panel discussed their experiences as gay student athletes,

including whether they are perceived differently in team vs. individual sports, how the experience of female athletes differs from their male counterparts, and whether coaches and teammates treat athletes differently after they come out. Interactive discussions between the panel and alums in the audience highlighted how despite the many challenges faced

DGALA WORKS WITH OTHER AFFILIATED GROUPS; PLANS MAJOR '08 REUNION

By Caroline Kerr '05

A newly formed Affiliated Group Officer Executive Council held its first gathering in Hanover in September. Membership of the Council is comprised of the Alumni Council rep and an at-large member from each of the five affiliated groups: BADA (Black Alumni of Dartmouth Association), DAPAAA (Dartmouth Asian Pacific American Alumni Association), DALA (Dartmouth Association of Latino Alumni), NAAAD (Native American Alumni Association of Dartmouth) and DGALA. The Council's aim is to strengthen affiliated groups through increased cooperation, communication and joint action.

Since September, the Council has continued to meet via conference calls. Among the topics has been planning for an all-affiliated group, all-class reunion scheduled for the fall of 2008. Each of the affiliated groups expressed a desire to increase contact and programming between affiliated groups, and they noted that many alums are members of more than one affiliated group. The Council also believes that joint events will increase affiliated groups' visibility within the College community. Also being discussed are more joint events with local clubs, who have expressed great interest in such events. (*See story, page 1. Ed.*)

Planning for the 2008 reunion is continuing. If you have interest in any of these matters, suggestions for programming, or thoughts you would like to share, please contact me or David Eichman '82, our Alumni Council rep. (Contact info at www.DGALA.org.) ❖

CAMPUS UPDATE FROM GSA Co-CHAIR

The temperature is dropping, but LGBTQA life here on campus is continuing to flourish each and every day. The fall term has been jam packed with events to heighten the visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and their allied students, and to promote awareness of LGBTQA issues on campus and throughout the world.

In September, the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) held its signature Queer Bar Night during Orientation Week for the incoming class of 2010. As usual, the karaoke style event garnered more than 150 plus attendees and set the tone for October's National Coming Out Month (NCOM).

The month that celebrates coming out as LGBTQA and calls for acceptance of those that are struggling to do so, began with the annual Stonewall



Students Rock at GSA Halloween Ball

Lecture on October 3. This year's guest was the critically acclaimed writer, filmmaker, former sex worker and AIDS activist, Amber Hollibaugh. The following week on Oct. 9 we saw Jennifer Finney Boylan, an English professor at Colby College and author of the memoir, "She's Not There: A Life In Two Genders," reflect on her life and book about being a male to female transsexual.

Two days later, on Oct. 11, we celebrated our Community Dinner which garnered 80 plus attendees. The event was hosted by our very own Joanne Herman '75, who received a standing ovation after her inspirational speech on coming out. And speaking of coming out, who can forget about Coming Out Stories! October 17 marked the date that students took part in sharing personal and intimate experiences in coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or an ally. Thought of as one of the best programs of the year, Coming Out Stories surely helped unite our community even more.

As we all know, sometimes at Dartmouth new traditions are much needed. With their amazing energy and excitement, a group of first year students planned the GSA's first Halloween Costume Ball. Themed with Moulin Rouge decorations, the high

intensity dance party brought together a wide range of students from all across campus, including those who had never been to a LGBTQA related event before.

November also proved to be an exciting month with a screening of The Rocky Horror Picture Show and programs like the GSA's Big Meeting. This term, the campus-wide discussion was hosted by the Tabard, a co-ed fraternity, and focused on substance abuse, sexuality and their effects upon students. And closing out the term with a bang was the Big Green's first Ally Party, an event honoring students, staff, faculty, and administrators who have been great allies to our LGBTQ community.

While the term may soon be ending, the year is just getting started. In the winter, the Dartmouth Rainbow Alliance will host its annual Drag Ball party during Winter Carnival, and LGBTQA adviser Pam Misener will continue to provide students with an open and safe space to talk about issues of sexuality and race in the bi-weekly programs Questioning & Curious and People of Color. In the spring, the GSA will organize events in conjunction with the National Day of Silence, and will continue its program Don't Yell Fag From The Front Porch with Alpha Delta fraternity.

As mentioned earlier, new traditions are vital to the growth of Dartmouth College. Our community is not only rapidly growing and becoming more and more visible on campus, but we have such a rich and vibrant history here at Dartmouth that often goes unacknowledged. Keeping this idea in mind, I have been hard at work pioneering Dartmouth's first PRIDE event. Scheduled for early May, the weeklong program will celebrate LGBTQA history at Dartmouth through various guest speakers, lectures, performances, and a dinner gala. Any suggestions or opinions are welcomed with open arms and much needed. As we get closer to the spring term, more details will be provided and alums are highly encouraged to come out for the event!

With many events happening throughout the year it is evident that LGBTQA life is lively and active. But this does not mean that students are not challenged everyday with being able to openly express their sexuality, and that homophobia does not exist here on campus. We still have a long way to go and we need your help. One way to do this is to build a greater connection between alumni and current undergraduates. In this simple way, students are not only supplied with greater resources to enhance their Dartmouth experience, but the

opportunity to relate with someone who has gone through both the Dartmouth and post-Dartmouth life. I would like to invite you to email me or Pam Misener, and to also check out the GSA website at: www.dartmouth.edu/~gsa for any questions or updates on events, student life, etc. And as always, you might be receiving this report far away from campus, but you will always have a home here at Dartmouth.

All the best, Jamal Brown '08 GSA Co-Chair, LGBTQA Student Intern ♦

Scholarships, continued from page 1

DGALA/DCF Scholarships include Melisa Garber '08, Anna Guenther '08 and Raymond Rodriguez '09 (the fourth recipient has asked not to have press coverage).

Meli Garber is majoring in Women's and Gender Studies with a minor in Theater. Meli's possible future plans include theater, women's rights and perhaps law school. About her DGALA/DCF Scholarship, Meli had this message



Meli Garber '08

to the many DGALA donors: *"In a world of questioning and confusion, it's nice to know that somewhere people support me for who I am, and even help me get closer to being the person I set out to be. So thank you so much for your help; it means a lot."*

Anna Guenther '08 is a Religion major who traveled last year to Argentina on a Spanish independent study. This term she is on a Religion



Anna Guenther '08

Foreign Study Program in Edinburgh, Scotland, from where Anna passed along these words to the readers of *Green Light*: *"I wish so much that I could meet and personally thank all the alums from DGALA who have been so generous. Being financially and emotionally supported by my community helps me make the most of my time at Dartmouth. I sincerely thank you and hope to continue to make you proud of your Alma Mater."*

Raymond Rodriguez '09 is majoring in Psychology with a minor in Women's and Gender Studies. His many volunteer activities include serving as Treasurer of the Gay Straight Alliance, participating in La Alianza Latina (the Latino/a student organization) and serving as a fundraising leader for Project Bangladesh. After Dartmouth, he plans to attend graduate school for social advocacy. About his scholarship, Raymond told



Raymond

have faith in the Dartmouth Experience."

Green Light, "I am extremely grateful for DGALA's generosity in choosing me as one of the DGALA scholars. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and I am honored to be receiving financial aid from the DGALA alums who continue to believe and

Sylvia Racca, Executive Director of the DCF and honoree at the 2004 DGALA All-Class Reunion, is overseeing the DGALA/DCF Program. Speaking of the Program, Sylvia told Green Light, "It is a fundamental principle at Dartmouth that no academically qualified student will be denied an education for want of financial resources. There are only a handful of colleges in the country who are able to do this, and the only reason that Dartmouth can hold to this principle is because of the generosity of its alumni like the members of DGALA. I choose to work in fundraising at Dartmouth because I believe that by making the Dartmouth experience accessible to all qualified LGBT students – regardless of their ability to afford it – I am making the world a better place for all individuals who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. The LGBT students who are on campus today are the future LGBT leaders of tomorrow."

DGALA urges its members to continue to support the DCF so that we can continue to support more deserving LGBT students next year. Your contributions to the DCF through June 30 of 2007 will help to achieve this goal. But if you can, take a moment to make a contribution before the end of 2006. You may do so by going to www.dartmouthcollegefund.org. There is no need to designate anything special – just by being a member of DGALA, your gift will support the DGALA/DCF Scholars fund. ♦

Other Ways to Support the DCF

Dartmouth's Gift Planning Office offers creative ways to support Dartmouth while creating a stream of income (including for a

DGALA NOTES

The new membership directories are coming! The directory is in the final stages of production now and will be mailed out soon to members who've agreed to be in the directory. If you don't get one, it's probably because we've not heard from you lately (or we messed up!); in either event, send us a note to DartGALA@gmail.com, and we'll be publishing a follow-up supplement.

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Travel with DGALA? Ever gotten one of those colorful brochures from the Alumni Relations Continuing Education and Travel Office and thought how a trip like that might be fun? Well, DGALA is now gauging member interest in an LGBTQA trip through the Travel Office, to be led by LGBTQA faculty. No commitment now (we don't even have a trip planned), but if this is something that you might find appealing, please drop us a note at DartGALA@gmail.com so that we can get a sense of potential member interest.

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DGALA director openings. The fifteen-person DGALA Board has three "classes" of three-year terms, and so there are five open seats on the Board at the start of each calendar year. If you might be interested in serving on the board, or in some other capacity, please contact Susi Kandel '00 (address at left) or DartGALA@gmail.com. The deadline for director applications is Monday, January 8th.

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Support DGALA! If you meant to send in your DGALA contribution envelope this past summer but haven't yet gotten around to it, there's still time. Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30, and you can contribute on line at <http://www.dgala.org/membership.html>. As you know, D-GALA operates almost entirely on the generosity of our supporters, and we strive to put your contributions to good use through funding our All-Class Reunions, our annual June reunion gatherings, various regional events, on-campus events with alums and students, supporting LGBT issues at Dartmouth, annual book gift certificates for LGBT grads, LGBT charitable causes associated with Dartmouth, our members directory, and, of course, this newsletter! ♦

President's Message

First, let me say what an honor it is to serve as DGALA president. Trevor has done an amazing job at the helm and I have huge shoes to fill. I look forward to working with each of you to make DGALA the organization you want it to be. (I'd love to hear from you -- email me at susi@alum.dartmouth.org at any time!)

This has been a tremendous year for DGALA. As you will read in this issue of the Green Light, DGALA members contributed in record numbers to the Dartmouth College Fund -- enough money to fund scholarships for four outstanding LGBT students. And over the past five years DGALA's participation rate has increased more than 15 percentage points, to a record 43.8% of DGALA members making some contribution to the DCF for Fiscal Year 2006. Your generosity helps deserving students, the College, and DGALA. Thank you.

We have a lot of activities in the works, many of which you will read about in these pages. One of our main goals is to bring together DGALA members wherever we can, through regional events, a mini-reunion during Commencement and Reunions in June 2007, and an all affiliated group reunion in 2008. We also are working to build relationships with other College organizations, including the other affiliated groups, clubs, and classes. Our "Wearers of the Green" event, which was held in conjunction with the Dartmouth Alumni Association of New York City, drew in almost 100 registrants and was the first time DGALA and DAANYC ever co-sponsored an event. Keep your eyes open for these events -- we'd love to see you there.



Finally, director elections are coming up soon. If you've been thinking about joining the board, now is the time. I encourage you to speak to any of the DGALA directors to find out more. And, if being a member of the board is more responsibility than you'd like now, there are a number of other ways for you to become more involved, including by working on a local event in your area or joining us in planning and preparing for events on campus. We'd love to have you be a part of our exciting work! ❖