



GREEN LIGHT

Volume 9, Issue 1

Newsletter of Dartmouth's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Alumni/ae Association

June 2004

OCTOBER REUNION EXCITEMENT BUILDS

Appearances by Goodridge and Gomez

Headline attractions already booked for D-GALA's second All-Class Reunion include our own Hillary Smith Goodridge '78, lead plaintiff in the landmark Massachusetts freedom to marry case, and Marga Gomez, acclaimed lesbian Latina comedienne. The reunion will take place on campus from Friday, October 1st through Sunday, October 3rd of this year. Among the fun and significant events now planned:

- Welcoming reception with College President Jim Wright
- Marga Gomez' show, followed by a reception
- Faculty-led seminars on LGBT issues
- Barbecue lunch at the DOC House
- Screening of "Jim in Bold", Mike Glatze '97's award-winning film on LGBT youth
- LGBT student-led campus tours
- Panels with students, administrators and trustees

Reunion, continued on page 2

D-GALA 2004 ON-CAMPUS EVENTS

June Reunion Events (see inside for more):

Monday, June 14th and Friday, June 18th, 3-5 PM -

Open House, LGBT Student Center (Robinson 107/109)

Saturday, June 19th, 8:30 AM - D-GALA Annual

Breakfast, Faculty Lounge, Top of the Hop

Saturday, June 19th, 4-6PM - Reception for All
Alumni Affiliated Groups, LALaCS House (N. Main St.)

October All-Class Reunion:

Friday, October 1st – Sunday, October 3rd -

See Scheduled Events in Article above and on line

NEWEST GRADS JOIN D-GALA RANKS

The fifth annual LGBTQA graduation was held in the Common Ground at Collis Hall on May 5th. Pam Misener, Assistant Dean and Advisor to LGBT Students, sent us this report on the ceremony:

The evening was a huge success. We had 15-20 members of the Classes of 2004 (both graduate and undergraduate), and 60+ total attendees. I've enclosed a picture of the graduates for your viewing pleasure!



Jim Larimore, current Dean of the College, helped kick things off with some opening (heartfelt) remarks, followed by a very fun performance by the Dodecs a cappella group (special thanks to them for their same-sex lyrics!).

Our guest speaker was Jennifer Baumgardner (also in the picture), co-author of "Manifesta," who is currently at work on a book about bisexuality. Jennifer and her co-author, Amy Richards, were on campus last week as this year's Center for Women and Gender Visionaries in Residence. We were especially grateful for the opportunity to partner with the CWG to have Jennifer speak at our dinner. We were also joined by Sam Abel-Palmer '79, a D-GALA board member who shared some of his

Graduation, continued on page 2

- Networking pre-dinner reception with students, faculty and alums
- Awards dinner with Hillary Goodridge as one of the keynote speakers
- After dinner event
- Remembrance ceremony
- Closing brunch.

All of the reunion events will take place against the backdrop of the fall foliage season in the Upper Valley (so make your plans early!).

The Reunion has its own web site, <http://www.dartmouth.org/affiliated/dgala/reunion/home.html>, where alums may learn more about the reunion events and register on line. D-GALA also is seeking sponsorships for the reunion, which will be used to keep the cost low for recent grads and to enable students and faculty to attend the Saturday night reception and awards dinner. Reunion co-chair Susi Kandel '00 told *Green Light*, "We would like to make it possible for all who wish to attend to be able to do so. We want this reunion to reflect the entire Dartmouth LGBT community." Sponsorships also may be made on line at the reunion web site.

Susi Kandel's co-chair of the Reunion is Trevor Burgess '94. They have been greatly aided in their work by the on-campus efforts of Maria Higuerey-Birgisson, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations for Affiliated Groups and Pam Misener, Assistant Dean and Advisor to LGBT Students. ♦



Bob Conn '61, David Eichman '82, Maria Higuerey-Birgisson MALS '01, Trevor Burgess '94 and Garrett Hornsby '87 Meet in Hanover's Winter To Plan Reunion

reflections on Dartmouth, old and new (also in the picture).

We awarded each soon-to-be-graduate a 2004 rainbow tassel, along with a \$20 gift certificate to Borders Books and Music. Special thanks to Mike Henry '98 for providing this year's tassels, and to D-GALA for providing the gift certificates!

The last part of our evening is always the open mike section where people get to offer their own thoughts and feelings about the graduating classes (and anything else that's on their minds). This time is always well spent and one of the best parts of the evening.

The food was yummy, the company was great, and a good time was had by all.

And here are the comments by D-GALA Director Sam Abel '79, who attended the event on behalf of D-GALA:

I had a blast at the Commencement dinner for the '04's. There was a terrific crowd (the tables were full, and there were at least 60 or more seats), with lots of heartfelt testimonials to this class and their efforts. The most amazing thing I heard was one underclass student talking about how she had just come out, and was scared about going to Montreal pride, and wanted to return to the "safe Dartmouth campus"! How many of us would have called the Dartmouth campus safe for a newly out queer person, even just a few years ago? We have come a long way. ♦ ♦ ♦

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FIVE JOIN D-GALA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Five alums joined D-GALA's Board of Directors this year. The five are Sarah Burgamy '00, Nick Chamousis '73, Jim Flahive '01, Jamie Kershaw '89, and James von Rittmann '95.

Sarah '00 (photo not available at press time) was co-chair of the Dartmouth Rainbow Alliance during her time on campus. A 4-year varsity swimmer and member of the Women's Rugby Club, Sarah worked to bridge gaps between "athletic" and "non-athletic" LGBT students. Now back in her home state of Colorado, Sarah is pursuing graduate work in psychology at the University of Denver and working as a student therapist at the GLBT Community Center of Colorado. Sarah has been encouraged by the greater acceptance of LGBT students at Dartmouth since her graduation, and she looks forward to continuing to support Dartmouth's LGBT communities through her work with D-GALA.

Nick '73 is rejoining the D-GALA Board for his second term, having served in the mid-1990s.

Nick has his own law practice in Manhattan, is a charter member of Out Professionals, the nation's largest LGBT professional organization, and is a volunteer tutor at the Harvey Milk High School for LGBT students. Nick has been acting as D-GALA's liaison to the Dartmouth Club of New York City and looks forward to working with young alums who are facing many of the issues that Nick has faced in forging a life after Dartmouth.

Jim '01, who attended a small parochial high school in western Massachusetts before Dartmouth, slowly came out at Dartmouth. He

found the Questioning and Curious program to be invaluable in that difficult process. Through the support of many at Dartmouth, Jim reports that he was able to leave college as a well-adjusted and proud openly

gay person. Jim, who is openly gay (apparently the first) at his suburban Washington, D.C. software development firm, is involved with several gay community organizations in D.C., including the Human Rights Campaign. On the D-GALA Board, Jim hopes to help to forge greater ties between the Dartmouth LGBT community and national and local LGBT organizations. The Board's most recent grad, Jim also plans to work to increase outreach to current and recent Dartmouth graduates.

Jamie '89 is an attorney in business and legal affairs at Dreamworks in Los Angeles, where he served for four years on the board of Outfest, LA's, LGBT film festival. When Jamie



was able recently to make his contribution to the Dartmouth College Fund using D-GALA's form, he "realized how far the College has come regarding issues of sexual orientation since I graduated." In joining the Board, Jamie hopes to help continue D-GALA's efforts "to make the Dartmouth experience for gay and lesbian students better as well as increase the visibility of gay and lesbian alumni in the overall alum population."

James '95 is a graduate student at Stanford

in both Organizational Behavior and Engineering. He is Treasurer of the Dartmouth Alumni Association of Silicon Valley, and is now joining the D-GALA Board to bring his enthusiasm for Dartmouth service to the College's LGBT community.

These five new directors take the places of retiring directors Stephen Coppola '83, Dottie Foley '86, Steve James-Hermann '80, Yuval Ortiz-Quiroga '02 and Eric Stults '80. All five provided dedicated service to D-GALA during their terms, which in the cases of Steve and Eric have extended since D-GALA was reconstituted in 1994. There is more on D-GALA's directors at our webpage www.dartmouth.org/affiliated/dgala.

D-GALA NOTES AND UPDATES

Thanks again to our talented Webmaster Susi Kandel '00, you may now **renew your D-GALA membership on line!** Just go to our website, <http://www.dartmouth.org/affiliated/dgala/membership.html> and click on the "Join or Renew Your Membership" link. Much of D-GALA's work depends upon your support, so please renew today. (If you prefer the traditional method, you may also mail a contribution to us at Dartmouth GALA, 208 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011-7702.) Thank you!

D-GALA is sponsoring/co-sponsoring various **events during C&R Week in June**, including open houses at the new LGBT Student Center in Robinson 107-109 or Monday, June 14th and Friday June 18th from 3 to 5 PM; D-GALA's traditional breakfast meeting and reception in the Faculty Lounge upstairs in the Hop on Saturday, June 19th at 8:30 AM (where we expect a visit from President Jim Wright, among others); and a reception for all affiliated alumni groups at the Latin American, Latino, Caribbean Student House on North Main Street from 4-6 PM on Saturday the 19th. We hope to see you there!

Updating the Alumni Association vote profiled in the November 2003 *Green Light*, despite the valiant efforts of D-GALA and BADA (Black Alumni of Dartmouth Association) who, among other get-out-the-vote efforts, co-sponsored a bus to Hanover from New York City, the proposed new Constitution for the Alumni Council and Alumni Association missed the required 3/4 vote by just 9 votes. Attendance at the December 6, 2003 meeting was hampered by an early-season blizzard that struck the Northeast, keeping some D-GALA voters away. The new Constitution would have given D-GALA and other affiliated alumni groups 2 seats on a revamped Alumni Council. The Council and the Association are now considering a new proposed Constitution, and D-GALA Alumni Council Rep Trevor Burgess '94 is on the new study committee.

D-GALA President David Eichman '82 attended the annual Club and Affiliated Group Officers Weekend in Hanover in late March (when more snow fell!). David reports that D-GALA clubs in at least 8 regions or cities are **interested in co-sponsoring events with local D-GALA members**. If you might be interested in joining in efforts to set up such an event in your area, please contact David (dme4law@sbcglobal.net).

At the March Club and Affiliated Group weekend, the College presented D-GALA with the first ever **Affiliated Group of the Year Award**. D-GALA was recognized for reaching out to alums and helping them to reconnect with Dartmouth and for co-partnering with the Dartmouth College Fund to increase the participation of D-GALA members.

Dartmouth has supported D-GALA this year by funding a **full page color ad in the May/June Dartmouth Alumni Magazine** and by **contributing \$2,000 to D-GALA's second all-class reunion (October 1-3, 2004)**. The ad is on page 11 of the Alumni Magazine. We can support the College and enhance D-GALA's voice by supporting the Dartmouth College Fund. All D-GALA contributions this fiscal year (by June 30, 2004) will be recognized at the All-Class Reunion with the presentation of the traditional large "check" to the College. If you've not already done so, please return in the envelope provided the D-GALA contribution form included in the April 26, 2004 letter to you from D-GALA.

In Memoriam, Ezekiel Webber '00. We greatly regret to report that Zeke Webber '00 passed away at his home in Los Angeles in April of this year. Zeke was a great advocate for the LGBT community, and he served D-GALA diligently during a two-year term as a director. A service for Zeke was held at Sigma Nu on May 15th. More on Zeke, and on the LGBT-advocacy fund established in his memory, may be found at <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~williamsproj/programs/Webber.html>.