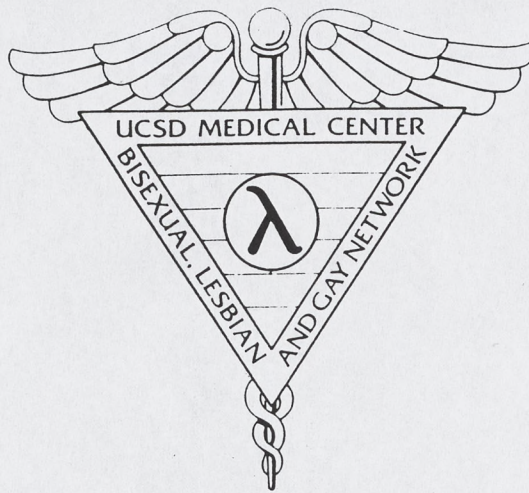


1995–96 Clippings



A Staff and Faculty Association
of the University of California, San Diego

Can We Talk! - August / September 1995

Chat

I hope everyone is having a good summer! About 20 of us walked in the San Diego Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade "**Out is to be Free.**" It was quite an exhilarating experience! If you didn't join us this year, I hope you will join us next year.

AIDS Walk San Diego - October 1, 1995

UCSD will be walking in AIDS Walk 95, "Neighbors Who Care." The 5 Kilometer walkathon begins at 10:00 am Sunday, October 1, 1995 in Balboa Park. Mitch Kelley is the organizer for the UCSD contingent. Mitch can be reached at **543-6228** for your walker registration form or any questions.

National Coming Out Day UCSD Medical Center, October 11, 1995

The "network" will be sponsoring national coming out day at UCSD Medical Center, Wednesday, October 11, 1995. The atrium, or entrance to the hospital, will be having community and hospital booths and we hope to schedule a speaker. We need suggestions/ideas regarding community and hospital groups who may be interested in having booths and speakers. Call Patrick at **36798** or Sysm, PRD and give your

suggestions. Enclosed is a NCOD brochure for your information.

UCSD Medical Center Diversity Team

Rich Belmontez would like to hear from anyone who has input, feedback or discriminatory experiences, (both positive and negative comments) for the UCSD Medical Center Diversity Team. Rich can be reached at **294-6342** or on Sysm, RPB or E-mail, Rbelmontez @ UCSD.

Umbrella Group Social Activities

On the back of this newsletter is a list of social activities for the UCSD Fiscal Year. The "network" is a member of the Umbrella Group. Please join us for a good social time.

Sysm / E - mail Notices

Please check your Sysm or E-mail messages for current notices and timely events.

Treasury Report

The "network" account balance	<u>\$131.94</u>
Expenditures for June/July 1995	<u>\$9.10</u>
For June 1995 Newsletter copying	

Umbrella Group Social Activities

The Umbrella Group is the official staff and faculty association for lesbians, gays and bisexuals at UCSD. All of our events are open to staff, faculty and students regardless of one's sexual orientation. Events listed below are subject to change so please call or e-mail the contact person(s) below to verify the events. Note that there is a monthly casual gathering at local LGB bars throughout the year.

- ☞ September 8th - Friday. Get together at the Flame bar. 6:00 pm 3780 Park Blvd.
- ☞ September 24th - Sunday. Trip to the AIDS Quilt at Brookside Park, directly adjacent to area H of the Rose Bowl Stadium in Pasadena. 1500 panels expected to be on display. For more info. contact Norma Pierson at (213) 653-6263. If you want to carpool to the Quilt with others from UCSD, meet for coffee at 9:00 am at Quel Fromage 523 University Ave. (Hillcrest). Quilt will be on display on 9/22 & 23. Contact Debi 534-1067.
- ☞ October 6th - Friday. Get together at No. 1, 5th Ave. bar at 6:00 pm 3845 Fifth Ave.
- ☞ October 14th - Saturday. Trip to the Wild Animal Park. Meet at 9:00 am at Starbuck's 4545 La Jolla Village Dr. (near Trader Joe's in La Jolla Village Square.) Discounts are available for UCSD folks through the campus box office. Contact: Sarah 622-5884.
- ☞ November 3rd - Friday. Get together at Club Bom Bay bar. 6:00 pm 3175 India St.
- ☞ November 11th - Saturday. Trip to Puerto Nuevo, Mexico for an afternoon lunch/dinner and Tijuana for evening fun. Meet at 12:00 noon at 3972 Jackdaw St. #117 (Mission Hills) to carpool. Contact: Sarah 622-5884.
- ☞ December 1st - Friday. Get together at Flicks bar. 6:00 pm 1017 University Ave.
- ☞ January 5th - Friday. Get together at the Brass Rail bar. 6:00 pm 3796 5th Ave.
- ☞ January 20th - Saturday. trip to the Museum of Tolerance in L.A. (310) 553-9036 for ticket information. If we get enough people interested in going, we may be able to get a group discount. Meet at 9:00 am at Starbuck's 4545 La Jolla Village Drive (near Trader Joe's in La Jolla Village Square). Contact: Paul 277-8262.
- ☞ February 2nd - Friday. Get together at Shooter's bar. 3815 30th St.
- ☞ February 4th - Sunday. Whale watching excursion in San Diego. Cost will be approximately \$15.00. For meeting place and more information contact Sarah at 622-5884.
- ☞ March 1st - Friday. Get together at the Flame bar. 6:00 pm 3780 Park Blvd.
- ☞ March 22nd - 24th - Friday evening through Sunday morning. Camping trip to the desert. Aqua Caliente Co. Park (Anza-Borrego Desert). Hiking trails, indoor/outdoor swimming pools. cost is approximately \$30.00 for the weekend or \$15.00 if you share a campsite with another tent. Contact: Paul 277-8262.
- ☞ April 5th - Friday. Get together at Bourbon St. bar. 6:00 pm 4612 Park Blvd.
- ☞ April 13th - Saturday. Picnic at Balboa Park. 12:00 noon. Meet at the Northeast corner of 6th & Laurel Sts. near the lawn bowling. Look for "UCSD" sign. Bring your own food, blanket, drink and barbecue and any games or Frisbees, etc. Contact: John 534-1231
- ☞ May 3rd - Friday. Get together at Tidbits 6:00 pm 3838 5th Ave.
- ☞ May 17th - Friday. Miniature golf. 7:00 pm Meet in parking lot of Family Fun Center 6999 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (Just east of the I-805). Contact: Paul 277-8262.

ELSEWHERE

UCI Receives Its First Nobel Prizes

IRVINE — Professors Frederick Reines and F. Sherwood Rowland became the first UCI faculty members to receive Nobel Prizes on Wednesday, Oct. 11. Reines and another American researcher won the prize in physics for research on subatomic particles. Rowland and a Dutch researcher won in chemistry for work on the destruction of the ozone layer. Of the 30 other UC faculty members who have won Nobel Prizes, five are currently at UCSD.

—UC Newswire

Car Crash Starts UCB Dorm Fire

BERKELEY — A fire broke out behind Deutsch Hall early Sunday morning, Oct. 8, when a taxi driver lost control of his car, smashing into a set of gas meters. The leaking gas caught fire immediately, with flames rising 20 feet along the wall of the building before Berkeley fire fighters put out the blaze. Although the flames did not rise high enough to enter any windows, the building's 250 residents were evacuated by housing officials. The driver of the cab suffered a small laceration on his leg, but no one else was injured in the crash, the fire or the subsequent evacuation.

—The Daily Californian

Student Bludgeoned With Pool Cue

ST. PAUL, MN — University of Minnesota police charged Gophers football player Ansel Carter with two counts of felony assault on last Monday. The charges stemmed from an incident on Friday night, Oct. 6, in which Carter repeatedly struck a local community college student with a pool cue. The student suffered two broken bones in his face, which caused his eye to swell shut, as well as a cut which required five stitches. The incident was the second beating in a week in which Carter was involved. If convicted, he faces up to \$30,000 in fines and 15 years in jail.

—The Minnesota Daily

INSIDE



CRASH

HIATUS: Dance Hall Crashers bare all to the *Guardian* **H9**

OPINION: "TV Turn-Off Week" provides a much-needed respite **4**

SPORTS: UCSD men's soccer defeats Pomona-Pitzer, 2-1, at Triton Soccer Stadium **20**

**T H E U C S D
GUARDIAN**

UC SAN DIEGO

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1995

VOLUME 86, ISSUE 7

UC Students Stage 'Day of Action'

UTOPIA: Price Center plaza changed into 'Freedom City'

By Marianne Vigil
Senior Staff Writer

The ongoing protest against the elimination of affirmative-action programs will reach into the classrooms of all nine UC campuses today, as students systemwide stage what organizers are calling, "A Day of Action."

UCSD's Price Center will play

host to "Freedom City" — a forum where speakers and performers alike will address civil-rights and affirmative-action issues — between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

In addition, faculty and TAs have been asked to relocate their classes to the Price Center for a "teach-in," and students are being encouraged to walk out of their classes.

The event is organized by No Retreat!, a coalition formed at the beginning of the year which includes such groups as the Student Affirmative-Action Committee, United Auto

Workers, Associated Students and the Co-ops.

According to Brian Dowd, interim A.S. vice-president external and event organizer, the coalition's goal is to "educate on and advocate for civil rights."

Original plans for the event began during an April meeting of students from across the UC system. Every UC campus will stage protests and walk-outs, with Jesse Jackson delivering a speech at UC Berkeley.

Organizers explained that the Oct. 12 date of the protest, which

coincides with Columbus Day, was not accidental.

"In fact, that was the whole idea," Dowd said. "We see it as Indigenous People's Day, and I think it is important that we don't lose sight of what this day really is."

Although there is no official count as to how many professors and TAs will actually take part in the teach-in, A.S. President Naomi Falk did say that "a lot of literature professors are planning to participate."

See RALLY, Page 8

BREAKING THE SILENCE



Heidi Muzhik/Guardian

Helping Hand: An LGBA member helps an unidentified student up and out of the crowd at yesterday's National Coming Out Day rally in the Price Center.

Fugitive Arrested in Ché Garden

SUSPECT: Man is second in two years to be found in the garden behind the café

By Ivan Delventhal
Associate News Editor

Although the Ché Café and garden collectives are perhaps the least-visible areas of the UCSD campus, an arrest made Oct. 5 has brought the collectives under the spotlight once again.

Responding to a report of a person being drunk in public outside the Ché Café, UCSD police officers arrested a 34-year-old male non-affiliate, whom they found sleeping in the garden adjacent to the Café. After verifying the individual's identification, UCSD police discovered that he was wanted on an outstanding, no-bail, felony warrant for parole violation in Arizona.

Though the recent arrest differs in nature from another incident which occurred last year, it is the second time in as many years that a person wanted for a felony has been found staying in or near the collective.

"It is not unusual for us to run across someone with misdemeanor warrants for traffic, drug or DUI [offenses] on campus," said UCSD police officer Doug Odell. "But felony warrants are more rare."

A little less than a year-and-a-half ago — See CHÉ, Page 7

First A.S. 'Town Hall' Meeting Inspires Lackluster Attendance

MEAGER: Small student turnout disappoints council

By Esther Yoon
Guardian Reporter

Last night's A.S. "Town Meeting," an open forum held in the Muir quad, failed to raise student interest regarding campus issues, drawing an audience of only three people.

At the meeting, councilmembers discussed various A.S.-related issues, proposals and upcoming events, and also answered students'

questions.

A.S. President Naomi Falk opened by addressing current matters, including the makeup of the upcoming selection committee for a new chancellor, who will take the top post at UCSD one year from now.

Falk announced plans to write a proposal expanding the current appointment process, which currently allows only one non-voting undergraduate student onto the committee.

"I'm disappointed with the lack of student involvement in this process, seeing as this is an area which

will affect them the most," Falk said.

She also spoke highly of interim UCSD Chancellor Marjorie Casserio's efforts to be more "accessible to students." Falk's comments come in the wake of numerous student complaints about the previous chancellor's lack of student involvement.

Later in the meeting, councilmembers Brian Dowd and Greg Field spoke on affirmative action, and brought forward information on today's "Freedom City" forum in the Price Center.

One student in attendance initi-

ated debate over affirmative-action policies by questioning the A.S. External Affairs Office's support of such programs.

"Affirmative action is one of the external campus issues that A.S. is currently working with," said Dowd, A.S. vice president of external affairs. "It is very difficult to promote... an ethnically diverse environment without affirmative-action policies."

Dowd and Field detailed current external-affairs projects for the small crowd, including free voter regis-

See COUNCIL, Page 8

ERRATUM

In the Oct. 12 issue of the *Guardian*, graduate student Karen Lunde was incorrectly identified as Shelly Muhammed in the photograph on page 3. The *Guardian* regrets the error.

LGBA Hosts National Coming Out Day at Price Center

EVENT: Group offers support, educates UCSD community

By Vanessa Vance
Guardian Reporter

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Association (LGBA) hosted "National Coming Out Day" at the Price Center yesterday, in front of approximately 200 people.

"It's a designated day to declare openly who you are, and to stand up for yourself," said Marshall junior and LGBA member Rebecca Lee. "It's also to eliminate fear and homophobia."

"We would usually have a door on the stage to signify the 'closet,' but this year we don't have one," said Lee. In place of the closet door was a rainbow flag symbolizing gay

pride.

Shelly Muhammed, associate director of the Lesbian and Gay Men Community Support Group in San Diego, spoke at the event about the need to stop hate crimes and violence against homosexuals. Muhammed also talked about homosexual civil rights and education.

"It's a basic human right to be able to express yourself and love someone, regardless of sex," Muhammed said. "Bigotry has got to stop."

Roosevelt junior Robert Nguyen, an LGBA principal member and co-facilitator of the rally, said he was pleased with the turnout.

"I thought it was wonderful so many gay and non-gay people were up on the stage, showing support for the gay community," he said.

However, other LGBA members didn't seem quite as pleased with the crowd's reaction during the event.

"There's not enough spirit," said Muir junior Jack Huang. "It's a good step [to come to the rally], but they're too quiet. We need more people going up there."

Matt Booker, a representative of the Christian group "Love in Action," was on hand at the

rally, passing out literature decrying homosexuality.

"I appreciate their courage," Booker said. "It's admirable... but I'm concerned about people and their lives and I'd like to help. I feel Jesus would want to help people."

After Muhammed spoke, several students took advantage of the open microphone to express either feelings about their own homosexuality or support for National Coming Out Day.

"[Being open about homosexuality is] about embracing every aspect of my life and being truthful of my complete self," Lee said.

She added that National Coming Out Day is, "an attempt to make the gay, lesbian, and bisexual communities more visible to the dominant majority and hopefully have a more positive effect on heterosexual attitudes, both on and off campus."

According to Nguyen, the National Coming Out Day has been going on at UCSD for at least five years. Besides holding the annual event, the LGBA — which has approximately 40 members — sponsors dances, socials and educational forums.

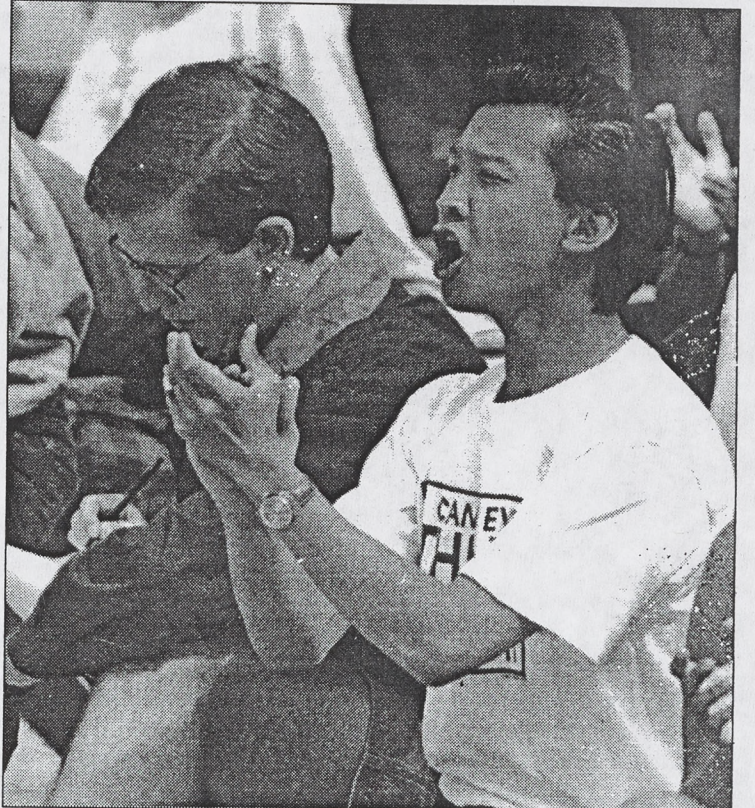
"[LGBA is] there if you or someone you know needs help coming out," Nguyen said. "We educate people on gay life here on campus and in San Diego in general."

Lee said that coming out is "the desire to be honest with one's self, friends, family and colleagues so that we no longer have to live in fear based on who we choose to love."



Heidi Muzhik/Guardian

Exhortation: Shelly Muhammed implored the crowd to stop hate crimes and violence.



Heidi Muzhik/Guardian

Out: LGBA member Robert Nguyen shows his support for National Coming Out Day.

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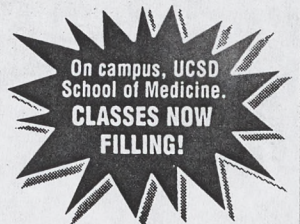
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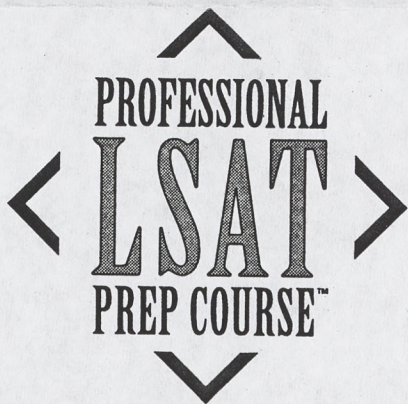
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UCSD Staff Association NEWSLETTER

CUCSA Press Release

The second quarterly meeting of the Council of UC Staff Assemblies was held on the UC Santa Cruz campus December 7 and 8, 1995.

Chancellor Karl Pfister welcomed delegates and officers of CUCSA to the campus. Pfister discussed his view that the role of the community colleges providing transfer students to the University. He indicated that UC Santa Cruz has developed an outreach program (Leadership Opportunity Awards Program) that aims at recruiting transfer students of excellence who show promise despite adverse socio/economic disadvantages. The Chancellor then remarked on the difficulty of getting the Regents engaged in the life of the University. He feels that The Regents as a group need to better understand the reality of the campus experience. Additionally, Pfister supported the idea of pursuing the possibility of a staff regent. The Chancellor discussed with CUCSA the fact that presently there are no staff groups formally recognized in Regents Standing Orders.

Council next met with Marcie Wald who presented the UCSC Chancellors undergraduate internship program. The program was established to help foster understanding between students and campus administration. This is an internship program where students participate in administration. The target skills for the program are leadership and conflict resolution. Programs include outreach events and coordination of volunteer staff. Marco Torez, one of the student interns, also spoke to Council and provided a student perspective to the program.

Council completed the morning in a discussion of staff input at Regents meetings. Council approved renewed effort on the existing long term goal of staff representation on the Regents. The discussion acknowledged that staff input to the Regents is currently confined to participation in the public comment period of the Regent Meeting.

Thursday afternoon delegates formed three working groups that were charged with responding to recent drafts of the Human Resources Management Initiatives, the UC Business Officer's Training and Certification program and the report on the Extension of Health Benefits to the Domestic Partners of UC Faculty, Staff, and Students.

Friday morning began with Council review of draft documents from working groups. The next presentation was made by Gwendolyn Morgan on Diversity Dialogue Groups. These are small groups formed by people with different backgrounds who come together twice a month to discuss difficulties that they have with issues such as racism and bigotry. These groups were established to aid working in a diverse workplace. This program is based on a model used at LLNL. The program requires a year commitment. Ms. Morgan indicated that participants praise the value of this program and encourage other to participate.

Council next moved to a discussion of campus incentive award programs. Discussion showed that campus programs differ widely; some hold a public ceremony celebration, some award cash, and the types of awards differ markedly. Council has committed to continual review and feedback to UCOP on this subject to facilitate more consistent programs systemwide.

Lubbe Levin, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources next addressed Council. She discussed Affirmative Action, Domestic Partner benefits and HRMI. Given the Regents resolution the President is required to report to the Board of Regents on processes for implementation of the equal employment resolution effective January 1st. The report will be sent to the Regents towards the end of December. Office of the President is working on general overview policies on equal employment. AVP Levin indicated that the Regents resolution will not change employment practices greatly. Because UC is a Federal contractor UC must continue to operate with adherence to Federal Affirmative Action requirements. AVP Levin also indicated that interim policies will be issued as of January 1st. She explained that the big change is the removal of the tie-breaker provision in hiring practices. In closing, she emphasized the renewed importance of outreach efforts in support of hiring a diverse workforce.

In discussing Domestic Partners, AVP Levin indicated that The Office of the President is modifying personnel policies to provide individuals with the ability to use applicable leave for all members of their household. She indicated that President Atkinson is supportive of exploring benefits for domestic partners. Levin believes that the issue will come before the Regents this spring. She reported that her sense is that this President will want to

deal with it in a concrete way soon.

Assistant Vice President Levin moved on to review of the HRMI draft. She explained the reason for making a distinction between senior and regular professionals is job security differences that exist in currently policy. She explained that vacation leave accruals were modified to the current SPP program; the justification being that 15 days annual accrual is equal to or better than the vacation accruals of most employers. Levin confirmed that employees will be "grandfathered" to their current leave schedules. Levin thinks it will take a couple of years to determine what kind of pay and job classification system will serve UC in the future. She also indicated that all of the campuses are still in a learning mode for incentive award programs.

Council's final session featured a presentation by UCB's Jonathan Winters, Vice Chair of UCGLBA and Carmen Estrada, Director of UCOP EEO/AA, on the subject of Domestic Partnership benefits. Mr. Winters discussed the history of the Domestic Partnership benefits. He noted that companies like Apple and Disney both offer benefits to domestic partners. He added that recently on the Berkeley campus, a Deans and Directors memo was issued by the Chancellor asking departments of offer soft benefits to its gay/lesbian domestic partners. Discussion followed regarding other institutions of higher education and their respective policies on domestic partner benefits such as Stanford, Northwestern, City College of New York.

Carmen Estrada, remarked that none of the other universities that offer the benefit are publicly funded, and the private corporations already have family members pay for health insurance separately. Should the University offer benefits to domestic partners then a new program would have to be established. UC is currently in the middle of a two year benefit contract when UC talks to the carriers, benefits for domestic partners will be on the agenda. Ms. Estrada expects a new draft to be prepared in January.

The next meeting of The Council of UC Staff Assemblies will be held at UC Santa Barbara March 28 and 29, 1996. For further information on CUCSA and upcoming staff meetings, contact your campus Staff Assembly or CUCSA representative.

Domestic Partner Benefits Update

John O. White

Increasingly, employees at the University of California believe that benefits for domestic partners of staff, faculty, and students should be equal with those offered to legal spouses in keeping with the University's policy of nondiscrimination based on marital status and sexual orientation. In June 1993 the University (of California) Committee on Faculty Welfare approved a series of recommendations regarding benefits for non-spouse domestic partners. In March 1994, the UC Academic Council passed a proposal recommending full access to all benefits for domestic partners. The Council of UC Staff Assemblies is on record in support of domestic partner benefits. The Office of the President is now giving consideration to both hard and soft benefits for domestic partners of University employees.

Why implement domestic partner benefits now?

- Law (non-discrimination)
- Faculty Recruitment and Retention
- Acknowledgement of Existing Employee Group (demonstrated need)
- Being Ahead of the Pack Is Good
- Gain Marketshare
 - improve competitive advantage for faculty, students, etc.
 - take full advantage of all human resources

Hard Benefits

Commonly defined as "cost intensive benefits"

- Medical
- Dental
- Pension Plans/Retirement

Any employee benefit that is legally offered to employees can be, at the employers discretion, offered to domestic partners and families as defined by the employer. Any changes to hard benefits at the University of California must be approved by The Regents.

Soft Benefits

- bereavement /sick/parenting leave
- employee discounts, health and fitness programs, relocation policies
- child care
- faculty/staff privileges
- student/faculty housing
- University ID issuance
- tuition waiver

The Benefits Programs Office at the Office of the President is currently studying a proposal to extend University paid health benefits to domestic partners of University employees. Specifically, UCOP is working on a model to estimate the cost of providing such benefits.

Since 1994, the maximum University contribution has been based on the premiums of the most cost effective HMO plan. Currently, 128,000 employees and retirees are enrolled in University sponsored medical plans and over 77,900 in dental plans. For 1995, the combined annual cost for these plans is \$412 million.

For 1995, the composite monthly cost for a single medical plan is \$136 (medical) plus \$23 dental = \$159/employee/month. The composite two-party cost for medical coverage is \$278 (medical) plus \$43 (dental) = \$321/two-party/month. The additional cost of per domestic partner is the difference in composite cost between a single enrollment and a two-party enrollment (\$321 - \$159 = \$162 per person per month). Additional

costs for children of domestic partners have not been estimated.

The estimated cost of implementing University-paid health benefits coverage to domestic partners and the potential source of funding is a crucial aspect of this analysis.

Summary

Benefits Covered: Medical and Dental
Population:

UCOP, Campus, Lab employees
Same-sex and opposite sex domestic partners
Active employees and annuitants in medical

Enrollment rates used: 0.58%, 1.5%, 3.0%
Additional Cost/Partner \$161/month

Example:

If 0.58% of eligibles enroll (5.8 employees per 1000)

UC Annual Premium	\$1,200,000
Administration	\$ 160,000
Systems	\$ 260,000
Total	\$1,620,000

Based on 1994 premiums and enrollments, active employees only. Cost increases to \$2,070,000 for actives and annuitants. Data provided by the Office of the President: 1995.

[Data from other Universities suggests that actual enrollments will increase about 0.5% for same-sex only couples, and 1.0% for combined same-sex and opposite sex couples - 1995 CUNY study]

For more information contact:
jwhite@ucsd.edu

OPINION

SPLITTING the NUCLEAR FAMILY

Should Gays and Lesbians Be Permitted To Adopt Children?

The Ability To Raise A Child Goes Beyond Sexuality

For some inane reason, many people think sexuality is a legitimate indicator of parental ability. This reasoning implies that a homosexual person is an unfit role model — a ridiculous assumption, because overall character can never be determined based on one trait.

Yet, due to rampant misconceptions, many argue that homosexuals should be barred from adopting children. It would be a horrible mistake to accept such a fallacy. If homosexual applicants are able to provide a supportive, beneficial environment for a child, then there is no reason to disqualify them from adopting. This country needs to give all qualified and committed parents, including gay and lesbian couples, the right to adopt children.

Homosexual couples ought to be judged on their ability to care, nurture and provide for a child. If such a couple can provide a safe and beneficial environment in which to raise a kid, and if the best interest of the child is always the paramount goal of adoption agencies and the courts, then no legitimate argument exists for disqualifying a homosexual couple from adopting. A person's sexual orientation

does not mean he or she cannot be a loving, nurturing parent.

The Child Welfare League suggests that "Consideration [for adoption] should be given to... personality and maturity factors and on the ability of the applicant to meet the specific needs of the individual child." This means if a person is mature, caring and fiscally capable of providing for a child, then the private sexual activities of that applicant are irrelevant to the adoption process.

Most of the opposition to homosexual adoption comes from the religious right. Opponents see gays as a public menace, as sexual predators who push their own agenda on people who don't want anything to do with it. Furthermore, many argue gays are sexual deviants by nature, who would commit despicable crimes on an adopted child if given the chance. It is an interesting claim, considering 90 percent

See **KIDS**,
Page 5

MATTHEW FITZGIBBONS
Staff Writer



Dominic Lobbia/Guardian

Same-Sex Families Hurt Adopted Kids

When listening to the rantings and ravings of misguided liberals about the "rights" of homosexuals to adopt children, there is a strong, though seemingly undefinable, feeling that their justifications are false. This suspicion arises from two significant, but concealed assumptions within their arguments: First, homosexuality is an acceptable and even natural "alternative" lifestyle. Second, the rights of homosexuals to adopt takes precedence over the rights and best interests of the adopted child.

Most proponents of homosexual adoption affirm that homosexuality is an entirely genetic state, unalterable by environment or other circumstances.

This assertion is dubious at best and patently false at worst. The consensus in the scientific community is that, while genetics might be a prevalent factor, environment plays a significant and crucial role in the development of a child. In fact, one of the most prestigious members of this research community, evolutionary scientist and author **Stephen Jay Gould**, believes that environment plays a key role in childhood growth and can possibly account for up to 50 percent of development.

Consequently, homosexual parents could have a direct influence on an adopted child's maturation, growth, lifestyle and values. These environmental factors could conceivably cause a normal heterosexual child to embrace homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle. Allowing an otherwise normal and healthy heterosexual child to be converted into a homosexual by his environment — against his conscious will — is totally reprehensible and contrary to basic human rights.

The second presupposition made by those supporting gay adoption is that the individual homosexual's "right" to adopt takes precedence over the rights of the child. This premise is completely erroneous. The primary purpose of all state adoption laws is to ensure the advancement of the best interests of the child and to promote the beneficial welfare of the child, not to cater to the whims of homosexuals.

To ensure the primacy of the child's welfare over all other concerns, the courts apply a "best interests test." This test determines whether the would-be adoptive family is fit or unfit. It evaluates the lifestyles of the individual members and how stable, safe and beneficial the home atmosphere is to the child. If there is even a shadow of a doubt the potential adoptive parents' lifestyle could be damaging

See **SAFETY**, Page 5

BILL GLANZMAN
Staff Writer

KIDS: Adopted children need loving parents

Continued from page 4
of child-molestation crimes in the United States are committed by heterosexual pedophiles. (Based on that figure, perhaps we ought to make it illegal for heterosexuals to adopt children.)

Whenever homosexuals speak up for their rights as U.S. citizens, many people feel they are "pushing" their lifestyle upon others. On the other hand, whenever a minority feels his rights threatened by the majority, the minority *must* become vocal in order to assure his protec-

tion and legitimacy in society. If the courts barred a black man from adopting simply because of the color of his skin, he would certainly protest. Would we then consider him to be "pushing" his ethnic background upon those who are not black?

The idea that homosexuality is somehow detrimental to society — and thus detrimental toward children — is nothing short of ludicrous. Homosexuals are just as likely as anyone else to be active citizens who work to improve their community. In fact, a cross-section of the average town would likely show homosexuals making equally positive contributions as heterosexuals.

How else could prejudice and homophobia be thwarted if gays are not allowed to participate in our society with the same rights and privileges as other citizens?

State and federal adoption laws need to be revised to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual preference. Homosexual applicants must be given the same consider-

ation as their heterosexual counterparts. How else could prejudice and homophobia be thwarted if gays are not allowed to participate in our society with the same rights and privileges as other citizens?

The concept of the nuclear family — a mother, father, older brother, younger sister and family dog — is a relatively recent development. Not too long ago, when someone said "family," people envisioned parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and children, all of whom often lived under one roof. But today, the nuclear-family model is seen by many people as the natural construct in which to raise a child.

However, we have seen the rise of single-parent families in the last

fifty years, and the only people complaining about those families are a handful of ultra-conservatives. People raised in such families have not become particularly bad citizens — why should citizens raised by homosexuals be any different?

In this day of "family values," it seems only natural that homosexuals should be given the same opportunity to raise a family as heterosexuals have always enjoyed. If there is anything this country needs, it is more good parents. Give homosexuals the right to adopt. In a country riddled by gangs, drugs and poverty, we need as many caring mothers and fathers as we can get.

SAFETY: Gays can't provide protection for kids

Continued from page 4
to the child's well-being — as homosexuality would be — then the adoptive family is justly rejected.

Regardless of how one feels about homosexuality itself, the harsh reality is that prejudice and overwhelming opposition threaten this lifestyle. Sexual deviancy is a stigma, and it could create an atmosphere which is potentially dangerous. As horribly wrong as it is, a child may be assaulted or killed for simply having parents who are homosexuals. Thus, ho-

mosexuals should be disqualified from adopting because such prejudice against them violates the "safe and beneficial atmosphere" criterion of the "best interests test."

Moreover, a child adopted by homosexuals is doubly confused and stigmatized. He first must cope with being adopted, and then be forced to accept that his parents are not apart of the social norm. It is neither intelligent nor fair to put a child in such a deplorable situation. He would be subject to significant psychological and emotional damage from the ridicule which would follow him at school and endless other social situations.

If there is even a shadow of a doubt that the potential adoptive parents' lifestyle could be damaging to the child's well-being — as homosexuality would be — then the adoptive family is justly rejected.

Additionally, homosexual parents would fail to give the child a beneficial and nurturing atmosphere, one only a traditional fam-

ily, with a mother and a father, would provide. In a traditional family, each parent plays a different role in guiding, counseling and steering the child toward a healthy and well-adjusted development.

The male, as the father, provides the child with a strong and protecting example, disciplining the child with definitive authority. The female, as the mother, is a nurturing and caring figure, providing the child with moral and emotional counsel. These two important figures influence the child as masculine and feminine role models. They epitomize a healthy interpersonal relationship and teach the child about marriage. With homosexual parents, the child is exposed to a

twisted relationship which only confuses him and causes an identity crisis in relation to his peer group.

If we are to place the priority on the adopted child's welfare, homosexuals ought not be permitted to adopt children. If environment is indeed the major contributing factor to a child's rearing, then homosexual parents can indeed affect the child's own sexuality. Furthermore, because homosexuals are often the target of violence against them, they cannot provide a "safe and beneficial atmosphere." The overall well-being of the adopted child is the essential issue. The child's rights must take precedence over the "rights" of homosexuals.

OPINION WRITERS' MEETING — TODAY 5:30 AT THE FORUM OF FREE THOUGHT

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A LGBA-sponsored drag show at the Price Center last Wednesday sparked a surprising amount of student-body interest. Divas Veronica,



Black China, Princess and Simply Satin managed to bring out the glamorous, wild and bitchy side in us all.

Photos by
CLAIRE SCHNEIDER

divas in DENIAL





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Black China, Princess and Simply Satin managed to bring out the glamorous, wild and bitchy side in us all.

divas in DENIAL

Photos by
CLAIRE SCHNEIDER



UMBRELLA GROUP NEWSLETTER
March 1996

The Umbrella Group is the officially recognized Faculty/Staff Association for lesbian, gay, and bisexual employees at UCSD. Within the "umbrella" are the UCSD Med Center Bisexual, Lesbian, & Gay Network, the Lesbian Support Group and Queer University Employees, each with their own activities and emphasis.

On April 2nd at 12:00 Noon, in the Irvine Room of the Price Center, there will be a meeting to elect a chair or co-chairs of the Umbrella Group for a one-year term. If you received this newsletter and are a UCSD faculty or staff member you may vote. The chair(s) will be responsible for attending Staff Association Chairs meeting held monthly on campus, or else sending a representative of the organization, submitting a one page report annually to the Staff Affirmative Action Office listing the organizations' activities, and serve as the contact person for media relations. This person will also be responsible for helping organize a table at the Annual Staff Association Picnic held during the Summer.

In addition, elections will be held for a Social Chair for the organization. This person(s) will be responsible for compiling a social activities calendar for the coming year (July 1 - June 30, 1997), serving as an information contact for the activities, and publicizing the activities. The Social Chair will have the opportunity to select the activities for the coming year, hopefully taking into account the suggestions offered her/him by Umbrella Group members.

The Umbrella Group is also looking for a newsletter editor. In this position you may produce a newsletter either electronically and/or in paper format monthly, quarterly, or annually, as you wish. You will also be in charge of retaining the confidential mailing list and responsible for sending out a copy of the LGB Resource brochure and social activities calendar for any new members who wish to receive information about the organization. If you wish to hold any of these offices or share responsibility for them, or wish to nominate someone, please send your nomination to Paul Harris at mail code 0175L before April 1st. The Umbrella Group does not discriminate against anyone on arbitrary grounds and the only requirement is that you be a UCSD employee. Don't be afraid to get involved as an officer. It takes no experience,

just a small time commitment and some creative ideas. Previous volunteers will be glad to offer advice whenever you need it.

UPCOMING SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Thus far this year the Umbrella Group has had a diverse range of activities for its members and friends. These have included outings to the Wild Animal Park, Puerto Nuevo and Tijuana, wine tasting in Ensenada and shopping in Tecate, a trip to the San Diego Zoo, a whale watching excursion, a trip to the Museum of Tolerance in L.A., and monthly get togethers at various bars in town.

March 1 - Friday. Get together at the Flame bar. 6:00PM 3780 Park Blvd.

March 22-24th - Friday evening through Sunday morning. Camping trip to the desert. Agua Caliente County Park (Anza-Borrego Desert). Hiking trails, indoor/outdoor swimming pools. Cost is approximately \$23.00 for the weekend or \$11.50 if you share your campsite with another camper. Contact: Paul 277-8262

April 5th - Friday. Get together at Bourbon St. bar. 6:00PM 4612 Park Blvd.

April 13th - Saturday. Picnic at Balboa Park. 12:00 Noon. Meet at the northeast corner of 6th & Laurel Sts. near the lawn bowling. Look for the "UCSD" sign. Bring your own food, blanket, drink and barbecue and any games or frisbees, etc. Contact: Paul 277-8262

May 3rd - Friday. Get together at Tidbits bar. 6:00PM 3838 5th Ave.

May 17th - Friday. Miniature golf. 7:00PM Meet in parking lot of Family Fun Center 6999 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (just east of the 805). Contact: Paul 277-8262

June 7th - Friday. Get together at Club Bom Bay bar. 6:00PM 3175 India St.

June 15th - Saturday. Bowling. 7:00PM Aztec Bowl 4356 30th St. (North Park) Meet in the parking lot of the Bowl. Contact: John 534-1231

Suggestions for future trips have included a trip to Las Vegas, Palm Springs, Jacumba Hot Springs,

Idyllwild, camping at Kitchen Creek Campground, renting a hotel room above the Pride March, a John Waters Film Festival (Polyester, Female Trouble, Desperate Living), plays, and Padre games. If you have suggestions for future events or wish to organize one, or better yet, wish to become the new Social Chair of the Umbrella Group, call or e-mail your suggestions to Paul Harris <pharris@ucsd.edu> and I will pass them on to the new Social Chair.

CHANCELLOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LESBIAN, GAY,
AND BISEXUAL ISSUES NEWS

The CACLGBI was created approximately 1 1/2 years ago through the diligent efforts of members of Queer University Employees and supporters. The Advisory Committee which is distinct from the Staff Association works to ameliorate conditions that have a negative impact on LGB persons at UCSD. In addition it serves to educate the campus wide community on issues related to LGB persons. Under the outstanding leadership of Sarah Archibald, in its short time in existence it has produced an extensive Campus Climate Report that documents conditions and policies in effect at UCSD that specifically impact the LGB community on campus and at the Medical Center. Both positive and negative areas are examined, all of which closely relate to the charge of the Committee and U.C.'s stated policy on non-discrimination based on sexual orientation. It is expected that the Committee will submit a revised report every couple of years that examines progress that has been made based on its previous recommendations. Copies of the Climate Report are available in the Social Sciences and Humanities Library (SSH) and on-line through the CAC web page. In addition, the CAC sent out over 100 copies of the Report to administrators throughout the University. There have been numerous requests for copies of the Report from other colleges, universities and corporations as well.

As the climate is always changing and hopefully progressing, Committee members are looking for any information you may come across in the campus community whereby the University or individuals are making strides towards creating a discrimination-free environment. We also want to be made aware of any cases of harassment, violence and/or discrimination that may be documented that you are aware of. If you encounter any of this, PLEASE send your comments to Jon Welch at <jwelch@ucsd.edu> or call him at 534-4497. Your identity and those of the parties involved can be

kept confidential.

The CAC, under the efforts of Jenny Pournelle, created its own web page which describes the Committee, some of its work, campus and community resources available to members of the LGB community at UCSD and links to other resources. The current webmaster is Brad Kroeger <bkroeger@ucsd.edu>. If you have suggestions for him or items of interest that might be posted on the web page please drop him a line. To view the web page via Infopath, follow the link for CAMPUS to CHANCELLOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LESBIAN, GAY, AND BISEXUAL ISSUES or via the URL: <http://Infopath.ucsd.edu/CACLGBI>.

The CAC also produced a brochure of LGB campus resources available to both heterosexual and LGB persons on campus. Included in the distribution of the 5,000 plus copies of this brochure were M.S.O.s, Resident Directors, R.A.s, Supervisors, Vice-Chancellors, Faculty, and incoming students at UCSD. If you or someone in your office needs a copy of this brochure please e-mail Jenny Pournelle at <jpournelle@ucsd.edu>.

Also, the CAC has purchased for the Staff Development and Training Office two videotapes that deal with homophobia and gay issues in the workplace. These videos are available for broadcast on campus over the broadband or may be checked out for two working days at a time and viewed at home.

The CAC has sent several of its members to various diversity conferences, LGB workshops, and meetings with the Office of the President to discuss such issues as domestic partner benefits, discriminatory housing policies at UC, and catastrophic leave benefits.

Members have participated in sensitivity training workshops with the Campus Police Department, met with the student group (LGBA), and with various members of Human Resources, Staff Development, Vice Chancellors, and diversity committees at the Medical Center and Campus.

This year's co-chairs of the Committee are John White and Jenny Pournelle. Anyone is welcome to attend the monthly meetings that are normally held on the third Thursday of each month from 11:30 - 1:00PM. If you have a particular issue that you want to bring up before the Committee or are interested in participating in the work of the subcommittees, please contact John at <jwhite@ucsd.edu> or Jenny at <jpournelle@ucsd.edu>. Most recently the Committee has presented a diversity trainer from Federal Express, who came to campus to speak on diversity

issues and HIV/AIDS issues at his corporation, LGB Historian John D'Emilio, and San Diego Councilperson Christine Kehoe, who spoke on coalition building. The Committee is currently working on producing a brochure for campus distribution that explores the myths and facts surrounding homosexuality. Scheduled for March 1st from 3:30 - 5:00PM in Gallery A of the Price Center is a program on Transgendered Issues. This promises to be a highly educational forum. Also the CAC is developing a Speakers' Bureau on LGB issues to complement existing diversity training panels already in existence. The Speakers' Bureau will be available to send out panels of trained speakers to dorms, classes, departments on campus and the community. If you know of any audiences that would like to have us come speak to them, please contact Paul Harris at 534-8164 or <pharris@ucsd.edu>.

FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE FOR LGB STUDENTS AND SUPPORTERS

Did you know that there are various scholarships available for both undergrad and grad students who pursue civil rights causes for LGB persons? If you want to receive a brochure describing these funding sources, please visit the LGBA office in the Old Student Center, call Paul at 534-8164 or contact Michael McPartlin at: Financial Aid Office 3300 College Dr. San Bruno, CA 94066-1698 (415) 738-4238 FAX (415) 738-4425.

UCSD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

One of our members expressed interest in forming an alumni association for LGBs of UCSD. If you have an interest in assisting in this worthy endeavor, please contact me (Paul Harris) and I will put you in touch with this member.

UCLGBA LOBBIES STATEWIDE FOR OUR EQUAL RIGHTS

Sick of hearing homophobic rantings about lesbians and gays wanting "special rights"? The University of California Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Association is a statewide organization representing the interests of LGB students, staff, faculty at all nine campuses along with the laboratories and Office of the President. The group meets quarterly to work for the equal rights of LGBs in the University. Working for domestic partner benefits for LGBs is a main priority for the group. Each campus is responsible

for sending two representatives to the Steering Board meetings and UCSD is in need of two volunteers. Students are highly encouraged to partake of this endeavor. You will be given background information on your role and the time commitment is not great. Normally your trips to various campuses are subsidized as well. If you are interested in helping to represent your campus, please contact Sarah Archibald at 622-5884 or e-mail her at <sarchibald@ucsd.edu>.

UCSD POLICE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES LGB PERSONS

Three members of the CAC/LGBI met with Police Chief Maudie Bobbitt. Out of this discussion, four members of the CAC held a panel discussion with the entire Department. Issues discussed included a presentation of myths and facts surrounding homosexuality, a discussion of some cases of harassment towards LGB persons by students or outsiders, reporting of hate crimes, a historical perspective on many LGB persons' hesitancy to report crimes to police, some frank talk about sexual encounters in public places on campus, and the openness of the Department to hire/and work with openly lesbian, gay and bisexual officers.

Our panel felt that the discussion was quite valuable and was definitely a two-way learning experience. The vast majority of officers were very receptive to our concerns and overall we found them well-educated on our issues. We aren't naive and realize that actions speak louder than words, but we have no reason to believe that anti-gay reports made to the UCSD Police will not be handled in a highly professional manner as would any other reports. In fact the Police strongly suggested that campus individuals not ignore cases of harassment and report these to the Police as well as encouraging LGB persons to partake of the Police Ride-A-Long Program. LGB students, staff, and faculty are highly encouraged to drop by the Police Department to ride with an officer for several hours. It is recommended that one partake of this adventure on a weekend night, as these tend to be more exciting.

Officers did express their concern over a previous report to their department in which they felt that several LGB individuals were not taking the report seriously and were joking about it and making humorous references about "liking a man in a uniform" (the officer taking the report). The police officers seemed to be most concerned about individuals who take part in "tearoom" (bathroom)

sex. We let them know that we did not condone this behavior, but also let them know that studies have shown that the majority of men who participate in these activities are heterosexually married men from all walks of life, who do not self-identify themselves as gay. We stressed that if society was more open and honest about its views on homosexuality, many of these individuals' internalized homophobia would not exist and they would have other outlets for meeting their needs. The police did let us know that they would periodically continue their undercover operations towards individuals engaged in public sex on campus.

The panel provided a list of names and numbers of LGB persons to contact in emergency situations should they want our assistance. This could include cases involving suicidal individuals, domestic violence cases, harassment/violence inflicted upon LGB individuals or other crisis intervention cases. If you, or someone you know is hesitant to report any type of harassment cases to the Police, please feel free to call James Porcier at 534-8247 or Sarah Archibald at 622-5884 or Paul Harris at 534-8164 and we will do our best to assist.

R.E.A.C.H. OUT FOR DIVERSITY

On Friday, March 15th, the UCSD Medical Center - Hillcrest will be holding a celebration to promote an increased knowledge of cultural values in a fun and educational format as a way to improve the service the staff and faculty provide to the San Diego community. We will have a table there, so if you want to help staff the table or just join in the day's activities, please call Patrick Dowd at 543-6798 for more information.

FINAL NOTE

The Umbrella Group receives no funding from the University. All social events, publicity, newsletters, informational tables, postage, entry fees in the Pride Parade and MLK Parade, and guest speakers are funded entirely by your donations and/or fund raisers. We sincerely thank those generous individuals who have donated their time and money in the past. Currently the Umbrella Group has approximately \$150. in the bank. Your donations are desperately needed. If you can spare any amount, please send a check made out to: "The Umbrella Group". Mail it to The Umbrella Group c/o

Paul Harris 0175L or if you are off-campus, mail it to The Umbrella Group c/o Paul Harris, Geisel Library, 0175L University of California, San Diego 9500 Gilman Drive La Jolla, CA 92093-0175. And finally, don't forget to get involved with this organization. It takes you to keep the events going.

General Umbrella Group Information/Social Calendar/Nominations for Officers: Paul Harris 534-8164 or <pharris@ucsd.edu>

UCSDMC Bisexual, Lesbian, & Gay Network: Patrick Dowd 543-6798 or <PRD@ucsdmc.edu>

Lesbian Support Group: Mollie Martinek 534-7117 or <mmartinek@ucsd.edu>

Queer University Employees: Paul Harris 534-8164 or <pharris@ucsd.edu>

Chancellor's Advisory Committee on LGB Issues: John White 534-1231 or <jwhite@ucsd.edu> or Jenny Pournelle 534-1979 or <jpournelle@ucsd.edu>

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Peer Counseling Program: David Blasband 534-3987 or <dblasband@ucsd.edu>

I would like to nominate _____
for Umbrella Group Chair or Co-chair.

I would like to nominate _____
for Newsletter Chair.

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for Social Chair.

Enclosed is my donation of _____ made payable to the Umbrella Group.

Comments/Suggestions:

OPINION

THE GREAT AIDS SCARE

Too much attention and money is spent on a containable disease, while others — such as cancer — are ignored

The public is being duped again. We are all being misled by politicized activists and the biased media into thinking that AIDS is the next great global epidemic. But the scare surrounding AIDS has been blown way out of proportion, and the facts of the disease have been lost in the process.

In the first place, we must not lose sight that when people contract HIV, it is virtually always their own fault. Second, and more importantly, AIDS is potentially 100 percent containable. With proper education and simple common sense, this so-called epidemic can be virtually eliminated. AIDS activists, however, want us to feel sorry for the multitudes who didn't listen to the warnings about how the disease is transmitted. In the end, though, we must recognize AIDS for what is: a feel-good issue for activists, the media and politicians, but an easily controllable problem.

Our time and money would be much better spent on more serious and widespread diseases — such as cancer — which people don't generally get from acting in an unsafe manner.

Whenever anyone indicts AIDS patients by suggesting it was their own fault for contracting HIV, AIDS activists and sympathizers immediately shout back claims to the contrary. They contend that many AIDS patients contracted HIV by accident, such as from a botched blood transfusion, through perinatal transmission or by other random mishaps, such as a dentist giving it to his patient.

When AIDS statistics are examined, however, it becomes apparent that people stricken with the virus in those blameless ways are a small minority. In 1994-95, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that of all new AIDS cases in the United States, barely one percent had contracted HIV via blood transfusions, from their mothers while in utero or through other accidents. The total number of such cases for that year was just over 700. Certainly, we should sympathize with these 700 people.

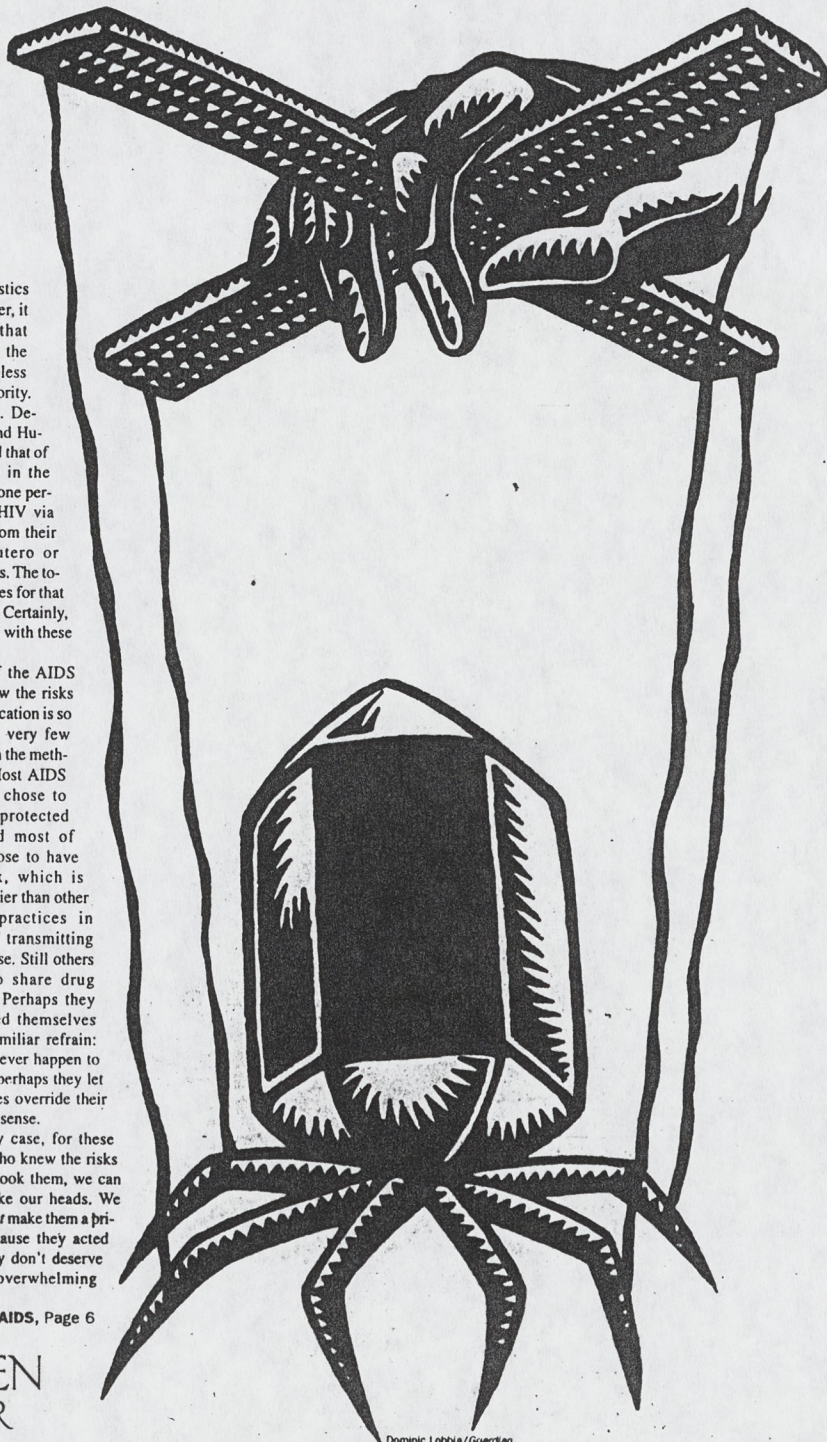
As for the rest of the AIDS population: They knew the risks beforehand. AIDS education is so widespread now that very few can feign ignorance on the methods of contraction. Most AIDS

patients chose to have unprotected sex, and most of them chose to have anal sex, which is even riskier than other sexual practices in terms of transmitting the disease. Still others chose to share drug needles. Perhaps they convinced themselves of the familiar refrain: "It will never happen to me." Or perhaps they let their urges override their common sense.

In any case, for these people who knew the risks but still took them, we can only shake our heads. We should *not* make them a priority because they acted without thinking. They don't deserve our money and our overwhelming sympathy.

See AIDS, Page 6

DEREK VAN HOFTEN
CO-OPINION EDITOR



Dominic Lobbia/Guardian

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Wed

AIDS: Education, not research, is answer to problem.

Continued from page 4

Some people point out that the disease was being spread long before the public learned about its dangers and its easy transmission. They argue that many AIDS patients contracted the disease before education was prevalent, and therefore should not be condemned for their ignorance. While this is true, our primary concern should be to prevent those people from spreading AIDS, not to devote all our resources to finding a cure to a problem that afflicts so few compared to cancer or heart disease.

According to the American Cancer Society, there were 1,252,000 new cases of cancer diagnosed in 1995. Compare that with the 75,825 new AIDS cases reported by the Department of Health and Human Services from July 1994 to June 1995. Surely, the numbers alone tell us that we should seek a cure for cancer before AIDS. Consider also that AIDS is almost entirely containable, while cancer can strike anyone at anytime.

But more importantly, we need to look at the actions of people with these diseases. Should we spend our

time and money on people who got AIDS through their own actions, or on those who were unfortunate enough to get cancer through no fault of their own? The answer is obvious.

Some people still don't know that they can contract HIV by sharing a drug needle or having unprotected sex. Some people do not have access to AIDS education or the media, and have not learned about these issues. Therefore, the process of stopping the spread of AIDS must include continued and enhanced education, so that those who actually do not know the issues can learn. Once everyone is educated, we can accomplish what should be our main concern — containing the spread of the disease.

In fact, statistics for the past three years show that the total number of AIDS cases is holding steady, and even dropping in some demographic groups. Education and better testing procedures are clearly working; transfusion accidents have dropped from 2.6 percent of all cases from 1981-87 to just one percent from 1993-95. These statistics prove that current methods are working, and that continued education should render wasteful research for cures obsolete.

Why then has AIDS become such a big issue? Perhaps activists saw the disease as a chance to vin-

dicate their alternative homosexual lifestyles. When it was discovered that AIDS could be transmitted through heterosexual contact, the homosexual community was supposedly "off the hook." In other words, opponents of homosexuality had used AIDS to damn the lifestyle, to show that homosexuals were reaping the natural results of their "unnatural" activities.

When it became clear that heterosexual sex could transmit the disease, the AIDS movement took on a new face. AIDS education started focusing primarily on the fact that AIDS was not a gay disease, and that we had all better practice safe sex or we'll wind up with it. But this new reasoning disguised the fact that AIDS is indeed primarily a gay disease.

The statistics support the claims: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that over half of all AIDS patients contracted HIV through homosexual sex. Since 1993, 52 percent of all new AIDS cases have fallen under the "men who have sex with men" category. Homosexual sex remains the most dangerous activity with respect to contracting HIV. Incidence of the disease and biological fact affirm this.

In addition, very few heterosexuals have contracted HIV. From July 1994 to July 1995, just eleven percent

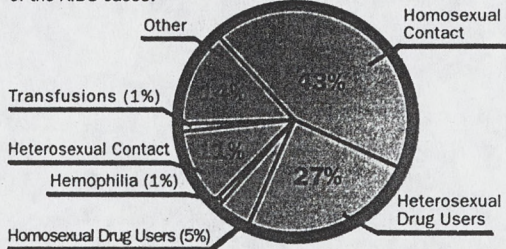
of all AIDS patients got HIV via heterosexual sex.

Ironically, the most neglected and ignored group has been drug abusers. No doubt a product of political priorities, the 25 percent of all AIDS patients who got HIV through injection drug use have gone largely unnoticed. This does not mean that we should feel any more sympathy for them, or for the eight percent of heterosexuals with AIDS, but it shows how the AIDS movement has obscured certain facts about AIDS and HIV.

The bottom line is that AIDS should not be the priority that it has become. The disease can be contained and even eliminated with the proper amount of education. Beyond that, the low number of cases and the personal negligence of those contracting HIV should force the issue far down on the list of diseases to attack. Cancer remains a foe far more deserving of our attention, as well as our time and money. The abuse and misconception surrounding the AIDS issue is more disturbing than the epidemic itself.

DISSECTING THE AIDS EPIDEMIC

In the period from July 1994 to June 1995, there were a total of 75,825 adults with AIDS. In the same period, there were 1,252,000 cancer cases. Below is a breakdown of the causes of the AIDS cases.



Source: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, American Cancer Society
Dominic Lobbia/Guardian

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Social Science Building 101

**Broadcasting Freedom:
Race, Radio, and World War II**

Barbara Dianne Savage
Department of History, University of Pennsylvania
May 2, 1996 noon
Social Science Building 103

**'The Battle for Womanhood Is a Battle for the Race':
Black Women and Racial Thought, 1830-1900**

Mia Bay
Department of History, Rutgers University
May 9, 1996 noon
Social Science Building 103

sponsored by:
The African and African-American

SPRING EVENT

Faculty and Students Invited

SOROPTIMIST
RESEARCH
AWARDS



Soroptimist International of La Jolla
and
UCSD

invite you to a reception to honor the 1995 award recipients...and encouragement/review of the application process for the new 1996 grants to be awarded in June and October.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1996
Mandeville Center - East Room
4:00 TO 6:00 P.M.

Join us for a social hour and refreshments
Meet the award winners and hear of their progress:
Janice Sue Bailey "Molecular Biology"
Deana Weibel "Anthropology"

Potential applicants can network, ask questions, find mentors, get energized!!!

SEE YOU THERE!!!

AIDS ARTICLE SEVERELY DISTORTS FACTS

Editor:

I am disappointed with the lack of scholarship by Derek van Hoften. ("The Great AIDS Scare," April 22, 1996). In asserting that AIDS receives inordinate public attention and government funding, he disregards both basic facts and maturity.

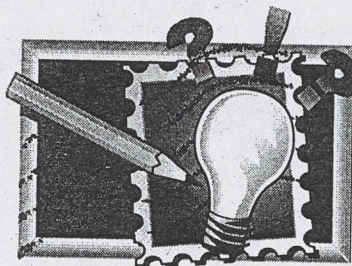
For example, in dismissing HIV's status as a global epidemic, he does not mention that in several African nations, a majority or near majority of the population is HIV-positive; or that some South Asian countries have per capita rates of transmission that could bring their population to similar proportions of infection.

I can understand van Hoften's questioning of the ratio of deaths to dollars spent on HIV versus other fatal conditions such as cancer. Thousands of American women have died from breast cancer in this century. Still, in less than 20 years, nearly eight times the number of people recorded on the Vietnam Memorial have died from AIDS.

But I am horrified by the article's gross insensitivity and moral bankruptcy. I have seen my mother, a breast-cancer survivor, mourn the loss of two close friends to AIDS in the last year. They were survived by their lifemates with whom they had lived "responsibly" for years. To my knowledge, no sexual offense committed in

the state of California carries a sentence of death. Yet that is precisely what I may face in the lobby of Student Health Services while waiting to take my first HIV blood test.

Scott D. Heath



Readers' Forum

All letters must be no longer than two pages, typed, double-spaced and signed. Letters must also contain a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Letters may be dropped off at the Guardian office on the second floor of the old Student Center (right above the General Store Co-op). Send all letters to:

The Guardian
Opinion Editor
9500 Gilman Dr. 0316
La Jolla, CA 92093-0316
Fax: (619) 534-7691
e-mail: guardian@ucsd.edu

The Umbrella Group

A Recognized Staff Association of UCSD
Published Quarterly

The Umbrella Group is the officially recognized Faculty/Staff Association for lesbian, gay and bisexual employees at UCSD. Under the "Umbrella" are the UCSD Med Center Bisexual, Lesbian & Gay Network, the Lesbian Support Group and Queer University Employees.

Election Results:

By an overwhelming vote, the following persons were elected as officers of the Umbrella Group, the LGB Faculty/Staff Association on April 2, 1996.

The **Umbrella Group Co-Chairs** are Patrick Dowd & Rich Zoehrer. The co-chairs' responsibilities include attending campus staff association chairs monthly meetings if possible or sending a representative to attend, submitting a one page report annually to the Staff Affirmative Action Office listing the activities of the organization, serve as contact person(s) for media relations, and help organize a table at the Annual Staff Association Picnic held during the Summer. They also organize and arrange our entry in the annual Pride Parade activities.

The **Newsletter Co-Chairs** are Ruthann Coyote & Patrick Dowd. The Newsletter co-chairs are responsible for putting out the newsletter.

The **Social Co-Chairs** are Nancy Relaford, Sam Dunlap, & Jack Neves. The Social co-chairs are responsible for planning the annual social calendar.

Umbrella Contacts:

Umbrella Group Co-Chairs:

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jneves@ucsd.edu

Unless you know otherwise, please send mail to work mail code addresses, "Addressee Only", please!

Speaker's Bureau Training:

The LGB Speakers' Bureau can be one of our most effective ways of changing homophobic views of us and also getting people involved in our organizations and perhaps even saving some lives. Approximately 23 persons went through the Chancellors' Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Issues speakers' bureau training

sessions. The three to four hour sessions were based on the training that UCD offers its speakers. We are now looking for speaking engagements before departments, church groups, classes, dorms, etc. to try and break down the stereotypes and homophobia that permeates society. If you know of any potential speaking engagements for our panels of three to four individuals please give Paul Harris a call at 534-8164.

Newsletter Submissions:

Well, folks, what do you think of the new look of the newsletter? Comments and submissions are most welcome. For anything lengthy, I would prefer you E-mail the text to me at rcoyote@ucsd.edu, or mail a 3x3 disk with the information to Ruthann Coyote, your Newsletter Editor, at 0079, Addressee only. Thanks!

Events!

June 7th - Friday. Get together at Club Bom Bay 6:00PM 3175 India St.

June 13 and 14-- AIDS CARE UPDATE scheduled for at the Holiday Inn in Mission Valley. Details and flyers to follow shortly. Save the dates!

June 15th - Saturday. Bowling. 7:00PM Aztec Bowl 4356 30th Street (North Park). Meet in the parking lot of the Bowl. Contact:

John 534-1231.

June 19th - Wednesday. The Village People perform at the Del Mar Fair this evening. Not sure yet of the time, but probably around 7:00PM at the Racetrack, free with fair admission. Will have a car pool leaving from UCSD. If interested, contact Paul at 534-8164 or e-mail pharris@ucsd.edu

June 20, Thursday--The Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues will be meeting at the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest. The meeting will take place in the Camelot Room, 132 Dickinson Street from 11:30am to 1:00pm. You are invited to bring a lunch - soft drinks will be provided. Several agenda items will address specific UCSDMC Issues. The CACLGBI Meetings are open to UCSD and UCSDMC employees. For more information call Rich Belmontez at X37577 or Patrick Dowd at X36798.

June 29th - Saturday. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Pride Parade in Tijuana. Starts at 2:00PM on Avenue Revolucion. A fiesta follows from 3-10PM.

July 4-7 The San Diego Tennis Federation and the Women's Tennis Network present the 11th Annual San Diego Open. Lesbian and Gay tennis players from North America compete here in San Diego to become champions of their division. The tournament offers player from novice to Open to play. Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles divisions are offered. Entries and additional information can be obtained by contacting Chris Clarke 574-6688.

Regarding Events:

All Readers: Feel free to plan and coordinate events and let us know. We will be happy to advertise!

If you would like to assist the Umbrella Group with organizing any of these events, please contact any of the social co-chairs. For most events you need just show up to the event. Others will require advance reservations, such as camping. For more information, please contact the person listed under each event.

Homophobic Utah's 2002 Winter Olympics

On February 20, 1996, the Salt Lake City School Board voted to ban all clubs in order to keep a Gay/Lesbian/Straight Alliance from forming at East High School. Despite numerous phone calls and countless letters, the board seems to remain recalcitrant. Salt Lake City will host the 2002 Winter Olympics with the slogan "The World is Welcome Here." The Salt Lake City School Board's decision calls into question how much of the "World" is truly "Welcome" here. The Citizens' Alliance for Hate Free Schools, a project of the Utah Human Rights Coalition, calls on all supporters of the rights of young people to have equal access to educational opportunities and safe schools to sign and the following petition.

PETITION TO THE SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL BOARD

"We, the undersigned, support the efforts by area high school students to organize non-curricular clubs and alliances designed to increase understanding and good will among the high school population and the general public as well. We call on the Salt Lake City School Board to resist all illegal attempts at intimidation and coercion to deprive students of their legally guaranteed rights. We request that they take immediate action to reverse their decision of February 20, 1996, to ban all clubs."

*The editor regrets we only have an E-mail address available for the individual who is organizing this petition writing process. Her name is Charlene Orchard and E-mail address is: cdorchar@earthlink.net.

Write your Representatives in Congress!!

H.R. 3396, 'The Defense of Marriage Act', sponsored by Representative Bob Barr (R - GA) would, for the first time, create a federal definition of marriage.

According to this federal definition, marriage would only include heterosexual couples. The Federal government would not recognize legally married same-gender couples. Currently, civil same-gender marriage is not permitted anywhere in the United States. This federal legislation, like the over 30 anti-marriage measures introduced at the state level, is in anticipation of an upcoming Hawaii court decision that could legalize same-gender marriage in that state. Representative Barr's action follows a year of action by the extremist Right that has moved the issue of same-gender marriage to the top of its agenda.

ACTION: Contact your Representative and demand that they vote against HR 3396. Following are some talking points you can use.

* This bill would result in unprecedented legal discrimination against lesbian and gay couples and would short-circuit the very important debate in our country about family issues.

*The Halls of Congress are being used once again to promote the agenda of a small band of narrow-minded extremists in this country. The issue of same-gender marriage is being used as a wedge issue between fair-minded Americans and those who promote hatred and intolerance in this country.

*Groups such as Concerned Women of America, Focus on the Family, and the Report have developed a very clear plan to pass model resolutions against same-gender marriage in each state that have culminated in this effort today. While they would have us believe that they seek to "preserve legalized, traditional marriage," the truth is that they seek to impose their own narrow agenda on every American by playing on people's real fears and concerns about the changing American family.

* HR 3396 singles out a minority group in our society for discriminatory treatment.

*HR 3396 would allow states to violate the full faith and credit clause of the Constitution by not recognizing legal transactions made in another state.

Family Values

Gerry Braun
From the San Diego Union Tribune
5/13/96

Go ahead. Ignore the marches, the rallies and the big dance. The lesbian and gay community will get its message across anyway. A group called Gay & Lesbian Families of America has rented a dozen billboards and 17 bus-shelter displays for a month this summer to promote a positive image to visiting Republicans. "We're not trying to be preachy, but simply to raise public awareness that gay and lesbian families do exist." said spokesman Michael Lamb. Two of three billboards are ready to go. One will feature a four-generation family portrait and the message "Someone you know and love is gay." The second shows six employees, each identified as either "gay" or "not gay." The tagline: "Does it really matter?" The third billboard is still on the drawing board while its creators strive to achieve ethnic diversity among its models. Such was a condition of the project's endorsement from the San Diego Human Relations Commission. "We were told everybody can't be white," Lamb said.

*NOTE: Gay & Lesbian Families of America can be reached at family@electriciti.com

UCSD in the Pride Parade!

Interested in getting involved in the Pride Parade? In the past the Umbrella Group has arranged a contingent in the march. The parade takes place this year on July 27, at 12:00 noon, starting at University and Normal Avenue. Call Paul at 534-8164 or Rich at 534-2910 for more information, or just show up at the beginning of the parade and look for the UCSD banner!

Medical Symposium

The 14th Annual Symposium of the Gay

& Lesbian Medical Association is taking place August 22-24 at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal, Canada. GLMA is a membership organization of 1,800 lesbian, gay and bisexual physicians, medical student and their supporters in all 50 US states and 11 other countries, including Canada. The symposium, in a format of panel presentations, lectures and small group discussions, will address the professional and personal challenges faced by lesbian, gay and bisexual physicians and medical students. The symposium is intended for physicians, medical students and health policy makers, regardless of individual sexual orientation, with an interest in lesbian and gay health and well-being. GLMA is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. Registration forms and an informational brochure can be obtained by contacting the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, 211 Church St., Ste. C, San Francisco, CA 94114. E-mail address: gaylesmed@aol.com.

OUT at Geisel Library!

Two new journals at the Geisel Library include "The Journal of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Identity" and the local San Diego "Gay and Lesbian Times." New books include Lynette Lewis, "Select Body: the Gay Dance Party Subculture and the HIV/AIDS Pandemic;" Machos, Maricones, and Gays: Cuba and Homosexuality" by Ian Lumsden; Constance Jones, "Sexual Harassment" (including a background historical overview of the law, annotated bibliography, and contact organizations and agencies) in the Reference Room; "From Wedded Wife to Lesbian Life: Stories of Transformation" edited by Deborah Abbott and Ellen Farmer; and "Evaluating Women's Health Messages: a Resource Book", edited by Roxanne Louiselle Parrott and Celeste Michelle Condit. UCSD students may contact me, Sam Dunlap, Librarian for Gender Studies and Women's Studies at 534-6443, to schedule a consultation session on search strategies and specific research topics.

Michael Marx and David Marshall

Scholarship for Gay and Lesbian Students

The deadline to apply for this scholarship is open until the end of June. (Previously the deadline was Friday, May 24th). In addition, until the end of June (or when matching funds run out) the University is matching any further funds donated to this scholarship. So if you have the funds and the inclination, now is the time to donate to this scholarship! This scholarship is open to gay and lesbian students who will be at the sophomore, junior, and senior level by fall quarter of 1996. For more info, please visit the LGBA in the Old Student Center, 2nd Floor, or call the Scholarship Office at 534-3263.

Support the Umbrella!

The Umbrella Group receives no funding from the University. All social events, publicity, newsletters, informational tables, postage, entry fees in the Pride Parade, and guest speakers are funded entirely by your donations and/or fund raisers. We sincerely thank those generous individuals who have donated their time and money in the past. Why don't you join them?

*Be the envy of your friends...
Make your Mom & Dad proud..*

Become an Umbrella Group member; and get this newsletter four times a year, plus other fabulous but thus far intangible benefits!

Name _____

Address _____

Return this form & *only* five dollars, (that's \$5.00) in check or money order, payable to Umbrella Group to:

Patrick Dowd
200 West Arbor Drive Dept. 8320
San Diego, CA 92103-8320
Addressee Only

Affirmative Action...for the Rich and Famous



UC staff demonstrate during the national day of action for affirmative action

Thanks in large part to the hard work of CUE members at Los Angeles, Davis, Santa Cruz and Berkeley, UC clericals made up nearly half of the 1600 UC staff who signed a petition to the UC Regents calling for reversal of their July 1995 vote to end affirmative action in student admissions and staff hiring. The petition, initiated by the Staff Coalition for Affirmative Action, was presented to the Regents at their March meeting in San Francisco. On the same day, CUE member Tom Boot was one of several unionists to address a rally at UC Berkeley, at which staff held placards bearing the names of workers from all UC campuses who signed the petition.

Regent Ward Connerly, who spearheaded the Regents' attack on affirmative action at UC, is now heading a campaign for the "California Civil Rights Initiative." Civil rights attorney Eva Paterson told the March 14 crowd at Berkeley that the initiative should be titled the "Civil Wrongs Initiative" because it would end affirmative action at the state and local government levels. According to Feminist Majority president Eleanor Smeal, the CCRI would also constitutionally weaken civil rights for women in discrimination cases.

(continued inside)

Why do we need a new union?

This university works because we do. Our work is diverse, but the common thread is that it's all critical to the success of this public university. Clericals do the hard work of putting on conferences, typing papers, balancing budgets, collecting bills, and advising students. We write, edit and design. We make UC's libraries places of learning and pleasure, we conduct surveys, we manage offices, and we provide childcare services.

We deserve strong and effective union representation, which we have not had during the twelve years AFSCME has represented clericals. CUE wants to change that. Here are a few issues at the top of CUE's agenda:

WAGES. We've endured stagnant wages for many years—wages that haven't even come close to keeping pace with inflation. In 1993, our wages were cut 3.5% (through reduction of our hours) with almost no opposition from AFSCME. CUE will make bargaining for better wages a top priority, by building membership strength so we'll have power at the bargaining table.

BENEFITS are a substantial part of our compensation, and UC has been chipping away at them by introducing co-payments. CUE will pressure UC to improve and equalize benefits, institute domestic partner benefits, and improve childcare provisions.

JOB SECURITY. Many of us dedicate our careers to UC, but UC isn't as dedicated to us. Reorganizations and layoffs are now commonplace. CUE believes clericals need much stronger rights in matters of layoff and preferential rehire—rights we'll only have with more effective union representation.

HRMI. The university claims that the Human Resources Management Initiatives do not apply to clericals, yet funds put towards incentive pay (instead of base-building salary increases) have already affected us. Salary increases should be distributed fairly across the board rather than as "incentives" to a chosen few. Other aspects of HRMI are also potentially damaging to clericals.

(continued inside)

THE FIRST STEP TOWARD A NEW, EFFECTIVE UNION FOR UC CLERICAL EMPLOYEES

To replace AFSCME for UC's clerical workers, a new statewide union election has to be held. To do this, 30% of all UC clerical employees need to sign cards declaring their interest in having CUE represent them and calling for an election.

CUE is collecting these cards between March 1996 and March 1997. If CUE succeeds in collecting the required 30% valid signatures, the state Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) will conduct a secret mail ballot election. Every clerical employee will have the chance to vote for CUE, AFSCME or no representation. If none of the options gets over 50% of the vote, a runoff election will be held.

Here are two ways you can sign an authorization card:

- 1 Fill out and sign the postpaid card enclosed in this newsletter and mail it back to us.
- 2 Go to CUE's web site at <http://www.labornet.org/cue/> and choose the "Authorization Card" option. Print out a copy, fill it out, sign it, and mail.

If you'd like a stack of cards to distribute to your co-workers, or if you'd like to know how you can help build a strong union, contact us at (510) 845-3447 or email us at clericals@igc.org. Don't delay—sign today!

CUE voices from around the state

Clerical employees at **UCSC** packed a lunch-time meeting to discuss CUE's campaign to replace AFSCME. "We got such a welcome," said Susan Stanton, a CUE member from UCB who travelled to UCSC to attend the meeting, she said. "Reorganizations have been a particular problem at UCSC, and people recognize we need a stronger union to protect employees' rights."

For information about CUE at UCSC, call Zoe Sodja at (408) 338-3788.



CUE luncheon at UCSC

CUE is up-and-running at **UCD**. Member Janice Corner says "the Davis chapter's focus is on education, to reverse the ill-effects of the systematic propaganda against unions by personnel administrators, when organizing began on campus twelve years ago."

Nevertheless, Corner and fellow UCD member Janeene Fisher-Booth are finding support for unions in general, and CUE in particular, as they talk with UCD employees. For information on upcoming Davis CUE happenings, contact Janeene Fisher-Booth at (916) 924-3494.



Janice Corner & Janeene Fisher-Booth

CUE supporters at

UCB/UCOP sprang into action on March 14, the first day of the year-long card gathering campaign, fanning out across campus with authorization cards.

Meanwhile, CUE has helped reverse a number of layoffs in the School of Education at UCB. Katherine Huffaker Jones, an Administrative Assistant, was given a layoff notice in mid-January, along with 5 other employees. When a CUE representative advised Jones to demand to see calculations of seniority points, it started a chain of events which ultimately led to department management rescinding all 6 layoffs. "The union wins again...sure glad you were there!" says Jones.

The UCB/UCOP organizing committee meets every Wednesday. Please call (510) 845-3447 for information.

In the wake of the layoffs of 25 clerical employees at **Lawrence Berkeley National Lab** last summer, people are



UCB card gatherers about to hit the streets

frustrated with AFSCME, which they say did nothing in response to layoffs.

"CUE is more responsive than AFSCME—more active and willing to discuss issues with employees and more willing to

Do you have equal rights at UC?

Lesbians, gays, and bisexuals are treated as second class citizens in many aspects of daily life, in ways that heterosexuals often never realize because these rights are usually taken for granted. These discrepancies are apparent in the workplace. Even if one is fortunate enough to have a work environment that is not outwardly hostile to homosexuality or bisexuality, discrimination is possible and does take place. Nowhere is this more apparent than in UC's failure to recognize bisexual, lesbian and gay relationships as legitimate.

UC claims that it does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. How does this translate into practice? There are many employees on campus who must make hard decisions about facing less than sympathetic supervisors over such basic issues as family leave time. It's one thing to be "tolerant" of lesbian, gay and bisexual employees, but it's another to recognize that their lives include tending to their families: dealing with an ill partner or child, or an adoption issue, or going to a child's school when there is a problem. These things are rights that most take for granted. In each department, a supervisor can act as she or he chooses toward gay, lesbian and bisexual campus employees. This leaves such employees vulnerable to unequal treatment, with no recourse for redress.

Some of the rights under the current AFSCME contract which cannot legally be used by domestic partners—gay or straight—are Sick Leave, Family Care and Medical Leave, Death Benefits and Bereavement Leave. In addition, UC's health benefits and retirement programs do not cover domestic partners. We need a union which will not accept contract language which denies equal rights for lesbian, gay and bisexual employees and their families. We need a union which will not just talk the talk but will aggressively demand that UC live up to its nondiscrimination policies.

challenge management. We're trying to make this point at LBNL," says Susan Lauer, a CUE member who works as an Administrative Services 4 at LBNL.

LBNL meetings take place on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Contact Marya Norman-Bloodsaw for more information.

"I joined CUE at the first meeting because of my disgust at



Diane Flynn Justice

AFSCME's uselessness on the **UCLA** campus," said Diane Justice, a Library Assistant at the UCLA Law School. She's circulating cards for the recertification election because, she says, "CUE offers hope and positive energy in times of increasing degradation of work and benefits." UCLA's CUE chapter has regular meetings every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at noon. For information, contact Claudia Horning at

chorning@library.ucla.edu or (310) 396-6491. CUE chapters at **UCI, UCR, UCSB** are also forming—contact Claudia Horning.

Word of the new union is spreading among **UCSD's** 2500 clerical employees. CUE member Daralene Hardrick says UCSD clericals are "happy to sign cards because they are eager to see a change in unions here." Call (510) 845-3447 for information.

UCSF employees are learning their jobs may be sold to a private corporation (see story on back page). For more information, contact Chude Allen at (415) 587-8219.

NewsBank InfoWeb
The San Diego Union-Tribune

July 27, 1996

Column: REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, SAN DIEGO 1996

Escondido readies for protesters at tribute dinner for Buchanan

ByL. Erik Bratt; STAFF WRITER

Section: LOCAL

Edition: UNION-TRIBUNE

2,3,4,5,7,1

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SCHEDULES
SECURITY

Article Text:

ESCONDIDO - ESCONDIDO -- Will conservative Pat Buchanan bring more than fiery rhetoric when he and his supporters convene here for a gala the night before the GOP convention opens in San Diego?

Some are predicting Buchanan could attract hundreds of angry, placard-waving protesters.

As a result, police are considering setting up a "designated protest zone," similar to what San Diego officials have already done.

Buchanan, who came in a distant second to certain Republican nominee Bob Dole during the primaries, is scheduled to appear at a tribute dinner at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido, on Aug. 11.

The invitation-only gala, called "Pat's Pitchfork Pass," will be held for about 1,500 supporters and delegates, and will feature music, food, entertainment, and a speech by Buchanan.

At least one group said it is "absolutely" adding Escondido to its list of demonstrations during the convention, while two other groups say they are considering it.

Tony Valenzuela, co-chairman of Voices '96, a coalition of gay, lesbian and bisexual groups, predicted several hundred coalition protesters will descend upon Escondido.

"Buchanan has clearly targeted the gay and lesbian community as a threat to American people," said Valenzuela, who said his coalition is bringing more than 5,000 protesters to San Diego from across the nation. "We have a different message to convey, the truth about who we actually are."

A representative for the American Friends Service Network, a national pro-immigrant rights group, said the group would also like to send Buchanan a message, if it can spare the people.

The group's Border Project is currently spending its weekends leafletting the border, urging Mexican shoppers not to spend their money in the United States as a way to call attention to the scapegoating of immigrants. It also plans on protesting the San Diego convention.

"We would definitely like to target Buchanan," said Roberto Martinez, Border Project director. "He has been one of the most vocal persons blaming immigrants for social and economic problems. It depends on how many people we can get."

Susan Pollock of the San Diego Committee Against Handgun Violence said her group, which opposes Buchanan's views on firearms, had not heard of his Escondido tribute. She said it may be interested in protesting, but has no formal plans.

Buchanan's support for a constitutional ban on abortion could also encourage abortion-rights activists to turn out.

Whatever the case, Escondido police say they will be prepared, not only for Buchanan, but for an anti-abortion fund-raiser Aug. 10 at the center, organized by Alternative Pregnancy Care.

Police are reviewing their options for both events and may consider setting up a separate protest zone, at least for Buchanan's tribute, city officials said. Many of the details will be hammered out during a meeting Monday.

"I am sure we will have people out there no matter what," said Police Chief Mike Stein. "Our goal is to make it a safe demonstration."

Police and city officials say they weren't told about Buchanan's visit until after the event had been booked at the center. Mayor Sid Hollins learned of the event in the newspaper.

"I think we were disappointed that we were not made aware of the fact that negotiations were going on as it relates to the utilization of the center," Hollins said. "I would hope that it was an oversight. But I have every confidence in our Police Department."

John Condit, Buchanan's press secretary, declined to comment.

Maureen Legg, the center's marketing director, said police officials were informed of Buchanan's plans last week. She said the center is not expecting any trouble and will rely on the expertise of its 16-member security team to make sure things go smoothly. The center will also be working closely with police, she said.

Stein said protests are simply part of politics.

"There are people in politics who are not popular and bring protesters with them," he said. "It is just part of the American system."

Memo: Head varies
Editions Vary

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The San Diego Union-Tribune

August 15, 1996

Column: REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, SAN DIEGO 1996

Gay factions join together to push a common agenda

By Clark Brooks; STAFF WRITER

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EVENT

Article Text:

On the right, the gay and lesbian Log Cabin Republicans. On the left, Voices '96, gays and lesbians who oppose the GOP platform.

But no cross-fire here. The groups have put aside their political differences during the 1996 Republican National Convention, and concentrated this week on promoting gay rights.

"I think where we agree is that the bigotry and scapegoating has got to stop," says Brenda Schumacher of Voices '96, a coalition of national and local organizations.

"Their job is to make changes from within the Republican Party," said Schumacher of San Diego. "Our job is to work for change outside."

The gay left and gay right agree on gay and lesbian issues, said Washington, D.C.-based Richard Tafel, executive director of the Log Cabin Republicans.

"The goal is to be sought after by both parties," he said, "and then for the gay issue to go away."

The Log Cabin group started in California in the late '70s and went national in 1990. The group claims 10,000 members in 30 states.

Gay Republicans were disappointed with their party's convention four years ago in Houston, where Pat Buchanan and others spoke out against gay rights.

Their relationship with Bob Dole got off to a shaky start last year when his campaign staff returned a \$1,000 donation. Dole later said an aide acted without his knowledge, but the angry Log Cabin

people decided not to reissue the check.

Many liberal gays wonder how the Log Cabin group can support a political party whose platform opposes same-sex marriage, says gays do not belong in the military and is against extending anti-discrimination laws to include gays and lesbians.

Log Cabin leaders say the Democratic Party has given little more than lip service to gay issues, so they have aligned politically with the GOP and its promises of streamlined government and lower taxes.

But the Log Cabin Republicans did not endorse George Bush in 1992, and they are debating whether to back Dole. Although Christina Martin of the Dole campaign told Log Cabin leaders this week that their endorsement is welcome, the group is waiting for Dole to "spell out exactly where gay Americans fit into his vision of America," said Kevin Ivers, a Log Cabin spokesman.

While the Log Cabin group negotiates that issue with Dole representatives this week, Voices '96 is here to protest. More than 1,000 gays and lesbians were downtown Monday evening to demonstrate against the Republican Party platform.

Candace Gingrich, prominent lesbian activist and sister of Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, spoke out against the GOP stance on same-gender marriages. She is a member of the Human Rights Campaign, one of 10 national organizations to join with local gay-rights groups in Voices '96.

The goal of Voices '96 is to point out that in a country that values fairness, gays and lesbians are being treated unfairly, said Voices '96 co-organizer Tony Valenzuela.

In many parts of the country, Valenzuela said, gays and lesbians can be fired from their jobs simply for being gays and lesbians. He also said America needs to fight harder against the AIDS epidemic.

"We are not just a group of angry people who are merely frustrated," he said. "This is about our lives."

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