

## Co-Editors' Corner

by Joy Liau & Jen Poorbaugh

Greetings Chapel Hill! We know that you have been eagerly anticipating this issue of *Lambda* for what, almost three years now? Well, you can exhale; we're back! With an excellent staff, fearless Co-Editors, and boundless support from B-GLAD, *Lambda* will be around for quite some time, and then some.

How is it, you ask yourself, that on this lovely National Coming Out Day you happen to be holding this copy of *Lambda*? Instead of having you rack your brain for the answer to this question, as we're sure you're doing, we're going to tell you the answer! It's fate. Yes, it was fated since the day that you were born that on this momentous occasion, you would be holding this impressive yet unassuming piece of literature. It was also fated

on the birthday of the newspaper itself, when *Lambda* became indefinitely known as the first LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender) newspaper in the South. The cosmic order of the universe has dictated this moment. It just gives you a warm and fuzzy feeling inside, doesn't it?

For those of you looking for something different from the *DTH* or, ahem, the *Carolina Review*, fate has brought you to the right place! *Lambda* serves as a creative and informative forum for anyone with an open mind in the Chapel Hill community. Does this paper click with you? *Lambda* is looking for people who are enthusiastic about working with—you'll never guess, this paper! Like to write? Are you into photography? Art? Layout and design? Copyediting? Stop by our homebase, the B-GLAD office in the Union, Room 215F, and chat with us. Also, *Lambda* is accepting submissions from

anyone in the Chapel Hill community. These submissions can include anything—factual articles, short stories, poems, opinions, art, anything! Drop off submissions in the B-GLAD office. The deadline for the next issue is October 31. If we are not in, a folder is available on the wall outside. If we are in, we have a beautiful box inside the office just waiting to ingest your work. Make sure you include a way for us to get in touch with you, and written submissions should be on disk and paper if possible. Submissions will also be accepted anonymously.

So give us a gander (no livestock please), and tell us what you think. Write us. Talk to us. Go to the office. Stop us on the street. Come into our homes and peep in—uh, never mind. You get the point. We want to hear your opinion. Really. No kidding. On that last note, have an excellent National Coming Out Day! λ

## Notes from the front; email backlash reacts

by Lorelei Costa

Wow. I've made the big time. I was once a lonely, insignificant student, one in 25,000, but now all that has been changed. My name has been mentioned in the most exclusive tabloid on campus, the *Carolina Review*, in its report of B-GLAD's mass emailing earlier this semester. I don't know whether to chuckle or weep, hold my head up with pride or cower in a corner of the closet, clip the article for posterity or burn it on my stove.

This whole email mess has been quite, well, messy. I'm not going to defend us. Although we certainly didn't realize it at the time, sending out mass emails is a clear violation of ATN policy. Of course, I still find it extremely puzzling that any user is actually able to spam the entire campus despite its illegality, but I suppose that's beside the point. Obviously we won't be doing it again.

The backlash for this first-time infringement has been absolutely amazing. In response to the 30,000 email messages we sent to UNC addresses (approximately 4000 accounts were left before the activity was halted), we received over 400 emailed replies. Some of them were fabulously positive; students and faculty wrote back with ideas for the group, inquiries about the meetings, and supportive affirmations. Immediately following the message we

had forty new subscribers to the B-GLAD listserv and over one hundred attendees at our first meeting.

Some of those replies, however, were horrific, frightening, or even threatening. "Guess what? I'm starting an anti-fag

club. Wanna join?" "I do not support the homosexual lifestyle." "I suggest that you find another stupid mother fucker to turn him or her into fags like you. Until then

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