



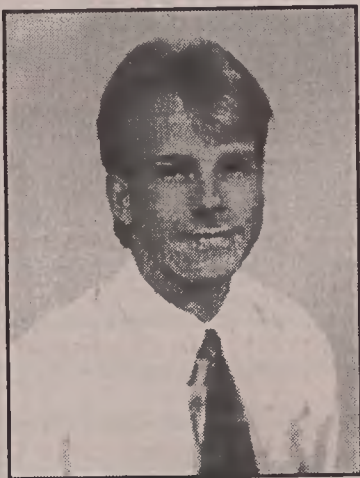
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NGLTF board meets in Washington, DC

WASHINGTON, DC—The Board of Directors of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) held one of its tri-annual meetings at NGLTF offices in Washington, DC April 28-30. At the meeting, notification of two new foundation grants and three new bequests was announced. The board also passed several policy resolutions re-affirming the organization's commitments to progressive coalition-building.

The Albert List Foundation of New York City recently notified NGLTF that it will be receiving a \$75,000 grant to help support NGLTF's re-engineering efforts. That work includes computer upgrades, publication production, new software acquisition and other technology enhancements aimed at increasing the ability of NGLTF to deliver information and services more quickly to activists in the field. The Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, which last year helped fund the move to NGLTF's new office space, has granted the organization \$45,000 for general support of the organization's work. NGLTF has also recently been notified of three bequests totaling \$180,000 that will be received in the coming months.

In other development and finance news, the projected 1995 budget of \$3.2 million remains virtually unchanged after the board reviewed first quarter financial statements and fundraising plans for 1995.

NGLTF Deputy Director Kerry Lobel highlighted NGLTF involvement in the following areas: Des Moines, Iowa's multi-cultural curriculum battle; South Dakota's and Utah's anti-same sex marriage bills; Montana's "deviate sexual conduct" debacle; media advocacy around the murder of Scott Amedure; Alaska's pending anti-same sex marriage and anti-domestic partnership measures; and the battle against anti-gay initiatives in Tampa, FL and Maine.

"NGLTF has been effective in helping to 'put out the fires' that our community has faced this year," Lobel noted. "But we can't just put out fires—we must build the capacity and abilities of our movement."

To that end, Lobel outlined several upcoming Movement Building Institutes that will be held in communities "that had been in

crisis earlier this year, and now have the breathing room to strategize into the future." NGLTF just completed an Institute in Alaska, and will soon be heading to Iowa, Utah and South Dakota.

John D'Emilio, who will take the helm of the Policy Institute (the research and publication arm of NGLTF) in July, said he intends to "help close the gap between local activists and academics" by producing new research and refashioning some existing academic research to make it more accessible to activists. D'Emilio outlined three areas where Policy Institute work may be focused in the near future—family, religion and work. D'Emilio identified these topics as areas where gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals are able to "burst out of our lavender bubble" and engage in discussions with the larger community.

The board unanimously adopted three resolutions on critical national political issues: welfare, affirmative action and immigration. A preamble to each resolution reads, "Recognizing that the civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are inextricably linked to the civil rights of all people..." The resolution on welfare reads: "[NGLTF] opposes the elimination or reduction of government programs that provide needed food, housing, health care and other basic services." The resolution on affirmative action reads: "[NGLTF] supports the establishment and continuation of policies and programs that attempt to address the continuing effects of this nation's legacy of gender and race-based discrimination, and opposes the wholesale elimination of the concept of affirmative action." The resolution on immigration reads: "[NGLTF] opposes all legislative measures that deny immigrants provision of basic needs, especially health care, and campaigns that make immigrants scapegoats for societal problems."

"Current events call on us to be clear on these issues as we move forward on the national, state and local level in alliance with other organizations and movements," said Board Co-Chair Deborah Johnson-Rolon. "We recognize that in order for this society to offer us the compassion and justice we seek as gay and lesbian people, that compassion must exist for all. We at NGLTF know that these issues are, in fact, controversial. We believe it's important to take a stand, for our coalition efforts and for our education work within our community."

One of NGLTF's newest projects is the creation of a video in response to the anti-gay propaganda video *Gay Rights/Special Rights*. NGLTF board member Dee Mosbacher, nominated for an Academy Award this year for her short documentary *Straight from the Heart*, will head this project.

Jesse Helms

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through the Ryan White Program over the last five years, 2,500 in the past year alone.

A re-authorization bill does not include a specific appropriation. It defines the program in question with "such funding as Congress may deem necessary." A separate appropriation bill is needed to fund the program. In this case, the proposed Ryan White re-authorization changes the funding formula to shift more money to rural states like NC where new cases of HIV are rising rapidly.

If a re-authorization bill does not pass, a program like Ryan White can still be funded

through an appropriations bill using the provisions of the original authorization that established the program. AIDS Action's Lubinski pointed out that appropriating money without a re-authorization has occurred in Washington, but is unlikely in the current political climate where budget cutting has become popular in the Congress. If the program did receive an appropriation without a re-authorization bill, the funding formula would not be changed and North Carolina and other rural states would receive the increased levels of funding now planned.

"The pressure is on Sen. Dole now," Lubinski said, "he can bring it to the full Senate and lead the fight for it, if he wants to."

JEFFREY GRANT KOENIG

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