

Reproductive Health Interest Group
General Body Meeting
January 18, 2007

I. Introductions

II. RHIG Superstars

Cody Haight, Jacqueline Torres, and Reema Shah were named as RHIG superstars, especially for their commitment to the Adult Film Industry project.

III. Updates from Officers

Co Presidents: Natasha Desai & Nathan Nickel

Natasha will be graduating at the end of winter quarter, so RHIG is inviting any interested members to apply for the position. First-year representatives are also needed for Special Projects, Fundraising, and Speaker committees. All interested individuals should write a short paragraph of interest and mail it to Natasha.

Secretary/Treasurer: Julia Dudek

Now that t-shirts have been purchased, the RHIG account has \$109. Julia may also be graduating early, so members may also express interest in her position.

Fundraising Co-Chairs: Sonya Trinh & Sharie Cheng

Sharie reported that the RHIG t-shirts are ready; their slogan is, "Love carefully." All proceeds will benefit the campaign to end obstetric fistula. The committee asked for assistance in writing a fistula fact sheet to be distributed with the t-shirts. They also requested help to plan a "Love carefully" happy hour at Westwood Brew Co. on an upcoming Thursday, as well as future bagel sales. Souvenirs that students brought back from their international field studies will be auctioned at the Public Health Students Association banquet in the spring. Those proceeds will be donated to Medicine for Humanity, towards DNA testing of accused rapists in Africa.

Speaker Committee Co-Chairs: Kerry Hood, Ariel Shumaker, Kerry Lamb

Kerry Lamb has moved to the speaker committee, since the two officers are in the Social Welfare school this year and have conflicting schedules. She named three leads for future events: (1) a woman from Romania to speak on sex trafficking, (2) RHIG alumni to speak on their reproductive health careers, (3) inviting a speaker to talk about the HPV vaccine. Dr. Tavrow and former speaker committee chair Anthony Wang have offered to assist the committee to get these events underway. The committee was encouraged to seek available graduate funding, up to \$3000, for an event.

Special Projects: Miriam Boxerman, Kristen Hess, Anya Gutman

Miriam began by giving a short quiz about emergency contraception to illustrate the myths surrounding it. The committee is planning a series of Monday night health education talks at sororities in February and March. They will also share information about cost of and access to EC at the Ashe center. It was suggested that RHIG turn the quiz into posters to be displayed at Ashe.

IV. RHIG Action

Members signed and mailed letters in protest of Eric Keroack, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs in the Department of Health and Human Services. Keroack, a non-board certified doctor, is anti-choice and against contraception, yet he oversees Title X funding for family planning at the national level.

V. Update from Dr. Paula Tavrow

Dr. Tavrow announced that the Bixby Program will be hosting two upcoming events. First, Tracy Weitz, Director, Advancing Standards in Reproductive Health at UCSF, will be speaking about access to second trimester abortion on Wednesday, January 24 at 5 pm. The film, *The Last Abortion Clinic*, will also be shown. On Thursday, January 25th, there will be a lunchtime talk about international internship opportunities for first-year students. Preceptors and second-year students will be present to answer questions about the process.

This year Lobby Day will be held in Sacramento on Wednesday, March 21, which unfortunately coincides with finals week. RHIG members attended a couple of years ago and found this to be a great opportunity to learn firsthand about lobbying for reproductive health issues, as well as meeting likeminded people from around the state of California. The Bixby Program will offer \$125 per student to cover costs. A few RHIG members expressed interest in attending.

Finally, Dr. Tavrow reiterated the requirements for the Bixby certificate. The matrix of classes is currently being updated. First-year students in CHS must choose a reproductive health topic for their 211A&B project, and second-year students may petition for the certificate if they have completed five, rather than six, required courses.

VI. Adult Film Industry (AFI) Questionnaire

The AFI committee has been working diligently to develop a questionnaire to elucidate the knowledge and attitudes of adult film consumers. The information garnered from the questionnaire will be used to help determine the policy recommendations that RHIG intends to make to legislators. All members present were asked to pilot test the questionnaire and to take several copies to test with their friends. Written feedback is due to Natasha by February 1st. Each question was also discussed and fine-tuned at the meeting.

VII. Announcements

Casey, a UCLA medical student, invited RHIG to participate in the Lennox Health Fair on Saturday, February 24. This bi-annual health fair in the South Bay lacks reproductive health education, so RHIG enthusiastically agreed to set up a booth to discuss reproductive health and distribute materials.