

Reproductive Health Interest Group
General Body Meeting
April 13, 2005

I. Letter writing campaign

RHIG members signed the *Petition for Greater Investment in Microbicides & Prevention Options for Women*. Members were also encouraged to send a letter to their representative asking them to support a bill that would increase funding for microbicide research.

It was suggested that RHIG collaborate with other groups--including the UCLA AIDS Institute--who are working on this same issue.

II. Bixby Program in Population and Reproductive Health Announcements

Dr. Paula Tavrow announced that the applications for summer funding for international internships in Population and Reproductive Health are due by 4pm on Tuesday, May 10, 2005 and should be sent to Rachel Veerman c/o rveerman@soc.ucla.edu. Only electronic applications will be accepted.

The Bixby Program will subsidize students from the School of Public Health who wish to attend the upcoming *Populations Growing: Public Health Responses to Global Impact* colloquium. Please bring proof of registration to Rachel Veerman for reimbursement.

Applications for the intake into the Bixby Research Mentorship Program will be available in late October or early November. The program gives Masters students an opportunity to work with faculty on research projects related to reproductive health.

III. Film and discussion

Voices of Choice: Physicians who provided Abortions Before Roe v. Wade –film. Following the film, Dr. Susie Baldwin led a discussion about why it's important to know the history of women's struggles before and after Roe v. Wade

IV. Fundraising Committee

The next bagel sale is scheduled for April 18th from 7AM to 12PM. The committee circulated a sign-up sheet. The funds will go to a Mexican-U.S. border group working on reproductive health issues.

V. Speaker's Committee

The committee will meet next week to finalize the speakers for the Big Event and to discuss final tasks/responsibilities.

The committee will organize two brown-bag lectures this quarter. The first, slated for April 25th, will feature Dr. Susie Baldwin. The second, tentatively scheduled for May 23rd, will feature Dr. Peter Kerndt, Director of STD Programs for LA County.

VI. On-Campus Committee

RHIG officers decided to request a meeting with the Bixby Program Steering Committee in order to discuss a reproductive health specialization. Robin and Kristen drafted a letter that was sent today to the committee.

The committee raised \$24 for the 34 Million Friends of UNFPA Campaign. The committee may consider another fundraising event for 34 Million Friends in the near future.

The committee will also be working with the Ashe Center to raise awareness among male students about testicular cancer screening.

VII. Off-Campus Committee

June 7th is Reproductive Health Advocacy Day in Sacramento. The committee is currently looking into group rates for those students interested in attending. While the Bixby Program will cover most of the costs for students in the School of Public Health, students will be expected to contribute approximately \$35-\$45.

The committee will meet next week to discuss two projects: the Safe Rides program and a booth at Farmer's Market.

VIII. RHIG Elections

Rotrease discussed the job responsibilities of RHIG officers. She also presented a proposal to elect two co-chairs to the Fundraising committee plus a Treasurer. Lastly, it was proposed that one of the co-presidents be a 1st-year student and that each committee have one 1st and one 2nd- year representative. Alternatively, RHIG members were asked their opinion on having the Executive Committee be comprised of 2nd-years and to have 1st and 2nd year representatives at each committee.

The group agreed that it would be best to elect all 2nd year students for the current offices. Next year, the new officers will elect a third chair to each committee.

IX. Medical Students for Choice

Paula Shulman, who will chair the Medical Students for Choice group on campus, introduced herself. She would like to collaborate with RHIG on upcoming events and activities.

X. Upcoming dates

April 17th: those interested in running for office, please submit your paragraphs to rhig@ucla.edu
April 18th: Bagel sale
April 18-22nd: Vote for officers
April 21-22nd: *Populations Growing: Public Health Responses to Global Impact* colloquium in San Diego
April 25th: Brown Bag Lecture featuring Susie Baldwin. 12-1PM in CHS 13-105
May 9th: Bagel Sale
May 11th: Film & discussion, *Little Warriors*. 5:30-8PM in CHS 13-105
May 19th: Open Dialogue on Current State of Reproductive Health
May 23rd: Brown Bag Lecture featuring Dr. Peter Kerndt
June 7th: Advocacy Day in Sacramento