

Reproductive Health Interest Group
General Body Meeting
February 8, 2007

I. Introductions

II. RHIG Superstars

Elissa Bradley and Michelle Doose were acknowledged for their work on various projects including bagel sales, obstetric fistula, and the Lennox health fair.

III. 9th Annual Denim Day in LA

Anne Duncan, UCLA School of Public Health alumni, introduced Kibi Anderson from Peace Over Violence, the oldest rape and sexual assault prevention group in LA County. Kibi asked RHIG to participate in the 9th Annual Denim Day on April 25th. It is a state-wide rape prevention and awareness day. She suggested that RHIG host a publicity and/or fundraising event and offered to supply RHIG with materials, as well as trainings for members who would like to conduct outreach for Denim Day.

IV. Committee Reports

Special Projects:

Since the last meeting, several RHIG members went to sororities and delivered brief messages about emergency contraception. The response was good, and this may be a potential venue for announcing Denim Day, also. RHIG also set up a booth at the Lennox Health Fair, where members gave out free condoms, emergency contraception information, and community resource information. The population was mostly Spanish-speaking, so this is something to keep in mind for future health fairs.

Fundraising:

RHIG recently generated about \$100 from muffin sale. RHIG's new fact sheet about obstetric fistula was given out with each muffin. Additionally, 45 of 50 RHIG t-shirts have been sold. All the profits will be donated to a campaign to end obstetric fistula. Next quarter's raffle of items donated from RHIG members' international internships was discussed. Sharie will contact the Public Health Student Association to inquire if RHIG could add the raffle ticket cost to the end of the year banquet ticket price, in exchange for selling banquet tickets. This requires an informative description of where the money will be donated (DNA testing for accused rapists in Kenya).

Speaker Committee:

Next Tuesday, March 13, Dr. Wendy Freed will be speaking about global sex trafficking and human rights. Two future events that are currently being planned are a speaker about the HPV vaccine in April and an alumni speaker panel during the spring quarter.

Adult Film Industry Project:

The online questionnaire has been completed and sent to X-Biz for posting on their site. Now X-Biz wants permission from UCLA and justification for the

project in more detail. Dr. Tavrow will write a letter to move things forward. RHIG would like undergraduates to take the questionnaire electronically, but members mentioned facing obstacles from professors during similar projects. Perhaps the best way to reach students is via list serves and flyers before and after large lecture classes. The question of whether or not results will be published arose. While RHIG does not have plans to publish data now, they could be useful in the future. If someone were to take on this project as an independent study, she/he would not need IRB approval.

Reproductive Health Freedom Day in Sacramento:

Five RHIG officers will be traveling to Sacramento on March 21st for lobby day. Dr. Tavrow is working to get RHIG an opportunity to discuss the adult film industry project. Peter Kerndt from the LA County Department of Public Health will be invited to support RHIG officers with information. RHIG needs to compile a handout about the topic to pass out at the event. Dr. Tavrow's friend who works with Assemblyman Laird will be able to meet with RHIG members there about the project.

Revlon Run/Walk for Women:

Sharie announced that the Asian American Cancer Research Training Program would like people to solicit donations for them during the Revlon Run/Walk for Women. This is a five-kilometer event for breast cancer on May 12th.

V. Leah Warner, Planned Parenthood Los Angeles (PPLA)

Leah Warner, former RHIG officer and alumni from 2006, returned to speak about her work at Planned Parenthood. She runs the high school outreach program, which conducts sex education classes in high schools throughout LA County. The program runs on volunteers, which would be an excellent opportunity for RHIG members to gain health education experience. Four-day trainings for new volunteers are held bi-annually in January and August. Requirements are that volunteers must be an adult, out of undergraduate college, have daytime availability and transportation, and teach approximately two classes each month. Leah also described the structure of PPLA. It consists of external affairs, clinical services, and community services. The last two areas are more appropriate places for MPH graduates to work.

VI. Update from Dr. Paula Tavrow

Dr. Tavrow made several announcements:

- Summer internships – More information will be posted about this in April. Bixby funding applications are due May 1st, while Drabkin funding applications are due April 17th.
- Unfortunately, this is the last year for Title X domestic internships, and California will be the only state to have them this year. California Family Health Council is working to develop internships for next year, but the scale will be smaller.
- Bixby certificate – A new matrix of requirements has been posted on the Bixby website. Six classes, or possibly five with a petition, are required for the certificate.
- New courses – Two seminars are being offered by guest lecturers who are highly recommended by second-year RHIG members. CHS 296-2 is a reproductive

- advocacy class taught by Susan Berg-Fogel, and CHS 296-1 is a class about global violence against women taught by Dr. Adriana Baban.
- Upcoming events – The Bixby Program will be hosting a major reproductive health and human rights event this spring, including a guest speaker from Human Rights Watch. Also, the School of Public Health career center will be holding a career night in late April. Bixby is trying to develop a panel on reproductive health.
 - RHIG alumni network – This is underway, with the goal of planning one big event per year.
 - Photograph of RHIG officers – The website needs a new one before the officers graduate.

VII. New RHIG Officers

Natasha Desai, Julia Dudek, Anya Gutman, Miriam Boxerman, and Kristen Hess will all be graduating at the end of winter quarter. The newly elected officers are:

Shannon Navarro – Co-President (spring quarter only)

Jennifer Lowe – Secretary/Treasurer

Kara McMullen – Speaker Committee Representative

Michelle Doose – Fundraising Committee Representative

Elissa Bradley – Special Projects Officer