

May 2009 – Summer is right around the corner, the temps are getting warmer!

Welcome to the Indiana University Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Alumni Association e-newsletter. The goal of this publication is to establish a monthly form of communication on behalf of the board of directors of the GLBTAA. The purpose of the e-newsletter is to inform you of upcoming events and news that are happening in our community along with providing us another way to "Reach Out." We hope you find this newsletter insightful and engaging and we welcome any suggestions or feedback.

Your GLBT Alumni Association – Reaching Out to Reconnect.

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**1) Quick Calendar**

\* May 14: 5:30-7:30 p.m., Bloomington Pride Happy Hour, The Root Cellar at FARMbloomington (108 E. Kirkwood Ave.)

\* May 21: 6-8 p.m., Indianapolis Pride Happy Hour, Agio (635 Massachusetts Ave.)

\* May 21: 6-8:30 p.m., Chicago Happy Hour, Rock Bottom Brewery (1 W. Grand Ave.)

\* June

- Bloomington Happy Hour: Location TBA, June 4: 5:30-7:30 p.m
- Indianapolis: June 14: Instead of a Happy Hour, please visit us at our booth at Indy PRIDE (all day @ Military Park)!

\* Sunday, June 28: Noon: Chicago Pride Parade. If you are interested in helping, marching in the parade or for general information, contact Bryan Moore at [bryanemoore@gmail.com](mailto:bryanemoore@gmail.com).

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2) Chicago Happy Hour

Chicago area GLBTAA members (or members who just want to have an excuse to travel to Chicago for the day) and their friends are invited for a spring happy hour Thursday, May 21 from 6-8:30 p.m. at Rock Bottom Brewery, 1 W. Grand Ave. The joint social event with the Chicago chapter of the IUAA will

feature a cash bar and complimentary appetizers. GLBTAA president Rob DeCleene will be on hand to report on the GLBTAA's recent successes and upcoming plans. Please RSVP to glbtaa@indiana.edu.

Please also email glbtaa@indiana.edu if you are interested in helping plan GLBTAA's presence in this year's Chicago Pride Parade on Sunday, June 28.

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### 3) Senior Salute/Rainbow Dinner

#### **Senior Salute: April 30 @ DeVault Alumni Center**

The GLBTAA again participated in a great tradition with an information table at the 14th annual Senior Salute. This event provides an opportunity for all graduates to come to the DeVault Alumni Center and eat free pizza and other goodies, enjoy live music courtesy of *Dave and Rae* along with IUAA's own *Straight No Chaser* and *Ladies First* and interact with various school and affiliate groups as they prepare to officially enter the world of "IU alumni." Although rain forced much of the event and activities inside, the GLBTAA was well-represented by numerous board members and signed up more than ten new members.

#### **Rainbow Dinner: May 1 @ Village Deli**

Another terrific tradition continued this year with the annual rainbow dinner at Village Deli. This event is co-hosted by the IU GLBT Student Support Services Office and the GLBTAA. This year there were approximately 20 graduates in attendance along with guests and hosts. As part of the thank-you for attending the event, the GLBTAA was again able to provide each graduate present with an additional 1-year membership into the general IU Alumni Association. So, with the free year they receive upon graduation, the GLBTAA has ensured these 20 individuals are not only new members of the GLBTAA, but have a two-year membership in the IU Alumni Association as they begin their professional lives. The event also provided an opportunity for the graduates to share their favorite IU memories, reminisce about their GLBT impressions and experiences at IU, and, of course, a great opportunity for a nice, hot & FREE meal heading into finals week! Congratulations to all 2009 graduates and a hearty job well-done to all of you!

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4) GLBTAA Intern Transition

Solomon Hursey will be taking over as our GLBTAA intern when school resumes in late August. Solomon will be a senior at IU Bloomington and is majoring in Gender Studies. He has also had many roles within the GLBT Student Support Service Office, most recently serving as a co-chair for the Midwest BLGT College Conference. Since May 2008, the GLBTAA has benefited by having an intern thanks to a generous donation by one of our alumni.

We would like to thank Ryne Shadday for his extraordinary effort as our first GLBTAA intern. Ryne will highlight some of the accomplishments with the GLBTAA in a June blog post on the GLBTAA blog. Please look for excerpts and a link in our June e-news.

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## 5) IU Trustee Candidates Questionnaire

In response to a questionnaire from the GLBT Alumni Association, four of the five candidates in this year's IU Board of Trustees election said they would support adding gender identity to IU's University-wide non-discrimination policy. The supportive candidates were MaryEllen (Kiley) Bishop, Crystal T. Brown, Philip N. Eskew Jr., and Sam Locke. Candidate Kelly Burton Smith did not respond to the questionnaire. Balloting in this year's election began May 1 and continues through June 30. The question asked by the GLBTAA was:

*Public and private employers increasingly are adding "gender identity" to their non-discrimination policies. This is intended to prevent discrimination against transgendered persons. Approximately 100 colleges and universities have added gender identity to their non-discrimination statements, including seven of IU's Big Ten peers (Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio State, Penn State, and Wisconsin). In addition to discouraging discrimination against our transgendered colleagues and students, the GLBTAA believes such a policy sends a message of welcome and inclusion that resonates beyond those who are personally affected by the issue. As a trustee, would you support adding gender identity to IU's written non-discrimination statement? Please answer yes or no, but feel free to elaborate.*

To view the responses from the trustee candidates, go to [www.alumni.iu.edu/glbtaa/election.shtml](http://www.alumni.iu.edu/glbtaa/election.shtml).

The GLBTAA urges all of its members to vote in this year's election. To vote online or for more information, go to <http://trusteeelection.iu.edu>. If you prefer to vote by written ballot, you should receive your ballot in the mail by May 15.

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6) 2009 Commencement Speaker

The 2009 Commencement Speaker at IU Bloomington is Justice Michael Kirby, an openly gay former Justice of Australia's High Court. Board members of the GLBTAA, along with handful of IUB officials celebrated with Justice Kirby during a brunch on Sunday, May 10, hosted by the GLBTAA. More information about Justice Kirby can be found at: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Kirby_\(judge\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Kirby_(judge)).

"Kirby has been open about being gay since 1999, when he came out in Who's Who in Australia by naming Johan van Vloten as his long-term partner. Van Vloten, who migrated to Australia in 1963, has lived with Kirby since 1969. Kirby has often spoken publicly in support of gay rights. While President of the International Commission of Jurists he encouraged that organization to give more consideration to human sexuality as an aspect of human rights, and as an Anglican he has expressed disappointment at his church's stance on gay rights. In 2002, at the Sydney Gay Games VI, Kirby was the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony. "The movement for equality is unstoppable. Its message will eventually reach the four corners of the world," he told a crowd of 35,000. In 2006, he attended the International Conference on LGBT Human Rights in Montreal, presiding over the Asia-Pacific Plenary."

Provided by [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Kirby_\(judge\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Kirby_(judge)).

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## 7) News

\* Our annual public meeting will take place 9/2/2009 at the DeVault Alumni Center. This general membership meeting will feature GLBTAA officer elections along with scholarship winner recognition.

\* Are you interested in serving on the GLBTAA board of directors? Or do you know of someone else who would be the perfect addition? If you would like a spot on our board, positions will open up in July. Please contact [glbtaa@indiana.edu](mailto:glbtaa@indiana.edu) if you are interested in a position or would like to nominate someone.

\* Our newest GLBTAA T-shirts ARE available! These crimson T-shirts have the new GLBTAA logo on the front and back. T-shirts are \$10 (plus shipping) and run in sizes small thru XXL. Please e-mail [glbtaa@indiana.edu](mailto:glbtaa@indiana.edu) to order yours today!

\* Want to view pictures of all our festivities? Pictures from the GLBTAA Homecoming Weekend and other festivities in the past year are online now. Visit either our Facebook page: [http://www.facebook.com/photo\\_search.php?oid=8746112146&view=all](http://www.facebook.com/photo_search.php?oid=8746112146&view=all) or the GLBTAA Scrapbook page: <http://alumni.indiana.edu/glbtaa/scrapbooks.shtml> to see everything that is going on!

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8) Participate Online and Update Your Information

What works? In this time of mass technological change and innovation, we want to keep you updated as possible on what's new with the GLBTAA. Free GLBTAA merchandise will be provided to those who participate at a high level with other members in the GLBTAA Facebook group. Following are just some of the ways you can participate: write on the wall (give your opinions on how the GLBTAA is doing, reconnect with old friends, etc.), send the board a message letting us know how we're doing, send messages to other members and respond to our posts on what you would like to see from the GLBTAA. Those are just a few of the many ways you can participate, so please do!

*Find out immediately what is going on with the GLBTAA by adding us to your Twitter account! Receive text messages and email alerts to find out when and where the GLBTAA is going to be near you!
<http://twitter.com/IUGLBTAA>

* Consider joining our Facebook group for recent news, updates, and information regarding scholarships and membership events. To get involved visit:
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8746112146&ref=ts>

Encourage your friends to join the GLBTAA and the IUAA. Keep up your hard work! It is because of you that the GLBTAA is in existence. Thank you for your generous support through your membership. We look forward to serving you now and in the years to come.

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Be sure to keep your contact information up-to-date for the latest news from the GLBTAA! Update your official alumni record at <https://launchpad.alumni.iu.edu>.

Join the Indiana University Alumni Association today by visiting <http://alumni.iu.edu/membership>, by e-mailing [iuaamemb@indiana.edu](mailto:iuaamemb@indiana.edu) or calling (800) 824-3044. By joining the IUAA, you help fund GLBTAA programs along with gaining access to member-only events. This is something you should not miss! If you would like to unsubscribe to this and future communications from the GLBTAA, please respond to: [glbtaa@indiana.edu](mailto:glbtaa@indiana.edu)