



GREEN LIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF THE DARTMOUTH LGBTQIA+ ALUM ASSOCIATION

Volume 28 Issue 1 • June 2023

PRESIDENT HANLON MEETS WITH DGALA ONE MORE TIME

President Phil Hanlon '77, who is stepping down this year after ten years leading Dartmouth, offered this month to engage with the DGALA community one more time before his retirement. The event was held virtually on May 10th, a conversation hosted by DGALA leader Amanda Rosenblum '07 and



featuring President Hanlon, DGALA-past-President (and winding up her term as a College trustee) Caroline Kerr '05, and Within leader (and newly elected Student Government President) Jessica Chiriboga '24.

The four leaders conversed and answered questions from those on the Zoom about a wide variety of topics of interest to the DGALA community and the College at large. President Hanlon spoke of his particular fondness for the group and how grateful he has been to DGALA alums who, despite in many cases having had bad experiences during their times at the College, have not walked away from Dartmouth as they might

reasonably have done, but have generously worked to make the College a better place.

Jessica described the LGBTQIA+ communities at Dartmouth, how she and other students are grateful for the support of DGALA and what initiatives she hopes to pursue as student President. Both President Hanlon and Jessica emphasized the importance of supporting the mental health of students.



The event ended with widespread thanks from the community to President Hanlon for all that he had done for Dartmouth's LGBTQIA+ community, including overseeing the completion and opening of Triangle House, attending every annual mini-reunion meeting of DGALA alums and making diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging what the President called a "North star" of his tenure as President. ❖

JOIN US ON CAMPUS JUNE 16-17!

Friday, June 16, 8 -11 PM: Drinks at Six South St. Hotel

Saturday, June 17, 8:30 -10:00 AM: Breakfast Meeting with President-elect Beilock, Hinman Forum, Rockefeller Ctr.

Saturday June 17, time TBA: Tour of Triangle House

All events are free

MEET THIS YEAR'S DGALA/DCF SCHOLARS

The DGALA/DCF Scholars Fund is now nineteen years old. It works like this: Every dollar that a DGALA alum gives to the Dartmouth College Fund is counted towards funding DGALA Scholars, current LGBTQIA+ students who receive need-based financial aid. For every \$50,000 that DGALA alums give to the DCF, DGALA is able to fund another Scholar. Collections run on a fiscal year basis, so any DCF gifts made by June 30 this year will fund DGALA Scholars during the next academic year. Just google “Dartmouth DCF” to find the link to make a gift to support our Scholars for the coming year.

Last year, DGALA alums were wonderfully generous, enabling us to fund five DGALA Scholars this school year. You can meet several of our amazing Scholars this year via their recorded Zoom conversations with DGALA leaders at www.DGALA.org. Here's a preview of some of what they shared:

Alex Campbell '26

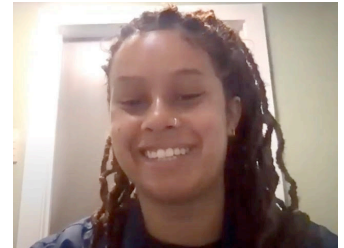
Alex is a first-year student from outside of Nashville, Tennessee, and he speaks with DGALA leader Kamil Walji '03. During their conversation, Alex describes how he is particularly interested in the Theater and English departments at Dartmouth, and a career in writing is one possibility that he is contemplating. Alex speaks highly and enthusiastically of his experiences at Dartmouth and notes the strong queer and gender – inclusive spaces on campus. He loves the diversity of the curricular offerings at Dartmouth, and he speaks with infectious enthusiasm about finding friends and community at the College. Asked what advice the Alex of today would have given himself before arriving at Dartmouth, Alex says “I would tell myself to stop worrying about finding friends and community because it'll come naturally before you even ready for it. You're not



going to be unpacked yet, and you're going to have friends, and it's going to be great.”

Adriana Heath '23

Adriana, a native of Beaufort, South Carolina, spoke with DGALA VP Amanda Rosenblum '07. Adriana is a Government major who transferred to Dartmouth at the start of her sophomore year. During the fall of 2021 she did a foreign study at the London School of Economics, and this fall she will begin there a Masters program in Human Rights. During her conversation, Adriana speaks of finding community at Dartmouth among queer and black students. Adriana discusses her ideas about how the Dartmouth experience could be improved for students such as herself, and she looks forward to joining the alum community, where she hopes to join with other voices who seek to make Dartmouth even better.



Kaitlyn Romager '24

Kaitlyn, who hails from the Bronx, is a double major (Psychology and Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies). Kaitlyn spoke with DGALA leader Val Werner '20. In their conversation, Kaitlyn speaks about receiving positive support from WGSS professors as they came out early in their College career; the challenges of being a person of color and a “first generation” student at Dartmouth, and how the First-Generation Office at the College provided them with strong assistance. Kaitlyn also speaks about how they have enjoyed playing club basketball and positive experiences at last spring's Transform during Pride celebrations. ❖



TRIANGLE HOUSE GRANTS ARE BACK

After a pandemic-related hiatus, the Triangle Grant program is up and running again! This is a programming fund set up by DGALA that allows students to apply for up to \$500 to host an event at Triangle House that is intended to build community amongst LGBTQIA+ students in the house or across campus. DGALA works with staff in OPAL to collect and review applications, disperse funds, and receive event summaries. So far this year, three Grant events have taken place, and the students filed these reports on them:

RESIDENT WELLNESS



Triangle House members enjoyed learning about and practicing wellness affirmation cards with one another while sipping tea, enjoying Lou's pastries, discussing life and how we tackle wellness within our own lives, and learning about crystals. A

serene environment was created by the decorations and the emphasis of intersectional wellness, enabling attendees to comfortably talk about their own experiences. Over one-third of Triangle House residents attended the event (about 13 residents in total).



Attendees created their own take home wellness bag and were very happy to do so. So grateful to have the opportunity to share this event and practice wellness practices with the rest of the Triangle House community. Huge thank you to DGALA for making this possible.



HOUSE OF LEWAN ORGANIZATION

We held a dinner hosted by the House of Lewan on April 2nd! We had approximately 20 in attendance, with a good mix of all class years! During the dinner, we discussed our experiences doing drag on this campus and the history of our club. Additionally, we gave



a brief overview of what our term looks like since Spring is typically very busy. This also gave us the opportunity to share ideas for the term and any feedback about previous events. Many of the students in attendance have demonstrated interest in performing and attending our future events this term. And we also had a great opportunity to socialize and further strengthen our community. Thank you for this opportunity.

RAMADAN IFTAR

Amina Zoklat '23 hosted an iftar on Thursday 4/13 with food from a local pizzeria. Different from other iftars hosted across the college throughout



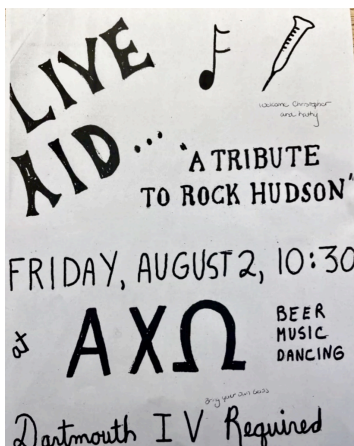
Ramadan, this smaller and intentional space centered woman and LGBTQIA+ members of the Muslim community on campus. There were over 15 students in attendance. Much gratitude was shared for this opportunity to gather.

HISTORICAL ACCOUNTABILITY

On March 3rd of this year, Leeza Petrov presented on campus and via Zoom to DGALA members and others a report on her research into how the HIV/AIDS epidemic that arose in the 1980s affected life and perceptions at Dartmouth. Leeza's presentation and research were part of an initiative by the Historical Accountability Student Research Program at the Dartmouth Library to shine light on aspects of Dartmouth's history relating to traditionally marginalized groups at the College. The presentation was well attended, including by many DGALA members. The video of the presentation is available at:

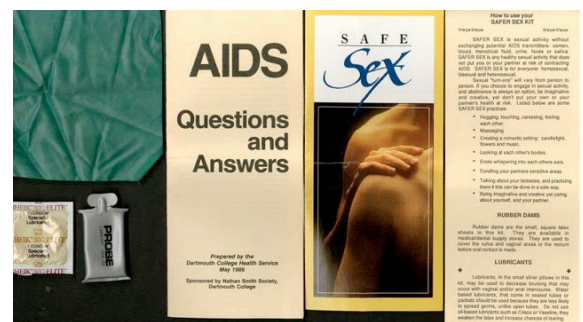
<https://exhibits.library.dartmouth.edu/s/HistoricalAccountability/page/presentations>.

Leeza began her presentation with an overview of what she found, both good and bad. On the one hand, the rise of AIDS and its association in the public mind with gay men brought forth many homophobic reactions on campus and beyond. On the other hand, many in the Dartmouth community responded vigorously and productively to the challenges arising from the epidemic, and, as Leeza said, the resultant publicity “opened up” campus attitudes in positive ways.



The initial homophobic reactions to the AIDS epidemic were depressing and widespread. In 1983 Dartmouth English Professor Jeffrey Hart (who served as faculty advisor to *The Dartmouth Review*) published a column in *The Review* entitled “An Alternative Deathstyle” filled with misinformation and homophobia. In August of 1985, following the death of Rock Hudson from AIDS, a sorority on campus hosted a “Live AID” party “in memory” of the actor. Members of the Gay Students Alliance (GSA) attended and protested and were greeted with homophobic slurs and showered with beer. An in-depth story published in *The Dartmouth* on November 22, 1985 surveyed campus opinion relating to AIDS and found widespread homophobia.

However, there were numerous positive initiatives as well. The GSA began meeting with officials at Dick's House in the fall of 1985, and by late that year the College health services began to promote awareness of safer sex practices. Within a year Dartmouth became the first Ivy to distribute free condoms to students, and reports at the time were that they were available “everywhere” on campus. Most controversially, beginning with the 1987 winter term, Dartmouth offered Safer Sex Kits to all students at registration each term. The kits, picked up by hundreds of students, contained educational materials, condoms, lubricant and dental dams, along with instructions for use.

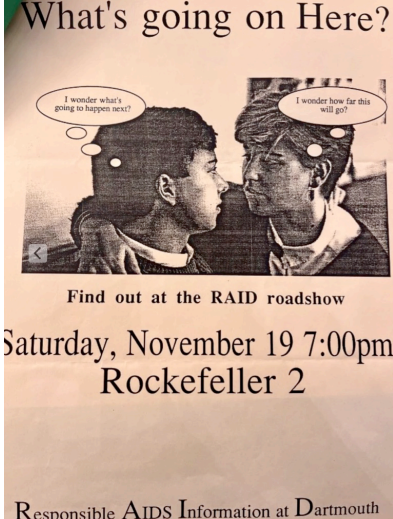


Unsurprisingly, there was pushback. *The Dartmouth Review* ran front-page attacks, and national media picked up the story. Later that winter, the very popular Phil Donahue Show ran a long segment debating the kits and safer sex education featuring College Health Services Director Jack Turco along with premed student Cuong Do '88 (pro) and *Dartmouth Review* editor Debbie Stone

AIDS PRESENTATION

'87 (anti). Despite the controversy, the College's safer sex initiatives brought widespread publicity to matters previously kept in the dark. When Dr. Turco later appeared on the Today Show discussing the kits, host Bryant Gumbel told him that it was the first time that a condom had been shown on national television.

At Dartmouth, safer sex education continued to expand. In the fall of 1987, four students founded "Responsible AIDS Information at Dartmouth" (RAID). The RAID roadshows became very popular, presenting informational skits and talks all across campus, and eventually at other colleges and high schools. The RAID presentations included both straight and gay perspectives, and DGALA member and then DAGLO leader Steve Carter '87 was quoted in *The Dartmouth* saying that RAID helped "to bring the gay and straight communities together on the AIDS issue." Leeza's presentation cites multiple examples of positive developments on campus following the RAID presentations and the greater openness to discussion of same-sex relationships and civil rights.



What's going on Here?

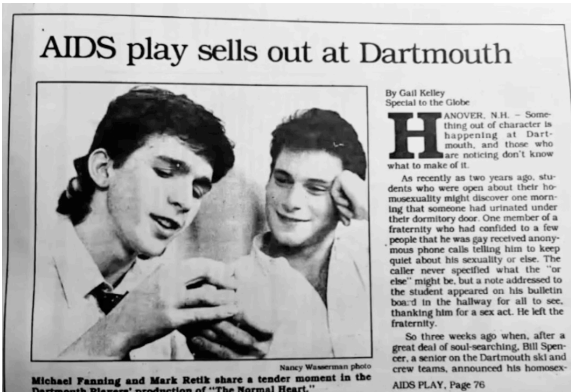
I wonder what's going to happen next?

I wonder how far this will go?

Find out at the RAID roadshow

Saturday, November 19 7:00pm
Rockefeller 2

Responsible AIDS Information at Dartmouth



AIDS play sells out at Dartmouth

By Gail Kelley
Special to the Globe

HOMOSEXUALITY might discover one morning that someone had urinated under their dormitory door. One member of a fraternity who had confided to a few people that he was gay received anonymous phone calls telling him to keep quiet about his sexuality or else. The caller never specified what the "or else" might be, but a note addressed to the student appeared on his bulletin board in the hallway for all to see, thanking him for a sex act. He left the fraternity.

So three weeks ago when, after a great deal of soul-searching, Bill Spencer, a senior on the Dartmouth ski and crew teams, announced his homosexuality to his fraternity.

Nancy Wasserman photo
Michael Fanning and Mark Retik share a tender moment in the Dartmouth Players' production of "The Normal Heart."

AIDS PLAY, Page 76

Despite all the progress that has occurred since the 1980s, a comment during the Q&A portion of Leeza's presentation contains a sobering reminder of how the more things changes the more they may remain the same. Dr. Turco is still active in the Dartmouth community today, and he attended Leeza's presentation and commented: "This [pushback by *The Dartmouth Review* and others] was the beginning of the weaponizing of social and medical issues for political gain..... So it's not surprising now; I'm the co-director of the Transgender Health Program at Dartmouth, and we're seeing the same thing happening, the weaponizing.... A group is paying the price for political reasons." (See related story, next page.)

In May 1991 Dick's House organized a campus-wide AIDS Awareness Week. The program included talks from gay activists, a panel of people living with AIDS in the Upper Valley and a documentary about the disease. The centerpiece of the program was the visit of the NAMES Project AIDS memorial quilt. The visit marked the first large-scale exhibition of the quilt in north New England.



DGALA PUSHES BACK ON ANTI-TRANS CAMPUS EVENT



In October of last year, the Political Economy Project at Dartmouth, an interdisciplinary initiative under the supervision of Associate Dean for Social Sciences John Carey, widely advertised on campus a scheduled podcast recording to take place on October 22 in a large meeting room in Carpenter Hall. The podcast was to be a new episode of "Blocked and Reported," co-led by Jesse Singal and Katie Herzog, both journalists widely criticized for transphobic publications. Singal and Herzog were to interview Harvard lecturer Carole Hooven, who also had achieved widespread criticism for assertedly transphobic statements she had made on "Fox & Friends." According to the campus advertisements, the three were going to discuss Hooven's "surprisingly controversial claim that humans can be divided into 'males' and 'females'."

There was pushback on the Dartmouth campus concerning the event, and Singal and Herzog eventually cancelled their appearance, claiming that Dartmouth had changed the terms of the event from "open to the public" to "Dartmouth ID only." (See Blocked and Cancelled episode # 137 "Why We Cancelled Ourselves at

Subject: Next Saturday! Are Sex Differences Real? Blocked and Reported Podcast Live
From: Political Economy Project <jog in to unmask>
Reply To: Political Economy Project <jog in to unmask>
Date: Sun, 9 Oct 2022 20:34:19 +0000
Content-Type: multipart/related
Parts/Attachments: text/plain (24 kB) , text/html (4 kB) , Blocked reported.jpg (24 kB)

Dear students,

Every week, journalists Katie Herzog and Jesse Singal scour the internet for its craziest, silliest, most sociopathic content, part of an obsessive and ill-conceived attempt to extract kernels of meaning and humanity from a landscape of endless raging dumpster fires.

For this event, a discussion of free speech, academic controversies, and "cancel culture," they'll be joined by Carole Hooven, human evolutionary biologist at Harvard University, to discuss her surprisingly controversial claim that humans can be divided into 'males' and 'females' -- and that the two are pretty different."

Saturday Oct. 22 at 5 pm.
Carpenter Hall 013 (Herbert Faulkner West Auditorium)

The event, which will be recorded live (audio-only), is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Political Economy Project.

Dartmouth.") Having learned of the planned event, DGALA's Board of Trustees wrote to Dean Carey later in the autumn expressing its concern that the event was ever scheduled and advertised on campus. The Board wrote, "No one could have expected these three figures, each of whom has built a public persona on having been 'canceled' for their controversial views about

transgender people, to hold a genuine discussion that would respect the inherent dignity of the transgender population."

Dean Carey replied to DGALA, defending the event citing academic freedom. The Dean's reply engendered a response by DGALA decrying using the guise of academic freedom to "justify questioning the dignity of [transgender people] or any other people." DGALA simultaneously wrote to Senior Vice President and Senior Diversity Officer Shontay Delalue, alerting her to the controversy and stating that Dean Carey's "proffered justification is antithetical to the College's values and goals to foster a more inclusive and equitable environment at Dartmouth."

This Saturday! Live podcast: Are There Real Sex Differences?

"Blocked and Reported" podcast. Recorded live in Carpenter 13.

Saturday Oct. 22 at 5 pm.

Every week, journalists Katie Herzog and Jesse Singal scour the internet for its craziest, silliest, most sociopathic content, part of an obsessive and ill-conceived attempt to extract kernels of meaning and humanity from a landscape of endless raging dumpster fires. For this event, a discussion of free speech, academic controversies, and "cancel culture," they'll be joined by Carole Hooven, evolutionary biologist at Harvard University, to discuss her surprisingly controversial claim that humans can be divided into 'males' and 'females' -- and that the two are pretty different."

The event, which will be recorded live (audio-only), is free and open to the public.

Posted by Henry C. Clark, Henry.C.Clark@Dartmouth.EDU, on Monday, October 17, 2022 for All Students, All Faculty, All Staff

Vice President Delalue offered to reach out to the Dean of Arts and Sciences and to Associate Dean Carey about the matter and later did so. Vice President Delalue later reported to DGALA:

"[T]he associate dean swiftly addressed this with the department (this was after he had already corresponded with you) and made clear that while Dartmouth supports academic freedom, we do not condone advertising or promotion of events that are demeaning in any way. The leadership of IDE [the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity] and the Dean's office want to reiterate how sorry we are for any harm this caused. Thank you for bringing this to our attention and I hope we don't find ourselves needing to address this type of issue in the future. Should we need to, please feel free to be in touch."

DGALA thanked Vice President Delalue for her handling of the matter. The full correspondence is available on our website, www.DGALA.org.



FY23 DONORS SO FAR

Member gifts received July 1, 2022 – May 15, 2023

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The leaders of DGALA are grateful to every one of our donors, who make possible all of the work that we do. The list of donors on this page is only through mid-May of this year. Our fiscal year runs through June 30, and if you would like to make a membership gift, you may do so on our website, www.dgala.org, under the Support link. We will publish a complete list of donors in the fall. If we have omitted your name in error, please let us know.

Two JOIN DGALA BOARD

Two alums have joined DGALA's leadership this year; they are Joseph Tahbaz '15 and Kamil Walji '03. Joseph, a lawyer in New York City, is a first-generation American of Latino and Middle Eastern heritage. At Dartmouth, he was active in the LGBTQ student organization GSX. Joseph has been grateful for DGALA's active programming in New York, and he looks forward to being involved in more.



Kamil lives in Washington, DC, and has deep experience in strategic communication and resource mobilization for non-profit organizations. Kamil, who served one term on the Board a while back, has lived in

many U.S. metro areas and looks forward to energizing DGALA alums across the country. DGALA has room for more volunteers; please reach out to us learn more! ❖

DGALA ALUMS GATHER IN DC

Despite a rainy afternoon, a half-dozen DGALA members gathered on May 13 in DC for a fabulous meet and catch up at the Service Bar.

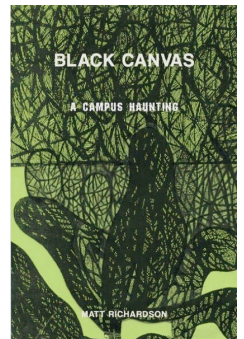


Others who could not make this get-together are eager for the next one! If you'd like to help plan a gathering of any kind in your region, DGALA is ready to help and support. Email us at DartGALA@gmail.com to learn more. ❖

DGALA ALUM PUBLISHES NOVEL SET AT DARTMOUTH



DGALA member Matt Richardson '91, a trans/queer professor of feminist studies at UC Santa Barbara, has published "Black Canvas: A Campus Haunting," a novel set at Dartmouth during his student days, featuring a black non-binary narrator. Among many topics, the novel explores Dartmouth's history of slavery through the lens of the modern gothic genre. Richardson recently did readings from the novel on campus, at Sanborn House and Shabazz. Matt tells *Green Light* that he "was out and part of the queer crew that put together and performed the first drag show during the DAGLO years."



The Dartmouth recently published an in-depth interview with Matt about his book and his experiences at Dartmouth. ❖

GREEN LIGHT

Newsletter of
the Dartmouth LGBTQIA+ Alum
Association

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e-mail: DartGALA@gmail.com

web: <http://www.dgala.org>

<https://www.instagram.com/dartmouthgala/>

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Edited by Pete Williams '76