

YALE GALA

YALE'S LGBT ALUMNI/AE NETWORK NEWSLETTER

April 2010
Volume 25 Issue 1

YALE GALA STARTS YEAR WITH PLANNING RETREAT, ANNUAL BANQUET

TO KICK OFF a long term planning process for the future of Yale GALA, 16 GALA members gathered at the AYA (Association of Yale Alumni) office on Chapel Street on Saturday, February 13 for a daylong working session. The focus of the retreat was to build on the remarkable success of the April 2009 LGBT Alumni Reunion that brought 420 alums to campus for three days of panels, receptions, and all-around celebration.

Participants included co-presidents Mickey Dobbs TC '92 and Natasha Haase ES '91, four members of the board of directors, and interested members of Yale GALA, ranging from its founding days to graduates of the Class of '09. Billed as a Retreat, the event was co-facilitated by Libby Halstead MBA '00 and Bob Barnett MFA '89, Newsletter Editor and board member.

Mark Dollhopf ES '77, Executive Director, AYA, gave opening remarks, encouraging the group to think broadly and ambitiously about its future. Mickey and Natasha gave a brief history of Yale GALA from its founding in the 1980s. Benjamín González BK '09 provided a demographic analysis of membership, including geographic distribution (see graph, page 3). Finally Maria Trumpler PhD '92 who heads the Office of LGBTQ Resources, gave an update on campus LGBT student activities and her goals for the resource office for the future.

Libby opened the morning by inviting everyone to share their personal reflections on what made GALA meaningful to them. Bob asked members to first reflect and then share what they as individuals wanted for the organization going forward. Responses varied widely from a more robust and interactive website to more mentoring of LGBT students upon graduation to taking a more active leadership in LGBT affairs in society. Mickey added one more: the

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Yale ^{WGSS & LGBT} Anniversaries Conference

April 16–18, 2010

CONFERENCE CELEBRATES ACCOMPLISHMENTS, COMMUNITY

By Anna Wipfler

FEATURING A WIDE VARIETY of panels, events, and activities, Yale's Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and its Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Studies programs will jointly celebrate their founding with a first-of-its-kind WGSS & LGBT Anniversaries Conference from Friday, April 16 to Sunday, April 18.

With WGSS celebrating its 30th anniversary and LGBTs nearing its 25th, the Conference will certainly not be the first conversation on gender and sexuality that Yale has hosted. However, it will be the first conference devoted to an expansive focus on the scholarly *communities* that Yale's LGBTs and WGSS programs have fostered, both on campus and in the larger academic world.

"This conference is as much a scholarly endeavor," said Conference Chair Melanie Boyd '89 who is the Director of Undergraduate Studies for WGSS, "as a hybrid out-of-the-box combination of conference, reunion, and anniversary celebration all in one weekend."

In planning the anniversary celebrations, organizers recognized that Yale's programs and its graduates have been instrumental in shaping the fields of gender and sexuality studies nationally. With that in mind, the Anniversaries Conference is designed to offer the programs' graduates and students an opportunity to return to the site of

their education at a particularly exciting time for WGSS and LGBTs at Yale.

Walking tour of women's history

The Anniversaries Conference—hosted by WGSS and LGBTs with generous support from the Yale Provost's Office, the Women Faculty Forum, and the Whitney Humanities Center—will officially begin Friday morning with a walking history of women at Yale, designed by graduate student Alice Moore.

Those history buffs arriving Thursday night are invited to Amy Kesselman's lecture "Coming Out, Coming In, and 'Be-Coming': Lesbians and the Women's Liberation Movement in New Haven from 1970–1977" sponsored by the Yale Research Initiative in the History of Sexuality.

Friday's activities include the first of two panels, framed as Intellectual Autobiographies

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Photo of 1986 Gay and Lesbian Rally.

Yale GALA, Yale's LGBT Alumni/ae Network Newsletter, is published by Yale GALA for members and friends. Yale GALA is the official LGBT alumni/ae Association open to graduates, students, faculty, administration, staff, and friends.

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THE YALE GALA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MICKEY DOBBS TC '92, Co-President
mickey.dobbs@aya.yale.edu

NATASHA HAASE ES '91, Co-President
natasha.haase@aya.yale.edu

TIM BERTACCINI ES '77, Treasurer
Timothy.Bertaccini@yale.edu

BOB BARNETT MFA '89
Secretary, Newsletter Editor
BobBarnettlink@gmail.com

DENNIS BLACKWELL TD '87
orestesnyc@gmail.com

GRAHAM BOETTCHER PC '95, PHD '06
graham@aya.yale.edu

TOM BURKE MC '85
Tom@BurkeVentures.com

THOM CANTEY SY '00
thom@aya.yale.edu

JOSEPH DANIEL MBA '92
danielj@sifinearts.com

JASON KRAMER MC '96
Los Angeles Rep
jason.kramer@sbcglobal.net

MICHAEL ROSANOVA SY '72, PHD '80
Chicago Rep
M.J.Rosanova@aya.yale.edu

ERIC SHINER MA '03
eric.shiner@aya.yale.edu

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

JESSICA SVENDSEN MC '09
jessica.svensen@yale.edu

OUR YALE GALA COMMUNITY...

IN ASSEMBLING THIS EDITION of the Yale GALA Newsletter, I was struck with just how vibrant and alive our Yale LGBT community really is, both off and on campus. But the articles in this edition are just the tip of the iceberg.

Granted it's a pretty impressive tip with profiles of two operas in the making, a young dancer, an alumnus honored for his service, a major Conference celebrating (in part) LGBT Studies — even a first-ever Yale GALA Pride Tour in the offing!

We've got a letter from China, courtesy of a recent graduate, and a report from a member of the Class of '10 about the first IvyQ Conference. To remind us that the battle we fight today for our rightful place in society has a long and often painful history, we also have a letter from a graduate from the Class of '66, recalling a time when the "unspoken" was the norm and therapy five days a week was the consequence.

In counterpoint, we have a story about *The Gay Ivy*, a one-night-only ensemble performance in which a group of recent grads — of all stripes on the Kinsey scale — take on the recent furor over the "One In Four" cover story in the *Yale Alumni Magazine*. *The Gay Ivy* was light-hearted as it was serious but it took no prisoners, accepted no second-class citizenship.

So that's the tip of the iceberg. In coming issues, I hope to explore what lies below. Want to help? After all, it's your newsletter, your iceberg.

Bob Barnett '89 MFA

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In the November 2009 issue of the GALA Newsletter celebrating our LGBT Reunion in April, I invited readers to send in their "most defining memory of Yale as a LGBT student or alum"—BB

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR CALL for memories of GLBT life at Yale:

In 1962 I was 17 years old and about to enter Yale. From New Haven originally, in high school I presented as a bright but morose and moody late-bloomer largely estranged from my peers. My parents thought I needed therapy, and before I knew it had begun, Dr. Seymour Lustman assured me that this was not the kind of therapy for everyone, but I was an ideal candidate.

So I began. I experienced some sense of shame over this and went to great lengths to avoid explaining to my roommates where I was headed so early five mornings a week. Underlying my need for therapy was what I knew to be my homosexuality, but in those "pre-gay" years there was barely a suitable vocabulary with which we could discuss it in a sober, realistic and supportive way. I remained in psychoanalysis all through my four years at Yale.

I never really knew there was any kind of gay "scene" at Yale. Once or twice I hooked up with a stranger encountered at a bar, but these were episodes of "acting out" that Dr. Lustman strongly discouraged me from repeating.

I was graduated in 1966 and continued psychoanalysis (again, four or five days a week) in graduate school in another city. I was a political radical (and still am), so after the Stonewall Rebellion became widely known and an authentic gay movement emerged, I had little trouble transferring my readiness to organize, march and demonstrate over to the gay movement.

At last it was clear to me that there were others like me, I was not sick, did not require treatment, and only needed the reassurance of company and solidarity to find myself. In retrospect I truly do question the wisdom of

submitting a 17 year-old to that kind of rigorous self-examination, when the contours of my personality and sexuality were still in formation.

What I never had access to during my adolescence and college years was a sympathetic mentor who would tell me, "Eric, you're young yet: Maybe you'll turn out to be homosexual as you think, but be patient and don't be afraid of your capacities for sexual and romantic expression as they will certainly reveal themselves in time. If you are homosexual, be assured there are plenty of others like you and you'll not be denied a chance at happiness and success in life. Try not to let it worry you and feel free to come back and talk any time."

But in the early 1960s no one spoke to me in those terms and I struggled alone. My entire four years at Yale are overshadowed by this experience.

Eric A. Gordon, YC '66

Eric is Director of the Southern California District of the Arbeter Ring/the Workmen's Circle, a national Jewish cultural and social action organization founded in 1900. He has authored biographies of American composers Marc Blitzstein and Earl Robinson. Eric can be contacted at ericarthur@aol.com.

The Yale GALA Newsletter welcomes your letters and comments. Please email them to Bob Barnett at BobBarnettlink@gmail.com. Letters to the Editor are subject to editing (with your approval) for space reasons.

YALE GALA PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Pride Tour, two operas, an award, Warhol's films, *The Gay Ivy*, a letter from China, a dancer honored, the Retreat and Annual Banquet...oh my!



ANNUAL EVENT: Students enjoy camaraderie, socialize with alums at the Yale GALA Banquet.



PHOTOS: EDGAR DIAZ-MACHADO '11

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STUDENTS, ALUMS GATHER FOR POST-RETREAT ANNUAL BANQUET

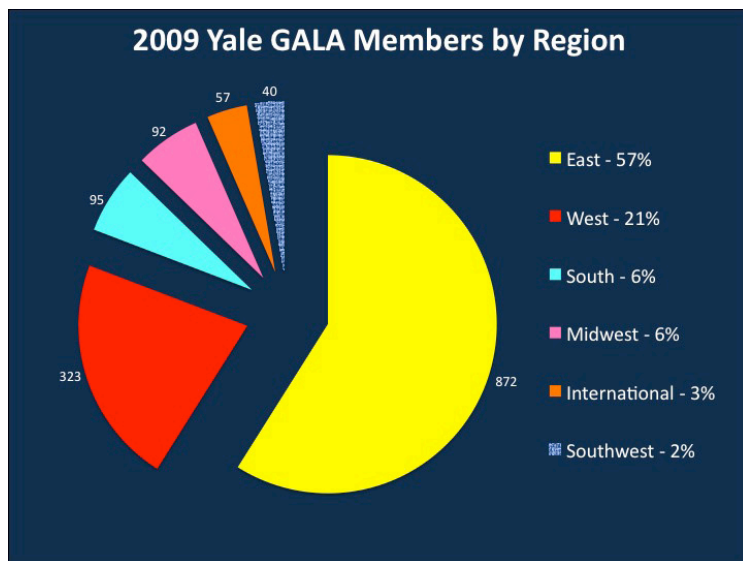
...need for a strategic plan so that Yale GALA can work more effectively with the AYA as an alumni affinity group.

After lunch, Libby divided the attendees into small working groups on five key topics including Technology & Infrastructure, Inspiring Agents of Change/Rights, and Communications. At the end of the afternoon, the groups assembled to review and discuss the results of their discussions and identify actionable ideas to be included in Yale GALA's long term planning.

The day ended with members feeling energized by their brainstorming and the fresh ideas and proposals produced. They also signed up for committees to explore, test, and implement those ideas and proposals, which included drafting a strategic plan to steer Yale GALA's future for next 3-5 years. All Yale GALA members are welcome in the strategic planning process. They can contact Mickey Dobbs at mickey.dobbs@aya.yale.edu to volunteer.

In the evening the attendees joined 75 Yale students from both the undergraduate residential colleges and the graduate programs for Yale GALA's annual banquet. Over prime rib and pasta primavera served buffet-style, the students and alums mixed and mingled, sharing both the common bonds of being proud Elis and members of Yale's burgeoning LGBT community of students, faculty, staff, alumnae/i, and supporters.

Attending the Retreat were board members Dennis Blackwell TD '87, Tom Burke MC '85, and Thom Cantey SY '00. Also participating were Don Bickford TC '66, Edgar Díaz-Machado PC '11, Elisabeth Enenbach MA '02 MPhil '94, Nicholas Roman Lewis CC '93, Jamie Marks '83, Steven Mattson-Hayhurst DC '99, Lisa Montanarelli BR '89, and Aaron Shipp BR '96.



NO ADDRESS LISTED: 6%
GRAPHIC: BENJAMIN GONZÁLEZ '09

PRIDE TOUR YALE GALA “FIRST”

SPRING MUST BE THE “FIRST EVER” TIME of year for Yale GALA. Last spring it was its first-ever Yale LGBT Reunion in April. This year it will be its first-ever Pride Tour June 14–23 with stops in New York, New Haven, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

The tour, which will include accommodations and airfare, will explore the LGBT community’s impact on the Arts, Performance, and Film. Accompanying the tour will be Yale professors Ron Gregg of Film Studies and Jonathan Weinberg of the Art School. Highlights include:

Special behind-the-scenes tours of Yale’s Beinecke Library and Art Gallery and the Metropolitan Museum of Art led by Weinberg

U.S. premiere of David Leddy’s acclaimed site-specific *Susurrus*, presented at New Haven’s International Festival of Arts & Ideas

Members-only gallery and museum tours including San Francisco’s new Disney Museum and the Getty Museum in Los Angeles

Opening film and party at San Francisco’s Frameline34 LGBT Film Festival as well as tickets to its Andy Warhol film retrospective, curated by Gregg (see separate article)

Private tour of the Frank Gehry-designed Walt Disney Concert Hall

Special reception honoring Yale student recipients of Bruce L. Cohen Fellowships for LGBT Studies and the Yale GALA Prize in LGBT Studies.

Booking for Yale GALA’s Pride Tour begins April 30 and is limited to 20 guests. For more information and a complete itinerary, go to <http://yalegalapridetour.eventbrite.com/>

FREEMAN HONORED FOR AYA LEADERSHIP

MONTY (BELMONT) FREEMAN ’73 became the second Yale GALA member in two years to be honored by Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) with the “Ambassador for Yale” Award for alumni leadership. One of six recipients, he received the award at the AYA Assembly last November.

Freeman said that he was “surprised and really honored to receive the award.” He has served as an at-large AYA delegate and the first openly gay member of its Board of Governors. As a past president of Yale GALA, Freeman said that he was “gratified that Yale GALA has become such an integral part of AYA that it is held up as an exemplar to other alumni affinity groups.” He was also co-chair along with Libby Halstead MBA ’00 of University’s first LGBT Reunion last April.

Freeman is the principal of New York-based Belmont Freeman Architects serving institutional, commercial, and residential clients. He is currently restoring and updating the iconic Four Seasons Restaurant, striking a balance between its classic styling and contemporary sensibilities. Freeman also designed the award-winning LGBT Center at the University of Pennsylvania. He was made a fellow of the American Institute of Architects last year.



Andy Warhol’s *Blow Job*. “Warhol... moves the titillating to the clinical,” says Ron Gregg.

WARHOL’S FILMS ELUSIVE AS ARTIST HIMSELF

ANDY WARHOL WAS MANY THINGS: Pop artist, cultural critic, superb manager of his own image, outré turned au courant. Also, avant-garde filmmaker.

It’s that persona that Ron Gregg, Senior Lecturer and Programming Director in Yale’s Film Studies Program and GALA member, will explore in a retrospective he is curating this June for Frameline, the San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival.

The retrospective, titled “Andy Warhol and 1960s Gay Underground Cinema,” will feature two film programs each consisting of one short and one longer film from Warhol’s extensive catalog of movies. One program will screen *Blow Job* and *Vinyl*, Warhol’s own adaptation of the Anthony Burgess novel *Clockwork Orange*. The other will open with *Haircut #1* and finish with *My Hustler*. In a separate program, Gregg will give an illustrated lecture exploring Warhol’s gay aesthetics and queer iconography.

“Warhol uses the iconography of gay male sexuality,” Gregg explains, “the hustler, the queen, the leatherman, but moves the titillating to the clinical. In many films, his characters appear like the subjects of his silk screens – the movie stars and electric chairs – which he flattens to distance us from any emotional subtext to make the shocking mundane.”

As an example, Gregg cites *Blow Job* that is one long close-up on the face of a young man against a brick wall while he is being sexually serviced. At least that’s what viewers assume from the title. “His head rolls back occasionally and he smokes a cigarette at the end,” says Gregg. “That’s all we see for the length of the film.” In other words, in the absence of narrative and with minimal information, the audience becomes non-objective observers who can make of the film whatever they choose.

“Warhol brought the queer underground into the 60s avant-garde,” Gregg emphasizes, “before Stonewall and before early gay porn.” He’s also weathered the times better than his peers. “Among the 60s experimental filmmakers,” says Gregg, “Warhol is taught the most.”

Still Gregg admits that no one can truly pin down Warhol’s films, much as his persona slipped through peoples’ efforts to categorize him in real life. Add to that opening list: enigma, past and present.

Frameline34 runs June 17–27. Gregg’s Warhol retrospective will be a featured event in the AYA’s first Gay Tour, June 14 to 23. The program with specific dates, places, and times will be announced Tuesday, May 25 on its website: www.frameline.org.



COMPOSER: Jorge Martín '81; his opera *Before Night Falls* opens May 29 at Fort Worth Opera.

PHOTO: ELLEN APPEL

YALE GALA PREVIEWS “BEFORE NIGHT FALLS” OPERA

THREE CITIES. THREE NIGHTS. THREE PERFORMANCES.

This was the whirlwind tour for the Yale GALA-sponsored previews of *Before Night Falls*, the new opera by GALA member Jorge Martín '81, based on the memoir by Cuban writer and dissident Reinaldo Arenas. The previews were presented on three consecutive nights—March 9, 10, and 11—in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

The opera traces Arenas's life from a rebel in the Cuban revolution to his imprisonment for his writings after he broke with the Castro regime to his escape to the United States in the Mariel boatlift and death in 1990, his body ravaged with AIDS.

Before Night Falls will have its premiere performances at the Fort Worth Opera (www.fwopera.org) in May 29 and June 6 2010. A cast recording of the production will be available in fall on Albany Records.

The three preview performances featured arias from the opera sung by three students from the Yale opera program, Chrystal Williams '10, Eric Barry '10, and Vince Vincent '10 followed by a conversation with composer Martín and a reception. The Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) underwrote the performances and travel expenses for the three singers enabling them to participate.

Although an award-winning film was also produced based on Arenas's memoir, Martín had acquired the rights to *Before Night Falls* and was working on the opera prior to the screen adapta-

tion. Martín wrote the libretto with the help of Dolores M. Koch, who translated the book and knew Arenas personally.

Martín gives Arenas's story a poetic depth by weaving in twin muses—the Sea and the Moon—who guide and support him in his life's journey. “The opera, which is sung in English,” explains Martín, “draws on older Cuban dances and rhythmic patterns, based in African Santería traditions and rituals.”

Before Night Falls is also something of a coming home for Martín. He was born in Santiago de Cuba in 1959. His family left Cuba in 1964, settling in the U.S. A graduate of Yale College, Martín earned both a masters and doctorate from Columbia University. In addition to opera he has composed orchestral and chamber music as well as choral, vocal, and solo works. To listen to samples of his music, go to www.jorgemartin.com.

Yale GALA sponsored the three preview performances in conjunction with AYA and the Yale Latino Alumni Association and a changing galaxy of co-sponsors. In New York, it was the Alumni Association of Metropolitan New York (YAAMNY), and the Tisch School of the Arts' Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program at New York University.

In Los Angeles, the co-sponsors were the Los Angeles Opera along with the Yale Club of Southern California, and in San Francisco, the Yale Club of San Francisco and Bay Area Ivy LGBT Alumni and Friends.

“ONE-TEN” OPERA TAKES THE FREEWAY

HOW DO YOU GET TO LOS ANGELES OPERA? For Yale GALA member M. G. Lord '77, take the 110 Freeway and get off at *Los Angeles Magazine* online.

She and Shannon Halwes were brought on as co-librettists on *One-Ten*, by composer Laura Karpman who received a commission from the LA Opera to create an opera to honor the 70th anniversary of Los Angeles's first freeway, the 110. Like a crucial life-giving artery, the 110 bisects the City of Angels from Pasadena through downtown depositing its traffic-laden lanes 31 miles south on the outskirts of San Pedro, LA's port.

After an initial workshop with live audiences in November, the three collaborators have embarked on a development approach that would have flabbergasted Verdi. They are continuing to workshop the opera online in six to eight minute segments that are posted approximately twice a month on the *LA Magazine* website <http://www.lamag.com/citythink/article.aspx?id=24524>.

“The freeway is really a character,” explains Lord, “with the stories of the human characters occurring on the off-ramps. The overture includes found sounds such as windshield wipers and car horns combined with found text and archival audio.” Not that there hasn't been some congestion in the creative process. “Laura wanted the opera to use only the found texts to tell the story but Shannon and I felt we really needed characters to give it life.”

Visions Combined

A head-on collision was avoided as composer and her librettists found a way to combine their visions. They would use film and found text to evoke the freeway itself and traditional narrative structure to portray the people whose lives intersect with the freeway. They sketched out a series of interlocking stories that are a microcosm of multi-ethnic Los Angeles over the past 70 years, told as a journey from the freeway's physical and historical beginnings all the way south to today.

One of those stories has particular resonance for Lord. It's a love story set in 1940 between a budding rocket engineer at Pasadena's Caltec and a young Japanese-American artist who faces relocation with her family once World War Two breaks out. Although the story is not autobiographical, Lord's father worked at nearby Jet Propulsion Laboratory developing rockets during the Cold War.

The films used in the opera were created by independent filmmaker Kate Hackett, who worked with Karpman to create a visual landscape that both abstracts and evokes the freeway and its times.

The online postings will wrap up in December of this year just in time for the official anniversary celebration. The final opera will run—no surprise—110 minutes.

We'll check if they're speeding in the August newsletter.



LETTER FROM CHINA

PUPPY LOVE BUFFET, CHINESE-STYLE

ART: HENRY CLAYTON

By Henry Clayton '09

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA often evokes for me a farcical conglomeration of Western modernity, Chinese traditionalism, and a Dr. Suess-inspired musical flown fantastically askew and perpendicular to what I incorrectly assumed to be common human logic.

It teeters precariously on the border between cultural schizophrenia and poor life choices. More than any other place I have lived or visited – not many, I acknowledge – it truly does beg that oft-asked question: why, oh God, why?

Why do Chinese women think that wearing high heels on the treadmill at a gym is a good idea?

Why do Chinese parents put their babes in pants with holes at the tush, and then proceed to allow them to do their business anywhere? Anywhere?

Why do Chinese drivers drive like they're in a video game? There's no restart button. Those lines in the road: yeah, they're not for decoration. Those fashionable Christmas-esque lights at intersections? They're not there just to amuse the children... or are they?

Why do Chinese smokers routinely ignore the well placed "No smoking" signs on public buses? I'm pretty sure that they exist for a reason, but then again, what I do know? I'm just an uptown girl living in an uptown world (thank you, Billy Joel).

Why do Chinese people eat stinky tofu? If it stinks, DO NOT PUT IT IN YOUR MOUTH.

...And my kicker: why do teenage boys love each other's bodies? That is indeed the question. Please allow me to explain:

Once about a September in 2009, I began my teaching career at a top-tier high school in

a "moderate"-sized city – small really, with a population somewhere in the neighborhood of 5-6 million, give or take a million – in south-central China. Not only was I a new teacher, but I also found myself living in what was a new and still not-understood country halfway around the world from my home.

A Whole New Menu

I was very aware that Chinese students would bring to my classroom a different set of cultural inputs than those more-or-less common in the States. I am fluent in the latter, but at that time was virtually ignorant of the former. Those first weeks in the classroom were incredibly daunting as it would be for a new teacher anywhere on this earth.

However, the cultural issue introduced me to a buffet of potential problems that would not be present if, say, I were teaching in the States. Granted, if I were in the States, I'd still have a buffet of classroom issues dumped on my plate, whether they tingled my taste buds or made me gag.

Yet, I was not in the States, and so I had to feast on my Chinese buffet, ready or not. Among the unusual-but-anticipated dishes, I found some that were wholly unimagined... including the prevalent and unashamed puppy dog love that teenage Chinese boys appeared to have for each other. Here's my daily fare:

Appetizer

A boy tilts his head to the right and allows it to delicately fall on to the shoulder of his male classmate. His mate unassumingly accepts the head's burden. No reaction. Nothing is out of the ordinary.

Salad

A boy stretches his arm upward. It holds its place in the sky but for a moment, and then

jumps down onto the thigh of the dude next to him. The hand reaches the knee and starts to caress it. The fingers are barely making contact with the pants. In the States, it is the touch signifying deep emotional commitment and love. Again, it's commonplace. No problems.

Entree

A boy arrives late. The room is already full. No seats are left. He sighs his bro across the way. Automatically, he walks to him and, unprompted, sits down on his bro's lap. His bro embraces his friend's body, putting his arms around his friend's waist to support him in his endeavor. They're clearly partners, platonically speaking. It's like whatever.

Dessert

Mr. Clayton is utterly confused. His brain is mush. Train wreck.

I have found much of this "brotherly love" lost on me. Having come of age in the Deep South where being viewed as gay was just not a card to be played, I've been fascinated to observe these teenage boys freely using physical cues to express their friendship and camaraderie on a wide-scale, socially-accepted plane. I have my explanations – nearly non-existent physical boundaries, absence of permissible association and contact with the feminine side of the human species, et cetera – but at the end of the day, I try not to over-analyze what I see. That seems more often to lead to unfortunate mass stereotypes and overall misunderstandings of the complexities in human society.

I understand that there are methods to the madness. The women think the heels are fashionable and hot, even on treadmills. The parents are saving money on diapers – and unknowingly saving the environment to boot. The drivers are not formerly trained, and there's little-to-no enforcement of the traffic code. The smokers are never punished and seldom told to stop, and the people at large think stinky tofu smells good...mind-boggling, but OK, I'll accept it.

As for the boys, well, they don't bottle up their emotions for one another. Unlike in the States, that is not a cue for homosexuality, and, in my opinion, they're better off for it. Their friendships are simply less constrained than those of their Western counterparts, and the depth and strength of the bonds between them that can develop as a result are impressive. I must admit, I'm jealous.

China certainly has the Curious, Abstract, and Bizarre, but much easier to overlook is the Profound. It's here, and it's queer – well, by our standards, at least.

Henry Clayton ventured to New Haven from the shadows of the Great Lakes and the sun of the South. He is a proud alum of Yale '09 and as proud a teacher in China. Henry Clayton is a surname, and more specifically, the name of the author's grandfather.

GAY IVY REVUE TAKES ON ALUMNI HOMOPHOBIA

AN ENTHUSIASTIC AND APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE packed Dixon Place, an experimental performance space in New York's Lower East Side, for the one-night-only performance of *The Gay Ivy* on April 5th.

A musical theatre collage, *The Gay Ivy* was created in response to the furor sparked by *Yale Alumni Magazine's* cover story "Why They Call Yale The Gay Ivy" in the July/August issue. The article—written as a follow-up to Yale GALA's LGBT Reunion in April—produced an outburst of pro and con mail from alumni. The heated exchanges exposed the fissures of homophobia, tradition, and generational differences that speak as much about the country as they do about Yale.

The theatrical evening consisted of a series of songs and scenes that were serious, somber, and silly by turns as roommates reminisced about parallel yet isolated lives lived decades before; two women woke up in each others' arms; one of Yale's first Africa-American alumnae struggled to embrace her son's lifestyle, and a legacy-student confronted his grandfather's hatred and his own conflicted sexual identity.

Letters read between scenes

Cast members read from the actual letters between scenes with one alumni declaring himself "a flaming homophobe" while another felt "prouder of being a Yalie now more than I have ever been."

For all the anger and disgust expressed by some alums in their letters, the production struck a jaunty optimism that was best expressed in one of the evening's standout songs, "A Survey of World Cultures" with lyrics by Greg Edwards '05 and music by Zak Sandler '07:

Arabia has Arabs. Egypt has the scarabs.
France has vichyssoise and bouillabaisse.
The Netherlands have Gouda.
Bangladesh has Buddha.
But Yale has the gays!

Directed by Ethan Heard '07, *The Gay Ivy* was conceived and produced with Thomas Dolan '05 and Megan Stern '06, who also appeared along with Emily Jenda '10, Kobi Libii '07, and Jared Weiss. Eighteen writers and composers contributed to the show with music direction by Jonathan Breit '06.



PHOTO: TOM CAVAGALIA

YALE DANCER FETED AT POST-PERFORMANCE YALE GALA RECEPTION

MICHAEL APUZZO '05, THE NEWEST MEMBER of the Paul Taylor Dance Company, was the guest of honor at a post-performance after party at the Yale Club NYC following the company's March 5 appearance at New York City Center theatre. 70 GALA members and alums attended the event, co-sponsored by Yale GALA and the Yale Club, and hosted by Tim Bertaccini '77. It included dinner at the Club, the performance, and the after party.

Apuzzo danced in all three of the evening's selections: *Brandenburgs*, set to the music of Bach; *Also Playing* (photo above with Apuzzo and company member Jamie Rae Walker), a comical tribute to vaudeville and a New York premiere; and *Piazzola Caldera*, danced to the music of tango composer Astor Piazzola.

Apuzzo, selected by the Yale Alumni Magazine as one of its online "Yalies of the Week", started his dance career while an undergraduate studying Economics and Theater. After graduation, he performed in numerous musicals and plays including the national tour of *Movin' Out*. He's also been an Abercrombie & Fitch model and recently appeared on the soap *One Life to Live*. Apuzzo joined Paul Taylor in fall 2009 and performs with the company full time.



LOVE FINDS A VOICE: Megan Stern '06 and Emily Jenda '10 perform duet "Here," music by Julia Meinwald '05, lyrics by Greg Edwards '05.

The Gay Ivy will be performed at Yale University on April 26, 9 pm as part of Pride Month (see article, page 10) at the Slifk Center. For ticket information, go to: <http://thegayivy.eventbrite.com>

PHOTO: ETHAN HEARD

LGBT LIFE ON CAMPUS

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CONFERENCE TO FEATURE PIONEERS, INTELLECTUAL LEADERS

...of key contributors to gender and sexuality studies. These panels will seek to “assemble an idiosyncratic account of the fields’ development over time,” said Boyd.

These two panels will bring together intellectual leaders in the field who were also deeply involved in the formation of WGSS and LGBTS at Yale. Discussing their personal journeys on Friday afternoon will be Regina Kunzel PhD ’90, Elizabeth Povinelli PhD ’91, (one of the organizers of early Lesbian & Gay Studies conferences at Yale), and Deborah Rhode ’74, JD ’77, on Friday afternoon; with Mahzarin Banaji, Judith Butler ’78, PhD ’84, and Robert Reid-Pharr PhD ’94 speaking on Tuesday afternoon.

Several other scholarly panels will focus on the foundation of Women’s Studies at Yale, the relationship between scholarship on women, race, and sexuality, as well as the effect of these studies on academia in general. Participants on these panels will include Nancy Cott (see profile), Carol Mostow ’77, Abbe Smith ’78, Ruth Borenstein ’78, Lee Edelman PhD ’81, Serene Jones PhD ’91, Richard Meyer ’88, Rabab Abdulhadi PhD ’00, Saidiya Hartman PhD ’92, Susan Johnson PhD ’93, Micaela di Leonardo, Jonathan Weinberg ’78, Gil-

lian Gill, David Roman, and Chandra Prasad ’97.

Mary Miller MA ’78, PhD ’81, Dean, Yale College, will also offer opening remarks on Friday and Emilie Townes MAH ’05, Yale Divinity School, will lead a remembrance gathering on Tuesday. For an updated list of panelists and speakers, check out the Anniversaries Conference website, www.yale.edu/wgss/anniversaries/program.

The Anniversaries Conference will also sponsor multiple screenings of *The Student Body*. Originally presented as a play at the same time as last year’s LGBT Reunion, the film is a collaborative student-led exploration into “the gender and sexuality skeletons of Yale’s proverbial closet.” It is based on archival research, interviews, and what its creators describe as a “healthy dose of imagination.” The screenings will include talk-back sessions with the creators.

Attendees can create own workshops

Boyd stressed that the Conference is “about reconnecting, having substantive structured and unstructured conversations, and evaluating where we’ve come from and where we’re going. As a result, the weekend program is designed so that conference attendees can be active participants by creating and organizing smaller workshops and group discussions on their own.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a session should contact Boyd at melanie.boyd@yale.edu. Workshop ideas to date include Alternative

Besides the Anniversaries Conference, there was the first IvyQ Conference, Sex Week, a transgender activist, a lesbian Mr. Yale, and marriage vows. Get out your rainbows! April is Yale Pride month!

Family Structures, Political Organizing in the Age of Obama, Feminism, Sexuality, and Food, and a Writer’s Workshop. There will also be opportunities for alumnae/i to mix and mingle over meals including a catered Gala Dinner on Saturday night.

The hybrid model of the conference is a perfect setting for any and all alumnae/i interested in celebrating and strengthening Yale’s position as a leader in gender and sexuality studies and as a foundational source of the growing national community within the fields. To register for the WGSS & LGBTS Anniversaries Conference, go to www.yale.edu/wgss/anniversaries. Registration closes by April 9.

Whether attending the Conference or not, the organizers encourage all alums to help the University build its archives of WGSS and LGBTS history by donating any photos, ephemera, or documents they have. It’s one more way Conference attendees and supporters can make history while celebrating a proud and impressive past and a future of promise and importance.

To contribute to the archives or for more information about donating, alumnae/i can email wgss@yale.edu

Anna Wipfler, BR ’09, is a graduate of the WGSS program currently working as Transgender Advocacy Fellow at GLAAD in New York. You can follow her blogs at www.glaadblog.org/author/annawipfler.



ADVOCATE: Nancy Cott helped found the Yale Women’s Studies Program.

NANCY COTT, MARRIAGE HISTORY EXPERT, TO SPEAK AT CONFERENCE

NANCY COTT, WHO HELPED DEVELOP Yale’s Women’s Studies Program while teaching at the University from 1975 to 2001, will be one of the honored speakers at the WGSS & LGBTS Anniversaries Conference, April 16–18. She is also one of the most sought-after expert witnesses on marriage equality issues in the nation.

Professor Cott will participate in two events during the on-campus weekend Conference—a reception celebrating the founding of Women’s Studies at Yale, and a panel on “The Impact of Feminism and Queer Studies on the Academy.”

She is currently the Jonathan Trumbull Professor of American History at Harvard University as well as the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation Director of the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

Arriving at Yale in 1975 as an Assistant Professor of History and American Studies, Cott was specifically hired to teach women’s history in response to graduate students’ demands for more classes focusing on women within the American Studies Program. She described her early years teaching at Yale

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LGBT ACTIVISM INSPIRES RESEARCH

...as “very smooth” — particularly given the fact that the University had only embraced co-education only six years before.

Soon after arriving, she joined a group of faculty, staff, and students devoted to women’s issues at the University. This included serving on a four-person task force with Jack Winkler, a classics professor concerned about the treatment of women on campus, and then students — now Conference panelists — Ruth Borenstein and Carol Mostow, which developed the first Women’s Studies class at Yale. The syllabus they created paved the way for the initial Women’s Studies course, which was offered the following academic year 1977–78, taught by Catharine MacKinnon.

The efforts spearheaded by Cott and a handful of others became a movement that petitioned for a full program of study and brought into being the first Women’s Studies Program in the fall of 1979. It is this founding that Anniversaries Conference will be celebrating, along with the beginning of Lesbian & Gay Studies several years later.

Participates in landmark case

Cott’s scholarly writings range widely over questions concerning women, family, and gender in U.S. history. However, she has become most well known in the LGBT community for her scholarship on the institution of marriage and her subsequent participation in the legal battle for marriage equality.

Just as her book *Public Vows: A History of Marriage and the Nation* was about to be published, Cott’s colleague Mary Bonauto of the Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) turned to her for assistance. Bonauto was preparing to argue the landmark marriage equality case *Baker v. Vermont* before the Vermont Supreme Court.

Cott briefed her on the evolution of marriage as a civil institution, contributing to the 1999 Court ruling that same-sex couples were entitled to all of the benefits and protections of civil marriage. This ruling prompted the Vermont legislature to enact the nation’s first “civil union” law for same-sex couples.

Since her involvement in that case, Cott has assisted with amicus curiae briefs in almost every subsequent legal trial of marriage rights for same-sex couples. Her expertise took center stage this past January when she provided expert witness, alongside Yale Historian George Chauncey, in the *Perry v. Schwarzenegger* Proposition 8 trial in California.

Cott admits to finding it “fascinating to be of use in this way” because her studies have never focused on LGBT-specific issues, but is also “delighted” to serve in the movement for marriage equality. At the same time, she recognizes that it is also fitting, since it was the activism of her lesbian and gay peers in questioning the nature of marriage as a public institution that inspired her initial research into the subject.

Cott recalls that during Yale’s 20th Anniversary of Coeducation celebration in 1989 (the 40th anniversary of coeducation was recently celebrated March 26–27) she requested that the University install a public work of art in recognition of the importance of coeducation to the University. The result was the placement of the treasured Women’s Table by Maya Lin outside Sterling Memorial Library honoring coeducation and the contributions of women to the Yale community.

Yale is looking forward to what Nancy Cott will “bring to the table” this year at the WGSS & LBTS Anniversaries Conference.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

10:30–11:30 am

Gender and Sexuality in the Archives: Activism, Academics and Student Life

Sterling Memorial Library, Manuscripts and Archives

11:30 am–1:00 pm

Walking Tour of Women’s History at Yale

Meet at the Women’s Table

2:00–2:15

Welcome

Mary Miller, Dean of Yale College

Opening Remarks

Sally Promey, Chair of WGSS

George Chauncey, Chair of LBTS

2:15–3:45

Intellectual Autobiographies

Regina Kunzel, Elizabeth Povinelli, Deborah Rhode

Panel Chair: Inderpal Grewal

4:00–5:30

Breakout groups

Informal discussions led by conference attendees

5:30–7:30

Reception: Celebration of the Founding of Women’s Studies at Yale

Nancy Cott, Carol Mostow, Abbe Smith

Introduced by Margaret Homans

7:30–9:30

The Student Body, Film and Talkback

The history of gender and sexuality at Yale, as investigated and imagined by a group of current undergrads. Silliflix (Silliman College)

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

9:00–10:30 am

The Impact of Feminism and Queer Studies on the Academy

Nancy Cott, Lee Edelman,

Serene Jones, Richard Meyer

Panel Chair: George Chauncey

10:45–11:45

Updates and Visions:

LBTS & WGSS at Yale Now

Colin Adamo, Melanie Boyd, Jill Campbell, George Chauncey,

Molly Farrell, Inderpal Grewal, and Sally Promey

1:15–2:45 pm

Intellectual Autobiographies

Mahzarin Banaji, Judith Butler, Robert Reid-Pharr

Panel Chair: Hazel Carby

3:00–4:30

Breakout groups

Informal discussions led by conference attendees

4:45–6:15

The Shifting Relations of Scholarship on Women, Race, and Sexuality

Rabab Abdulhadi, Saidiya Hartman, Susan Johnson, Micaela di Leonardo.

Panel Chair: Laura Wexler

9:30–11:30

The Student Body

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

9:00–10:30 am

Remembrance Gathering

Facilitated by Emilie Townes Joseph Slifka Center for Jewish Life at Yale

10:45–12:15 pm

Scholarship, Art, and Activism

Jonathan Weinberg, David Román, Chandra Prasad Panel Chair: Sheila Levrant de Bretteville

12:30–2:00

Lunch and Closing Remarks

George Chauncey, Sally Promey

2:00–4:00

Gender and Sexuality in the Archives: Activism, Academics and Student Life

Sterling Memorial Library, Manuscripts and Archives

2:00–3:30

Walking Tour of Women’s History at Yale

Meet at the Women’s Table

3:30–5:30

The Student Body



TEA TIME: (LEFT) Female-to-male transgender porn star Buck Angel talks with students at Dean's Tea.

(RIGHT) Miss Masters, pioneering African-American transgender woman, now prisons rights advocate, speaks at a Master's Tea.

PHOTOS: YALE DAILY NEWS

SEX WEEK SWEEPS CAMPUS

SEX WEEK AT YALE (SWAY) bills itself as “a campus-wide interdisciplinary sex education program designed to pique students’ interest and spark dialogue through creative, interactive, and innovative programming.”

Student run since its founding in 2002, the 2010 Sex Week ran the spectrum from raunchy to real with programs on “all things oral” by Babeland, billed as America’s favorite purveyor of sex toys, to research projects focused on HIV and women’s reproductive health sex; from a fetish fashion show to child sex slavery and exploitation. Throughout the week, participants were encouraged to get tested for HIV and STDs regardless of how sexuality active they were.

While Sex Week was undeniably heterosexual in focus, queer sex was not overlooked. A magazine published during the Week included an article on the joys of being a power-bottom lesbian. There was also a photo series on Harness Hall hookups that featured two guys going at it in the men’s room amid all the opposite-sex groppings in the stacks and study cubicles.

Still the high point for many, regardless of sexual orientation, was the Dean’s Tea with female-to-male transgender porn star Buck Angel at Pierson College. Angel shared his life story with 50 students, emphasizing the importance of self-acceptance and urged people not to submit to the labels society assigns them.

AROUND CAMPUS

Here’s a partial roundup of what’s been happening on-campus in the last few months, courtesy of the *Yale Daily News* with links to full coverage:

February 21, 2010: Gender-neutral housing approved for class of 2011. A pilot program is to begin next year. www.yaledailynews.com/news/university-news/2010/02/22/coed-housing-approved-seniors

February 10, 2010: More like one is six, according to a recent *Yale Daily News* poll. 17.7 percent of male undergraduates identify as gay, though only 8.1 percent women see themselves as lesbian. 12.2 women identify themselves as bisexual — or about three times the number of men. Indeed, bisexuals — male and female — seem to be getting the most action while gay men scored the highest in “multiple people at the same time.” Gay men who checked 100 percent for “frequency of condom use during intercourse” scored second highest right after heterosexual women. Since that represents only 60 percent of gay male Yalies, it is a cause for concern. Although the polling may not be the most scientifically accurate, it’s a window into student life — or lives — when the lights go out.

www.yaledailynews.com/news/features/2010/02/10/one-four-maybe-six

November 12, 2009: Lesbian runs for Mr. Yale. Jen Ivers ’10 was nominated overwhelmingly to represent Timothy Dwight, only to be disqualified by the Yale College Council for her sex, and then reinstated the next day by the YCC claiming “miscommunication.”

www.yaledailynews.com/news/features/2009/11/12/gender-neutral-pageant

November 11, 2009: Transgender rights and prison reform advocate speaks at Master’s Tea. As part of Trans Awareness Week events, Miss Masters talked about her experiences as a pioneering African-American transgender woman in the 1950s, being inside the Stonewall Inn when the police raided it that fateful night in 1969, and her focus as Executive Director of the Transgender, Gender Variant and Intersex Justice Project on prison reform.

www.yaledailynews.com/news/university-news/2009/11/11/transgender-activist-describes-ostracism/

30 DAYS OF LGBT PRIDE, THAT’S APRIL AT YALE

APRIL IS CHOCK-A-BLOCK WITH LGBT PRIDE. Along with the daffodils, there are events and concerts and lectures and performances popping up all over campus!

Indeed, April is Pride Month at Yale. Some of the upcoming events include a campus-wide Pride picnic and barbecue in the Hall of Graduate Studies courtyard, Friday evening, April 9. Earlier that day Bisexual People of Color is conducting a workshop with Faith Cheltenham, Vice President, BiNet USA, in Harkness Hall.

Also scheduled for the month are a screening of *City of Borders*, a documentary about Jewish and Pal-

estinian LGBT life in the Jerusalem, Trans 101 with transgender advocate Tony Ferraiolo, and Discostick, billed as “Yale’s First Vogue Ball.” There’ll also be special events at the Women’s Center including an LGBTQ mixer and a talk by Amy Kesselman on the women’s liberation movement in New Haven.

Some events and locations are still being finalized. To stay current with event information, visit www.facebook.com/prideat Yale.

Yale Pride is sponsored by the LGBTQ Co-op at Yale and the Office of LGBTQ Resources.



CLASS PHOTO: Yalies attend the first annual IvyQ Conference on February 18 at the University of Pennsylvania.

PHOTO: EDGAR DIAZ-MACHADO '11

YALIES ENERGIZED BY FIRST IVY Q CONFERENCE

By Stephen Silva '10

322 LGBT students from Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Brown, Cornell, Columbia and Dartmouth attended the first annual Ivy League LGBT—or IvyQ—Conference Feb 18–21, hosted at University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School facilities. Stephen Silva '10 attended. He describes his experiences.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 5 O'CLOCK PM.

As the early crowd camps out in residential college common rooms waiting for the dining halls to open their doors, an excited group begins to congregate in front of Phelps Gate. 45 LGBT YAlies – almost evenly split men and women, plus one straight ally (hence the “A”) – wait to board the Gay Bus to participate in the inaugural IvyQ conference. Students from all seven Ivy League schools would gather both on and off the University of Pennsylvania's West Philadelphia campus to learn from workshops, share experiences about their home schools, and socialize in new and ever-changing contexts.

It was clear from the start that the Yalies would do just as much meeting and greeting amongst themselves as with our brethren and sistren from the other schools. It started with the initial handshakes and cheek kisses on the four-hour bus ride and continued throughout the weekend, from the initial mixer to the final banquet.

The Peter Pan bus we chartered – made possible by the Bruce Cohen Fund, the Yale Office of LGBTQ Resources and Yale GALA – was itself as a great opportunity for us upper class students to meet the sizable first year contingent that came along. As for the social engineering down at

UPenn, things started off a bit rocky at the first mixer, with really no conversational springboard to work with, except “What's it like to be queer at *your* school?” As the weekend's scheduled programming progressed, however, exchanges became more natural and spontaneous, bringing people together due to shared passions and interests.

Penn's capable organizers had prepared busy days that included plenary sessions with Rich Ross, president of Disney Channel Worldwide and HRC Campus Outreach Director Candace Gingrich. There was also a career panel staffed by representatives of the major consulting and finance firms that sponsored the conference. Still it was the breakout sessions – workshops held on a variety of themes including politics, campus impact, and mental health – that really dominated the conversation as the weekend progressed.

More than “Trans 101”

I selected my workshops based on my interests: human rights in the global south, substance use and abuse (I coordinate Queer Peers, a peer counseling service), mainstreaming and post-gay, and a workshop titled “The Trans Experience,” which really stole the show. About seventy students packed the designated lecture room on the

third floor of Wharton's Huntsman Hall, where we expected to participate in a “Trans 101” style talk. Two people commanded the front of the room: Penn student Josh Tweedy clad in a suit and tie, some facial hair, a crew cut and bright eyes set off by his strong jaw; and HRC Associate Director of Diversity Allyson Robinson, tall, broad-shouldered, lipstick matching her manicured nails, who could glide flawlessly in her high heels.

Our two presenters came out as trans during introductions, but they soon connected with the room of mostly gay males by talking about gender norms and childhood. “Let's talk about similarities” Allyson began, explaining transgender through three attributes: identity, expression, and attribution, the three gender components that are often out of sync among members of the queer community, especially in early childhood. One Penn student shared that as a young boy, his mother brought him on the Oprah Winfrey show asking for help for her “tranny son.” (Although my family discouraged my innocent cross-dressing, I count my blessings that mom never thought to do that to me.)

After the workshop ended, about ten of us stuck around outside the classroom to reflect on the talk. One of my fellow Yalies posited that the transgender community has been wise in latching the T onto LGB, citing differences between our communities. But as Allyson suggested during the workshop, we have more common ground than differences when we explore the relationships to our heteronormative world surrounding us, and the way we feel inside.

This conversation continued as I snuck away

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Trumpler Marries, Leads Group

Maria Trumpler '92 PhD, director of the Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies, married Kathryn Marie Dudley Nov 23, 2009 at the Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society in Middlebury, Vermont. She is also a senior lecturer in women's gender and sexuality studies. Dudley is a professor of American Studies and anthropology at Yale.

Trumpler also led a group of ten LGBT students to the Creating Change Conference in Dallas, Feb 3-7. The annual conference, organized by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, brought together 2400 community members for workshops, institutes, and leadership training. The students' travel was underwritten by Wallace-Sexton Fund.



DIRECTOR: Maria Trumpler '92 PhD talks with students at the annual Yale GALA Banquet.

PHOTO: EDGAR DIAZ-MACHADO '11

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

DISCOVERING COMMON GROUND, SHARING EXPERIENCES

...to downtown Philly with a group of guys from ...Penn, Cornell, and Brown. We continued the discussion and bonded in a way that only queer people can: sharing how we realized we were “different,” our own experiences with femininity and masculinity, and agreeing in our refusal to subscribe to a system of binaries. With us walking posse-style down South Street, Philly got a whole lot gayer that afternoon as we let it all out and celebrated being queer.

Party Time

As you can imagine, my queer reader, the nighttime fun during IvyQ weekend deserves at least a bit of coverage. The Penn students were having parties all over the place, so the options for nocturnal fun were pretty open, and I found myself at the home of some Wharton students on the first evening. I had gone out the previous two nights prior to our bus trip to Philadelphia. So chatting on a couch with a beautifully built Penn student and his banker boyfriend was the ideal way for me to wind down.

Friday night, however, was the climax of debauchery and loss of control for many (though not exactly my cup of tea). The Wharton Alliance hosted “Poison Ivy,” a party at a club downtown just for IvyQ participants. I danced the night away with my friends and then ended up at Philly Diner at 2:00 AM with my Penn host and nine other guys, reveling in the joys of a late night greasy spoon breakfast to complete the fun.

Saturday night had quite a different feel, with smaller gatherings and dance parties, dividing the girls and boys for the most part. After a chill mixer at a friend's apartment in Dubois College House, we headed over to “Poison Drinks and Ivy Twinks,” a dance party that was our last chance to rejoice in intercollegiate gay brotherhood. A couple of friends and I stepped into a 24-hour McDonalds for a late-night/early morning sundae before

parting ways and returning to our hosts' apartments.

Awakened by the blaring of a nuclear airstrike alarm from my iPhone early Sunday morning, I reluctantly opened my eyes and gazed out through the enormous window of the bedroom in my host's high-rise dormitory. Standing up, I saw a snow-covered campus below me, empty but for the iconic beehemoth of a blood-red sculpture tenderly known as “the tampons.”

Over the past few days, my colleagues and I had walked those empty sidewalks, arm in arm, chitchatting gayly about the excitement of the day or the night before. But the time had come to reflect upon the next step. What did IvyQ mean for the future of Yale's queer community?

A week after our early morning farewells in UPenn's Student Union — where we parted over breakfast from our newfound friends from peer institutions — the Yale delegates reconvened in the Women's Center to reflect upon the previous weekend and brainstorm strategies for our future.

As a graduating senior, I approached the gathering with mixed emotions since I won't be on campus fall term to continue what I started as a student: teaching my fellows how to be allies, promoting healthy attitudes towards communication and alcohol, and emphasizing inclusion in our activities and language. Still moving away doesn't have to mean breaking off from the Yale queer community. There's Yale GALA for keeping in touch and staying involved. And I've taken the energy from IvyQ to channel my focus into what matters most to me: connecting with Yale queer people both on and off campus and helping to build our special community.

Stephen Silva '10 will be graduating in May with a BA in Portuguese. He plans to move to New York and pursue a career in LGBT work with the goal to be a role model and advocate for all queer people. His email address is stephen.silva@yale.edu.