

CSSMM

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SEXUAL MINORITIES IN THE MILITARY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

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CSSMM BOARD MEMBER CO-ORGANIZES CONFERENCE ON RACE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY IN THE MILITARY

CSSMM board member and Cornell University Professor **Mary Katzenstein** and Aaron Belkin co-organized a conference on race, gender, and sexuality in the armed forces. The conference took place on May 10, 2002 in New York at the Russell Sage Foundation, which financed and sponsored the event.

Nationally renowned scholars and experts on military diversity attended the conference, including **Cynthia Enloe** of Clark University, **Lory Manning** of the Women's Research and Education Institute, and **David** and **Mady Segal** of the University of Maryland.

Conference participants focused on the catalysts of institutional change and considered conditions under which various strategies are more or less likely to promote military diversity. In particular, the conference included panels on three different strategic approaches to change that have been used to influence the scope of military diversity: media and communications, litigation, and "inside-outside" advocacy. Participants asked when these strategies led to institutional diversity in the past and if and how they might continue to do so in the future.

The primary objective of the conference was to start forging a research agenda on military diversity and organizational change. More specifically, conference participants examined how organizational change comes about, and how, why, and under what conditions the use of various strategic approaches increases the scope of military diversity in some cases but not others.

CENTER'S RESEARCH RAISED IN PENTAGON BRIEFING

Staff attorneys of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network met with Pentagon officials, including the Army Inspector General, in early March to discuss SLDN's annual report. During the briefing, SLDN attorneys discussed the Center's recent studies of gays and lesbians in foreign militaries, and pointed out that the U.S. Army currently is fighting alongside Canadian, British, and Danish forces, all of which allow gays and lesbians to serve openly. According to SLDN attorneys, "the general had a light bulb moment and confessed, 'I hadn't really thought about that.'"

CENTER REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDS MILITARY CONFERENCE

CSSMM was pleased to attend the Strategic Studies Institute's 13th Annual Strategy Conference at the U.S. Army War College this April in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. The Center was represented by **Nathaniel Frank**, Senior Research Fellow, who participated in a vibrant debate on the theme of "Moral Dimensions of American Military Strategy."

The conference brought together distinguished scholars, journalists, political officials, military officers, and watchdog groups to address critical issues with national security implications. Frank raised the issue of gays in the military by asking panelists if the requirement that gays lie about their identity undermined the effort to teach honesty and integrity to officers and enlisted personnel.



Professor Christopher Dandeker, Chair of the Department of War Studies at Kings College, London, spoke at UCSB in May.

INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED SCHOLAR SPEAKS AT UCSB

On May 23, Professor **Christopher Dandeker**, Chair of the Department of War Studies at Kings College, London visited UCSB to discuss minority diversity in the British Armed Forces. One of Britain's most distinguished scholars of the military, Dandeker delivered a lecture titled, "Homosexuality and Military Service in the United Kingdom: Getting Policy Wrong and Putting it Right."

After outlining the development of policy on homosexual military personnel in the British armed services over the past decade, Dandeker focused on how political and legal factors made the British Ministry of Defence policy unsustainable. Then he examined whether the current policy is working and whether it could be adapted for use in other militaries, including the US armed services.

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

CSSMM is very grateful to the **Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund** for its gift of \$40,000, one of the largest gifts every received by the Center. The gift, which follows last year's gift of \$15,000, is the Fund's third gift in a row to the Center. Half of the gift will be provided up front and the second half will be provided on a matching basis.

CSSMM is very grateful to the **H. van Ameringen Foundation**, that donated \$5,000 in April. In addition, CSSMM is very grateful to **James S. Eaton, Bruce Presley, Geoffrey Smith, Raymond Tu, Reid Williams**, and **Dennis Winstead** for their gifts of \$1,000, to **Robert Kabel, Mike Rankin, Paul Sliwka**, an anonymous officer who cannot share his or her name for fear of getting fired from the military, and the **Lewy Gay Values Fund** at the **Horizons Foundation**, as advised by **Jeffrey Lewy** and **Ed Eishen**, for their donations of \$500; and to **Paul De Vido** and **Willard Hillegeist** for their gifts of \$250. CSSMM is honored to receive such support.

As well, a number of individuals have volunteered their time and resources to organize fundraising events for the Center. The Center would like to offer thanks to **Paul Sliwka** for hosting a fundraiser at his home in Washington, D.C., on April 26. The host committee for this event worked hard to make the evening a success, and the Center offers thanks to host committee members **Clay Doherty, James S. Eaton, Robert J. Kabel, Karl Olson, Mike Rankin, Paul Sliwka, Dennis Winstead**, and an anonymous officer.

The Center's new board chair, **Jeff Wolk**, and **Michael Lepson**, generously volunteered their time and resources to organize a fundraiser in New York on May 12. CSSMM appreciates all the work that supporters have contributed, and we will publish more details in our next newsletter in October.

CENTER HIRES NEW WEB DESIGNER

In April, the Center welcomed **Shivaun Nestor** to its staff to manage its website. Nestor began her career as a health educator for the San Francisco Department of Public Health, where her accomplishments included: 1) coordinating a Regional Training Center in youth-focused HIV education for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and 2) founding Free Zone, a ground-breaking health promotion arts and media program for sexual minority youth. During this time, she also produced and/or served as art director on a number of award-winning documentaries, narrative shorts and educational films that were screened internationally and broadcast on PBS.

Nestor has been designing web sites for non-profits and independent filmmakers for the past 5 years. Her web sites include Tranny Fest Film and Cultural Festival, AmeriCorps Bay Area Youth Agency Consortium, and Film Arts Foundation's 2001 Film Festival.



Shivaun Nestor, the Center's Web Designer.

Director Aaron Belkin
Assistant Director Geoffrey Bateman
Senior Research Fellow Nathaniel Frank
Public Relations Advisor David Phelps
Newsletter Designer Karla Milosevich
Web Designer Shivaun Nestor
Filmmaker-in-Residence Michele Sieglitz
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The Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military is a formal research unit of the University of California, Santa Barbara. You can reach the Center at (805) 893-5664; (805) 893-3309 (fax); belkin@polsci.ucsb.edu; or <http://www.gaymilitary.ucsb.edu>.

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