

Vice President for Leadership Development
Statement of Interest for Lexi Light

My discovery of AMSA at the beginning of medical school was serendipitous: the combination of my desire to increase LGBTQ visibility at my school, an Internet search for outside resources, and an enthusiastic AMSA chapter president. This discovery led to my position as the first G&S advocacy lead on Tulane's board, which in turn led me to start an LGBTQ student group, create a sexual health elective, and organize curriculum reform on queer health issues. My second year of medical school I served as Tulane's AMSA president and the region 7 LGBTQ Grassroots Organizer, and this year as the national LGBT education chair on the gender and sexuality committee.

As president-elect for Tulane's AMSA chapter, I set a personal goal to focus on the leadership skills of our chapter board. I felt strongly that these self-selected leaders, busy medical students opting to be involved on the AMSA board, should be getting as much from their experience as they were putting it. I organized leadership skill strengthening activities for our monthly meetings. I encouraged each board member to set their own goals for their personal growth along with their AMSA positional goals. I had them re-visit these goals throughout their year to self-assess progress. I made sure to have networks and committees on the board to support each other, and to personally check in with each leader throughout the year, encouraging accomplishment of their own goals. Throughout the year, my own leadership development was graded on how well each and every board member was developing into their own. Our time in AMSA is finite, limited to our years spent as medical students, yet it is just the beginning for us all. As we continue on with our training and careers we will likely continue to involve ourselves with professional organizations and other leadership opportunities along the way. We will be academic clinicians, hospital CEOs, community organizers: the next generation of revolutionaries in the *medical* world. Along the way, we will build on leadership skills gained from our involvement in the American Medical Student Association. If elected to serve as AMSA's 2012-2013 Vice President of Leadership Development I hope to facilitate leadership growth in all AMSA members, enabling all to maximize their year of service within the organization.

AMSA has been the highlight of my medical school experience; I look forward to giving back to the organization at a higher level.

EDUCATION

Tulane University, New Orleans LA, MD/MPH candidate, Spring 2013

Brandeis University, Waltham MA, Post Baccalaureate Premedical Certificate, Spring 2008

Hampshire College, Amherst MA, Bachelor of Arts, Spring 2006

- Interdisciplinary Concentration of Studies: Anthropology, Health, and Photography
- Thesis: “Pushing for Choice: An Ethnography About Pregnant Women and Their Journeys Toward Empowered Birth Experiences”

EXPERIENCE

Sexual Health Pre-Clinical Elective, Fall 2010

Tulane School of Medicine, New Orleans LA

- Created a pre-clinical sexual health elective curriculum in coordination with Mount Sinai School of Medicine
- Organized the implementation of the 15 hour elective
- Designed and conducted research on the effectiveness of this elective

American Pediatric Society/Society for Pediatric Research Student Fellow, Summer 2010

Department of Adolescent Medicine, Children’s Hospital, Boston MA

- Research on transitions for adolescent with chronic illnesses
- Development of clinical skills in the adolescent health clinic

Student Group Leader

LGBT health education chair, American Medical Student Association, 2011-2012

President, Tulane chapter American Medical Student Association; 2010-2011

Vice president, Tulane Medical Students for Choice, 2010-2011

Founded: TOGA (Tulane Organization of Gays & Allies), Fall 2010

LGBT advocacy chair, Tulane AMSA, 2009-2010

- Coordinated events for the campus community
- Fostered relationships with other campus groups and the outside community in order to develop joint activities

Medical Assistant, August 2008 – January 2009

Urban Medical Group, Jamaica Plain MA

- Triage patients, measure vital signs, perform EKGs, immunizations, and other minor procedures
- Managed office productivity through administrative tasks and scheduling

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Nurse’s Aid, September 2006 – January 2008

Brigham & Women’s Hospital, Boston MA

- Facilitated in feeding, clothing and “cuddling” of medical fragile newborns
- Supported nurses and doctors in running labs and attaching monitors to the patients

Diabetes Camp Health Care Team Member, Summer 2006

Diabetes Camp Counselor, Summer 2005

Clara Barton Camp for Girls with Diabetes, North Oxford MA

- Created and facilitated programs ranging from health education to creative sports
- Managed diabetes care, insulin administration, and other health concerns

Emergency Medical Technician

Hampshire College Emergency Medical Services, Amherst MA; December 2003- Spring 2006
Magen David Adom, Beer Sheva Israel; Summer 2004

- Provided emergency medical support to the community
- Trained new EMTs on practice and protocol

CONFERENCE, SYMPOSIUM & MEETING PRESENTATIONS

A. Light, L. Sherman, J. Polvinen, PhD, M. Rich, MD, MPH. "What adolescents with spina bifida want to know about sex, and aren't being told."

- Accepted for upcoming platform presentation, **2012 Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Annual Meeting**, New Orleans, LA

American Medical Student Association (AMSA) National Convention, Washington DC, Spring 2011

- Co-presenter of "Creating Change, One Elective at a Time"

A. Light, L. Sherman, J. Polvinen, R. Chalfen, PhD, M. Rich, MD, MPH. "'Because I survived, I'm gonna be denied the best care...' Perceptions of Transitions by Young Adults with Cystic Fibrosis"

- Poster presentation, **2011 Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Annual Meeting**, Seattle WA.
- Poster presentation, **2011 PAS Annual Meeting**, Denver CO. Awarded a student research travel grant.

R. Schwartz, R. Bak, K. Casten, R. Feldman, M. Halton, **A. Light**, G. Mortillaro, C. Terndrup, A. Palermo MPH, D. Schieffler, PhD, E. Friedman, MD. "The implementation of an elective designed to enhance medical student competencies and comfort related to sexual health"

- **APHA meeting**, Maternal and Reproductive Health Care poster presentation, Fall 2011
- Poster presentation, **MSSM Institute for Medical Education Research Day**, Spring 2011
- Poster presentation, **Tulane Research in Medical Education Day**, Spring 2011
- Poster presentation, **Tulane's Health Science Research Days**, Spring 2011

Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) Conference, San Diego CA, Fall 2010

- Co-presenter of "GLMA Student Roundtable"

AMSA/GLMA Medical Student Leadership Institute, San Francisco CA, Spring 2010

- Representative for Tulane School of Medicine

Five College Anthropology Conference, Spring 2006

- Panelist, Paper topic: "Pushing for Choice: An Ethnography About Pregnant Women and Their Journeys Toward Empowered Birth Experiences"

From Abortion Rights to Social Justice: Building the Movement for Reproductive Freedom, Spring 2003, 2004, 2005, & 2006

- Facilitated a roundtable discussion on Judaism and abortion

National Collegiate Emergency Medical Federation Conference, Spring 2005

- Finalist in the Richard W. Vomacka Student Speaker Competition, Paper topic: "The Superhero Dilemma: Confidentiality and Mental Health Preservation"

Five College Anthropology Conference, Spring 2005

- Panelist, Paper topic: "Giving Birth to Criticism: An Ethnography about Teen Mothers and the Challenges They Face"