



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE NEWS

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EIGHT LAFAYETTE SENIORS SEEK TO EDUCATE STUDENTS, OTHERS, ABOUT AIDS BY BRINGING THE AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT TO CAMPUS APRIL 26-28

EASTON, Pa. -- Eight Lafayette College seniors have banded together for various compelling reasons to bring the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt to Lafayette April 26-28, and to educate the campus about issues surrounding the AIDS epidemic.

David Unanue is co-chair of the overall committee, along with Debrah Hoff, assistant director of student residence. Unanue, a senior government and law major from Clayton, Mo., has been active with the Lafayette Activities Forum (LAF), a student activities group. He became involved after viewing the Quilt at a student activities conference he attended as a member of LAF. Unanue feels that "it is necessary to bring the Quilt to Lafayette in order to stir some awareness on a campus that is not very sympathetic to AIDS and the issues surrounding AIDS."

Each of other seven students chairs one of six organizational subcommittees: ceremonies, education, fundraising, panel-making, publicity, and volunteers.

Gregg Bethel, a senior government and law and history major from Wilmington, Del., is



the volunteers chair for the committee. He is soliciting volunteers from the college as well as the community and scheduling them for projects before and during the display. "By bringing the Quilt to Lafayette," Bethel states, "we hope to educate the campus and community as to the issues related to the AIDS epidemic and its societal impact."

The fundraising chair is Whitney Eakin, a senior from Gates Mills, Ohio. An economics major, Eakin is in charge of all fundraising events, both on campus and in the community, prior to the display. His involvement with the Quilt stems from the desire "to help educate the Lafayette community and to stimulate some awareness about the dangers of this disease."

Alicia Hall, from Cleveland, Ohio, is the ceremonies chair. A senior psychology and biology major, Hall is organizing the opening and closing ceremonies as well as the memorial service to be held in Lafayette's Colton Chapel on Sunday, April 26. Her reasons for getting involved in the Quilt display are personal. "AIDS is an issue that young people don't particularly pay attention to. I want to make people on this campus aware of AIDS, and teach how AIDS affects race awareness on this campus."

The panel-making chair is Lisa LeMoult, a senior from Orleans, Mass. LeMoult, a government and law major, is helping to coordinate area volunteers interested in making a panel for a friend or loved one who has died of AIDS. "I want people on this campus to be aware of AIDS and not to be stupid about their actions. I think seeing the Quilt will shock them into educating themselves."

Kara McCarthy, one of the education co-chairs, hails from Waldwick, N.J. McCarthy is an anthropology and sociology major. One of her objectives as an educational co-chair is to organize an educational day for local secondary schools on Monday, April 27, when students

and their teachers can come to the display and learn some of the facts surrounding AIDS. "I am contributing my time and energies to a current social issue in hope that students and others on campus will become aware of AIDS and strive to educate themselves about all the issues surrounding this disease."

The other education co-chair is senior Megan O'Connor from Irvington, N.Y. O'Connor, an English major, works with McCarthy on the educational focus of the display. She has been instrumental in arranging for Lafayette professors to participate in an AIDS Awareness Day during the display Monday, April 27, discussing how AIDS affects their discipline. For O'Connor, the display presents a forum for "my interest in educating college campuses of the severity of the AIDS situation."

Meredith Renk, from Convent Station, N.J., is the publicity and public relations chair. Renk, a senior English major and an intern in Lafayette's Public Information Office, is in charge of all press coverage before and during the display, as well as publicizing the events organized by the other subcommittees on and off campus. "I hope to do away with some of the stereotypes surrounding AIDS, and to bring about a more tolerant environment on Lafayette's campus by educating students about this disease."

Two other administrators of the college also serve on the committee: Pamela Brewer, assistant dean of students, chairs the finance committee, and Bobbi Kerridge, assistant director of student activities, chairs the logistics committee.

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