



## OSHPP E-News

Fall 2006

### Office of Sexual Harassment Prevention & Policy (OSHPP)

This electronic newsletter provides an update on sexual harassment and gender discrimination issues.

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#### HAUNTED BY HARASSING EMAIL

If you thought your emails and instant messages were private, take a lesson from former Congressman Mark Foley, who resigned September 29, 2006 following the disclosure of several salacious messages he sent to 16-year old Congressional pages. You are encouraged to review UCSD's Email Policy <http://www.ucsd.edu/email.html> and Acceptable Computer Use Policy <http://acs.ucsd.edu/lib/aup.php>. Remember that email may be disclosed under California's Public Records Act. Think twice before you click "send" and watch out for those scary messages that may come back to haunt you.

#### SUGARPLUM'S UNREASONABLE DELAY

Waiting a year to report unwelcome sexual conduct may be too long, according to a recent court decision. Beginning in June 2000, a SUNY Stonybrook pathology faculty member invited his administrative assistant to the ballet and zoo, called her "sugarplum," asked her about her sex life, complimented her on a skirt she wore by saying "That's some slit," commented about her legs, ("If I had yours, they'd be out there. No boots, no gear"), gave her a plant he dubbed a "penis plant" (which he observed was "a little limp"), offered to pay for her breast implants, and wrote her poetry. She did not complain about his behavior until July 2001. SUNY immediately investigated and disciplined the faculty member. When the assistant sued the university anyway, the federal court decided that the university was not liable for the faculty member's behavior because SUNY took prompt, appropriate action once the assistant complained and the assistant unreasonably delayed by waiting a year to file the complaint. OSHPP encourages readers to report early concerns regarding unwelcome sexual behavior.

## LOVE YOUR BODY DAY, WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

Love Your Body Day, sponsored by NOW Foundation, is a day to counter the negative images of women in the media. Love Your Body Day activities will be held on October 18, 2006 from 11 am to 2 pm at the UCSD Women's Center. For more information, contact the Women's Center at [women@ucsd.edu](mailto:women@ucsd.edu) or (858) 822-0074.

## FREE SCREENING OF "CLICK" (FOR REAL, THIS TIME)

MONDAY OCTOBER 23<sup>RD</sup> AT 6:00 PM IN PRICE CENTER THEATRE

Don't miss Adam Sandler, Kate Beckinsale and Christopher Walken in this hilarious comedy about a man who finds a universal remote control that changes his life. We apologize for the technical difficulties at the last screening. Take a study break and join us on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. It's FREE!

## DID YOU KNOW...?

In October 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg heard her first case as the 107<sup>th</sup> justice and the second woman to sit on the U.S. Supreme Court (she was sworn in on August 10, 1993). Although she had outstanding academic credentials, Justice Ginsburg received no job offers from New York law firms when she graduated from law school in 1959, nor was she able to obtain a clerkship interview with a Supreme Court justice. She recalls that her status as "a woman, a Jew, and a mother to boot" was "a bit much" for prospective employers at the time. Justice Ginsburg's own experiences with sex discrimination inspired her to start the ACLU Women's Rights Project, which works to advance gender equality.

## PUZZLED ABOUT SEXUAL HARASSMENT? SOLUTIONS FOUND HERE.

Office of Sexual Harassment Prevention & Policy (OSHPP), 201 University Center, (858) 534-8298, <http://oshpp.ucsd.edu>.