12-4-2013

PILF to Honor Buseck ’80 with Curtin Service Award

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Newton, MA—The Boston College Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) has announced that it will honor Gary Buseck A&S ’72, LSOE ’74, Law ’80 with the PILF Curtin Service Award at the organization’s annual Auction.

“We believe that he is a shining example of an excellent lawyer and embodies in his fight for justice the ideals of Boston College,” the members of the PILF board wrote in support of Buseck’s nomination.

Gary Buseck received his BA, a Masters in Religious Education, and a J.D. magna cum laude from Boston College. Buseck currently serves as Legal Director of Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD). As Legal Director, Buseck supervises GLAD’s team of attorneys and sets legal strategy. He has served as GLAD’s Executive Director for six years, during which GLAD’s staff doubled in size. Buseck also served as Legal Director for Lambda Legal from 2003-2004. Before moving to GLAD, Buseck spent twenty years in private practice, and co-founded a Boston law firm focusing on the gay and lesbian community. Buseck has served as an Overseer of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, as a board member of Victory House, and a member of the Institutional Review board of the Fenway Community Health Center.

Buseck has contributed to many legal victories in anti-discrimination cases. Notably, he led the charge for GLAD in its efforts to defeat a referendum-based challenge to Massachusetts’ landmark law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, public accommodations, housing and credit. Buseck, along with Assistant Attorney General Ed Mogilinicki, argued before the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) against allowing the referendum to proceed on behalf of 10 state legislators who had supported the legislation. The SJC ruled that the law could not be subjected to a referendum, a major civil rights victory. In 1998 he was part of the team that successfully argued *Bragdon v. Vermont*, a case in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that people with HIV were protected from discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Buseck has shared in many other wins during his years with GLAD, including *Baker v. Vermont*, which resulted in that state’s civil union law; *E.N.O. v. L.M.M.*, a 1999 case in which the Massachusetts SJC ruled that a non-biological lesbian mother who parented her son from birth is a *de facto* parent with the right to seek visitation; and *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health* a 2004 Massachusetts SJC ruling that denying same-sex couples access to civil marriage is unconstitutional.