Welcome to the new academic year! Please join us on Wednesday, October 8 from 4:30-6 pm for the annual open house we co-host with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture at 5733 S University Ave.

This year CSGS will facilitate a discussion of sexual violence as endemic in contemporary culture and as a local problem for colleges that needs to be addressed through innovative practices and sound policy. Beginning this fall we will host a series with distinguished scholars and activists who will speak to sexual violence as a multifaceted problem that defies simple solutions. Janet Halley, feminist scholar and Harvard University Professor of Law will be the first speaker with the talk “Teaching Rape Law from a Legal Realist Perspective” on Thursday, Oct 9 at 4 pm and she will lead a workshop on Oct 10 at 9:30 am.

CSGS will also launch a multi-year project, “Precarious Citizenship: Gender, Sexuality, and Politics in the 21st Century” on rights and the impact on the exercise of full citizenship. This year we will largely focus on debates over health care and reproductive rights. On November 13, Katherine Franke will give the talk “The Aftermath of Hobby Lobby: Public Values in the Era of Religious Exemptions”, followed by a workshop on November 14. Nancy Fraser will give the talk, “Legitimation Crisis? On the Political Contradictions of Financialized Capitalism” at 4pm on Tuesday, November 18 and a workshop, “Behind Marx’s ‘Hidden Abode’” on Nov 19 at 3pm.

Professor Hillary Chute (English) will again curate the Artists’ Salon with an exciting show of local visual artists opening on Thursday, October 30 at CSGS. Professor Lauren Berlant (English) has organized a fantastic speaker series for the LGBTQ Studies Project, “Sexuality, Power, and the Empirical.” Heather Love opens the series with “Norms, Deviance, and the Queer Ordinary” on Thursday, Oct 23 at 4:30 followed on Oct 24 at 10 am with a workshop, “Queer Description.”

Director of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Professor Kristen Schilt (Sociology) and CSGS Student Affairs Administrator Sarah Tuohy focus on programs for our undergraduates and work directly with students on their programming ideas and desires. Upcoming: A series of events around the theme “The Family,” with plans to host a spring quarter undergraduate student conference on the theme and an open house at CSGS and CSRPC on Friday afternoon of Family Weekend, October 24. On November 7, the Feminist/Queer Praxis Series will host a lunch “How to Write Anything: Ariel Schrag on writing comics, screenplays, memoirs, novels and more” with the graphic novelist who went on to write for The L Word and recently her first fiction novel.

On October 4, CSGS is co-sponsoring “Redefine Genius: Who Do We Imagine Belongs On College Campuses.”

Continued on Page 2
Welcome

Continued from Page 1

organized by former CSGS-CSRPC fellow, Alisha Jones, exploring how perceptions of black men can be broadened and community built between men and women in celebrating and honoring men who seek to transcend the limits within their professions. And on October 15, CSGS is proud to co-sponsor a talk by former political prisoner CeCe McDonald, for whom a highly visible international solidarity campaign helped secure a reduced sentence, hosted by the Office of LGBTQ Student Life at 6pm in Bond Chapel, with a moderated lunchtime discussion for students at the CSGS earlier in the day.

Several new members have joined our board, which now includes the following faculty: Leora Auslander (History), Lauren Berlant (English Language and Literature), Mary Anne Case (Law School), Hillary Chute (English Language and Literature), Jennifer Cole (Comparative Human Development), Jane Dailey (History), Michael Dawson (Political Science, and Director, the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture), Daisy Delogu (Romance Languages and Literatures), Susan Gal (Anthropology), Don Kulick (Comparative Human Development), Agnes Lugo-Ortiz (Romance Languages and Literatures), Rochona Majumdar (Cinema and Media Studies/South Asian Languages and Civilizations), Lucy Pick (Divinity School), Kristen Schilt (Sociology), and Jennifer Wild (Cinema and Media Studies.)

This spring, Closeted/Out in the Quadrangles: A History of LGBTQ Life at the University of Chicago, led by project co-coordinators Lauren Stokes (AM ’11, History) and Monica Mercado (Ph.D. ’14, History) and project director and CSGS Associate Director Gina Olson, will launch an exhibition at Special Collections in the Regenstein Library based on four years of research. During this time students working on the project have collected over 85 oral histories, gathered donated materials from alumni, students and student groups and mined the archives at the Regenstein, Northwestern University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Chicago History Museum, the Kinsey Institute, and Gerber-Hart Library for materials that uncover a yet untold history of the lives and experiences of LGBTQ people at the University of Chicago.

Watch the calendar for the exhibit opening and upcoming related events.

Over Alumni Weekend, June 5-6, 2015 the Center will host a reunion of former Center fellows with panels on activism and scholarship inside and outside of the academy, and a celebration of fellows’ achievements. We hope you’ll mark your calendar and plan to attend what is sure to be an exciting weekend.

CSGS Staff

Linda Zerilli, Faculty Director
Gina Olson, Associate Director
Sarah Tuohey, Student Affairs Administrator
Tate Brazas, Program Coordinator

Bea Malsky and Kalil Joshua Smith-Nuevelle celebrate with our flower-holding GSS graduates Amber Sollenberger Matthews, Ellen Klady, and Colin Low.

Collegiate News

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program

The Center for Gender and Sexuality Studies offers a major, with a choice between a generalist path and discipline-based path. Many of our majors, usually those who choose the discipline-based path, also pursue and complete one or even two other majors. We also offer a minor, which makes the most sense for students whose majors have little overlap with our courses. Descriptions of major and minor requirements can be found at http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/. If you have questions about the major or minor and want to talk about how they might fit in with your general academic goals, call or email student affairs administrator Sarah Tuohey (773-702-2365; stuohey@uchicago) to talk or set up a meeting.

Courses 2014-15

This year, the two “Problems” courses take a new, more topic-oriented form. “Problems in the Study of Gender: Gender and Transfeminism,” taught by Shanna Carlson and Amanda Davis, will be offered in winter, and “Problems in the Study of Gender: Gender, Citizenship, and Violence,” taught by Rochona Majumdar and Joya John, will be offered in the winter. A brand new course, “Theories of Gender and Sexuality,” will be co-taught by Lauren Berlant and Kristen Schilt in the spring. This course will be a requirement for GSS majors who enter in 2014 or thereafter. Further, CSGS will offer two sections of “Advanced Theories of Gender and Sexuality,” which is open to advanced undergraduates with consent. Lauren Berlant will again teach the course in the winter, and Linda Zerilli will return to the course, offering her section in the spring. Finally, CSGS will offer several free-standing courses this year, including “Haunted Houses: Or, the Gothic Transformation, an American Tale” in the autumn, “What is Masculinity?” and “Art of the Culture Wars: New Queer Cinema, Performance, Visual Art, 1980s-1990s” in the winter, and “Sex, Gender, and Medical Technologies of The Body” and “A Global History of Sexualities” in the spring.
Continued from Page 2

Courses 2014-15, continued

CSGS’ core (general education requirement) offering, “Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations”, Parts I and II, continues with two sections this year, taught by Susan Burns and Tara Zahra, both of History, and by Rochona Majumdar of SALC and Kristen Schilt of Sociology in the winter.

Undergraduate Summer Internships

This past summer CSGS funded four summer internships undertaken in the Chicago area. Jay Bach interned at Chicago Commons, Kris Rosentel for 3/40 BLUEPRINT, Sara Rubinstein at Affinity Community Services, and Mallory VanMeeter at the Broadway Youth Center. A call for applications for 2015 summer internships will circulate and be posted on the CSGS website later this quarter and an informational meeting will be held in early winter.

Theme for 2014-15: The Family

This year the center will host a series of events around the theme “The Family,” approaching it from several critical perspectives and addressing such varied issues as constructed and alternative families, animal studies, adoption, the Mafia, polygamy, and incarcerated parents. Plans are in the works at CSGS to host a spring quarter undergraduate student conference on the theme. And the project will kick off with an open house at the CSGS-CSRPC planned for Friday afternoon of Family Weekend. If you are interested in contributing to this theme’s events in any way – organizing, giving papers/performances, running screenings -- please get in touch with Sarah Tuohey, Student Affairs Administrator (stuohey@uchicago.edu; 773-702-2365).

Student Steering Committee

This year a CSGS student steering committee was formed to work on programming and communication at CSGS and to bring their input directly to faculty, staff, and other students. This year’s members are Stephanie Bi, GSS minor, GSS majors Jean Cochrane, Alana Cole, Kris Rosentel, Sara Rubinstein, and Emma Stone, and recent alumna Nia Sotto. The group will reach out to other students about issues of interest, like gender equality on campus, institutional sexual assault policies, and education on transgender and gender-neutral or -fluid people on campus, among other matters.

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

The workshop provides an interdisciplinary forum for discussing both graduate student papers and unpublished work from faculty and visiting scholars offering critical perspectives on gender and sexuality. This year we are presenting a different theme—chosen by a faculty curator—for each academic quarter of the workshop. Professor Lisa Ruddick (English) will be curating the Autumn quarter, with the theme of “Subjectivity and Social Life.” Papers will engage with issues of gender or sexuality while raising questions about the nature of human subjectivity and the individual’s relationship to the larger social structure.

Attendees are expected to read the paper in advance of the workshop meeting; papers are made available on the GSSW Blog or via our email list. Additional workshop information, including past schedules, can be found at: http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/genderandsexuality/.

If you are interested in being included in the email list, please contact this year’s workshop coordinators, Annie Heffernan and Rebecca Oh, at GSS-Workshop@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on October 14th!

Fall 2014: Subjectivity and Social Life: New Perspectives

• Tuesday, October 14th, 2014: Michael Snediker (Associate Professor of English, University of Houston), “Queer Philology and Chronic Pain”
• Tuesday, October 28th, 2014: Michael Dango (English, University of Chicago), “‘Our’ Aesthetic Category: Camp and the Queerness of Distribution.”
• Tuesday, November 11th, 2014: Amanda Blair (Political Science, University of Chicago, CSGS Residential Fellow), “The Continuum of Sexual Violence: The Realities of Post-Conflict Prostitution in Northern Uganda.”
• Tuesday, December 2nd, 2014: Lisa Ruddick (Associate Professor of English, University of Chicago), “When Nothing is Cool”

Workshops will be held on alternate Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6 pm in the first floor seminar room of 5733 S. University Avenue, unless otherwise noted.

Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group

The GSSW will be sponsoring a graduate students’ working group in the upcoming 2014-2015 academic year. The goal of the working group is to provide for graduate students a forum and space to workshop research and writing at any point in the progress of the work. Please contact the working group coordinators, Omie Hsu and Katie Hendricks, at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.
Graduate Student News

Graduate Certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies

CSGS is proud to offer the Graduate Certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies to students enrolled in University of Chicago doctoral programs who have completed a graduate-level foundation course in gender and sexuality, at least 3 additional courses in gender and sexuality studies, a major research paper with a substantial gender/sexuality component and at least one year of participation in the Gender & Sexualities Studies Workshop. Students wishing to receive the certificate should contact CSGS Student Affairs Administrator, Sarah Tuohey, stuohey@uchicago.edu.

CSGS Graduate Fellows 2014-15

Please join us in welcoming our CSGS Dissertation and Residential Fellows for 2014-15. Erin Moore, a PhD candidate in Comparative Human Development, has been a residential fellow, a teacher, and a workshop coordinator at the Center and returns to us as a dissertation fellow this year. The other dissertation fellow is Sarah Weicksel, a PhD candidate in History who was a residential fellow at CSGS in 2013-14. Residential fellows for the year are Amanda Blair of Political Science (and a former workshop coordinator), Ashleigh Campi of Political Science, Lindsey Conklin of Comparative Human Development, Emily Lord Fransee of History, and Kathryn Hendricks of Sociology. Once again, CSGS and the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC), have awarded a joint fellowship, this year to Korey Garibaldi, a PhD candidate in History. More information about our fellows can be found on our web site at: http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/research/gradstudents.shtml.

CSGS Teachers 2014-15

Eleven graduate students from six PhD programs will teach for the Center this year. Ainsley LeSure of Political Science reprises her preceptor role. “Problems in the Study of Gender/Sexuality” graduate co-teachers are Amanda Davis of English (winter) and Joya John of SALC (spring), while Ashleigh Campi will co-teach “Advanced Theories in Gender and Sexuality.” Caroline Sequin and Sonia Gomez, both of History, Caterina Fugazzola of Sociology and Ahona Panda of SALC will be teaching interns for the civilization sequence this year. Students who will be teaching free-standing courses for the center are Amanda Davis, Aidan Beatty of History, Solveig Nelson of Art History, and Lauren Stokes of History.

Alumnae/i News

Several of our recent dissertation and residential fellows have accepted wonderful job offers for the coming year and beyond. Alisha Jones, last year’s CSRPC-CSGS dissertation fellow and ethnomusicologist, is a tenure-track assistant professor at Indiana University. Julia Kowalski, psychological anthropologist and previous CSGS-Mellon dissertation fellow, is a visiting assistant professor at Williams College. Political theorist and former dissertation fellow Claire McKinney is the American Cultural Studies Postdoctoral Fellow in Family and Intimate Relations at Washington University-St. Louis. Historian and former dissertation fellow Monica Mercado is the Director of the The Albert M. Greenfield Digital Center for the History of Women’s Education at Bryn Mawr College. And Emily Remus, another historian and past dissertation fellow, is a Visiting Scholar at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.