CSGS Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality The University of Chicago

Winter 2015

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Professor Lauren Berlant (English) introduces Professor Heather Love (English, Univesity of Pennsylvania) on October 23, 2014. Love's lecture, "Norms, Deviance, and the Queer Ordinary," was the first event in this year's LGBTQ Studies series, Sexuality, Power, and the Empirical.

The CSGS has been engaged in a discussion of sexual violence as endemic in contemporary culture and as a local problem for colleges needing to be addressed through innovative practices and sound policy. On October 9, the Center collaborated with the Law School to bring feminist scholar and Harvard University Professor of Law, Janet Halley. Video of her talk is available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YeH ZQskDd4. The following day. Halley led a capacity-crowd workshop of students, faculty and staff outlining materials developed for a teach-in at Harvard on sexual assault and Title IX. Continuing the Sexual Violence on Campus Series this quarter, on January 20 the CSGS will host a townhall meeting with incoming Associate Dean of Students in the University for Disciplinary Affairs, Jeremy Inabinet. The Center is also collaborating with Northwestern University to create reading groups and a teach-in based on materials provided by Janet Halley at her visit in fall quarter.

On January 22, Professor Jennifer Cole (Comparative Human Development) will give the annual Iris Marion Young Distinguished Faculty Lecture. The talk is titled "Giving Life: Managing Intimacy and Regulating Affective Circuits among Malagasy Marriage Migrants in France." On January 14, Anya Jabour (History, University of Montana) will present, "A Lesbian Love Triangle at the University of Chicago: Sophonisba Breckinridge, Marion Talbot, and Edith Abbott" organized by the Center's Closeted/Out in the Quadrangles Project. The following day, she will give a workshop, "From Romantic Friendships to Sexual Deviance: Analyzing Women's Same-Sex Relationships in a Transitional Era." This visit will preview

some of the earliest material in the coming special exhibition, based on four years of research and collection of more than 90 oral histories exploring the history of LGBTQ life at the University of Chicago (see sidebar on Page 3 for more about the project and exhibit.)

The **LGBTQ Studies Project** in collaboration with **3CT**, as part of the series, Sexuality, Power, and the Empirical will host **Glenda Carpio** (African and African American Studies/English, Harvard) on February 19 for a talk, "On Kara Walker's 'A Subtlety, or The Marvelous Sugar Baby." And on March 5, Shaka McGlotten (Media, Society and the Arts, Purchase College, SUNY) will discuss "Black Data," on historical and contemporary ways black people are interpolated by big data, including the technés of race and racism and states' and corporations' efforts to capture, predict, and control political and consumer behavior, along with the informatics of black queer life. A workshop will follow the next day, "Turnt Out" discussing sex, race, and politics with focus on themes of sexual pleasure and radical direct action.

The Center will also host a short performance series co-sponsored by the Artists' Salon. On January 28 (location TBA) we will feature a screening of "The Punk Singer," a biopic on musician and artist Kathleen Hanna (Bikini Kill, Le Tigre) and Q&A with the filmmaker Sini Anderson, followed by a workshop the next day. On March 4, Sister Spit, a multigendered line-up of fierce feminists making passionate literary presentations, will be at the Center for a mid-day student workshop and discussion and give a public performance at International House that evening.

College News, continued

In November, guests Katherine Franke (Columbia Law) and Nancy Fraser (Political/Social Science, The New School) helped launch a new multi-year project at the Center, "Precarious Citizenship: Gender, Sexuality, and Politics in the 21st Century" on rights and the impact of inequality on the exercise of full citizenship. Professor Franke talked about the U.S. Supreme Court case, Burwell v. Hobby Lobby and the implications of religious exemptions on publics and the law. She then led a workshop the following day detailing the potential legal responses, engaging students in discussion about the legal, ethical and practical implications within each. Professor Fraser discussed financialized capitalism and its political contradictions and impact on economies around the world. She led a workshop the following day on Marx's "Hidden Abode."

Other highlights of the fall quarter included: the LGBTQ Studies Project, organized by Professor Lauren Berlant (English) and in collaboration with Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory (3CT), hosted a lecture by Professor Heather Love on "Norms, Deviance, and the Queer Ordinary" and a writing workshop the following day. The Artists' Salon, curated by Professor Hillary Chute (English), exhibited a show of up-and-coming Chicago artists' work exploring embodiment, sexuality and identity in various forms - from comics to drawing to printmaking and video - displayed on the first floor of the Center over fall quarter with additional video and performance at its opening celebration on October 30. And on October 15, the CSGS co-sponsored a visit by Cece McDonald, a former political prisoner and prison abolition activist, organized by the Office of LGBTQ Student Life. A group of 25 students, mainly undergraduates, had a lunchtime discussion with her at the CSGS and several hundred people attended her talk in the evening held at the Law School Auditorium.

Please see the Center website and calendar for updates on our projects and events.

College 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. Requirements can be found at http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/. If you have questions and want to talk about how they might fit in with your general academic goals, contact Student Affairs Administrator Sarah Tuohey (773-702-2365; stuohey@uchicago.edu).

Spring Courses

Gender and Sexuality Studies will be offering three new and exciting undergraduate courses this spring. **Lauren Stokes** will teach "A Global History of Sexualities," the fourth course in a series on the history of sexuality that began with "Queer on the Quads: Uncovering LGBTQ History at the University of Chicago," a course that was inspired by the CSGS' Closeted/Out on the Quads: A History of LGBTQ Life at the University of Chicago oral history project (see http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/ projects/closeted/). Also in Spring Quarter, Brandon Hill, Executive Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Innovation in Sexual and Reproductive Health (Ci3), will teach "Sex, Gender, and Medical Technologies of The Body," a course that will open a new CSGS series of science-related offerings on gender and/or sexuality. Finally, Lauren Berlant and Kristen Schilt will team up this spring to teach a new, experimental theories course, "Theories of Gender and Sexuality." Check out all offerings on our Courses web page at http://gendersexuality. uchicago.edu/academic/courses.shtml.

Essay Prize in Women's Studies, Feminist Criticism, Gender Studies

Each year, the Center awards a prize of \$500 for the best essay written by a University of Chicago undergraduate student in the area of women's studies, feminist criticism or gender studies. Essays may come from students in all majors and may take the form of analytic or critical essays, empirical research papers, or personal essays. The 2015 competition deadline is **Monday, April 13 at 12:00pm**. For full details see: http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/fellowships/essay_prize.shtml

Undergraduate Summer Internships for 2015

Once again, CSGS will fund up to four internships at gender- and LGBTQ-related service, educational, or activist organizations in the Chicago area. The deadline to apply for funding is **Saturday, February 28**. Please contact Sarah Tuohey at stuohey@uchicago.edu or 773-702-2365 for more information and to get the application form and guidelines.

"The Family and the Unfamiliar," Undergraduate/MA Student Conference

The Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality and the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture will host an all-day conference titled "The Family and the Unfamiliar" on Friday, April 17. There will be a host of academic papers and creative presentations on such issues as alternative kinships among surrogate mothers in India, marginalized single mothers in the social services system, biracial families, and "volunteer families." If you are interested in helping with the planning and/or execution of the day's program, please contact Sarah Tuohey at stuohey@uchicago.edu. All are welcome, and we hope to see you there!



Graduate Student News

2015-2016 Fellowships

For academic year 2015-16, the CSGS will offer two dissertation fellowships, one joint CSRPC-CSGS dissertation fellowship, and up to four residential fellowships. The deadline for applying for all of these opportunities is Friday, April 3, 2015.

See http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/fellowships/fellowships.shtml for more details.

Teaching Opportunities

The center will also offer several teaching opportunities for co-teaching and free-standing course lecture-ships, and applications for these positions are due on the same date, April 3; see http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/fellowships/teaching.shtml for announcements and forms

Further, six teaching intern positions will be available for the civilization sequence; this opportunity will be advertised through the College during Winter Quarter.

Student Courses

Thirteen graduate students from seven PhD programs have teaching positions at the Center this year. Ains**ley LeSure** of Political Science reprises her preceptor role. Graduate co-teachers Amanda Davis of English and Ashleigh Campi of Political Science will co-teach "Problems in the Study of Gender" "Advanced Theories in Gender and Sexuality," respectively, this winter, and three free-standing courses will be offered: "Language, Gender, and Identity," taught by Matt Teichman of Philosophy, "New Queer Cinema," taught by Solveig Nelson Art History, and "What is Masculinity?" taught by Aidan Beatty of History. Caroline Sequin and Sonia Gomez, both of History, Caterina Fugazzola of Sociology and **Ahona Panda** of SALC served as teaching interns in the "Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations" sequence this year, and Joya John, also of SALC, will co-teach "Problems in the Study of Gender" in the spring. Also in the spring, Lauren Stokes of History (and co-coordinator of the "Closeted/Out on the Quads" oral history project) will teach "A Global History of Sexualities."

Research Grant Recipients

Several graduate students working in gender and/or sexuality have benefited from SSD-CSGS research grants this year. Recent awardees are **Emily Lyons** of Comparative Human Development for research on the effect of stereotyping on women in STEM fields, **Tasneem Mandviwala**, also of Comparative Human Development, for a study of self-perception among Muslim American adolescent females post-9/11, **Caterina Fugazzola** of Sociology for her work on and conference presentation of a paper on LGBT discourse in Italy, and **Ashley Finigan** of History to conduct archival research in New York for her dissertation on black women immigrants from the Caribbean.

Project | Closeted/Out in the Quadrangles: A History of LGBTQ Life at the University of Chicago

In 2011, the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality launched Closeted/Out in the Quadrangles, a project documenting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer and questioning life at the University of Chicago from the early twentieth century through the present day. In Spring 2015, the project will culminate in an exhibition in the Special Collections Research Center at Regenstein Library and a permanent oral history archive that can be accessed by future generations of researchers and community members.

The Oral Histories

The project trained UChicago graduate and undergraduate students in oral history practices and they have collected more than 90 histories from alumni, faculty and staff. Selections of these oral histories will be featured in the upcoming exhibition and the audio and transcripts will be archived at Special Collections as early as this spring.

Archival Research

Student researchers mined local and regional archives to expand on the oral histories and build a material collection for exhibition. Sources include UChicago student newspapers, University Archives and Special Collections at the Regenstein Library, the Chicago History Museum, Gerber-Hart Library and Archives, Northwestern University, the Kinsey Institute, University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago. Additionally, oral history narrators, alumni, faculty and staff enthusiastically donated materials, photos and ephemera. Student groups donated t-shirts, flyers, and meeting notes from their own archives.

The Exhibition

From March 30 – June 15, 2015, the project exhibition in the gallery of the Special Collections Research Center at Regenstein Library will bring together the oral histories and archival research to trace the complex history and lives of LBGTQ individuals and communities at the University of Chicago.

From lesbian relationships in the 1900s to the founding of Chicago Gay Liberation in 1970, LGBTQ individuals have long been part of the University's history. The oldest material documents relationships between the first generation of female faculty and graduate students at the University at the start of the 20th century. The exhibit also explores the consequences faced by male instructors caught in vice raids of the 1940s, the founding of Chicago Gay Liberation in 1970, the impact of AIDS on the University of Chicago community and anti-gay violence in the 1980s, activism for partner benefits for same-sex couples, and initiatives to improve the campus climate for genderqueer and transgender students.

The official Gala Opening will be **Wednesday, April 1** from 6-8 pm. It is free and open to the public.

Questions can be directed to the project's director, Gina Olson at golson@uchicago.edu.

Gender Studies Workshop & Working Group

Winter 2015 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

The quarter's workshop has been curated by Professor Agnes Lugo Ortiz (Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Studies) under the theme "Gender and Slavery." Papers will address the interrelations between gender, sexuality, and enslavement across different historical periods, including contemporary forms of slavery.

On January 20, professors **Reginald Jackson** (East Asian Languages and Civilizations) and Agnes Lugo-Ortiz will lead an open discussion on the structure and meaning of gender constructions and regimes of enslavement, the theoretical and practical challenges of interdisciplinary and transhistorical exploration of the relations of "gender" and "slavery," and related topics. In the March 3 session, Kay Dian Kriz (Art History, Brown University) and Professor Lugo-Ortiz will lead a comparative discussion on the visual construction of mulatas in the English- and Spanish-speaking Caribbean during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Topics include racial and cultural "in-betweeness" and discourses on miscegenation in these two distinct colonial contexts. Oil paintings by Agostino Brunias in the eighteenth century West Indies and objects of material culture produced in Cuba during the 1860s will be used to exemplify the entanglements of visuality, gender, and enslavement, legitimation and delegitimation of empire, and the asynchronous emergence of abolitionist politics in the region.

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 can be found at: http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/genderandsexuality/.



Winter 2015: Gender and Slavery

- January 20th, 2015: Gender and Enslavement: A Methodological Overture. An open and informal discussion with Professors Reginald Jackson and Agnes Lugo-Ortiz. NO READING REQUIRED
- February 3rd, 2015: Sarah Weicksel, PhD Candidate, History (and CSGS Dissertation Fellow), "The Whole Population Bears the Marks of Bondage": Clothing, Gender, and Transformation in the Era of Emancipation"
- February 17th, 2015: Jaira Harrington, PhD Candidate, Political Science, "Me Deram Uma Oportunidade: The Domestic Workers' Union in Salvador and the National Federation of Domestic Workers (FENATRAD)"
- March 3rd, 2015: Kay Dian Kriz (Brown University) and Agnes Lugo Ortiz, "A Conversation on the Visual Construction of Mulatas: Slavery and Abolition in the Spanish- and English-speaking Colonial Caribbean"

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.

If you are interested in being included in the email list, please contact workshop coordinators, Annie Heffernan and Rebecca Oh, at GSSWorkshop@gmail.com.

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.

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