Gender Studies Workshop & Working Group

On alternating Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00pm, the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop and the Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group meet in the seminar room at the Center. The Workshop features a quarterly theme curated by a faculty member and papers are pre-circulated. The Working Group is a forum for graduate students to workshop research and writing at any point in the progress of their work, as well as to request help on specific aspects of their projects.

Fall 2016 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

We are excited to announce the Fall Quarter schedule for the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop. This quarter’s theme is “Mobility, Membership, and Gender,” and will be curated by Demetra Kasimis, Assistant Professor of Political Science, with outside guest Angeliki Tzanetou, Associate Professor of Classics at University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. Papers and presentations will address topics related to mobility—including flight, refuge, exile, migration—and/or membership in relation to questions of gender or sexuality.

October 4: Michael Chladek, PhD Candidate in Comparative Human Development, “Are You a Man?: The Role of Buddhism Monasticism in Shaping the Moral Contours of Thai Masculinity”

October 18: Angeliki Tzanetou, Associate Professor of Classics at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, TBA

November 1: Danya Lagos, Graduate Student in Sociology, TBA


November 29: Demetra Kasimis, Assistant Professor of Political Science, “The Founding Fiction of Athenian Citizenship Belongs to an Immigrant Woman: Reflections on Ventriloquy in Plato’s Menexenus”

Papers are made available in advance via our email list. To join, go to http://lists.uchicago.edu/web/subscribe/sexuality-gender-wkshop or contact the workshop coordinators, Omie Hsu and Katie Hendricks at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.

Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group welcomes students and papers from any field, discipline, or methodological tradition, as long as the research is relevant to gender and sexuality studies, broadly defined. Submitted work may be partial or rough, including rough drafts of papers or dissertation chapters, works nearing completion, survey designs, literature reviews, or methodological sections. Meeting time consists largely of discussion of the submitted research or work following brief comments from the presenter. We ask that only students, graduate or undergraduate, attend.

October 11: Daniela Licandro, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, “Writing out of Pain: Diaries, Self-criticism, and the Gendered Body”

October 25: TBA

November 8: Felix Szabo, Department of History, “Servants of the Lord: Eunuchs in Middle Byzantine Christianity”


Papers are circulated in advance via e-mail.

If you have any questions, would like to be added to the Working Group e-mail list, or are a person with a disability who may need assistance, please contact the Working Group coordinators, Omie Hsu and Katie Hendricks at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.

A Note from the Director

Lucy K. Pick, Interim Director, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, Senior Lecturer in the History of Christianity

I am excited to take on the interim directorship of the Center for 2016-2017. We are all enormously grateful for the transformative leadership of Linda ZeRilli who has served as our director since 2010. Next year, we will welcome back Kristen Schilt to the role of director. I am grateful to Jennifer Wilk for her service as our new Director of Studies, supervising our undergraduate major and minor, and our graduate certificate program. We also add four new members to our board of directors: Sean Brotherton (Anthropology), Demetra Kasimis (Political Science), Deborah Nelson (English), and Sonali Thakker (English). They join: Lauren Berlant (English), Mary Anne Case (Law School), Jennifer Cole (Comparative Human Development), Janet Dailey (History), Michael Dawson (Political Science), Daisy Delougou (Comparative Literature), Susan Gal (Anthropology), Agnes Lugo-Ortiz (Comparative Literature and Languages), Rochona Majumdar (Cinema and Media Studies, South Asian Languages and Civilizations), and Jennifer Wilk (Cinema and Media Studies).

On October 3, from 4:30-6:00pm we celebrate the beginning of the new year with a Welcome Reception ($733 Open House) co-hosted with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture, at 5733 S. University Ave. I hope to see many of you there.

But we begin a year of exciting events even earlier. On September 28 at 6:15, we join with the IOP, the CSRPC, and other organizations to bring Alicia Garza to the Logan Center. Garza, a co-founder of Black Lives Matter, will discuss the nation-
Jennifer Wild will again facilitate the Counter Cinema/Counter Media Project which focuses on film and media practices that use form to resist and “counter” dominant approaches to gender and sexuality. The project will host a screening and discussion with filmmaker Sarah Price on November 18 at 7 pm at the Logan Center.

Looking at future quarters, we are, with Lauren Berlant, co-teaching a seminar part of February 2017 to work on Care@Chicago, a project that will both examine and practice self-care in our community. If you would like to participate, either by leading some practice of self-care, or by offering a critique or comment on self-care, please let us know.

Finally, mark your calendar for May 11, 2017, when Deborah Gould AM ’89 PhD ’00, an associate professor in Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, will deliver our Distinguished Alumnae/i Lecture.

Student Podcast

The CGSS is proud to present our student-led and produced podcast, The Radius. The podcast is a space to chat about gender and sexuality throughout and beyond campus to the city at large and the field as a whole, from the center to the fringes. Episodes can be found at: http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/podcast/ UChicago students interested in producing for the podcast can submit pitches at: bit.ly/csgsgradpitch

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. 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 Tuohy (773-702-2363; stouhey@uchicago.edu) to talk or set up a meeting.

Courses 2016-17

This quarter, “Gender and Work: Theories and Representations,” a course under the Problems in the Study of Gender and Sexuality rubric, will be co-taught by Alison James, Associate Professor in French, and Michaela Appeltova, a graduate student in European History. Once again, “Theories of Gender and Sexuality,” will be offered in the autumn, taught by Lauren Berlant, George M. Pullman Distinguished Professor of English. This course will be a requirement for GSS majors who enter in 2014 or thereafter. American Literature graduate students (and frequent CGSS teacher) Amanda Davis, will be teaching the course “New Eves: Artificial Women as Contemporary Origin Myths.”

CGSS’s core (general education requirement) offering, “Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations,” Part I, continues with four sections this year, taught by Susan Burns of History, Daisy Delougou of French, Demetra Kasimis of Political Science, and Rochona Majumdar of South Asian Languages and Civilizations. This quarter, Winter Quarter’s Part II sections will be taught by Deborrah Nelson and Sonali Thakkar of English and Johanna Ransmeier and Tara Zahra of History.

Undergraduate Summer Internships

This past summer CGSS funded four summer internships undertaken in different parts of the country. Raven Hills interned at the American Institute Research Center at Tuane University; Dominic Surya worked on two research projects about the Catholic Church and gender/reproductive/sexualities in Indonesia, one for a professor at Notre Dame, and the other with a Northwestern University researcher; Charlotte Von De Bur interred at the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art in New York; and Miranda Wack continued working on a project about gender and gaming at Dig-it! Games.

A call for applications for 2017 summer internships will be posted later this fall. The summer quarter, and an informational meeting will be held in early winter quarter.

CGSS Graduate Fellows 2016-17

Please join us in welcoming our CGSS Dissertation and Residential Fellows for 2016-17: Britta Ingebretson, a PhD candidate in Anthropology whose world area is China, who interned at the Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, and Larisa Reznik, a PhD candidate in History who works on early 20th century Vienna, were residential fellows in 2015-16 and return to us as dissertation fellows this year. They will be hosting a reception this week. We are welcoming a record high number of several residential fellows for the year: Michael Dango of English, Ashley Finigan of History, Sonia Gomez of History, Alizah Heldman of Political Science and Lauren Stiefel in Sociology, Al’s Political Science and Sociology co-coordinating the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop with Sociology graduate student Danya Lagos, and Lauren Fretwell in History, Jean-Thomas Tremblay of English, and Jaclyn Wong of Sociology.

CSGS and CRSPC also have a joint dissertation fellowship this year: Cayce Hughes, a PhD candidate in Sociology who works on issues of privacy in connection with women who receive sonogram imaging and with the Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group will once again be helmed by Sociology graduate student Katie Hendricks and Political Science student Omie Hsu.

More information about our fellows can be found on our web site at http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/research/grants.shtml.

CSGS Teachers 2016-17

Sixteen graduate students from eight PhD programs will teach for the Center this year. Katie Hendricks of Sociology will serve as the BA Preceptor. Michæla Appleitova of History will co-teach “Gender and Work” with Prof. Alison James, and Tarina Sharma of Anthropology will serve as a TA for Prof. Lauren Berlant’s “Theories of Gender and Sexuality” class. Amanda Davis, Elizabetha Fretwell, Omie Hsu, Sarah Weickel, and Jaclyn Wong will teach stand-alone courses for GSS.

This year’s “Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations” teaching interns are Amber Ace (Classics), Emily Crews (Divinity), Jessa Dahl (History), Jenn Jackson (Political Science), Laura Ledin (Anthropology), Melissa Osborne (Sociology), Madeline Smith (History), and Tien-Tzhang (Cinema and Media Studies).

Alumnae/i News

Several former CGSS fellows, coordinators, and teachers have started tenure-track positions in this autumn. Congratulations to Korey Garibaldi (History, Notre Dame), Ainsley LeSure (Politics, Occidental), Monica Mercado (History/Cigale), Jay Sosa (Sexuality Studies, Bowdoin), and Lauren Stiefel in Sociology! Ashley Campi is a visiting assistant professor at Scripps College.

Postdoctoral positions are being held by Erin Moore (Buffett Institute, Northwestern) and Larisa Reznik (Religion, University of Chicago), who is our first CGSS Teacher. Please consider volunteering for a position with our CSGS Student-led podcast, The Radius.

Summer Fields interviews Jean Cochrane, AB 16 after the 20th Anniversary Symposium for the CGSS student-led podcast. The Radius.
Continued from Page 1

al movement’s past, present and future in a wide-ranging discussion about activism and organizing, supporting the voices of black cisgender, transgender and immigrant women, and the disability community.

Christiane Taubira, former Minister of Justice for France and co-founder of the left-wing Guinean party Wallawi, will speak on October 10th at 6pm at International House. As Justice Minister, Taubira oversaw fundamental penal reforms that prevent recidivism and promote rehabilitation, and introduced a law that both legalized same-sex marriage in France, and allows same-sex couples to adopt children. A post-lecture discussion will be moderated by CSGS faculty affiliates Jennifer Wild and Mary Anne Case.

Join us as we host queer punk band PWRR BTTM for an afternoon social from 4-5pm on October 26 in the Community Room at 5733 S. University, with a discussion moderated by fourth-year undergraduate Baddie Barron.

On November 29, the Center welcomes Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America and a tireless activist for women’s healthcare and reproductive freedom. She will deliver the Schwartz Memorial Lecture at the Law School at 4 pm.

Several faculty projects continue from previous years. Patrick Jagoda and Heidi Coleman will run Alternative Reading List for Virtual Worlds, which uses video games, science fiction and virtual worlds to open up conversations about gender, and sexualities.

Lauren Berlant will continue to curate the LGBTQ Studies Project and the Center’s Artists’ Salon, with a focus on queer art as conceptual art that collects, disturbs and repairs our commonly held objects of intimacy and our expectations of critical argument. Embracing theory and performance, this year’s guests refuse the priority of abstract over affective perception, assuming that all are defined with, against, and inside of each other. And they don’t assume that critique equals a refusal of attachment or pleasure, but an interest in them. In the fall, Lily Hoang (English, New Mexico State) and Jackie Wang (writer, performer, filmmaker, PhD candidate, Harvard) will be reading from their autobiographical and poetic works (October 27 at 4:30pm), and running a workshop on Monsters, Trauma, and Writing (October 28 at 12pm). Ann Cvetkovich will lecture on “Ordinary Lesbians and the Center to the Fringes.”

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Looking at future quarters, we are, with Lauren Berlant, planning a special edition of January 12, letting us into what it’s like to embody live rick Johnson of Minoritarian Performance” (February 9) and Ann Cvetkovitch works (October 27 at 4:30pm), and running a workshop with CSGS’ core (general education requirement) offering, “Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations,” Part I, continues with four sections this year, taught by Susan Burns of History, Daisy Delogu of French, Demetra Kasimis of Political Science, and Rochona Majumdar of South Asian Languages and Civilizations. Winter Quarter’s Part II sections will be taught by Debo-rah Nelson and Sonali Thakkar of English and Johanna Ransmeier and Tara Zahra of History.

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Graduate Student News

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Lucy K. Pick
Interim Director, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality
Senior Lecturer in the History of Christianity

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