

20TH
ANNIVERSARY

Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality

The University of Chicago

SPRING 2016
VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3



Center directors have come from a variety of disciplines: Leora Auslander, History, 1996-1999; Lauren Berlant, English, 1999-2002; Rebecca West, Romance Languages, 2002-2005; George Chauncey, History, 2005-2006; Deborah Nelson, English, 2006-2009; Jane Dailey, History, 2009-2010; Linda Zerilli, Political Science, 2010-present.

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of the Center,

As we continue our year-long celebration of the **Center's 20th anniversary**, I would like to invite you to a very special event to commemorate the founding in 1996 and to reflect on where gender and sexuality studies might be headed in the future. Beginning with a reception and panel at 6:00pm on Thursday, **May 19th**, we will hear from several of the key people involved in the struggle for, and the original design of, the Center for Gender Studies. On Friday, **May 20th**, we will continue with three panels: one discussing some of the transformative books that have been written by CSGS faculty, one featuring Gender and Sexuality Studies (GSS) alumni on how GSS impacted their education and how it has informed what they are doing now, and one addressing the intersectional work that is currently underway and how it might influence future research and teaching trajectories. Both days will feature our talented faculty, students, and alumni; and—this being CSGS—you can count on great conversation, food, and wine. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

I am also delighted to report that we are on our way to realizing our fundraising goals! In order for the Center to serve as a permanent place for gender and sexuality scholarship at the University of Chicago, we have

established an endowment fund with a goal to raise \$500,000. It is crucially important to the future of gender and sexuality studies at UChicago to put the Center on firm financial ground. We are especially eager to secure permanent funding for our many graduate dissertation and residential fellowships and to open new funding opportunities for our steadily growing undergraduate population. You can help us reach our goal! Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Center, large or small. Visit our website at gendersexuality.uchicago.edu or speak with Associate Director Gina Olson (golson@uchicago.edu, 773-834-8831 for information on contributing.

Finally, this is my last quarter as director of the Center and thus my last "Director's Note." I have been honored to serve in this capacity and especially touched by the generosity with which you, our devoted students, staff, and faculty, have given of yourselves to make CSGS the truly amazing intellectual and social space that it is. Please keep the flame burning!

Warmly,

Linda Zerilli
Charles E. Merriam Distinguished Service Professor,
Political Science and the College; Faculty Director, CSGS

SPRING EVENTS AT-A-GLANCE

Wed April 7

Esther Newton, "How a Chicago Grad Student Survived the Closet: 1962-1968"

Alternating Thursdays

Spring Film Series

April 14 - *Trapped*

April 28 - *No Más Bebés*

May 12 - *UnSlut*

May 26 - *transparent*

Thurs April 28

Zoe Beloff, "A World Redrawn: Eisenstein and Brecht in Hollywood"

Wed May 4

Christa Blümlinger, "A Return to 'Techniques of the Body': Zoe Beloff's Reinventions"

Thurs May 19-Fri May 20

20th Anniversary Symposium

Fri June 3

Reunion of Graduate Fellows of the CSGS

Sat June 4

Alumni Weekend Cocktail Party

Thurs June 9

CSGS/CSRPC Year-End BBQ

CSGS STAFF

Linda Zerilli
Faculty Director

Gina Olson
Associate Director

Sarah Tuohey
Student Affairs Administrator

Tate Brazas
Program Coordinator

Eleonora Edreva
Event & Social Media Intern

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 Tuohey (773-702-2365; stuohey@uchicago.edu) to talk or set up a meeting.

Spring Courses

This spring, for the first time, Gender and Sexuality Studies will offer two courses to be team-taught by graduate students from different PhD programs. The courses were chosen from several outstanding proposals and we are very excited to be offering them. They are "Women Possessed: Religion, Gender, and Sexuality in Early America," taught by **Katie Krywokulski** of English and **Alison Davis** of the Divinity School and "Gender, Sexuality, and Islamic Traditions," taught by **Mariam Sheibani** of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and **Timothy Gutmann** of the Divinity School. Also in spring, **Brandon Hill**, Executive Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Innovation in Sexual and Reproductive Health, returns to the Center to teach a new course, "The Gender of Biology." Descriptions of these courses and many cross-lists can be found found at <http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/courses.shtml>.

Undergraduate Summer Internships for 2016

CSGS has committed funding for four undergraduates to hold unpaid internships this summer. Second year **Raven Hills** will work with an organization that serves women and girls of color, Religious Studies major **Dominic Surya** will combine research with advocacy/activism for his work on gender and sexuality within Roman Catholicism, GSS/English major **Charlotte Von De Bur** plans to work in an LGBTQ library or archive in the San Francisco Bay Area, and GSS major **Mimi Wack** will continue her work at Dig-it!, a small company in Maryland that develops interactive educational games.

2016 Graduates

Gender and Sexuality Studies will graduate 14 majors in 2016 – a record! Congratulations to **Abigail Adams**, **Jay Bach**, **Walker Brewer**, **Aura Chapa**, **Jennifer Chukwu**, **Jean Cochrane**, **Lauren Daurizio**, **Elizabeth Ellingboe**, **Clair Fuller**, **Carson Gaffney**, **Madison Lands**, **Kris Rosentel**, **Sara Rubinstein**, and **Mallory VanMeeter**! Our majors are completing their BA projects with faculty advisers from Anthropology, Art History, English Language and Literature, History, and Sociology. Congratulations as well to our four graduating GSS minors, **Helena Bassett** (Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies), **Sophie Ettinger** (Physics), **Helena Robledo** (Linguistics), and **Dani Wieder** (Theater and Performance Studies).

Graduate Studies

Positions and Appointments

Several former CSGS fellows, coordinators, and teachers will start tenure-track positions in the fall of 2016. Congratulations to **Korey Garibaldi** (History, Notre Dame), **Ainsley LeSure** (Politics, Occidental), **Monica Mercado** (History, Colgate), **Jay Sosa** (Sexuality Studies, Bowdoin), and **Lauren Stokes** (History, Northwestern). Postdoctoral positions went to **Erin Moore** (Buffett Institute, Northwestern) and **Larisa Reznik** (Religion, Bowdoin). **Carly Buxton** will start a new job as Director of Market Development for EF Educational Tours and **Rachel Feinmark** was appointed Development Communications Manager at the Tenement Museum in New York City.

Dissertation Defenses

This past and upcoming year saw/will see several recent dissertation defenses: **Ashleigh Campi** is completing her dissertation, "After Equality: Conservative Consciousness Formation in the Late Twentieth Century United States" and will defend in June. **Lindsey Conklin** will defend "Desired and Desiring Selves: Reputation, Space and Courtship in Amman" and **Lauren Eldridge** "Playing Haitian: Musical Negotiations of Nation, Genre, and Self" in April. Carly Buxton defended her dissertation, "Garden of Roses: Nisei Women as Collaborators in Transwar Japan," during Winter Quarter, as did Korey Garibaldi his dissertation, "Knock on Any Door: The Rise and Fall of Integration in American Culture, 1911 – 1972." Ainsley LeSure defended "Toward a Worldly Account of Racism and Political Resistance" last August.

Spring Programming

2016 marks our 20th Anniversary!

The Center is planning a number of events to celebrate and assess the past 20 years of scholarship in the study of gender and sexuality at UChicago. We welcome UChicago students, alumni, faculty, staff, and other community members to participate.

Please join us on **Wednesday, April 6** at 4:30 pm for a special **Distinguished Alumni Lecture with Esther Newton**, "How a Chicago Grad Student Survived the Closet: 1962-1968" from her forthcoming memoir, *My Butch Career: A Queer Life in Anthropology* (New York: St. Martin's Press).

On **Thursday-Friday, May 19-20**, a **20th Anniversary Symposium** will look at the history, impact and future of the Center. Faculty participants will include: Leora Auslander, Lauren Berlant, John Boyer, Jane Dailey, Michael Dawson, Norma Field, Susan Gal, Rochona Majumdar, Debbie Nelson, Kristen Schilt, Geoffrey Stone and Linda Zerilli. Special guests will include George Chauncey, UChicago Professor of History, 1991-2006 and co-founder of the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project (now LGBTQ Studies) of the CSGS. See Linda Zerilli's Director's note in page 1 for more details.

A committee of nine former and current graduate students have helped organize a **Reunion of Graduate Fellows of the CSGS** at the Center on **Friday, June 3** from 12-5pm. The afternoon will include a networking lunch for current and former graduate student fellows, a roundtable on new directions in research and activism, and a panel reflecting on the Center's history and the impact of interdisciplinary research, teaching and public debate at the University. Current graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to attend the discussions. Questions about the reunion? Please email Gina Olson at golson@uchicago.edu.

And on **Saturday, June 4** from 6-8 pm, please join us for a **Cocktail Celebration for CSGS @ 20!** Over alumni weekend, current students and faculty, college alumni, and former graduate fellows will gather to celebrate 20 years with food, drinks and music.

Updates to anniversary plans, including schedule details, will be made available on our calendar and 20th anniversary information webpage.

Spring Cinema

The CSGS has collaborated with the Film Studies Center on a screening of the digitally remastered *Paris Is Burning* (Jennie Livingston, 1990) on **Thursday, March 31**, 7pm in the Logan Center screening room. Solveig Nelson, PhD candidate in Art History, who has taught queer art and video for the Center, will introduce the film.

Be a part of the conversation!



<https://www.facebook.com/UChicagoGender>



<https://twitter.com/UChicagoCSGS>

This Spring, the Center is hosting a biweekly documentary film series on Thursdays, **Consent, Choice, Agency**, which explores sex, violence and reproduction in contexts of law, medicine, culture and identity. The series is co-sponsored by Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention, Law Students for Reproductive Justice, and Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Innovation in Sexual and Reproductive Health (Ci3).

Thursday, April 14, 7 pm, Logan Center screening room **Trapped** (Dawn Porter, 2016), Sundance Film Festival Award-winning film that exposes how millions of U.S. women are being denied reproductive care. Followed by a discussion with **Jenna Prochaska**, Staff Attorney, AC-LU-IL.

Thursday, April 28, 4:30 pm, CSGS **No Más Bebés** (Renee Tajima-Peña, 2015) about a little-known but landmark event in reproductive justice, when a group of Mexican immigrant women sued county doctors, the state, and the U.S. government after they were sterilized without consent while giving birth at Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Introduced by **Claudia Flores**, Director of the International Human Rights Clinic at the University of Chicago Law School.

Thursday, May 12, 4:30 pm, CSGS **Unslut: A Documentary Film** (Emily Lindin, 2015), inspired by the death of seventeen-year-old Rehtaeh Parsons, who took her own life in 2013, and the filmmaker's own experiences in middle school. The film features conversations with those who have experienced sexual shaming, explores the causes and manifestations of sexual shaming in North America and offers immediate and long-term goals for personal, local, and institutional solutions. Followed by a discussion with **Sharmili Majumdar**, Exec Dir, Rape Victims Advocates and **Vickie Sides**, Director of RSVP.

Thursday, May 26, 4:30 pm, CSGS **transparent** (Jules Roskam, 2005), follows the lives of 19 female-to-male transgender individuals as they recall their encounters giving birth to and raising children while transitioning. Followed by a discussion.

The **Counter Cinema/Counter Media Project** of the CSGS is hosting a number of events this quarter: On **Thursday, April 28**, 7:30-9 pm, "A World Redrawn: Eisenstein and Brecht in Hollywood" will feature three new films by **Zoe Beloff**, followed by a discussion with Beloff in person. (Location: Cobb 307). On **Wednesday, May 4**, Professor **Christa Blümlinger** (film studies, University Vincennes-Saint-Denis) will present "A Return to 'Techniques of the Body: Zoe Beloff's Reinventions" on Beloff's multimedia installation, *The Infernal Dream of Mutt and Jeff* (2011). And on **Friday, May 27**, the Project will host informal presentations by students using the work of **Hito Steyerl** in their research. Please RSVP for this discussion to receive the readings.

And finally, please join the CSGS and the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC) for our **annual year-end BBQ on Thursday, June 9**.

Gender Studies Workshop & Working Group

On alternating Tuesdays, the **Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop** and the **Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group** meet in the seminar room at the Center from 4:30–6 pm. 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.

Spring 2016 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

This quarter's theme is "**Gender, Sexuality, and the Transnational**," and will be curated by **Sonali Thakkar**, Assistant Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature.

While seminal works of feminist and queer theory have elaborated the gendered and sexed production of the nation and its imagined communities, scholars have also long been preoccupied with the transnational dimensions of gender discourse—we might think, for instance, of the enduring importance of critical work on the relationship of first- and third-world feminisms. The breadth and diversity of such work has only grown in recent years, with the intensified interest in transnationalism and its associated concepts and figures (globality, planetary, etc.). Papers and presentations will focus on the transnational poetics and politics of gender and sexuality, both historical and contemporary.

Workshops are held on alternate Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:00pm in the first floor seminar room of 5733 S. University Avenue, unless otherwise noted.

April 5th: Sonali Thakkar, Assistant Professor of English Language and Literature, University of Chicago, "Humanist Legacies, Anticolonial Pedagogies, and the Critique of Europe"

April 19th: Lindsey Conklin, PhD Candidate in Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago, "Transnational & Virtual Space: Blurring Borders in Pursuit of the Imagined Future"

May 3rd: Tristan Bates, PhD Candidate in Comparative Literature, University of Chicago, "Echolocating Home: Voice and Space in Latife Tekin's *Dear Shameless Death* and Emine Sevgi Özdamar's *Life is a Caravanserai*"

May 17th: Sneha Annavarapu, PhD Student in Sociology, University of Chicago, "Behave Yourself! — The Cultural Politics of PDA in Bombay/Mumbai"

May 31st: TBA

Papers are made available in advance via our email list. If you are interested in joining the email list, go to <http://lists.uchicago.edu/web/subscribe/sexuality-gender-wkshp> or contact the workshop coordinators, Annie Hefferman and Rebecca Oh, at gssworkshop@gmail.com. Additional workshop information, including past schedules, can be found at <http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/genderandsexuality/>.

If you have any questions or accommodation requests, please don't hesitate to contact the workshop coordinators at gssworkshop@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, work 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.**

April 12th: Alessandra L. González, Department of Economics, "Complicating Returns to Investment in Education: Female Education and Labor Force Participation in Gulf Cooperation Council Countries"

April 26th: Britta Ingebretson, Department of Anthropology, "The Politics of Gender in Huangshan, China"

May 10th: Sneha Annavarapu, Department of Sociology, "Behave Yourself! The Cultural Politics of Public Displays of Affection in Bombay/Mumbai"

May 24th: Nisarg Mehta, Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences, "Contested Space, Contested Identities: Drag Performance and Gay Space in the 'Post-Gay' Era"

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.



Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality

5733 S University Avenue | Chicago, IL 60637

773.702.9936 | gendersexuality.uchicago.edu | csgs@lists.uchicago.edu