

FALL 2018

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1



Aphra Behn of Guerrilla Girls On Tour will speak on art and activism on Wed, Oct 17 at 4:30pm at the Gray Center

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of the Center,

We begin this new academic year with a sense of anticipation around the impending midterm elections. Normally not an election cycle that generates much national attention, many news outlets are predicting high voter turnout that will result in unprecedented victories for women candidates. The buzz around the 2018 midterms echoes, in many ways, November 1992, the “Year of the Woman” that resulted in the highest number of women elected to Congress at one time and tripled the number of women in the Senate – most notably adding University of Chicago Law School alumna Carol Moseley Braun, the first African American woman ever to be elected to the Senate (Kamala Harris, elected in 2016, is the second). This sea change in the gender distribution of the House and Senate came at a time when *Roe v. Wade*, and reproductive justice in general, was embattled and when a Republican president had the opportunity to appoint a pro-life judge to the Supreme Court – a nomination process that brought visibility to

workplace sexual harassment through testimony of Law Professor Anita Hill. As the confirmation hearings proceed this month for another pro-life Supreme Court nominee, a man who is facing multiple sexual assault allegations, we wait for evidence that the Senate – a political body that is still comprised of more than 2/3 white men – can learn from past mistakes.

We have a great deal of excitement at the arrival at the Center of two new members of our community. Professor **C. Riley Snorton**, appointed in the Department of English and at the Center, has joined us from Cornell University. Prof. Snorton, a leading figure in Transgender Studies and Black Feminist Thought, is the author of two books, most recently *Black on Both Sides: A Racial History of Trans Identity* (University of Minnesota Press, 2017). He will be joining the team of fantastic faculty and postdoctoral fellows teaching in the Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations Core Sequence in the Winter, and will be teaching a graduate course titled “Bodies of Transformation.” We are also very excited to

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FEATURED EVENTS

Wed Oct 10
5733 Open House

Thu Oct 11
Before Stonewall screening

Wed Oct 17
Guerrilla Girls On Tour:
PUSH/PUSHBACK

Thu Nov 1
Chris E. Vargas: *Introducing Museum of Trans Hirstory & Art (MOTHA)*

Thu Nov 8
Karen Offen, author of *The Woman Question in France, 1400-1870*

Thu Nov 8
Nahir Gracia, “Counter-narratives and the Middle Ages: Woman and Power in the Global North Atlantic”

Wed Nov 14
Michael Nava, *Carved in Bone*

Mon Nov 26
Julietta Singh, *No Archive will Restore You*

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introduce **Bonnie Kanter**, our new student affairs administrator. Bonnie joins the Center after a distinguished career in the College, where she worked as a college adviser. While at the College, Bonnie was instrumental to the growth of the College Bridge program, which enrolls Chicago Public High School students in college courses at the University of Chicago. She also played a big role in the creation of the inaugural programs for low-income/first generation college students on campus. Before coming to Chicago, she ran the Women's Center at the University of Oregon. We are thrilled that she will be bringing her community building skills to our Center! We encourage you to come meet our new Center members at our welcome party, co-hosted with the Center for the Study of Race, Culture, and Politics, from 4:30-6pm on Wednesday, October 10th.

This year also features exciting faculty-led projects. Our Banting postdoctoral fellow, **Chase Joynt**, will be running the Artist's Salon. His first event will feature artist **Chris Vargas** of the Museum of Transgender History on November 1, with an exhibit in the Community Room beginning first week. **Daisy Delogu** and other faculty will be running a year-long project on Gender and Sexuality in the Middle Ages: Creating a Lexicon. Their first event will be a talk by **Nahir Gracia**, "Counter-narratives and the Middle Ages: Woman and Power in the Global North Atlantic" on November 8 in CWAC 152.

Finally, we will continue the LGBTQ Speaker Series, with two events in the fall. On November 14th, in conjunction with our "New Work" series, we will host attorney and novelist **Michael Nava**, the creator of the Henry Rios series of detective novels – the first detective series with an openly gay protagonist. In 2019, Michael Nava will be launching a new edition of the seven Henry Rios novels, works of fiction that serve also as chronicles of LGBTQ life in Los Angeles and the aftermath of the AIDS crisis in the 1990s and 2000s. This edition will come with a brand new Henry Rios book, *Carved in Bone* – the first new book in twenty years. On November 26th, we will be hosting Prof. **Julietta Singh** (University of Richmond/ English & Women, Gender and Sexualities Studies) to talk about her new book, *No Archive will Restore You* (Punctum Books, 2018), a hybrid memoir that blends theory, experience, and poetry to offer meditations on the body. Prof. Singh will be in conversation about hybrid writing practice with postdoctoral fellow Chase Joynt, author of *You Only Live Twice* (Carriage House Books, 2016).

Our theme for programming this year is "work." We selected this theme for its versatility, as it allows us to bring in conversations about current issues, such as workplace sexual harassment, but also feature ways to do the community building work that is an essential part of the life of the Center. Our Feminist Queer Praxis Series will focus on "Activism as Work," and bring in an array of speakers to engage students with their projects. Our first event for this series features a talk/performance by **Aphra Behn** of **Guerilla Girls**, "PUSH/PUSHBACK – 9 Steps to make a difference with art and activism" on October 17 at 4:30 pm at the Gray Center.

We also will be introducing a series of programming activities, such as "Working Together," a series that brings in undergraduate

activists to tell the larger community at the important work they are doing around gender and racial justice on campus and in the wider city. We will have a "New Work" series that brings in authors of recently published works of memoir or fiction. In "Gender & Work," we will feature intergenerational conversations between women working in finance, law, journalism, and medicine about their experiences. We also will be co-sponsoring a winter conference, *Beyond the Viral Hashtag: Interrogating #MeToo Across Contexts* organized by faculty affiliate **Jennifer Cole** (Comparative Human Development). Finally, in our "After Work" series, we will host a series of activities designed to bring people together outside of lectures and conferences. Be sure to check our website and Facebook page to see our upcoming events for these series and more.

We look forward to a great year!

Kristen Schilt

College News

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program

This year, we are going to be adding in some programming and outreach designed to build community with our undergraduate students. **Bonnie Kanter**, the new Student Affairs Administrator, is hoping to create a series of social programs and an Advisory Board to help undergrads get more involved in the Center and get to know each other. It's going to be an exciting academic year – with much more to come as we go forward.

Autumn 2018 Courses

This quarter, **Kristen Schilt** and **Lauren Berlant** will be offering our Theories of Gender and Sexuality Course, which will also be co-taught by **Jenn Jackson** from the Political Science department. In addition, we're offering one of our 'Problems' courses on Gender and Religion. **Kelli Gardner** of the Divinity School will be teaching that course. The CSGS' core (general education requirement) offering, "Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations, Part I", will have five sections this year, taught by Social Sciences Teaching Fellow **Amanda Blair**, Prof. **Susan Burns** of History, **Andrea Ford** of Anthropology, Prof. **Rochona Majumdar** of South Asian Languages and Civilizations/Cinema and Media Studies and **Tien-Tien Jong Zhang** of Cinema and Media Studies. In addition, we are crosslisting 20 gender/sexuality themed courses across a wide range of departments.

Feminist Queer Praxis Series (FQP)

The Feminist/Queer Praxis series, aimed at undergraduate audiences, brings artists, activists, scholars, and professionals to the CSGS to talk about their work in the world as people committed to queer and feminist values and action. This quarter we'll have a panel of recent hires at the University who will talk about their work and how we all work together and another panel of representatives from non-profits who work on gender and mass incarceration issues. More details will be forthcoming!

Undergraduate Arts Collective

Help us imagine a new arts initiative for undergraduate students! The CSGS will be hosting an Arts Collective beginning in the Winter Quarter to support undergraduate students across disciplines in developing and creating art projects of any kind. We will hold brainstorming and informational town halls at the end of October and beginning of December to lay the foundations for a workshop in the Winter and Spring Quarters, culminating in an Artists' Salon at the end of the year. If you are interested in receiving updates about these events, please contact Bonnie Kanter at bonniek@uchicago.edu.

Undergraduate Summer Internships

This past summer CSGS funded summer internships undertaken in different parts of the world. This year all of our awardees happen to be GNSE majors and they worked on a wide variety of projects. Generally, our interns work in Chicago, but this year for the first time, we helped support a student to pursue an internship abroad. Fourth year **Kendall Lucero** worked at the Groote Schuur Hospital in Capetown, South Africa. Kendall was able to observe the cervical cancer clinic as well as assist them in a large database project. Third year **Madeline Birmingham** interned on campus at Game Changer Chicago Lab (GCC) at the Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry & Innovation in Sexual and Reproductive Health (Ci3) as a Junior Game Researcher working on a healthy relationships video game. And third year **Madison Johnson** worked at the Chicago Women's Aids Project, assisting with outreach and data collection. A call for applications for 2019 summer internships will go out (and be posted on the CSGS website) later this quarter and an informational meeting will be held in early winter.

Undergraduate Major/Minor

Undergraduate students interested in the topics of gender and/or sexuality are welcome at the Center and have the option to get a major or a minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies. Students can take GNSE coursework as an independent major, or as a double major where their gender coursework can provide a lens through which they study another discipline. A minor is also available for students who may not be able to complete all the major requirements while also studying another discipline. Currently we have students who are also majoring in psychology, chemistry, English, Cinema and Media Studies and many other areas.

We'll be holding an Information Session for anyone interested in the major at 4:30 p.m. on October 16 at the Center. Come by to learn about the major/minor and how it might work for you. In the meantime, 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 (773-702-2365) or email Student Affairs Administrator Bonnie Kanter (bonniek@uchicago.edu) to talk through your options. Have a great quarter!

CSGS Graduate Fellows

Please join us in welcoming our Fellows for 2018-19! **Ebenezer Concepción** (Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Studies, Romance Languages and Literatures) whose research centers on inversion in the writings of Alfonso Hernández-Catá, and **Annie Heffernan** (Political Science) whose dissertation brings disability studies into conversation with political theory by drawing upon the resources of feminist political theory, science and technology studies, and economics are our Dissertation Fellows this year. **Lance Keene** (Social Services Administration) whose work focuses on the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality, urban inequality and LGBTQ youth development, with emphasis on health equity, is a joint dissertation fellow with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture. **Mariana Brandman** (History), **Omie Hsu** (Political Science), **Lara Janson** (Sociology), **Caroline Séquin** (History), **Agatha Słupek** (Political Science), and **Alexander Wolfson** (Divinity School) are all Residential Fellows at this year.

Workshop and Working Group

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop will be held biweekly on Tuesday afternoons beginning October 9. We have a great line up of interdisciplinary presentations from our dissertation fellows in the fall, as well as an opening workshop about time management in academic careers. Our graduate student coordinator is **Annie Heffernan** (Political Science). The Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group – a graduate student organized group that provides a space for feedback on developing ideas and short works in progress – will continue to meet on alternate Tuesdays. **Cate Fugazzola** (Sociology) and **Agatha Słupek** (Political Science) are serving at this year's organizers. See page 4 for details.

Teaching

Fifteen graduate students from ten PhD programs will teach for the Center this year. We are excited to have **Kathryn Hendricks** (Sociology) serve as our Gender and Sexuality Studies BA preceptor once again. **Jenn Jackson** (Political Science) will co-teach 'Theories of Gender and Sexuality' with Faculty Director **Kristen Schilt** and Prof. **Lauren Berlant**. **Lara Janson** (Sociology) will co-teach "Problems: Media Wars" with Prof. **Jennifer Wild**, **Marcus Lee** (Political Science) will co-teach Prof. **Linda Zerilli's** "Advanced Theories of Gender and Sexuality." An Autumn quarter section of "Gender and Sexuality in World Civ" will be taught by **Tien-Tien Jong** (Cinema and Media). The following students will be teaching free-standing courses: funded by the Center **Anna Band** (History, "Gender and Sexuality in Jewish Society"), **Vinh Cam** (English, "The Politics of Life Itself"), **Cate Fugazzola** (Sociology, "Transnational Queer Politics and Practices"), **Kelli Gardner** (Divinity School, "Problems: Gender and Religion"), **Lara Janson** (Sociology, "The Legal Tender of Gender"), **Uday Jain** (Social Thought) and **Agatha Słupek** (Political Science, co-teaching "Topics in Feminism and Psychoanalysis") and **Alexander Wolfson** (Divinity School, "Taboo and Transgression"). This year's "Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations" teaching interns are **Stephanie Painter** (History), **Supurna Dasgupta** (South Asian Languages and Civilizations) and **Raffaella Taylor-Seymour** (Anthropology and Comparative Human Development).

Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop & Working Group

Workshops and Working Group sessions are held on **Tuesdays from 5:00-6:30pm** in the first floor seminar room of the Center at 5733 S. University Avenue.

Fall 2018 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

October 9: “Managing Work & Life in Academic Careers”: A panel discussion featuring postdoctoral teaching fellow **Michael Dango** (English), Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture fellow **Jenn Jackson** (Political Science), and Professor **Kristen Schilt** (Sociology).

October 23: **Ebenezer Concepción**, CSGS Dissertation Fellow/PhD Candidate in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Studies, “The Willful Sexual Invert in Alfonso Hernández-Catá’s *El ángel de Sodoma*.” Discussant: Professor **Alison James**, Romance Languages and Literatures

October 30: **Annie Heffernan**, CSGS Dissertation Fellow/PhD Candidate in Political Science, “‘They Attend Strictly to Their Own Business’: The Implications of Disability as Industrial Asset” Discussant: Professor **C. Riley Snorton**, English and Gender & Sexuality Studies ** NOTE THE UNUSUAL DATE**

December 4: **Lance Keene**, CSGS/CSRPC Dissertation Fellow/PhD Candidate, Social Services Administration, “More Than Risk: Toward a New Narrative of ‘Care’ within Social Work Discourse About Black Gay Men” Discussant: Professor **Sharon Hicks-Bartlett**, Sociology

Additional workshop information and past schedules, can be found at <http://voices.uchicago.edu/genderandsexuality/> Papers are made available in advance via our email list. To join, go to <http://lists.uchicago.edu/web/subscribe/sexuality-gender-wkshp> or contact the workshop coordinator, Annie Heffernan (Political Science) 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.

October 16: **Paula Martin**, Comparative Human Development, “Practicing Gender: Meanings and Uses of Medical Interventions for Gender Expansive Youth in the United States”

November 6: **Weronika Malek**, Master of Arts Program in the Humanities (MAPH), “Peasant Identity in Stanislaw Wyspianski’s *Self-Portrait with the Artist’s Wife*”

November 13: **Sanchita Dasgupta**, MAPSS Alumni, “Feeling like a Hypocrite: A Qualitative Exploration of Sexual Regret among Indian Millennials”

November 27: **Sneha Annavarapu**, Sociology, “‘Strangers in the night’: of taxi-drivers and women in Hyderabad, India”

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, Cate Fugazzola and Agatha Slupek at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.

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