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

Quarterly Newsletter, AUTUMN 2012 VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1

### A Note from Our Director...

Linda M. G. Zerilli
Faculty Director
Charles E. Merriam Distinguished Professor of Political Science and the College,
Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies

Dear Friends of the Center,

Thanks to our devoted faculty, students, and staff, I am happy to say that 2012-2013 promises to be another year of creative programming. Let me begin by welcoming Raúl Coronado (English), Jennifer Wild (Cinema Studies), Daisy Delogu (French), and Lucy Pick (Divinity), who have joined as new faculty fellows. Professor Coronado will be directing a Queer Latino/a Lecture Series and Professor Wild will lead a project on Counter Cinema/Counter Media Project. Professors Pick and Delogu will direct a project on the Pre-Modern Body. Additionally, Cathy Cohen (Political Science) will direct the Feminist Theory Project. They will be joining a stellar group of continuing faculty fellows, including Lauren Berlant, English Language and Literature, Director, Lesbian and Gay Studies Project; Hillary Chute, English Language and Literature, Director, the Artists' Salon (on leave 2012-13); Rachel Jean-Baptiste, History, Director, Sexualities in Africa and the African Diaspora; Rochona Majumdar, South Asian Languages and Civilizations, Chair, Curriculum Committee; and Kristen Schilt, Sociology, Director of Studies. Zahra Jamal returns as Senior Research Associate with the Civil Islam Initiative of CSGS, which will be very active this fall and spring. Please see the website for details of the various projects.

In addition to the wonderful programming of our faculty fellows, the Center is delighted to announce a year of activities around two additional themes. First, 2013 marks the fortieth anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade. With abortion rights still very much at risk, the Center plans to host a series of events on women's sexual and reproductive freedom. Among other events, Claire McKinney, a Ph. D. graduate student in political science, will be organizing symposia on debates about sex-selective abortion and on abortion and disability rights. Together with the Law School, the Center is also honored to co-host Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg for a talk on May 11, 2013 on the Roe decision. Our second new theme for the year is Gender and Social Science, which will explore past and present challenges to the social science disciplines by scholars working with gender and sexuality as analytic categories. We plan to announce small research grants for graduate students connected with these new themes. So stay tuned! Thanks to Mario Small, Dean of the Social Sciences Division, for his strong support of these new projects.

Last year, I announced the formation of a working group on the creation of a College Core Curriculum in gender and sexuality studies. The group, led by Professors Leora Auslander (History), Daisy Delogu (French), and Rochona Majumdar (SALC and Cinema Studies), is putting together a proposal to the College to establish a Civilization Core. If approved, the new curriculum would be in place by Fall 2013. This is an important step in making gender and sexuality studies central to the mission of the College and the University at large.

As part of our annual Classics of Feminist Theory series, the Center chooses an author whose work has been fundamental to the development of feminist thought and praxis. In 2010-2011 and in 2011-

#### this issue

Director's Note P.1 Collegiate News P.2 Programming and News P.3 Graduate Studies P.3 Event Details P.4

#### our staff

Linda Zerilli, Faculty Director
Gina Olson, Associate Director
Sarah Tuohey, Student Affairs
Administrator
Ashly Cargle, Program
Coordinator

(Continued on page 2)

# **Collegiate News**

Sarah Tuohey Student Affairs Administrator

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 on our website. 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 me (773-702-2365; <a href="stuo-hey@uchicago">stuo-hey@uchicago</a>) to talk or set up a meeting.

This year's "Problems in the Study of Gender" will be offered in autumn, taught by Leora Auslander from History, and winter, taught by Rachel Jean-Baptiste from History, and "Problems in the Study of Sexuality" will be offered in the autumn, taught by Lauren Berlant from English and Kristen Schilt of Sociology. Faculty director Linda Zerilli will again teach "Advanced Theories of Gender and Sexuality" to graduate and advanced undergraduates in the autumn. Further, five free-standing Gender and Sexuality Studies courses will be offered over the course of the year: "Religion, Gender, and Agency" (Larisa Reznik) in the autumn, "The Anthropology of Intimate Violence" (Julia Kowalski) in the winter, and "Sex and the State" (Jay Sosa), "Glam: Music, Gender, Identity" (Gregory Weinstein), and Gender, Sexuality, and the Production of History (Lauren Stokes) in the spring. As always, many departments and programs from across the university have cross-listed courses with us; see the website for a full list of the year's courses and course descriptions for Autumn 2012.

A number of exciting events to be held this autumn can be found under "Upcoming Events," but one should prove of particular interest to students working in or on gender/transgender issues. It is a screening of "FIRST PERSON TRANS" and discussion by Toronto-based filmmaker Chase Joynt . A teach-in on recent events in the US and in the Islamic world, titled "Liberty vs. License: the Anti-Islamic video and Responsible Citizenship" will be held at 4:00 on October 10 (location TBA). Other events aimed at students are "Anti-Sharia Movement: Behind the Controversy," a panel of speakers who will address issues and concerns related to Sharia, international law, and religious freedom in America on October 31 (with a follow-up breakfast the next morning) and "All-American: Muslim Men and Women on Being American," a panel discussion with contributors to the I Speak for Myself book series in which they share reflections on gender, diversity, and citizenship as American Muslims on November 1. These three events kick off CSGS' new project "Civil Islam," in which we will partner with the Office of Spiritual Life, the Divinity School, the College, and various academic departments over the course of the year to facilitate crucial conversations about Islam at the University of Chicago and to provide a structured environment for students to discuss the ambiguous place of Muslims in the United States.

Welcome Back/Welcome To... Gathering at the Center, Wednesday, October 26, 12:00-1:30 — Please join us and your fellow students at the Center to talk, get information, and ask questions about the major, the minor, and other opportunities at CSGS!

2012 we featured the work of Simone de Beauvoir and Catharine MacKinnon, respectively. This year we will focus on the contributions made by Angela Davis. I would like to thank Cathy Cohen (Political Science), who has been working with the Center on this important project. Together with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC), we will host a talk by Professor Davis in early May. We will also jointly run several symposia dedicated to major themes in her work, the first of which will be on prison abolition as a feminist issue. Please see the website for details.

As part of a new Annual Colloquium on How to Advance Women in Science and Learning, the Women in Science Project, a collaboration between the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, a committee of women faculty from the Biological, Physical, and Social Sciences Divisions, and The Office of the Provost, is bringing Professor Sue Rosser, Provost and Vice President for Student Affairs, San Francisco State University on November 12 to discuss her book, "Breaking into the Lab: Engineering Progress for Women in Science."

I am also happy to announce that 5733 South University Avenue, which houses both CSGS and CSRPC, will begin major renovations in January 2013. These include a complete overhaul of the facilities, which will bring them into compliance with ADA standards. We will also have a new wing and new space for programming. To find out about our temporary whereabouts as of January 2013, please go to gender.sexuality.uchicago.edu. Many thanks to the Provost for his support of this crucial project.

Finally, the Center is delighted to welcome Ashly Cargle, our new half-time Programming Coordinator. Ashly will work closely with our faculty fellows on CSGS events and daily operations at the Center. Ashly recently graduated from the University of Chicago Divinity School where she earned a Masters Degree in Islamic Studies and the Sociology of Religion. Her future Ph.D. work will focus on the ways in which the women of the Egyptian Mosque Movement conceptualize womanhood through their evolving interpretations of religious texts. Ashly also coaches the high school girls' varsity basketball team at the University of Chicago Lab Schools.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support. I look forward to welcoming you at CSGS.

## **Autumn Programming and News**

Gina M. Olson Associate Director

Welcome (back) to campus! I hope you will join CSGS and CSRPC at our annual Welcome Reception and Open House on October 16 at 4:30 PM. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a glass of wine and a bite to eat while you meet and greet other faculty, students and staff with interests in gender, sexuality and critical race studies.

I am pleased to report that our project, Closeted/Out in the Quadrangles: A History of LGBTQ Life at the University of Chicago had a productive summer. Project co-coordinators Monica Mercado and Lauren Stokes along with our student interns, Kelsey Ganser and Ash Mayo, were hard at work, recruiting narrators and preparing to collect oral histories from alumni, faculty and staff and conducting archival research at Special Collections at the Regenstein Library to begin building archives on LGBTQ life at UChicago. The culmination of the project will be a public exhibition in the new exhibit space at Special Collections in Spring, 2014 and a publication.

The Project is also bringing speakers on topic of queer public histories throughout this year. On October 17 at 4:30, Tim Stewart-Winter (Ph.D. '09, History and former CSGS Fellow), Assistant Professor, Rutgers will discuss his work on "Chicago and the Rise of Urban Gay Politics: Civil Rights and Neoliberalism from Daley to Daley." The next day he will present a lunchtime workshop on "Doing Queer Urban History in the 21st Century: Reflections on the Queer Newark Project."

The Center is engaged in a number of exciting collaborations this year, including hosting a performance on November 7 at 7pm with the Arts | Science Initiative at the brand new Logan Center for the Arts. Theater Oobleck will perform The Hysterical Alphabet, where "the ABCs are seized by a convulsive fit, each letter introducing an episode direct from the annals of medical lore." The event is free, but reservations are strongly recommended for priority seating. Please call 773-702-ARTS (2787) for tickets. The following Friday, November 9, we will host a workshop with author of The Hysterical Alphabet, Terri Kapsalis at 12:15 at CSGS.

As Linda states in her note, we have a number of very active faculty projects this year. The new Queer Latino/a Lecture Series headed by Raúl Coronado (English) will bring author Manuel Muñoz on October 18 and host a screening of "Gay Latino L.A." and a discussion with the director following the film on November 19. The LGBTQ Studies Project (formerly the LGSP), under Professor Lauren Berlant's leadership is hosting Erica Rand for a talk on "Queer Hips and a Garish Pink Box: Writing, Material, Substance" on November 8 at 4:30 pm and a workshop that same evening titled "Lingering." Even more exciting programming is being planned for winter and spring quarters.

For several months now, CSGS and CSRPC have been working with architects and Facilities Services redesigning and increasing the capacities at 5733 University, including meeting ADA standards, creating on-site programming space and reorganizing office space according to the centers' needs. We are mid-way through the design process and can't wait to reveal more about what is to come at the centers.

### **Graduate Studies**

Please join us in welcoming our CSGS Dissertation and Residential Fellows for 2012-13. Monica Mercado, a PhD student in History, has been a residential fellow and preceptor at the Center and returns to us as a dissertation fellow this year. Emily Remus, also a PhD student in History and a former teacher for CSGS was also awarded a dissertation fellowship. Residential fellows are Mary Adekoya of Cinema and Media Studies, Rachel Feinmark of History, Melissa Hardesty of SSA (also a co-teacher this year and a former Hormel Fellow), Abigail Ocobock of Sociology and Claire McKinney of Political Science (also serving as co-coordinator of the GSSW, along with Amanda Blair of Political Science). Further, for the first time, CSGS and the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC), have awarded a joint dissertation fellowship to Ainsley LeSure, a PhD student in Political Science. Ainsley will also serve as this year's BA Preceptor.

Gender and Sexuality Studies fosters many kinds of graduate participation at the Center. Deadlines for *Fellowships and Teaching opportunities* will be announced later this quarter. Students interested in a Graduate *Certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies* should refer to the website for full details and contact Sarah Tuohey (773-702-2365; stuohey @uchicago.edu)

The *Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop* (GSSW) has a new blog providing information about the workshop and a schedule for the 2012-13 year: <a href="http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/">http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/</a> genderandsexuality/

GSSW provides participants with an interdisciplinary forum for the development of critical perspectives on gender and sexuality. The workshop discusses pre-circulated papers written by University of Chicago graduate students, faculty, and visiting scholars. Attendees are expected to read the paper in advance of the workshop meeting; papers are made available on the GSSW Blog, the CSGS website, or via our email list. If you are interested in being included on the workshop email list, email this year's student co-coordinators: Amanda Blair and Claire McKinney (GSSWorkshop@gmail.com)

See Page 4 for dates.

## **Upcoming Events**

October 8, 6:00 PM

"Pray the Devil Back to Hell" Screening and Discussion Cobb Lecture Hall, Room 402

October 9, 4:30 PM

Claire McKinney, Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

October 10, 4:30 PM

"Liberty vs. License: The Anti-Islamic Video and Responsible Citizenship"

Kent Chemical Laboratory, Room 107

October 15, 6:00 PM

First Person Trans: Artist Talk and Screening with Chase Joynt Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

October 16, 4:30 PM

CSRPC/CSGS Welcome Reception

Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

October 17, 4:30 PM

Tim Stewart-Winter, "Chicago and the Rise of Urban Gay Politics: Civil Rights and Neoliberalism from Daley to Daley" Social Science Research, Tea Room

October 18, 12:00 PM

Tim Stewart-Winter, "Doing Queer Urban History in the 21st Century: Reflections on the Queer Newark Project "  $\,\,$ 

Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

October 18, 6:00 PM

Reading by Manuel Muñoz Rosenwald Hall, Room 405

October 23, 4:00 PM

Kimba Tichenor, Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

October 31, 4:0<u>0 PM</u>

"Anti-Shariah Movement: Behind the Controversy" Swift Hall Third Floor Lecture Room

November 1, 4:00 PM

"All-American: Muslim Men and Women on Being American" Ida Noyes Hall, Cloister Club

November 6, 4:30 PM

Christine Froula, Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop, Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

November 7, 7:00 PM

The Hysterical Alphabet

Logan Center, Performance Hall 074

November 8, 4:30 PM

Erica Rand, "Queer Hips and a Garish Pink Box: Writing, Material, Substance"

5710 South Woodlawn Avenue, Room 107 (Community Lounge)

November 8, 6:30 PM

Erica Rand Workshop, "Lingering"

5710 South Woodlawn Avenue, Room 107 (Community Lounge)

November 9, 12:15 PM

Hysterical Alphabet Workshop with Terri Kapsalis

Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

November 12, 4:30 PM

Sue Rosser, "Breaking into the Lab: Engineering Progress for

Women in Science"

Knapp Center for Biomedical Discovery, Room 1103

November 14, 6:00 PM

GNSE 10200 Movie Night -- "Secretary", Location TBA

November 19, 6:00 PM

"Gay Latino L.A." Screening with filmmaker Jonathan Menendez Location TBA

November 20, 4:30 PM

Ainsley LeSure, Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room

November 28, 4:30 PM

Lecture by Richard T. Rodriguez, Location TBA

December 1, 4 PM

Roundtable on Gender Violence and the Prison Industrial Complex Experimental Station, 6100 S. Blackstone

December 4, 4:30 PM

Melissa Hardesty, Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop Centers for Gender/Race Studies, First Floor Conference Room



