

THE CENTER *for* GENDER STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 ♦ Issue 1 ♦ Autumn 1997

A NOTE from the DIRECTOR

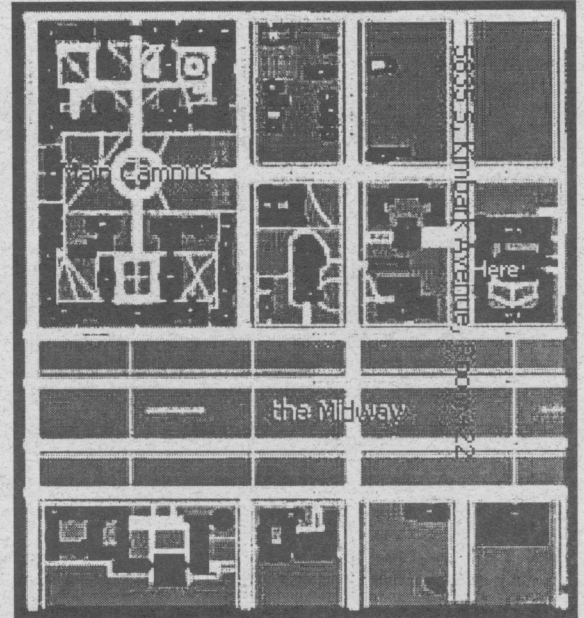
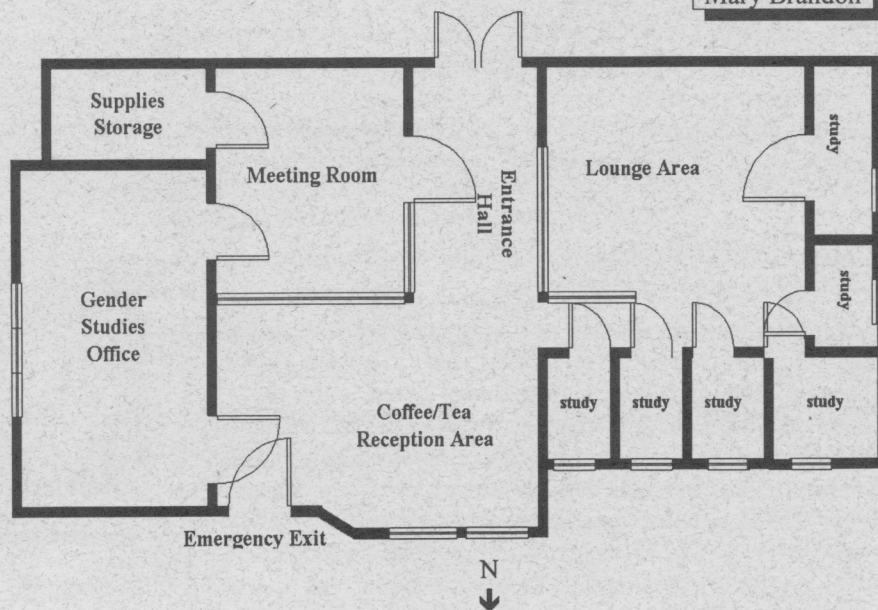
Welcome to the second operational year of the Center for Gender Studies! We are delighted to announce that the CGS has a new home on the fourth floor of Judd Hall. Thanks to the generosity of the Social Sciences Division, and especially to the work of Mary Brandon, we now have a lounge and meeting room (shared with the Center for Race, Politics, and Culture), three cubicles for the student co-teachers in our undergraduate and graduate courses and visiting scholars, a better central office and improved access to classrooms, a commons room and a lecture hall. We very much hope that you'll all stop by to visit, have lunch, or enjoy or free coffee, tea and cookies. Thanks to our administrator Julia Nitti, who is now full-time, the office and lounge will be open Monday to Friday 9:00 to 5:00.

We will be using our new and improved space to continue and deepen our teaching, research, and presentation of work on gender, sexuality, and feminism. From 1997 to 1999, the Center's focus will be on questions of gender, sexuality, and politics in the contemporary world. Understanding how men and women, gay, lesbian and straight people, come to have identities in which sexuality and gender are dominant or even determinate, and how those identities differ in different national contexts, as well as how those identities are challenged, is a crucial task for our times, and one not accessible to the tools of any one traditional academic discipline.

Whether in the context of our on-going bi-weekly "Gender and Society" workshop, or in weekly brown-bag discussions, or in the "Embodied Space: Re-Imagining Gender through Architecture" series inaugurated last year as the "Gendered Spaces" project and continuing for two more, or in the workshop and conferences of the Sawyer Seminar (funded by the Mellon Foundation) (continue Page 3) →



Mary Brandon



LESBIAN & GAY STUDIES PROJECT

A new Lesbian and Gay Studies Project has been established as part of the Center for Gender Studies. It will serve as the primary institutional base at the University for students and faculty whose work addresses the historical, cultural, and textual construction of lesbian, gay, and queer identities and subcultures, interrogates the dominant culture and social theory from a gay-inflected perspective, or engages in other critical studies of sexuality. Substantial financial support from Provost Geoffrey Stone and the Dean of the Social Sciences, Richard Saller, will enable the Project to sponsor a weekend-long symposium every autumn drawing scholars to Chicago to discuss a particular issue in lesbian and gay studies. The Project also plans to sponsor public lectures, film series, and other events, and it will coordinate the Lesbian and Gay Studies Workshop, which will resume meeting next year. Most of these projects will begin next year, since all of the faculty involved in the Project are involved in the Sawyer Seminar this year (see related article).

Beginning this year, though, the Project will offer a number of research grants to University of Chicago doctoral students writing dissertations in lesbian and gay studies. Information about this competition will be forthcoming (continue Page 4) →

COURSES OF INTEREST IN GENDER STUDIES 1997-1998

WINTER QUARTER

- ANTHRO 568 **POWER, GENDER, AND ARCHEOLOGY**
TBA *K. Morrison*
- ART H 185 **REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN ANCIENT GREECE**
TTh 10:30-11:50 *Gloria Pinney*
- COVA **SPACE/SIGHT/FEMININITY**
TTh 1:30-3:20 *Laura Letinsky*
- ENG 103 **PROBLEMS IN GENDER STUDIES-2**
MW 1:30-2:50 *Leora Auslander*
- ENG 209 **THE ROMANTIC PERIOD: AGE OF REVOLUTION**
TTh 10:30-11:50 *S. Makdisi*
- ENG 211 **VICTORIAN/WIVES/MOTHERS/DAUGHTERS**
TTh 10:30-11:50 *Elaine Hadley*
- GS Hum238 **THE THOUGHT OF HANNAH ARENDT**
TTh 9:00-10:20 *Herman L. Sinaiko*
- GS Hum 369 **FREUD/WOMEN/JEWS**
MW 3:00-4:20 *Samuel P. Jaffee*
- HIST 238 **RUSSIAN WOMEN'S LIVES**
Tu 1:30-4:20 *Sheila Fitzpatrick*
- HIST TBA **INTRO. TO GENDER THEORY IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**
Leora Auslander
- HIST **SOCIAL HISTORY OF AMERICAN SEXUAL SUBCULTURES**
George Chauncey
- FNDMTL 236 **THE KAMASUTRA/THE LAWS OF MANU**
TTh 10:30-11:50 *Wendy Doniger*

IT 295 **WOMEN AND WOMAN: 20TH CENTURY ITALY**
TTh 1:30-2:50 *Rebecca West*

SOCIOL 216 **GENDER AND WORK**
TTh 10:30-11:50 *Mary C. Brinton*

SPAN 269 **LOCAS/RAROS Y LATIN LOVERS**
TTh 3:00-4:20 *Patrick J. O'Connor*

SPRING QUARTER

ANTHRO 315 **IDEOLOGY, CULTURE, AND SEXUALITY**
TTh 9:00-10:20 *Elizabeth Povinelli*

ANTHRO 528 **POLITICS OF REPRODUCTION**
Th 3:00-5:50 *Susan Gal*

BIO 286 **FOUNDATION OF GENDER AND GENDER DIFFERENCES**
Th 1:30-3:50 *M. McClintock, M. Moscona*

HIST **DESIRE, SUBJECTIVITY AND GOODS**
L. Auslander, G. Chauncey

HUM 112 **TRANSFORMING GENDERS**
TTh 1:30-2:50 *Margot Browning*

JAPAN 375 **ISSUES FOR FEMINISM IN JAPAN**
TTh 2:30-3:50 *Norma Field*

MUSIC 229 **MUSIC & GENDER : EUROPEAN ENLIGHTENMENT**
MW 3:00-4:20 *Staff*

ITAL 248 **ITALIAN RENAISSANCE THEATRE**
TTh 3:00-4:20 *Elissa Weaver*

SOCIOL 212 **SOCIAL MOBILITY/INEQUALITY**
TTh 10:30-11:50 *Mary C. Brinton*

SOCIOL 271 **SOCIOLOGY OF HUMAN SEXUALITY**
W 2:30-4:20 *Edward O. Laumann*

PROBLEMS IN GENDER STUDIES—AUTUMN QUARTER

taught by Deborah Nelson (English) with Rebecca DeRoo (Art History)



Deborah Nelson

We begin this introduction to gender studies by considering how political feminism galvanized academic inquiries into gender. Reading "classics" of feminist theory from a variety of disciplines – history, psychology, literature, film, and legal studies among others – the class will track how gender studies changes not only the object of knowledge in these fields but also the ways in which knowledge itself is produced. We then turn to accounts of gender constructed in relation to race, sexuality, immigration and nation formation, class and labor by studying contemporary novels, autobiographies, films, and photography. The class will conclude with student presentations of their field work. ❖ *Deborah Nelson*



Rebecca DeRoo

PLEASE JOIN US EACH FRIDAY
 FROM 12:00 — 1:30
 FOR BROWN BAG LUNCH
 DISCUSSIONS
 IN JUDD 422

COFFEE, TEA AND COOKIES WILL BE SERVED.

(DIRECTOR'S NOTE, continued from Page 1) on sexual identities being held in 1997-1998, or in the international conference planned for 1998 on gender, sexuality, race and politics in France, the United States and South Africa, questions of the gendering of politics, of the relation between activist or grass-roots and formal politics, of the relation between culture and politics, of the complicated ways formal state structures influence everyday life, and of the widely varying forms political interventions can take and of what the political can mean, will be at the heart of our work.

Equally important, 1997-1998 also sees the first year of our undergraduate concentration and of our formal collaboration with the interdisciplinary Master's degree programs in the Social Sciences and the Humanities. Our pedagogical project is, of course, broader than our research focus for the coming two years. Courses being offered in our programs range from the classical world to the present, some have a disciplinary, some an interdisciplinary focus, and they are global in geographic reach ❖ *Leora Auslander*

GENDER & SOCIETY WORKSHOP
 AUTUMN QUARTER
 WEDNESDAYS FROM 4:30-6:30
 IN JUDD 422

OCTOBER 8: "QUEER VISIBILITY AND COMMODITY CULTURE," ROSEMARY HENNESSY (READING).

OCTOBER 15: ALAN CRAWFORD "MARGARET MACDONALD, CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH AND THE DOMESTIC INTERIOR," (PRESENTATION), IN CWAC 157.

OCTOBER 29: "WHY DO LADIES SING THE BLUES? INDIGO DYEING, CLOTH PRODUCTION, AND GENDER SYMBOLISM IN KODI," JANET HOSKINS (READING).

NOVEMBER 12: "MAKING UP, MAKING OVER: COSMETICS, CONSUMER CULTURE, AND WOMEN'S IDENTITY," KATHY PEISS (READING).

NOVEMBER 26: "READING RACIAL FETISHISM: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE" KOBENA MERCER (READING).



A la Française
Feminism and the Role of Women



A one-day conference on Sunday, November 2, 1997 at the Alliance Française

- 9:45 **Jan Goldstein** (History, University of Chicago) introducing the conference.
- 10:00 **Genviève Fraise** (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, CNRS) "*La Démocratie exclusive - l'exclusion des femmes: un paradigme français*"
- 11:00 **Mary Louise Roberts** (History, Stanford University) "*The Feminist Theatrics of Marguerite Durand*"
- 1:30 **Chantal Thomas** (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, CNRS) "*Salonnières, les salonnières: une liberté mondaine.*"
- 2:30 **Robert Nye** (Humanities/History, Oregon State University) "*The Singularity of French Sexuality.*"
- 3:30 **Roundtable Discussion** with **Leora Auslander, Jan Goldstein, Robert Morrissey, Philippe Roger, Rebecca West** and the four speakers.

This event is co-sponsored by The Chicago Group on Modern France, The Alliance Française de Chicago, the University of Chicago and the Cultural Service of the French Consulate of Chicago.



George Chauncey

SAWYER SEMINAR ON SEXUAL IDENTITIES AND IDENTITY POLITICS

A year-long Sawyer Seminar on Sexual Identities and Identity Politics, funded by a major grant from the Mellon Foundation, has been organized this year by a faculty group working under the auspices of the Chicago Humanities Institute. All of the members of the organizing committee are also involved in the newly established Lesbian and Gay Studies Project of the Center for Gender Studies.

The Sawyer Seminar takes the complex cultural variations in sexual identities, discourses, practices, and identity politics throughout the world as its central problematic. We plan to examine how lesbian/gay/bisexual identity politics have become so central to American formations of sexual desire, identity, and politics, and why they are less significant elsewhere; how such politics relate to discourses and politics of race, gender, and nation; and how local sexual ideologies and practices not organized in the terms of the hetero-homosexual binarism interact with the increasingly global discourses and institutions of homosexuality and heterosexuality. We intend to study the social developments that have served as preconditions for current controversies and to investigate the degree to which the globalization of the hetero-homosexual binarism has been linked to the construction of modernities and American (or western) cultural hegemony.

The Seminar will be historically-oriented and comparative, and will pay particular attention to the tension between the local and the global in a variety of cultural and religious settings. The Seminar will sponsor biweekly workshops throughout the year to discuss papers circulated in advance, and this year its meetings will take the place of the Lesbian and Gay Studies Workshop.

Our inaugural event will be a public lecture by Michael Warner, an English professor at Rutgers and editor of *Fear of a Queer Planet*, on *"Sex Publics in the Era of Privatization."* This lecture will take place from 9 - 10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, October 18, in Classics 10 (1010 E. 59 St.). It will be followed by a weekend-long symposium limited to members of the ongoing seminar. (See below if you are interested in joining the seminar.) Early in the spring quarter, on April 17-19, we will sponsor a major national conference on *"The Queerness of American Sexual Politics: Nationalism, Globalization, and Sexuality in Late Modernity."*

The Mellon grant has also enabled us to provide three graduate students at Chicago with year-long fellowships to work on their dissertations and participate in the Seminar: Teri Silvio of Anthropology, Patrick Larvie of Human Development, and John Ricco of Art History.

We welcome newcomers to join us for the whole year or simply to attend Michael Warner's lecture and the April conference. If you are interested in participating in the year-long Seminar, please send your name, university affiliation, mailing address and e-mail address to <sawyer-seminar@uchicago.edu> to indicate your interest and get more information. ❖ *George Chauncey*

(LESBIAN & GAY PROJECT continued from page 1) later this fall and will be posted on both the gender studies e-mail list and its website. If you would like to receive this information as soon as it becomes available, please send a note to this effect to Julia Nitti at <jhcoyne@midway.uchicago.edu>. ❖

The organizing committee for both the Project and the Sawyer Seminar includes the following faculty and staff: George Chauncey (History), chair; Beth Povinelli (Anthropology), co-chair; Mary Becker (Law School); Michael Camille (Art History); Stuart Michaels (NORC); and Deborah Nelson (English).

Gendering Race Racing Gender

**The Politics and
Practice of
Emanipatory
Social Science**

**NOVEMBER 7, 1997
JUDD HALL, ROOM 126**

Morning Session 9:30pm- 12:00 noon	Afternoon Session 1:30pm- 5:00 noon
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Moderator
Dr. James E. Bowman
Professor Emeritus
Departments of Pathology
and Medicine, Committees of
Genetics and of African/
American Studies

Panel:
Leora Auslander
Associate Professor
Department of History
Director, The Center for Gen-
der Studies

Michael Dawson
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Sci-
ence
Director, The Center on Race,
Politics and Culture

Martha Nussbaum
Professor of Law and Ethics
Law School and Divinity
School

Geoffrey Stone
Provost
Professor, Law School

Moderator
Susan Stokes
Professor
Departments of Pathology and
Medicine

Guest Speakers:
Gwendolyn Minks
Professor of Politics
University of California at Santa Cruz

**'WHITE FEMINISM,
LIBERAL RACISM,
AND WELFARE REFORM'**

Respondent: **Lynn Sanders**
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science

George J. Sanchez
Professor
University of Southern California

**'FORBGN AND FEMALE:
UNDERSTANDING THE
RACIALIZATION OF LATINA AND
ASIAN IMMIGRANT WOMEN'**

Respondent: **Thomas Holt**
James Westfall Thompson Professor
Department of History

A LETTER regarding FRIDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH

The Center for Gender Studies finally has its own space on the fourth floor of Judd Hall. We're very lucky to have as housemates, so to speak, the Center for Race, Culture and Politics. We also have as neighbors Continuing Studies, the Education Department, and the Lab School. It is closer for some of you than our temporary quarters in Pick Hall and much farther for others. We all need to think of how to make this a place that draws many kinds of us--faculty, staff, students--to make CGS the vibrant institution we want it to be.



One forum we hope to continue and develop from last year is the Friday Brown Bag, from 12:00 to 1:00 with those who can encouraged to linger. CGS will provide coffee, tea, and cookies. We are also looking into ways to revive a canteen that had existed for years in the downstairs commons room.

As for format: we (Becky Chandler, Continuing Studies, Barbara Collins, Chicago Humanities Institute, and Norma Field, East Asian) would like to alternate lunches when we have speakers and lunches that are open. The latter serve two purposes: (a) to provide a space where you can expect to see friends and acquaintances as well as meet people with whom you may have shared interests and (b) to provide a chance to continue discussion arising from the previous week's lunch. (CGS will also have open teas on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30, just prior to the Gender & Society Workshop, about which you will hear more later.)

We would like your suggestions for programs. What are the issues that you'd like to see discussed? What kinds of people would you like to hear from? Please keep in mind that this is space available to you to raise issues and find out who else is interested in pursuing them with you. Of course, not everything will be of interest to everyone. It would be wonderful to have study groups, eating groups, and coalitions emerge from this space. Here are some possibilities we have come up with: biology, gender, and sexuality; gender and the neighborhood; girls and women in science; gender and welfare reform; boys and high school; local artists working on masculinity; a women's center at the University?; adoption; health care; book and movie discussions (please propose titles); and ...?

Please come at noon next Friday, October 10 with your ideas; if by any chance you can't make it, please feel free to get in touch with any of us (echandle@midway, bcollins@midway, and m237@midway).

Looking forward to seeing you during the year,

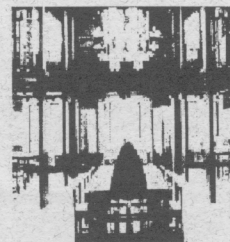
Becky Chandler, Barbara Collins, and Norma Field

GENDERED SPACES LECTURE SERIES

5:00 pm

Wednesday, October 15, 1997

Cochrane-Woods Arts Center
Room 157



The Library - School of Art - 1907

Alan Crawford

*MARGARET MACDONALD,
CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH
AND THE DOMESTIC INTERIOR*

'at the height of his career, Mackintosh worked in an informal collaboration with Margaret Macdonald, whom he married in 1900.... The essence of their collaboration was not that he did something and she did others...but that many interiors which are usually attributed to him seem to be permeated with her influence.' Alan Crawford from *Charles Rennie Mackintosh*

GENDERED SPACES SERIES — SECOND LECTURE

“TABLES OF BOWER REVISITED”

Jennifer Bloomer

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1997

COCHRAN WOODS ART CENTER, ROOM 157

Experimental work on architecture's powers of inscription and representation as explored through the development of a series of barnacle constructions to adhere to the corners of Chicago buildings. The barnacles are conceptualized and developed both as shelters for the homeless, as signs of the problem of homelessness in the city, and as the condensed representation of particular aspects of Chicago's social and architectural history. ❖

THE CENTER for GENDER STUDIES and THE CENTER on RACE, POLITICS AND CULTURE

INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR

AFTERNOON TEA

WEDNESDAYS 3:30-4:30



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PURSUING A
UNDERGRADUATE CONCENTRATION IN
GENDER STUDIES?

PLEASE GIVE US A CALL - 773-702-9936
OR DROP US A LINE - cgs-org@uchicago.edu

The undergraduate concentration advisors are Lisa Ruddick (Humanities), Brooke Shipley (Physical Sciences), George Chauncey (Social Science), Biological Sciences to be announced.

PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU:

For more information about the Center and its activities, if you would like to respond to any item in the newsletter, or if you have something that you would like to share with us,

please contact: The Center for Gender Studies
The University of Chicago
5835 South Kimbark Ave., Room 422
Chicago, IL 60637

Phone: (773) 702-9936
Fax: (773) 834-2000
E-mail: org-cgs@uchicago.edu

or visit us on the web at <http://www.spc.uchicago.edu/CGS/>

THE CENTER *for* GENDER STUDIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
5835 S. KIMBARK AVE., 422
CHICAGO, IL 60637

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