The Winter Quarter was crowned by the wonderful success of the conference, "Back to the Future: Generations of Feminism," which took place at the Max Palevsky auditorium on an amazingly sunny, mild day of winter (February 28). The distinguished panel of speakers presented a fascinating and extremely diverse array of perspectives on feminist thought, action, art and culture to a very attentive and involved audience of over 500 people who, like the speakers, were from many different geographical and intellectual places and many different generations. Students and faculty from the University of Chicago were there in significant numbers, as well as contingents from colleges and universities AND organizations in the Chicago area; in addition, many people flew in from such institutions as Duke University and other out-of-town schools, and we were pleased to see individuals from many women's and lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered and queer organizations in Chicago as well.

To all of the colleagues and students who worked so hard on the planning of this event, and to the many student volunteers who worked tirelessly to keep things going smoothly at the conference, as well as to the faculty who served as moderators and presenters, the most enthusiastic and heartfelt thanks! Gratitude is extended once more to the departments and other bodies at the University that provided material as well as moral support, and special thanks to Provost Richard Sailer, who graciously agreed to open the conference with some welcoming words, and who provided substantial material support to make it all possible. He took time out of his overloaded schedule to remain for the entire morning, and his genuine personal involvement was particularly appreciated.

We are all excited by the panoply of ideas and multiplicity of issues that emerged from the talks and from the questions and answers that followed, and we intend to build on the potential for future collaboration and interaction that the conference made so real to all of us at the Center and within the community of faculty, students, and community members who are committed to work that is centered on issues pertaining to gender and sexuality.

I must take this occasion to acknowledge once more the enormous effort to realize this important event on the parts of Debbie Nelson and Sandra Macpherson, the co-chairs of the Public Sphere Committee, and the members of that Committee, especially Gina Olson, Stuart Michaels, and Zohar Lechtmann. From the choice of speakers to the organization of the panels, from the development of intellectual directions and open-ended topics regarding the history and future of feminism to the fine-tuning of practical details, these committed people, along with many others, gave of their time and energies with exceptional generosity and enthusiasm. In her role as Assistant Director for Programming and Administration, Gina dealt with every aspect of the very complex planning and organization of the conference, and she did it all with a grace, good humor, and amazing efficiency that were truly exceptional. So, thank you, Gina! And thank you, Stuart (especially for your fund-raising strategies, that worked!), thank you Debbie and Sandra, Zohar, and office support staff members Tony and Melissa, who worked so hard and with such great good humor as well; thanks to everyone for making the day such an unforgettable, energizing, and really watershed moment in the life of the Center!

We intend to build on the momentum of the conference in many ways, including looking forward as well to the annual symposium. We will have the Third Thursday social hours as well, which are wonderful occasions for drawing in faculty and students from many areas of the University. In winter quarter the art show curated by Rebecca Zorach, in conjunction with the depression conference in March, brought the work of Midway Studio and other students to the Center, a connection that we were extremely happy to be able to make.

Please read details about upcoming events in this Newsletter, and please join us for some or all of these events. The Center is filled with committed, vibrant individuals who enrich their own work and the work of others through meaningful intellectual exchange and collaboration.

—Rebecca West

William R. Kenan Jr. Professor in the College
Professor of Italian, Dept. of Romance Languages and Literature
Professor in the Cinema and Media Studies Program
Director, the Center for Gender Studies
MARCH

31 Wednesday
4:30-6 p.m.
Talk: "The More Flesh on Show - The More you See: Representations of the Female Body in Nineteenth Century Fairground Shows"
Dr. Vanessa Toulmin, Research Director, National Fairground Archive of the University of Sheffield Library

APRIL

2 Friday
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch
"Deaf Survivors: Accessibility and Healing After Sexual Assault"  
Ayisha Knight, Boston-based renowned poet, actress, and activist who combines her experiences as a deaf multi-racial woman, a survivor of sexual violence, and an artist. She has given nationwide performances, and will be featured on HBO's Def Poetry Jam later this summer. Ms. Knight will discuss issues of sexual assault in the deaf community, including access to counselors and the healing process. Co-sponsored with Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention as part of Sexual Violence Prevention Month. ASL Interpreter at this event.

6 Tuesday
4:30-6 p.m.
Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop  
"Geisha and Empire-Building: Imperialism Modernism in Kawabata Yasunari's Snow Country, 1934-1937"  
Miho Matsugu, University of Chicago Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations (EALC) and Gender Studies Fellow

9 Friday
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch  
"Korean Women Students in Japan Under Colonial Rule"  
Sunmi Park, Lecturer at Rithumeikan University, Visiting Scholar at the University of Victoria, Canada. Ph.D candidate, Kyoto University

15 Thursday
3:30 p.m.
The Lesbian and Gay Studies Project, Queer Origins of Modern American Culture Series  
"The Homintern: Critical Anxieties about Homosexual Influence on the Arts in Cold War America"  
Michael Sherry, Department of History, Northwestern University  
To be held in Classics 10, 1010 E. 59th Street

16 Friday
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch  
"Queering Brad Pitt: The Struggle Between the Hollywood Machine to Control Star age on the Web"  
Ronald Gregg, Lecturer and Director of the Committee on Cinema & Media Studies

20 Tuesday
4:30-6 p.m.
Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop  
"Can You Resist a Look? Propertius on Women"  
Stacie Raucci, University of Chicago, Doctoral Studies Fellow

22 Thursday
4:30-5:30 p.m.
SOCIAL HOUR at CGS—Please enjoy drinks and entertainment.

23 Friday
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch  
Co-sponsored with Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention Month. Details TBA

30 Friday
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch  
Gretchen Soderlund, Department of Sociology

MAY

4 Tuesday
4:30-6 p.m.
Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop  
Carl Nash, University of Chicago, Department of Political Science

7 Friday
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch  
"Homophobia in Higher Education: A Ta"  
Brett Stockdill, Assistant Professor of Sociolo...author of Activism Against AIDS at the I...and Class.
All Events will be held at
5733 South University Avenue, Chicago

unless noted otherwise

14 Friday
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch
TBA

15 Saturday
9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
"Queer Latin(o/a) America Diasporas and Histories"
A one-day symposium at the University of Chicago.
John Hope Franklin Room, Soc Sci 224, 1126 E. 59 Street
http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/lgsqueerlatinidad.htm

18 Tuesday
4:30-6 p.m.
Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop
"Manliness and Sexuality in Eighteenth-Century Massachusetts"
Thomas Foster, University of Miami

21 Friday
1:00-5:00 p.m.
The Gender Studies Annual Spring Symposium
"Where is Feminist and Queer Pedagogy Today?"
Location and Full Schedule TBA

27 Thursday
5:30 p.m.
The Lesbian and Gay Studies Project, Out at CHS Series
"From Drag Ball to Vogue Ball- Gay Dance in African American Society"
George Chauncey (History, University of Chicago) and Jonathan David Jackson (English, Goucher College) at the Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue.

JUNE

1 Tuesday
4:30-6 p.m.
Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop
Tara "Red" Tremmel, University of Chicago, Department of History, Gender Studies Dissertation Writing Fellow
Title TBA
LGSP FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS

The deadline for applications for the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project fellowship and grant applications is 5 pm on Monday, April 12, 2004. They should be hand delivered to Gina Olson in the CGS office. For details about application procedures, please consult the LGSP website at: http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/lgspgradstudent.htm.

The James C. Hormel Dissertation Fellowship in Lesbian and Gay Studies provides a stipend of $15,000 to Ph.D. students in any discipline. The fellowship, which has been generously funded by Ambassador Hormel since 1998, is designed to allow students to work full-time on their dissertations (at any stage of the project), so recipients may not hold other jobs during the fellowship term. Recipients receive shared office space from the LGSP at the Center for Gender Studies and are expected to participate in events organized by the Project and Center, to attend the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop, and to present their work to it. It is anticipated that two Hormel Fellowships will be awarded.

The Vance Lancaster Research Grant in Lesbian and Gay Studies provides grants of $1,000-$2,500 for support of research (including preliminary research) undertaken for the master's thesis or dissertation. Funds may be expended for travel to research sites, photocopying of research material, purchase of equipment, and similar research expenses, but may not be used to pay for normal living expenses or computers. Recipients are expected to participate in the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS

I am delighted to report that Vance Lancaster has generously promised to fund the Research Grants the Project makes available every year to students writing dissertations and master's theses in lesbian, gay, and queer studies. This is an extraordinarily important commitment to the future of the field, since his support will contribute substantially to the training of the next generation of lesbian, gay, and queer studies scholars. We are all deeply grateful to him for it. Mr. Lancaster received his BA from the University of Chicago and his MA from the University's Irving B. Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies. In 2002, after working as a consultant in both the profit and non-profit sectors, he became the director of strategic giving for the Gill Foundation, the nation's largest gay-oriented philanthropic foundation, which is also generously contributing to the research grants. Ronna Stamm (a graduate of SSA), Paul Lehman, and their son Jonathan Lehman also made a significant donation to the Project this year. Our longtime friend Tim Child has graciously decided to ask friends attending his 50th Birthday Party for donations to the Project in the place of gifts. (It'll be 5-7 pm on Saturday, April 17, at Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted. Minimum donation is $25 but people are welcome to give more. Happy Birthday, Tim!) And we remain profoundly grateful for the continuing generosity of Ambassador James C. Hormel. Since 1998, the dissertation fellowships he funds have supported students at the most critical moment in their graduate careers, and the first generation of Hormel Fellows has already gone on to secure teaching positions around the country. We thank and salute our donors! Their support will have effects for years to come.

- George Chauncey, Director, CGS' Lesbian and Gay Studies Project

The Center for Gender Studies will again make several TEACHING, FELLOWSHIP AND AWARD OPPORTUNITIES available for the coming year.

Teaching in Gender Studies 2004-05 (Co-teachers and Preceptor). Deadline: Monday, April 26, 2004 at 5 p.m.

Dissertation Writing Fellowship Competition
Deadline: Monday, April 12, 2004 (5 p.m.)

The Center for Gender Studies Office Space Competition Deadline: Monday, April 12, 2004 (5 p.m.)

The Ruth Murray Essay Prize 2004 will be awarded for the best essay written by a University of Chicago undergraduate or graduate student in the area of women's studies, feminist criticism or gender studies. Submission deadline is Monday, April 19, 2004 by 5 p.m.

Details may be found on our website:
http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/teaching.html
http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/funding.html

Queer Origins of Modern American Culture Series: THE HOMINTERN
On April 15, Professor Michael Sherry of Northwestern University will speak on "The Homintern: Critical Anxieties about Homosexual Influence on the Arts in Cold War America." This is the last lecture in the LGSP's year-long series on Queer Origins of Modern American Culture. The first three lectures each drew 50-100 people. To be held at 4:30 in Classics 10, 1010 E. 59th Street.

Out at CHS: FROM DRAG BALLS TO VOGUE BALLS
On May 27, our own George Chauncey and Jonathan David Jackson, a dance scholar at Goucher College, will give a joint presentation at the Chicago Historical Society on the complex relationship between the African American-organized drag balls held from the 1920s to 1970s and the black and Latino/a community that by the 1970s called itself the ballroom scene. This is the second event in the series Out at CHS: Exploring the LGBT Past, which has been jointly organized by the LGSP, CHS, and Center on Halsted. The first event, "From Cole Porter to Tina Turner to Pansy Division: A History of LGBT Popular Music," attracted 400 people to the CHS on March 10. The third event takes place a week before the autumn quarter begins: "Women, Womyn, Grils, and Kings: Chicago Lesbian-Feminist Women's Music Culture Since the 1970s," an afternoon-long extravaganza on Sunday, September 26, featuring panels on the history and current prospects of women's music culture and an amazing line-up of live performances. For more information on these events, consult the LGSP website.