Director's Note

I find it difficult to believe that almost three years have passed since I assumed the directorship of the Center for Gender Studies, and that this is the last Note for the CGS Newsletter that I shall write. I want to express my deepest thanks to everyone who has been involved in the Center's activities over the last three years. You have made it a pleasure and a genuine learning experience for me, and I hope that the new connections we have made will continue for a long time to come. I want to thank with special warmth and gratitude Gina Olson and Stuart Michaels, the Assistant Directors of CGS; the Center would simply not exist were it not for their dedication and enthusiasm. I personally enjoyed so much working with Gina and Stuart, and I will miss our collaboration very much. Special thanks go as well to Debbie Nelson, the Faculty Associate Director, whose commitment to the Center is unmatched, and whose hard work has made many important events possible, and successful. It was also a great pleasure to work with George Chauncey, the director of the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project; George is very much missed this year, but I am confident that he will jump back in with his usual energy upon his return from leave next academic year. To the Chairs of CGS committees, the Board members, the graduate and undergraduate students involved in the Center's life, including our Fellows over the past three years, the student caucus and our majors, and so many others whom it would take too much space to list individually, my thanks. I can only hope that the Center continues to flourish in the future, and I am confident that it will, given the belief in its necessity and important role at the University that so many people have more than amply shown during my tenure as director.

This spring quarter brings many events and activities; they are listed and described on this Newsletter's calendar. I want to highlight a few events of particular interest: the LGSP's conference, "Queer Islands: Caribbean LGBTQ Writers and Community," which will take place on April 15 and 16; the film program Masculine Wiles on May 6 featuring short films selected from the Women in the Director's Chair Festival; a lecture by Stephanie Coontz, Professor of History and Family Studies at the Evergreen State College on the occasion of her new book release, "Marriage, A History: From Obedience to Intimacy or How Love Conquered Marriage" that the Center is co-sponsoring with the School for Social Services Administration on May 16; and the Social Hour and End of Year Celebration on May 19, at which we can all welcome the new director. In addition there will be the lineup of Brownbag talks and workshops, including talks by Chicago faculty Bernard Harcourt and Daisy Delegu, Steve Epstein of UCSD and Sarah McFarland Taylor of Northwestern. Stuart Michaels and I will be absent from the Center from mid-April to early May, when we will be co-teaching a course on French feminism and current debates on issues pertaining to gay life, politics, and women at the University of Chicago's Paris Center. We are very pleased that the Center and the area of gender studies will be represented at the Paris Center in this way, and we look forward to gaining new insights on cross-cultural methodologies and activism.

Please join in on some or all of the activities at the Center this spring! My very best wishes for a stimulating and fulfilling spring quarter, and my warmest "arrivederci!"

Rebecca West
William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and the College
Professor, The Committee on Cinema and Media Studies
Director, The Center for Gender Studies
APRIL

Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop
Tuesday, April 5, 4:30 - 6 p.m.
Suzy Kim, University of Chicago, Dept. of History, Gender Studies Fellow
The Woman Question in Post-Liberation North Korea

Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch Talk
Friday, April 15, 12:15-1:30 p.m.
Bernard Harcourt, Professor of Law and Faculty Director of Academic Affairs, The Law School
You Are Forbidden To Read This Foreword: ‘You are entering a gay and lesbian-free zone’:
On the Radical Dissent of Justice Scalia and Some Post-Queer
(Rethinking Lawrence, Sex Wars, and the Penal Code)

Queer Islands? Caribbean LGBTQ Writers and Community
April 15, 7:30-9 p.m. Reading, Location: Women and Children First Bookstore, 5233 N. Clark St.
April 16, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Conference, Location: Social Sciences 122, 1126 E. 59th Street
Free and open to the public. This two-day symposium is the first academic gathering to bring
together queer writers from throughout the Caribbean. Combining a literary reading and an
academic conference, the event opens conversation between novelists, spoken word artists,
activists, and singers who consider how their art and activism brings together Caribbean,
queer, and community identities. Discussing intersections between art and gay rights organizing,
immigrant rights activism, language politics, publishing markets, song and dance, popular
culture, and recovered histories, the panels look at the complexity of LGBTQ Caribbean literary
undertakings at and as a crossroads with sexual and racial, local and global issues.
http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/lgsp/queer_islands.htm

Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop
Tuesday, April 19, 4:30 - 6 p.m.
Hee-Kang Kim, University of Chicago, Dept. of Political Science, Gender Studies Fellow
Egalitarian Theory of Justice: From a Feminist Perspective

Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch Talk
Friday, April 22, 12:15-1:30 p.m.
TBA, Sponsored with Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention
as part of Sexual Violence Awareness Month.

MAY

Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop
Tuesday, May 3, 4:30 - 6 p.m.
Josh Pilzer, University of Chicago, Dept. of Music
Imagine humanity to be a joke: Pak Duri's songs center

Gender Studies Brown Bag -- Special Film Screening
Friday, May 6, Noon - 2 p.m.
Masculine Wiles
This program will present films and videos that reflect the past and present (see sidebar) selected from festival Film and Video Festival.

Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch Talk
Friday, May 13, 12:15-1:30 p.m.
Sarah McFarland Taylor, Assistant Professor at Harvard University
Prophecy in Action: Green Sisters, Earth Ministry,
Sponsored with the Religion and Environment Initiative

Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop
Tuesday, May 17, 4:30 - 6 p.m.
Jennifer Spruill, University of Chicago, Dept. of History
The Incorporated Citizen: Liberated, Authentic, In "sexual citizenship" in post-apartheid South Africa

Gender Studies Social Hour and E-mail
Thursday, May 19, 4:30 - 6 p.m.
Join us for food and drinks to celebrate and say goodbye to our outgoing director 2004-2005

Gender Studies Brown Bag Lunch Talk
Friday, May 27, 12:15-1:30 p.m.
Daisy Delouque, Assistant Professor of French, Dept. of Romance Studies
Mother of her people: Queenship, Maternity, and...
Friday, May 6, Noon - 2 p.m.
Masculine Wiles

Pilots are Badass - Cheryl Park 10min
Eager to be a 'real man', Peter joins the US Air Force. His troubled initiation into military life exposes the limitations of ready-made identities and the frustrating logic of Manhood.

Betty Talks - Anita Di Bianco 8min
A charged take-off on an infamous American 1970's type, through a series of insistent improvisations based on three basic cinematic ingredients: a woman, a mirror and a gun.

Don't Nobody Love the Game More Than Me - Martha Pinson 10min
"Yo, Pops, just answer me this. If you had as pitiful a game as Isiah would you be out there all the time? Knowin dudes be disssing you left and right, your own homeboys pretending they don't know you! If you played as bad as Isiah, would you do all that?"

Come Nightfall - Abigail Severance 20min
Deep in rural America, a teenage boy gets tangled up in his own curiosity when he discovers an old cowboy with a reverence for ladies' shoes.

Allo Performance! - Mirha-Soleil Ross 13min
Part of a 9-month long "pregnancy performance project," this installment features Ross splashing in the waves beneath Golden Gate Bridge as a mother's voice remembers a difficult pregnancy and an unusual, charming child. The goal of the project is "to explore some transsexual women's relationship to motherhood and foster community discussion around controversial reproductive technologies."

There There Square - Jaqueline Goss 9min
The desire to own and name land and the pleasures of seeing from a distance color this personal survey of the history of mapmaking in the New World.

Invisible Hand - Lori Hiris 12min
Hiris utilizes innovative sound and chalk pictures to relate the outrageous excesses, shifty relationships and sorry excuses abundant in the upper echelons of corporate America.

Wet Dreams and False Images - Jesse Epstein 12min
What happens when a group of Brooklyn barbers realize that their beloved pin-ups aren't real?

Spin - Catherine Le Couteur 10min
Teeming with teenage awkwardness and tension, Spin takes us to a house party where a game of spin-the-bottle leads to something the participants don't expect.

The Last Day of November - Bill Basquin 4min
As male bodies convene around a carcass, we move from the quotidian view of naturalized, primal masculinity to a new vision of masculinity as studies performance.

All Events will be held at 5733 South University Avenue, unless noted otherwise. Admission is free to most events. Lectures, conferences, film events and brown bags are open to the public. People with disabilities who believe they may need assistance, please contact the Center at 702-9936.

Full Program Info @ http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs
Calendar Insert — Please post!

Remaining Fellowship, Grant and Prize Deadline for 05-06:
Monday, April 4 at 5 p.m.

Ruth Murray Essay Prize
The Ruth Murray Prize is 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. ($500 prize)
Guidelines: http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/funding.html

Vance Lancaster Graduate Research Grants in Lesbian & Gay Studies
The Vance Lancaster Graduate Research Grant competition is open to University of Chicago M.A. and Ph.D. students for support of research (including preliminary research) undertaken for the masters thesis or dissertation.
Guidelines: http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/lgsp/lancaster_grants.htm

James C. Hormel Dissertation Fellowships in Lesbian and Gay Studies
The fellowship competition is open to University of Chicago Ph.D. students who are writing dissertations in lesbian, gay, and queer studies.
Guidelines: http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/lgsp/hormel_fellowships.htm

The Gender and Sexualities Studies Workshop will meet bi-monthly on Tuesdays from 4:30 until 6:00 in the seminar room at the Center for Gender Studies. Epstein, of the sociology department of the University of California at San Diego, will visit us on April 26 to discuss his research on sexual identity and health care. Graduate student fellows at CGS will also present, as well as several faculty from the University of Chicago. Graduate students with work to present should contact Debra Michaud (dmichaud@uchicago.edu). See Calendar on pages 2-3 for this quarter’s schedule.

The Center for Gender Studies Board of Directors
Leora Auslander, Professor, History
George Chauncey, Professor, History
Norma Field, Professor, East Asian Lang. and Civ.
Kathy Forde, College Advisor
Judy Hoffman, Lecturer, Visual Arts, Cinema and Media
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Deborah Nelson, Assoc Professor, English (Faculty Assoc Director)
Gina Olson (Assistant Director)
Kate Sanserino, Gender Studies and English
Domietta Torcaso, Asst Professor, Humanities Coll Div
Lisa Wedeen, Assoc Professor, Political Science
Rebecca West, Professor, Romance Lang and Lit (Director)
Iris Young, Professor, Political Science

The Gender Studies Student Caucus
The caucus is comprised of undergraduate and graduate students interested in influencing the Center’s teaching, research, and program activities. The Caucus aims, more broadly, to encourage student-led, campus-wide discussion and debate around issues of gender and sexuality. Caucus activities for the 2004-2005 academic year include developing an undergraduate Brown Bag series and establishing a dissertation support group for students pursuing gender related dissertations.

Interested in participating in the Caucus? Please contact Kate Sanserino (kathryne@uchicago.edu) or Keisha Lindsay (keisha@uchicago.edu) for more information.