

Director's Note



George Chauncey
Professor of History &
Interim Director

What a winter quarter the Center had! And what a spring we have before us.

In January, the conference on **Wal-Mart, Race and Gender**, which we organized with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture, drew 250 concerned Chicagoans together for a day-long exploration of the global processes shaping the recent controversy over the global retailer's campaign to open stores on the South and West Sides. From the opening session, which placed Wal-Mart's development in the context of the history of merchandising and traced the origins of its managerial strategies to the gender and racial cultures of the Ozarks, to the closing session at which committed advocates and opponents of Wal-Mart explained their positions and discussed new ideas for moving the debate forward, the conference illuminated the issues at stake, particularly for women and people of color. Many thanks to **Dorian Warren, Virginia Parks, and Thomas Jessen Adams** for the critical role they played in organizing this event.



The closing plenary of the Walmart, Race and Gender conference.

The following month, almost 200 people attended the Center's day-long conference **Trans/Forming Knowledge: The Implications of Transgender Studies for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**. The timeliness of the questions

posed by the conference was brought home when we discovered that our audience included faculty and graduate students who'd traveled from the east and west coasts and across the Midwest, as well as academics and activists from throughout the Chicago metro area and a large number of University students. Our speakers did an exemplary job of addressing the conference theme from historical, theoretical, transnational, and personal perspectives, and the lengthy discussions that followed were invigorating and enlightening.



Photo: Emily Albert

Trans/Forming Knowledge. From left to right: Aaron Devor, Joanne Meyerowitz, Susan Stryker, Judith/Jack Halberstam.

The **spring quarter** features two major events and a number of smaller programs. On April 7-8, the Center's Lesbian and Gay Studies Project hosts the conference **Beyond Warhol, Smith, and Anger: The Significance of Postwar Queer Underground Cinema, 1950-1968**. This event builds on the Project's winter queer underground film series, curated by **Ron Gregg**, which filled the Film Studies Center for five Friday evenings of revelatory screenings and drew considerable attention from the Chicago media. The conference brings together ten film scholars and cultural historians from Europe, Canada, and the US to analyze the transnational queer social networks and aesthetics that shaped and were shaped by the development of queer underground cinema, as well as that cinema's influence on postwar avant-garde cinema as a whole (see page 3 for details).

On May 22-23, the Center and LGSP are honored to join the Race Center and the Presidential Fellows in the Arts Program in hosting a two-day visit to campus by the extraordinary choreographer, dancer, and cultural muse, **Bill T. Jones**. Mr. Jones will speak at the

Court Theater on Monday evening at 7 p.m. (tickets go on sale May 1) and will also conduct interactive workshops and structured conversations about race, sexuality, and dance with our students and faculty. Stay tuned for details!

Building on successful programs held this winter, two student series continue in the spring. The **Feminist Lives and Queer Trajectories Series** brings to campus a feminist performance artist and a gay doctor who's done pioneering work on AIDS prevention with trans youth to talk with students about how they forged personally and socially rewarding careers "outside the box" that address the concerns of women and LGBT people. The **Workshops on Professional Issues for Students in Gender Studies**, organized by the CGS and LGSP graduate fellows, also continue. The **Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop** concludes an exceptionally lively year with a strong lineup of presenters, and Gina Olson has planned an intriguing series of **Friday Brown-Bag Lunches** (see page 2-3 for details).

My year as Interim Director of the Center for Gender Studies has been eventful and rewarding. It has been especially rewarding to get to know more of the students involved in the Center as Fellows, Workshop participants, Student Caucus members, and active participants in our events. The energy and new ideas they bring to our programs—and to our classes—confirm that feminism and gender and sexuality studies remain a vital enterprise on campus and in the world. I'd also like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to **Gina Olson**, the Center's Assistant Director for Programming and Administration, and **Stuart Michaels**, Assistant Director for Curriculum and Development. The Center depends for its vitality on the intelligence, insight, professionalism, and warmth they bring to our collective work. Warm thanks also to **Waldo Johnson, Tracye Matthews, Rolisa Tutwiler**, and our other dear colleagues at the Race Center. It's been a great pleasure to work with them all.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Collegiate Affairs** 2
- Spring Brown Bag Lunches** 2
- Graduate Studies** 3
- Queer Underground Cinema Conference** 3
- Teaching and Fellowship Deadlines, CGS Contacts** 4

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CGS Brown Bag Lunch Series**Friday, April 14, 12:15-1:30 pm****Green Houses, Geisha, and the Bean Man: Problems in Teaching Japanese Erotic Art****Hans Bjarne Thomsen**, Assistant Professor, Department of Art History

Japanese erotic paintings and prints—commonly called *shunga* (lit. “spring pictures”)—have in recent years found a good deal of acceptance in the West, mainly due to their innovative designs, striking compositions, and often humorous content. Despite the wider acceptance of *shunga*, however, key difficulties remain in the teaching of the genre. First of all, the sheer number and variety of works (estimated by some at one-fifth of all Japanese woodblock prints) makes it hard to create an overall strategy for teaching. Secondly, Western scholars of the past have often seen Japan as the voluptuous oriental other and have littered the field with problematic terms, such as “geisha,” “courtesan,” “green house,” “teahouse,” and so on, making discussions sometimes difficult. Finally, there are the persistent problems of contexts; not only those of early modern Japan with its sexual mores and social customs, but the formal and physical contexts of the works themselves.

Friday, April 21, 12:15-1:30 pm**Holding Perpetrators Accountable for Rape: Civil Remedies in Sexual Assault Cases****Kaethe Morris Hoffer**, Attorney

Kaethe, who was one of the co-authors of the Illinois Gender Violence Act, will discuss how survivors can access recent legislation to seek out civil remedies against their perpetrators as one method of re-empowerment. Under this act, gender-related violence is seen as more than just a crime against the state. It constitutes actionable sex discrimination and allows survivors to sue the people who harmed them for damages in civil court.

Co-sponsored with Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Friday, May 12, 12:15-1:30 pm**The Miss Seminole Pageant and Indigenous Overlapping Citizenship in the Casino Era****Jessica Cattelino**, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

Since the 1950s, The Seminole Tribe of Florida has held an annual “princess pageant,” when Miss Seminole is crowned. This gendered pageant of nationhood is historically grounded and presently realized in the overlap of tribal with U.S. and intertribal political communities. Based on Miss Seminole, this presentation explores Seminoles’ overlapping citizenship in the context of their ground-breaking late-twentieth-century foray into casino gaming.

New Career Exploration Seminar

CAPS (Career Advising and Placement Service) and the Center for Gender Studies are pleased to be able to offer a new opportunity for students: a Career Exploration Seminar for students with interests and training in gender and sexuality studies. This seminar will be offered for the first time this Spring Quarter to provide career-focused brainstorming and research. The following areas will be covered: self assessment, brainstorming, career research, resume and cover letter writing, and networking/informational interviewing. The seminar will consist of four two-hour sessions: on Fridays from 2-4 pm during the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th weeks of the quarter. It will be done in a small group setting at the Center for Gender Studies and will be facilitated by Heather Sevens, a senior trainer from CAPS. To register, email Heather Sevens at hsevens@uchicago.edu.

Feminist Lives and Queer Trajectories

What do you do with a Gender Studies, English, or History major? What jobs do you pursue if you want your commitment to social justice to be manifest in your life's work? In the Feminist Lives and Queer Trajectories Series, feminist and/or queer academics and/or activists will describe their life trajectories, how they came to do the work they do, and why it matters to them. Center staff have worked with a group of our majors to create this series—specifically for undergraduates—which premiered this fall and is designed to address perennial questions about possible career paths after graduation. The series continues this spring with two special events featuring brief talks and discussion of students’ questions and concerns on this topic, with a small reception to follow.

**Wednesday, April 19, 5 PM
Estrojam**

Ali McDonald serves on the Board of Directors and is Director of Programming for the Estrojam Music and Culture Festival. She is a co-host of Think Pink, Chicago’s only all-music radio show for the queer community. She has been DJing for the past eight years and performs out at clubs as DJ Reaganomix. Last year, Ali was selected as one of the Windy City Times’ “30 Under 30”

Collegiate Affairs

for her work with the queer community.

Heather Lee Chappell has been involved in innumerable queer, feminist, and arts organizations about town for the past seven years. These adventures include Estrojam, esoterica, Bloody Mary Productions, The International Drag King Extravaganza, and The Mobtown Moxie Revue. She was a co-founder and producer of the disbanded Chicago Kings and is currently employed as the Production & Artistic Coordinator for About Face Theatre. She has also had the joy of being part of stage management teams at the Lookingglass, Second City, The Goodman, Chicago Shakespeare, Court Theater and Blue Man Group to name just a few.

Friday, May 19, 12:15 PM**Rob Garofalo, M.D.****Deputy Director, Howard Brown Health Center**

Rob is the Deputy Director at Howard Brown, the Medical Director of Adolescent HIV Services at Children’s Memorial Hospital and an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. Dr. Garofalo’s clinical and academic career has been devoted to the care of HIV infected adolescents and other at-risk teen populations. At Howard Brown and Children’s Memorial Hospital, Dr. Garofalo conducts federally-funded clinical and prevention-based research with HIV+ and LGBT youth. Since 2001, he has been actively involved in the *Pediatric AIDS Clinical Trials Group* (PACTG) where he is a member of their Adolescent Research Advisory Committee. In 2003, Dr. Garofalo received a 3 year NIH-supported Mentored Clinical Scientist Award to pursue behavioral research specific to HIV and HIV prevention in at-risk youth populations. Dr. Garofalo also received an individual NIH award to test the utility of a Social-Personal theoretical model in explaining HIV risk behaviors in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth and is currently working with the NICHD-sponsored Adolescent Medicine Trials Network as the Principal Investigator on the Transgender Research Youth Project, a study examining coding and risk among male-to-female transgender youth.

Professional Issues for Graduate Students in

Our series on Professional Issues in Gender Studies continues on April 24, from 12:00 to 1:30. In this session Elaine Hadley of the English Department and Stuart Michaels of Gender Studies will address pedagogical issues of interest to graduate students who plan to pursue a career in gender studies. The discussion will be driven by graduate students' concerns, so bring your questions about everything from course design to teaching strategies.

In addition, we are compiling resources for graduate students that will be available at the Center. These resources include websites, past successful fellowship applications, reading lists, and syllabi for gender studies courses.

Please contact Sarah Potter (spotter@uchicago.edu) with questions or if you'd like to be involved.

Gender and Sexuality Studies

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop (GSSW) provides an interdisciplinary forum for the development of critical perspectives on gender and sexuality. We meet in the Center seminar room from 4:30-6 on Tuesday afternoons in even weeks of the quarter to discuss pre-circulated papers written by graduate students, faculty, and visitors.

The faculty co-directors of the Workshop are George Chauncey (History), Stuart Michaels (Gender Studies), and Iris Marion Young (Political Science). For more information about the Workshop or to inquire about presenting a paper, please contact the workshop coordinator, Keisha Lindsay (keisha@uchicago.edu).

Papers will be available for download at <http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/genderandsexualitywkshop.html>. Hard copies will be available in limited number outside Room 306 at the CGS.

SPRING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Week 2: Tuesday, April 4

Robert Wyrod, University of Chicago,
Dept. of Sociology

*Being a Man in Bwaise Town:
Masculinity in Urban Uganda in the Age of AIDS*

Week 4: Tuesday, April 18

Elizabeth Bucar, Center for Gender Studies Fellow,
University of Chicago, Religious Ethics
Religious Women's Back Talk

Week 6: Tuesday, May 2

Jeff Rees, Post-Doctoral Fellow,
University of Chicago, Religious Ethics
Just Subjects: Towards a Queer Theory of Justice

Week 8: Tuesday, May 16 TBA

Week 10: Tuesday, May 30

J. Ckristofer Baker, University of Chicago,
Dept. of Anthropology
*Gender Capital: Homophobia, Misogyny, and
the Precarious Position of Masculine
Privilege in Guadalajara*

All workshops will be held
from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Center.

BEYOND WARHOL, SMITH AND ANGER: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF POSTWAR QUEER UNDERGROUND CINEMA, 1950-1968.

A Conference at the University of Chicago

April 7-8, 2006

Film Studies Center Auditorium, Cobb Hall, Room 307, 5811 South Ellis Avenue



Friday, April 7

4:30-5:45 **The Queer Underground as a Cultural Formation**

George Chauncey (Chicago)

Introduction: *The Queer Underground as Cultural Formation*

Stephen Bottoms (Leeds)

From Off-Off Broadway to Underground Cinema

Dinner buffet.

7-9 **Special Conference Screening**



Organized by the University of Chicago Lesbian and Gay Studies Project in cooperation with the Committee on Cinema and Media Studies and Film Studies Center.

For more information on this and other events, please call 773.702.8596 or visit the Film Studies Center Website at www.filmstudiescenter.uchicago.edu

Saturday, April 8

9:30-10 Registration & Coffee

10-11:45 **Formative Encounters**

Ron Gregg (Chicago): Welcome & Introduction.

Juan Suárez (Murcia, Spain)

Puerto Ricans, the East Village and the Queer Underground

Tom Gunning (Chicago)

Incandescent Images Burning through the Celluloid Closet

12-1 Lunch

1-3 **The Queerness of the Women's Avant Garde**

Lauren Rabinovitz (Iowa)

The Queer Underground, Shirley Clarke and Portrait of Jason (1967)

Ron Gregg (Chicago)

Barbara Rubin, Christmas on Earth (1963), and Cultural Revolution in the 1960s

Leanne Gilbertson (Rochester)

Out of Place! in Time: Reclaiming Female Agency in the 1960s Avant-Gardes of Warhol's Factory and Judson Memorial Church

3:15-5 **The New York Underground and the Transnational Formation of a Queer Aesthetic**

Marc Siegel (Free University, Berlin/UCLA)

VIVA la différence! The American Underground Goes to Europe

Tom Waugh (Concordia)

Underground, Closet and Periphery: McLaren, Jutra and Montreal

5:15-6:15 **Round table on the Significance of the Queer Underground**

B. Ruby Rich (UC-Santa Cruz) and others. Followed by a Reception.



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TEACHING AND FELLOWSHIP DEADLINES

March 31, 5:00 PM

Co-Teaching Core Courses in Gender Studies and Preceptorship—*Ph.D. students*. GNDR 10100 on feminism and Gender; GNDR 10200 on sexuality; GNDR 21400-Intro to Theories of Sex and Gender; and preceptor.

Free Standing Courses in Gender Studies—*Advanced graduate students (ABD)*. Teach one undergraduate course "of one's own design".

Dissertation Writing Fellowship—*Advanced graduate students (ABD)*. Any dissertation centrally on matters of gender/sexuality is eligible for this fellowship--special consideration will be given to projects that challenge disciplinary boundaries and that attend to racial and/or economic hierarchy. Provides a stipend of \$15,000 for the 2006-7 academic year, and fellows are also provided with office space at the Center.

Residency Fellowship—*Graduate students (at all levels)*. Any dissertation centrally on matters of gender/sexuality is eligible for this fellowship--special consideration will be given to projects that challenge disciplinary boundaries and that attend to racial and/or economic hierarchy. A fellow is awarded an office (central to campus) and Center privileges as active participants in the life of the Center.

James C. Hormel Dissertation Fellowships—*Ph.D. students who are writing dissertations in lesbian, gay, and queer studies*. Provides a stipend of \$14,000 plus tuition, insurance and fees for the 2006-7 academic year, and fellows are also provided with office space at the Center for Gender Studies.

Vance Lancaster Graduate Research Grants in Lesbian & Gay Studies—*M.A. and Ph.D. students* for support of research (including preliminary) undertaken for the master's thesis or dissertation.

STUDENTS FROM ALL DISCIPLINES ENCOURAGED TO APPLY. All fellowships, teaching, grants and prizes of the CGS are open to University of Chicago students only.
<http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/funding.html>
and <http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/cgs/teaching.html>

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