

The Center for Gender Studies at the University of Chicago

WINTER 2008

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 2

Director's Note



Deborah Nelson

Associate Professor, English Department
Director of the Center for Gender Studies

The winter quarter begins with the Iris Marion Young Distinguished Faculty Lecture, one of the Center's most important events. This year our new colleague in the Department of History, **Christine Stansell**, will deliver a lecture, "**The Revolt of the Daughters: Matrophobia and 1960s Feminism**," on Thursday, January 17, at 4:30 pm in Social Sciences 122. This annual lecture by one of our faculty offers the increasingly rare opportunity to share on-going work with the broader community of students and faculty interested in gender and sexuality studies. Professor Stansell joins a tradition of excellence and intellectual generosity that includes lectures in recent years by Martha McClintock, Wendy Doniger, Jean Comaroff, Amy Hollywood, and George Chauncey.

In addition to this lecture, there will be three more opportunities to hear from new faculty in the **Friday Brownbag Series**: **Leela Gandhi** from English will discuss "Postcolonial Ethics: Work in Progress"; **Susan Larsen** in Slavic "Invisible Girls and Imperial Institutions: Towards a Genealogy of Female Adolescence in Russia"; and **Tara Zahra** in History "Lost Children: Gender, Family, and Human Rights in Postwar Europe."

The Lesbian and Gay Studies Project in collaboration with Critical Inquiry will host **Jane Gallop** (Univ of WI-Milwaukee) with a talk titled "**Sedgwick: Queer Moments, Twisted Temporalities, 'or even just reading and writing'**" on Thursday,

February 7, at 4:30 pm. The **Feminist Lives, Queer Trajectories Series** also continues this quarter. See the calendar on Page 2 for details on all events.

Winter quarter also means course planning for the next academic year. I urge faculty to consider **teaching one of the gender and sexuality studies** core courses. Faculty who have taught it uniformly report high levels of satisfaction; students invariably do as well. If you would like to teach this course but are having administrative difficulties doing so, please contact me. Likewise, our deadlines for **graduate student teaching** in the core and courses of their own design are quickly approaching (Details on page 5).

The core is an essential part of the Center's business, not least because our cross listed offerings continue to grow and the classes to fill. We are currently on pace to enroll approximately 1,200 undergraduates in gender and sexuality courses this year. Because high enrollments suggest that there remains untapped interest, the Center is again offering **awards for faculty who develop new courses**. This year the Center will be offering two \$1,500 awards to faculty who propose and develop a new course in gender and/or sexuality studies to be run in two of the next four years. Senior and junior faculty are invited to apply. The process is simple: Submit a one-page description/proposal for a new course to Stuart Michaels (stuartm@uchicago.edu) by Friday, February 1. Please indicate the general outline of the course, the students for whom it would be most appropriate (undergrad, MAPH/MAPSS, graduate), and the gap it fills in current offerings. We will select two proposals for awards by the end of the month. See Collegiate Affairs on Page 3 for details on this quarter.

The History of Women at the University of Chicago Project continues to move forward thanks to

generous support from Dean Boyer and the college as well as a timely gift from Nancy Warner, an alumna of the university and a long-time supporter of the Center. There are now audio excerpts from the oral histories on the website and work will begin full scale on the Regenstein exhibit starting in January. If you have any memorabilia – letters, photos, conference posters, etc.—that you would like to contribute to the exhibit, please contact Alison Lefkowitz (alefkovi@uchicago.edu).

An advance word on a very busy spring quarter. Ten universities, most in Chicago, will present a major conference "**Race, Sex, Power: New Movements in Black and Latina/o Sexualities**" to be hosted at UIC on April 11-12. The conference features scholars, activists, and artists from around the disciplines and around the country. The Center for Gender Studies is proud to have collaborated on such an ambitious and timely conference. We are also working with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture here on campus to present a panel: "**The Hip Hop Generation: Gender, Race, and the Vote**." This event, aimed primarily at undergraduates from south side universities and colleges, will bring together local activists, hip hop artists, and students. Noted hip-hop scholar, Bakari Kitwana, CSRPC's artist in resident, is coordinating the event, which follows from a series he runs called "Rap Sessions: Community Dialogues on Hip-Hop." In April Gender Studies will again co-sponsor the annual **Roe v. Wade commemoration** organized by the Section of Family Planning and Contraceptive Research of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology. A half-day symposium will focus on those generally left out of the reproductive rights debate and promote more culturally-competent health care and inclusive legislation.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Events 2
- Collegiate Affairs, Teaching, Fellowships and Prize Deadlines 3
- Workshop Schedule 4



THE CENTER FOR GENDER STUDIES
at THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

<http://genderstudies.uchicago.edu>

5733 South
University Avenue
Chicago, IL 60637
Phone: 773.702.9936
Fax: 773.834.2000

Winter Quarter Event Calendar



Thursday, January 17, 4:30 p.m.
**"The Revolt of the Daughters:
 Matrophobia and 1960s Feminism"**
 The 2007 - 2008 Iris Marion Young
 Distinguished Faculty Lecture
Christine Stansell

Professor, Department of History

Modern feminism since the 1880s has turned on young women's collective determination to live a life different from their mothers' - less confined, more adventurous, more fully realized, untrammled by male authority. Following in this tradition, but ratcheting it up, the 1960s revolt of the daughters against the previous generation was so intense that it can be called matrophobia. Professor Stansell talks about the ideological, cultural, and political effects of this strain of women's liberation: in the short run, as the political Right seized the terrain of the mothers in the early 1970s; and over the long run, as feminists tried to expand the daughters' politics to the requirements of a different time.

Location: Social Sciences 122, 1126 East 59th Street
 Reception will follow.



Friday, January 25, 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.
'Postcolonial Ethics: Work in Progress'
 Brownbag Lunch with **Leela Gandhi**
 Department of English

Gandhi's research and teaching interests include sixteenth and seventeenth-century drama, the culture of late-Victorian radicalism,

Indo-Anglian literature, and Postcolonial theory. To date, her scholarly work has been driven by a methodological impulse toward disciplinary intersection and an accompanying inclination toward the overlapping and intertwined legacies borne of colonial encounter. Her recently published book, *Affective Communities* (2006), seeks to represent anticolonial politics as the product of numerous transnational collaborations, friendships and conversations between western and non-western dissidents. Motivated by what we might call, after M. K. Gandhi, a non-violent or ahimsaic historiography, it turns to the colonial encounter not for evidence of violence and conflict, but rather in search for small subjugated narratives of cross-cultural collaboration between oppressors and oppressed, concerned with a visionary commitment to the end of institutionalized suffering.

Thursday, February 7, 4:30 p.m.

"Sedgwick: Queer Moments, Twisted Temporalities, 'or even just reading and writing'"

Jane Gallop, Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Gallop's Her publications include *Living With His Camera* with Dick Blau, *Anecdotal Theory*, *Feminist Accused of Sexual Harassment*, *Around 1981: Academic Feminist Literary Theory*, and *Reading Lacan*. Talk hosted by the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project in collaboration with Critical Inquiry. Location TBA.



Friday, February 8, 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.

"Lost Children: Gender, Family, and Human Rights in Postwar Europe"
 Brownbag Lunch with **Tara Zahra**

Assistant Professor, Department of History
 Zahra is interested in transnational and comparative approaches to the history of Modern Europe. The focus of her research and teaching is Eastern and Central Europe, (the Habsburg Empire and Successor States), but she has also looked westward to Germany and France, in an effort to integrate East European history into broader histories of Europe and the world. Zahra is particularly interested in nationalism and in approaches to history which challenge national categories and narratives; the history of childhood, gender, and the family, and the history of war and occupation.



Friday, March 7, 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.

"Invisible Girls and Imperial Institutions: Towards a Genealogy of Female Adolescence in Russia"

Brownbag Lunch with **Susan Larsen**

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

A professor of Russian Literature and Culture, Larsen's academic interests include 18th century to present Russian film, theater, and gender studies.

Brownbag lunch locations: 5733 South University Avenue.
<http://genderstudies.uchicago.edu/events.html>

Collegiate Affairs

The Center for Gender Studies has an enormous amount to offer students interested in gender and/or sexuality as topics of study and approaches to understanding a variety of phenomena from social life to cultural and intellectual production. We offer and cross-list courses from across the university's departments. We also have a rich panorama of programming to supplement course work: from our Brown Bag series to special lectures and programs.

Feminist Lives/Queer Trajectories Series

For the third year in a row, we will continue our twice quarterly Feminist Lives, Queer Trajectories series intended to help provide answers to the perennial question: What do you do with a major (or minor) in Gender Studies? This series brings in speakers who have pursued or constructed standard and non-standard careers dedicated to feminist and queer ideas and values. Last quarter we heard from Jessica Halem, queer activist and stand-up comic and resident head/career advisor as well as from members of Women in Public Policy from the Harris School. Winter Quarter our guests are **Linda Bubon and Ann Christopherson**, co-founders of Women & Children First, Chicago's premier feminist bookstore and **Lora Branch** from the Chicago City Depart-

ment of Health, specialist in media and HIV/STD prevention who was formerly director of Chicago's Office of Lesbian & Gay Health.

Highlights of Winter Course Offerings in Gender Studies

There are 14 rich and varied undergraduate courses in gender and sexuality offered this Winter. In addition to the Gender Studies core "problems" courses in Gender and Sexuality, there are a variety of cross-listed courses from the Humanities and the Social Sciences. Two new courses by younger faculty were developed with support from the Center: **Rachona Majumdar's "Liberalism & Feminism in India"** and **Jessica Catellino's "Economies of Sex and Gender."** A number of advanced graduate students are offering courses related to their dissertation research. From history there are: Alison Lefkowitz', "Politics of Sexuality in the U.S." and Sarah Osten's, "Women & Revolution in 20th Century Latin America." Moacir De Sa Pereira from English is teaching "Male Fantasy Sports." Visiting professor in Cinema and Media Studies, Jennifer Wild is teaching "The Modern Body & the Cinema" and in Law, James Madigan of Lambda Legal Defense is teaching "Sexual Orientation and the Law." Rebecca West,

former Center director is teaching two courses, taught in Italian, on Gender and Genre; one on the novel and one on poetry. Wendy Olmsted is teaching two courses as well: "Milton's Paradise Lost" and "Augustine's Confessions." Lauren Berlant, from English, former director of the Center and now Director of the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project is teaching her M.A. level "Introduction to Theories of Sex and Gender" which is open to advanced undergraduates. Rachel Jean-Baptiste from History is teaching a graduate level seminar "History of Sexuality in Modern Africa" which is open to undergraduates with her consent. Further information on these courses as well as graduate level courses can be found on our website and in the Time Schedule.

Majoring / Minor in Gender Studies

Students interested in learning more about majoring or minoring in Gender/Sexuality Studies should contact me, Stuart Michaels, Undergraduate Program Chair of CGS at stuartm@uchicago.edu. A full description of both options can also be found in the College Catalog under Gender Studies or on the Center website.

Teaching, Fellowship and Prize Deadlines

TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS

Stuart Tave Teaching Fellowship - Monday, January 14, 2008, Noon.

The Center for Gender Studies is calling for applications by advanced graduate students (ABD) to teach one undergraduate course "of their own design". This course can be taught in any of the three quarters of the 2008-09 term. We invite applications for the Tave Fellowship from all interested Ph.D. students in the Humanities Division.

Co-Teaching Core Courses in Gender Studies and Preceptorship - Tuesday, April 1, Noon.

We invite applications for these positions from all interested Ph.D. students in all divisions and professional schools. Six student co-teacher positions are available: two for GNDR 10100 on feminism and Gender; two for GNDR 10200 on sexuality; one to co-teach GNDR 21400 - Intro to Theories of Sex and Gender; and one to act as preceptor for the senior B.A. projects.

Free Standing Courses in Gender Studies - Tuesday, April 1, 2008, Noon.

Advanced graduate students (ABD) in all divisions

and professional schools are encouraged to apply to teach one undergraduate course "of their own design". This course can be taught in any of the three quarters of the 2008-09 term.

GENDER STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS-

ALL: Tuesday, April 1, 2008, Noon.

Dissertation Writing Fellowship

Advanced graduate students (ABD) from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. 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. The fellowship provides a stipend of \$15,000 for the 2008-9 academic year, and fellows are also awarded an office and privileges as active participants in the life of the Center.

Residency Fellowship

Graduate students (at all levels) from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. 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 and Center privileges as active participants in the life of the Center.

James C. Hormel Dissertation Fellowships

Two Hormel Fellowships in Lesbian and Gay Studies will be awarded for the 2008-9 academic year to Ph.D. students who are writing dissertations in lesbian, gay, and queer studies. Students in all disciplines are encouraged to apply. The fellowship provides a stipend of \$14,000 plus tuition, insurance and fees for the 2008-9 academic year, and fellows are also awarded an office and privileges as active participants in the life of the Center.

ESSAY PRIZE

Ruth Murray Essay Prize-Monday, April 25, 2008, Noon.

This prize is awarded for the best essay written by an *undergraduate or graduate student* in the area of women's studies, feminist criticism or gender studies. The total prize is \$500. Full submission guidelines are available on our website.

Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop Schedule

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop meets biweekly on Tuesdays during even weeks of the quarter to discuss graduate student papers and unpublished work from faculty in the field.

Our first winter quarter meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 15 from 4:30 to 6pm in the first floor conference room of the Center for Gender Studies. Professor Mary Anne Case of the Law School will be joining us to talk about her current research.

In addition to graduate student presentations, we have also lined up two visiting scholars to present at the workshop this quarter. At the

end of January, we will be joining with the American Cultures workshop to host Deborah Vargas from the University of California - Irvine. Trained as a qualitative sociologist, Professor Vargas will address the relationship between queer studies and methodological and theoretical approaches within the field of Latino popular music. And in March we will host Malgorzata Fidelis from the History Department at the University of Illinois - Chicago. Professor Fidelis, whose research focuses on labor and gender in twentieth-century Eastern Europe, will be discussing her study of the “new proletari-

ans,” women who worked in the textile and coal mining industries in postwar Poland.

The workshop is committed to providing participants with an interdisciplinary forum for the development of critical perspectives on gender and sexuality, and all are welcome!

If you are interested in receiving workshop announcements and links to the current papers, please visit the Center for Gender Studies website, or contact workshop co-coordinators Monica Mercado (mmercado@uchicago.edu) and Anthony Todd (artodd@uchicago.edu).

WINTER 2008

Tuesday, January 15

Mary Anne Case, Arnold I. Sure Professor in the Law School
Paper TBA



Wednesday, January 30

note special date and location: Rosenwald 405
Deborah R. Vargas, Assistant Professor, University of California, Irvine
Where is the 'Queer' in Latino Popular Music Studies?
Co-sponsored with the American Cultures Workshop.

Tuesday, February 12

Gerard Cohen-Vrignaud, Ph.D. Student, Comparative Literature
On Octopussies: Hugo and the Monstrosity of Feminine Sexuality

Tuesday, February 26

Elizabeth Perez, Ph.D. Student, Divinity and CGS Dissertation Fellow
Women's Work, Ritual Labor: Cooking and Conversion in a Black Santeria/Lucumi Community



Tuesday, March 11

Malgorzata Fidelis, Assistant Professor, University of Illinois - Chicago
New Women and Old Communities: Gender and Coal Mining in Postwar Poland

SPRING 2008

Tuesday, April 8

Thomas Jessen Adams, Ph.D. Student, History and Hormel Fellow of the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project. *Gender, Sexuality and the Commodification of Identity in Postwar Los Angeles*

Tuesday, April 22

Jasbir Puar, Associate Professor, Women and Gender Studies/ Geography, Rutgers University
Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times
Cosponsored with the LGSP. Location TBA.

Thursday, April 24

* special event with the Social History Workshop *
Dorothy Sue Cobble, Professor, Department of Labor and Employment Relations, Rutgers University. Paper TBA.

Tuesday, May 6

Alison Lefkowitz, Ph.D. Student, History
The Love Economy: Radical Feminism, Welfare Rights, and Marriage

Tuesday, May 20

Melissa J. K. Howe, Sociology and CGS Fellow. Paper TBA.

Tuesday, June 3

Pablo Ben, Ph.D. Student, History and Hormel Fellow of the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project. Paper TBA.

All workshops are 4:30-6 pm, held in the CGS conference room.
<http://genderstudies.uchicago.edu/genderandsexualitywkshop.html>