

THE CENTER *for* GENDER STUDIES NEWSLETTER



Volume 1 ♦ Issue 1 ♦ Winter 1997

THE NEWSLETTER

We are delighted to offer you the first issue of the University of Chicago's Center for Gender Studies Newsletter. The newsletter will come out once a quarter, catching you up on the events of the last few months, giving you dates for the Center's future lectures, workshops, exhibits, concerts, and brownbags, and gradually introducing you -- through two or three profiles an issue -- to the students, staff, faculty and friends who *are* the Center for Gender Studies at the University of Chicago. We will also include book and movie reviews, short excerpts from Center lectures and workshops that we feel will be of particular interest, and an open letters column. We hope you will find the newsletter informative and interesting. If you have a short article, black-and-white photo or drawing, short story or other material you would like to print in the newsletter, please send it on to us and we will let you know what we can do. We are also happy to publicize gender-related events through the Newsletter's calendar, so please be sure to forward titles, dates, and times to us. ♦ L. Auslander



Leora Auslander

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Let me take this opportunity to introduce the Center for Gender Studies at the University of Chicago. The CGS is brand new. In the Spring of 1995, the Provost, in collaboration with the Deans of the College, the Humanities, and the Social Sciences Divisions supported a faculty initiative to provide an institutional home for the gender-related research and teaching already happening on campus, and to encourage the expansion of that work.

The Center's mission is to foster interdisciplinary research and teaching on feminism, on the social construction of women and men, on the power of metaphors of masculinity and femininity, and on gay and lesbian studies. We sponsor research in all historical periods and throughout the globe and are eager to encourage collaborative endeavors. In the domain of collective projects, we are especially eager to reach across the traditional University boundaries between the Divisions, the College, the Libraries, the Center for Continuing Education, and the Laboratory, Medical, Social Service Administration, Law and Public Policy Schools. We are also encouraging faculty, students and staff to initiate and work on projects together. Finally, we are interested in sponsoring projects that move beyond the university by encouraging collaboration with people interested in, and working on, gender issues in the city of Chicago, as well as with the other women's and gender studies programs in the country. Much of this is already happening.

This Fall and Winter we have also sponsored a number of events from our inaugural lecture, through video screenings, workshop discussions, and brown bag discussions. The Center for Gender Studies celebrated its founding last October 18th with an inaugural lecture by Joan Wallach Scott. Joan Scott, a leading gender theorist and historian and Professor at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, (Page 2) →

An excerpt from

GENDER AND THE POLITICS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

By Joan Wallach Scott

Presented October 18, 1996 at the Inauguration of the Center for Gender Studies at the University of Chicago



Joan Scott

We are here to inaugurate the new Center for Gender Studies at the University of Chicago. It's 1996; we're on the countdown to the millennium. But instead of visions of rapture or apocalypse, I have a sense of déjà vu-- having attended many events of this kind in the course of the past twenty years. I also have a sense of anxiety, only part of which can be attributed to pre-millennial syndrome. What does it mean, I keep wondering, that gender has been recognized as a legitimate area of study at the University of Chicago? Has gender, women's studies, the feminism that informs the project, finally, after all these years, grown sufficiently mature and sophisticated to be welcome here? But does that mean it has lost its radical, critical edge? Then I ask myself from another angle (the more apocalyptic), what is the historical significance of this Center? Could it be that I am present at the founding of the last of the gender research centers? Will this occasion some day be seen to mark the end of an era which began in the late 1960's with the creation of a Women's Studies program at San Diego State College?

I'm too polite a guest to take on some of those questions and too bad at prediction to venture an answer to the others. But I do want to talk about the challenges facing this Center for Gender Studies in the political context of 1996, because they (Page 2) →

(continued from Page 1) → are very different from the ones some of us faced in the 1970's and 80's. Then we were on the offensive, facing internal resistance from administrators and colleagues, but backed by the force of the laws and executive orders that implemented affirmative action. Affirmative action was the condition of possibility for the founding and funding of women's studies programs and gender research institutes in those years, as well as for increases in the admission of women to universities, professional schools, and tenured faculties. This Center is one of the fruits (however belated, however resisted) of affirmative action (though the university pretended not to be susceptible to its pressures). But now the situation has reversed. We are an increasingly tolerated presence within the university, but on the defensive externally. Internally, administrators are encouraging diversity and there has been a proliferation of courses and centers like this one. Externally, however, government support for affirmative action has been diminished and it will disappear entirely if something like the Dole-Canady bill passes the next Congress. In states like California, it will be outlawed if Proposition 209 (once called the California Civil Rights Initiative), now endorsed by the voters, is upheld by the courts. Funding opportunities have contracted, and many of the assumptions we could appeal to in the past no longer seem to work--at least outside the academy. There is increasing hostility to the idea that diversity is an educational advantage.



Joan Scott



Audience at the Inaugural Lecture

There is not much sympathy for arguments that say that the negative value discrimination placed on certain differences must be reversed and that new knowledge must be produced to offset the neglect and bias of the past. Righting the wrongs of history seems to have lost its moral and political purchase. Moreover, the strategy of claiming group rights--those of women, blacks homosexuals, and other others--is very much contested. Even the more rarified issues about the production of knowledge, which seemed at first to be confined to the locale of the university, have drawn a great public outcry. What to teach? Who could teach it? Was discrimination produced through certain kinds of knowledge, certain epistemological positions? Was all knowledge "political?" These questions are now at the center of a fire-storm (fueled most recently by scientists) about objectivity and truth.¹ Academic issues about knowledge and teaching can no longer be addressed without igniting fierce political debate.

1. For example, see John Horgan, *The End of Science: Facing the Limits of Knowledge in the Twilight of the Scientific Age* (New York: Addison-Wesley, 1996); Paul R. Gross and Norman Leavitt, *Higher*

Supersition: The Academic Left and its Quarrels with Science (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994); Joyce Appleby, Lynn Hunt, and Margaret Jacob, *Telling the Truth about History* (New York: W.W. Norton Co., 1994).

(NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR continued from Page 1) → spoke on "Affirmative Action and the Politics of Higher Education in America." The lecture was well attended and brought together people interested in gender from all parts of the University, colleagues from other universities in the Chicago area, and friends of the University. Many of the attendees expressed an interest in having not only a written version of it but having the opportunity to discuss it further. We are very pleased to say that both are possible. John Boyer, Dean of the College, has offered to publish the lecture as the first in a new series of distinguished lectures in the College. It will be printed and distributed to all those who would like a copy this winter. The Center will also sponsor an informal discussion of the lecture for all who would like to attend. Other events and many discussions quickly followed the inaugural lecture.

Our efforts this fall were divided between organizing lectures, film showings, video artists' presentations, and brown bag discussions and conferences for the present and the future. We

have sponsored two brown-bag lunches on the ways in which gender, race and class intersect in Hyde Park, another on the new French women's history journal, *Clio*, and later this year we will have a one day workshop on the limits of women's citizenship with specialists on women's participation in the United States, France, South Africa and Norway. We will follow up on this workshop with a major conference on the same topic in 1997-98. We are very grateful for the Harris Fund's support of the workshop. The Chicago Humanities Institute has also continued its long tradition of supporting gender studies by giving us a grant that will make possible the expansion and elaboration of our "Contesting Genders" series in which we've explored how questions of gender and sexuality are being explored in media ranging from video, to television, to mass-distribution books, to the web. Next year we hope to sponsor a conference that explores the intersection of empirical, theoretical, and political work in gay, lesbian, and queer studies.

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BROWN BAG LUNCH DISCUSSION:

FRIDAY, **APRIL 18**, 12:00^{PM} to 1:30^{PM}, **Diane Judge**, (Nurse Practitioner, University of Chicago Health Service): "What Women Want (and Need and Deserve) from the Health Care System." Pick Lounge

BETWEEN TRADITION AND MODERNITY: WOMEN IN LATE IMPERIAL AND REPUBLICAN CHINA:

FRIDAY, **APRIL 25**, 3:00^{PM}-5:00^{PM}, **Ellen Widmer** (Wesleyan University): "Women Authors and the Nineteenth-Century Chinese Novel." Cochran-Woods 157

MONDAY, **MAY 5**, 4:00^{PM}-6:00^{PM}, **Leo Ou-Fan Lee** (Harvard University): "Visual Representation of Modern Women in Shanghai's Urban Culture." Cochran-Woods 157

THURSDAY, **MAY 22**, 4:00^{PM}-6:00^{PM}, **Charlotte Furth** (Univ. of Southern California): "The Female Physician and Medical Pluralism in the Ming Dynasty." Classics 10

GENDERED SPACES:

THURSDAY, **APRIL 10**, 4:00^{PM} on **Christopher Reed** (Lake Forest College): "Imminent Domain: Queer Space in the Built Environment" CWAC 157

EUROPEAN FEMINISMS SYMPOSIUM:

FRIDAY, **MAY 16**, 9:00^{AM}-6:00^{PM}, THEORIES AND PRACTICES OF SEXUAL DIFFERENCE. CHI, JRL S118/CLASSICS 10

10:00^{AM}-11:00^{AM}: **Luisa Muraro** (Professor of Philosophy, University of Verona, Italy): "The Passion For and Of Women's Difference."

11:00^{AM}-12:00^{PM}: **Maria Milagros Rivera Garretas** (Professor of Medieval History, University of Barcelona, Spain): "Sexual Difference in History."

1:30^{PM}-2:30^{PM}: **Carol Lazzaro-Weis** (Professor of French and Italian and Chair, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Southern University-Baton Rouge): "The Concept of Difference in Italian Feminist Theory: Mothers, Daughters, and Heretics."

2:30^{PM}-3:30^{PM}: **Mary Russo** (Professor and Dean of Humanities and Arts, Hampshire College): "Lines of Difference: Feminine Genealogies and Women's Lives."

4:00^{PM}-5:00^{PM}: Round Table Discussion and Debate with the participation of the invited speakers and **Leora Auslander, Lauren Berlant, Susana Cavallo, Susan Gal, Francoise Meltzer, Candace Vogler, Elissa Weaver, Rebecca West.**

A WOMAN'S WORLD: BEING FEMALE IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST:

WEDNESDAY, **APRIL 16**, **Dominic Monserrat**, (University of Warwick in Coventry, England): "Women and Death in Roman Egypt."

MINI-COURSE: SATURDAY, **APRIL 26**, 10:00^{AM} - 2:00^{PM} Join Egyptologists **Janet Johnson** and **Robert Ritner** and Assyriologist **Martha Roth** as they explore topics that illuminate the lives of women in Egypt and Mesopotamia, including magic and medicine, romantic love and attraction, marriage, and legal rights. Contact 702- 9514 regarding reservations.

LESBIAN & GAY WORKSHOP:

MONDAY, **APRIL 21**, 5:00^{PM} **Michael Schreffler**, (Art History, Chicago): To Be Announced, CHI S118

MONDAY, **MAY 5**, 5:00^{PM} **Judy Frank**, (English, Amherst College): To Be Announced, CHI S118

MONDAY, **MAY 24**, 5:00^{PM} **Debbie Gould** (Chicago), **Erica Rand** (Bates College): "Queers 'R' Us"

GENDER & SOCIETY WORKSHOP:

FRIDAY, **APRIL 11**, 3:00^{PM}-5:00^{PM}. **Pradeep Jeganathan**, (Dept. of Anthropology): "A Space for Violence: Anthropology, Politics, and the Location of a Sinhala Practice of Masculinity." SS 224

FRIDAY, **APRIL 18**, 3:00^{PM}-5:00^{PM}. **Kamala Visweswaran**, (Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Texas-Austin): "Indian Feminism: A derivative discourse?" SS 224.

FRIDAY, **MAY 2**, 3:00^{PM}-5:00^{PM}. **Margaret Power**, (Dept. of History, Univ. of Illinois-Chicago): "The Chilean Right's use of Motherhood to Build a Conservative Women's Movement." SS 224

COURSES OF INTEREST IN SPRING 1997

ANTHRO 212/336 (AFAFAM 205)	INTENSIVE STUDY OF CULTURE: THE TSWANA, PAST AND PRESENT . <i>J. Comaroff.</i>	TTh 1:00-2:20
ANTRO 273 LING 289	LANGUAGE/ VOICE AND GENDER <i>M. Silverstein</i>	MWF 10:30-11:20
ART H 216/316	MEDIVAL ART AND THE BODY <i>M. Camille</i>	TTh 2:30-3:50
CHIN 232/332	GENDER/SEXUALITY IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINA <i>J. Zeitlin</i>	TTh 11:30-12:50
CMS 245 (HUM 236, CHN 236)	IMAGES WOMEN/ CHINESE MODERNITY <i>Z. Zhang</i>	TTh 11:30-12:50/W 7:15-10:15PM
COMLIT 369 (FRENCH 328, Div RL 412)	JOAN OF ARC/DISOURSE ON VIRGINITY <i>F. Meltzer</i>	M 2:30-5:20
ENG 252	AMERICAN EMBODIMENTS, 1855 TO 1905 <i>B. Brown</i>	MWF 11:30-12:50
ENG 249 (AFAFAM 213)	SLAVERY/ RACE/ LABOR: TEXTS AND CONTEXTS <i>X. Santamarina</i>	TTh 10:00-11:20
HIST 257	FEMINISMS AND ISLAMISMS <i>M. Badran</i>	W 1:30-4:20
HIST 695 (JAPAN 314, ENG ...)	GENDER STUDIES PRACTICUM: CAPITALISM AND FEMINISM <i>L. Auslander, N. Field</i>	W 3:00-6:00
HIST 904	READING AND RESEARCH: EUROPEAN GENDER HISTORY <i>L. Auslander</i>	
HUM 142	READING CULTURES: CAPITALIST CULTURES. <i>Staff</i>	
ITAL 245/345	IL POEMA EPICO: TASSO E LE POLEMICHE SUL POEMA NEL 500 PQ: Ital 203 or consent of instructor. <i>E. Weaver</i>	TTh 10:00-11:30
ITAL 246/346	THE PROTOFEMINISM OF THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE PQ: Ital 203 or consent of instructor. <i>E. Weaver</i>	TTh 1:00-2:20
JAPAN 443	PRE-WAR FEMINIST DISCOURSES PQ. Reading Knowledge of Japaneses. <i>N. Field</i>	F 1:00-3:50
JEWSTD 247 (HEBREW 247)	ISRAELI SHORT STORIES BY WOMEN <i>I. Parush</i>	MW 9:30-10:20
LAW 466	FEMINIST APPROACHES TO LEGAL ISSUES <i>M. Becker</i>	
SOCIOL 249/349	FEMINIST THEORIES OF GENDER <i>L. Salzinger</i>	MW 3:00-4:20

FACULTY IN THE CENTER FOR GENDER STUDIES

ELIZABETH ALEXANDER, ENGLISH AND THE COLLEGE
 JEANNE ALTMANN, ECOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE
 LEORA AUSLANDER, HISTORY AND THE COLLEGE
 MARY E. BECKER, THE LAW SCHOOL
 6Y LAUREN BERLANT, ENGLISH AND THE COLLEGE
 JACQUELINE BHABHA, THE LAW SCHOOL
 JAMES E. BOWMAN, MEDICINE & PATHOLOGY, CMTE. ON AFRICAN & AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES & CMTE. ON GENETICS AND THE COLLEGE,
 abroad CAROL BRECKENRIDGE, HUMANITIES AND THE COLLEGE
 SG MARY BRINTON, SOCIOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE
 JB BILL BROWN, ENGLISH
 GEORGE CHAUNCEY, HISTORY AND THE COLLEGE
 JEAN COMAROFF, ANTHROPOLOGY; FISHBEIN CENTER FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE & MEDICINE, AND THE COLLEGE
 WENDY DONIGER, THE DIVINITY SCHOOL, SOUTH ASIAN LANGUAGES & CIVILIZATIONS, CMTE. ON SOCIAL THOUGHT,
 AND THE COLLEGE
 MARTHA FELDMAN, MUSIC AND THE COLLEGE
 NORMA M. FIELD, EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CIVILIZATIONS
 SG SHEILA FITZPATRICK, HISTORY AND THE COLLEGE
 405 RACHEL FULTON, HISTORY AND THE COLLEGE
 SUSAN GAL, ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE

- SG SANDER GILMAN, GERMANIC STUDIES, PSYCHIATRY, COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, CMTE. ON JEWISH STUDIES, AND THE COLLEGE
- SG JAN E. GOLDSTEIN, HISTORY, CMTE. ON THE CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENCE AND THE COLLEGE
- WENDY GRISWOLD, SOCIOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE
- ELAINE HADLEY, ENGLISH AND THE COLLEGE
- MIRIAM HANSEN, ENGLISH, CMTE. ON VISUAL ART, AND THE COLLEGE
- ELIZABETH HELSINGER, ENGLISH, ART HISTORY AND THE COLLEGE
- GILBERT HERDT, ~~PSYCHOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE~~
- RONALD INDEN, HISTORY, SOUTH ASIAN LANGUAGES & CIVILIZATIONS, AND THE COLLEGE
- JANET JOHNSON, ORIENTAL INSTITUTE, NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES & CIVILIZATIONS, CMTE. ON THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN WORLD
- ADS JANICE KNIGHT, ENGLISH AND THE COLLEGE
- LAURA LETINSKY, ART, CMTE. ON VISUAL ARTS
- JB MARY MAHOWALD, OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY, THE COLLEGE, AND THE CENTER FOR CLINICAL MEDICAL ETHICS
- MARTHA MCCLINTOCK, PSYCHOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE
- ADS TRACEY MEARES, THE LAW SCHOOL
- FRANÇOISE MELTZER, ROMANCE LANGUAGES & LITERATURES, COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, THE DIVINITY SCHOOL AND THE COLLEGE
- ECC MALKA MOSCONA, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND THE COLLEGE
- ECC JANEL M. MUELLER, ENGLISH
- MARTHA NUSSBAUM, THE LAW SCHOOL, THE DIVINITY SCHOOL AND THE COLLEGE
- BP DEBORAH NELSON, ENGLISH AND THE COLLEGE
- GLORIA PINNEY, ART HISTORY, CLASSICAL LANGUAGES & LITERATURES, CMTE. ON THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN WORLD, AND THE COLLEGE
- ELIZABETH POVINELLI, ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE
- BP MELISSA RODERICK, THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION
- ADS LISA RUDDICK, ENGLISH, CMTE. ON GENERAL STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES, AND THE COLLEGE
- SG LESLIE SALZINGER, SOCIOLOGY AND THE COLLEGE
- Edc LYNN SANDERS, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND THE COLLEGE
- ADS JULIE SAVILLE, HISTORY AND THE COLLEGE
- LINDA SEIDEL, ART HISTORY, CMTE. ON GENERAL STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES, AND THE COLLEGE
- Edc MICHAEL SILVERSTEIN, ANTHROPOLOGY, LINGUISTICS, AND PSYCHOLOGY
- LAURA SLATKIN, CLASSICAL LANGUAGES & LITERATURES, CMTE. ON THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN WORLD, AND THE COLLEGE
- AMY STANLEY, HISTORY AND THE COLLEGE
- JB KATIE TRUMPENER, GERMANIC STUDIES, COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, ENGLISH, CMTE. ON GENERAL STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES, AND THE COLLEGE
- WILLIAM VEEDER, ENGLISH, AND CMTE. ON GENERAL STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES
- BP CANDACE VOGLER, PHILOSOPHY AND THE COLLEGE
- MARTHA WARD, ART HISTORY, CMTE. ON THE VISUAL ARTS, AND THE COLLEGE
- ELISSA WEAVER, ROMANCE LANGUAGES & LITERATURES AND THE COLLEGE
- REBECCA WEST, ROMANCE LANGUAGES & LITERATURES AND THE COLLEGE
- JB JUDITH T. ZEITLIN, EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CIVILIZATIONS

ADS Emily Bus - Law School

CGS COMMITTEE REPORTS

THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE was established to produce a draft constitution for the CGS.

We decided early on that it was critical that committee membership include all the University constituencies (or "caucuses"), so that the views of faculty, students, and staff from a range of disciplines have formed part of our discussions. A draft constitution, circulated to the caucuses beginning in May 1996 and revised in light of their responses, proposed a steering committee comprising the center's director, representatives of each of the "caucuses", and four standing committees (Curriculum, Development, Public Sphere, and University Affairs).

Though the Constitution has yet to be ratified, this structure has been adopted by the CGS for the present. All committees are to have faculty, staff, and student representatives on them. The constitution committee is still considering what methods the staff and faculty "caucuses" should adopt to select their representatives (the students having devised their own) and has asked each of the standing committees to suggest what they consider a suitable ratio of student/staff/faculty. A final constitution will be ratified by the end of this academic year. ♦ J. Bhabha

Constitution Committee: L. Auslander, M. Becker, J. Bhabha (Chair), C. Breckenridge, E. Chandler, N. Field, E. Helsinger, S. Jones, M. Mahowald, X. Santamarina, R. Zorach.



Jacqueline Bhabha

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CGS COMMITTEE REPORTS

THE UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE has met with groups of non-teaching staff throughout the University in order to encourage greater staff involvement and gather further information concerning Gender topics of interest to that community. The committee has also initiated a comparative study of harassment policies on campuses around the country. ♦

University Affairs Committee: M. Becker (Chair.) O. Given, D. Gould, E. Helsing, S. Jones, K. Romich



Mary Becker



Lauren Berlant

THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE has proposed a new undergraduate concentration in Gender Studies which should be reviewed Spring quarter by the College Curriculum Committee. The concentration will be built upon six sex/gender focused or related courses in the student's major field of study, defined either in traditional disciplinary terms or as a particular topic or subject area. Students will also take five supporting courses to provide methodological, technical or scholarly training in their discipline so that they acquire the background necessary for gender research in their major field. In addition, they will take one gender studies theory course and write a substantial senior paper under the supervision of a member of the Gender Studies teaching faculty.

In the domain of Graduate education, the committee wholeheartedly endorsed a detailed plan for administering a Certificate in Gender Studies which would be available to any graduate student at the university who qualifies for it. Students choosing this path would leave the University with credentials in both their discipline and in Gender Studies. We also plan to affiliate with the Masters programs in the Social Sciences and the Humanities by way of offering a Masters-level introduction to Gender Studies which would be cross-disciplinary and co-taught by faculty from different divisions.

We are extremely excited about these prospects for stabilizing Gender Studies offerings across the divisions. We believe building publics around a cross-disciplinary group of students will go far toward realizing the Center's commitment to enhancing the quality of intellectual life at the University in general. ♦

Curriculum Committee: S. Art, L. Berlant (Chair.) M. Cobb, K. Forde, E. Hadley, A. Hostette, E. Johnson, J. Klausen, D. Nelson, L. Sanders, D. Seidler, C. Vogler, E. Weaver, R. West.

THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE spent the summer and fall preparing an information brochure for potential donors, planning and helping to publicize the Joan Scott inaugural event, working with a designer to prepare the Center's stationery, and thinking further about possible funding from foundations. We have also continued to be in touch with the Development department of the University, which has been very helpful. The responses to the questionnaire (about research topics and potential interests) that we distributed to the Faculty in the Spring are now being collated and we hope that in the course of the Winter Quarter we will start to develop several proposals for Foundation funding based on topics of interest to groups of faculty and students. We have already received grants from CHI and the Harris fund for speakers and a workshop and have applied to the Rockefeller Foundation for funding in conjunction with Wilder House and the Center on Race, Politics and Culture. We are also planning to produce an information-publicity booklet aimed at peer institutions, and to follow up on several funding leads that emerged out of our efforts around the Joan Scott event. ♦

Development Committee: M. Browning, S. Gal (Chair.) J. Goldstein, D. Odell, M. Schreffler, A. Senkevitch, M.E. Shopsis, W. Veeder, M. Ward.



Susan Gal



Rebecca Zorach

THE PUBLIC SPHERE COMMITTEE is responsible for organizing public events at the CGS. This autumn and winter quarters we have arranged a wide array of speakers, workshops, brown-bag lunches, and informal discussions. We seek to sponsor events which appeal to and engage all communities in the university: students, faculty and non-teaching staff from all the Divisions and School as well as from the broader Hyde Park and Chicago-area communities. The work of the committee has generally been parceled out in terms of the events it organizes, yet the larger goal of the committee is to create a shared culture that brings together people with common interest in Gender topics.

We are also planning several major conferences and smaller events for the coming year, about which details will follow in further issues of this newsletter. Among the most immediate are a program on the gendering of geography, the gender gap in the politics of democracies and a conference on gay/lesbian politics; we are currently seeking input on these projects. Anyone who is interested in contributing ideas or time should contact Rebecca Zorach at 773-486-3613 or rezorach@midway. ♦

Public Sphere Committee: J. Bhabha, S. Choi, B. Collins, N. Field, L. Gjestvang, L. Letinsky, L. Lohde, M. Mahowald, M. Stewart, R. Zorach (Chair.)

INAUGURAL LECTURE :

Joan Scott, "Gender and the Politics of Higher Education," OCTOBER 18, 1996

ITALIAN LECTURE:

Giulia Calvi, Professor of History at the University of Siena, "Breaking the Rules: Women, Family, and the State in Modern Tuscany," NOVEMBER 13, 1996

BROWN BAG LUNCH DISCUSSIONS:

Michelle Zancarini-Fournel, Professor, Paris VIII, about "Founding CLIO, France's first women's history journal," DECEMBER 5, 1996.

Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus with **Lauren Berlant**, **Aneesah Ali**, **Ken Hope**, **Andrew Hostetler**. JANUARY 17, 1997

"Gentrification in Hyde Park" with **Jamie Kalven**, **Maureen Dunne**, Student Government Tenant Organizing Committee, and JANUARY 30, 1997

"Gendered University, Gendered Neighborhood: How Do We Know Where We Are?" with **Michelle Obama**, **Jamie Kalven**, and **Marrice Coverson** (director of the Elliott Donnelly Youth Center.) FEBRUARY 7, 1997

"Women in Science at the University of Chicago and in the World," FEBRUARY 14, 1997

Caitrin Lynch, "Sweat, Wages and Social Life: A Photo Exhibit of Rural Sri Lankan Garment Work" (photos by Seamus Walsh.) FEBRUARY 28, 1997

POETRY READING:

Rosellen Brown, author of four novels (*Before and After*, *Civil Wars*, *Tender Mercies* and *The Autobiography of My Mother*) and three collections of poems (*Some Deaths in the Delta*, *Cora Fry* and *Cora Fry's Pillow Book*.) JANUARY 27, 1997

BETWEEN TRADITION AND MODERNITY : WOMEN IN LATE IMPERIAL AND REPUBLICAN CHINA

Dorothy Ko (Rutgers University)

"*Footbinding is History*." FEBRUARY 14, 1997

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE :

AMBIGUOUS BODIES: Sex, Gender and Ovid, FEBRUARY 21 & 22, 1997

FILMMAKERS AND VIDEO ARTISTS:

Doug Ischar video artist, discussed his most recent work, *Lapse*. NOVEMBER 14, 1996

Abigail Child Filmmaker, presented her recent work: *B/Side*, "An experiment in entering imaginatively the delirium of the Lower East Side of New York." NOVEMBER 21, 1996

Babette Mangolte, cinematographer and filmmaker, presented her film *Visible Cities*. DECEMBER 5, 1996

Michelle Citron (Northwestern Univ.) Screening and discussion with filmmaker of her work *Daughter Rite* and *The Body Beautiful* by Ngozi Onwura. JANUARY 13, 1997

THE CONTESTING GENDER SERIES:

Mindy Faber, video artist, presented her video: *Delirium*. JANUARY 17, 1997

Cecelia Condit, video artist, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, presented her video: *Possibly in Michigan*, JANUARY 30, 1997

Vanalyne Green, video artist, the School of the Art Institute presented her video: *A Spy in the House that Ruth Built*. FEBRUARY 13, 1997

Tran Kim Trang, video artist, presented the first three videos in her BLINDNESS SERIES: *Operculum*, *Aletheia* & *Kore*. FEBRUARY 27, 1997

GENDER & SOCIETY WORKSHOP:

Paul Seeley, Social Science Collegiate Division, Univ. of Chicago, "Catholic Men and the Feminization of Religion Thesis in 19th Century France," NOVEMBER 15, 1996

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NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR continued from Page 2 → This fall saw not only the launching of the intellectual work of the Center, but also its organization. The first, and most important step, was hiring Julia Coyne, the Center's Administrative Assistant. Julia came to us from the Humanities Division Dean's office where she had worked for the last year. Her previous experience includes two years as a teacher at Robeson High School on the South Side of Chicago. Julia oversees the everyday functioning of the Center, keeps everyone in touch with everyone else and informed about what is going on. In addition to designing and distributing publicity for our events, she'll be helping us write grants, organize conferences, plan the budget, and staff the office. She's assisted in this work by Maria Sandoval, a third-year student in the College.

The Center also expanded its space. Paul Hunter and the Chicago Humanities Center kindly let us keep the office gender studies faculty had used for the last five years in CHI's suite in Regenstein library. This year our undergraduate course, Problems in Gender Studies, is run out of that office. We now also have two offices in Pick Hall where Julia Coyne and I are located. Next year the CGS will move to larger and more permanent space in Judd Hall where we hope to have — in addition to space for Julia, our workstudy assistant, and myself — a lounge, a seminar room, offices for graduate students teaching in the course, and visiting fellows, as well as access to a lecture hall for our larger events.

We have also been hard at work on our organizational structure. Those currently involved in the Center feel strongly about welcoming new people into the Center's activities. The Center's five committees — steering, development, public sphere, curriculum, and university affairs — have all made an effort to reach out to new members; that effort will continue throughout this year. *L. Auslander* ♦

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Marsha Bievre, HIPSS, Univ. of Chicago, "To Be Fruitful and Multiply: Examining Feminist Critiques of the New Infertility Technology," DECEMBER 6, 1996.

Caitlin Lynch, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Chicago, "The Politics of Anthropology in Sri Lankan Garment Factories," JANUARY 10, 1997

Kim Germain, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Chicago, "Feminism Modified: Fear and Philanthropy in Colonial India," FEBRUARY 7, 1997

Susan Gal, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Chicago, "Feminism and Civil Society," FEBRUARY 21, 1997

Leela Fernandes, Rutgers University, "Stories of Survival: Location, Difference, and the Identities of Women Workers," MARCH 7, 1997

Teresa Ebert, New York University - Albany, "Global Knowledge: Red Feminism, Transnationalism, and the Post-al." MARCH 14, 1997

PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU:

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

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or join the e-mail listserve:

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In addition, you can visit us on the web:

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