The Center for the Study of Women and Society is pleased to announce “Masculinity, Complex,” a conference dedicated to exploring issues of gender and masculinity. Co-sponsored by the journal *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, the Gender Studies Program at John Jay College, and the Center for Study of Gender and Sexuality at New York University, we will host the two-day conference at the Graduate Center on Friday, October 21st and Saturday, October 22nd. The conference brings together a group of renowned scholars, clinicians, and artists, including keynote speakers Judith Butler and Tony Kushner.

Masculinity has finally become a site of inquiry, problematized the way femininity has been regarded for nearly a century. “Masculinity, Complex” sets out to reflect on the history of masculinity as it became interlinked with psychoanalytic and cultural discourses. The conference will address the issue of masculinity in four panels. The first day of the conference will feature panels on second wave masculinity and on violence. Speakers include Lew Aron, Jessica Benjamin, Nancy Chodorow, Ken Corbett, Jen Gaboury, and Gayle Salomon. The opening keynote will be delivered by the Judith Butler, the Maxine Elliot Professor in the Departments of Rhetoric and Comparative Literature and the Co-director of the Program of Critical Theory at the University of California, Berkeley. Butler is known for her seminal scholarship in gender and sexual politics and human rights. Her most recent works include *Who Sings the Nation-State?: Language, Politics, Belonging* (with Gayatri Spivak in 2008), *Frames of War: When Is Life Grievable?* (2009), and *Is Critique Secular?* (co-written in 2009).

The second day of the conference will include panel sessions on diasporic masculinities and Trans masculinities. Eyal Rozmarin, Avgi Saketopoulou, Warren Speilberg, Justin Bond, Francisco Gonzalez, and Dean Spade are among the speakers. The conference will conclude with a keynote address by Tony Kushner, the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of *Angels in America: a Gay Fantasia on National Themes*.

For a full schedule of events please visit masculinitycomplex.com or contact the Center for the Study of Women and Society at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Registration for the conference is free and you can RSVP on the website or by e-mailing rsvp@masculinitycomplex.com. Please save the dates and join us for what promises to be an exciting dialogue.
The fall of 2010 included our core courses Feminist Thought, Feminist Research, and Modern Lesbian and Gay Literature. The Women’s Studies Certificate Program (WSCP) completed another busy year. The Certificate Program’s course offerings in the fall of 2010 included our core courses Feminist

**Letter from the Director**

Last year was an incredible year for Women’s Studies at the Graduate Center. We have been spectacularly busy with our Doctoral Certificate Program and with the Center for the Study of Women and Society, which organized and hosted about 40 events, including two year-long lecture series and an international conference.

The Center for the Study of Women and Society (CSWS) organized the NeuroCulture Lecture Series in order to explore interdisciplinary scholarship around the brain and neuroscience. We focused our conversations on issues of gender, embodiment, sexuality, ethics, memoir, ethnography, and other topics of interest to women’s studies scholars. The NeuroCulture series was phenomenally successful; eight lectures across the two semesters collectively brought hundreds of audience members together to think about how non-scientists and ‘outsiders’ of neuroscience can respond to the so-called age of the brain. The lecture series brought a number of eminent scholars to the Graduate Center, including psychologist Elizabeth Wilson (Emory University), neuroscientist and feminist scholar Deboleena Roy (Emory University), sociologist Rebecca Jordan-Young (Columbia University), bioethicist Erik Parens (Hastings Center on Bioethics), novelist Siri Hustvedt (author of The Shaking Woman or a History of My Nerves), and anthropologist Emily Martin (NYU). We also heard lectures from two CUNY faculty, Jesse Prinz (philosophy, Graduate Center) and Jason Tougaw (English, Queens College). The NeuroCulture Lecture Series ran in conjunction with a Mellon Seminar in the Humanities (sponsored by the Center for the Humanities), which I co-chaired with Rachel Liebert, a doctoral student in the psychology program. The Seminar brought together CUNY faculty and students, as well as a few visitors from other institutions, to read and write critically about neuroscience from interdisciplinary perspectives.

WSCP also organized and hosted another speaker series called the Seminar in Gender and Sexuality. The fall schedule was organized around a global and transnational focus, and featured Rupal Oza (Hunter College and Graduate Center, geography), Jackie Orr (Syracuse University, sociology), Katherine McKittrick (Queens University, Ontario, geography) and Tavia Nyong’o (NYU, performance studies). The spring semester focused on medicine, science, and technology, and featured Jonathan Metzl (psychiatry, University of Michigan), Sarah Chinn (English, Hunter College), Patricia Clough (sociology, Graduate Center) and Lisa Diedrich (Stony Brook University, women’s studies). We had co-sponsorship from the Sociology Doctoral Program, who hosted the seminars in the department lounge, and from the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies.

WSCP hosted and organized many other events as well. We hosted the International Conference on Body Image and Identity, which was organized by the Pandora research group of the Centre de Recherches Psychanalyse, Médecine et Société, Université Paris-Diderot, France and the CUNY Dean for Health and Human Services, with cosponsorship from WSCP and the World Psychiatric Association. The conference gathered 200 scholars from universities in the United States as well as from France, Canada, Spain, Brazil, Iran, and Poland. Hans-Otto Thomashoff, President of the Section on Art and Psychiatry of the World Psychiatric Association, gave the opening keynote speech; I gave the closing address. Both speakers addressed the relevance of neuroscience to questions of embodiment. The conference reception was held at the American Folk Art Museum, whose exhibition on the body in folk art called “Perspectives: Forming the Figure” was timely for us.

WSCP continues to support the work of WSQ (Women’s Studies Quarterly), an interdisciplinary journal published by the Feminist Press. In the fall term we held a launch for the special issue called “Citizenship”, and in the spring, an event for the special issue on the economy, called “Market.” More information about these and other events can be found in this newsletter.

The Women’s Studies Certificate Program (WSCP) completed another busy year. The Certificate Program’s course offerings in the fall of 2010 included our core courses Feminist Studies.
The Certificate in Women's Studies is available to students matriculated in the Ph.D. programs at The Graduate Center. Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary approach to research and scholarship that draws on various disciplines, while challenging disciplinary boundaries. The general aim of the program is to offer critical reflection on the experience of both women and men in terms of gender, sexuality, race, class, ethnicity, and nation. Students are prepared to teach courses and to do research in Women's Studies and related critical approaches to the disciplines, such as those developed in Queer Studies, Postcolonial Studies, and Cultural Studies. Besides focused course work and guidance in research, Women's Studies offers participation in a wide range of graduate student and faculty activities, including lecture series and forums. Students are also invited to participate in the research programs and seminars at the Center for Women and Society at The Graduate Center.

**Global Feminisms**  
Prof. Janet Johnson

**Feminist Texts and Theories**  
Prof. Kyoo Lee and Alyson Cole

**Women's Rights in Muslim Societies: International and Interdisciplinary Perspectives**  
Prof. Chitra Raghavan

**Clothing Cultures of Early Modern Italy and England**  
Profs. Will Fisher & Eugenia Paulicelli

**The Nineteenth-Century British Novel in Context**  
Prof. Anne Humpherys

**Aestheticism, Decadence, Modernism, 1880-1930**  
Prof. Richard Kaye

**Bodies, Passions, and Humors in Early Modern England**  
Prof. Tanya Pollard

**Readings in African American Literary and Cultural Criticism**  
Prof. Robert Reid-Pharr

**Romantic Aesthetics and Affect: Melancholy, Gratitude and Literary Form**  
Prof. Nancy Yousef

**Sex, Society and Politics in Post-1945 Europe**  
Prof. Julia Sneeringer

**Power, Resistance, Identity and Social Movements**  
Prof. Ruth O'Brien

**Social Policy**  
Prof. Janet Carol Gornick

**Health Psychology**  
Prof. Tracey Revenson

**Social Stigmas**  
Prof. Daryl A. Wout

**Gender and Work**  
Prof. Pamela Stone

**Gender and Globalization**  
Prof. Hester Eisenstein

**Food, Culture and Society**  
Prof. Barbara Katz Rothman

**Social Welfare Policy and Planning I**  
Prof. Mimi Abramovitz

Permission of the instructor required.
Chris Kraus Event Spring 2011

By Justin Yockel and Rebekah Rutkoff

CSWS cosponsored an event for the Center for Humanities’ Caesura series, which was a reading by author and critic Chris Kraus, who read from her newly released collection of essays called Where Art Belongs. Over fifty people attended the presentation, hosted in the James Gallery on February 24. Kraus read the essay “You Are Invited to Be the Last Tiny Creature,” which recounts the short but galvanizing life of LA alternative art space Tiny Creatures, founded by Janet Kim in 2006. Digital slides culled from Kim’s archive played behind Kraus as she read.

Born to Korean immigrant parents, Kim studied piano at an early age and earned a scholarship to Northwestern’s Conservatory Program. But rather than pursue a classical music career, she returned to LA, eventually immersed herself in Echo Park’s punk scene, and met other musicians like Matt Fishbeck, Ariel Pink, Rachel Detroit, and Geneve Jacuzzi. On an inspired night at 628 N. Alvarado, with Fishbeck, Ivory Lee, Emily Kunst, Andrew Arduini, and Paul Gellman, Kim realized she’d “found people who I felt I could dream with... It had been this dream of mine to be part of an underground scene like the Dadaists, the Beats, John Cage, and the Happenings.” She decided to use her music label’s hangout space to show work, and thus, as Kraus describes, “played a pivotal role in transforming the Los Angeles art world from a cluster of fiefdoms ruled by a handful of MFA programs into something more urban and open.”

During its short ten-show life, Tiny Creatures snowballed into one of LA’s hottest galleries. Kraus described its closing night, during its short ten-show life, Tiny Creatures. ... Tiny Creatures is an alternative to an overly commodified world... There can be change, change in Tiny Creatures ways, change in tiny ways.

After Kraus’ presentation, guests had a chance to buy the bright orange Where Art Belongs, which is the latest release from the Semiotext(e) Intervention Series. A Blue-stockings Bookstore representative also sold other Kraus titles: Torpor; Aliens & Anorexia; Video Green: Los Angeles Art and the Triumph of Nothingness; and, of course, her famous I Love Dick. Purchases could be glamorously signed on the spot while sipping red or white: You and Chris Kraus together, seen through the gallery’s busy, street-level windows. OK, so it wasn’t nearly as cool as anything that happened at 628 N. Alvarado, but on this February night the windows at 365 Fifth Avenue enjoyed a trace of third-hand afterglow.

NeuroCulture Lecture Series

In the “age of the brain” neuroscientific knowledge is being widely applied to questions of mind, self and society, personal identity, gender, sexuality, and embodiment. The NeuroCulture Lecture Series, launched in Fall 2010 by the Center for the Study of Women and Society (CSWS), highlights how women’s studies scholars, feminist theorists, ethicists, philosophers, writers of literature and memoir, artists, and others outside of neuroscience are responding to expert knowledge about the brain and its implications.

Hosted by CSWS director and Professor of Sociology Victoria Pitts-Taylor, and graduate student Rachel Liebert, the series has invited the thinking of internationally known figures as well as emerging scholars. The 2010-2011 schedule began in September with author Siri Hustvedt, who read from her recent memoir, The Shaking Women, or a History of My Nerves, with Jason Tougaw, Assistant Professor of English at Queens College serving as discussant. This was followed by Elizabeth Wilson, Professor of Women’s Studies at Emory University, speaking in October on, “The Future of Neuroscience and Psychoanalysis,” with a response by Jonathan Metzl, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Women’s Studies at University of Michigan. November then welcomed Emily Martin, Professor of Anthropology at New York University, who introduced us to her latest project with, “Steps Toward an Anthropology of Experimental Psychology,” with response from Jesse Prinz, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Graduate Center. Lastly, the semester concluded with Jason Tougaw’s discussion, “Autobiography of a Brain: Mind, Body, Memoir,” and Nancy Miller, Distinguished Professor of English at the Graduate Center, serving as discussant.

Spring 2011 offered a line-up that echoed the interdisciplinarity and energy of this first half March saw Rebecca Jordan Young, Assistant Professor of Sociomedical Sciences at Barnard College, speaking on her recent book, Brain-Storm: The Forces in the Science of Sex Differences, and Alyson Spurgas, doctoral candidate in Sociology at the Graduate Center, serving as discussant. April came with two speakers, Erik Parens, Senior Research Scholar in Bioethics at The Hastings Center, with, “What Neuroscience Can-and Can’t-Teach Us about Being Human,” followed by Deboleena Roy, Associate Professor of Women’s Studies and Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology at Emory University, with, “Neurons, Hormones and Gender: In Search of the Cosmopolitanly Correct Brain.” Evelyne Ender, Professor of French and Comparative Literature at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, and Rachel Liebert, doctoral student in Social/Personality Psychology at the Graduate Center, provided responses respectively. The series concluded with a conversation between Jesse Prinz and Victoria Pitts-Taylor on, “Embodied Identity and the Brain.”

All in all, the NeuroCulture Lecture Series has been an incredible success. Every speaker has attracted a full (if not over-flowing!) audience; an overwhelming interest that is itself testimony to the contemporary sexism of neurology that incited the Series’ conception.
The NeuroCulture Lecture Series is co-sponsored by the PhD Programs in English, Anthropology, and Psychology, and the Centers for Humanities, and Sciences and the Arts. Each event is free, open to the public, and held at the Graduate Center, CUNY. For more information, contact RLiebert@gc.cuny.edu.

Seminar in Gender and Sexuality Monthly Speaker Series

The Seminar in Gender in Sexuality, organized by the Center for the Study of Women and Society, ran for the second year in 2010/2011. Across the two semesters, eight speakers gave lunchtime lectures on topics related to gender. The fall series focused on global and transnational issues, while the spring 2011 series focused on the topics of medicine and technology. For every lecture, doctoral students served as discussants. Student involvement grew for the 2010/2011 series with the addition of a student coordinator, Erin Siodmak (Sociology), to assist in choosing and coordinating speakers and discussants. Through their involvement, students gain professional experience, a chance to assist in organizing seminars on topics they find interesting and relevant, and the opportunity to work more closely with senior scholars.

The fall series opened on September 16 with Rupal Oza, professor of Geography and Director of Women and Gender Studies at Hunter College. Her talk entitled, “Political Economy, Gender and Hindutva in India”, addressed issues around gender, religion, and conservative politics in India. Seminar student coordinator Erin Siodmak introduced the talk, and graduate student Valerie Francisco (Sociology) provided comments and discussion.

In October, Katherine McKittrick, Professor of Women’s Studies, Gender Studies, and Cultural Studies at Queen’s University in Ontario, gave the talk “Plantation Futures: Ubricide, Genocide, Operation Remove Trash.” Her lecture bridged questions of blackness, geography, and politics using the image and trope of the plantation. Student Rachel Goffe (Geography) introduced Professor McKittrick, and student Michelle Billies (Psychology) provided discussion and questions. This event was co-sponsored by several student groups and centers: The SpaceTime Research Collective, Sociological Students Association, Center for Place, Culture, and Politics, The Doctoral Student Council, and The Center for the Humanities. (All events were co-sponsored by the Doctoral Program in Sociology.)

In his November talk, “Same Sex Africa and the Fantasy of Global Participation”, Tavia Nyong’o, Professor of Performance Studies at New York University, spoke on the relationship between communication technologies, homophobia, and participation surrounding news coverage and discourse of anti-gay legislation in Uganda. Seminar student coordinator Erin Siodmak introduced the talk, and graduate student Valerie Francisco (Sociology) provided discussion and questions. In April, Sarah Chinn, Professor of English at Hunter College and Director of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the Graduate Center, spoke on technology, racism, and the body. Her work on race and gender in America bridges theories from English and Sociology and social theory. Student commentator Peters, a Master’s student from NYU enrolled in a course at the GC, raised questions and discussion around Professor Chinn’s talk.

The final event in the series was a presentation by Patricia Clough, Professor Sociology at Queens College and the Graduate Center, on May 12. Her paper, “War by Other Means; What Difference Does the Graphic Make?” highlighted the significance of visuality in our understanding of images of war. The talk was also a celebration of Clough’s election as President of the Cultural Studies Association.

The spring series focused on the intersection of gender with medicine and technology. On February 17th, Lisa Diedrich, professor of Women’s Studies at Stony Book University (SUNY), spoke from her forthcoming book, Treatments: Bodies, Language, and Politics in Illness Narratives, focusing on the pre-history of AIDS. Jonathan Metzl returned to the seminar to give a talk in March on his two recent books, the co-edited volume Against Health: How Health Became the New Morality, and Protest Psychosis: How Schizophrenia Became a Black Disease. He focused on a history of an institutional and cultural history of shifting discourses around schizophrenia. Michelle Leve provided discussion and questions. In April, Michelle Chinn, Professor of English at Hunter College and Director of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the Graduate Center, spoke on technology, racism, and the body. Her work on race and gender in America bridges theories from English and Sociology and social theory. Student commentator Peters, a Master’s student from NYU enrolled in a course at the GC, raised questions and discussion around Professor Chinn’s talk.

The series is scheduled to continue for the 2011/2012 academic year. Speakers in the fall semester will include Grace Cho (Sociology, College of Staten Island), Paisley Currah (Political Science, Brooklyn College), and Katie Gentile (Women’s Center, John Jay College).
Women’s Studies Students Investigate Science, Medicine and Gender

The Center for the Study of Women and Society and the Women’s Studies Certificate Program are pleased to announce a new section of the newsletter in which we spotlight the work of our students. For this issue we focus in on several of our Sociology and Psychology students whose work critically engages with medicine, technology, or science.

Alyson K. Spurgas is a doctoral candidate in the Sociology program and recently received a doctoral certificate from the Women’s Studies program. Her research explores the intersections of science and technology studies, gender studies, historical, social, and critical analyses of science and medicine, and the most innovative empirical work in these domains, with a deep commitment to interdisciplinarity.

Alyson tells us that she is inspired by poststructuralist, psychoanalytic, and affective theories of knowledge production, embodiment, and trauma. Her current research examines the ways in which sex and sexuality are shaped by medical technologies, particularly those that are biological and neurological. Alyson’s dissertation, titled “Circuits of Desire: Neuroimaging, Evolutionary Femininity, and Therapeutic Learning,” will analyze neuroimaging and therapeutic technologies which are used to diagnose and treat low or absent desire in women—a condition referred to as Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (HSDD).

Alyson received her BA and MA from the University of Maryland, and she currently teaches in the Sociology Department at Queens College. She has most recently published in *Sociological Inquiry, Social Text*, and in an anthology which is part of the *Queer Interventions* series for Ashgate Press. Alyson was one of three students to receive the Mellon Science Studies Graduate Fellowship for 2011-2012.

Rachel Liebert is a doctoral student in the Social Personality subprogram of the Psychology department and is earning a Women’s Studies Doctoral Certificate. Rachel’s research critically examines the current rise in bipolar diagnoses, taken by many to be simply indicative of a rise in the disorder or in people’s ability to recognize it. Overall, her project involves mapping the material, discursive, and affective landscape of the bipolar statistics. She considers the implications of this diagnostic landscape for clinical practice and for young women who have received the diagnosis.

Rachel tells us that through her research, she has become particularly interested in the circulation of psychological and psychiatric diagnoses, interventions, and knowledges, within a culture and politics of intensified surveillance and security. In one of her analyses, she draws on shifting representations of the bipolar figure to look at the recent emergence of a raced, classed, and gendered bipolar citizenship under neoliberalism. In another, she uses interview and archival material to contemplate the ways in which discourses of risk circulate through a number of bipolar technologies, including the neurophysiological mechanism of kindling, mood-stabilization and prophylactic treatment, pharmaceutical advertising and consumerism, diagnostic tools and decision-making, clinical guidelines, and research articles.

Rachel is currently working with young women diagnosed with bipolar to consider how, in her words, this “crazy-making milieu,” speaks with their experiences. She and her research subjects turn the pathologizing gaze back onto the world that marks them as sick; they collaboratively challenge dominant, clinical stories about the rise in bipolar diagnosis.

Rachel earned a Masters degree in Psychology from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, before coming to the Graduate Center in 2008 as a Fulbright Scholar to undertake her PhD in Social-Personality Psychology. She is also involved in grass-roots activism that critically engages the medicalization of women’s psyches and sexualities. Through this work Rachel has become a Bright Futures Fellow of New Zealand and an International Fellow of the American Association of University Women.
Zoë C. Meleo-Erwin is a PhD candidate in Sociology and a former Women’s Studies Certificate program student. Her doctoral research explores obesity or weight-loss surgery. She is interested in how, at a time when obesity is reported to be both an epidemic and a national health crisis and when rates of weight loss surgeries are skyrocketing, both online weight loss surgery communities and weight loss surgery promotion conferences serve as sites of “biosocial” gathering where community is forming around the desire to transform the fat body.

Through a methodology of semi-structured interviews, participant observation and discourse analysis, she aims to better understand how medicalized discourse travels, reaches, and is taken up and/or refuted in different ways by individuals considered to be obese. Her work also explores whether and how notions of selfhood and community can be tied not only to durable bodily conditions, but also to liminal, transitional and surgically transformed states as well. Her dissertation is titled, “Banding Together: Biosociality, Weight Loss Surgery, and Discourses around Obesity in Late Capitalism.”

As a self-identified scholar-activist, Zoë says she sees her project as one of both sociological and political importance. She argues that because fat people are targeted, not only as individuals whose alleged lack of self-discipline contributes to already rising health care costs, but as populations, obesity epidemic rhetoric is articulated through larger, sedimented discourses of race, class, and gender. This suggests that concerns about rising rates of obesity also reflect other social anxieties that must be critically explored.

Zoë received her BA from Smith College and a MA in Disability Studies from the CUNY School of Professional Studies at the Graduate Center. She currently teaches in the Community Health program of the CUNY School of Public Health at Hunter College. She has published in Health: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Social Study of Health, Illness and Medicine; The International Review of Qualitative Research, and, with Dr. Barbara Katz Rothman, in Sustainability, Midwifery and Birth (Davies, L., Daellenbach, R. & Kensington, M. Eds.). In 2010 she received the Susan Rosenberg Zalk Travel Award and a Graduate Center Doctoral Student Research Grant.

Rachel Schiff is a doctoral student in Sociology with a certificate in Women’s Studies. Her research is on contemporary parenting discourse, with a focus on the role of “attachment” in infant care. She is interested in theories of infant development in psychoanalysis and cognitive science that place a strong emphasis on the infant’s contact with the surrounding environment. She argues that tensions between human and technology emerge from these theories as they come into play in parenting discourse, and that a new kind of infant body is arising out of these tensions.

Her research draws from interviews with parents who identify with “attachment parenting,” an ideology of parenting based on attachment theory, which prioritizes the infant’s need for human contact. She compares these to interviews with parents who do not ascribe to attachment parenting ideas, in order to look at tensions around themes of attachment, the human, and technology. Specifically, she is interested in how parents negotiate questions like how often to hold the baby, whether to pick it up every time it cries, and when/how human contact may be supplemented or replaced by gear or technologies like strollers, slings, formula, electronic media, etc. She interprets these questions in terms of how the infant’s bodily needs are understood, and how the infant is propped and handled, and the parent’s labor as an interpreter and facilitator of the infant’s body.

Rachel earned her B.A. in Sociology at Wesleyan University. She currently works as a Faculty Development Associate in the Writing Across the Curriculum Program at Lehman College. She has been published in ephemera in collaboration with Patricia Clough, Greg Goldberg, Aaron Weeks, and Craig Wills and in Theory, Culture & Society with Patricia Clough and Sam Han.

In our upcoming issues we will continue to highlight the work of Women’s Studies Certificate program students. Stay tuned.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS
SPRING 2011

Faculty

Mimi Abramovitz

Linda Martin Alcoff
Edited a collection of essays with Jack Caputo called Feminism, Sexuality, and the Return of Religion that should be out next month with Indiana University Press. It collects articles by leading philosophers and theologians on the topic, such as Saba Mahmood, Helene Cixous, and Sarah Coakley.


Meena Alexander
Was the recipient of a Fulbright Specialist Award to lecture at the University of Venice Ca’ Foscari in the month of March. In Venice she will hold a Graduate Seminar on Multicultural Poetics and give a Public Lecture on Postcolonial Memory in keeping with the university’s year long theme of Cultural Memory.

Harriet Hyman Alonso

Tamara M Brown

Rachel Brownstein

Kate Culkin
(Bronx CC, History)

Lyn Di Iorio


Sujatha Fernandes

Hester Eisenstein
During the past year has enjoyed doing a series of presentations and talks on her book Feminism Seduced: How Global Elites Use Women’s Labor and Ideas to Exploit the World (Paradigm, 2009). These book talks range from Bluestockings Bookstore in lower Manhattan to an April gig at the Soho20/Chelsea Gallery, and even to London for panels at the Historical Materialism and the Marxism 2010 conferences. She also spoke at the Left Forum in New York. She hopes to incorporate the thoughtful critiques and commentaries received, plus the reviews that have appeared so far, to create an Afterword in a second edition of the book.

Evelyne Ender
Presented in September 2010 “’The Laugh of the Medusa’ and American Feminist Thought” at The Medusa Project: Celebrating The Laugh of the Medusa by Hélène Cixous, at NYU. She organized and chaired the panel “Persons and Things: Barbara Johnson’s Legacy” (with presentations by Jonathan Culler, Deborah Jenson, Lee Edelman, and Judith Butler) at the MLA in Los Angeles, where she also spoke, separately, on Frédéric Chopin et George Sand. Working with a colleague in Paris, Martine Reid, to promote the recent publication of texts by French women authors, she gave lecture at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France (2009) and organized an event entitled French Women Authors: Martine Reid & Dominique Stantoun dialogue at the CUNY Graduate Center (co-sponsored by the French Ph.D. program, Women’s Studies, and the Center for the Humanities). Her chapter “Quelle place pour les femmes auteurs dans la tradition critique genevoise?” will appear...

**Cynthia Fuchs Epstein**

Her recent publications include:


“Betty Friedan and the Women’s Movement.” In “Arguing the World” published online by Dissent Magazine 2-24-11.

**Joyce Gelb**

Her recent activity includes:

May 2010, Lectures at Haifa and Tel Aviv Universities; American Embassy, Israel. (Fulbright fellowship)

September 2010, papers on EqUAL Employment law in Japan and Obama’s Policies Toward Women, American Political Science Association, Washington DC.

October 2010, lecture at Lviv University Ukraine, Obama’s Policies Toward Women and Oral History Project at Graduate Center CUNY March 2011, lecture Teamsters Union, American Women in Work and Politics, women’s history month lecture.


**Eugenia Paulicelli**

Was curator of a recent exhibition at the James Gallery at the CUNY Graduate Center on “Fashion + Film. The 1960s Revisited.” She is working on a book-length study on fashion, film and emotions focusing on Italian cinema, and co-editing a volume on re-viewing the 1960s through fashion and film in a global perspective.

**Barbara Katz Rothman**

Co-edited, with Heather Dalmage, a CUNY alum, of *Race in an Era of Change*. Oxford University Press. 2010.

**Irina Carlota Silber**


**Michele Wallace**


**Alumni**

**Margot Mifflin**


**Joanna Dreby**


**Michele Wallace**


**Melissa Hope Ditmore**

(Sociology 2002) Wrote *Prostitution and Sex Work*, a history of prostitution in the United States. Greenwood. 2011. And her essay “Who Is Helsinki?: Sex Workers Advise Improving Communication for Good Participatory Practice in Clinical Trials” has been published in *Health Education Research* for a special issue on AIDS.

**Jean Halley**

WSCP Awards and Fellowships

Nina E. Fortin Dissertation Proposal Award 2010

Diana Polson, Political Science
“The Caring Precariat: Home-Based Care Work in America’s Three Largest Cities”

Honorable Mention

Kery Chez, English

Carolyn G. Heilbrun Dissertation Award 2009-2010

Sophie Martinez, French
“Gender, Architecture, and Self-Construction in the Works of Mademoiselle de Montepensier”

Honorable Mention

Jody Cross-Hansen, History
“Transcendental Reform: Quaker Women and Social Reform During the Hicksite Schism”

Koonja Mitchell Memorial Award 2010

Kim Cunningham, Sociology
“The EMDR Machine: Sensory Assemblages of Memory and The new BioPolitics of Trauma”

Sue Rosenberg Zalk Travel Award 2010

Zoë C. Meleo-Erwin, Sociology
travelling to an Obesity Help event in summer 2011

Certificate of Completion

In December 2010, the following students received the Certificate of Completion in recognition of their successful completion of the Certificate requirements prior to receiving their doctoral degrees:

Nazreen Bacchus
Rachel Lumsden
Tsedale Melaku
Jenny Pascoe
Segalo Puleng
Rachel Schiff

Women’s Studies Certificate

These students received the Women’s Studies Certificate on reception of the doctoral degree in 2010-2011

Marta Bladek
Karen Kohlmeier
Doug Meyer
Trisha Ulmer

Announcing 2011-2012 Women’s Studies Award Competitions

The Sue Rosenberg Zalk Travel Award, open to students enrolled in WSCP, is given to support travel for research. Award is $500. Deadline November 3, 2011.

The Koonja Mitchell Memorial Prize of $1000 is open to any PhD student at the Graduate Center whose dissertation is concerned with social justice; special consideration for work on militarism and trauma. Applicants must submit a dissertation prospectus. Deadline November 3, 2011.

The Nina Fortin Memorial Award is open to students in any PhD program whose dissertation proposal addresses issues of concern in the lives of women from a feminist perspective, with special consideration for health-related topics. Award deadline June 1, 2012.

The Carolyn Heilbrun Dissertation Prize is awarded to an outstanding dissertation related to feminist scholarship. Open to dissertations completed between April 1, 2011 and April 1, 2012. Deadline is June 1, 2012.

For more information, please call or email Elizabeth Small: esmall@gc.cuny.edu, 212.817.8905 or visit the women’s studies office, room 5116.
During the past year, *Women's Studies Quarterly* has continued the thought-provoking, interdisciplinary exploration of gender and sexuality for which the journal is known. In late spring of 2010 we released our “Citizenship” issue, guest edited by Terri Gordon-Zolov (The New School) and Robin Rogers (Queens College, CUNY), and in the fall, our issue “Market,” guest edited by Mara Einstein (Queens College, CUNY) and Joe Rollins (Queens College, CUNY).

In late February, *WSQ* held a launch event for “Market.” Mara Einstein kicked off the event by speaking about the ideas behind the germination of the issue as well as her own recent research on the proliferation of cause marketing. Suzzy Roche (singer/songwriter/performer/writer) read two poems, “Her Hotness” and “Ode to a Windbag.” Alexandra Nutter Smith (Penn State College of Communications) discussed the ways in which “green” and the feeling of being green are sold in women’s magazines and Jeff Broxmeyer (CUNY Graduate Center) presented his article, “Of Politicians, Populism, and Plates: Marketing the Body Politic,” which examines “carnival” as a category for thinking about the process of elections. Finally Matthew P. McAllister (Penn State College of Communications) spoke on the wide impact and dissemination of Naomi Klein’s *No Logo*, the “Classics Revisited” text in Market.

Perhaps our biggest 2011 update is that as of February, Victoria Pitts-Taylor (Queens College/Graduate Center, CUNY) and Talia Schaffer (Queens College/Graduate Center, CUNY) have completed their term as *WSQ* general editors, passing the torch to Amy Herzog (Queens College, CUNY) and Joe Rollins (Queens College/Graduate Center, CUNY). In taking over the role of general editors, Rollins and Herzog noted that under the stewardship of Pitts-Taylor and Schaffer, *WSQ* had expanded its interdisciplinary scope, providing a forum for truly original scholarship, art, thought and activism. *Women's Studies Quarterly* is forever indebted to our outgoing general editors for their invaluable leadership and input on the direction of the journal.

As one of their first tasks, Herzog and Rollins were charged with assembling the editorial board, as board terms generally begin and end with those of the general editors. *Women's Studies Quarterly* wishes to express our sincere gratitude to the outgoing board members for their years of service to the *WSQ* Editorial Board. We are pleased to announce that a number of board members chose to continue their service to *WSQ*, staying on for another three-year term. In addition to the continuing board members, a number of scholars will be joining *WSQ* this term: Ann Burlein (Hofstra), Mara Einstein (Queens College, CUNY), Katie Gentile (John Jay, CUNY), David Gerstner (College of Staten Island, CUNY), Ruth Wilson Gilmore (Graduate Center, CUNY), Heather Hendershot (Queens College/Graduate Center, CUNY), and Eugenia Paulicelli (Queens College/Graduate Center, CUNY). The new general editors and editorial board began work in February with their first board meeting, and are working closely with the guest editors of our upcoming issues: “Safe” (Spring 2011), “Ruin” (Fall 2012), and “Viral” (Spring 2012).

Together, this group of innovative thinkers working in diverse fields across the humanities and social sciences is sure to help guide the journal to new and exciting directions.
In the Fall of 2011, the Center for the Study of Women and Society will be hosting a number of exciting events. We are pleased to announce the continuation of our two most popular lecture series, the NeuroCulture Lecture Series and Seminar in Gender and Sexuality. The Center for the Study of Women and Society will also sponsor “Masculinity, Complex,” a two-day conference in October (please refer to the article in this issue for more information). Speakers this fall include Kathy Davidson, Judith Butler, Tony Kushner, Suzanne Anker, Alva Noe, and Rayna Rapp. Here is a brief listing of our upcoming events:

**NeuroCulture Lecture Series**
*Series cosponsored by Center for Humanities*

- **September 12th**
  - Cathy Davidson
  - Duke University
  - 6:30–8:30 pm
  - Martin E. Segal Theater

- **October 6th**
  - Suzanne Anker
  - School of Visual Arts
  - 6:00–8:00 pm
  - James Gallery

- **October 27th**
  - Rayna Rapp
  - New York University
  - 6:00–8:00 pm
  - Room C198

- **November 10th**
  - Alva Noe
  - CUNY Graduate Center
  - 6:00–8:00 pm
  - Rooms 9206/9207

**Seminar in Gender and Sexuality**
*All are Thursdays at 12:00 in the Sociology Lounge (6112) at the Graduate Center*

- **October 20th**
  - Paisley Currah
  - Political Science
  - Brooklyn College

- **November 17th**
  - Katie Gentile
  - Women’s Center
  - John Jay College of Criminal Justice

- **December 8th**
  - Grace Cho
  - Sociology
  - College of Staten Island

**Masculinity Complex**

- **October 21st and 22nd**
  - A two-day conference featuring keynote speakers Judith Butler and Tony Kushner

For more information regarding these events, and a complete listing of our programs please visit our website http://web.gc.cuny.edu/womenstudies/ or contact us at (212) 817-8904.