

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES

ISSUE ONE | 2014-2015

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Department of Gender and Women's Studies! This has been an eventful year in the classroom and beyond with Black Lives Matter and Say Her Name protests against police violence, collaborations to combat sexual assault on campus, and efforts to make campus bathrooms accessible to all genders and embodiments and the unhoused in our community.

We have taught and researched global conflict and militarizations; neoliberal economies of work and care; visual cultures of sexuality and the law; disability justice; settler colonialisms; refugeeism; gentrification; the medicalization and geneticization of social problems; circulations of transnational commodities; queer of color transnational social movements; and

environmental crises.

In this era of unprecedented inequality, more than ever, we need students educated about the ways that gender and sexuality, in co-formations with race, class, citizenship, religion, and disability, impact our lives and those around us, and shape the society we live in.

Our department houses four academic programs: Gender and Women's Studies major, Gender and Women's Studies minor, minor in LGBT Studies, and the graduate level Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender, and Sexuality. Students take core classes with our faculty, and elective courses from more than 100 faculty affiliates across the university. Exciting new classes this year included "Disability Justice", taught by disability activist and scholar Patty Berne, and "Gender, Race, and Law", taught by Professor Juana Maria Rodriguez.

Our students demonstrate an exceptional range and degree of accomplishment (see pp. 5, 9-10, 18, 19). We hosted major conferences and events (p. 4, 14), and welcomed a wonderful group of international and domestic scholars (p. 11-12)

We published new scholarly works, and garnered recognition and awards for teaching, research, and service. In the Fall, Professor Evelyn Nakano Glenn received the top UC Berkeley career recognition, the Distinguished Service Award (p. 13).

Our staff, Althea Grannum-Cummings, Gillian Edgelow, Eileen Andrade, and Vernessa Parker, somehow magically manage to run the department on the proverbial shoestring. Nothing demonstrates their skill quite as well as the beautiful annual event that is the GWS graduation (pp. 2-3). I'd like to thank DEWGS graduate

student Tenzin Paldron, who resurrected the idea of a department newsletter, and who, with Gillian Edgelow, put together this issue.

We are eager to hear from you. Please send us your news and ideas, and stay connected with the department and its students, staff, faculty, alumni, and friends!

- Charis Thompson
Chancellor's Professor and
Chair

COMMENCEMENT

BACHELOR OF ARTS

MAJORS

Christine Ihuoma Chilaka
Ally Covington
Quan Do
Benji Delgadillo
Nadège Furman-Collot
Demeturie Toso-Lafaele Gogue
Elizabeth Hennes
Andrea Shizuka Ikeda
Jacqueline Jung
Kristen LeckE
Melissa Anne Markowitz
Jordan Osur Myers
Margaret Joy Perret
Alaina Schofield
Amaré Silva
Jai Lei Yee

MINORS

Gender & Women's Studies

Cameraon Barrow
Kim Bomion
Samira Motamed Damavandi
Katherine M. Eadie
Jenny A. Ma
Elizabeth Yu

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Studies

Nadège Furman-Collot
Jennifer Michelle Halliday
Carmen L. Jovel
Terran Pierola

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE with a Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender & Sexuality

Sole Anatron
PhD in Italian Studies
Finding Feminist Affect in Italian Literature: From
Sibilla Aleramo to Rossana Campo: 1906-2012

Naomi Bragin
PhD in Performance Studies
Black Power of Hip Hop Dance:
On Kinesthetic Politics

Katrina Dodson
PhD in Comparative Literature
Proper Disproportions: Disorienting Language and
Landscapes Between the US and Brazil

Ugo Felicia Edu
PhD in Anthropology, History & Social Medicine
I Only Want Two: Aesthetics, Race and
Sterilization in Brazil

Tala Khanmalek
PhD in Ethnic Studies
Living Laboratories: Remapping the Legacy of
Experiments in American Empire

Rachel H. Lesser
PhD in Classics
Listening for the Plot:
The Role of Desire in the Illiad's Narrative

Iván A. Ramos
PhD in Performance Studies
Sonic Negations: Sound, Affect, and Unbelonging
Between Mexico and the United States

Bonnie Ruberg
PhD in Comparative Literature
Pixel Whipped: Pain, Pleasure, and Digital Media



COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS BY DONNA HARAWAY

Donna Haraway, Distinguished Professor Emerita, History of Consciousness and Feminist Studies at UC Santa Cruz, was this year's Commencement Speaker.

Her wonderful talk, "Becoming-with, Making Kin," described the current worldwide production of refugees of all species increasingly without refuges, caused by war, genocide, sped up capitalism, and social and ecological disintegration.

Professor Haraway urged members of the GWS community and our allies to work toward a "Manifesto of Abundance."

"Just as biologists work to create refugia and wildlife corridors for the earthly survival of critically endangered biodiversity, so we must build and strengthen refugia and corridors to just and livable resurgent pasts, presents, and futures."



NEW BODIES, NEW POLITICS

PRAXIS IN THE AGE OF DISABILITY

DEPARTMENT KEYNOTE
MARCH 2015

THERI A. PICKENS
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH
BATES COLLEGE



In her first book, "New Body Politics: Narrating Arab and Black Identity in the Contemporary United States", Theri Pickens asks several startling questions. In the increasingly multi-racial and multi-ethnic American landscape of the present, understanding and bridging dynamic cross-cultural conversations about social and political concerns becomes a complicated humanistic project.

How do everyday embodied experiences transform from being anecdotal to having social and political significance? What can the experience of corporeality offer social and political discourse? And, how does that discourse change when those bodies belong to Arab Americans and African Americans?

By way of answer, she discusses a range of literary, cultural, and archival material where narratives emphasize embodied experience to examine how these experiences constitute Arab Americans and African Americans as social and political subjects. Pickens argues that Arab American and African American narratives rely on the body's fragility, rather than its exceptional strength or emotion, to create urgent social and political critiques.

The creators of these narratives find potential in mundane experiences such as breathing, touch, illness, pain, and death. Each chapter in this book focuses on one of these everyday embodied experiences and examines how authors mobilize that fragility to create social and political commentary. Pickens discusses how the authors' focus on quotidian experiences complicates their critiques of the nation state, domestic and international politics, exile, cultural mores, and the medical establishment.



**UGO
EDU**

2008. First year at Berkeley.

**D.E.W.G.S. SCHOLAR, PHD CANDIDATE
UCSF/UC BERKELEY MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

(M.P.H., INTERNATIONAL HEALTH, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE)

(B.S., PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, UCLA)

Q: Could you tell us a little about a scholar or project that has been a source of inspiration or anchor for your research?

Charis Thompson who is on my committee is a scholar that I really admire and look up to. She is incredibly approachable, humble, and the sweetest person you'll meet, all while being extraordinarily brilliant and intellectually rigorous. She takes students' babbling and turns them into eloquent brilliant statements, often surprising the student that she was able to decipher as much from the gibberish that spewed from our mouths.

She has been instrumental in helping me know and articulate what I am doing, my contribution, and encouraging me to boldly and confidently step into what I am doing and bringing to the table. I particularly love the way that she makes STS (Science and Technology Studies) and Gender and Women's Studies converse while also being Women's Studies converse while also being open to the value of art and its possibilities with science.

**"...I HAD BECOME SOMEWHAT
DISILLUSIONED WITH THE FIELD
AND I KNEW I NEEDED SOMETHING
TO HELP ME RETURN TO IT."**

Q: What drew you to choose GWS as your designated emphasis?

I almost chose the DE in Critical Theory. I have always been interested and drawn to questions about gender, women, and sexuality-I mean my project is heavily about just these topics, as is my next project. In terms of topic area, it made sense. I am committed to social justice and it's difficult to find GWS studies that doesn't have some element of social justice inherent in the curriculum-I wasn't disappointed. And the actual DE itself was attractive-the benefits of being part of this DE are numerous. The bulk of my teaching has been in GWS and I even won an award for outstanding teaching through the department.

Q: What has your educational trajectory been like, originating in the physiological sciences, moving toward public health, and now medical anthropology? Did this journey require some time for adjustment, or did you feel like your interests made the links between these disciplines rather easy to cultivate and maintain?

It was incredibly difficult, more so than I could have imagined prior to starting. While finishing up my masters in public health, I had become somewhat disillusioned with the field and knew I needed something to help me want to return to it. Because of my interests and questions about culture, history, and society and the interplays with health throughout the masters, I thought it would be easy to transition to thinking anthropologically. It was not!

And perhaps it is because in the joint program, you start with the 240A class-socio-cultural anthro-before the med anthro coursework. I'm not sure. Needless to say, I called home after the first class and told my mom that I was packing it up and moving home as this was not for me. She insisted I stay. So I did and kept asking my professors for suggestions for how to begin thinking more like an anthropologist. It has not been easy by any stretch of imagination but I owe my success to the great faculty at

(continued page 9)



Paola Bacchetta

PBACCHETTA@BERKELEY.EDU

HONORS:

Visiting Professor- Researcher at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France (Spring 2015); Co-Chair of Caucus on Transnational Approaches to Gender and Sexuality, of American Sociological Association (2014-2017); Francophone research network membership hosted at Collège international de philosophie, Paris, France (2014); InterRGRace membership (Italophone research network hosted at Dept. of Philosophy, Sociology, Pedagogy and Applied Psychology [FISSPA], Università di Padua, Italy) (2014); Election to Advisory Board of Critical Ethnic Studies Association (2014); Appointment to Editorial Board of Journal of Critical Ethnic Studies Association (2014)

KEYNOTES:

"Queerphilic Xenophobia: Deadly Effects of Dominant Constructions of a Decolonial Muslim Woman Leader in France" (12/2014); "Décoloniser Le Féminisme: Intersectionnalités, Assemblages, Co- Formations, Co-Productions" (3/2015)

CONFERENCES:

"The (Im)Possibility of Radical QPOC Historiography: Reflections on Dyketactics" (4/2014); "Queer Trajectories of Latent and Manifest Islamophobia in France" (4/2014); "Living Archives: Dyketactics' Transnational Decolonial and Anti-Racism Solidarities" (11/2014).



Mel Y. Chen

MELYCHEN@BERKELEY.EDU

Professor Mel Y. Chen is the Director of the Center for the Study of Sexual Culture and has orchestrated an impressive event series this year. Mel is also the Vice Chair for Research in GWS and has overseen departmental events along with directing the Beatrice Bain Research Group (BBRG) and faculty-sponsored visiting scholar programs.

Mel's book, *Animacies*, won the 2014 Alan Bray Memorial Book Prize given by the GL/Q Caucus of the Modern Language Association (MLA).

Guest Lecture Highlights:

'Toxins, Stones, Animate Objects, and Human Bodies?', Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (10/14)

'The Disability of Racial Dystopias', Princeton University (2/15)

'Limits of the Human in/for the Humanities: Disability, Animality, Archives' at Pomona College (2/15)

Publications:

Mel is working on a new book series, ANIMA, which she co-edits with Jasbir K. Puar from Rutgers University.



Evelyn Nakano Glenn

ENLENN@BERKELEY.EDU

RECENT PUBLICATION:

"Settler Colonialism as Structure: A Framework for Comparative Studies of U.S. Race and Gender Formation," appeared in the inaugural issue of *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 1 no. 1 (January 2015), 52-72

SYMPOSIUM:

Evelyn and graduate students organized a Center for Race and Gender symposium, "Foundational Violence: Settler Colonial Articulations" that took place April 13, 2015. Featured speakers were Ben Olguin (UT San Antonio), Candace Fujikane (UH Manoa), Misuana Goeman (UCLA), Andrea Smith (UC Riverside), Joanne Barker (SF State University), and Mark Rifkin (UNC Greensboro).

see page 13 for a featured profile on Professor Nakano Glenn.



Mino Moallem
MMAALLEM@BERKELEY.EDU

PUBLICATIONS:

"Aestheticizing Religion: Sensorial Visuality and Coffeehouse Painting in Iran" in *Sensational Religion. Sensory Cultures in Material Practice*. Edited by Sally Pomey, Yale University Press, 2014.
"Praying through the senses: The Prayer carpet and the Converging Territories of the Material and the Spiritual," *Essay for Material and Visual Cultures of Religion*, Yale University, 2014.

GUEST LECTURES:

'Interdisciplinary Innovations in the Study of Religion and Gender: Postcolonial, Post-secular and Queer Perspectives', Utrecht University, the Netherlands, February 2015.
"Vision, Value and the Burden of Humanism," The Legacy of Materialist Feminism Conference, Princeton University, November 2014.
"Feminist Studies of the Middle East," Multicultural Center, UC Berkeley, March 2014.
"Veiling and Unveiling," Guest Speaker, Annual Meeting of Association of the University Women, Moraga, April 2014.

CONFERENCE PANELS:

"Local Knowledges and American Studies in the Middle East" Discussant, American Studies Association, Los Angeles, November 2014.
"Transforming American Studies through Local Knowledge in West Asia " Respondant, Modern Language Association, Vancouver, January 2015



Laura C. Nelson
LCNELSON@BERKELEY.EDU

Professor Nelson became the Chair of the Center for Korean Studies (CKS) in July 2014. It's an exciting opportunity to help facilitate student and faculty scholarship on Korea, and an excellent platform to explore and support topics relevant to gender research. For example, this spring CKS is planning a workshop on gender & class issues in South Korea, inviting scholars from North America and Korea to come together in conversation to share recent research and analysis. The workshop was initiated by the previous chair of CKS, sociology professor John Lie, and it is an excellent starting place for further work.

Laura is on sabbatical in Spring 2015, working primarily on her ongoing book project on breast cancer in South Korea. She will spend several weeks in South Korea speaking more with cancer patients, their families, doctors, researchers, activists, and public policy officials.

She is also working on two other projects: one on children of immigrant women in South Korea, and one on older South Korean women who did not raise children. Each of these projects pushes at questions of how gender, class, "race," and fertility interact in complex ways.



Juana María Rodríguez
JUARODRIGUEZ@BERKELEY.EDU

Professor Rodríguez published "Sexual Futures, Queer Gestures, and Other Latina Longings" (New York University Press, 2014). Her book is a Lambda Literary Award finalist, celebrating achievement in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) writing. Professor Rodríguez's book is a finalist in the LGBT Studies category.

Additional publications:

A keyword entry for "Latino, Latino/a, Latin@." In *Keywords for American Cultural Studies*, 2nd edition edited by Bruce Burgett and Glenn Hendler. NY: New York University Press, 2014.

"Viscous Pleasures and Unruly Feminisms" *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* 20, no. 4 (2014)

"Queering the Archive: A Roundtable Discussion," *Radical History Review* 2015 (121), Spring 2015

Juana is on UC President Napolitano's Advisory Committee on LGBT Students, Staff and Faculty, a system-wide task force that has recommended a series of system-wide changes including allowing students to indicate a preferred name on campus records, converting single-stall restrooms into gender-neutral facilities and incorporating gender inclusive restrooms in new and renovated UC buildings.



Leslie Salzinger

LSALZINGER@BERKELEY.EDU

GUEST LECTURES:

"Sexing Homo Economicus." Conference on Neoliberalism and Biopolitics, UV Berkeley (February 2015)

"Making Markets: Creating Money and Men in Peso/Dollar Exchange." Tepoztlán Institute 2014: Capitalism desde el Sur: Capitalism from Below. Morelos, Mexico (July 2014)

SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE:

Woodrow Wilson Women's Studies Dissertation Fellowships. Member of the Final Selection Committee. 2014-present.

SERVICE TO CAMPUS:

Secretary of the Berkeley Faculty Association.

EVENT HIGHLIGHT:

Organized "Stalled" event in collaboration with Susan Schweik (English), Greig Crysler (Architecture) and Mel Chen (GWS) featuring conversations with scholars, architects and activists on institutional violence, gender and transgender, disability, race, poverty, safety, and an issue that brings these all together: bathroom access.



Charis Thompson

CHARIS@BERKELEY.EDU

INTERVIEWS:

Charis Thompson is interviewed on her recent book, 'Good Science', by Carla Nappi.

Webcast with the Center for Genetics and Society on Thompson's book, 'Good Science'; Panelist at @FutureTenseNow #FutureofReproduction, Slate / New America / ASU, in Washington DC

LECTURE HIGHLIGHTS:

FutureTense, DC

"Histories of IVF," Yale University

Delegate at BEINGS2015, Atlanta

Neoliberalism and Biopolitics lecture, UC Berkeley

Science and Justice lecture, UC Santa Cruz

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS:

June 2015 - "CRISPR: Move beyond differences", Nature

May 2015 - "Innovation and equity in an age of gene editing" The Guardian.



Trinh T. Minh-ha

TRINH@BERKELEY.EDU

Professor Trinh T. Minh-ha delivered the keynote address, "The Politics of Form and Forces," on March 4 at [A Celebration of Women Filmmakers: International Perspectives, Gendered Lenses](#), hosted by the Department of Languages and Literatures at Mills College in Oakland. The lecture was followed by the screening and discussion of her digital film, NIGHT PASSAGE (108 mins). She also delivered this address on February 25 for the 2014-2015 Warnock Lecture Series at Northwestern University.

11/2014-2/2015: Film exhibition at Tranzitdisplay, (Prague, Czech Republic)

5/2015: Professor Trinh T. Minh-ha will be honored with a retrospective of her films at The Portuguese Cinematheque in Lisbon (Portugal). She will also teach an international seminar for the Artistic Studies PhD at Universidade Nova de Lisboa, which is an international platform for postgraduate students and researchers sponsored by The Gulbenkian Foundation and The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology.

FILM IN PROGRESS:

For the 40th anniversary of the reunification of Vietnam, Professor Trinh T. Minh-ha is working on the completion of her feature-length film, FORGETTING VIETNAM, due for the inauguration of the Asian Cultural Complex in Gwangju, Korea, in September 2015.



2013. Picture by Iyabo Kwayana.

UGO EDU, D.E.W.G.S. SCHOLAR, PHD CANDIDATE UCSF/UC BERKELEY MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

UCSF who really believed in me and kept encouraging me and making time and space for me to sit down and work through the difficult theory and speaking with, about, and through theory—particularly Ian Whitmarsh, Vincanne Adams, Nancy Burke and Deborah Gordon. Lawrence Cohen was also instrumental to making it through that 240A course. He helped me feel like I could make it through the course and also met with me to talk about anthropology. My cohort, elders and juniors in the program were also amazing and folks I could

MANUEL CUELLAR

D.E.W.G.S. SCHOLAR, PHD CANDIDATE DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

LOS MECOS DE VERACRUZ: THE PERFORMANCE OF INDIGENOUS KINESTHETIC EPISTEMOLOGIES

Q: Why D.E.W.G.S.?

I was originally attracted to the Designated Emphasis in GWS due to its commitment to interdisciplinarity both intellectually and methodologically. My home department, Spanish and Portuguese, has honed the critical skills I need to conduct research but GWS has enriched my education with the grammar of intersectionality, enabling me to engage different and differing languages of intellectual inquiry. As my project privileges questions of knowledge production and transmission through the body, my work necessarily challenges disciplinary barriers of legibility. Nevertheless, what drew my attention the most was the kind of work faculty in the field of GWS were doing and how they framed it.

And in this sense, Professor Juana María Rodríguez has been truly inspirational. Juana not only motivated me to engage embodiment and kinesthesia as important research questions

lean on and look to for more discussion, moral support, and relaxation.

I don't know how many times Joshua Craze, Mick D'Arcy, Jerry Zee, Rachel Ceasar, Va Cun, James Battle, Krystal Strong, Ruth Goldstein, Jason Price, Emily Ng, Maryani Rasidjan, Adeola Oni-Orisan, Sam Dubal, Leticia Cesarino, Bruno Reinhardt, and countless others have helped push my thinking, challenge my analysis, offered suggestions, sent me readings, applauded my work, gone out dancing with me, explained Marx, and or just thought with me.

In D.E.W.G.S., Naomi Bragin has been my ace. We've gotten each other through our respective programs and been able to work together. As I have gotten closer to finishing, I realize how valuable and distinct my particular background has been and the value it brings to how I approach and think about the work I am doing. I have learned how to better integrate/be informed by lessons from my previous training and hope to continue to use that to push interesting and meaningful work. □



Half and Halves: A Dance Exploration of the Punjabi-Mexican Communities of California. Photo by Vijay Rakhra.

despite of, or precisely because of, being in a literature department. She also mentored me and helped me to articulate my project. Juana's work was my introduction to queer of color critique and I think that the most valuable lesson I learned from her has been how to construct a body of knowledge not only intellectually but also with and through our bodies as we ourselves are bodies of knowledge—an embodied queer methodology.

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MANUEL CUELLAR, D.E.W.G.S. SCHOLAR

PHD CANDIDATE, DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

Indeed, Juana literally and metaphorically “embodies” what the D.E. in GWS is all about for me: an ethical intellectual endeavor to “trans-form” how we engage with knowledge transmission and production. After recently taking a dissertation writing seminar with Professor Mino Moallem, a radical feminist and sociologist, I’ve been inspired and challenged to occupy the often “not legible” and at times “uncomfortable” position within my own discipline. My intellectual work now reflects who I am and what I am committed to in terms of my place in academia as a first generation immigrant and a queer Latino vis-à-vis my body of knowledge in all senses of the word.

Q: Could you please describe your work for us?

My dissertation examines how the idea of fiesta has shaped notions of race, gender, and sexuality that constitute *lo mexicano*, or Mexicaness, in contemporary Mexican cultural production. My doctoral work addresses the intersection between the literary, the visual, and the performative, and draws from performance studies, queer theory, and cultural studies. In doing so, it argues for a re-articulation of *lo mexicano* that re-positions the body at the center of Mexican identity construction.

My research seeks to recognize the significance of different kinds of knowledge production and transmission. By focusing on popular manifestations, such as *folkl ó rico* dance and popular ritual, I depart from an understanding of knowledge based purely on the written word privileging other means of production and circulation. As an aspiring professor of Mexican cultural, queer and literary studies, my hope is to advance scholarship that critically engages and promotes collaboration with individuals whose knowledge cannot be reduced to the academy, particularly that of indigenous communities. That is why I have made a priority as a graduate student to study Nahuatl, Mexico’s most widely spoken indigenous language, and to continue to expand my

"HOW RADICALLY DIFFERENT WOULD IT BE TO SAY...I AM A GENDER & SEXUALITY SCHOLAR WHO ENGAGES QUESTIONS OF LITERATURE?"

knowledge of it.

In addition, as an instructor and dancer of Mexican *folkl ó rico* myself for more than 20 years, my doctoral work is a testament to my commitment not to separate my academic endeavors from my personal aspirations in building strong connections to the communities I belong, both within and outside the academy. Therefore, I have striven to develop a more nuanced sense of reading and writing to encompass other, non-conventional forms of knowledge within the Humanities—the writing and reading through and with the body—and that is why being part of the DEGWS has been so crucial for my development as a graduate student and future scholar and professor.

Q: Any concluding thoughts on Gender & Women’s Studies at UC Berkeley?

When I think of Berkeley’s Department of Gender & Women’s Studies, I’m reminded of the historical importance of the creation of GWS as a discipline or rather an area studies of comparative inquiry—hence intersectional analysis. The fact that it still does not grant a doctoral degree continues to remind me of the struggle for legibility and recognition throughout the years GWS has undergone. Even though interdisciplinary work is championed at places such as Berkeley, the fact remains that traditional “disciplines” continue to control and police the boundaries of legibility and in many cases of funding. I cannot help but wonder to what extent there still a very problematic hierarchization of institutionalized knowledge production and transmission.

Being part of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Berkeley has indeed granted me the benefits of a “legible” intellectual community, from the theoretical apparatus of the discipline to even the experimentation with and even the challenging of its disciplinary confinements. I believe that I am able to conduct the research I want because I’m still very much positioned within a specific field of inquiry: I am trained as a literary scholar who engages questions of sexuality and embodiment. How radically different would it be to say the opposite— I am a gender and sexuality scholar who engages questions of literature? I think in posing and answering such questions lies the challenge of our institutions of higher learning. □

BEATRICE BAIN RESEARCH GROUP

SCHOLAR PROFILES

SMADAR LAVIE

SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

Lavie's project is a book of essays focusing on the relationships that exist in the Arab Israeli borderlands among Mizrahi (Easterners, Orientals, Hebrew) feminists, Ashkenazi (European Jewish) feminists, Israel's Mizrahi majority and the state's Ashkenazi-dominated regime. It is beyond the scope of this project to provide a detailed analysis of Palestinian feminisms. These will be discussed in the context of their complicated relationship with Israel's Jewish feminisms.



The project describes and analyzes the ways that the intersections of religion, gender, race and class interplay with the logjam of the Middle East Peace Process. This interplay serves as the building blocks for the lived experience of Mizrahi women's

everyday. The paradoxical fusion of anti-racist activism and communal Right wing politics delineates the contours of Mizrahi feminism. This quandary thus transcends the constructivist, coalitional identity politics typical of US-European Feminisms of Color or Third World feminisms.

To function in the political, cultural and racial Arab-Israeli borderlands with efficacy, Mizrahi feminists often deploy foundational strategies. These, in turn, alienate them from the feminist fabric of the Arab World or the Global South, yet work to improve the welfare of their disenfranchised Israeli constituencies.

Smadar Lavie is an anthropologist, author, and activist specializing in the anthropology of Egypt, Israel and Palestine, with special emphasis on issues of race, gender and religion. She is a visiting professor at the Institute for Social Science in the 21st Century, University College Cork.

JULIA CHINYERE OPARAH

SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

During her year with BBRG, Oparah completed the manuscript of *Birth Justice: Black Women, Pregnancy and Childbirth*, a co-edited volume that was recently published by Paradigm/Routledge. She also worked with the community organization **Black Women Birthing Justice** to complete data collection for an action research project documenting 100 black women's experiences of childbirth in California.

The group is currently completing a human rights report based on the study called *Battling Over Birth: Black Women and the Maternal Health-care Crisis in California*. Finally, Oparah wrote a book prospectus for her next book project and met with a publisher who is very excited about the project.

"Participating in the BBRG Scholar-in-Residence program has been hugely enjoyable and intellectually transformative. It has moved my research agenda forward immensely and inspired me to explore new theoretical horizons. I am immensely grateful to Mel Chen, Gillian Edgelow and all in the GWS



Department, as well as all of my BBRG colleagues who gave me invaluable feedback on my work this year."

Julia Chinyere Oparah is professor and department chair of Ethnic Studies at Mills College. She played a leading role in the establishment of Mills' Queer Studies Program and recently led the College's Gender Expression and Identity initiative, leading the women's college to adopt a groundbreaking trans-inclusive admissions policy.

2014-2015 Visiting Scholars

BBRG Scholars in Residence

Meltem Ince

Assistant Professor,
Department of Economics
Yasar University, Turkey
*Women's Empowerment and
Changing Economic Roles: A
Comparison Between Turkey and
the USA*

Tomomi Kinukawa

Assistant Professor,
Department of History,
University of Pacific
*Health Disparities and Immigration
Politics in Cold War Era Japan: The
Case of Korean Diaspora
Communities*

Smadar Lavie

Independent Scholar, CA
*Crossing Borders, Staying Put:
Mizrahi Feminism, Palestine, and
the Racial Formations of the Israeli
State*

Doris Leibetseder

Postdoctoral Scholar,
Alpen-Adria Universität
Klagenfurt and University of
Vienna, Austria
*Precarious Sex: A Queer-feminist
Ethics on Gender and Sexuality*

Julia Chinyere Oparah

Professor, Department of
Ethnic Studies, Mills College,
California
*Birthing While Black: Neoliberal
Childbirth in an Era of
Hyper-Incarceration*

Teresa Sacchet

University of Sao Paulo and
Ministry of Social
Development, Brazil
*The Concept of Justice in Cash
Transfer Programs: an Analysis
from the Perspective of Gender
Equality*

France Winddance Twine

Professor, Department of
Sociology, UC, Santa Barbara A
*New Labor Aristocracy? Gender,
Gentrification and the Technology
Industry*

BBRG Affiliated Scholars

Madhavi Desai

Architect and Independent
Scholar, India
*Women and the City: the Public
Sphere in Ahmedabad, India*

Thais Franca

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
University of Minho, Portugal
*Analyzing Scientific Mobility from a
Feminist and Post-colonial
Perspective*

Meeta Rani Jha

Independent Scholar
*Transnational Feminine Imaginaries
in Bombay Cinema Experience*

Eivor Annica Karlsson

Artist/Photographer
University of Gothenburg,
Sweden
At the Time of the Third Reading

Leece Lee

Independent Scholar, California
*Colonial Palimpsests & Imperial
Erasures: American Indian Women
and the Problematics of Queer
Agency*

Mel Lewis

Assistant Professor, Women,
Gender and Sexuality Studies
Goucher College, Maryland
*Bodies of Knowledge: Black Queer
Feminist Pedagogical Projects and
Performative Texts*

Lena Martinsson

Professor in Gender Studies
University of Gothenburg,
Sweden
*Transnational Issues Raised by
Women's Movements in Pakistan in
the Postcolonial Era*

Liedeke Plate

Associate Professor, Gender
Studies and Literary & Cultural
Studies Radboud University
Nijmegen, The Netherlands
*Edinburgh Companion to
Experimental Women's Writing*

Marina Rauchenbacher

Independent Scholar, Austria
*Gaze – Image – Text. Gender
Knowledge in German- Language
Literature Since the Turn of the 18th
Century*

Mona Tajali

Independent Scholar, California
*Demanding a Seat at the Table:
Iranian and Turkish Women's
Organizing for Political
Representation*

Faculty Sponsored Scholars

Cindy Rose Bello

President's Postdoctoral Fellow
*Pedagogies of Grievance:
Transitional Justice and the
Musealization of the Colombian
Conflict*
Faculty Supervisor:
Juana Maria Rodriguez

Leila Benhadjoudja

PhD Candidate in Sociology,
University of Quebec
*Sexuality and political body of
Muslim women: the case of Quebec*
Faculty Sponsor:
Paola Bacchetta

Glauco Batista Ferreira

PhD Candidate in Social
Anthropology, Federal
University of Santa Catarina,
Brazil
*Feminism & Queer "of Color"
Cinema: Ethnographic Approaches
to the "QWOCMAP" Festival in the
San Francisco Bay Area*
Faculty Sponsor:
Trinh T. Minh-ha

Lila Sharif

President's Postdoctoral Fellow
*The Affective Management of
Pakistani Muslim Women in
Diasporic Toronto*
Faculty Supervisor:
Mino Moallem

Marcin Smietana

Postdoctoral Fellow – Seventh
Framework Programme of the
European Union
*Assisted reproduction beyond the
nation state and nuclear family?
Transition to parenthood and
negotiating relatedness in gay
father families created through
transnational surrogacy*
Faculty Supervisor:
Charis Thompson

Ingvill Stuvoy

PhD candidate in Sociology
and Political Science,
Norwegian University of
Technology
*Bodywork and the Global Market in
the 21st Century: How surrogacy
broadens consumer choice and
responsibility*
Faculty Sponsor:
Charis Thompson

Sé Sullivan

PhD Candidate in Philosophy,
California Institute of Integral
Studies
*Transgender Clinical Practice and
Identity Research in the United
States: The Social Implications of
Reading the 'Non-Normative' Body
and the Emergence of Gender as
Pathology*
Faculty Sponsor:
Mel Y. Chen

Hyaesin Yoon

Independent Scholar
*How Technological Interventions
into Reproductive Bodies Reshape
the Political Sphere*
Faculty Sponsor:
Trinh T. Minh-ha

CELEBRATING EVELYN NAKANO GLENN

Gender & Women's Studies Professor Evelyn Nakano Glenn is retiring in June 2015. Professor Glenn has been a Professor at UC Berkeley since 1990, and has been at the core of our intellectual commitments and departmental life in GWS ever since its founding.

Internationally recognized as a preeminent sociological scholar, Professor Glenn's groundbreaking research on women's work, U.S. labor and citizenship, comparative race and ethnic studies, and Japanese American experience has had a transformative impact on the field.

She is the Founding Director of UC Berkeley's Center for Race and Gender, a pioneering research unit devoted exclusively to research on race, gender and their intersection that has become a model for similar centers across the country. In addition to her scholarship, Professor Glenn is a highly regarded mentor to students from underrepresented backgrounds, and she has long been involved in a wide range of diversity and social justice initiatives on campus and far beyond.

Professor Glenn's major single author monographs, "Issei, Nissei, War Bride" (which first came out in 1986 and was reissued in 2014), "Unequal Freedom" (2002), and "Forced to Care" (2010), stand together as perhaps the most theoretically and historically sustained and sophisticated body of empirical work on the relationalities or intesectionalities among race, labour, and gender in the making of the US.

Retirement Celebration for Professor Glenn. (from left: Pam Matsuoka, CRG; Charis Thompson, GWS Chair; Evelyn Nakano Glenn; Catherine Ceniza Choy, Ethnic Studies Chair)



Chancellor Nicholas Dirks and EVCP Claude Steele presented the 2014 Chancellor's Award for Advancing Institutional Excellence to Professor Evelyn Nakano Glenn.

Her edited volumes have been no less field defining. Her major roles in the academy and on campus include: Founding Director of the Center for Race and Gender, and President of the American Sociological Association. In the fall semester of 2014, she received the Chancellor's Award for Advancing Institutional Excellence (CAAIE), the top campus service honor.

For the past nine years, the Chancellor's Award for Advancing Institutional Excellence (CAAIE) has been presented to UC Berkeley faculty who have an extraordinary record of accomplishment in promoting diversity while advancing equity and inclusion through their scholarship, research, teaching, and public service.

Professor Glenn will use her grant to complete a book and film project on the untold story of the 5,000 Japanese Americans who were able to flee the Pacific States to avoid internment during World War II, as well as to begin research designed to identify how immigrant women caregivers of the elderly make sense of and cope with repeated cycles of grief.

Evelyn has been a revered and beloved colleague and advisor, and we are delighted that she has accepted a Professor of the Graduate School appointment so that she may continue her presence on campus post-retirement.

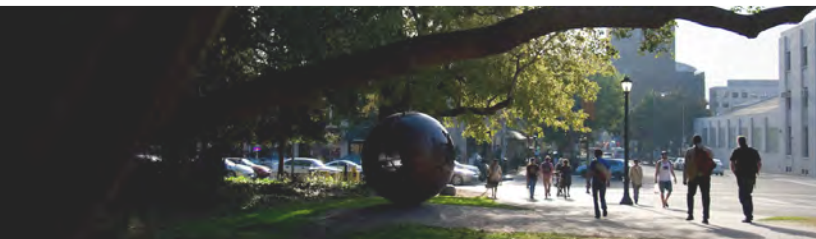


GENDER & WOMEN'S STUDIES CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Gender for a New Century: Countering Violence and Social Exclusions (12/2014)

Featured speaker: United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Executive Director of UN Women Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

GWS panelists: Professor Juana Mara Rodriguez, Chancellor's Professor and Chair Charis Thompson



Difference in the brain: Theories in neuroscience from a critical race and gender perspective (4/2015)

This workshop fosters discussion and critical knowledge production to trouble the smooth promise of brain research as an ultimate arbitrator in the biologization of differences such as gender, sex, race, capacity, and criminality. Topics discussed include the role of neuroscience in adoption discourses and the neurologization of affect and self.

Brain Talk in UK Adoption and Fostering Discourses
Suki Ali, London School of Economics
Associate Professor in Sociology

Experimental Entanglements in Cognitive Neuroscience:

Daydreaming and Difference

Felicity Callard, Durham University
Reader in Social Science for Medical Humanities

LECTURER SPOTLIGHT:

BARBARA BARNES

Counter to stereotypes of academics, I struggled through school. I wasn't motivated by, nor did I pay much attention to, grades. Of course, my grades were therefore often terrible. There was just one reason I persisted in studying,



and eventually made my way through graduate school to earn a doctorate in sociology: once I started taking women's studies courses in college, I realized the degree to which ideas matter. The ways in which communities of people think, along with the ideas thought, shape the worlds they inhabit. I am glad I persisted in academia

because of the privilege I have of being able to introduce and discuss consequential ways of thinking with UC Berkeley students for a living. This work is fulfilling precisely because the discussions I have with students about gender, race, colonialism, nature (etcetera) consistently challenge my understanding of the ideas that shape worlds. This work is

fulfilling precisely because the discussions I have with students about gender, race, colonialism, nature (etcetera) consistently challenge my understanding of the ideas that shape worlds.

My teaching informs my research and vice-versa. Currently, it focuses on the kinds of meanings that get attached to landscapes construed as "empty," or as "nowhere" (for example, places categorized as "wilderness," "waste land," or "frontier").

Such categorizations are made possible through underlying ideas about value, time, property, and kinship, and have direct, observable impact on lives and deaths (human and nonhuman). I am drawn to the prospect of exploring how ways of thinking - of categorizing -- enable entire stretches of land, teeming with life, to be seen as empty and used for a variety of practices such as nuclear testing, mining, or recreation.

I also love that such questions about the meaning of place are possible with the multi-disciplinary field of gender and women's studies. It's a field that affords space for the kinds of creative and critical thinking I try to teach, and that I learn from, my students. □

Jac Asher, Continuing Lecturer



Research Areas

- ▶ Gender and sexuality studies
- ▶ African American literature
- ▶ Visual culture
- ▶ 19th- and 20th-century American literature

Courses taught in 2014-15

- ▶ GWS C146A: Cultural Representations of Sexualities: Queer Literary Culture
- ▶ GWS100AC: Women in American Culture

Ayse Agis, Continuing Lecturer



Research Areas

- ▶ Comparative (post-colonial) modernisms / modernities
- ▶ The novel
- ▶ Gender and narratives of national identity
- ▶ Globalization
- ▶ Transnational labor and indigenous peoples

Courses taught in 2014-15

- ▶ GWS14: Gender, Sexuality, and Race in Global Political Issues

SUMMER SESSIONS COURSES

Gender, Sexuality and Race in Global Political Issues: Gender, Reproduction and Sexuality



GWS14 | Session A | MTuW 1:00-3:30 PM | CCN:49403
242 Dwinelle Hall | Ugo Edu, GSI, GWS Lecturer

In this course we explore the topics of gender, reproduction and sexuality mostly through the lens of medical anthropology. This is an interdisciplinary class on the theorizing and understanding of gender, reproduction and sexuality. Paying attention to the social contribution of these concepts and the differences in conceptualization around the world, we will look at initial framing and understanding of gender, reproduction and sexuality and trace changes and their influences. We will draw mainly from the fields of anthropology, gender and women's studies as well as relevant fields such as public health, law and history.

GWS50 American Cultures | Session D | TuWTh
9:00-11:30 AM | CCN:49405 | 229 Dwinelle Hall | Barbara
Barnes, GWS Continuing Lecturer

Why is it that certain female figures struggle to fit the label "American"? This course explores the forms of exclusion of people of color, focusing on gender minorities and their unequal participation in American cultures. Starting from data on immigration and increased demographic diversity in the U.S. since the 1970s, the course will explore the forms of sexual, gender and racial stratification of immigrant women especially, complicating racial and gender binaries. Diversity within immigrant cultures will be examined in readings, films, sociological essays and comic books on Asian-Americanness, on the formation of Latina pan-ethnic communities, and Black queer Diasporas.

Gender in American Cultures: "She is not American...or is she?"

Gender, race and sexuality in
American immigrant cultures



Gender, Race and the Environment



GWS111.1 | Session A | TuWTh 9:00-11:30 AM/CCN:49415
243 Dwinelle Hall | Julie Klinger, GWS Lecturer

In this course we examine the relationship between race, gender and the environment, focusing specifically on social and environmental issues related to climate change. To get us all on the same page, this course begins with an overview of the science behind climate change. We then examine the uneven contribution, impacts and effects of a warming climate, and explore the ways in which race, gender and nature are (re) defined in contemporary climate science politics and practice. Through the course, we will interrogate 'common sense' approaches to global problems, consider their colonial legacies, and think critically about the construction of democratic futures.

GWS111.2 | Session D | TuWTh 1:00-3:30 PM
CCN: 49420 | 4 Evans Hall | Giancarlo Cornejo, GSI, GWS
Lecturer

What stories are told about queerness? What stories would we like to be told about queerness? What stories would we love to tell about queerness? This course is an introductory class on Queer Theory and the stories it tells. Indeed, one of the main contributions of Queer Theory has been and continues to be its critique of hetero-normative narratives and their pervasiveness. In this course we will consider a queer theoretical approach to reading as a form of storytelling and as a praxis of queer storytelling.

Queer Storytelling



Dance in American Popular Film and Television



GWS R1B | Session A | TuWTh 1:00-3:30 PM | CCN:
49402 | 204 Dwinelle Hall | Sima Belmar, GWS Lecturer

From the Busby Berkeley Hollywood film musical to the Step Up series, from Flashdance to So You Think You Can Dance, this course follows the long and luscious trajectory of dance on the American large and small screens. The course is designed to think through how dancing serves to both support and contest gender, sexual and racial stereotypes, and to ask how choreography produces and disseminates embodied knowledges. In addition to a variety of Hollywood films and mainstream television shows about dancing, we will also look at documentary films about concert dance choreographers; tarry with a variety of theoretical texts from the fields of dance studies, performance studies and film studies; and consult critical writings from newspapers and magazines.

Gender and Women's Studies Fall 2015 courses

GWS10: Introduction to Gender & Women's Studies (Salzinger)

GWS24: Freshman Seminar

GWS40: Gendered Ecologies: Exploring Human-Nonhuman Entanglements (Barnes)

GWS50AC: Gender and American Cultures: Interrogating 'America' and its Emblems (Barnes)

GWS102: Transnational Feminism (Bacchetta)

GWS103: Identities Across Difference (Trinh)

GWS111: Gender and Capitalism (Salzinger)

GWS115: Engaged Scholarship in Women & Gender (Bacchetta)

GWS130AC: Gender, Race, Nation & Health (Nelson)

GWS133AC: Women, Men & Other Animals: Human Animality in American Cultures (Chen)

GWS140/240: Feminist Cultural Studies (Moallem)

GWS195: Senior Seminar (Rodriguez)

GWS210.1: Race, Gender, and National Bodies (Rodriguez)

GWS210.2: Governance Feminism (Shamir)

LGBT20AC: Alternative Sexual Identities & Communities (Asher)

LGBT C146A: Cultural Representations of Sexualities: Queer Literary Culture (Asher)

Class of 2015 Award Winners



MARGARET PERRET, '15
DEPARTMENTAL CITATION AWARD
UNIVERSITY MEDAL FINALIST

I've been a departmental wanderer during my time at Berkeley. I have taken classes in seventeen departments on campus, but my favorites were always in Gender & Women's Studies. It was GWS10 with Professor Barnes when I first fell in love with feminist theory. The readings and lectures made me feel inspired and invigorated in way I had never felt before.

The staff and faculty are my primary source of academic support and encouragement. The readings I've done for GWS are still the most innovative, relevant and politically important texts I've read at Berkeley. And the people I've met through our department have impacted me in ways too lovely and long lasting for words.



ANDREA SHIZUKA IKEDA, '15
DEPARTMENT HONORS
THESIS PRIZE

Cowboys, Indians, and Aliens: White Supremacy in the Klamath Basin, 1826-1946

During the mid-1870s, US settler violence destroyed the indigenous populations of the Klamath Basin. Amidst the virulent racism of World War II seven decades later, the federal government incarcerated nearly twenty thousand people of Japanese ancestry on the same land.

This paper places the structures of settler colonialism and the discourses of Yellow Peril/Orientalism in conversation by examining the parallels and tensions between the two periods. It explores how the fundamental logics of settler colonialism underwrote both the genocide of indigenous peoples and the racialized exclusion of non-native people of color toward the ultimate end of upholding white supremacy.

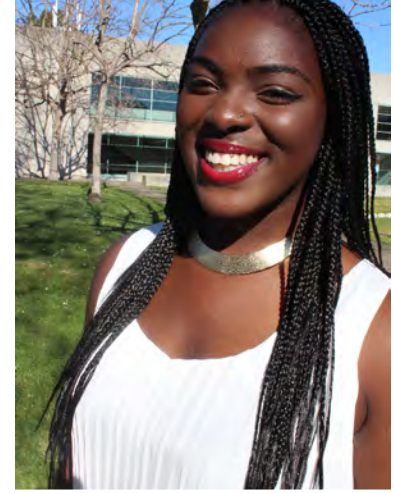


HIRA SAFDAR, '15
DEPARTMENT AWARD FOR
EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

When I came to Cal, I knew I wanted to at least minor in Gender and Women's Studies because of the fire burning inside of me for gender equality and justice. GWS classes helped me think critically of societal systems and structures in place that perpetuate the various public health problems we would talk about in my science classes.

My professors, classmates, research papers and final exams enabled me to explore my identity as a Muslim woman of color, which became integral to my drive to pursue medicine. Come senior year, I realized the minor was not enough to quench my thirst, so I decided to double major, and it was the best decision I made in my undergraduate career!

In December, I will complete my undergraduate degrees in Gender and Women's Studies and Integrative Biology insha'Allah (God-willing).



CHRISTINE CHILAKA, '15
DEPARTMENT AWARD FOR
EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

Being a Gender and Women's Studies major made my experience at Berkeley all the better. It gave a different set of eyes to analyze the sciences with.

It provided me with access to a plethora of medical opportunities. And more importantly, it has given me confidence in my ability to become a stellar OBGYN.

Because of this department, I am equipped with skills to understand my patients beyond a medicinal level. I'm excited for what is to come because I know that the Gender and Women's Studies Department prepared me well.

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR AWARD WINNERS



DEWGS students, Ianna Hawkins Owen and Ugo Nwokeji Edu, won the 2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor (OGSI) Award, which honors UC Berkeley GSIs for

their outstanding work in the teaching of undergraduates. These OGSI recipients are nominated from within their teaching department. The GSI Teaching & Resource Center gives the award recipients certificates of distinction and a celebratory ceremony in the spring.

In addition, currently enrolled graduate students who receive the OGSI award will receive a \$250 stipend, sponsored by the Dean of the Graduate Division, to applaud outstanding GSIs. Congratulations Ianna and Ugo!

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Profile: Christine Chilaka

My thesis is entitled, "Whose Body is it Anyways? Investigating the Quality of Reproductive Care Among Women with Intellectual Disabilities." By focusing on Patient-Provider communication during a gynecologic examination and patient preparation preceding a gynecologic examination, I highlight the disparities in reproductive care that women with intellectual disabilities face. Furthermore, I examine current practices that are in place within the medical field for patients with intellectual disabilities and how they can be improved.

Current Undergraduate Profile:

Courtney Sarkin



I am a GWS, Legal Studies, and Molecular and Cell Biology triple major, and I have found that all of these have contributed to my interdisciplinary educational experience. Specifically, I do a lot of independent research around LGBTIQ breast

cancer health disparities and experiences. Through examination of LGBTIQ breast cancer health experiences, I hope to explore the relationship(s) between the biomedical paradigm, healthcare law, and inequality and how we can provide more compassionate and quality care to LGBTIQ breast cancer patients and survivors.

Professor Nelson has been excellent at advising me on this, and I will continue to do this research in the GWS thesis seminar class, which I'm really looking forward to. GWS courses have allowed me to see the world in a unique way—one that I now can't live without. Not only have the courses challenged my perspectives, I have been able to meet other students who have such diverse experiences and knowledge, and I've learned so much from the community that has formed.

The GWS professors are so incredibly gifted and kind, and they have made me feel like what I have to say is important by creating an open and welcoming environment. And I'm always being challenged to keep achieving and thinking outside of the box, which is something I particularly value about my education here at Berkeley.

There are so many ways that GWS has enhanced my experience at Berkeley that it's hard to name them all...but a short way is to say that GWS classes have, by far, highly contributed to my critical thinking skills, activism, and experiences at Berkeley.

SUPPORT GENDER & WOMEN'S STUDIES

Make a gift to the Department of Gender & Women's Studies!

Your donation could make it possible for a student to attend a conference to present his/her work, to cover transportation costs for an undergraduate interning at a local non-profit agency or to help bring a feminist scholar from the Global South to campus to speak to our students. Even small contributions will help support the basic operational needs of our small but vibrant department.

You may direct your gift to: the **Chair's Discretionary Fund** used to address urgent needs (on the Give to Cal website it is known as the Department of Gender & Women's Studies Fund); to **Undergraduate Student Support** to provide financial support to our students; or to the **Fund for the Advanced Study of Gender, Women and Sexuality** to support graduate research. You may indicate a designation on the giving form.

Contact the Chair of GWS you wish to discuss possibilities for a major gift.

Thank you for helping to support feminist studies at UC Berkeley!

CONTACT

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