

# Race and Gender in Global Perspective

Symposium organized by the Council on Women's Studies at Duke University

February 7-8, 2003

Save the date!

Registration is Required

For more information:  
Contact phoffman@duke.edu,  
919-684-3655 or 919-685-5683  
Women's Studies at Duke  
Box 90760  
Durham, NC 27708

## WOMEN'S DUKES STUDIES



**Feb. 7, 8 p.m.**

Join us for a lecture by author and actress Anna Deavere Smith followed by a reception and book-signing.

**Feb. 8, 10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

Duke President Nannerl O. Keohane kicks off the symposium, which features papers on human rights; immigration and labor; and race, gender and global equity.

[www.duke.edu/womstud](http://www.duke.edu/womstud)

**Accommodations & Airfare Information**

*Please book hotels by January 14*

Washington Duke Inn (\$139)  
ph 919-490-0999 or 800-443-3853

Millennium Hotel (\$89)  
ph 919-382-5059 or 800-633-5379

Marriott Hotel (\$89)  
ph 919-768-6000 or 800-228-9290

Airport shuttle service is available through hotels (\$34 each way). Shuttle service to Duke is free from the Millennium and Marriott.

For 5-10% discounts on airfare on American Airlines call 800-221-2255 (code #1523AJ).

For Avis Rental discounts, call 1-800-331-1600 (code # A563304). Mention Women's Studies Symposium.

## WOMEN'S DUKES STUDIES

Duke University  
210 East Duke Building  
Durham, NC 27708-0760

Fall 2002 Newsletter

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*The Academic Mission of Women's Studies at Duke*

*Women's Studies at Duke University is part of a historical educational enterprise inaugurated by social movement and dedicated to the study of identity as a complex social phenomenon. In the field's first decades, feminist scholarship reoriented traditional disciplines toward the interdisciplinary study of women and gender and developed new methodologies and critical vocabularies. Today, scholars continue to explore the meaning and impact of identity as a primary, though by no means transhistorical or universal, way of organizing social life by pursuing an intersectional analysis of gender, race, sexuality, class, and nationality. In the classroom, as in our research, our goal is to transform the university's organization of knowledge. In our Program's dual emphasis on interdisciplinarity and intersectionality, we offer students new knowledge about identity while equipping them with a wide range of analytical and methodological skills.*

# WOMEN'S DUKE STUDIES

Fall 2002 Newsletter

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**Director's Column**

Dear Friends,

I begin my column this fall by sharing with you the program's recently revised mission statement, which guides our current activities in Women's Studies as scholars, teachers, and students. As our statement indicates, Women's Studies is a complex field that twins political commitment with rigorous intellectual questioning, and that seeks to teach students how both to value and to interrogate the education that the university offers them. Here at Duke, where Women's Studies is completing its nineteenth year as a formally institutionalized academic unit, we are proud of the many ways we continue the tradition of putting feminist knowledge to good intellectual and political use.

This fall's newsletter has been organized to highlight the various research initiatives that are at the heart of our recent and forthcoming labors. In addition, we have a feature article on one of our two new faculty in the program, who brings to us expertise in both the theoretical and transnational trajectories of recent scholarship in the field.

(continued on next page)

**Women's Studies is a complex field that twins political commitment with rigorous intellectual questioning**

*Upcoming Event in February 2003*

**"Race and Gender in Global Perspective"**

The Council on Women's Studies will sponsor "Race and Gender in Global Perspective," a symposium to be held at Duke University on February 7-8, 2003. The symposium aims to explore the complex ways in which race and gender have been affected by (and affect) the processes and practices of globalization.

In recent years, globalization has become an important new term in both the academy and popular media to describe rapid and expansive transformations in economics, technology, and culture. For feminist commentators in particular, globalization provides a way of talking about various forms of unequal power relations between cultures, genders, and races that have become more apparent since the demise of the politics and world economy created by the Cold War.

The symposium begins on Friday evening with a performance at Page Auditorium by public intellectual and actress, Anna Deavere Smith, and continues throughout Saturday

(continued on page 4)

*Director's Column Continued...*

As you will see, our research goals for the program are wide ranging and multiple. One project, on "Gender and Sexuality Studies: Collaborations in Research, Teaching, and Community Alliance," allowed us to begin to solidify the enormous talent of scholars at Duke whose work connects two fields of study that have often been distinct: Women's Studies and Sexuality Studies. We plan to continue to work closely with the Program in Sexuality Studies to develop cross-listed courses and to foster the necessary institutional and pedagogical linkages that enable us to more adequately understand gender and sexuality.

Perhaps our biggest project this year is the initiative on "Feminism, Transnationalism, and the International," which engages us in a broad consideration of the nature and meaning of globalization for Women's Studies teaching and scholarship. This project, funded by a Title VI grant to the Center for International Studies, builds on the very successful summer Institute on Women and Development organized by Sucheta Mazumdar (History) and features a faculty seminar and a public lecture series. In addition, our Graduate Scholars group, led this year by Visiting Associate Professor Tina Campt, focuses its inquiries in the same direction, thus giving advanced graduate students the opportunity for intellectual engagement with this important aspect of feminist scholarship in an interdisciplinary setting. And finally, the third component of this research initiative on globalization is our February symposium on "Race and Gender in Global Perspective" organized by the Council on Women's Studies. Featuring scholars from various fields who will talk on human rights, the international traffic in women's domestic labor, and global poverty, the symposium offers the Duke and Durham communities, along with alumnae/i and friends, an opportunity to think critically about how globalization now affects us all.

While the various arms of the globalization project address our Program's interest in intersectional analysis, we are also developing several research initiatives that fulfill our mission to extend our interdisciplinary reach. Next April, Women's Studies will be a co sponsor of a major conference on technoscience and gender at City University of New York called "Future Matters: Technoscience, Politics, and Cultural Criticism." We are also a sponsoring unit for the yearlong faculty research seminar in "Gender, Race, Sexuality, and the Culture of Medicine" here at Duke and we are currently in the preliminary stages of developing a grant proposal for a project on "Human Diversity, the Humanities, and the Language of the Sciences."

As we did last year, we will continue to engage the academic and local communities in dialogue through our public lecture series "Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines." With speakers from German Studies, Philosophy, Literature, African American Studies, Law, and History, the series highlights current research in diverse fields in order to raise issues about feminist knowledge production and the organization of the disciplines.

And finally, I am pleased to announce a new collaboration with Women's Studies at UNC called, plainly enough, the UNC-Duke Annual Lecture in Women's Studies. Hortense Spillers, well known for her work in black feminist theory, will be the inaugural speaker on January 16, 2003.

It is very exciting and gratifying to be part of a program so alive in its intellectual work and so supported by faculty, students, alumnae and friends. I hope that many of you will join us for the symposium in February.

Best,

Robyn Wiegman

## Future Matters Conference

As part of a collaboration with The Center for the Study of Women and Society at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, Duke's Women's Studies program is co-organizing a conference, slated for April 10-11, 2003 in New York, on "Future Matters: Technoscience, Politics and Cultural Criticism." The two-day event will feature twenty speakers and an audience of fifty invited guests. Patricia Clough, Director of City University of New York's Center for the Study of Women and Society, describes the conference as "responding, at least in part, to the centrality of technoscience to the ongoing globalization of capitalism and the intensification of militarism, terrorism and bioterrorism. But most crucially, it will provide an opportunity for an interdisciplinary array of feminist scholars to explore technoscience not only as an object of cultural criticism but as an agency of power that already has changed and continues to change the conditions and presumptions of cultural criticism and political practice. The event's beginning presumption is that scholars in feminist studies are urgently in need of elaborating a nuanced understanding of technoscience, one that draws out the networks of technologies that no longer can be treated separately: 1) the technoscientific technologies of life and death, technologies of surveillance and control, biotechnologies, and genetic technologies; 2) the productive technologies of laboring and reproducing/replicating bodies; and 3) the media technologies of representation, entertainment, and communication." A collection of essays is planned as an outcome of the conference.

*Duke's co-sponsorship of this conference is supported by Duke Women's Studies and the following departments and programs: the Office of the Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies; The Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Science and Cultural Theory; and Information Science and Information Studies/ISIS.*

From July 30 to August 2 this year, thirty faculty participants from across the country gathered at Duke's Franklin Center for four days of intense conversation, seminar presentations and readings on "Globalization, Women and Development." Over two years in the making, the interdisciplinary Summer Institute was made possible by a Department of Education grant to the Center for International Studies with support from Women's Studies, and was the first such institute on Women and Development held at Duke University. Sucheta Mazumdar (History, Duke), the primary organizer and convener of the Institute, proposed the gender component of the Title VI grant, which also funded the development of a new undergraduate course on "Globalization, Women and Development." The planning group for the Institute included Jean O'Barr (Women's Studies, Duke), and Ranjana Khanna (English and Literature, Duke). Pamela Gutlon, Center for International Studies, was the Program Coordinator.

The Institute featured faculty from English, Anthropology, Sociology, History, Economics, Sociology, Romance Studies, Women's Studies, Development Studies, Political Science, Biology and Agricultural Science. Its aim was to begin the process of reconceptualizing and revitalizing the field of U.S. Women's Studies by engaging with "on the ground" issues. This focus led to lively conversations on the similarities of women's material conditions worldwide, rather than their perceived cultural differences. Questions of water shortages, absence of health care, infant mortality, environmental pollution and women's health, gender-biased public policy and the problems women have in accessing scientific information engaged the Institute's participants. It was clear that such issues crossed international divides.

Institute participants considered such issues as the problematic nature of "development." Given a market-driven model of economic transformation, it was noted that a growing body of evidence indicates that in the 1990s there has been rapidly increasing class and gender-based inequality in many societies, including formerly developed economies (ex. Russia, Argentina, U.S.). How then do we conceptualize "sustainable development"? As Natalia Mirovitskaya's July 31 presentation pointed out, the "market revolution" in Russia and the abrupt withdrawal of much state support for working people has led to an astounding increase in poverty among women and an increase in the number of sex-workers who have no other option for livelihood. Discussion also focused on China and the implications for women, who perform two-thirds of all farming

there but are excluded from larger agro-industrial projects. What will the impact of The World Trade Organization be on Chinese women? And can the American model of agriculture be sustained elsewhere? What are the global environmental implications of this model?

Another focus of discussion was the need to identify the connections between women's movements worldwide while continuing to acknowledge the irreducible differences inherent to location, diverse subaltern histories, power relations and priorities that underlie the various movements. Many discussions elaborated on the need for theorizing based on activism, generating and nurturing student activism for social change, and developing innovative and responsive pedagogy.

The concluding day of the Institute was devoted to a critical examination of the uneven reach of globalization especially in terms of health issues in Asia and Africa, and in "transition economies" like Russia's. Structural adjustment policies imposed by international monetary agencies have destabilized many economies and communities from Latin America to Asia and Africa. In China there are over a hundred million people without any health care who are part of the "floating population" looking for work. While HIV

## Summer Institute on Globalization, Women and Development

Sucheta Mazumdar



has drawn attention recently, the other "silent killers", like malaria and TB, are neglected arenas of funding.

To further explore these issues, a "Globalization and Women" colloquium group has been formed at Duke, with support from the Center for International Studies. The colloquium will link many of the scholars located in the southeast who attended the Summer Institute with the Duke community. We hope to meet at least once every semester. The first meeting, focusing on women and the environment, took place October 18, 2002. Plans for a reprise of the Institute are underway.

*Sucheta Mazumdar is an Associate Professor of History at Duke and author of Sugar and Society in China: Peasants, Technology and the World Market (Harvard University Press, 1998), Antinomies of Modernity: Essays on Race, Orient, Nation (forthcoming in 2002), and Connections: A Global History of Women in the Long Twentieth Century (forthcoming in 2005).*

*Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines* highlights current research in diverse fields in order to raise issues about feminist knowledge production and the organization of the disciplines. Several questions motivate this inquiry, including: how does the specific character of a discipline affect the ways in which feminist scholarship has historically developed? Is there a distinction, in different disciplines, between the study of women and a feminist analysis? How are questions of method or paradigm, as opposed to objects of study, central to certain disciplinary domains, and what consequences thus ensue for thinking about feminist studies as an interdisciplinary (or even transdisciplinary) endeavor?

Last year, the lecture series brought to campus scholars doing feminist research in fields as diverse as biology, psychology, cultural studies, African American Studies, law, science studies, and American Studies. Included this year are Helen Longino (Philosophy of Science and Women's Studies, Minnesota), Katrin Sieg (German Studies, Georgetown), Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (Afro-American Studies, Harvard University and Visiting Professor of African and African American Studies at Duke this fall), Charlotte Pierce-Baker (Women's Studies and African and African American Studies, Duke), Adrienne Davis (Law, University of North Carolina), Tina Campt (Women's Studies, Duke), Scott Morgensen, (LGBT Studies, Macalester College), Lisa Duggan (History and American Studies, New York University), Brenda Dixon-Gottschild and Hellmut Gottschild (Visiting Artists and Directors of ZeroMoving Dance Company), Clare Hemmings (Gender Institute, London School of Economics), John Howard (History, York University), and Saidiya Hartman (English and African American Studies, Berkeley).

## Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines

### Lecture Series

*Sponsors for the Across the Disciplines lecture series include the offices of the: Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies, and the following Duke departments and programs: African and African American Studies; The Center for Global Studies and the Humanities; Classical Studies; Computer Science; Cultural Anthropology; English; Germanic Languages and Literature; History; Making the Humanities Central; Marxism and Society; Master of Arts in Liberal Studies; Music; Program in Literature; Pratt School of Engineering; Psychology; Public Policy Studies; Romance Studies; Sexualities Studies; Sociology; and Theatre Studies.*

#### *Race and Gender Continued...*

with papers and roundtable discussions by scholars who have been teaching and studying race and gender in the context of globalization. Speakers include Charlotte Bunch (Women's Studies, Rutgers University), Rhacel Parrenas (Women's Studies and Asian American Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison), Kamala Visweswaran (Anthropology and Asian Studies at the University of Texas, Austin), Leith Mullings (Anthropology, City University of New York), Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo (Sociology, University of Southern California), and Beverly Guy-Sheftall (Women's Studies, Spelman College).

Presentations will explore the relationship between local communities and global economic and cultural forces as these are defined within both contemporary feminist studies and inter/national political practices. The symposium promises to

**"...globalization provides a way of talking about various forms of unequal power relations between cultures, genders, and races..."**

offer our audience, made up of Duke faculty, students, and alumnae/i, the opportunity to engage important new directions in feminism's understanding of race, gender, and globalization.

The symposium is organized by the Council on Women's Studies, led by committee co chairs Pam Stone (Associate Director, Radcliffe Public Policy Center) and Wendy Marantz (Georgetown University Law Center). The Council on Women's Studies is an alumnae organization that sponsors and organizes symposia, conferences and other programs that support the mission and goals of the Women's Studies Program at Duke and that brings Women's Studies scholarship to bear on issues of campus life.

*Symposium sponsors include: The Laura Ellen and Robert Muglia Family Foundation and Stephanie D. Kuhling, LMHC, through the Women's Giving Alliance of Jacksonville, Florida; Duke University's Offices of the President, the Provost, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs, and Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies; and the following departments and programs: African and African American Studies; Asian and African Languages and Literature; Center for Global Studies and the Humanities; Cultural Anthropology; John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute; Institute of the Arts; Marxism and Society; Mary Lou Williams Center; Master of Arts in Liberal Studies; Multicultural Center; Music; New Beginnings; Pratt School of Engineering; Program in Literature; Public Policy Studies; Romance Studies; Sexualities Studies; Slavic Languages; Sociology; Theater Studies; and Women's Studies.*

## A University Seminar at Duke, 2002

# Feminism, Transnationalism, and the International

This year's Women's Studies research initiatives include an extensive investigation into how research and teaching about women and gender can consider international and transnational differences in social, political, ethnic, and cultural terms. The university seminar on Feminism, Transnationalism and the International is a year-long series of faculty seminars and public lectures funded by a Title VI Grant to the Center for International Studies, and is presented in collaboration with Women's Studies at Duke. (See the series schedule in our calendar.)

Co-organizers of the symposium, Ranjana Khanna, Tina Campt and Robyn Wiegman describe the project:

"In the past decade in the U.S. and in many European contexts, Women's Studies programs have sought to address critiques of their ethnocentrism by internationalizing their teaching and research agendas. Under the internationalizing imperative, course content has been expanded to include stories of various mechanisms of women's oppressions outside the U.S. and Western Europe. While these attempts are laudable as political gestures, they have more often than not reinscribed a universalizing liberal cultural relativism (as in much scholarship on women and development and activism on human rights issues) and thereby repeated some of the same imperialistic gestures for which feminism has been attacked during the past twenty years of lively critique. Some indeed have seen attempts at internationalization as complicit with an advancement of global capitalism that is antithetical to the feminist project as a whole.

This university seminar assesses and contributes to ongoing discussion about internationalizing Women's Studies by exploring the critical terrain of feminist conversations about the international and its attendant (and divergent) terms: the transnational, globalization, diaspora, and the postcolonial. Our title, "Feminism, Transnationalism, and the International," foregrounds the current trends in, and the history of, feminist theory and praxis and pushes the existing boundaries of the uni-

versity's organization of knowledge. The work presented in the series challenges us to consider how the local is both implicated in and contests geo-political forces of globalization and, at the same time, makes clear how globalization relies upon complex relations of the local. The series aims to provoke critical rethinking of the relations between the local and the global in ways that resist the privileging of the local as the authentic that stands in contrast to the global. It simultaneously challenges invocations of the global that inscribe U.S.-centric, presentist, or instrumentalist logics as uncontested explanatory models for analyzing these complex processes.

Our hope is that such a consideration will yield a particularly productive mode of articulating the stakes of internationalizing Women's Studies and the crucial part feminism is to play in the critique of globalization."

*The University Seminar and lecture series is co-sponsored by the offices of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies, and the following departments and programs: African and African American Studies; The Center for Global Studies and the Humanities; Engineering; European Studies; History; John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute; Marxism and Society; Master of Arts in Liberal Studies; Music; New Beginnings; Program in Literature; Pratt School of Engineering; Public Policy Studies; Romance Studies; Sexualities Studies; and Sociology.*

**Transnational:** a term used to describe the circulation of people, capital, goods, and cultures across national boundaries and interests (as in transnational corporations that are not housed by or obligated to any single national entity). As a mode of critique, transnational analysis emphasizes social, cultural, political and economic relations that are irreducible to national rubrics.

**Globalization:** a broad concept used differently by different constituencies. For neo-liberals, it is often considered a positive process for global democratization, capital development, and knowledge sharing. For feminist critics it is considered an economically stratifying force that jeopardizes human rights and undermines the sovereignty of local communities and governments in favor of transnational actors and profits.

**Diaspora:** traditionally used to define the forced dispersal of a community across disparate geographic locations. More recent conceptions of diaspora emphasize how members of such communities construct a sense of belonging and relationship to one another in ways that contest and supersede nationally based identities. Two key examples are the Jewish and African diasporas.

**International:** often refers to the ways in which nations are connected to and interact with one another without compromising the sovereignty of the nation state. In Marxian analysis, the "International" is used to connote the aspiration toward a unified political constituency that opposes the political and economic exploitation of the underclasses in a capitalist system.

**Postcolonial:** an interdisciplinary field that investigates the histories and effects of colonization throughout the world. The 'post' in postcolonial refers not so much to the end of colonization itself, but to a desire to understand how colonization continues to impact and outlive its political and historical existence both within and beyond former colonial territories.

*Participants in the seminar include Duke and UNC faculty and postdoctoral fellows. They are: Stan Abe (Art & Art History, Duke), Srinivas Aravamudan (English, Duke), Ian Baucom (English, Duke), \*Tina Campt (Women's Studies, Duke), Elisa Cevasco (Literature, Duke), Miriam Cooke (Asian and African Languages and Literature, Duke), Ann Dunbar (African/African American Studies, UNC), Leon Dunkley (Mary Lou Williams Center, Duke), Sibylle Fischer (Literature, Duke), Elena Glasberg (Program in Sexualities, Duke), Joanne Hershfield (UNC), \*Ranjana Khanna (English and Literature, Duke), Karen Krahulik (LGBT Center, Duke), Marcy Litle (Comparative Area Studies, Duke), Negar Mottahedeh (Literature, Duke), Gabriela Nouzeilles (Romance Studies, Duke), Karen O'Donnell (Duke University Medical Center), Jocelyn Olcott (History, Duke), Sonali Perera (Lecturing Fellow, Duke), Charles Piot (Cultural Anthropology, Duke), Janice Radway (Literature, Duke), Leigh Rajford (Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke), Eunice Sahle (Political Science, UNC), Irene Silverblatt (Cultural Anthropology, Duke), Deborah Thomas (Cultural Anthropology, Duke), Pricilla Wald (English and Women's Studies, Duke), Kathi Weeks (Women's Studies, Duke), Deborah Weissman (Law, UNC), \*Robyn Wiegman (Women's Studies, Duke), Nadia Yakub (UNC), Donna Zapf (Masters in Liberal Studies Program, Duke), Hortense Spillers (Literature, Duke), Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke)*

(\* Co-convenors of the University Seminar)

## Gender and Sexuality Studies in Collaboration

*Brain Carr*

Since its inception, Women's Studies as a field has been concerned with gender's complex relationship to sexuality. But in recent years, with the academic proliferation of lesbian and gay studies as well as queer theory, scholars have begun to push the analysis of sexuality and gender in new directions, at times even questioning what Women's Studies and Sexuality Studies might have in common beyond a shared interest in the way that identity functions for both individuals and society. Last year's initiative, "Gender and Sexuality Studies: Collaborations in Research, Teaching, and Community Alliance," was designed to explore these issues by linking, for the first time in their institutional histories, the programs in Women's Studies and Sexuality Studies at Duke.

Organized by program directors Elena Glasberg (Sexuality Studies) and Robyn Wiegman (Women's Studies), with funding from the Provost's Common Fund, the collaboration had three primary components: 1) a faculty research seminar,

2) a lecture series, and 3) a film and video series organized by the graduate student collective, *Queer Visions*. The faculty research seminar consisted of nine full time members in addition to the project organizers: Catherine Brown (Romance Studies), Tyler Curtain (UNC, English), Felicia Kornbluh (History), Diane Nelson (Anthropology), Janice Radway (Literature), Susan Roth (Psychology), Laurie Shannon (English), Antonio Viego (Literature), and Tomiko Yoda (Asian and African Languages and Cultures). In the spring, Bill Maurer and Tom Boellstorff, visiting faculty in Anthropology from the University of California, Irvine, joined the seminar. Brian Carr and Eden Ouscha worked together on the *Queer Visions* series.

The faculty seminar met monthly to discuss new scholarship that brought together gender and sexuality studies in innovative ways. Several readings, including David Eng's *Racial Castration: Managing Masculinity in Asian American*, Judith Halberstam's *Female Masculinity*, Janet Halley's *Sexuality Harassment*, and Sarah Franklin's essays on genetics were keyed to campus visits by each scholar. In addition to these works, the faculty seminar focused both on metatheoretical essays by Judith Butler and Sylvia Yanagisako,

“ The faculty seminar met monthly to discuss new scholarship that brought together gender and sexuality studies in innovative ways. ”

and methodologically grounded scholarship by anthropologist Don Kulick and historian of science Edward Stein, along with the autobiographic excursions into intersexed embodiment by Cheryl Chase.

The Common Fund project has helped the programs in Sexuality Studies and Women's Studies at Duke identify existing faculty interest in the intersection of gender and sexuality studies, forge new alliances with faculty and students at UNC, and radiate all of this interest to the university community. The well attended lecture series suggests that, through the efforts of the Common Fund group, both older and newer generations of scholars, students, and community members were either renewed in their interest in sexuality and gender studies or excited about pursuing such an interest for the first time.

*Brian Carr is a doctoral candidate in Literature and a member of Duke Women's Studies Graduate Scholars.*

“ ... scholars have begun to push the analysis of sexuality and gender in new directions... ”

### UNC Duke

#### *Annual Lecture in Women's Studies*

Women's Studies at Duke and UNC will inaugurate a joint annual lecture on Jan 16, 2003, with its first speaker, Hortense Spillers. Professor Spillers, Frederick J. Whiton Professor of English at Cornell University, is a Visiting Professor in Literature at Duke University this year. Over the past twenty years, Spillers has enormously enriched African diasporic literary and cultural criticism. Her scholarship includes: "The Crisis of the Negro Intellectual: a Post-date" and the very influential, "Mama's Baby, Papa's Maybe: An American Grammar Book." She is the author of *Comparative American Identities: Race, Sex and Nationality in the Modern Text*. Her forthcoming book *Black, White and In Color: Essays on American Literature and Culture* will appear in 2003.

*The lecture will take place at 7:30 PM in Toy Lounge in Dey Hall, UNC. A reception will follow.*



Image from "Lesbian Beds" photography exhibit featuring Tammie Rae Carland, photographer.

Mark your calendar: February 7-8, 2003 Race and Gender in Global Perspective" Symposium

**September 26 Tammie Rae Carland,** Photography, featuring "*Lesbian Beds.*" An exhibit at the Duke University Museum of Art (September 26 - November 24). Lecture by Cathy Davidson, Vice Provost of Interdisciplinary Studies, "*Reinserting Myself into a History From Which I'm Absent,*" 5:30 PM, DUMA.

**September 30 Inderpal Grewal,** Director, Women's Studies, University of California Irvine and **Caren Kaplan,** Professor, Women's Studies, University of California, Berkeley. "*International or Transnational? U.S. Women's Studies in Late Modernity.*" **Feminism, Transnationalism and the International.** 5:30 PM, 204D East Duke Building.

**October 17 Gayatri Spivak,** Avalon Foundation Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University. "*Gender.*" **Feminism, Transnationalism, and the International.** 5:30 PM, Richard White Lecture Hall.

**October 22 Lynn Hershmann and Dr. Richard Wallace,** inventor of the Alice-bot (a virtual artificial intelligence). Lecture and screening of "*Conceiving Ada.*"

**October 23 Teknolust,** film screening, lecture and reception, Love Auditorium, LSRC, Time TBA.

**October 28 Katrin Sieg,** Associate Professor, Center for German and European Studies and Department of German, Georgetown University. "*Women in the Fortress Europe: German Feminist Crime Fiction as Antifascist Performative.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 4:30 PM, East Duke Parlors.

## Duke University

### Women's Studies Program Calendar

**November 4 Jacqueline Brown,** Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Hunter College. "*Local Women, Global Men, Engendering Cosmopolitanism in Liverpool's Age of Sail.*" **Feminism, Transnationalism, and the International.** 5:30 PM, Breedlove, Perkins Library.

**November 5 Christopher Castiglia,** Associate Professor, English, Loyola University of Chicago. **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 4:00 PM, Carpenter Board Room.

**November 5** A reading by **Sallie Bingham,** in celebration of her new book of short stories, *Transgressions.* 5 PM, Mary Duke Biddle Rare Book Room.

**November 8-10 The Woman's College, 1930-1972, Celebrating a Legacy of Excellence and Leadership.** For more information, go to [www.dukealumni.com/cc/wcc](http://www.dukealumni.com/cc/wcc).

**November 8 Women's Studies Open House,** 11 AM- 1 PM, 210 East Duke Building.

**November 13 Charlotte Pierce-Baker,** Associate Research Professor, Women's Studies and African and African American Studies, Duke. "*Women and Violence.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 12:00 PM, lower-level Cafe, John Hope Franklin Center.

**November 15 Peggy Sanday,** R. Jean Brownlee Term Professor, Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania. "*The Minangkabau: Muslim Matriarchy in West Sumatra.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 3 PM, 204B East Duke Building.

**November 21 Helen Longino,** Professor, Women's Studies, University of Minnesota. "*Science, Values, and the Politics of Knowledge.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 5:00 PM, 204D East Duke Building.

**December 11 Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham,** Professor, History and Afro-American Studies, Harvard University and Visiting Professor, Duke University. **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 12:00 PM, lower-level Cafe, John Hope Franklin Center.

**January 16 Professor Hortense J. Spillers,** Frederick J. Whiton Professor of English, Cornell University, and Visiting Professor, Literature, Duke. First Annual UNC-Duke Lecture in Women's Studies. 7:30 PM, Toy Lounge, 4th floor, Dey Hall, UNC. A reception will follow.

**January 27 Adrienne Dale Davis,** Professor, Law, UNC. "*The Sexual Economy of American Slavery.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 4:30 PM, Room 3043 Law School.

**January 29 Tina Camp,** Visiting Associate Professor, Women's Studies, Duke. "*Blacks in Europe.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 12:00 PM, lower-level Cafe, John Hope Franklin Center.

**January 29 Scott Morgensen,** Assistant Professor, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies, Macalester College. "*Contesting Indigeneity: Queer and Native Politics of the Sexual and Transnational.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** Time and place TBA.

**February 7 An Evening with Anna Deavere Smith,** 8 PM Page Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at Page Box Office. Booksigning and Reception after the lecture, Multicultural Center, lower level, Bryan Center.

**February 7-8 Race and Gender in Global Perspective,** a symposium organized by the Council on Women's Studies. For more information please call 684-5683.

**February 18 Lisa Duggan,** Associate Professor, History and American Studies, NYU. "*Sexuality in the South.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** Time and place TBA.

**February 19 Brenda Dixon-Gottschild and Hellmut Gottschild,** Visiting Artists and Directors of ZeroMoving dance company. "*Tongue Smell Color.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** 12:00 PM, lower-level Cafe, John Hope Franklin Center.

**March 18 Wai Chee Dimock,** Professor, English and American Studies, Yale University. 4:00 PM, Carpenter Board Room.

**March 19-20 Rey Chow,** Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities, Brown University. **Feminism, Transnationalism, and the International.** Time and place TBA.

**March 31 Clare Hemmings,** Gender Institute at London School of Economics. "*What Difference does Feminist Historiography Make?*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** Time and place TBA.

**April 1 Lisa Cartwright,** Director Susan B. Anthony Institute, Associate Professor, English, Visual and Cultural Studies, University of Rochester. **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** Time and place TBA.

**April 2 John Howard** (York University), "*Sexuality in the South.*" **Feminist Studies Across the Disciplines.** Time and place TBA.

**April 13 Women's Studies Open House-Alumni Reunion Weekend.** 2-3:30 PM, East Duke building Parlors.

**April 14-15 Tani Barlow,** Women's Studies, University of Washington; **Uta Poiger,** History, University of Washington; **Priti Ramamurthy,** Women's Studies, University of Washington; **Alys Weinbaum,** English, University of Washington. "*The Modern Girl Project.*" **Feminism, Transnationalism, and the International.** Time and place TBA.

**May 9 Women's Studies Graduation Dinner Celebration.** Time and place TBA.

## New Women's Studies Faculty

*Kathi Weeks, formerly an Associate Professor of Political Science at Fairfield University, joins us as a new tenured Associate Professor. She specializes in contemporary feminist and political theory. Dr. Weeks' first book was *Constituting Feminist Subjects*. Her latest project focuses on the wages for housework debates in the 1970's and is centrally concerned with feminist analyses of women's labor. Dr. Weeks' specialty in labor and socialist feminist political theory will broaden the program's research agenda. An interview with Dr. Weeks will appear in the spring 2003 Women's Studies Newsletter.*

*Tina Campt came to Duke this Fall as visiting Associate Professor in Women's Studies. Drawing on her dissertation in history at Cornell University, her first book, *Other Germans: Black Germans and the Politics of Race, Gender, and Memory in the Third Reich*, is an oral history of Afro-Germans in the Third Reich and is forthcoming from the University of Michigan Press. Dr. Campt's latest research focus on transnational feminist issues in the African Diaspora will help to expand the international feminist focus of the program.*

*This coming year, we will begin to search widely in interdisciplinary feminist studies for the Jean O'Barr endowed professorship. When the search is complete, Women's Studies will have five full-time tenured faculty members.*

### TINA CAMPT

*Interviewed by Jaya Kasabhatla*

JK: My first question is about your recent book. What was the guiding research question for this book and what kinds of sources were most important to you in pursuing this question?

TC: It was a project that started as an idea before the dissertation, and the questions that led me to do the research changed a lot. The initial question that I wanted to understand was very simple: what was the experience of black people in the Nazi regime? The question changed into a more complicated one: how did race work in a regime that was structured around race as its defining principle? Then it got more complicated, which had to do with the materials I found. How are racialization and gender inseparable in the way that individuals are constituted as subjects? That's the real question I ended up asking, which is a great question to ask of the National Socialist regime. Race always had to work through gender.

JK: Can you give me an example of race "working through" gender?

TC: National Socialism was a totalitarian regime in which race determined your status. In other words, an individual's status in society was based on the definition of your 'race,' the characterization of which was quite arbitrary. In order to maintain power, the regime needed to reproduce itself, which is where gender and sex played into it. A program or plan to maintain and reproduce a racial state thus had to structure itself around gender and sexuality.

But let me get to the second part of your first question—what kinds of sources did I consider. As a historian, I look at archival sources and the initial sources I looked at

were public discourses on black people in Germany -- newspaper articles from the era preceding the Nazi period, following World War I. There were basically two moments in which there was a substantial published discourse on Black Germans and that was in the colonial period and after WWI, during the occupation of the Rhineland in which the French used many African troops to occupy Germany. What I found was that the ways in which the [German popular press] articulated their relationship to these communities was by means of a particular kind of threat -- not so much the threat of blackness per se, although that too was very much present in this discussion, but more important and more interesting to me -- the threat of mixture. What implications would the products of this mixing have for the German people? That was a gendered and sexuality-based discussion. I asked: why is it that when this group is discussed, the discussion occurred through a gendered and sexualized discourse of danger? Here, race and gender are mutually constituted which helps us think beyond the paradigm of intersectionality. When I say intersectionality, I'm referring to a way of theorizing the relationship between race, gender and sexuality that sees them as intersecting and/or overlapping at certain points in our experience. But for me, it's never solely a question of a moment of intersection. Race is always gendered and sexualized and vice versa, and I find it very important to linger on this issue and not just to "note" it.

The second type of source I used was oral testimony. I wanted to look at how this population was perceived by Germans, and how Black Germans perceived themselves and their position within this regime. The individuals I talked to articulated the inextricability of racialization and gender: they were

never just raced subjects but always also gendered. Even for the Germans, the racial distinction was never purely racial—access to that position [of being German] was always gendered. I use two case studies in the book, one of which is taken from the testimony of a man who was the son of a French occupation officer. As a boy, although sterilized by the Nazis, he was also a member of the Hitler Youth. As a proto-military youth organization, masculinity was central to the Hitler Youth because this organization was supposed to play a crucial role in the gendered formation of youth in Nazi society. In fact, its explicit mission was to socialize German boys into becoming "Aryan" men with a particular kind of racialized understanding of what that meant. Interestingly, when my informant talked about his experiences in the Hitler Youth, he focused on the uniform he had to wear. What was fascinating about his story was that it was through his masculinity that he got access to a kind of legitimacy as a German. But that access and that Germanness were not just forms of masquerade that erased his race; more importantly, the only way that he had access to Germanness was through the *masculinity* of this uniform.

JK: Could you tell me a little bit about the community of Black Germans that you focus on in your book? I'm curious about the history of their arrival in Germany—did most of them come to Germany as voluntary migrants?

TC: Actually, I wasn't looking at migrants, only Blacks who were born in Germany. How Black Germans fit into the African diaspora is different than the traditional narrative of diaspora. Usually, the diaspora is understood to involve the dispersal of a people or culture to far-flung locations, through forced, collective migrations and displace-

*Women's Studies alumna Lisa Yun Lee and Marc Ewing have generously endowed a chair in honor of Jean Fox O'Barr, founding Director of the program in Women's Studies at Duke. Below is the ad for the position.*

## Jean Fox O'Barr Professorship Search

The Program in Women's Studies invites applications and nominations for the Jean Fox O'Barr Professorship in Women's Studies to begin no later than September 1, 2004. We seek a distinguished senior scholar at the rank of Full Professor with Tenure who possesses the following: 1. an established research record in feminist studies (field open); 2. demonstrable commitment to Women's Studies as an interdisciplinary field; 3. a strong understanding of gender's relation to race, class, sexuality and nationality; 4. expertise in a variety of methodologies (broadly conceived); and 5. experience in teaching interdisciplinary courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Send nominations or applications, C.V., and names of three recommenders to Robyn Wiegman, Director, Women's Studies, Box 90760, 210 East Duke Building, Durham, NC 27708. We will begin reviewing applications December 16, 2002. *Duke University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer*

ments. But the Black German population did not derive through one or even several collective migrations. Rather they are the product of mostly individual and voluntary migrations and two major occupations (following the First and Second World Wars). They are a very small population, in fact no exact figures on their current numbers exist, and there was no real public consciousness about a black population in Germany until the public discourse made it relevant.

JK: When you began your research, did you find that there was a feminist tradition of scholarship on the Black German community? If so, what kind of analysis and/or framework did it provide you with?

TC: Yes, there was a feminist tradition with this focus. It's fascinating because, similar to the U.S., feminists of color have spearheaded a lot of the writing of 'history from below,' and this is also the case among Blacks in Europe. My new work is on African diasporas in Europe, and some of it will be based on first person narratives, many of which have been published by black lesbians, black feminists, and other black women. Early work on this topic that tried to excavate black subjectivities was also written by black women. In many ways, I consider myself part of that tradition. Still, the term "diaspora" is a term that I'm using critically and trying to contest. A lot of the work I'm trying to engage is in the paradigm of the Black Atlantic and the Black British cultural studies movement. I'm critical of elements of it, but it is very much what forms the basis of my work. I want to add another level to that discussion and ask what is the relation between African-American communities, Black British communities and Black German communities? I really

want to push the notion of borrowing that is part of Stuart Hall's really sophisticated conception of "diaspora." For example, what happens when you add another group into the mix that doesn't have the same linkages, and how does the Black German community borrow and build upon these sedimented histories of other groups?

JK: Would you be willing to describe your work as postcolonial, and if so, what is the usefulness (or lack thereof) of the term for describing what you do?

TC: Absolutely, it can very much be defined as postcolonial, with a complicated understanding of that term, of course. I've thought long and hard about this. My work would not immediately be seen as postcolonial, because the obvious question is, where are the colonies? The colonial relation I'm interested in was not limited to the colonies. I want to go beyond relations between metropole and colony and also consider the modes of interpellation that result from those relationships. The study of interpellation is a lot of what I do.

JK: I'm so happy to hear that you found the term "postcolonial" productive instead of a hindrance to your work! As someone who is trying to be a postcolonialist, I have heard many critiques of the term that don't seem to do justice to the kinds of questions it enables one to ask or the scope of theoretical engagement it encourages you to develop across critical traditions.

TC: I'm really committed to the term, but we need to think about postcolonial theory as a mode of analysis and not just as kind of analytic mapping. That way it becomes a lot more useful to us, and we don't have to restrict ourselves to any one historical model.

JK: The Women's Studies Program at Duke is committed to training students to manage the rigors of interdisciplinary research. In your own work, what were some of the challenges of working in more than one discipline, and what advice would you give to scholars who are trying to ask questions that require an interdisciplinary approach?

TC: To me, interdisciplinarity is the product of necessity. It arises out of the need to bring together different methodological approaches in order to engage in knowledge production. Interdisciplinarity is only useful in that it allows you to understand something better and in more complex ways. It's not about a mission to make all students into interdisciplinary scholars, nor does one necessarily need to teach in an interdisciplinary way. Only if working across disciplines will get you someplace, do you then need to do it that way. In my case, I could not understand subject formation through primary sources that were static, for example, solely through newspapers or only through documentary sources. I needed to utilize ethnographic methodology and to think anthropologically in many instances. Another example, often times as a historian you can't read newspapers just for factual content—you need to use the tools of literary theory to read them as complicated texts. The interdisciplinary component of my work is something that enables me to train students to understand a historical period...in a way that contains a lot more texture.

*Jaya Kasabhatla is a doctoral candidate in English and a member of Duke Women's Studies Graduate Scholars.*

## New Women's Studies Major

The new Women's Studies curriculum appeared for the first time in this year's bulletin and will impact students matriculating Fall 2002. The revision creates a balance in the Major between core Women's Studies offerings and cross-listed courses. Students formerly took two Women's Studies courses and eight electives; the new curriculum requires five and five. It also provides a coherent path through the Major, with the creation of a set of "gateway" courses for non-major introduction to Women's Studies as a field and prerequisites for academic growth from first to fourth year instruction. Most importantly, from the University's standpoint, the Women's Studies Major is now directly linked to the general education requirements of Curriculum 2000. (Go to [www.duke.edu/womstud](http://www.duke.edu/womstud) for more information.)

## Revised Graduate Curriculum

Women's Studies offers a certificate to Duke students in M.A., Ph.D., and professional degree programs. The certificate is a formal statement of the interdisciplinary coursework a student has completed, and it has proved to be a useful professional credential to students seeking positions after graduation. Students who have earned the certificate have priority for the teaching and research assistant positions available through Women's Studies.

The new proposed Graduate Curriculum, slated to be instituted in fall 2003, requires four courses, including an introductory course in Feminist Studies, two Women's Studies graduate courses and one approved course offered by Women's Studies or another academic unit focusing on women, gender, sexuality, race, and/or feminism. (Go to [www.duke.edu/womstud](http://www.duke.edu/womstud) for more information.)

## Graduate Scholars

The purpose of the scholars group is to give graduate students, especially those who are no longer in classes, the opportunity for intellectual engagement with feminist scholarship in an interdisciplinary setting. The group's fall schedule, with meetings on the evenings of October 2, October 28, November 6 and December 4, is focused around readings from the University Seminar on Feminism, Transnationalism and the International. Tina Campt, Visiting Associate Professor of Women's Studies, is this year's faculty leader. Graduate students interested in participating should contact Pat Hoffman at 919-684-3655.

### WOMEN'S STUDIES FROM DUKE

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## NEW LOOK

Noticed our new look? With a grasp of our academic mission and program goals in mind, Durham graphic designer, Molly Renda, created a great new logo for Duke Women's Studies. Molly has been a book and graphic designer for 20 years and is the owner of Molly Renda Graphic Design. She says, "This project continues to be a fantastic combination of challenge and stimulation—one of those jobs that has me eager to leave for work in the morning." Many thanks go, also, to Jeanne Taylor, of Designing Solutions, for designing our newsletter layout. Soon, we'll have a new website design, too! In the meantime, look for information about the program at [www.duke.edu/womstud](http://www.duke.edu/womstud).

## PEOPLE



**Eleanor Thomas Elliott**, former member of the Council on Women's Studies, received an honorary degree from Duke on May 12, 2002. On May 10, at the Women's Studies Graduation Ceremony, and to the delight of those in attendance, Ellie spoke affectingly about the conditions of women's lives throughout history and in her own lifetime. On May 9, she was honored with a tea in the Mary Duke Biddle Rare Book Room, attended by about 100 members of the Duke community. Mrs. Elliott and Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans, Trustee Emerita, reminisced with Robert F. Durden, Professor Emeritus of History, about the Duke and Thomas families.

**Cathy Davidson**, Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies at Duke, delivered a talk at the May Women's Studies Graduate Feminist Emphasis graduation dinner in the Parlors. Dr. Davidson's talk focused on the nature of interdisciplinarity and its centrality in Women's Studies. She passionately refuted the notion that women are excluded from history and the traditional disciplines and offered many reasons to pursue Women's Studies.



**Gwen Rogers** and **Cassandra Harris** were welcomed as new Women's Studies staff this year. Gwen, our new Finance Manager, has worked at Duke for fifteen years and comes to the Program from Undergraduate Admissions where she was a Staff Specialist in accounting and payroll. Despite the challenges of her new job, Gwen finds time to study computer science and enjoy jazz and travel. Cassandra Harris, the program's new Administrative Secretary, has worked at Duke for twenty-seven years, most recently at the Freeman Center for Jewish Life. She is an avid reader and movie aficionado.

**Correction:** In our spring newsletter article on the Woman's College Celebration, two names were misspelled. Please note that conference panelists will include Caroline Happer ('56), and a chapel service will be led by Martha Horn ('70).

## COUNCIL NEWS

**The Woman's College Celebration** was held Nov 8-10, 2002. Many current and former council members returned for this special celebration.

**The Spring Meeting of the Council on Women's Studies** will be held Sunday, February 9, 2003, from 8 AM- Noon, in Trinity Commons on Duke's West Campus. Breakfast will be served.

**"Race and Gender in Global Perspective,"** described elsewhere in this newsletter, is coordinated by an energetic and committed group of Duke alumnae. Many thanks to Co-Chairs Wendy Marantz and Pam Stone Shearer and their hard working committee members: Kelly Coogan, Donna Lisker, Joanne Mazurki (Council Vice-Chair), Alison Meekhof, Laura Ellen Muglia, Tracy Nayer, Amy Smith O'Connor, Sarah Rosen (Council Chair), Rebecca Wanzo, Wendy Wertheimer, and Jane Stoddard Williams.

Sarah Rosen completes her two-year term as chair of the Council on Women's Studies at the end of this year. She served as a Council member from 1992-98 and returned to chair the Council in 2000. The Program and the Council are very grateful to Sarah for her effective leadership and continuing commitment to Women's Studies. Joanne Mazurki will assume the position of Council chair in January 2003 and will lead the annual meeting on February 9.

For more information about the Council on Women's Studies, contact Pat Hoffman (919-684-3655).

## WOMEN'S STUDIES & THE DUKE CAMPAIGN

Under the leadership of Jean O'Barr, the program met the goals initially established for it by the College of Arts and Sciences for the Duke Campaign. But while we have achieved a significant objective, funding for postdoctoral fellowships, graduate students, the Teaching Endowment and the General Endowment remain important program needs. Contributions also help to bring you this newsletter and such great events as the Council on Women's Studies' February Symposium.

This summer Women's Studies was delighted to receive a gift of \$65,000 from an anonymous donor. This gift to the program allows us to support more faculty research, student research and travel, and collaborations on projects with other universities. Since we cannot thank this benefactor personally, we will take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributes to Women's Studies at Duke.

Thanks to all of our donors for your support of the program!