

# gender:dynamic

The Newsletter of the Gender Studies Program at Northwestern University

## From the Director's Desk by Ann Orloff

In an era when gender and sexuality have clearly lost their fixity in the academic - if not the popular - imagination, it seems apt that Gender Studies programming, research and exchanges this year have been organized around the theme "Gender and Sexuality in Transition." Our events have coalesced around the "trans" in "transition": transnational gender and sexuality (as in studies of sexual migration, labor and tourism, and of families, gender and care work across national contexts); transgender and transsexual identities; and critical transactions among the methodologies and philosophies of feminism, queer theory and gender studies. These seem to us to identify the nodes of scholarship in gender and sexuality where particularly exciting work is being done across the humanities and social sciences and where productive interdisciplinary conversations occur. Consequently, this year featured a calendar full of lectures, colloquia, films, roundtable discussions and workshops focused on these timely topics - indeed, I have noted a sort of gender-bending version of Stendhal's syndrome among Gender Studies affiliates as we have been awed by the array of exciting research projects and artistic production that has come together under the auspices of the program.

In the Fall quarter, Performance Studies Professor E. Patrick Johnson kicked off our academic year and the colloquium series with a performance, "Camp Revival: Performing Sexuality in the Black Church," offering an array of voices of gay and Southern African-American men negotiating sexuality and religious beliefs and institutions. In October, Gender Studies welcomed Kristen Schilt, Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Chicago, who presented a talk entitled "Business as Usual? Incorporating Transgender Men into the Workplace."

To top off our Fall programming in November, Gender Studies and the American Cultures Colloquium co-sponsored a visit by one of the founders of queer theory, Michael Warner, Seymour H. Knox Professor of English and American Studies at Yale University.

The Winter quarter proved no less eventful. In January, Gender Studies welcomed to campus Lynne Haney, Professor of Sociology at New York University, who gave an Edith Kreeger Wolf lecture entitled "Transforming (Gendered) Governance: Prisons, Punishment, and Social Policy," as well as met with students and faculty in Sociology to discuss the current state of gender and sociology (see page 12). This large gathering was characterized by a spirited debate among the presenters; Haney was joined by Northwestern Sociology Professor Leslie McCall, Kristin Schilt, me and graduate students. In February, Gender Studies welcomed director Kimberly Reed to campus for a screening of her film *Prodigal Sons*. The screening, organized by Gender Studies faculty member Nick Davis, was notable for scooping Oprah, among other things, who featured Reed after her successful Northwestern screening. February also featured one of our ongoing "Keywords" conversations, in which faculty and graduate students from across disciplines engage in a critical dialogue about a "keyword" in gender and sexuality research. This year, Hector Carrillo, Associate Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies; Jillana Enteen, Senior Lecturer in Gender Studies, and Elias Krell, PhD Candidate in Performance Studies, discussed the meanings and usages of "trans" in their disciplines.

Our crowning event of the Spring quarter was a two-day workshop, "Translocations: Travel, Migration, and Sexuality," April 29-30, organized by two of our new faculty, Professors Hector Carrillo and Steve Epstein. The workshop featured a keynote address by Edith Kreeger Wolf Distinguished Visiting Professor Rhacel Salazar Parrenas, Professor of American Civilization and Sociology at Brown University, entitled "Cultures of Flirtation: Sexual Work and Moral Boundaries of Filipina Migrant Hostesses in Tokyo," in which Parrenas described her research findings on a group of migrant women often assumed to be "trafficked," but which she

*Continued on page 2*



Face in the City by Igor Mitoraj

## Table of Contents

- • • • •
- **Director's Desk 1-2**
- **Undergraduates 3-5**
- **Graduates 6-7**
- **Faculty 8-11**
- **Gender Studies Colloquium 12-13**
- • • • •

“‘On this side you are a **man**; on the other side, you are a **woman**.’ It is time for the winds of **change** to blow that line away. **Simple**.”  
-Kate Bornstein, *Gender Outlaw*

*Continued from page 1*

finds inhabiting a more complex range of positions, a few coerced but many others more freely chosen. Other presenters included Elizabeth Bernstein, Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies and Sociology at Barnard College; Mark Padilla, Assistant Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education at the University of Michigan; Jyoti Puri, Professor of Sociology at Simmons College; Steven Epstein, Professor of Sociology and John C. Schaffer Professor in the Humanities at Northwestern and our own Hector Carrillo. Among the many themes explored in this two-day workshop were sexuality and citizenship among Mexican male immigrants, transgender citizenship, the interaction of sexuality and the law in Dominican tourism zones. Northwestern Gender Studies affiliated graduate students were the commentators for each session, and many other students participated in the events by attending the conference and meeting with Professor Parrenas. Among the other events and lectures of the Spring quarter were a visit in April by Deborah Gould, Assistant Professor of Sociology at University of California, Santa Cruz, who presented a talk based on her award-winning book, *Moving Politics: Emotion and ACT UP’s Fight Against AIDS*, and a visit in May by Andrew Parker, Professor of English at Amherst College who met with faculty and graduate students and gave a lecture, “The Theorist’s Mother.”

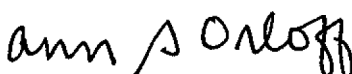
This year our own faculty members and students collaborated on a number of interesting presentations and events. In December, Professor Jeffrey Masten of English and Gender Studies gave a colloquium presentation based on his work in progress, “Queer Philology.” In May, Weinberg senior Kathryn Weisshaar and Professor Nicki Beisel of Sociology and Gender Studies presented “Sex Since the ‘70s: Visions of Sexuality in Women’s Periodicals, 1970-2010.” The Gender Studies Undergraduate Board coordinated a visit by author and performance artist Kate Bornstein, which was co-sponsored by the LGBT Resource Center, Performance Studies, Theatre and Drama and Sexual Health & Assault Peer Education (SHAPE). In addition to the program-wide events, a number of faculty members brought in outside activists and scholars to visit their seminars: Jillana Enteen welcomed feminist new media scholar Susanna Paasonen to her seminar, “Queer Theory;” Gender Studies Cluster fellow Greg Mitchell invited speakers from the Sex Workers Outreach Program (SWOP) to his seminar “Performance and Sexual Economy;” Amy Partridge invited speakers from the Young Women’s Empowerment Project (YWEP) to her freshman seminar, “No More Nice Girls: 1970s Women’s Liberation Movement(s);” and finally, Lane Fenrich organized several per-

formances in conjunction with his “U.S. Gay & Lesbian History” course.

At the conclusion of a year packed with activities and transitions, let me end this note by thanking our Gender Studies colleagues and graduate students for their service and contributions to our program over the year. Our Gender Studies Teaching Assistants, Theo Greene of Sociology, Hollis Griffin of RTVF, and Angela Maione of Political Science were excellent TAs, and each taught a fascinating upper-level undergraduate course, providing our students with access to cutting-edge scholarship: Greene taught “Sexuality and the City”; Griffin taught “Queer Media Studies”; and Maione taught “Global Feminism and Political Thought.”

We could not have managed without our Directors of Graduate and Undergraduate Studies, Tessie Liu and Amy Partridge. Our graduate certificate and cluster programs are thriving, as we provide classes and support to over sixty certificate students as well as providing an intellectual home to our cluster fellows, including this year’s cluster fellow, Nisa Goksel of Sociology. Next year, we welcome Clare Forstie as our newest cluster recruit, who will also begin the PhD program in Sociology. Associate Director Amy Partridge deserves particular mention as an invaluable member of the program, serving as advisor and mentor to our many Gender Studies majors and minors and as advisor to the Undergraduate Board. Thanks also go to Emily Gilbert, the newest member of our staff, who has provided excellent coordination as Program Assistant during an exceptionally busy year, and to Amalia Oulahan for designing this newsletter. Finally, I would like to express our gratitude to Vrinda Nabar and Joan Sherman who have been teaching for us for many years, enriching our undergraduate curriculum.

I end these notes with an important farewell: to Fran Paden, who is retiring after nearly 20 years. Fran helped to create the Gender Studies Program ten years ago, and in addition to teaching her stellar courses in gender, writing and autobiography, she has served as Interim Director and Director of Undergraduate Studies. Gender Studies would not be the thriving and innovative program it is today without Fran’s hard work and inspirational teaching.

.....  
  
Director of Gender Studies Ann Orloff

## Learning the Roots of Feminism

by Kelsey O'Hearn ('12)

As a student at an all-girls prep school, I was told that a feminist was someone who believed in the rights of women, and that, as students at a girl's school, we were naturally feminists, because we believed in our abilities and our rights. So since my grade school days, I believed that the definition of feminism was very simple and that every woman should be a feminist.

Professor Alexandra Owen opened my eyes to the complexities of feminism. The histories of feminism and of the women's movement reconstructed my definition of feminism. I learned that feminist theory underwent drastic changes as a result of the evolving cultural climate, that feminism has influenced various women's movements in very different ways, and that people's conceptions of feminism frequently conflicted. Moreover, feminists continue to be divided.

It seems obvious to me now that no two women share the same experience and consequently, are bound to, hold differing beliefs. Somehow in all my earlier years of education, I had lost sight of the uniqueness of each woman's experience. In "Roots of Feminism" the diversity of the class alone inspired engaging, thought-provoking classroom discussions. I found I was no longer certain of my own beliefs concerning feminism: Should it include consideration of race and sexual orientation? What is the purpose of feminism in the modern world?

Professor Owen is an incredible professor. Her presentation of each author's historical contexts and her emphasis on the influence of each publication on the women's movement as a whole was fascinating. She asked exactly the right questions to generate meaningful discussions. I came out of this class far more confused about my definition of feminism, but that was the point. Professor Owen challenged me to define feminism for myself and address the different perspectives of feminists. I am certainly a better thinker, and hopefully a better feminist, as a result of this challenge.

*Kate Bornstein presents her performance piece at Northwestern.  
Photo by Joyce Lee*



## Bornstein on Men, Women and the Rest of Us

by Mugsie Pike ('10)

After years of attempting to bring Kate Bornstein to campus, the Gender Studies Undergraduate Board was dedicated to bringing her to campus this winter. Friendly and approachable, Bornstein sat on stage before the performance and talked to audience members in small groups and one-on-one. The audience responded enthusiastically to her performance, "On Men, Women, and the Rest of Us," which included pieces from her upcoming memoir. Bornstein shared diverse stories, ranging from her mother's interpretation of her coming out to her reluctant acceptance of her daughter's Scientology to her father's legacy of misogyny. She ended the evening with her one rule for life: "Do whatever it takes to make your life worth living, just don't be mean." Each member of the audience left the auditorium with a "Get out of hell free" card.

Part of what was wonderful about Bornstein's visit was that she drew an audience which consisted of people who already knew and loved her work and those who did not. Because Bornstein is such an effective and powerful storyteller there was glowing feedback from the packed auditorium at her performance. Her performance pieces are personally authentic and honest, enabling them to transcend stigma and to cross minoritizing borders on an embodied, rather than only theoretical, level.

## Undergraduate Board Update

by Samuel Levy ('10)

Throughout this academic year, the Gender Studies Undergraduate Board has been busy bringing thought-provoking presentations, performances and dialogues to campus. This year, the board's co-chairs Mugsie Pike and Christie Stiehl, helped by Amy Partridge and Emily Gilbert, created discursive spaces on campus where alternative subjects, experiences and representations could be explored and de-naturalized. We were pleased to host a performance and workshop by Kate Bornstein in February. The board has been trying to bring Bornstein to campus for several years, so we were particularly pleased with the success of her events: the evening of performance seamlessly brought Northwestern students and the larger Chicago academic, queer and theater communities together. Her workshop was well-attended and thought-provoking. This spring, our events question and expand conceptions of gender as it intersects with the practicalities of everyday life for global and local subjects. Regardless of major, all undergraduate students are welcome to join the Undergraduate Board. The strength of our programming flows directly from the diverse areas of interest and study pursued by our members. If participating interests you, you need not be a major, simply contact [gender@northwestern.edu](mailto:gender@northwestern.edu).

### GSUB 2009-2010 Events

#### Fall 2009

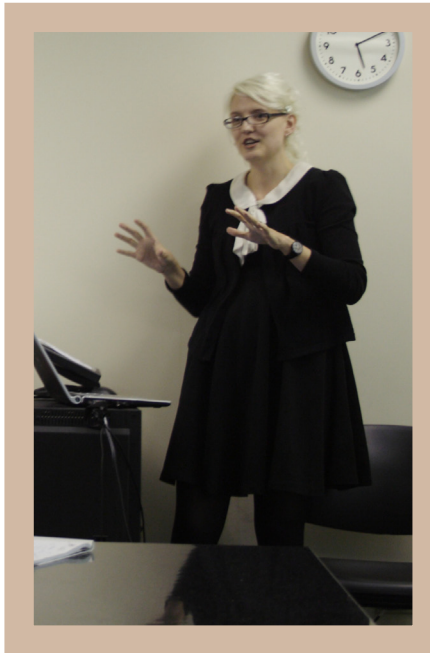
- "Affective Dynamics and Disturbing Images" with Susanna Paasonen
- Sex Workers Outreach Program (SWOP) with Serpent Libertine & Kelly Underarm
- Performance by Courtney Trouble
- "Business as Usual? Incorporating Transgender Men in the Workplace" with Kristen Schilt

#### Winter 2010

- *Quearborn & Perversion* screening
- *Yo Soy Asi* screening with Jodi Savitz (Gender Studies, '11)
- "Partying, Hooking Up, and Sexual Assault on Campus" with Elizabeth Armstrong
- "On Men, Women and the Rest of Us" with Kate Bornstein

#### Spring 2010

- "Beyond Monogamy: The Case for Open Relationships" with Tristan Taormino-Tognazzini



*Kristen Schilt addresses Northwestern faculty and students. Her presentation was sponsored by the the Gender Studies Program and Undergraduate Board.*



*Schilt's speech focused on transitioning transgender men's experiences in their workplaces. Photos by Kristina Ogilvie.*

## Kristen Schilt: Transmen at Work

by Christie Stiehl ('10)

In October, GSUB had the opportunity to sit down with Kristen Schilt, Assistant Professor of Sociology at University of Chicago, to discuss her recent ethnographic work on transgender men in the workplace. Her findings were fascinating and provoked many inquires from the undergraduate students in attendance. Schilt argued that transgender men who transitioned from presenting as female to male gained more power in the workplace. The experiences of the transgender men Schilt studies gave hope for tolerance in the workplace but also highlight the persistent gender inequality still present in our society. In addition to a captivating brown bag lunch discussion of this spectrum of power dispersals, gender dynamics and inequalities, GSUB and Schilt brainstormed ways to include the greater Chicago community in Gender Studies events. We concluded that inclusion would expand and diversify our conversations.

“ Invoking individual-level bargaining introduces **liberal** individualist notions of human **actions** and **relationships** that deter our understanding of women as situated social **actors**.”  
 -Tessie P. Liu, “Le Patrimonique Magique,” *Gender and History*

## 2009-2010 Gender Studies Theses

*Making Sense of Abortion after the Hyde Amendment: Images and Discourse of Abortion in Time & Newsweek, 1976-1978*  
 by Jessica Lehr (Gender Studies & Sociology)

*The Post-capitalist Turn: Feminist Materialism and Subcultural Politics*  
 by Samuel Levy (Gender Studies & Performance Studies)

*Something To Get Off My Chest: Bras and Binders in the Construction of Genders*  
 by Mugsie Pike (Gender Studies & Theater)

*The Category “Queer”: or How do we Construct Infidel Heteroglossias in the Globalized Genderscape?*  
 by Rachel Rys (Gender Studies & Linguistics)

*My Womb, My Decision: The Use of Assisted Reproductive Technologies in the Northern Suburbs of Chicago*  
 by Lyzanne Trevino (Gender Studies & Anthropology)

*Krumping and Voguing As A Means to an End: A New Outlook on Dance, Identity Politics, the Creation of Safe Space, and the Transformative Politics of Spirituality*  
 by Keith Miller (Gender Studies & Dance)

## 2009-2010 Gender Studies Award Winners

Jennifer Piedmonte (Gender Studies and Psychology) was awarded the **Posner Fellowship**.

Jodi Savitz (Gender Studies and Theater) received a **WCAS Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship** to support research for her 2011 Gender Studies senior thesis.

## 2008-2009 Gender Studies Awards

Elizabeth Coffin-Karlin was awarded the **George C. Casey Prize** for her essay, “Who Are Women-Born Women?: Womyn-Only Spaces and Conflict Over the Trans Body.”

Ashley Keyser was awarded the **Betty Jo Tetter Dobbs Prize** for her senior thesis, “Songs of Exceeding the Self: Mark Doty’s Queer Visionary Poetics.”

## What Our Grads Are Doing

Marissa Faustini ('09) and Jessica Matthiason ('09)

### What are you doing currently?

**MF:** I work for the Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) Program at Nicholas Senn High School. Supporting primarily low-income and minority youth, AVID pulls students from remedial classes and provides them with tutoring, academic counseling, motivational activities, and other resources to help them succeed in accelerated courses, and prepare for four-year colleges. As a tutor, I run in-school study sessions in Literature and History.

I love this job! At Senn, I have the opportunity to really have an impact on the learning of a great group of students.

**JM:** I’m currently a PhD student in Comparative Studies in Discourse & Society at the University of Minnesota, as well as a graduate minor in Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies. In particular, I’m working on an article right now about duality and surveillance in Lucia Puenzo’s 2007 film *XXY*.

I also serve as a TA in the department of Cultural Studies & Comparative Literature. It’s both strange and fun to be on the other side in the classroom.

### Plans for the future?

**MF:** In August 2010, I’ll be attending the Adler School of Professional Psychology. I’ll be entering a two-year Masters program in Marriage and Family Counseling.

**JM:** After completing my PhD, I would love to work as a professor of gender and media studies... perhaps with a break in between to do a little traveling!

### What’s the best part about life after NU?

**MF:** I’ve really been enjoying this first year after graduation. Working with really smart, fun teenagers, having many free evenings and weekends for the first time in years, and taking some time to slow down and plan ahead have all been wonderful parts of the “real world.”

### Any advice for those of us graduating this year?

**JM:** My advice for those graduating this year would be to take at least one year off to try something new and different before entering a graduate program or getting a “real” job. Travel, intern, volunteer, try your hand at something creative-- anything to decompress from four years of hard work, while expanding your horizons and finding out what you’re really passionate about.

## A Graduate Seminar Course: Queer Globalizations

by Victoria Fortuna (Ph.D. Candidate, Performance Studies)

Professor Rivera-Servera's graduate seminar explores contemporary scholarship that engages queer gender and sexuality within the context of neoliberal capitalist globalization. Throughout the development of the course, the terms "performance" and "queer" are investigated as both objects of study and analytic frameworks. Ultimately, it is precisely the legibility of both of these terms within globalized contexts that is called into question by the wide range of scholarship - drawn from Anthropology, Sociology, and Political Science, among other disciplines - considered in this course. In addition to students explicitly invested in performance and gender/sexuality studies, this course would be productive for anyone in the humanities or social sciences interested in the constitutive role of sexuality, gender and race in the processes of economic, political and cultural globalization.

While several readings approach issues of globalization and sexuality from a macro perspective (namely Denis Altman's *Global Sex*), the vast majority of texts favor ethnography as their primary methodology and engage the highly situated and contingent ways in which queer sexuality is enacted and shaped within the repertoires of everyday life. Highlights of the course include Ara Wilson's *Intimate Economies of Bangkok* and Lisa Rofel's *Desiring China*, each of which does an exemplary job of working through the various scales - global, national, urban/rural - that inform the production and performance of queer sexualities.

Course requirements include one presentation on course readings, two book reviews, one performative writing essay (an anecdotal "thinking piece" that requires students to focus queerly on an intimate moment of performance while engaging with its global contexts) and a conference length final paper presented on the last day of class. While this seminar's course requirements extend beyond the standard presentation and final essay format, all requirements are geared helpfully toward academic professionalization. Professor Rivera-Servera encourages students to tailor each requirement to their specific research interests and primary academic field, thus setting the stage for all work completed in the course to have a life well beyond it. Overall, this is a highly recommendable course, taught by a knowledgeable, engaging, and enthusiastic professor, that provides tools for methodologically and analytically engaging queer sexuality within the political, economic and cultural arrangements of globalization.

## Riot Acts: Flaunting Deviance in Music Performance

Elias Krell, a first year PhD student in Performance Studies organized a screening of the new film *Riot Acts: Flaunting Gender Deviance in Music Performance*, in January 2010. This film, directed by independent filmmaker Madsen Minax, was released in November 2009 and won the audience and critics awards at Reeling Film Festival for "Best Documentary."

"*Riot Acts* is a transfabulous rockumentary representing the



Still from *Riot Acts*

whole lives of transgender and gender variant musicians, through a first-hand perspective of the intersections between gender performance and stage performance, culminating with the notions that identities and bodies are undeniably political, and the trans experience isn't always one of tragedy, but one of creativity and joy" ([actorslashmodel.com/film.htm](http://actorslashmodel.com/film.htm)).

The event was sponsored by Gender Studies and co-sponsored by Performance Studies, The Graduate School, and the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities. Despite the weather, the screening drew a large crowd who participated in an engaging talk-back with the director and co-producer. The event was also a success in that it brought together Northwestern students and the greater Chicago community.

“ The **body** ... has to be **theorized** in ways that not only describe the ways in which it is brought into being but also what it *does* once it *is* constituted and the **relationship** between it and the **other** bodies around it. ”  
 -E. Patrick Johnson, *Black Queer Studies: A Critical Anthology*

## Graduate Student Updates

Gregory Mitchell (Ph.D. Candidate, Performance Studies and Cluster Fellow in Gender Studies) received the Kenneth Payne Prize for graduate student research at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting in Philadelphia, where he also presented a paper on a special AAA Presidential Panel focused on the future of queer anthropology. He also received the Zeta Phi Eta award from the National Professional Fraternity for the Communication Arts and Sciences. He has been nominated for the WCAS Outstanding Graduate Instructor for his Fall 2009 Gender Studies course, “Sexual Economies.”

Kareem Khubchandani (Ph.D. Candidate, Performance Studies) curated “KalaKranti: an Evening of Queer South Asian Performance” for Trikone-Chicago in January. He also performed his one-person show “Material Boy,” an adaptation of gay, diasporic, South Asian writers, at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee in February.

Katie Zien (Ph.D. Candidate, Interdisciplinary Program in Theatre and Drama) is spending the 2010-2011 academic year researching and conducting interviews to explore the relationships of gender, race, sexuality and class to the history of the Panama Canal in New York, Washington, D.C., and Panama City on a Fulbright Fellowship. In addition to completing her dissertation, Katie is beginning a performance project in collaboration with local and international artists and community members in Panama.

## Queertopia! Academic Festival

by Theo Greene (Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology)

Northwestern University’s Queer Pride Graduate Student Association hosted the third annual Queertopia! An Academic Festival on May 21 and 22 at Northwestern University. The weekend began on Friday afternoon with panel presentations. Queergasm! A Cabaret of Queer Performances followed that evening at Winston’s Café in Andersonville. Saturday the conference relocated to the Law School and was co-hosted by Northwestern’s OUTLaw group. Saturday included panel presentations and our keynote address from Cathy Cohen, the David and Mary Winton Green Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago.

Over the last two years, Queertopia! has established Northwestern University as a popular destination for young queer scholars to meet and discuss their scholarship. Last year’s event gathered more than 100 graduate students and advanced undergraduates from all over the country, as well as Canada and South Africa. Our decision to continue our festival originates from the overwhelming support of graduate students and faculty members who see Queertopia! as an opportunity to elevate the profile of the issues, concerns and debates that can help propel our movement and our research forward. This year’s theme “The Radical Potential of Queer[ing] Politics” continued our tradition of exploring the role of queer scholarship in shaping the lived experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered subjects.

Queertopia! also showcased Northwestern’s interdisciplinary approach to the study of sexualities. The conference represents an extension of the debates and discussions that take place in our graduate seminars. Presenters from around the country have been impressed by the ways that students at Northwestern study LGBTQ communities. Queertopia! has also been successful in showcasing the intellectual and artistic talents of our students. Of the ten submissions we exhibited at last year’s “Other Visual Pleasures,” two of our featured filmmakers were Northwestern graduate students. Last year’s keynote speaker was Northwestern alum Jeffrey Q. McCune, who received his Ph.D. in Performance Studies. This year, we incorporated new panels on Sexuality and the Law, successfully attracting many law students who work in this area. For more, visit <http://groups.northwestern.edu/queerpride>.

*Top Left: Jeffrey Q. McCune, Assistant Professor in American Studies at University of Maryland, giving his keynote address. Bottom Left: Tristan Cabello (History) presents his paper in panel “Queering Chicago History.” Panelists (from left to right): Lisa Alatorre, Owen Daniel-McCarter, Keith Jones, Tristan Cabello, and Timothy Stewart-Winter.*

Photos by Jerrold Marks.



## Faculty News and Honors

**Héctor Carrillo** (Gender Studies and Sociology) published two book chapters, “Immigration and LGBT Rights in the USA: Ironies and Constraints in US Asylum Cases” in *Handbook on Sexuality, Health, and Rights* (London: Routledge), and “Changes and Challenges: Ethnography, Homosexuality, and HIV Prevention Work in Guadalajara” in *Out in Public: Reinventing Lesbian/ Gay Anthropology in a Globalizing World*, (Boston: Wiley/Blackwell, 2009). He presented at the ASA meeting, and gave a keynote address at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality. He also published “Leaving Loved Ones Behind: Mexican Gay Men’s Migration to the USA” in *Mobility, Sexuality and AIDS* (London: Taylor and Francis Books, 2009) and co-authored “Revisiting Activos and Pasivos: Towards New Cartographies of Latino/Latin American Male Same-Sex Desire” (New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 2009).

**Peter Carroll** (History) presented a paper “Homicide and Lesbian Panic in the Nanjing Decade” at the Third International Conference on the History of Modern Chinese Urban Culture in Wuhan, China in July 2009. An article on prostitution, taxes and commerce is soon to be out in Chinese translation.

**Nicholas Davis** (English and Gender Studies) has published essays in the last year on the films *Brokeback Mountain*, *The Incredibles*, and *The Wild Party*, an early talkie directed by a studio-employed female filmmaker. Later this year, Rutgers University Press will publish the anthology *Hollywood Reborn: Movie Stars of the 1970s*, which includes his essay on Julie Christie and Vanessa Redgrave. He delivered conference papers this spring and continues to orchestrate the ongoing Keywords Conversations series.

**Micaela di Leonardo** (Anthropology) has been appointed Faculty Fellow at Northwestern’s Institute for Policy research, 2009-12. She published “Whose Homeland? The New Imperialism, Neoliberalism, and the American Public Sphere,” in *Rethinking America: The Imperial Homeland in the 21st Century* (Paradigm, 2009); and “The Trope of the Pith Helmet: America’s Anthropology, Anthropology’s America,” in *Anthropology Off the Shelf: Anthropologists on Writing* (Blackwell, 2009). Her “Commentary on ‘Knowledge and Empire: The Social Sciences and US Imperial Expansion’” was published in *Identities*.

**Alice Eagly** (Psychology) is Chair of the Feminist Transformations Task Force, established by the Society of the Psychology of Women. Its purpose is to discern whether and in what ways feminism in general and feminist psychology in particular have influenced the science of psychology. The task force gave a preliminary report at the conference of the Association for Women in Psychology on February 12 in Portland, Oregon.

**Jillana Enteen’s** (Gender Studies) book *Virtual English* was published in December by Routledge. Enteen attended the Association of Internet Researchers’ Annual Convention, serving as the respondent to keynote speaker Wendy Chun and on a roundtable concerning the future of Cyberculture and Queer Studies and the spoke on a roundtable at the Consumer Electronics Association

convention in Las Vegas. Recently, she participated in the Keywords Conversations Series discussing “trans.”

**Bonnie Honig** (Political Science) was inaugurated as the Sarah Rebecca Roland Professor in Political Science. Her paper entitled “Antigone’s Two Laws: Greek Tragedy and the Politics of Humanism,” is forthcoming in *New Literary History*.

**Tessie Liu** (History) is enjoying her work as Director of Graduate Studies. In 2009, she wrote the entry on “Beauty” for *The Palgrave Dictionary of Transnational History*. Her article “The Secret Beyond White Patriarchal Power: Race, Gender and Freedom in the Last Days of Colonial Saint-Domingue” will be published in *French Historical Studies* in 2010. She is currently writing the conclusion to her monograph, *Failure of Enlightenment, Not of Darkness: Race, Freedom and Citizenship Between the French And Haitian Revolutions*.

**Jeffrey Masten** (Gender Studies and English) discussed work in progress (“Queer Philology”) at Northwestern’s Gender Studies Colloquium in December. In September, he was named Herman and Beulah Pearce Miller Research Professor in Literature.

**Frances Freeman Paden** (Gender Studies and Writing Program) co-authored “Swollen Woman, Shifting Canon: A Midwife’s Charm and the Birth of Secular Romance Lyric,” in the March, 2010 *Publication of the Modern Language Association*. She collaborated with William D. Paden (French).

## Thank you, Vrinda Nabar

Gender Studies pays special tribute this spring to Visiting Professor Vrinda Nabar, who has taught memorable courses for us during the past eighteen years. Her classes on Indian literature and film, as well as on the Indian diaspora, have deepened our understanding of India’s place in contemporary thought, especially in relation to gender. Students have appreciated the “compelling” materials she selects and enthusiastically praised her teaching.

Nabar’s published work includes a theoretical book on women in India, *Caste as Woman*, as well as a critical study of Kamala Das, translations of Marathi poetry, and articles for leading Indian newspapers. She has given a number of her public lectures for Gender Studies, including “Books, Bombs, and Bollywood,” a riveting talk after 9/11 that put terrorist attacks into a transnational perspective, and a Simeon Leland Forum in which she discussed her memoir in progress: “*My mother, my grandmother and I.*” Nabar thoughtfully linked her generations at this discussion, stating “we have found ourselves standing at the crossroads, not only of tradition and modernity, both of which I see as evolving with each generation, but of a nation’s history.”

Professor Nabar has now returned to Mumbai to put the finishing touches on the memoir. Her students and colleagues eagerly await its publication.



“Families are the stuff of which [social] classes are constructed; it is through families that classes are reproduced.”  
-Nicola Beisel, *Imperiled Innocents*

## Farewell to Fran Paden

by Amalia Oulahan ('10)



For the faculty, staff and students of Northwestern's Gender Studies Program, 2010 is a year for "Transitions." The program is in the midst of a series of lectures and events focused on this theme. But perhaps the most important transition for the Gender Studies Program this year will be the retirement of Distinguished Senior Lecturer Frances Freeman Paden.

Paden has guided Gender Studies through major changes in the past two decades. As Associate Director and Director of Undergraduate Studies (1995-2004) she was instrumental in the development of an undergraduate major and graduate certificate in Women's Studies and Gender Studies. She also served as interim director in 1999-2000, when the Women's Studies Program changed its title and introduced major changes in the curriculum.

Paden knows the program's history first-hand and has unique insight into how its faculty, staff and students have altered - and been altered by - the emerging academic disciplines of women's and gender studies. As she concludes her time at Northwestern, it is important to record her piece of this history. Through honoring her career, it becomes clear how the program to which she contributed so much has changed life at NU.

Frances Freeman Paden joined the Northwestern faculty in 1989. At first she taught only in the Writing Program, but soon she accepted a joint appointment in Women's Studies.

"One of the first things I did when I began to teach at Northwestern was to join the Organization of Women Faculty. There I met Rae Moses and Arlene Kaplan Daniels, who at that time were the guiding lights in Women's Studies. I knew at once that I wanted to be affiliated," said Paden.

Women's Studies began as the Program on Women in 1975. By the early nineties it had evolved into a full academic unit, offering an undergraduate major and minor, teaching assistantships, and a graduate certificate. At that time the program was housed on the second floor of the Women's Center.

"By 1990, more and more women were entering academia, but few had become administrators or department chairs," said Paden. "The Women's Studies faculty knew if we were going to

teach gender and sexuality, we also needed to work on equity issues across the university. We felt an urgency about connecting theory with practice."

As the program grew stronger, space became an issue. In 1997 Women's Studies moved into Kresge Hall, undertook a self-study, and began to transform itself into what would become Gender Studies, a move that was congenial to faculty and students alike.

"The discourse was changing," Paden said. "Feminist and queer theory had begun to filter down to high schools. Students came into our university classes eager to learn how gender and sexuality work in social, artistic and political contexts."

Paden said the faculty and student boards have been essential to the success of the program. "The program has always attracted people who care deeply about the issues," she explained. "I would say the quality of the students coming into our program has not changed over the years. It has always been an exciting mix."

The faculty, staff and students worked closely together to change Women's Studies into Gender Studies by June of 2000. "As the faculty began to restructure the curriculum, the students worked with us, serving as representatives to the Advisory Board and to subcommittees. A separate committee, composed of faculty across Weinberg, worked with the dean on long-range planning for faculty appointments," Paden said. "The interweaving of efforts helped us build rapport and laid the groundwork for support. Before submitting a final proposal to the administration, Women's Studies asked both the faculty and the student boards to take a vote. Both voted unanimously in favor of making the change to Gender Studies."

Transitioning the program involved not only creating a new curriculum but also planning graduate-faculty seminars, lectures and conferences. To launch Gender Studies in the fall of 2000, the program developed a three-day interdisciplinary colloquium, "Gender, Race, and Reproduction: Bodies, Ideas, Cultures," generously funded by the Edith Kreeger Wolf foundation.

Paden said her experience in Women's Studies and Gender Studies taught her the value of dialogue. "I have liked helping students learn to read across the grain and to raise questions, especially about those things we have accepted as givens," she reports. "Theorizing the questions will keep the field growing and changing."

Paden continues to view change as a positive as she moves on from her career at Northwestern. "It has been a privilege to work with colleagues and students whose thinking contributes to paradigm shifts," she said. "Even though I will miss all this, it's a great moment to step away. I feel good about where the program has been and where it is likely to go."

## Meet Hector Carrillo

by Theo Green (Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology)



**H**éctor Carrillo arrived at Northwestern in Fall 2009 as a joint appointment in Gender Studies and Sociology. Carrillo, a member of the Governing Board of the Latina and Latino Studies Program, earned his doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) from the University of California, Berkeley. He comes to us from the Department of Sexuality Studies at San Francisco State University. His

first book, *The Night is Young: Sexuality in Mexico in the Time of AIDS* (University of Chicago Press, 2002), received the Ruth Benedict Prize from the Society of Lesbian and Gay Anthropologists of the American Anthropological Association. To introduce some of the issues he is interested in, I asked Professor Carrillo to talk about his scholarship, his teaching and his initial impressions of Northwestern's intellectual community.

**Q: Tell us a little bit about your research background and interests.**

A: Most of my research has been on issues concerning sexuality and health, particularly working with Mexican populations. Initially I wrote a book about sexuality in Mexico, *The Night Is Young*, analyzing how urban Mexicans conceptualize their sexuality and how public health—HIV prevention work in particular—responds to the ways in which Mexicans live their sexualities. I was concerned with what I saw as discrepancies between the models of HIV prevention that were being imported from the U.S. and other places, and what I understood to be different ways in which Mexicans interpreted their sexualities and sexual identities.

More recently, I became interested in studying how Mexicans' sexualities play out in the United States, and I shifted my focus to work with Mexican immigrants in California. My current work analyzes how Mexican immigrants become incorporated into U.S. communities, in particular gay communities, the reasons that Mexican gay and bisexual immigrant men report for leaving, and how sexuality informs their desire to leave Mexico and come to the U.S. I believe this topic offers also an interesting window to analyze the connections between transnational movement and sexual globalization.

**Q: Much of your work seems to have broader public policy im-**

**plications. Would you describe yourself as an activist-scholar?**

A: Having started my career as an AIDS educator, I am always aware of how important it is to produce knowledge that has both theoretical and practical implications, and to disseminate the findings of my research not only to academic audiences, but also to those who work on a day-to-day basis to improve the health status and wellbeing of the populations that participate in my research. In my current research, before working on academic publications my research team and I produced a community-oriented monograph detailing the implications of our findings for AIDS education programs and for public health policy and we launched it at the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City. We also participated in community forums and a series of talks at clinics and community-based organizations in California, which led to very interesting and rewarding conversations with health educators, community members, and activists.

**Q: Now that you have been at Northwestern for two quarters, what are your impressions of the Northwestern community?**

A: I love the university so far. I appreciate the intellectual community that exists here. I have great respect for the Gender Studies Program and Sociology and for the interesting work that everyone is doing here. Northwestern also has a very nice interdisciplinary environment. Within Gender Studies, I appreciate the participation of the social sciences and the humanities and the dialogue that results when people coming from different academic orientations have conversations about the same topics. The students that I've met so far are great. I look forward to meeting more and learning about their interests and projects.

**Q: Is there anything you are looking forward to doing while you are here (a course you are interested in teaching, program you would like to initiate)?**

A: I look forward to continuing my program of research, writing a new book based on my current project, and initiating new research with a Chicago focus. In terms of teaching, I taught a graduate seminar on the Sociology of Sexuality. I am currently teaching an undergraduate lecture course, and a class on Latino/a Ethnicity and Culture that focuses on transnational issues. I am also planning to teach a class on sexuality and globalization that looks at sexual cultures around the world, as well as a class on sexuality and public policy.

April 29 and 30, Steven Epstein and I organized a two-day research workshop called "Translocations: Travel, Migration, and Sexuality." Our speakers came from around the country and addressed different themes concerning population movement, gender and sexuality.

“Indeed, the medium is the **message** and the message is the **medium**, but the medium is also the **massage**, both as a noun and a verb.”  
-Jillana Enteen, *Virtual English*

## Announcing *Virtual English*

In December 2009, Jillana Enteen, Senior Lecturer in Gender Studies, published her manuscript on Routledge Press as part of their Cyberculture Series. *Virtual English: Queer Internets and Digital Creolization*, examines English language communication on the World Wide Web, focusing on Internet practices crafted by underserved communities in the US and overlooked participants in several Asian Diaspora communities. Enteen locates instances where subjects use electronic media to resist popular understandings of English language terms concerning genders, sexualities, ethnicity, and membership. Her examination of the use of cyberspace, computer-mediated communication, nation and community locates unexpected responses to the forces of globalization and predominate US value systems.

The subjects of *Virtual English* challenge prevailing deployments and conceptions of emerging technologies. Their on-line practices illustrate that the Internet need not replicate current geopolitical beliefs and practices and that reconfigurations exist in tandem with dominant models. Thomas Foster, Associate Professor at the University of Washington, writes of *Virtual English*: “The interdisciplinary structure of the book is exemplary, as

Enteen weaves together linguistic and political histories; theories of globalization, language and linguistic contact, and colonialism and its effects; gender and sexuality studies; speculative fiction; ethnographic research; and analysis of computer-mediated communication. The result is a unique articulation of critical perspectives and creative production, which is particularly illuminating on possibilities for cross-cultural contact and dialogue within new media.” Enteen looks forward to pursuing her new research in sexual reassignment tourism.

## Welcome Janice Radway

by Hollis Griffin (Ph.D. Candidate, RTVF)

With the recent hire of Professor Janice A. Radway, Northwestern has welcomed one of the foremost scholars in gender, literary and cultural studies to its faculty. Radway’s work includes *Reading the Romance: Women, Patriarchy and Popular Literature* and *A Feeling for Books: The Book-of-the-Month Club, Literary Taste, and Middle-Class Desire*, as well as a number of journal articles and edited anthologies. Radway’s combination of rich ethnographic evidence and deep archival research make her one of the most widely read and cited scholars in the

academy. Her interests in questions of ideology and culture are so broad and her work is foundational to so many different disciplines that Radway’s faculty appointment straddles a wide array of programs and departments on campus: Rhetoric & Public Culture, Gender Studies, American Studies, Communication Studies, Radio-TV-Film and Performance Studies.

I met with Radway recently to discuss her current research on girl ‘zines of the 1990s. As in her previous work on romance novels, Radway pursues questions of the relationship between gendered subjectivity and structural formations, how women use print media to understand and navigate the worlds in which they live. But Radway is interested in the afterlives of the ‘zines: the ways that women who participated in this subculture in the 1990s use those experiences in their subsequent lives. She is interested in the legacy of girls’ ‘zines, using them to trace the friendship networks that have arisen from them and how the women who participated in this milieu now keep in touch with one another. Radway sees zine-ing as an interpersonal, intersubjective practice that has grown alongside subcultural activity on the internet.

Moreover, the project is deeply invested in questions of archiving as a cultural practice. In culling materials from a variety of different public and private collections, Radway has found that ‘zines confound many of the archiving practices typical of libraries, raising a number of conceptual problems and categorical questions. For instance, correspondence is often separated from publications themselves. Yet the letters written between women are as central to the publishing process as the ‘zine is, itself. What is the “text” of ‘zine-ing? Where does it end? Who is the author and who is the reader? Radway’s interests in affective relations between people involved in ‘zine-ing have led to an interest in “The Radical Reference Movement.” This is a loose network of librarians and archivists who are invested in broadening the kinds of objects collected by libraries, including the ‘zines and attendant objects taken up in Radway’s work.

Radway’s undergraduate and graduate classes investigate similar issues. Her recent classes examine radical publishing, girls’ cultures and reception and affect. Most recently, she’s teaching an American Studies course on pedagogies of national citizenship. The class examines how high school has been configured as a site of educating teens as national citizens. With objects involving everything from Foucaultian theory to recent popular movies like *Election* to the 1968 documentary *High School*, students use a wide array of texts to understand issues as quotidian as they are crucial. It’s this tension between ostensibly “low” objects and “high” theory that makes Radway’s scholarship and teaching such a unique, exciting addition to the Northwestern community.



## Women's Prisons as Gendered Institutions

by Luisina Perelmiter (Visiting Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology)

In January, Gender Studies welcomed to campus Lynne Haney, Professor of Sociology at New York University, who spent several days conducting workshops, meeting with students and presenting two lectures. A feminist sociologist, Lynne Haney is well known as a gifted ethnographer and theorist on gender and the welfare state. Her books *Inventing the Needy: Gender and the Politics of Welfare in Hungary* (University of California Press, 2002) and *Offending Women: Power, Punishment, and the Regulation of Desire* (University of California Press, 2010) are open-eyed journeys across the daily life of welfare and penal institutions from past to present and from West to East. Professor Haney's work is an outstanding example of the benefits of combining historical, comparative and ethnographic approaches to expand our understanding of the intersections of state, gender, welfare and punishment.

During her visit to campus, Haney participated in animated debates on gender studies and the challenge of building bridges between disciplines and methodologies. Haney gave the Edith Kreeger Wolf lecture on "Transforming (Gendered) Governance: Prisons, Punishment, and Social Policy." By comparing different institutional narratives in the U.S. women's penal system, she uncovered a recent shift towards "alternative" community-based prisons, which regulate incarcerated mothers through a discourse of desire and new therapeutics of the self. She showed how, contrary to their proclaimed aims, these "more benevolent" devices reach unprecedented levels of disempowering and disempowering ef-

fects, leading to larger questions regarding how, and with what results, feminist critique is translated into state practices. Moreover, she engaged in discussions concerning how state hybridity reflects the complexity of gendered governance today.

Haney's second lecture at the Comparative and Historical Social Science Workshop of the Roberta Buffet Center for Comparative and International Studies was based on her forthcoming *Signs* article in which she compares the functioning and effects of women's prison labor in the U.S. and Hungary. Her piece illustrates the benefits of deconstructing the micro-dynamics of gendered governance in diverse institutional and cultural settings. By reflecting on unresolved problems of her own comparative strategy, Haney engaged the audience in a methodological discussion of the possibilities and limits of combining comparative and ethnographic approaches.

Finally, Haney participated in a breakfast meeting with professors and graduate students at Northwestern and the University of Chicago to discuss the state of American sociology of gender. Haney engaged with faculty and graduate students on such pressing research issues such as the current state of intersectionality as a research program, the institutional differences between gender studies and sociology of gender, and the shortcomings and potentials of sociology to lead a better dialogue between feminist political theory and feminist empirical research. She also discussed with a number of graduate students their ongoing research projects. Her visit marked one of the key events in our two-year programmatic theme of "Gender and Sexuality in Transition."



Lynne Haney presents her book's thesis to faculty, staff and students.  
Photo by Kristina Ogilvie.

## Reed's Prodigal Sons

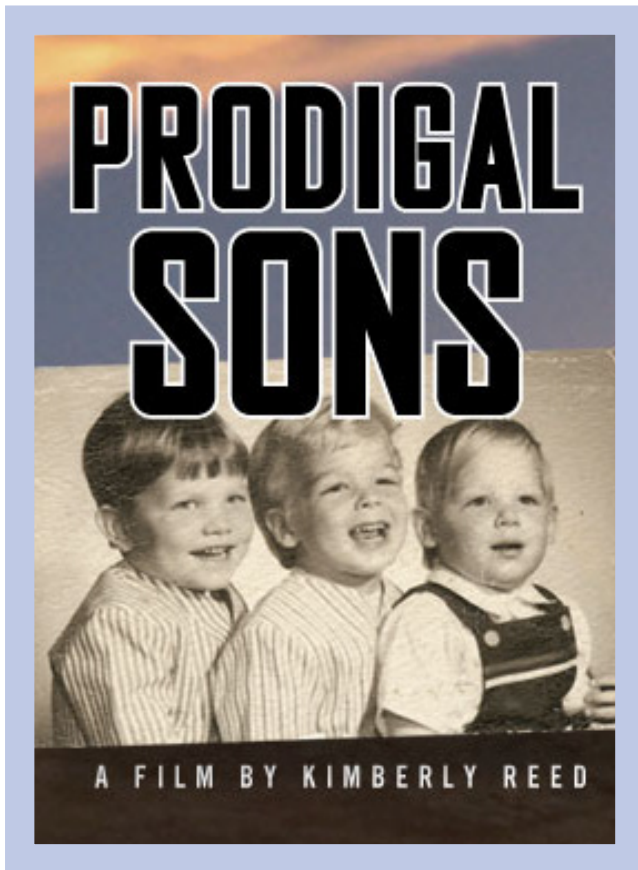
Nick Davis (Assistant Professor, Gender Studies and English)

The Gender Studies Program had the privilege in February of hosting a visit from filmmaker Kimberly Reed, who screened her new film *Prodigal Sons* at the Block Cinema, three weeks before its commercial release. The film is an autobiographical documentary, with an early emphasis on Kimberly's gender transition and her anxious return to Montana for her 20th high-school reunion, where most of her former classmates will be seeing her for the first time since she was "Paul," their onetime quarterback hero, and the senior voted "Most Likely to Succeed."

I spotted *Prodigal Sons* while serving as a juror at the Nashville Film Festival in April 2009 and immediately invited her to bring the work to Evanston. The transgender narrative sparked my initial interest, but as the Northwestern audience later discovered, *Prodigal Sons* quickly expands into a complex family portrait. The story increasingly orbits around Kimberly's tense relationship with

“It is my contention that late sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century dramatic writing occurs within this **context** of a **collaborative homoerotics**.”

-Jeffrey Masten, *Textual Intercourse*



won prizes at several film festivals around the world with *Prodigal Sons*, from Toronto to Kansas and from Greece to Finland, Northwestern is the only campus where she has exhibited the movie, in the eager build-up to its ecstatically reviewed national release. The same week she showed the film to our community, she taped an hour-long interview for *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, but she reserved special enthusiasm for her conversations at Northwestern: “I am so impressed at the depth and sophistication of the questions I received from the faculty and from the Gender Studies students.”

For more information about the film, including dates of release in multiple U.S. markets, please visit <http://www.prodigalsonsfilm.com>.



Photos by Kristina Ogilvie.



TOP: Debbie Gould speaks to faculty and students about her new book *Moving Politics: Emotion and Act Up's Fight Against AIDS* at a faculty-graduate colloquium event in April 2010. BOTTOM: Rhacel Salazar Parrenas, Edith Kreeger Wolf Distinguished Visiting Professor of Sociology and American Civilization, addresses the faculty and students in April 2010. She spoke about her book *The Force of Domesticity: Filipina Migrants and Globalization* (2008).

her adopted brother Marc, whose lifelong sibling rivalry with her is only compounded by his uneasiness about her gender transition and by his own struggles with mental illness. Early in the film, Marc also receives news about his birth family that he has craved for his entire life—and their surprising identities brings the global media to the family’s doorstep, just when they all might need some privacy.

“It was really important to me to tell a story about being transgender that doesn’t dodge any of those issues,” Reed said during a public Q&A following the screening, “but where they also don’t take up all the space, when there’s so much else going on.” Indeed, the film never holds back, either from the intensity of the family’s various conflicts and dilemmas, or from the ironies that arise from their interlocking stories. As Reed narrates at one point in the movie regarding her conflicted adolescence and her envious, poignantly unhappy brother, “Marc would have given anything to be the man I’d have given anything not to be.”

The filmmaker took questions from the Northwestern audience for a full half-hour after the screening, and also met privately the next morning with students in Davis’s lecture course Gender Studies 231: “Introducing Queer Cinema.” Having attended and

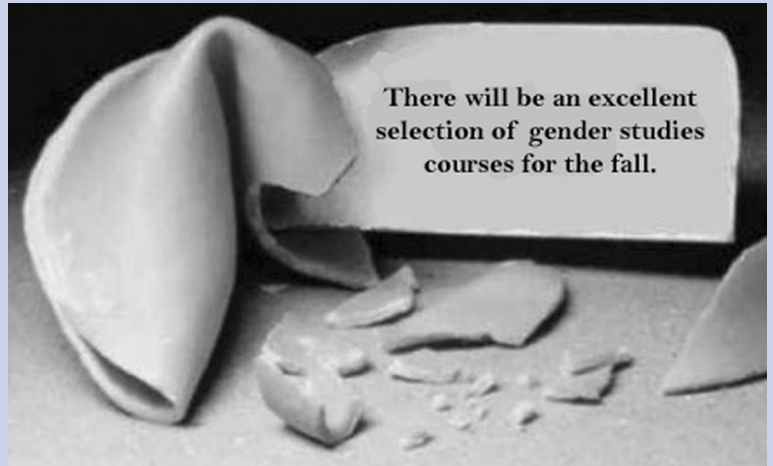
The Gender Studies Program at Northwestern is an interdisciplinary program, with faculty affiliates drawn from more than 25 departments across four of the University's schools.

*gender:dynamic* is published by Gender Studies at Northwestern University. Copies may be obtained at the Program Office:

Kresge Hall 2-321  
1880 Campus Drive  
Evanston, IL 60208-2211.  
Phone: 847.491.5871  
Email: [gender@northwestern.edu](mailto:gender@northwestern.edu)  
Web: <http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/genderstudies/>

**The Gender Studies Advisory Committee**

Hector Carrillo (Gender Studies & Sociology)  
Nicholas Davis (Gender Studies & English)  
Mary G. Dietz (Gender Studies & Political Science)  
Jillana Enteen (Gender Studies)  
Lane Fenrich (History)  
E. Patrick Johnson (Performance Studies)  
Tessie Liu (Gender Studies & History)  
Jeffrey Masten (Gender Studies & English)  
Ann Orloff (Gender Studies & Sociology)  
Alexandra Owen (Gender Studies & History)  
Frances Freeman Paden (Gender Studies & Writing Program)  
Amy Partridge (Gender Studies)  
Jan Radway (Communication Studies)  
Laurie Shannon (English)  
Helen Thompson (Gender Studies & English)



*gender:dynamic* **SPRING 2010, Volume 20**

Gender Studies Program  
1880 Campus Drive  
Kresge Hall 2-321  
Evanston, IL 60208-2211

First Class  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 205  
Evanston, IL 60201