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Director’s Message

Dear Friends,

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies at the University of Arizona boasts a rich tradition of critical alliance and engagement with other disciplines, scholars, and activists across campus, locally, and nationally. We are delighted to report that academic year 2005-2006 continued that tradition in ways that reflect our intellectual and demographic diversity. Distinguished speakers including Lisa Duggan, Margaret Randall, Mandy Carter, and Nan Boyd inspired lively dialogue about cross-racial alliances, gay marriage, Latin American solidarity, and LGBT-based economic development. The 13th Annual Lesbian Looks Film and Video Festival invited reflection on the role of religion, the uses of culture, the negotiation of family relationships, and questions of identity and community. Our annual conference, focused on Sexualities and Homeland (In)Securities, critically explored the impact of homeland security strategies on LGBT individuals and communities, with special attention to building alliances between immigrants and LGBTs. Our newly inaugurated Brown Bag Series provided informal and stimulating presentations of faculty scholarship to a wide-range of attendees from across the campus. We offered undergraduate and graduate courses on LGBT issues, and developed new courses.

Looking to the future, the Executive Committee envisioned building on our distinctive location and historical moment, while at the same time remaining open to the multiple interests and unexpected alliances that comprise LGBT Studies. Our programming for next year reflects these exciting commitments.

These activities would not be possible without the generous support of many individuals, colleges, departments, and programs, especially the Office of the Vice President for Research, the College of Humanities, and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. We warmly thank you for your support, and we look forward to continued collaboration and success in the years ahead.

Very best wishes,

Eithne Luibhéid
Director, LGBT Studies Executive Committee
University of Arizona
Mission Statement

The mission of the University of Arizona Committee on Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Studies is to educate the citizens of Arizona by developing curriculum, promoting research, and presenting public programming addressing the histories, politics, and cultures of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people and the diverse scholarship on sexuality.

Seeking to enact in its institutional practice the interconnections between sexuality, gender, race and economic processes, and recognizing the complex material and symbolic, local and global forces that shape practices of sexual identity and community, the Committee has embraced the flexibility of its status as a university-wide committee and worked to be a site of collaboration and alliance. Through interdisciplinary reading groups, public programs such as our Lesbian Looks Film and Video Series and our Annual Conference, and curriculum development, we have drawn together faculty and students from the Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, and Arts, as well as local community groups.

Authorized by the Provost in 1993, the Committee is coordinated by a Director with the assistance of an interdisciplinary Executive Committee.

Personnel

Director, Committee for LGBT Studies:

  **Eithne Luibhéid**, Associate Professor, Women’s Studies

Members of the Executive Committee:

  **Maribel Álvarez**, Assistant Professor, Southwest Studies Center/Department of English
  **Laura Briggs**, Associate Professor, Women’s Studies
  **Laura Gutiérrez**, Assistant Professor, Spanish and Portuguese
  **Fenton Johnson**, Associate Professor, Creative Writing Program
  **Miranda Joseph**, Associate Professor, Women’s Studies
  **Elizabeth Kennedy**, Professor, Women’s Studies
  **David Robinson**, Associate Professor, Department of English
  **Stephen Russell**, Associate Professor, Family Studies and Human Development
  **Beverly Seckinger**, Associate Professor, Media Arts
  **Sandra Soto**, Assistant Professor, Women’s Studies

Coordinator:

  **Caren Zimmerman**
Lesbian Looks Film and Video Festival

The Lesbian Looks Film and Video Series presented its 13th season of free screenings in the Modern Languages Auditorium (MLA 350) on the University of Arizona campus.

Left Lane
September 23, 2005

One part peace vigil, one part protest rally, and one part joyful raucous concert, Left Lane (Samantha Farinalla, 2004, 80:00, USA) chronicles life on the road with internationally touring folk poet and progressive queer artist-activist Alix Olson.

PLUS a special performance of Taiko Japanese ensemble drumming by Odaiko Sonora.

Breaking Barriers
October 7, 2005

Walk in the Light (M.R. Stiff, 2005, 26:00, USA) profiles the progressive, Los Angeles-based Unity Fellowship Church. Keep Not Silent (Ilil Alexander, 2004, 52:00, Israel) reveals the clandestine struggle of three women (members of a secret support group called "Ortho-dykes") fighting for their right to love within their beloved Orthodox communities in Jerusalem. One Wedding and a Revolution (Debra Chasnoff and Kate Stilley, 2004, 19:00, USA) puts a human face on the fight for marriage equality. Pioneering activists Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, celebrating their 51st anniversary, had the privilege of being the first couple to tie the knot.

The D Word
October 21, 2005

In Getting to Know You (Liz Lachman, 2005, 20:00, USA), a cartoonist thinks she's found the perfect woman. With tongue placed firmly in cheek, The D Word (Cherien Daibes Naffa, Noelle Brower, Maggie Burkle, 2005, 56:00, USA), starring Marga Gomez, follows a group of young queer friends and family as they stumble through work and sex lives.

Co-sponsored by LGBT Studies, the Hanson Arizona Film Institute, UA Library, Media Arts, History, English, Anthropology, and Women’s Studies.
On April 11, 2006, LGBT Studies hosted a national conference that critically examined how sexual politics has become a critical terrain for local, national and global “homeland security” strategies. The presenters addressed how struggles for sexual, racial, gender, economic, and cultural justice have been affected and reconfigured as a result.

**Sexualities and Homeland (In)Securities Conference**

**Alliances and Activisms**

*Cathy Busha, Wingspan, and Kat Rodriguez, Coalición de Derechos Humanos and Alianza Indígena Sin Fronteras*

“Strange Bedfellows? - Immigrant and Queer Organizing in Southern Arizona”

*Montserrat Caballero, Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault*

“Borders: Working Toward Ending Violence Against Migrant Women”

**Surviving Insecurities**

*Jean Braucher, University of Arizona*

“Over-indebtedness and Financial Insecurity”

*Heather McClure, University of Oregon*

“Human Rights and Sexual Minorities in Latin America and in United States Asylum Law”

**Artist Presentation**

*Elsa E’Der, San Francisco*

“Fear Factor on the Right/Fear Factor on the Left: One Queer Grrl’s Look at Power & Alliances”

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Co-sponsored by College of Humanities, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, the Commission on the Status of Women, Anthropology, Geography and Regional Planning, Spanish and Portuguese, Women’s Studies, and the Udall Center for Public Policy.
In November 2005, LGBT Studies initiated a Brown Bag Lecture Series. The series is designed as a forum for faculty working in LGBT Studies to share intellectual and creative work with colleagues and students, fostering collaboration and exchange. Attendance at the Lecture Series was excellent. Our speakers were:

**Stephen Russell**, Associate Professor, Family Studies and Human Development

**Laura Briggs**, Associate Professor, Women’s Studies
“Gay Families, Neo-Liberalism, and Organ Theft.” November 2005

Five faculty have volunteered to present their scholarship in Fall 2006. Stay tuned!
Distinguished Speakers

LGBT Studies faculty organized lectures and presentations at the University of Arizona and in the local community, by several distinguished speakers.

Mandy Carter
Ms. Carter has organized the grassroots in almost every major region of this country over the last 30-plus years. She is a member of the national steering committee of the Freedom To Marry project. Ms. Carter is also a co-founder and current Executive Director of Southerners On New Ground (SONG). She was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize as part of the 1000 Women for Peace nominations. Ms. Carter is a former board member of the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum and of the International Federation of Black Prides.

“Are We About Justice or Just Us?” September 26, 2005, 11:45 am - 1:00 pm, Student Union Memorial Center, Ventana Room.

Co-sponsored by the Committee on LGBT Studies, the Department of Women's Studies, the Vice President for Campus Life, the Dean of Students Office, and the UA Bookstore.

Margaret Randall
Activist, Author, Poet, Photographer and Teacher.

*El Corno Emplumado?: una historia de los sesenta (The Plumed Horn?: a history of the sixties)*. U.S. premiere of the documentary with an introduction and discussion led by Margaret Randall. February 9, 2006, 7:00, Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering S202.

“Kee Tseel: Meditations on Place.” A reading from a work in progress: poetry and prose that points towards peace in an era of religious fanaticism and state terrorism. February 10, 2006, 10:00, The Poetry Center, 1st and Cherry Avenue.

“Women and Resistance: Cuba and Nicaragua.” A comparative look at the strong revolutionary experiences twenty years apart in these two countries. February 10, 2006, 2:00, Cesar Chavez 303.

Co-sponsored by LGBT studies, the College of Humanities, and the Departments of Anthropology, English, History, Spanish and Portuguese, Women's Studies, and Latin American Studies.
Nan Alamilla Boyd
Assistant Professor, Women and Gender Studies, Sonoma State University. Dr. Alamilla Boyd is the author of *Wide Open Town: A History of Queer San Francisco to 1965* (University of California Press, 2003). She currently serves on the Board of the GLBT Historical Society in San Francisco; the Committee on Gay and Lesbian History (CLGH), an international organization for scholars doing historical research in queer studies; and Mamas & Papas, a San Francisco-based organization for queer families.

Lecture to WS 496T, LGBT History of North America. March 23, 2006, 12:30-1:45

“Sex Tourism: The Economic Implications of Gay Marriage.” March 24, 2006, 3:00, Modern Languages 451

Co-sponsored by the Department of Women’s Studies, and the U of A Committee on LGBT Studies.

Lisa Duggan
Associate Professor of History, American Studies, and Gender and Sexuality Studies, New York University. Dr. Duggan is a historian, journalist and activist. She is author of *Sapphic Slashers: Sex, Violence and American Modernity*, co-author with Nan Hunter of *Sex Wars: Sexual Dissent and Political Culture*, co-editor with Lauren Berlant of *Our Monica, Ourselves: The Clinton Affair and National Interest*, and author most recently of *The Twilight of Equality: Neoliberalism, Cultural Politics and the Attack on Democracy*. She is currently at work on *The End of Marriage? The War Over the Future of State Sponsored Love* (forthcoming from University of California Press, Spring 2007).

“The End of Marriage? The War Over the Future of State Sponsored Love” March 27, 2006, 12:15, James E. Rogers College of Law, Room 139

“The End of Marriage? The War Over the Future of State Sponsored Love” March 27, 2006, 5:30, Wingspan, 425 E. 7th Street

Lunch with the LGBT Studies Executive Committee and OutReach, March 28, 2006, 12-2, Special Collections Conference Room, Main Library

Lecture to INDIV 102, LGBT Studies, March 28, 2006, 4-5

Discussion with the Sexuality Studies Reading Group, March 29, 2006, 12-2

Co-sponsored by Pride Law, and the U of A Committee on LGBT Studies.
**Additional Event Co-Sponsorships**

- OutReach Welcome Party (September 16, 2006)
- Border Action Network Annual Retreat (December 2005)
- Wingspan FilmFest (March 10-12, 2006)
- Department of Anthropology 90th Year Anniversary Celebration (March 30-April 1, 2006)
- Koré Press Brunch and Silent Art Auction (May 1, 2006)

**Additional Cross-Campus Collaborations**

**President’s LGBT Advisory Council:** The Director of LGBT Studies served as the Co-Director of the President’s LGBT Advisory Council, which offers recommendations to the President about how to further improve the campus climate and campus/community relationships for LGBT students, staff, faculty, and community members.

**All-Campus LGBT Groups Luncheon:** Organized by OutReach and LGBT Studies to discuss LGBT priorities and initiatives across campus for the upcoming year. (May 10, 2006)

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**LGBT Studies Course Offerings**

**Fall 2005**

- ENGL 351A – Introduction to Lesbian and Gay Literature
- FSHD 607 – Topics in Family Studies and Human Development
- GER 274 – Dialogue of the Sexes: Men and Women in Contemporary German Society
- HIST 202 – History of Modern Sexualities
- INDIV 101 – Mind, Self and Language
- INDIV 101 – The Politics of Difference
- INDIV 102 – Social Interactions and Relationships
- INDIV 102 – Current Issues in the Psychology of Gender
- INDIV 102 – Interpersonal Relationships in a Changing World
- INDIV 102 – Multidisciplinary Approaches to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Studies
- INDIV 102 – Sex, Health, and AIDS
- MAS 365 – Latinos and Latinas: Emerging Contemporary Issues
- PSYC 364 – Human Sexuality
- SOC 324 – Sociology of Sexuality
- SOC 459 – Sociology of Gender

**Spring 2006**

- INDV 101 – Mind, Self and Language
- INDV 101 – The Politics of Difference
- INDV 102 – Sex, Health, and AIDS
- INDV 102 – Multidisciplinary Approaches to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Studies
- INDIV 102 – Current Issues in the Psychology of Gender
- HIST/WS 202 – History of Modern Sexualities
- HIST 254 – History of Women, 1890-present
- PSYC 216/WS 216 – Psychology of Gender
- PSYC 364 – Human Sexuality
- SOC 324 – Sociology of Sexuality
- SOC 459/WS 459 – Sociology of Gender
- SOC 480 – Men, Women and Work
- WS 496T – LGBT History of North America
- WS 500 – Sexuality and International Migration
- WS 696G – Queer Theories
I. Cross-campus Research Clusters

LGBT Studies initiated a pilot program to fund Research Clusters that bring faculty, students, and community members together investigate a common question or issue, in ways that enhance individuals’ research agendas, build local and national alliances, and generate public events at the U of A and in Tucson. A call for proposals was issued in Spring 2006, which resulted in the enthusiastic endorsement of two research clusters for AY 2006-2007:

Subjectivities, Sexualities, and Political Cultures. Organized by Professors Miranda Joseph and Sandy Soto

This Research Cluster brings together faculty whose training and research topics are quite diverse but who nonetheless share a desire to understand the dynamics of subjectivity under the current neoliberal political-economic regime. The purpose of the Cluster is to create a space of interdisciplinary intellectual exchange, advance the research agendas of the cluster members, and bring our discussions to a broader audience by hosting a visit to Tucson of an influential sexuality studies/queer theory scholar who will discuss her/his work with a variety of audiences on and off campus.

Linking Research on LGBT Youth with Educational Policy. Organized by Professor Stephen Russell

A handful of researchers in the U.S. conduct research on LGBT youth in schools, and are engaged in linking their work to policy efforts at the local (classroom, school, or school-district) and state levels. Similarly, a small group of policy influentials (policy makers, advocates, and systems thinkers) are working to shape local and state educational policy in key locations in the U.S. The purpose of this Research Cluster is to create a forum for collaboration between these leaders, by convening a national meeting in Tucson in 2007 to identify the most productive and influential directions for linking research on LGBT youth with educational policy.

II. Off-campus Research

Homophobia in Immigration Enforcement in South Tucson. Organized by Professor Eithne Luibheid.

From April-August 2006, Professor Raquel Rubio-Goldsmith (Mexican American Studies) will conduct surveys of 550-600 households in South Tucson, to assess the health consequences of violent interactions between immigration officials and local residents. Professor Rubio-Goldsmith has generously allowed LGBT Studies to include several questions on the survey, and to access the resulting data. LGBT Studies will compile the LGBT-related data from the survey, thereby developing a picture of the ways that immigration-related violence involves homophobia, and sharing the resulting knowledge with campus and local communities.
Future Plans

The LGBT Studies Executive Committee held a retreat on January 16, 2006. The retreat had a dual purpose: acknowledge the distinctive and distinguished history of LGBT Studies at the University of Arizona, and make plans for LGBT Studies' future now that the Director and Coordinator position are filled. Participants were asked to focus on identifying priorities for the future; deciding which institutional form can best realize these priorities; and developing an action plan.

The outcome of the retreat was not only a vision for the future, but also powerful affirmation of the vital importance of LGBT Studies to University of Arizona faculty, staff, and students, and to the wider community. LGBT Studies significantly contributes to the University's status as a Research I institution; University efforts to enhance Excellence through the recruitment and retention of diverse faculty, staff and students; the training of students to become critical thinkers and active citizens who are prepared for the challenges of a global world; and the social and economic the needs of the city and the region. Participants at the retreat expressed a desire to extend the work of LGBT Studies by building on our distinctive location and historical moment, thereby ensuring that the University of Arizona remains one of the top locations in the nation for LGBT Studies. Further details of the retreat outcome can be found in our report, “Queer Horizons: The Future of LGBT Studies at the University of Arizona.”