# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mission</td>
<td>p.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>p.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities 2006-2007</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Research Clusters</td>
<td>pp.3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesbian Looks Film and Video Festival</td>
<td>pp.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borders, Migration, Globalization Initiative</td>
<td>pp.6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Scholar</td>
<td>p.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Lectures</td>
<td>p.8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBT Studies New Initiatives</td>
<td>p.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Events Co-Sponsored</td>
<td>p.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBT/Sexuality-Themed Course Offerings at UA</td>
<td>pp.11-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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MISSION

The mission of the University of Arizona Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Studies is to educate the citizens of Arizona by developing curriculum, promoting research, and presenting public programs that address the histories, politics, and cultures of LGBT 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 research clusters, public programs, and curriculum development, we have drawn together faculty and students from the Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, and Arts, as well as local community groups.

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, Professor, Family Studies and Human Development
Beverly Seckinger, Associate Professor, Media Arts
Sandra Soto, Assistant Professor, Women’s Studies

Coordinator: Caren Zimmerman
INTERDISCIPLINARY LGBT STUDIES RESEARCH CLUSTERS

LGBT Studies supports the formation of interdisciplinary research clusters that bring together faculty, students, and community members around issues of critical concern. In 2006-2007, we sponsored two very successful clusters: LGBT Youth in School: Linking Research and Policy, and Subjectivities, Sexualities and Political Cultures.

LGBT Youth in School: Linking Research and Policy

Financial sponsors: LGBT Studies, John and Doris Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences, the Institute for Children Youth and Families, GLSEN Research Department, the Girl’s Best Friend Foundation

Organized by Professor Stephen Russell, Family Studies and Human Development

Description: 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 influencers (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 the LGBT youth with educational policy.

Activities:

- LGBT Youth in School: A Research Symposium, University of Arizona (January 19, 2007)
- LGBT Youth in School: A Community Education Forum at Wingspan (January 20, 2007)
- Improving the School Climate for LGBT Youth: A Staff Development Workshop at Wingspan (January 20, 2007)
- National Meeting of researchers, policy experts and educators to identify the most productive and influential directions for linking research on LGBT youth and families to educational policy. Held in conjunction with the American
Formation of an Arizona Safe Schools Coalition (April 16, 2007)

Supporters: The City of Tucson Commission on GLBT Issues, GLBT Issues Committee of the Arizona Psychological Association, GLSEN-Tucson, The Imagine Project GSA Network, and Wingspan

Subjectivities, Sexualities, and Political Cultures

Financial Sponsors: LGBT Studies and New Directions in Critical Theory

Organized by Professors Miranda Joseph and Sandy Soto, Women’s Studies

Description: 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.

Activities:

- This working group met monthly to discuss the work-in-progress of cluster members and critical scholarship on which their work depends.
- The cluster also sponsored a visit to UA by Professor Ann Cvetkovich (Department of English, University of Texas, Austin), who shared work with the cluster, met with a graduate seminar, and presented a keynote lecture on “Public Feelings” at UA’s Graduate student conference, New Directions in Critical Theory.
Lesbian Looks
Film & Video
Festival

Financial sponsors: LGBT Studies, Hanson Film Institute, Media Arts, Anthropology, History, Women's Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, English, UA Library.

Professor Beverly Seckinger organizes this popular Film & Video Festival now in its 14th season of free screenings to members of the UA campus and local community!

- **Zero Degrees of Separation** (Elle Flanders, 2005, Canada, 90 minutes). September 26, 2006
- **Unveiled** (Angelina Maccarone, 2005, Germany, 90 minutes). September 29, 2006
- **Sonntag Morgen** (Beate Kunath, 2006, Germany, 7 minutes). September 29, 2006
- **Boy I Am** (Sam Feder and Julie Holler, 2006, USA, 81 minutes). October 18, 2006
  Followed by a panel discussion sponsored by SAGA, the Southern Arizona Gender Alliance
- **Mrs. Stephens Hears the Mermaids Singing** (Linda Thornburgh, 2005, USA, 126 minutes). October 27, 2006
- **Loving Annabelle** (Katherine Brooks, 2005, USA, 80 minutes). November 10, 2006 (at the Loft Cinema)
- **FtF: Female To Femme** (Kami Chisholm and Elizabeth Stark, 2006, USA). December 6, 2006.
  Introduced by **Joan Nestle**, who has spent her life documenting femme desire. She is co-founder of the Lesbian Herstory Archives, author of A Restricted Country and A Fragile Union and editor of The Persistent Desire: A Femme-Butch Reader.

Supporters: Wingspan, SAGA, LGBT Inclusion Project of the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona, Jewish Film Festival, Near Eastern Studies, Judaic Studies.
This initiative examines the interface between migration, globalization, and LGBT issues. Activities included:

**Queer Multiculturalism**

**Dr. Anne Marie Fortier**, “The Children of Multicultural Britain and the Limits of the National Imaginary,” public lecture (February 20, 2007)

In this lecture, Visiting Scholar Dr. Anne-Marie Fortier explores different representations of 'children of multicultural Britain' - some utopian, some dystopian - that have been circulating in the British press since 2001. The talk includes two sections: 'Models of modern Britons' and 'Monsters of modern Britain.' Moving from one section to the other takes us from the 'average' to the 'ordinary' other Britons; a delicate shift that is laden with anxieties and broken dreams about the promises of the assimilationist project. From a morphed 'Face of Britain' and 'Genevieve: the model of a modern Briton,' to 'shoe bomber Reid' and the four suicide bombers of July 7, 2005, these 'children of multicultural Britain' once held the promises of multicultural Britain as it is figured in heterosexualised ideals of hybridity and 'mixing.' But what happens when the 'mixing' is of the wrong kind? What happens when the nation is called to witness the hopelessness of its own familial desires as they were projected on the 'picture perfect' stills of the 'children of multicultural Britain'?
Border Documentary

Screening of “Letters from the Other Side,” (Heather Courtney, 2006, 74 minutes) followed by a discussion with the film-maker (February 21, 2007).

Queer Puerto Rican Diaspora

March 22, 2007, 6:30pm
Free screening at the Loft Cinema of “Brincando El Charco” (Frances Negrón-Muntaner, 1994, USA), which explores the life of a Puerto Rican lesbian migrant. The screening was followed by a discussion, led by Professor Larry La Fountain Stokes from the University of Michigan.

March 23, 2007, 3:30pm
“Rose Troche and Puerto Rican Lesbians in Chicago: A Reading of Go Fish”
Lawrence La Fontaine-Stokes discusses Rose Troche's landmark debut film “Go Fish” (1994), particularly the representation of Puerto Rican, African American, and white lesbians in Chicago, in relation to Troche's own biography as a Chicago-born Puerto Rican raised in the suburbs.

Graduate Seminar

“Sexuality and International Migration” (WS 696M, Spring 2007)

Between the Lines: Identifying the Needs of LGBT Immigrants and Refugees

This pilot project seeks to identify the needs of constituency that always falls between the cracks in policy-making and service-provision—lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender immigrants and refugees in Southern Arizona. It is supported by two local community organizations (Wingspan and Derechos Humanos), who have consistently worked to build links between these LGBT and immigrant/refugee communities.
Visiting Scholar Dr. Anne-Marie Fortier

In Spring 2007, LGBT Studies was honored to host Dr. Anne-Marie Fortier as a Visiting Scholar. Dr. Fortier, a member of the Sociology faculty at the University of Lancaster, UK, conducts research at the intersection of critical race, diaspora, and gender/sexuality studies. She particularly examines two themes: migrant identities, home and belonging; and multiculturalisms and nationalisms in a globalizing world. She is the author of *Migrant Belongings: Memory, space, identity* (Berg, 2000); co-editor of the book *Uprootings/Regroundings: Questions of home and migration* (Berg, 2003); co-editor of special issues of *International Journal of Cultural Studies* (on “Re-imagining Communities,” 2003) and *Mobilities* (on “Migrant Horizons,” 2006); and the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters, including “Queer Diasporas” (2002), and “Making Home: Queer Migrations and Motions of Attachment” (2003). Dr. Fortier is currently finishing her manuscript, *Multicultural Intimacies: Diversity and the limits of the civil nation* (forthcoming from Routledge), and co-organizing an international conference on Melancholic States.

Additional Distinguished Lectures

“Promising Complicities: On the Sex, Race and Globalization Project”
Presented by Professor Miranda Joseph and David Rubin (February 1, 2007)

This collaborative presentation reflected on (some of) the scholarship produced and presented over the past 6 years of the Sex, Race and Globalization Project that took place here at the UA. Specifically, we take up a number of recent calls to evaluate the “transnational turn” in queer studies and to examine whether certain kinds of attention to globalization might actually undermine the radical promise of queering as a critical methodology.

“De-Mastery of Desire: Reading Chican@ Like a Queer”
Presented by Professor Sandra Soto (April 18, 2002)

Chicana/o literary and cultural texts have long been approached through two overlapping presuppositions: they offer instructive reflections of material social
processes that racialize and oppress peoples of Mexican
descent living in the US; they help constitute and
mobilize an oppositional Chican@ public for politically
contesting racism in the US. What happens when the
borders of transparent reflection and of an identity
politics squarely focused on race are lifted from the
readers/viewers? When reflection is shattered? When
Chican@ representations thwart our desires for mastery
(of knowledge, of agency)? When what they offer up
instead is the unknowable, the unthinkable, the un
sayable? In “De-Mastery of Desire: Reading Chican@ Like a Queer,” Sandra Soto takes
up these and other questions.
**LGBT Studies New Initiatives**

**Initiating the establishment of the UA Center for LGBT Studies**: with the enthusiastic support of President Shelton, LGBT Studies initiated the process of becoming a recognized UA Center.

**Participating in establishing the UA Office of LGBT Affairs**: through service on the President’s Advisory Council for LGBT Affairs, LGBT Studies members worked collaboratively with other groups to evaluate campus needs for LGBT supports and services, and to create a new position, the Director of LGBT Affairs, which is generously funded by President Shelton. LGBT Studies staff participated in the process of selecting the first Director.

**Graduate Diversity Fellowships for LGBT Students**: in collaboration with the Graduate College, LGBT Studies worked to open Graduate Diversity Fellowships to qualified incoming PhD students who were LGBT; notified the UA campus of the change; and provided information and assistance to departments that were interested in seeking such fellowships for incoming students.

**A new look for our Website!** We redesigned the LGBT Studies website to reflect our current priorities and mission and our intention to become a Center.

**Additional Events Co-Sponsored by LGBT Studies**

**OutReach Welcome Party** (September 18, 2006)

“**Interrupted Life**” Exhibit (December 2006 to January 2007). This traveling public art installation examines the lives of incarcerated mothers and their families. Organized by Rickie Solinger, Director and Curator of WAKEUP/Arts in New York, this exhibition brings together eight installations. Works include the "Real Cost of Prisons" comic book project, the San Francisco Photovoice Project, and CAPACITY, a youth arts program in Columbus, Ohio. The result is a powerful commentary on imprisonment; the emotional impact incarceration has on families, and stigmas generated by incarceration.

**Border Action Network Annual Posada** (December 2006)
LGBT/Sexuality-Themed Courses

Fall 2006

ANTH 495B--Special Topics in Cultural Anthropology: Masculinity
CPH 330 -- Human Sexuality
CPH 561 -- Violence Against Women from Public Health Perspective
ED P 530 -- Professional Orientation to School Counseling and Guidance
HIST 202 -- History of Modern Sexualities
HIST 457 ---Manhood and Masculinity in America
INDV101--Mind, Self and Language
INDV 102 -- Social Interactions and Relationships
INDV 102-- Introduction to LGBT Studies
MAS 365 -- Latinos and Latinas: Emerging Contemporary Issues
PSYC 364 -- Human Sexuality
SOC 324 -- Sociology of Sexuality
SOC 459 -- Sociology of Gender
WS 307/MA 307 -- Chicana Feminisms: History, Theory and Practice
WS 354/ENGL 354 -- Feminist Literary Theories
WS 400 001 & 2H -- Gender, Culture & Capitalism
WS 539 -- Feminist Theories
WS S 696J -- Sexuality and Aesthetics: Camp, Kitsch and Visual Culture

SPRING 2007

ANTH 495/595B 01--Special Topics in Cultural Anthropology: Social Movements
ANTH/WS 538A--Women’s Health in Global Perspective
HIST/WS 202 --History of Modern Sexualities
HIST/WS 254 -- U.S. Women 1890 to Present
HIST 440 -- U.S. History Since 1945
HIST/WS 695E -- ADV Studies in the History of Women
INDV 102 065 -- Sex, Health, and AIDS
INDIV 102 -- Introduction to Lesbian & Gay Studies
INDV 102 -- Current Issues in the Psychology of Gender
INDV 102 -- Gender and Contemporary Society
SOC 324 -- Sociology of Sexuality
WS 400 002 -- Women’s Life Writing
WS 554 001 -- Contemporary Feminist Theories
WS 586-001 -- Transnational Feminisms
WS 696A -- Latina/o Literary and Cultural Studies
WS/ANTH/ENGL/SP 696M -- Sexuality & International Migration