

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS
ANNUAL REPORT OF RESEARCH CENTERS AND INSTITUTES
(For the period July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006)

CENTER/INSTITUTE: Center for the Study of Women and Society

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See attached for the following:

Mission

Since 1977, the Center for the Study of Women and Society has promoted inter-disciplinary feminist scholarship. The focus of the Center's research agenda is the study of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class and nation in relationship to the experiences of women and men in societies around the world. Eighty faculty associates of the Graduate Center's Women's Studies Certificate Program provide the Center with a wide net of expertise in many disciplines and fields, and together they sponsor intellectual exchange, symposia and lectures among scholars within CUNY as well as with visiting scholars from around the world. The Center also seeks to collaborate with grassroots and professional organizations.

A. ACTIVITIES

A. Activities

- 1) The Center hosts *The Conviction Project Seminar*, a faculty/student seminar that provides the scholarly underpinnings for *The College and Community Fellowship Program* (CCF). CCF addresses two critical issues faced by people leaving prison: first, the need for college education and second, the need for social and cultural support during the transition back into our communities. Linked to CCF, the Conviction Project seminar analyzes "conviction" in its two meanings: "to be found guilty of an offense," and "to stand firm in one's belief both in thought and action." The Conviction Project aims at linking the social activism of CCF with academic studies and research goals and is an ongoing faculty and student seminar. Now in its fourth year, The Conviction Project Seminar focused the readings on the history of the development of the prison-industrial complex, addressing both the impact of the privatization of prisons on those imprisoned and the intensification and extension of technologies of surveillance into everyday life. This past year the Conviction Seminar focused on the links between affect economy and political action. The seminar also is concerned with silencing and censorship, traumatized memory and bodily discrimination, abjection or abuse, and the role of education in relationship to these issues – inside and outside of prison.
- 2) **The Community Leadership and Education After Reentry (CLEAR)**
CLEAR is a new program at CSWS, begun 2 years ago. It seeks to develop informed leadership among formerly incarcerated women and men in New York State to affect policy

change by broadening the scope of paths to reentry and increasing opportunities for civic participation and leadership for formerly incarcerated women and men. CLEAR draws on the research activity of its members, formerly incarcerated women leaders and members of the Center for the Study of Women and Society, who have recently concluded a six-month analysis of reentry policy and programming. CLEAR's academic researchers and formerly incarcerated women and men leaders are currently writing a position paper which summarizes current reentry research and policies and proposes a critical shift in thinking about progressive policy reform. CLEAR's position paper will be completed in November 2006

- 3) Collection of essays with an introduction by Patricia T. Clough about CSWS's research *The Affective Turn: Theorizing the Social* will be published by Duke University Press in January 2007. See attachment 1 Acknowledgements and Table of Contents

- 4) The Center also supports *The Activist Women's Voices Oral History Archive and Urban Fieldwork Internships*, which document the voices of unheralded activist women in community-based organizations. The archive and internships were established under the direction of Professors Joyce Gelb and Patricia Laurence to create linkages between activist women and student and faculty researchers in the university. Students laid the groundwork for multimedia Oral History Workshops for both the community and the university. In 2002, the Activists Women's Voice Project received a grant of \$57,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation for *New Immigrant Women: Identification and Inventory*. The project, with over 40 archival interviews and ongoing oral histories, interviewed women artists who work with young people in the NYC community. The new project, funded by a Rockefeller Foundation planning grant, is locating oral histories that document the mobilization and experience of Latina and Asian American women in three American cities, as the foundation of a National Women's Oral History Consortium.

- 5) The Institute for Tongzhi Studies (ITS) located at CSWS, continued in its efforts to host the **Speaker Series**. Since Fall of 2003, ITS hosted 6 major speakers in the field of sexuality studies, including: Cui Zi'en, leading Chinese underground queer DV maker, recipient of Felipa Award by The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission in 2002; Dr. Li Yin He of Chinese Academy of Social Science, prominent Chinese scholar and researcher on gay issues in China; Zhou Dan, Founding member and legal advisor for Shanghai Hotline For Sexual Minorities, licensed lawyer currently practicing in Shanghai; and Wan Yan Hai, internationally known HIV/AIDS educator and gay activists, Director of Beijing AIZHIXING Institute of Health Education. Huei-Chiu Chuang, awarding-winning writer & publisher, with more than 20 years experience working in queer community in Taiwan. Through these lectures hosted by the Center for the Study of Women and Society at The Graduate Center/CUNY, we were able to provide our the audience with first-hand information about current issues in Chinese queer studies and communities. Inspiring dialogues among ITS staff, audience, and the speakers were mutually beneficial.

- 6) The Center co-sponsors activities with the Women's Studies Certificate Program. An annual *Speakers' Series* presented thirty events each semester, including guest lectures, small conferences, and one-day symposia (see attached poster for the Speakers Series of Fall 2005 and Spring 2006).

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Institutional Publications:

- A web site for CSWS was designed and erected since 2001-2002 and maintained during and redesigned 2005-2006.
- Events Calendars were designed and distributed
- Brochure for Center and College and Community Fellowship were designed and distributed

B. PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Please provide a statement about the goals and plans for the center/institute for the academic year 2005-2006.

- 1) Preparations for publication with Duke University Press for 2007 the papers from *Beyond Biopolitics* See Attachment 2 and also our web site.
- 4) **Global Prisons.** In collaboration with the Certificate Program in Women's Studies and with funding from WSCP, CSWS is preparing a new research project involving students going to four sites of prison activism around the world. We are engaged with two other institutions in this preparation, one at George Washington University and one at Rutgers University
- 5) *Speaker's Series*. Planning for 2006-2007: *Feminist Analysis, Affect Economy, and Psycho-Politics*.

C. STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

You were recently asked to complete a student employment survey for 2003-2004. If you have already done so, please proceed to the next question. If you have not done so, please attach the survey to this questionnaire.

D. GRANTS AND INCOME

1. Please give a brief summary of the grant proposals your center/institute has generated in the last year. Include those that have been funded, not funded, or are pending, along with title, funding agency, and amount requested or awarded. Please indicate whether these grants are administered by the RF, the GC Business Office, or the GC Office of Development.

CCF Comitted Income	
CUNY Vice Chancellor	\$15,000
42 nd Street Fund	\$10,000

2. Please list currently active grants that were previously awarded.

Outstanding grants and letters of inquiry:

We are presently under consideration for grants, for CCF and for joint projects for CCF and CSWS, CLEAR, at: Opens Society Institute and Jet Foundation
For extension of Facing Global Capital, Finding Human Security, we are at Ford and Rockefeller

Development in Process: Helena Rubinstein	\$25,000
Faith Based Campaign	\$20,000
Lumina Foundation	\$25,000
Misc Corporate Foundation Requests	\$25,000
Fall Event	\$10,000
New York Womens Foundation	\$15,000

E. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Budget, 2004-2005

Total Budget \$14,460

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Tax-Levy</u>	<u>Non Tax- Levy</u>
P/T Salaries	\$ 6,810	
OTPS	\$ 7,650	
Total	\$14,460	

Other Financial Support

Please list all account numbers and balances (as of the latest date in the year 2004) for additional income not included in Item D above, which is being held either in the Business Office, the Development Office, or accounts held elsewhere.

1. Business Office

none

2. Development Office

none

3. Accounts held elsewhere

none

F. OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Please list any gifts received, contracts entered into, or other income not included in any item above, such as registration fees, book income, luncheons, etc.

Attachment 1

Acknowledgements (for *Affective Turn*):

As the reader soon will learn *The Affective Turn* is a collection of essays whose authors have been participants in projects supported by the Center for the Study of Women and Society at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York from 1999 to 2006: the Conviction Seminar and The CLEAR Project dedicated to the study of mass incarceration and the conditions of life for women and men living with criminal convictions; The Future Matters Project dedicated to the study of culture, technoscience and governance; and the Rockefeller Foundation funded project on global capitalism, human rights and human securing, *Facing Global Capitalism/Finding Human Security: A Gendered Critique*. I want to thank the administrators at the Graduate Center for their support of the Center for the Study of Women and Society and its projects, especially Frances Degan Horowitz, William Kelly, Steve Brier and Brian Swartz to name a few. I want to thank the Ph.D. program in Sociology and the Women's Studies Program at the Graduate Center and the faculty of the Sociology Department at Queens College who generously gave me time to be Director of the Center for the Study of Women and Society over the past six years. I want to thank those of the larger intellectual community beyond CUNY who also participated in the projects of the Center for the Study of Women and Society: Jonathan Cutler, Norman Denzin, Richard Dienst, Michelle Fine, Stephano Harney, Janet Jakobsen, Michael Hardt, Jill Herbert, Anne Hoffman Anahid Kassabian, David Kassanjian, Charles Lemert, Michal Mc Call, Randy Martin, Barbara Martinsons, Brian Massumi, Mary Jo Neitz, Jackie Orr, Luciana Parisi, Jasbir Puar, Amitah Rai, Joseph Schneider, Steven Seidman, Charles Shepherdson, Catherine Silver, Tiziana Terranova, Judith Wittner, Angela Zito. I want to thank all my colleagues and fast made friends at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton for their support while I was a member there and to all those at Duke University Press, especially J. Reynolds Smith who has done so much to make this book project come to completion. My warmest appreciation to Jean Halley for her patient support through out and to Una Chung for her assistance in the final stages of this manuscript and so much more. And to my family, especially my sister Virginia, my son Christopher and the newest member of the family, Elizabeth.

Last but not least, I thank 'the book group,' all of its members, those whose writings are, presented here, as well as those whose writings are not. The many hours that I have spent as your teacher, the hours we have spent together reading and writing are memorable. Filled with the joy, laughter and some tears that make for fresh thought, our time together has been for me an experience of excellence in teaching and learning. It is to you that I dedicate the book.

The Affective Turn
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Attachment 2

Beyond Biopolitics: state racism, life and death.

Edited by Patricia T. Clough, Craig Willse and Tiziana Terranova

The essays collected in *Beyond Biopolitics: state racism, life and death* are drawn from the conference *Beyond Biopolitics*, held in New York City in Spring 2006, and a later conference, *Future Matters: communication, biopolitics, racism*, organized primarily by Tiziana Terranova and held in Naples, Italy, in Spring 2006. Both conferences were sponsored or /co-sponsored thorough the Center for the Study of Women and Society, The Graduate Center/CUNY. The Naples conference was held at the Università degli Studi di Napoli 'L'Orientale.'

Conferences:

The focus of both conferences was on the relationships of race/racism and technologies of biopolitical control and economies of affect. Those who presented addressed the continuities and discontinuities between colonialism and neocolonialism, slavery and affective labor, settlement and diaspora, subject identities and bodies, and macro and molecular organizations of populations. Presentations would offer accounts of race both in historical and transnational contexts and analyzed the various situations that constitute race and racism in multiple locations of the world today, The hope was to go beyond what we perceived to be the limitations of thinking race in terms of the intersections of class, gender, sexuality and nation, especially as intersectionality is appropriated in neoliberal reform, and functions to elaborate and justify new forms of violence, terror and bodily subjection.

In addressing these issues, the presentations and discussion raised questions that will be more fully addressed in the proposed volume. There is the concern that the idea of biopolitics used by Foucault, among others, be carefully situated both historically and in terms of the geopolitical exigencies of the present—including a politics of theory. A set of questions emerged putting biopolitics in tension with attempts to understand genocide, slavery, mass incarcerations and detention, migration, war and occupation, endemic illness and ecological emergencies:

1. Does a preemptive politics concerned with disaster, catastrophe and turbulence take us beyond a tension between the law and the state of exception?
2. What is the present relationship of capital, life and death? What histories assist us in addressing this question and how?
3. At what levels of life should our concerns with governance and economy be addressed, such as the molecular, the populational, the ecological and the technological.
4. Is there more than one racism? Or what is the relationship of racism to temporality, identity, language, technology, the bodily, and memory.

Our hope is that the volume will clarify and deepen these questions, as well as establish new questions for future work.

Beyond Biopolitics: State Racism, Life, and Death
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