CREGS’ 16TH ANNUAL SUMMER INSTITUTE ON SEXUALITY

centering women of color and trans women in the conversations around women’s sexual health and wellness

JUNE 5-9, 2018
Hello & Welcome to the 2018 Summer Institute!

Omen of color and transgender women have long been left out when it comes to education and research around women. Who gets to decide which “women” count? Which types of “women” and which kinds of bodies are seen as “normal,” and which aren’t? Who gets left out when “women” are studied? We will be asking and pondering all of these questions and more this week.

While we participate in these nineteen sessions with twenty-eight speakers, I invite you to think deeply about these questions. Mainstream culture is just beginning to wake up to the complex issues around sexuality and gender, and we all have opportunities to acknowledge our areas of privilege, take an active role of being an accomplice (rather than an ally), and moving the conversations forward.

On behalf of the Summer Institute and CREGS staff, we are so glad you have joined us!

Zaedryn “Zed” Rook (they/them) is an award-winning writer and speaker focusing on individual, interpersonal, and institutional power through genders, sexualities, and relationships. Their writing has been widely published online and in anthologies such as The Remedy: Trans and Queer Healthcare, Queering Sexual Violence, Queer: A Reader for Writers, and Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme. Their collection of short stories was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award in 2017, and they are the recipient of the NLA-International Cynthia Slater Nonfiction Article Award in 2015, the NLA-International John Preston Short Fiction Award in 2016, and the Gender, Women, & Sexuality Studies Alumni Award from their alma mater in 2017. Zed has been a guest speaker on gender and sexuality at colleges since 2008, and has a Bachelor’s degree in Gender, Women, & Sexuality Studies and Creative Writing from the University of Washington (2004).
The founding of the Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality (CRGS) coincided with the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Kinsey’s *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female* This Center was dedicated to studying sexuality as an anticipated, healthy developmental process of the human condition. The Center viewed sexuality as inextricably linked to social justice — one's sexuality should never be grounds for discrimination or the denial of human rights. This Center utilized and developed innovative methodologies and creative mixed methodologies to study the many dimensions of people's lived experiences. Founded by Dr. Deborah Tolman in 2004, Dr. Colleen Hoff became the Director in 2008.

CRGS became CREGS when the National Sexuality Resource Center merged with the research center and became the education and training arm that would integrate capacity for research, education, training, and policy efforts.

CREGS exists to contribute significantly to the discourse on sexuality with evidence-based knowledge and resources. The Center performs cutting-edge research in HIV prevention, adolescent/teen sexuality, reproductive health, and works with several community partners to study and disseminate information about sex.
ABOUT THE SUMMER INSTITUTE

The Summer Institute on Sexuality started in 2001 by the Founding Director of the National Sexuality Resource Center, Dr. Gilbert Herdt. The Institute, now in its sixteenth year, is the premiere summer program on sexuality research in the country. Designed for students, researchers, and professionals interested in the myriad of broad topics within sexuality studies, each year the Institute focuses on a different theme and bring in renowned speakers to share their knowledge.

PREVIOUSLY AT THE SUMMER INSTITUTE

2017: Sexuality, Activism, and Social Justice
2015: Under the Umbrella – Trans* Sexualities, Health, and Rights
2014: Sex Lives – Sexuality, Gender, and Pleasure Throughout the Lifespan
2013: Sexuality, Integrating Diversity in Sexuality: Health, Research, & Sex Ed
2012: Race, Sex, & Equity
2011: Culture, Sex, and Pleasure
2010: Sexual Health and Healthy Sexuality
2009: Race, Gender, and Sexuality
2007: Sexuality, Inequality, and Health
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10-11:15AM</td>
<td>Charlotte Tate</td>
<td><strong>WHY CIS WOMEN AND TRANS WOMEN SHOULD ALWAYS BE THE WOMEN IN “WOMEN’S HEALTH.”</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30AM-12:45PM</td>
<td>Scott Butler</td>
<td><strong>HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES IN SEXOLOGY: IMPLICATIONS FOR WOMEN’S SEXUALITY AND HEALTH</strong></td>
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<td>1:45PM-3:30PM</td>
<td>Jae Sevelius, Danielle Castro, Jenna Rapues</td>
<td><strong>TRANS WOMEN ON TOP: A DISCUSSION ABOUT SEX POSITIVITY AND UNMET NEEDS FOR TRANS WOMEN OF COLOR</strong></td>
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<td>4PM-6PM</td>
<td>Shine Louise Houston</td>
<td><strong>QUEER PORN TOUR: BEHIND THE SCENES AT PINK AND WHITE PRODUCTIONS</strong></td>
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WHY CIS WOMEN AND TRANS WOMEN SHOULD ALWAYS BE THE WOMEN IN “WOMEN’S HEALTH.”

Medical and sociological models of who counts as a woman routinely privilege cis women (i.e., those whose current gender identity label is the same as their birth-assigned category label), often to the extent that trans women are minimized within or excluded from these models. However, this routine privileging of cis women confuses several known and accepted facts within human biology, psychology, and sociology. Enumerating and clarifying the facts within these disciplines suggests that any useful discussion of “women’s health” needs to include trans women alongside cis women from the outset. Benefits of this inclusion are greater coherence of phenomena from both a psychological and sociological standpoint, as well as the ability to uncover important biological and behavioral information that is routinely hidden by excluding or minimizing trans women when discussing “women’s health.”

CHARLOTTE TATE

Charlotte Tate, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Psychology at San Francisco State University. She is a mixed ethnicity trans woman and a lesbian. She is also an intersectional feminist. Her work is situated at the nexus of social and personality psychology. Specifically, she examines the social identities of gender (trans* inclusive), sexual orientation (asexual inclusive), and ethnicity in the United States by focusing on the self and identity processes within those identities as well as prejudice and discrimination directed toward them. Her work uses an intersectional lens as a foundation to understand all these topics. Her work is largely quantitative, with a focus on multivariate statistical modeling, and is guided by conceptually analytic models that are amenable to qualitative inquiry as well. She has been on the editorial boards of Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology and Journal of Lesbian Studies.
The purpose of this workshop is to discuss the historical development of the field of sexology with special attention to its contributions to women’s sexuality and health. Sexology emerged as an autonomous academic discipline in 1907 with the publication of Iwan Bloch’s *The Sexual Life of Our Time*. Over the last century sexology has improved the lives of women through a variety of modalities including education, advocacy, and research. The presentation includes assessments of sexological research and associated texts, such as *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*, *Human Sexual Response*, and *Human Sexual Inadequacy*. The presenter emphasizes how sex research influenced the well-being and health of women and society at large. In addition, examples of women scholars from the past and present are highlighted. Finally, the presenter will discuss his career in sexology and attempts to improve women’s health through teaching, research, and advocacy.

**SCOTT BUTLER**

Dr. Scott Butler is currently a Professor of Public Health and faculty affiliate in the Women’s Studies and Gender & Sexuality program at Georgia College (GC). He received his Ph.D. in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention in 2009 from Purdue University and master degrees from Purdue, Indiana University, and the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality. He served as the Human Sexuality Program Coordinator at UNC-Chapel Hill from 2001-2003 and the Sexual Health Coordinator at Purdue from 1999-2000. Over the last 18 years he has taught human sexuality courses at GC, Purdue, Indiana, and UNC. Dr. Butler has received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to sexual health teaching and research including the 2010/2014 GC College of Health Sciences Scholar Award, the 2012 GC University-Scholarship Award, the 2011 Georgia Governor’s Teaching Fellowship, and the 2004 Indiana William Yarber Professorship in Sexual Health Graduate Fellowship.
INTERVIEW WITH SCOTT BUTLER

WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT DO YOU DO?

I’m a professor of public health and human sexuality at Georgia College. I teach human sexuality classes and do sex research. My teaching areas include human sexuality, sexology, HIV/AIDS, and women's health. My research areas include sexual health care at US colleges and universities and sexual health issues among college students.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

I’ve been interested in women’s health and wellness for many years. I created a course at my school titled US Women’s Health and Social Issues, which has a foundation in feminism. I’m interested how awareness of women’s sexuality has evolved over time. My research includes gender comparisons across issues such as pubic hair removal and condom attitudes.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

I think we need to be more inclusive and more aware of how social issues affect women and trans people of color. To me, it’s important to include intersectionality when I teach and consider new research ideas. In my classes, we have lectures, discussions, and documentaries on these topics.

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

*America’s War on Sex* by Marty Klein is a great book about the problems of sex negativity in our culture. The 2004 film *Kinsey* was excellent and really brought the issues of his time to life, also the PBS documentary on *Kinsey* was excellent.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

I can’t wait to return to San Francisco!
TRANS WOMEN ON TOP: A DISCUSSION ABOUT SEX POSITIVITY AND UNMET NEEDS FOR TRANS WOMEN OF COLOR

Everyone should have the opportunity to engage in meaningful and robust discussions about their sexual health and sex lives. Usually trans women are encouraged to discuss sexual health and sexuality in relation to HIV prevention and care, but our lived experiences are often taken out of context in order for agencies and programs to apply for funding. Although these services are critical, trans women of color aren't afforded much room to have candid sexual health discussions within the HIV prevention and care framework where their sexuality is often stigmatized as “high risk”. This panel will provide an opportunity for trans women of color to engage in a discussion about sex positivity, sexual health needs and lived experiences.

This is a panel discussion and will include Jae Sevelius as moderator with Danielle Castro and Jenna Rapues.

JAE SEVELIUS

Jae Sevelius, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor with the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) in the Department of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco and a licensed clinical psychologist. At the Center of Excellence for Transgender Health, Dr. Sevelius’ community-led research is focused on leveraging data to develop transgender–specific trauma-informed programs and interventions to promote holistic health and wellness among transgender people, with an emphasis on serving transgender women of color and those affected by HIV.
**Danielle Castro**

Ms. Castro is a heartfelt and passionate transgender community advocate who seeks to create positive change through her work. She’s co-founded multiple trans serving organizations and coalitions including Trans Advocates for Justice and Accountability (TAJA’s) Coalition and inspires others to promote a society devoid of transphobia. She is currently Director of Community Based Research for the Center of Excellence for Transgender Health (COE) at the University of California, San Francisco, and an international capacity building assistance provider for various organizations delivering HIV prevention and care as well as behavioral health services. Her academic writing is published in the Praeger Handbook of Community Mental Health Practice, and most recently, Danielle was awarded the UCSF Chancellor Award for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex Leadership for all of her work to advance health care for trans people throughout the country and abroad.

**Jenna Rapues**

Jenna Rapues is a Filipina American transgender woman. She was born in the Philippines and grew up in San Francisco where she received her Master of Public Health degree from San Francisco State University. Jenna currently serves as the UCSF Center of Excellence for Transgender Health (CoE) Interim Director and manages the capacity building assistance program. Prior to joining the CoE, Jenna directed both provider and community-based transgender HIV prevention and health promotion efforts for the San Francisco Department of Public Health. She is published in several journal articles highlighting the impact of HIV and health disparities among San Francisco’s transgender communities.
INTERVIEW WITH JENNA RAPUES

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

My name is Jenna Rapues and I sleep, breathe, think about health for and about transgender and gender non-binary people. I came into the work with a background in HIV prevention and public health. I am an out and proud trans community member who was born in the Philippines and came of age in San Francisco.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

My work in health for transgender and gender non-binary people addresses women’s health and wellness at many different intersections. Trans women are women therefore we need to start thinking about our shared struggles and experiences. We need to push reproductive justice and rights to include trans people. We need to include trans women of color in conversations in violence and HIV stigma. We need to collectively work together to identify priorities in our lives and health that will allow us to thrive.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

Just be intentional in including voices and experiences often silenced by stigma and transphobia.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

Self care is crucial to our work and survival. Do that, be persistent and intentional in centering the voices and experiences of people often left out in discourse.
Adult filmmaker Shine Louise Houston invites Summer Institute participants for a tour of her San Francisco studio where CrashPadSeries.com and other films are produced. See the set and learn what makes Shine’s movies unique with a screening and intimate Q&A.

**SHINE LOUISE HOUSTON**

As the founding producer and director of Pink and White Productions, (CrashPadSeries.com, PinkLabel.TV), Shine Louise Houston has always had unique vision. Graduating from San Francisco Arts Institute with a Bachelors in Fine Art Film, her works have become the new gold standard of adult cinema. During a five year position at the women-owned, sex toy purveyor Good Vibrations, Shine recognized an underserved demand for an alternative to mainstream pornography, and began to create well-crafted queer made porn. Shine’s films have been recognized among the next big wave of women produced porn and have been internationally screened from Amsterdam to New Zealand. Houston’s fifth feature film, SNAPSHOT, is an erotic suspense thriller starring queer women of color.
HOW TO GET TO PINK & WHITE

We will complete sessions in our classroom at 3:30pm, Tuesday June 5th, and make our way over to the studio on our own. The tour, Q&A, and film screening will start at 4pm.

1458 San Bruno Ave B7 (off 25th)
San Francisco, CA 94110

The entrance is at the end of San Bruno. Look for THE FARM sign next to the gate. Call or text 415-857-2076 when you arrive at the gate at the end of the street to be escorted to the studio.

Take a 15 minute cab ride there, or the closest BART is 24th Street then a 20 minute walk. Closest bus lines are 9, 90, 10, 48. If driving, please take 23rd or 24th to San Bruno as 25th does not go through. Street parking on San Bruno and adjacent streets is available but often limited.
10:00AM-11:15AM          COLLEEN HOFF
SEX THERAPY: ASSESSMENT AND CURRENT STANDARD OF CARE

11:30AM-1:15PM                               CAROL QUEEN
WITH KITTY STRYKER, M’KALI-HASHIKI, & VANESSA WARRI
SEX WORKER’S WHOLE SELVES

2:15PM-3:30PM        RACHEL KAPLAN & CYNTHIA EL KHOURY
SEXUAL AND MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS:
TRANS FEMININE COMMUNITY IN LEBANON

3:45PM-5:00PM               KEIKO LANE
CURIOSITY, CONSENT, AND COUNTERTRANSFERENCE:
WORKING WITH SEXUAL OUTSIDERS
Sex Therapy: Assessment and Current Standard of Care

The presentation will outline basic assessment strategies to use so that a comprehensive treatment plan can be developed. Current diagnoses and treatment approaches will be discussed focusing on women who experience vulva pain. Case examples will be discussed.

Colleen Hoff

Dr. Colleen Hoff, a Clinical Psychologist, is a Professor of Sexuality Studies and is currently the director of the Center for Research and Education on Gender and Sexuality. She was the interim Director for the NSRC, and Director of the Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality. Prior to coming to San Francisco State in September 2008, Professor Hoff was an Associate Professor of Medicine at UCSF and on Faculty at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. Professor Hoff has worked extensively in the field of HIV Prevention by developing and implementing community level, social network, group and individual intervention trials aimed at reducing sexual risk among gay men. She has also worked on two different studies aimed at promoting female condom use among sexually active women in the Bay Area. Professor Hoff is currently the Principal Investigator of a large scale couples study that focuses on agreements gay male couples make about sex with outside partners. Her particular interest is in the nuances of the negotiations and what factors support and hinder safety from HIV. Professor Hoff is also an AASECT certified sex therapist and keeps a small private practice where she works with couples and individuals facing sexual problems. Professor Hoff has published several journal articles presented findings at several professional conferences in the area of AIDS prevention and sexual health.
Many clinicians have clients who are engaged in sex work but lack practical and accurate information about the experiences of people working in that industry, and as a result sex work engaging clients may not feel comfortable bringing their whole selves or being fully honest in the therapeutic relationship. Our moderated panel will bring three diverse perspectives, debunking myths and assumptions about the actual experiences of sex work, who goes into sex work and why, and what defines sex work. Professionals and clinicians will leave this session with an increased understanding of both the psychological and physical challenges as well as the many benefits of engaging in the oldest of professions.

The panel includes moderator Carol Queen with M’kali-Hashiki, Kitty Stryker, and Vanessa Warri.

Carol Queen

Dr. Carol Queen is a writer and cultural sexologist with a PhD in human sexuality. Her books include The Sex & Pleasure Book: Good Vibrations Guide to Great Sex for Everyone, Exhibitionism for the Shy, Real Live Nude Girl: Chronicles of Sex-Positive Culture, and The Leather Daddy and the Femme. She has edited numerous anthologies, and her essays and erotic fiction have appeared in dozens more; she has also appeared in several explicit educational videos. Queen works as staff sexologist, company historian, and curator of the Antique Vibrator Museum at Good Vibrations, the women-founded sex toy and bookstore in San Francisco, where she has worked since 1990. In 2000 she co-founded the nonprofit Center for Sex & Culture with her partner Robert Morgan Lawrence, which is located in San Francisco; see more at: sexandculture.org. Queen has addressed numerous scholarly and professional conferences. She is active on behalf of progressive sex education and sexual diversity and has been speaking and writing about non-mainstream sexualities, from lesbian to leather, for over 35 years. For more information see her website carolqueen.com.
M’KALI-HASHIKI

M’kali-Hashiki is a Renegade Sexual Mystic; A Tour Guide to the realm of Eros; & a Teacher of Somatic Erotic Possibilities. She holds certifications in Sexological Bodywork; Sound, Voice, & Music Healing; and Tantric Sacred Intimacy. A published essayist; a former professional social justice organizer; and an Ifa devoteé, she believes the sexual & the spiritual are irrevocably intertwined. Her politics, spirituality, and lived experience as a queer, feminist, polyamourous, middle-aged, fat, kinky, Black Femme Dyke trauma survivor inform all aspects of her work. Her calling includes helping QTIPoC & allied folk heal their erotic wounds in order to access their erotic energy for fuel for their radical transformation. She also offers Enstatic Breathwork™ For Collaboration & Employee Wellness to companies & social justice non-profits. She also teaches medical students how to perform competent, thorough, ouchless patient-centered breast & pelvic exams. For more information, visit her website: FiercePassions.com.

KITTY STRYKER

Kitty Stryker is a writer, activist, and authority on developing a consent culture in alternative communities. She is the founder of www.ConsentCulture.com, a hub for LGBT, kinky, and polyamorous folks looking for a sex critical approach to relationships. Kitty recently published an intersectional anthology, *Ask: Building Consent Culture*. Kitty tours internationally, speaking at universities and conferences about feminism, sex work, body positivity, queer politics, and more. She lives in Oakland, California.
Vanessa Warri (San Francisco, CA) is a researcher, strategist, advocate, and former survival sex worker committed to the liberation, empowerment, and safety of Black transgender women, sex workers, and communities existing at various intersections of oppression. For 11 years she has provided empowerment based direct services and peer education for transgender communities, LGBT youth and the incarcerated. In her current role as a research associate with the UCSF Center of Excellence for Transgender Health she focuses on health based intervention development and testing designed to facilitate behavior change among San Francisco’s high risk transgender population. Additionally Vanessa is involved in collaboration with Gays & Lesbians Living in Transgender Society Inc. (GLITS Inc.) and the Sharmus Outlaw Advocacy and Rights Institute (SOAR Institute) in New York, supporting with advocacy against SESTA and FOSTA, and developing a national rapid response to anticipate and address the challenges and dangers this legislation will have.
INTERVIEW WITH CAROL QUEEN

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

I wear many hats, but the basics: I’m co-founder and director of the Center for Sex & Culture; I’m Staff Sexologist at Good Vibrations (I started working there as a salesperson in 1990 and developed GV’s education department); and I write/speak/consult in the general field of sexuality. My most recent book is The Sex & Pleasure Book: Good Vibrations Guide to Great Sex for Everyone.

I identify as a cultural sexologist, since my prior degree is in sociology; rather than focusing mostly on individual/couple sexual issues, I am more interested in social issues, movements, historical change over time, identity development, and so on.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

My Good Vibrations work, in particular, is really centered in this field — GV’s founder, Joani Blank, specifically saw the business in its initial years as being created for women. Later men and others on the gender spectrum made it clear that this form of retail-plus-educational space was valuable for them too, and we have opened our mission accordingly, but our core mission to women remains just as important forty years on. A great deal of the educational work I do involves adding information about female sexuality and women’s sexual (and other kinds of) diversity to the pop-culture-inflected understandings of my audiences. The role of the clitoris isn’t well understood by many people out there, for starters! Bad sex education — which is what we offer, mostly, in US schools — is bad for everyone, but it’s worse for women and marginalized people.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

One part of the answer is always to center your work and thinking in diversity — so that you can step outside your own experience and identity and grow your understanding of who you serve and how different identities and life experiences call for different kinds of cultural competence. This isn’t just about race and gender, either. Sexuality studies and professional work are so diverse and vast. I believe many who work in these fields have a difficult time getting off the insights that power their own sexual
experiences and fail to realize that other people will (or might) have very different ones. That being said: Hire women of color and trans women to work with you and consult with you!

**WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?**

I probably have a hundred answers to this. But let me shout out to a book I just love: Emily Nagoski’s *Come As You Are*. We are finally getting a bit of good sex research (mixed up with other research that isn’t so great), and I really love the way she includes the best of sex science and re-centers women’s sexuality. It’s full of insight and smarts; everyone in our field should know it.

**ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT YOURSELF?**

I have a history in the sex industry as well as academic and professional study and work, and that world has been *extremely* informative for me. I will be sharing insights from that side of my life at CREGS as well.
INTERVIEW WITH M’KALI-HASHIKI

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?
I’m a Renegade Sexual Mystic & I help people access their erotic energy to use as transformative fuel and/or heal their erotic wounds.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?
As women individually & collectively try to heal the wounds the kyriarchy inflicts upon our hearts, minds, and spirits, eros is a potent tool in that holistic healing journey.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?
1) When asked for referrals for speakers/presenters/facilitators, make sure that your top referrals are WOC (which of course includes trans women of color), which means you need to inform yourself about the leading WOC thinkers in your field

2) Read works by WOC

3) Make connections with other white people doing anti-racist work in your field

WHAT IS RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?
Women of Color Sexual Health Network.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?
I need more T’Challa/Sam Wilson fanfic in my life.
SEXUAL AND MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS: TRANS FEMININE COMMUNITY IN LEBANON

People can speak for themselves! All those involved in our study, which we will discuss in the second half of the workshop, are from the trans feminine community in Lebanon, with the exception of the Research Director and Principal Investigator. Because of intense transphobia, most participants are understandably not comfortable sharing images of themselves with the public. We therefore will share some video clips of trans folks speaking for themselves about their experiences as well as other clips that provide some cultural context of Middle Eastern environments and transnational geopolitical policies. Discussion of research process, challenges, and results. We will address the following questions and encourage active participation. What is the best way to describe this community (terminology, language, identity formation, origins)? What does the community want and need (via focus groups, interviews, community advisory board meetings)? Why was a sexual and mental health intervention adapted (community connectedness, family, gender affirmation)? What challenges were experienced and lessons were learned by the community, participants, and research team (mobility, borders, and global policies within Lebanon and the region; activism movement and NGOs; ethics, transparency, commitment to trans leadership)?

RACHEL L. KAPLAN

Rachel L. Kaplan, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor in the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health at the University of California, San Francisco and Affiliate Faculty at SFSU’s CREGS, is trained in Public Health and Social Science with experience in sexual and mental health and HIV prevention and treatment in the Middle East and North Africa. With a focus on international HIV prevention among key populations, Dr. Kaplan is interested in the intersections of risk, gender, sexuality, conflict, and health. Having worked on HIV research in the region since 2006, Dr. Kaplan is PI of an NIMH-funded study to determine potential strategies for addressing sexual and mental health risk among transgender women in Lebanon.
CYNTHIA EL KHOURY

Cynthia El Khoury, MPH received her Master’s degree from the American University of Beirut. Her work in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) started in 2008 when she compiled an informal registry of “sex-positive” physicians designed by and for queer women and gender nonconforming folks to safely navigate the Lebanese medical system. She has led SRHR trainings for activists, front-line workers, healthcare workers, and key stakeholders and designed and implemented a health intervention with and for trans individuals. She is currently Associate Director at the Arab Foundation for Freedoms and Equality and the Research Director of Baynetna and Mpowerment in Lebanon.
What sexualities fall outside of your cultural frame of reference? How do you respond when your clients disclose sexual activities, desires, and pleasures that are outside of your comfort zone? In this conversation, we will examine how our biases, assumptions, and experiences affect our relationships with clients whose relationship configurations or sexual identities surprise us. This session will use frameworks of social justice and liberation psychology to ask questions about how we manage conflicts between our ideas about the best interests of our clients, and their agency and expertise over their own bodies and choices. Using examples from my psychotherapy practice and community conversations, collaborations, and activisms, this session will seek to explore a working model of sexual and mental health that re-centers our curiosities in service of our clients’ expressions of self-determination. We will discuss the impact of stigma, trauma, and cultural systems of oppression on experiences of sexual empowerment and health.

Keiko Lane is a Japanese American psychotherapist, writer, educator, and activist. She writes about the intersections of queer culture, oppression resistance, racial and gender justice, HIV criminalization, reproductive justice, and liberation psychology. She has a private psychotherapy practice in Berkeley, CA, specializing in work with queers of all genders, artists, activists, academics, healers, and other clients self-identified as postcolonial. Keiko also teaches graduate and post-graduate psychotherapy courses on queer and multicultural psychotherapies, the psychodynamics of social justice, and the embodied literature of exile. A former faculty member in the Somatic Psychology Department at CIIS, she provides clinical consultations and supervision to early career psychotherapists. Some of her clinical writing has been published in The Feminist Wire, TheBody.com, The Feminist Porn Book, The Remedy: Queer and Trans Voices on Health and Healthcare, and Queering Sexual Violence. www.keikolanemft.com
THURSDAY, JUNE 7

10:00AM-11:15AM    ELISABETH BOLAZA
OPPRESSING BIRTH: A DISCUSSION OF SYSTEMATIC VIOLENCE AND DENIAL OF RIGHTS

11:30AM-1:15PM     CHANEL JAALI MARSHALL
SEX TALK: INVESTIGATING THE SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT AND SEXUAL ATTITUDES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN

2:15PM-3:30PM    ERICA MISAKO BOAS & JASON LAKER
UNDERSTANDING SEXUAL CONSENT COMMUNICATION FROM WOMEN’S PERSPECTIVES

3:45PM-5:00PM     LAURA MILLAR
DISABILITY AND SEXUALITY: A MORE INCLUSIVE APPROACH
Intimidation, neglect, forced interventions, physical assault, and rape – birthing people have reported a wide range of subtle and overt oppression and violence. Yet birth is omitted from most definitions of reproductive justice. Recent work has begun to draw greater attention the many ways that birthing people, especially people of color, people in poverty, LGBTQI+, youth, undocumented, incarcerated, and other marginalized groups are systematically dispossessed of their civil and human rights in birth. Such inequities put these groups at elevated risk of harm and death. For example, black women die after birth at four times the rate of their white counterparts in the United States (CDC, 2017). This talk will break down the history of birth care and birth advocacy, with special attention paid to its split from reproductive justice movements. A presentation of current research augmented with personal stories of women’s experiences of birth will paint a vivid picture of the realities of birth in the current political climate. A facilitated discussion will then explore “reproductive justice” and what birth means for social justice.

ELISABETH BOLAZA

Elisabeth Bolaza is a Ph.D. candidate in Human Sexuality at the California Institute of Integral Studies. She earned her Master’s in Public Health from UC Berkeley, and Bachelor’s in Biology from UCLA. She brings to sexuality studies her background in molecular biological research, clinical research, street-level sex education, and clinical sexual health counseling. She recently served as the ACLU’s Reproductive Justice Intern, studying the advocacy responsible for the California Healthy Youth Act of 2015. Drawing on intersectional feminisms, biopsychosocial and socioecological perspectives, and a drive to engage in political and biological discourse, she endeavors to bridge disciplinary divides and contribute to the practices of public sexual health, women’s studies, and sexuality research. Her dissertation focuses on the sexuality of motherhood and birth, and the social justice issues facing birthing people. She calls Oakland home with her husband Chris, their sassy two-year-old Lyla, and baby-two on deck.
INTerview WItH ElIsABeth BoLaZa

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

As a scholar-advocate, my research focuses on the sexuality, human rights, and social justice issues facing birthing people. My work draws on anthropological, intersectional feminist, public health, and biological perspectives.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

Birth is central to many women’s health and wellness. Strangely, “women’s health” as a field tends to focus on everything but pregnancy and birth, which has been relegated to the field of “maternal health,” obstetrics, or midwifery. Consider the term OB/GYN: two separate medical emphases, divided by a slash. Birth’s sociocultural and sexual dimensions are made invisible in the medicalized institutional reality of American birth. Birth is often erased from discussions of women’s sexuality altogether. It is also omitted from most prevailing definitions of reproductive justice. For those who give birth, it has an irrefutable impact on their wellness going forward. Positive or negative, each experience of birth leaves an impression that lasts a lifetime.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

As a researcher-advocate, I have the opportunity to own my power and privilege in how I choose to conduct my work — from a research justice perspective. My research questions intentionally engage intersecting oppressive forces. I’m designing the project to be about multiple groups and perspectives, across race, class, sexuality, and gender for example. I intentionally involve myself in the matter of justice, and my work is just one avenue for that pursuit. That’s a choice I invite all researchers to explore.

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

Robbie Davis-Floyd’s Birth as an American Rite of Passage (2003) is one book that has informed my work tremendously. I’m embarrassed to admit that I don’t get around to much extracurricular material these days, except my daily dose of My Little Pony (Twilight is my favorite, of course). When I’m not absorbed with my research, I’m trying to keep up with my wild toddler while being huge and pregnant.
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>TUESDAY JUNE 5</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY JUNE 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:30-10am</td>
<td>Introductory Seminar</td>
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<td>10-11:15am</td>
<td><strong>Charlotte Tate</strong>&lt;br&gt;Why Cis Women and Trans Women Should Always Be the Women in “Women’s Health”</td>
<td><strong>Colleen Hoff</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sex Therapy: Assessment and Current Standard of Care</td>
<td><strong>Elisabeth Bolaza</strong>&lt;br&gt;Oppressing Birth: A Discussion of Systematic Violence and Denial of Rights</td>
<td><strong>Brittany Chambers</strong>&lt;br&gt;Black Women’s Perspectives on Measuring Structural Racism</td>
<td>Aria Sa’id&lt;br&gt;Trans Women’s Health &amp; Sexuality: Are You Listening?!</td>
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<td>11:30am-1:15pm</td>
<td><strong>Scott Butler</strong>&lt;br&gt;Historical Perspectives in Sexology: Implications for Women’s Sexuality and Health</td>
<td><strong>Carol Queen M’kali-Hashiki, Kitty Striker, &amp; Vanessa Warri</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sex Workers Whole Selves panel with</td>
<td><strong>Chanel Jaal Marshall</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sex Talk: Investigating the Sexual Development and Sexual Attitudes of African American Women</td>
<td>Community Fair</td>
<td>Danielle Hebner &amp; Hayley Pettit</td>
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<td>2:15-3:30pm</td>
<td><strong>Jae Sevelius, Danielle Castro, &amp; Jenna Rapues</strong>&lt;br&gt;Trans Women on Top: A Discussion About Sex Positivity and Unmet Needs for Trans Women of Color</td>
<td><strong>Rachel Kaplan &amp; Cynthia El Khoury</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sexual and Mental Health and Wellness: Trans Feminine Community in Lebanon</td>
<td><strong>Erica Boas &amp; Jason Laker</strong>&lt;br&gt;Understanding Sexual Consent Communication from Women’s Perspectives</td>
<td><strong>Anu Manchikanti Gómez</strong>&lt;br&gt;Long-Acting Reversible Contraception and the Meaning of Reproductive Freedom</td>
<td><strong>Charis Stiles</strong>&lt;br&gt;At the Intersection of Age, Gender, and Sexuality: The Sexual Lives of Older Womxn</td>
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<td>3:45-5pm</td>
<td><strong>Shine Louise Houston</strong>&lt;br&gt;Queer Porn Tour: Behind the Scenes at Pink and White Productions</td>
<td><strong>Keiko Lane</strong>&lt;br&gt;Curiosity, Consent, and Countertransference: Working with Sexual Outsiders</td>
<td><strong>Laura Millar</strong>&lt;br&gt;Disability and Sexuality: A More Inclusive Approach</td>
<td><strong>Cole Threemoons Richards</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Intersections of Native Spirituality, Gender, and Sexual Identities in Post-Colonial America</td>
<td><strong>Jennifer Devine</strong>&lt;br&gt;Practical Skills for Teaching Comprehensive Sex Ed to Children and Youth</td>
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<td>5-5:30pm</td>
<td>Seminar for full week participants</td>
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This highly engaging session will begin with a brief historical overview of the sexuality of African and African descendant women. The presentation will then move into the myths, misconceptions, and stereotypes surrounding the sexuality of Black women. Attention will be given to the ways we learn about sex, and with that information, how we interpret sex and sexuality through our behaviors. This session is intended to be highly interactive with key discussion questions and videos positioned throughout with the intent of examining the aforementioned subjects. The speaker will also include personal stories collected from interviews in order to engage a cross cultural perspective with the audience.

CHANEL JAALI MARSHALL

Chanel Jaali Marshall is an independent researcher and sexual educator focusing on the topics of sexual development, sexual attitudes and behaviors, and reproductive rights. She is the owner of Jaali Co., a company specializing in sex education for adults. Her research has been presented at several national conferences. She is a HIV/AIDS activist and conducts community workshops nationwide on subjects from safer sex practices to sexual assault. She also works closely with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Chanel Jaali can be contacted at www.jaalico.com and on Facebook (Jaali Co.), and IG and Twitter (jaali_co).
INTERVIEW WITH CHANEL JAALI MARSHALL

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

I am a sex educator, sex researcher, reproductive rights advocate, and mental health professional. I own Jaali Co., which is a company that focuses on pleasure based, comprehensive, and accurate sex education and research. Most of my work is done “on the ground” in various communities.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

My research explores how women of African descent learn about sex and sexuality and based on how they learned, I wanted to explore their attitudes and behaviors towards sex and sexuality. My community work includes workshops, counseling, and collaborations with other women-led organizations.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

I believe it’s about two things: listening and being intentional. We are speaking up for ourselves, but are not always being heard. Women of color and trans women are qualified, educated, and informed, and should hold positions of leadership and be at the forefront of creating inclusive programming and institutions.

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

When and Where I Enter by Paula Giddings speaks directly on the impact of Black women on race relations and sex in America. I heavily relied on this text while conducting my research. It does a great job of giving a historical background on Black women’s sexuality.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT YOURSELF?

I’m also a photographer! I’m working on a traveling project called Glow Photo Series, which aims to highlight Black and Brown women identified folks regardless of body type, ability, hair texture, complexion, or expression.
UNDERSTANDING SEXUAL CONSENT COMMUNICATION FROM WOMEN’S PERSPECTIVES

Drawing on interviews from Consent Stories – a sexual consent research project focused on college students – this interactive presentation will provide information on sexual consent communication with respect to trans, queer, and cis women. Following a short presentation on the research, we will use excerpts from the interviews and other information to engage in discussion and activities to deepen understanding and inform practices around sexual communication.

ERICA MISAKO BOAS

Dr. Erica Misako Boas is a former elementary school teacher, mother, and a scholar of sexuality and education. She teaches in the Child Studies Program at Santa Clara University and in the Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences at San Jose State University. Her research focuses on sexuality and race in institutions of schooling and their function in the social organization of human lives with a focus on K-12 education. She is currently interested in exploring the processes cohering around curricular implementation of AB 329, the “California Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act”, state educational legislation which went into effect on January 1, 2016. Since 2012 Erica has worked as Co-Principal Investigator on the “Consent Stories” project (with Dr. J. Laker), which explores the ways in which college students experience, negotiate, and understand sexual consent. The overarching objective of her research is to inform new approaches toward the elimination of sexual violence in and out of schools. This interest is inspired by five years of teaching at San Francisco Bay Area public elementary schools and an ongoing interest in exploring public schooling’s potential in effecting personal and social transformations, especially with respect to education on sexuality. Erica Boas received her Ph.D. from the Social and Cultural Studies Program in the Graduate School of Education at the University of California at Berkeley where she
also completed a Designated Emphasis in Gender, Women, and Sexuality. Selections of her published scholarship can be found in *The Journal of Sex Education* and the edited volume *Sexualities and Education*.

**JASON LAKER**

Jason Laker is a tenured, Full Professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Ed.D. Program in Educational Leadership within the Lurie College of Education and a Salzburg Fellow at San José State University. At SJSU, he previously served as the Vice President for Student Affairs, leading a Division with over 20 departments and 350 staff. He also holds an appointment as Affiliated Research Faculty with the Center for Research and Education on Gender and Sexuality at San Francisco State University. Jason's teaching, consulting, and academic work includes over 20 years of successful and progressively more complex administrative leadership experiences in student and academic affairs in several types of university environments (e.g., research, public, private, large, small, religious, liberal arts, Land Grant) in the U.S. and Canada (he is originally from Michigan, USA). He holds a Ph.D. from the Center for the Study of Higher Education at the University of Arizona, an M.A. in Community Counseling from Adams State College (CO), and a B.S. in Organizational Communication from Central Michigan University. His doctoral dissertation, Beyond Bad Dogs: Toward a Pedagogy of Engagement of Male Students won the Dissertation of the Year Award from the Association for Student Judicial Affairs.
Navigating sensitive conversations around sexuality pose unique sets of challenges for women with disabilities, their family members, and the professionals that serve them. This presentation will examine some of those challenges, and how to best address them. Practical knowledge and useful tips will be given on how to be an ally when working with a person with a disability. The presentation will also draw attention to a significant need for a more inclusive, accessible, culturally competent approach to sex education and health care for women with disabilities.

Laura Millar

Laura Millar works as the Sexual Health Services Program Coordinator at the LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired in San Francisco. She graduated from San Francisco State University with a Masters of Public Health (2009), and a Masters of Human Sexuality (2014). Laura’s current research focuses on how people who are blind and low vision learn about and navigate sex and intimate relationships. Through her work at the LightHouse, she offers workshops, trainings and in-services for individuals who are blind or low vision, their family members and the organizations that serve them, ensuring that sexual health information and services are comprehensive, inclusive and accessible for everyone.
INTERVIEW WITH LAURA MILLAR

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

Laura Millar is the Sexual Health Services Program Coordinator at LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired in San Francisco. Legally blind herself, with a Master of Public Health as well as a Masters in Sexuality Studies, she conducts research to examine how individuals with vision loss learn about and navigate the world of dating, sex and intimate relationships. She offers workshops, trainings and in-services for individuals who are blind or have low vision, their family members and the organizations that serve them; ensuring that sexual health information and services are comprehensive, inclusive and accessible for everyone. Laura is a single mother who is especially passionate about helping parents and educators find ways of incorporating sex-positive language and messaging into the work they already do with disabled youth. She brings a strong message of intersectionality and inclusivity to the work that she does whether it is advocating for accessible materials for the blind or advocating for LGBT rights. She is constantly working to improve the lived experiences for people with disabilities, related to their sexual health.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

Everything I do is aimed at improving the sexual health literacy of the blind community, as well as increasing awareness of the sexual health needs for women with disabilities. My work is not specific to women, but it is especially important that we do not exclude disabled women from the conversation!

This past year we partnered with Women’s March Oakland, in an effort to include conversations about disability and accessibility from the planning stages and hosted a pan-disability contingent for that march. We are also hosting a pan-disability contingent and celebration for Pride 2018! The advocacy work we do is important not only to enhance the visibility of the work that we do, but more importantly as an effort to appear visible for those living with disability in isolation. Encouraging them to get involved in community, seek services and live more independent lives.
HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

This is a very specific question, we are always looking for ways to reach out to minorities of color. I am connected with the Transgender Law Center in Oakland who are doing some great work with transgender folks who have a disability. I would like to point out that disabled women who live at the intersection of multiple marginalized identities can be some of the most vulnerable, and it is important not to forget those voices. We are introducing conversations around ableism and internalized ableism in our communities as well. Historically I am not sure disability agencies have done a very good job of catering to minorities of color, but we are working to change that.

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

Disability After Dark is one of my favorite podcasts where Andrew Gurza creates content that addresses all different topics related to sex and disability. It is the #1 podcast on the subject. He is so real, and honest, and fun, and his podcasts always feature some really exciting disabled people and I always learn so much about other disabilities, and their needs.
FRIDAY, JUNE 8

10:00AM-11:15AM  BRITTANY CHAMBERS
BLACK WOMEN’S PERSPECTIVES
ON MEASURING STRUCTURAL RACISM

11:30AM-1:15PM
COMMUNITY FAIR

2:15PM-3:30PM  ANU MANCHIKANTI GÓMEZ
‘IT WOULD HAVE CONTROL OVER ME INSTEAD OF ME HAVING
CONTROL’: LONG-ACTING REVERSIBLE CONTRACEPTION
AND THE MEANING OF REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

3:45PM-5:00PM  COLE THREEMOONS RICHARDS
TRANSCENDING ERASURE: DISCUSSION ON THE
INTERSECTIONS OF NATIVE SPIRITUALITY, GENDER,
AND SEXUAL IDENTITIES IN POST-COLONIAL AMERICA
This talk will discuss the historical and contemporary facets of racism and how it is a fundamental cause of health inequities. Findings from focus groups with Black women in Oakland and Fresno will be shared which focused on their conceptualization of structural racism and how it is related to sexual and reproductive health outcomes.

Brittany D. Chambers, PhD, MPH, CHES is currently a post-doctoral fellow with the California Preterm Birth Initiative at the University of California, San Francisco. She is currently based in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Mission Bay Campus. Her work is focused on understanding how interpersonal and structural racism are related to sexual and reproductive health disparities experienced by women of color. This effort seeks to leverage opportunities for clinic- and policy-level interventions.
INTERVIEW WITH BRITTANY CHAMBERS

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

I am currently a postdoctoral fellow with the Preterm Birth Initiative at UCSF.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

My work focuses on how interpersonal and structural racism impacts Black women’s sexual and reproductive health.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

It is time for us to move from “include” to doing work “with” women of color and trans women.

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

Choudhury, S., Erausquin, J. T., & Withers, M. (2018). Global Perspectives on Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health Across the Lifecourse. Springer International Publishing. This book highlights distinct and overlapping issues to women’s sexual and reproductive health globally and in the US, including papers on stigma, violence, and reproductive control.
COMMUNITY FAIR

An interactive session where attendees will have the opportunity to meet organizations within the Bay Area community who advocate for women’s health, wellness and sexuality. The Community Fair will also offer resources and information to those who are seeking to further their education, and to those who are seeking collaboration opportunities within our progressive community. Come join our non-profits, schools, and centers who fight for women’s health, comprehensive education, and sexual awareness.

Representatives from each organization will introduce themselves briefly, and participants and representatives will have a chance to mingle, network, learn about the organization, and discuss their work and how it may fit together. We hope many connections will be made.

ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE

Intersex & Genderqueer Recognition
National Coalition of Sexual Freedom
California Coalition for Sexual Freedom
International Professional Surrogates Association
Bay Area Women Against Rape
The Women’s Building
Peer Health Exchange
Department of Counseling, SFSU
College of Extended Learning, SFSU
Sexuality Studies, SFSU
California Institute of Integral Studies
In the past decade, enthusiasm for long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) has rapidly grown in the United States. Messages from health care providers, pharmaceutical advertisements, and public health campaigns extol the freedom that women can experience using a long-term, internal, highly effective contraceptive method like the IUD or implant. This presentation will outline current issues in the promotion of LARC, drawing on perspectives from social science, history, and reproductive justice to problematize current discursive and clinical practices that may unintentionally infringe upon reproductive autonomy. Additionally, data from a study of contraceptive decision-making among 38 Black and Latinx young women will be presented to elucidate the various ways that reproductive agency is conceived of and enacted.

ANU MANCHIKANTI GÓMEZ

Anu Manchikanti Gómez is assistant professor at the School of Social Welfare and director of the Sexual Health and Reproductive Equity (SHARE) Program. For more than 15 years, Dr. Gómez has worked as a health equity researcher with a focus on reproduction and sexuality throughout the life course. She has conducted research both in the US and globally on diverse topics, including contraceptive use, abortion, HIV prevention, gender equity, transgender health and violence against women and children. Dr. Gómez’s current research focuses on three areas: (1) the measurement and meaning of pregnancy planning; (2) understanding contraceptive decision-making within social, relational and structural contexts; and (3) evaluating the impact of and evidence base for policies related to reproductive health.
INTERVIEW WITH ANU MANCHIKANTI GÓMEZ

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

I am an Assistant Professor at the School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley. I do research on sexual, reproductive and maternal and infant health and teach MSW students about research methods and human sexuality.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

We can explicitly shift power to the communities and groups that we aim to serve. Rather than tokenizing women of color and trans women, we can ensure that they lead the work and are properly compensated and supported.
A comprehensive discussion on the intersections of LGBTQ+ identities within the Native American cultures of post-colonial era America, with specific emphasis on comparing spirituality regarding sex and gender within both Native and Anglo-Euro spheres, illuminating interconnecting systematic mechanisms of erasure and oppression for trans, queer, people of color.

COLE THREEMOONS RICHARDS

Cole ThreeMoons Richards is a biracial, two-spirit Anglo/Native American, and a part of the LGBTQ+ community, currently acting as one of the social media account operators and representatives for California State University, Chico. They are completing a BA in Political Science, with minors in Gender and Sexuality and Women's Studies in pursuit of a Civil Rights J.D. They have spoken at several regional social justice events, such as the Native American opening ceremony for the Chico Women's March, 2017, Gender and Sexuality Equity Center's Transgender Week of Resilience Trans Panel, Chico Pride 2015-2017, Stonewall Alliance's Queer Justice is Racial Justice spoken word, among other LGBTQ+ POC events discussing the dynamic of intersecting queer, gender, and racial identities.
SATURDAY, JUNE 9

10:00AM-11:15AM        ARIA SA’ID
TRANS WOMEN’S HEALTH & SEXUALITY: ARE YOU LISTENING?!

11:30AM-1:15PM        DANIELLE HEBNER & HAYLEY PETTIT
THE IMPACT OF “PASSING” FOR A TRANSGENDER WOMAN OF COLOR IN TERMS OF THEIR RISKY SEXUAL BEHAVIORS, SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND THE CARE THEY NEED AND RECEIVE

2:15PM-3:30PM        CHARIS STILES
AT THE INTERSECTION OF AGE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY: THE SEXUAL LIVES OF OLDER WOMXN

3:45PM-5:00PM        JENNIFER DEVINE
PRACTICAL SKILLS FOR TEACHING COMPREHENSIVE SEX ED TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Imagine a world where the leaders and experts of the unique healthcare needs of Women of Color are actually, white cisgender men. Sound odd? That’s because it is. In Transgender medicine, there is very little representation from the population itself in determining standards of care, and we think that’s a problem. White cisgender researchers and clinicians oversee all aspects of transgender healthcare — from research and healthcare priorities, to WPATH and the standards of care, to transgender health education in medical schools and nursing programs — we are invisible. There aren’t currently any transgender women of color in key leadership roles at any transgender serving medical and healthcare institutions — and yet, 80% of the funding priorities are centered on the health disparities of Black and Latinx transgender women. This discussion, led by black and brown transgender women of color provides an analysis on how clinicians can center the leadership of transgender women of color to be efficacious in the solutions of our healthcare disparities and access.

A R I A  S A ’ I D

Aria Sa’id is a Writer, Cultural Icon & Political Strategist. She is the Founder of Kween Culture Initiative, a cultural equity project centering the artistic and social justice contributions of transgender women of color through cultural dialogue, social equity and artistic efforts. She also serves as LGBT Policy Advisor for the San Francisco Human Rights Commission.
INTERVIEW WITH ARIA SA’ID

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?


HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

My work is centered in equity for black and brown transgender women, and I’m excited to increase awareness, raise visibility, and expand insights on the issues specific to women of color with transgender experiences at this year’s event.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

I think it’s important to center the leadership of cis and trans women of color in our advocacy. It only adds to more effectiveness!

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

Nerve Endings: Trans Erotica Anthology, edited by Tobi Hill-Meyer. (P.S. I am a contributing author ;) ) A whimsical thing I’m adoring right now: Tre Melvin’s YouTube video “Reading Racist Comments in ASMR.” I love the magic we have a black people to address oppression in the most interesting way.
“Passing” is a colloquial term utilized to describe the affirmation of one’s gender identity through social interactions (Sevelius, 2013). Transgender women, particularly transgender women of color, are more likely to be at risk for sexually-transmitted infections (STIs,) human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and sexual violence (Budhwani et al., 2017). A critical analysis of the research will be conducted on the physical and psychological needs of “passing” transgender women of color who are experiencing risky sexual encounters in order to suggest better cultural competence to those working with these individuals. Results were peer-reviewed, published within the last 5 years and easily accessible in full-text form. Research found explored the psychological (Riggs & Bartholomaeus, 2015; Roehr, 2015) and physical needs (Poteat, et al., 2015; Sausa, Keatley, & Operario, 2007) of this population, and to what resources they have access (Sevelius, Reznick, Hart, & Schwarcz, 2009). This presentation seeks to clarify and condense the scientific discourse around this issue and provide a platform warranting further analysis and research. Results will be utilized to make a summary of the risks this population regularly face in order to promote cultural competence.

Danielle Hebner and Hayley Pettit are both clinical psychology doctoral students at the American School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University, San Francisco Bay Area. Their clinical work focuses on community mental health and substance use with children, adults, couples and families. Both Danielle and Hayley are highly involved in the school’s LGBTQ+ Outreach Club with Dr. Pauline “Polly” Lytle as the club’s faculty sponsor. They are active advocates for social and political inclusion of all majorities and minorities.
INTERVIEW WITH HAYLEY PETTIT

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

I’m a full-time student at ASPP in the San Francisco Bay Area. I am currently completing a practicum at a community mental health center.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

I work with low-income and marginalized populations, and women’s health and wellness issues are frequently brought up in therapy as sources of stress and areas of need. Therefore my work attempts to address the stress around these areas and providing available and affordable resources for these needs.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

We can continue learning about the these communities via different avenues (Youtube, research articles, etc.), attending and learning about different events (festivals, marches, etc.), and in general using inclusive and non-judgmental language. We can also be allies by letting these populations have a voice in the community, and not always having cisgendered and white/European American/Caucasian individuals speak “for them” all the time, and instead support them as much as we can.

WHAT CURRENT RESOURCES YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

I adore the Youtube channel Stef Sanjati. She is a Youtuber that discusses not just topics around transgender issues that are focused on education and inclusion, but also about video games, make-up, and Waardenburg Syndrome.
This presentation will examine the sexual lives of older cis and trans women. Sex is often a taboo subject, especially when compounded by sexism, heterosexism, and finally ageism. This presentation will discuss the complexities of sexual health as women age, including increased risks for sexually transmitted diseases while also having increased sexual satisfaction.

CHARIS STILES

Ms. Charis Stiles is a gerontological social worker with over 10 years of experience working with older adults. Ms. Stiles focusing primarily on end of life and currently works in the field of death, dying, and grief.
INTERVIEW WITH CHARIS STILES

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

I work primarily in medical social work, focusing on older adults. Currently I am working in hospice.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

I work with primarily older women with terminal illness. My work in hospice also includes providing services for family caregivers, the vast majority of which are middle aged women.

HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

Don’t be color blind! Include discussions of race in your analysis. Similarly, don’t be gender blind! The impacts of racism and transphobia have very real consequences on health outcomes. Be mindful about being inclusive and be introspective of your own biases. If you find yourself making an assumption or forgetting a group of people (like older adults), be humble. Look inward and then bring that introspection into action. Call in other folks making the same assumptions. And mainly keep being humble!

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

If only the Golden Girls had a modern reboot with trans womxn!
This workshop is for people who want to work with children and youth teaching comprehensive, medically accurate, shame free and pleasure-centric human sexuality. Its main focus will be developing the skills to make it easier to talk to children about sex, health and growing up. This workshop is grounded in our anti-oppression philosophy and intersectional lens so we can train sex educators to encourage all people to make informed decisions about caring for their bodies and being sexually healthy even in a world where privilege and inequity makes it difficult for some folks to access information or care. It will cover the school district protocols needed to become someone who can teach in public schools, the state education codes, and the legal issues about teaching children. We will review the developmental stages of growing up and how to give age-appropriate information. Most importantly we will give you a chance to answer real questions from children all over the Bay Area about sex, gender and sexuality. We will provide proven tips on how to answer inclusively, without shame, and sex positivity.

JEN DEVINE

Jen Devine is a sex educator, curriculum developer, teacher trainer, and sexual health consultant based in San Francisco. She has been a Certified Sexuality Educator by Planned Parenthood since 1998 and has been teaching sex and health education to youth and adults since 1989. She has a Master Degree in Theology and Human Sexuality from Star King School for the Ministry, 2006. She is the founder of Superstar Health Education which teaches over 3000 students in the Bay Area every year. She is known for her quick wit and her ability to create respectful, fun workshops on any topic of human sexuality. She has taught at public, private, and religious schools as well as at seminaries, universities and colleges around North America since 1989. She volunteers weekly at the San Francisco Sex Information phone line.
INTERVIEW WITH JENNIFER DEVINE

WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT IS THE WORK YOU DO?

I am queer, poly, white, anti-racist, gender bending, motorcycle riding, cisgender woman. I am an independent sex educator, curriculum developer and teacher trainer. My organization SHE: Superstar Health Education has been serving the Bay Area since 2008, now reaching over 50 schools and starting outreach in NYC schools. I have a team of educators who provide comprehensive, medically accurate, shame free, trans and intersex inclusive, super fun sex ed to about 3000 young people a year, in public, private and religious schools and youth serving organizations.

I have been Certified Sexuality Educator by Planned Parenthood since 1998 and had been teaching sex education in the Bay Area since 2000. I earned my Masters of Divinity, at Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA with a concentration in Human Sexuality and Theology. I was formerly the Director of The Education Department at Golden Gate Community Health (Planned Parenthood). I also served as the volunteer coordinator/harm reduction trainer HIV/STD counselor for St. James Infirmary, San Francisco's sex worker health clinic. I currently also work as a supervisor at SFSI, (San Francisco Sex Information) switchboard answering sex ed. question from folks all over the world.

HOW DOES YOUR WORK ADDRESS WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLNESS?

Much of our work (about 75%) is teaching 4-6th grade puberty education classes. Being radically inclusive about who we are including in our education of young cisgender, transgender and non-binary folks in our classrooms, we are making space for all women and girls. Not every vulva having person are women and not all women have a vulva. We are creating new narratives of the possibility of puberty rocking for all people by building of self-esteem and body positivity and validating that puberty is a challenging time for many people. We try to balance that some in cases it is healthy to want to change the body to fit one's internal understanding of self and in other cases it can self-destructive when it is motivated by trying to live up to societal expectations of beauty or body shape, size and decoration. Young people need narratives of health around body development and autonomy and around gender presentation or their self understanding of gender and gender presentation.
HOW CAN WE AS LEARNERS AND ADVOCATES BETTER INCLUDE WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS WOMEN IN OUR WORK?

Hire and train all women, queers, intersex, and POC for all your positions. Buy products from women, POC, and queer businesses. Interrupt all racist, homophobic, and transphobic remarks in classrooms. Work to dismantle institutional barriers like gendered bathrooms and surveys with binary questions. Teach white men to hush up and notice when they are taking up too much space. Let all men know (regardless of race) that it is their job to dismantle misogyny and “bad bro behavior” even when women aren’t visible or looking. White and cis gender women also have much work to do to be use inclusive language and tirelessly work to change systemic racist and transphobic institutions.

WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU HIGHLY RECOMMEND?

I love *Sex is a Funny Word* by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth. All the people are fun colors, diverse in body type and gender expression and the book is super inclusive in how it presents sexuality to children. I’m also a fan of some of the videos on Amaze.org. They are trying to create a kid friendly environment for learning about sexuality. Some of their videos totally rock with inclusivity and breaking down stereotypes and some of them sadly reinforce gender expectations and problematic oppression.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT YOURSELF?

I also identify as an artist, activist and urban farmer from a working class background. I have an organic garden and raise chickens in the city of SF.
Thank you to our wonderful staff who made the Institute possible! Special thanks to Tobie Klibansky, Associate Director at CREGS, for wrangling us all and keeping us in line.

KIRSTY ANNE RICHARDS

Kirsty Anne Richards is a recent graduate at SF State with a B.A. in Psychology and double minors in LGBTQ+ Studies and Sexuality Studies. She has a deep interest in psychology, sexuality, sexual education and sexual health, as well as the politics around sexual violence. She proudly identifies as a feminist and is a strong advocate for social justice movements. Kirsty grew up in South Africa, which is deeply classist and racist, and when moving to the U.S., she noticed there was not much difference with the inequalities between race, gender and sexualities. She began to realise how deeply these inequities are ingrained within societal systems and social perceptions, so chose to pursue a field where she can be a part of change and growth toward a more egalitarian society. She is also a lover of the arts, enjoys making art and crafts, studies ballet in her spare time, and loves to read and write.

REBECCA “BEX” MACFIFE

Rebecca “Bex” MacFife (she/her) is a second year student in the Sexuality Studies Masters Program at San Francisco State University. She has spent many years in various iterations of “sex educator,” and currently teaches sensitive exams in medical schools as a Gynecological Teaching Associate (GTA). Her research looks at how GTA’s address gender and sexuality in their work. She enjoys being upside down and laughing at her own bad puns.
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