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CSW Update Newsletter

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NEW MAJORITIES I & II: A TEAM EFFORT



UCLA's Center for the Study of Women (CSW) and NYU's Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality (CSGS)

have teamed up on a yearlong project that addresses the challenges currently facing the fields of women's studies, gender and sexuality studies, postcolonial studies, ethnic studies and LGBT studies. The project has resulted in two sister conferences; the first, *New Majorities, Shifting Priorities: Difference and Demographics in 21st-Century Academy*, was held at UCLA on March 4, 2011. The second conference, titled *New Majorities II: The Multiple Futures of Gender and Sexuality Studies*, will be held at NYU on April 29, 2011. The conference in New York marks

the eleventh anniversary of NYU's CSGS and to celebrate, a musical performance party will cap the conference events.

Like CSW's conference, *New Majorities II* will be structured around two roundtable sessions featuring prominent scholars in the fields of gender and sexuality studies, women's studies, LGBT studies, and ethnic and postcolonial studies. The conference roundtables reflect the kind of discussion and project outcomes that are important for the continuation and development of these highly valuable areas of study. These project goals include the development of innovative research, curriculum, and programming strategies and the best possible arguments that can be made for these fields of study. Through these conferences, CSW and CSGS will articulate how these fields are indispensable to academia's educational mission in the 21st century.

Starting at 10 am on April 29, 2011, at NYU, the morning roundtable, "Gender and Sexuality Studies at NYU: History, Futures, Institutional Possibilities and Dilemmas," will be moderated by Gayatri Gopinath, Gender & Sexuality Studies, NYU, and will feature Don Kulick, Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago; Rahma Abdulkadir,

Research Fellow, NYU Abu Dhabi; Carolyn Dinshaw, Social & Cultural Analysis, NYU; and e. Frances White, Gallatin School of Individualized Study and Social and Cultural Analysis, NYU. Lisa Duggan, Social & Cultural Analysis, NYU, will moderate the afternoon roundtable, "New Paradigms, New Possibilities," which will feature Jennifer D. Brody, African & African American Studies, Duke; Licia Fiol-Matta, Latin American & Puerto Rican Studies, Lehman College, CUNY; Janet R. Jakobsen, Barnard Center for Research on Women, Barnard College; Laura Levitt, Religion and Women's Studies, Temple University; Ann Pellegrini, Performance Studies and Religious Studies, NYU; and myself, representing UCLA's CSW.

That evening, CSGS is hosting a party and performance at Le Poisson Rouge, from 7 to 8:30 pm, to celebrate their eleventh anniversary. Produced by Vivia DeConcini, the event will feature performances by Darlinda Just Darlinda, Karen Finley, Geo, Jomama Jones, Coco 'Lectric, Glenn Marla, Neal Medlyn, Peggy Shaw, Lois Weaver, and Jennifer Miller as the MC. For more information, visit <http://www.csgsnyu.org/>.

— KATHLEEN MCHUGH