Title
Thinking Gender 2012: Conference Preview

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Author
Riojas, Mirasol

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CONFERENCE PREVIEW

BY MIRASOL RIOJAS,
THINKING GENDER COORDINATOR
ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE IS FEB 3

PANELS WILL ONCE AGAIN FEATURE PROVOCATIVE AND IMPORTANT RESEARCH ON GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN’S ISSUES

IT’S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!
Mark your calendars! CSW’s annual graduate student research conference, Thinking Gender, will take place at the UCLA Faculty Center on Friday, February 3, 2012, from 7:30 AM to 6:30 PM. The day is going to be filled with cutting edge feminist research on gender, sexuality, and women, which spans all disciplines and historical periods. As always, the conference is free and open to the public. So please, join us for this very exciting event!

UCLA students always make a strong showing at Thinking Gender, and this year is no exception. Our own talented scholars will be joined by the best and brightest from other exceptional educational institutions in Southern California, across the country, and around the world. Presenters will be coming from 46 institutions located as close as Claremont and as far away as Hawaii, Canada, England, Germany, and The Netherlands. Our panelists are making their journeys in order to share their work and take part in the vibrant intellectual community that CSW takes pride in cultivating, year after year.

The geographic and institutional diversity of the conference mirrors the tremendous breadth of interests, methodological approaches, and disciplines from which our panelists draw for their work. The multidisciplinary nature of the scholarship allows for interesting connections between some very different areas of study included in the conference, such as such as girls’ studies, bio-technology, economics, feminist storytelling, and pedagogy. For example, the panel, “Parasexuality and the Arts,” which will be moderated by CSW Associate Director, Rachel Lee, brings together work on gestational surrogacy, comedic pornography, figuration and disfiguration, and legal approaches to reproductive technologies. “Global Spirits,” a panel on spirituality, puts papers on trick films, Sufis, Hijras, and artists, Korean folk tales, and the politics of space, in dialogue with one another.

Our plenary session, “Thinking Gender in Space, Place, and Dance,” highlights outstanding work by UCLA graduate students and will be moderated by Associate Professor Jacqueline Shea Murphy from the Department of Dance at UC

The plenary will be held in the Sequoia Room at the Faculty Center from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

In addition to the plenary, audiences will have the opportunity to choose from 20 separate panels that will take place throughout the day, including, “The 99%,” “Grrr(l) Futures: Subcultures of Rebellious Women,” “Inhibitions and Exhibitions,” and “From Chickens to Cookbooks: Creating Community and Meaning with Household Artifacts,” just to name a few.

Please visit our website for the complete schedule of events. Registration will begin at 7:30 AM and we will conclude the day with a reception from 5:45 to 6:30 pm. All of us at CSW look forward to spending a full day of scholarship, networking, friendship, and fun with you, on February 3rd. Don’t forget, the event is free and open to the public, so spread the word: Thinking Gender 2012 is something you do not want to miss! Check out the program on the website.

Mirasol Reiojas is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Cinema and Media Studies. She also coordinated the 2009 Thinking Gender Conference.