Between Identities and Environments

The 22nd Annual Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies International Graduate Conference at the University of Rochester March 19th & 20th, 2015

Keynote Speaker: Jin Haritaworn, Professor of Gender, Race, and Environment at York University

The Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Rochester is excited to announce its 2015 International Graduate Conference, "Between Identities and Environments." This year's conference committee invites submissions that consider intersections between identities and environments. In light of recent contestations involving populations and spaces, such as those occurring in Ferguson, MO., Ukraine, and Gaza, we witness that communities are fractured and forced to migrate, and that solidarities emerge when we think of identities and environments as enmeshed. This year's theme seeks to explore this interaction in its many inflections and to consider how the movement of bodies between spaces, nations, institutions, or technologies foregrounds issues of gender and sexuality.

This conference aims to foster an environment of interdisciplinary communication and collaboration. To this end we invite graduate students working in all disciplines, including those in the natural sciences, social sciences, and the humanities, to present research responding to questions related our theme. These include but are not limited to:

- How do liminal environments such as national borders, war zones, and protest sites inaugurate urgent solidarities across genders and sexualities?
- How have definitions of "human" shifted alongside medical and scientific understandings of the body as an environment for bacteria, illness, and death?
- Since environments trigger the senses—visual, oral, tactile—what spaces and experiences enhance and undo affective capacities?
- What are the implications of urban gentrification upon LGBTQ histories and communities?
- How have technologies redefined soundscapes—whether of the concert hall or the city—and altered the populations inhabiting those spaces throughout history?
- How have media, both old and new, been used to create new spaces and/or to construct personal and public identities?

We encourage creative interpretations of this year's theme presented in a wide array of formats, such as performances and collaborative presentations, in addition to traditional papers. We welcome work that addresses the theme in relation to all genders, sexes, races, sexualities, classes, (dis)abilities, and nationalities. Research topics relevant to this year's theme may include the following keywords, though this list is far from exhaustive:

- * Political and/or acoustic ecologies
- * Queer solidarity
- * Sound, cinema, and media studies
- * Histories of technology and medicine
- * Posthumanism
- * Migration and sexuality

- * Homonationalism
- * Disability activism
- * Diaspora studies
- * Public sex culture
- * Gentrification and LGBTQ movements
- * Trans* communities and individuals

We encourage presenters to include keywords in their submissions.

Submission Details:

Please send abstracts (in the form of a Word document) of no more than 300 words to lauron.kehrer@gmail.com. At the top of the abstract, please include the presenter's name, home institution, email address/contact information, a brief biographical statement, and any audio-visual or technological equipment needed for the presentation. All individual presentations will be limited to 20 minutes. Please indicate in your abstract if you are proposing an alternative format presentation.

The deadline for abstract submission is December 1, 2014.

*Please note that there is no registration fee for conference presenters and attendees. Meals and hotel accommodations (double occupancy) will be provided to all accepted, non-local presenters during the conference. Travel arrangements and cost are the responsibility of all attendees and presenters.