IRW DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

2005-2006

THINKING ABOUT GENDER: **DIASPORAS** AND MIGRATIONS



PUBLIC TALKS 4:30 P.M. RECEPTIONS 4:00-4:30 P.M.

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INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN

SEPTEMBER 22, 2005 INTERROGATING DIASPORAS & MIGRATIONS

ETHEL BROOKS, WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES AND SOCIOLOGY, RUTGERS

INDRANI CHATTERJEE, HISTORY, RUTGERS

JENNIFER MORGAN, HISTORY AND WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES, RUTGERS

This panel opens our year-long discussion of Diasporas and Migrations with a series of provocative comments by outstanding Rutgers faculty. Professors Ethel Brooks, Indrani Chatterjee, and Jennifer Morgan will explore past and present articulations of these terms, emphasizing the gendered, intergenerational, cultural, political, and material manifestations of large-scale movements/displacements of people across time and place. These scholars will draw upon their ongoing projects to illuminate disciplinary and historical differences in how diasporas and migrations have been understood and to highlight gender dynamics and women's roles in such movements.



OCTOBER 20, 2005 KAREN MUSALO

GENDERED INJUSTICE: TRANSCENDING THE MALE PARADIGM IN THE U.S. AND BEYOND

Director of The Center for Gender and Refugee Studies at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, Karen Musalo is an internationally recognized expert on refugee law who has litigated a number of significant asylum decisions. For the past ten years her work has focused on developing a legal analysis which supports the right to refugee protection for women whose fundamental human rights are violated in their countries of origin. Her precedent-setting work on "gender asylum" includes Matter of Kasinga, which established that a successful claim to asylum may be based upon fear of female genital cutting. She is currently attorney in the highly publicized case, Matter of R.A., which will determine whether victims of domestic violence from countries where there is a failure of State protection may qualify for asylum. The author of numerous articles on refugee issues, she is lead co-author of Refugee Law and Policy: A Comparative and International Approach.



NOVEMBER 17, 2005 INDERPAL GREWAL THEORIZING DIASPORAS IN TRANSNATIONAL FEMINIST STUDIES

Inderpal Grewal is Professor of Women's Studies at the University of California, Irvine. In her latest book, Transnational America: Feminisms, Diasporas, and Neoliberalism (DukeUP, 2005), she examines the creation of transnational subjects shaped by American imperialism and movements of ideas, discourses, goods and people during the 1990's. Demonstrating how histories of colonization inform contemporary notions of gender, race, class and nationality, she reveals how transnational connectivities recode cosmopolitan global and diasporic belonging and citizenship. Professor Grewal is also the author of several other books including Home and Harem: Nation, Gender, Empire and the Culture of Travel (Duke University Press, 1997)

and co-editor of Introduction to Women's Studies: Gender in a Transnational World (McGraw-Hill, 2001, 2005).



FEBRUARY 2, 2006 JUDITH M. GERSON

THE HOLOCAUST, DIASPORA, AND GERMAN JEWISH IMMIGRANT MASCULINITIES

Judith M. Gerson is on the faculties of Sociology, Women's and Gender Studies, and Jewish Studies at Rutgers University. Her interdisciplinary study of German Jewish immigrants focusing on identity practices among Holocaust refugees who settled in New York City between 1933 and 1945 draws upon her interests in gender theory, immigration/diaspora, identity and trauma. A 2005-2006 Fellow at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, Professor Gerson's talk will focus on how understandings and performances of masculinity shaped and differentiated the experiences of Holocaust refugees as German Jews. as Jews in America, as Americans and family members while also interrogating the terms refugee, immigrant, and survivor as they are deployed in reference to that historical moment.



MARCH 2, 2006 CHERYL FINLEY

TO TRAVEL IN HER SHOES: CARIBBEAN WOMEN AND THE VISUAL POLITICS OF RETURNING HOME

Currently Assistant Professor of Art History and Visual Culture at Cornell University, Cheryl Finley is the author of many books, articles and essays, including From Swing to Soul: An Illustrated History of African American Music from 1930 to 1960 (1994) and Harlem Guaranteed: The Photographic Legacy of James VanDerZee (2002). In 2000, she organized Imaging African Art: Documentation and Transformation at the Yale Art Gallery. The co-founder of the Photographic Memory Workshop at Yale University as well as art critic, columnist and curator specializing in photography, African American art, cultural heritage tourism and the politics of memorialization, she is currently completing a manuscript and exhibition on the visual memory of the slave



APRIL 27, 2006 PHILOMENA ESSED

WHO WANTS TO BE CLONED? RACE, GENDER AND THE PROBLEM OF PRIVILEGING SAMENESS

Philomena Essed is Professor of Critical Race, Gender & Leadership Studies in the Antioch College Ph.D. program. An interdisciplinary scholar with a deep interest in the interplay of theory and practice, she is the author of Understanding Everyday Racism: An Interdisciplinary Theory (Sage, 1990) and Diversity: Gender, Color and Culture (University of Massachusetts Press, 1996). Her current research projects examine the privileging of certain homogeneities and cultures and explores how to humanize leadership through a study of women's life narratives of alternative practices of power and social change. She has been very involved in diversity and disability efforts in the Netherlands, equity interventions in South Africa, and scholarship and policy efforts on behalf of women, immigrants and minorities in Europe and the United States.



IRW SEMINAR FELLOWS:

KIM BUTLER

Africana Studies "Ransoming the Queen: Reclaiming Women's Agency & Philosophy in the Making of the African Diaspora"

RAMA CHASE Women's and Gender Studies

"Changing Gender Dynamics Inside / Outside Home: Women, Migration and Diaspora

Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice - Camden "The Strategies of Ghanaian Immigrant Women to Raise Their Children"

CARLOS DECENA

Nomen's and Gender Studies/ Puerto Rican and Hispanic Caribbean Studies "Washington Heights,
Perverse Modernities and the
Making of Dominican Transnational

KAYO DENDA

Rutgers Libraries

BELINDA EDMONDSON

English - Newark
"Caribbean Middlebrow: Popular Culture Women and the Caribbean Middle Class"

NICOLE FLEETWOOD American Studies

"In the Light: Gender, Visuality and Blackness*

JESSICA KELLY

"Claiming Abandoned Landscapes: The Impacts of Gendered Migration on the Human-Environment Interface in El Salvador"

RENÉE LARRIER

"Marabout, Madras Bodies Engendering Dyaspora(s)"

JULIE LIVINGSTOR

History "A World of Pain: Palliation & Personhood in Botswana"

MARC MATERA

"Colonial Intellectuals and Pan-Africanism in Interior Britain"

SONALI PERERA

*Rethinking Working-Class Literature: Feminism, Globalization & Socialist Ethics'

"Queer Diasporas & Questions of Affect

ROBYN M. RODRIGUEZ

Sociology
"The Labor Brokering State:
The Philippine State and the
Globalization of Citizen-Workers"

MARÍA IOSEFINA SALDAÑA

-1150311 *Hrhan Indians: New York

LOUISA SCHEIN

Anthropology/Women's & Gender Studies Media, Gender and Diaspora Structure and Subjectivity in

EDLIE WONG

"Fugitive and Foreigner: Cultures of Travel in the Black Atlantic, 1835-1865"

ELLEN WU (SPRING 2006 ONLY)

American Studies/History "Yellow Perils, Yellow Powe Race and Asian American Citizenship. World War II to 1975"

IRW VISITING SCHOLARS:

SIMONE JAMES ALEXANDER

African-American Studies, Seton Hall University
"Migratory Subjects: The Politics of Dis/ placement and Dis/possession in Edwidge Danticat's Fiction"

BOZENA LEVEN

Economics, The College of New Jersey Poland's Recent Migration -Who, and Why?

CATHERINE RAISSIGUIER

Women's and Gender Studies, New Jersey City University "Gender, Migration, and the French Republic:

MASAKO YUKI

Cultural Studies, Kamamura Gakuen Women's University Tokyo, Japan "Gendering the Trade Union"

CONVENERS:

NANCY HEWITT

History, Women's & Gender Studies Institute for Research on Women

BETH HUTCHISON

Associate Director Institute for Research on Women