CALL FOR PAPER PROPOSALS

“Gender and Intimacy Across the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands”
A Workshop at UC Santa Barbara

In recent years, scholars from across a variety of disciplinary fields have initiated studies exploring gender and intimacy across the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. Some of the most exciting and innovating work has begun to examine how notions of gender as well as masculinity and femininity shape emotional and personal relations with partners, spouses, children, and extended family members and how those relationships, in turn, impact their experiences with migration, community formation, and their interactions with the state, among other topics.

Building on this rich emerging literature, we solicit proposals for papers that explore deeply and widely themes of gender and intimacy as well as sexuality and identity in/on and across the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. We define gender and intimacy broadly. While we consider gender as the social and cultural roles assigned to biological males and females that construct them as a multiplicity of feminine and masculine subjects, we treat intimacy as an emotional and personal expression of love and desire as well as affection between two or more people that is performed or enacted across a variety of spaces, places, and relationships, including marriage, courtship, and the family as well as in homosocial relations and contexts. We also treat the U.S.-Mexico borderlands loosely, regarding it as a region of diverse social, political, economic, and cultural interactions, inconsistencies, contradictions, conflicts, and violence, that is bisected by an international boundary separating and joining peoples of different genders, races, ethnicities, classes, and sexual orientations.

**Topics of Interest Include**
- Courtship, marriage, and migration in the borderlands
- Gender, race, and ethnicity in the borderlands
- Family and community formation in the borderlands
- Sexuality and intimacy in the borderlands
- Sexual violence in the borderlands
- State power and practices regulating gender and intimacy in the borderlands
- Masculinity and manhood in the borderlands
- Queer bodies in the borderlands
- Queer and transgender activists and activism in the borderlands

**Goals of the Workshop**
Our goals are to bring together scholars of all ranks (including graduate students) who are willing to share their work, provide constructive feedback to fellow presenters, and publish their papers. After the workshop, we plan to invite all participants to submit revised papers for consideration in a Special Issue of the *Pacific Historical Review*, pending peer and editorial review. Note: The editor of the journal will attend the workshop to see the work in progress.

**Submission Guidelines & Deadline**
Please submit a proposal (no more than two pages, single spaced) and brief CV (no more than two-to-three pages) as one document in PDF format. The proposal must include a discussion of
the paper’s findings, contributions to the literature, and sources. Full papers (double spaced, 20-30 pages, max., including notes) must be submitted four (4) weeks prior to the workshop allowing participants and “guest” discussants time to read, review, and prepare comments. Full papers will not be read at the workshop. Rather, participants will provide 10 min. overviews, providing time for in-depth discussion of the larger essay. All participants will partake in providing feedback for each other’s presentations and/or papers (note: participants will be grouped into two-to-three panels and each of those panels will be responsible for only reading full versions of each other’s papers). Proposal submissions are due March 15, 2016. Full paper submissions are due September 1, 2016.

**Logistics of the Workshop & Keynote Speaker**

All selected workshop participants will receive complimentary accommodations for one night near the UCSB campus. Transportation between the accommodations and the UCSB campus will also be provided. Dinner the evening before the event as well as a continental breakfast and lunch the day of the event are also included. Transportation costs to UCSB from home institutions are not included.

**Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Alexandra Minna Stern, Professor of American Culture, Women’s Studies, History, and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Michigan, will provide they keynote talk on “Gender and Intimacy Across the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands.” Author of *Eugenic Nation: Faults and Frontiers of Better Breeding in America*, 2d. ed. (UC Press, 2015) and *Telling Genes: The Story of Genetic Counseling in America* (John Hopkins University Press, 2012) as well as numerous articles on the history of public health in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, Professor Stern is a leading voice in unraveling the dynamics of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, disability, social difference, and reproductive politics in the United States and Latin America.

To submit your proposal or for more details or questions, contact co-conveners Miroslava Chávez-García (Chicana and Chicano Studies, UCSB) and Verónica Castillo-Muñoz (History, UCSB) at [genderconferenceucsb@yahoo.com](mailto:genderconferenceucsb@yahoo.com).

**DEADLINE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION: MARCH 15, 2016**

**DEADLINE FOR FULL PAPERS: SEPTEMBER 1, 2016**

**WORKSHOP EVENT: SEPT. 30 - OCT. 1, 2016**

**QUESTIONS & SUBMISSIONS**

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