Crossing Boundaries:
First Annual LAS Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences presents a conference showcasing work by graduate students across its many departments and programs.

Friday, May 9, 2014  |  6:00-9:00pm
McGowan South, Room 108
1110 W. Belden Avenue

♦  Keynote address by Dr. Wendy Doniger, University of Chicago
♦  Reception to follow

Saturday, May 10, 2014  |  10:00am-4:00pm
Student Center, 3rd Floor Rooms
2250 N. Sheffield Avenue
♦  Graduate Student Panels, Papers, and Posters
Conference Committee

Nora Durkin
Assistant Director, LAS Graduate Student Services

David Gitomer, PhD
Director, MA in Liberal Studies & Interdisciplinary Studies Programs

Euan Hague, PhD
Co-Director, MA in Sustainable Urban Development

Noam Ostrander, PhD
Chair, Social Work

Matthew Sebastian
Candidate, MA in International Studies

John Shanahan, PhD
Director, MA in English
Wendy Doniger is a world-renowned analyst of mythic narrative, and in particular gender dynamics in Eastern and Western myths and stories since antiquity. She has lectured around the world, contributed to BBC programs, and writes frequently for the London Review of Books, Outlook India and other venues.

Professor Doniger is the author of over 30 books, including *Women, Androgynes, and Other Mythical Beasts* (1980), *Dreams, Illusions, and Other Realities* (1984), and *The Bedtrick: Tales of Sex and Masquerade* (2000). She has authored over one hundred scholarly articles, co-edited *Off With Her Head! The Denial of Women’s Identity in Myth, Religion, and Culture* (1995) and recently completed a novel entitled *Horses for Lovers, Dogs for Husbands*.

Recently, Professor Doniger’s work has been a recurring subject in the world’s popular press because her book *The Hindus: An Alternative History* has been recalled and pulped by Penguin India after complaints from Hindu fundamentalists that it insults their religion. Perhaps not since the fatwa against Salman Rushdie’s *The Satanic Verses* has there been such a high profile case of a major publisher’s self-censorship due to a religious complaint, provoking debate over the limits of speech. Fiction writers, scholars, activists and citizens in India and around the world have rallied to support Doniger and free inquiry.

A reception will follow the keynote address.
Schedule of Events

Session I  Saturday, 10:00-11:20am

♦ Panel A - Room 312  
  Moderator: David Gitomer, MAL & IDS

The Relationship Between Montessori Education and Civic Engagement  
Sara Chopp (Public Services)

Early Steps Toward Phenomenal Teaching: Collaborative Visual Research with and for Teachers  
Graeson Harris-Young (Interdisciplinary Studies)

Participatory Theater Methods in a Health Education Context  
Nikki Zaleski (Interdisciplinary Studies)

♦ Panel B - Room 313  
  Moderator: Randy Honold, LAS

Mineral Mining in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Technology Production and the Reproduction of Social Relations  
Imran Ali (International Studies)

Sounding Independence: Literary Theory and Popular Music in Ghana and Zaire  
Ryan O'Connor (Interdisciplinary Studies)

Food Security and Western-African Relations  
Carolyn Vertin (International Studies)

♦ Panel C - Room 315  
  Moderator: Sanjukta Mukherjee, WGS

Working Women and the Lilly Ledbetter Act: A Case Study on Misleading Rhetoric of Equal Pay  
Celia DeBoer (Women's and Gender Studies)

Cultural Competency in Social Work and Beyond  
Colleen Favuzzo (Social Work)

The Intellectual Influences of Sigmund Freud’s Psychoanalytical Theory on Leon Trotsky  
Polina Popova (History)
Panel A - Room 312
Moderator: John Shanahan, ENG

Content: Rethink and Reuse
Molly Koeneman (New Media Studies)
"Joke’s on You": An Examination of Humor as Cultural Divider & Queer Uniter
Megan Metzger (Interdisciplinary Studies)

Panel B - Room 313
Moderator: Ron Fernandes, SPS

Restore to What? A Literature Review on Restorative Justice
Hannah Arwe (Women's and Gender Studies)

Gender Equality and Regional Decision Making: The Case of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)
Katie Brown (Public Services)

Camps and Villages: A Comparative Study of Spaces of Refuge in Tanzania
Matthew Lysczek (International Studies)

Panel C - Room 315
Moderator: Barbara Kraemer, SPS

Examining the Context and Utility of Bronfenbrenner's Bioecological Model in Disaster Preparedness
Constantine Anton (Public Services)

Participatory Budgeting a comparison of policy and practice in the United States and China
Albert Riley (Public Services)

Developing a Community Risk Index using GIS
Linda Ruiz (Clinical-Community Psychology PhD)
Session III  Saturday, 2:00-3:20pm

♦ Panel A - Room 312
  Moderator: Susan Jacobs, MALS & IDS

Economic Geography of Education: A Geo-spatial and Statistical Investigation of the Relationship between Poverty and Education in Chicago Using GIS and Census Data
Nicholas Johansson (Interdisciplinary Studies)

Tectonic Shift: A Scientific Account of My Young Adulthood
Rosalyn Lederman (Interdisciplinary Studies)

Potential for Charter School Success in Chicago
Victoria Ng (Public Services)

♦ Panel B - Room 313
  Moderator: Ted Anton, ENG

Health as Convalescing: Nietzsche’s Concern about the DSM-5
Madeline Runstrom (Interdisciplinary Studies)

Promoting Economic Growth via Human Capital Investment and Community Based Rehabilitation: An Examination of Programs for People with Disabilities in Namibia
Hannah Wilkinson (Public Services)

Housing the Homeless: A Case Study of Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing in Suburban Chicago
Jennifer Hencin (Public Services)
Room 325

The Culture Complex: Finding Balance between Social Service Workers and Culture Diversity of Clients
Rasheen Gadson (Social Work)

Brett Melvin (Sustainable Development)

Land-Use and Parking: Investigating How Use and Density Affect Parking Space Development through Study of Zoning Lots in Downtown Chicago
Adam Lomasney (Public Services)

Behind the Kitchen Counter: A Spatial Analysis of Food Inspection Results in Chicago
Jordan Horwitz (Sustainable Development)

Sustainable Building Reuse
David Semitekol (Sustainable Development)

Coffee House Talk: Bridging the Creative Class and Community
Cynthia VanDeMark (Sustainable Development)