

Kristin Lindgren and Theresa Tensuan, English, Writing Center, and the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program

We seek to work with a Student Research Assistant who would spend 10 weeks at the Center for the Study of Political Graphics (CSPG) in Los Angeles, an educational and research archive that collects, preserves, documents, and circulates domestic and international political posters relating to historical and contemporary movements for social change. With more than 75,000 posters in its collection, CSPG maintains the largest archive of post-WWII political posters in the U.S. and one of the largest in the world.

The SRA's work at the CSPG would consist of two projects: one would be to follow up on Theresa Tensuan's initial research into the archive's holdings of cartoonists/political broadside designers (Peter Kuper, Seth Tobocman, and Lalo Alcaraz) for a book project that she is proposing to the Ohio State University Press' new series on Studies in Comics and Cartoons. She plans to use the work of these artists as a lens through which to assess the cultural politics of political movements ranging from the collective effort to defeat Proposition 187 in California in the early 1990s to the 2004 protests against the meeting of the Republican National Convention in New York.

The second project would have the SRA working closely with CSPG Archivist Joy Novak in cataloging work related to the disability rights movement -- s/he will be trained to use the collection management system, MIMXY XG, to catalogue posters, record poster locations, and research the issues, people and events represented in the posters, as well as learn to mount the posters archivally and prepare them for display and travel. This work would build the foundation of an exhibit on disability rights activism that would be part of the Fall 2012 symposium on disabilities, gender, and the arts sponsored by the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program at Haverford and Bryn Mawr and the Greater Philadelphia Women's Studies Consortium, under the direction of Kristin Lindgren.

For the Gen/Sex-GPWSC project, the SRA will be working through the following set of questions: in what ways do visual artists highlight or problematize the spectacle of visible disability? How do we conceptualize and plan an exhibit that is tightly focused while also demonstrating how artists working in different traditions and media represent illness, disability, and embodiment?

Special skills required (languages, editorial experience, computer or web skills, etc.):

This internship requires skill in critical analysis and visual interpretation. Computer experience is necessary, and experience in digital photography, Adobe Photo Shop, Graphic Design, and web design skills is preferred.

40 hours a week for 10 weeks, to begin in late May/early June, and to conclude in early/mid August, 2011. HHC will pay salary only. Travel and lodging is the responsibility of the DRA

