Disability Studies and the Health Sciences (kudos to Pam B. Lock and Devva Kasnitz!).
Joan Ostrove, Stephan Hamlin-Smith and I are undertaking a two-tiered fundraising campaign that will work its way from the Board and our membership out to others who have an interest in disability issues. As such, we have been thinking a lot about what it means to be a member of SDS. Here are just some of the initiatives your dollars support:

- An optimally inclusive annual conference and membership dues structure
- DSQ, the premiere open-access, HTML-accessible, peer-reviewed journal in disability studies
- the Chris Bell Memorial Scholarship and general scholarships to support attendance at the annual SDS conference
- awards & prizes to recognize outstanding contributions to disability studies:
  - President’s Award for Outstanding Contribution through art and/or activism
  - Senior Scholar Award (see call for nominations here)
  - Irving K. Zola Prize for Emerging Scholarship in Disability Studies (call’s also here)
  - President’s Award for Outstanding Contribution through art and/or activism
- the Affiliated Scholar Program (see call for proposals herein)
- the electronic listserver for SDS members, an online community for disseminating information and building communities
- SDS’s core operations

Our presence online is obviously a key component of our outreach. In my view, for maximum impact on disability issues, a solid, well-thought-out website is a key to engaging all our membership and reaching out to others who have an interest in disability studies. In this regard, we have been looking at ways to improve the multi-letter online presence of the organization. I am pleased to let you know that we have engaged outside experts to provide advice on how we can improve the SDS website. This is a high priority for our Executive Office and we welcome suggestions on how we can improve our presence online. As we develop this component of the organization, I encourage you to provide feedback and suggestions on how we can best meet the needs of our members.

SDS’s core operations are supported by the annual membership dues and grants and cooperative agreements from various funders. In addition, we are grateful for grants and cooperative agreements from various funders. In addition, we are grateful for the generous contributions of our members and supporters. We are looking for new ways to engage our membership and supporters in our work.

Autumn is here and the SDS board is back at it after a really fantastic week in Denver! Thanks for a great time, SDS! As always, we, the board, enjoyed the rare opportunity to collaborate in person with an all-volunteer board.

Our foremost goal at present is to achieve full financial independence and to support our own Executive Office. I am pleased to let you know that we have balanced the budget for Denver 2012 and are looking forward to the support of the National Institute of Health for a conference strand at SDS 2013 and 2014. As we plan for these future conferences, I encourage you to provide feedback and suggestions on how we can best meet the needs of our members.

Our membership is our strength and we are grateful for the support of our members. In addition, we are grateful for the generous contributions of our members and supporters. We are looking for new ways to engage our membership and supporters in our work.

Join us online and continue to spread the word about the SDS! We look forward to seeing you at the annual conference in Denver. As we plan for these future conferences, I encourage you to provide feedback and suggestions on how we can best meet the needs of our members.
We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**Education, Experience, and Embodiment**

- What are the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**Evaluating Our Lived Realities**

- What is the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**Understanding Disability**

- What are the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**New Directions**

- What are the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**NEW DIRECTIONS**

- What are the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**Historical Memory**

- What are the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**Social Justice**

- What are the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

We offer the following broad questions to foster interdisciplinary perspectives and encourage: 

**Public Policy and Advocacy**

- What are the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to the built environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?

- Where and the many ways in which disabled people have conceptualized and enacted changes to their lived environment and to the many things with which we interact on a daily basis? What barriers do people who experience disability face? How have these things changed over time?
What new possibilities for change do such intersections produce, and, alternatively, where do we find disconnects that thwart cooperation?

How have various technologies—and access to them—shaped the formation of disabled identities and cultures, as well as interpersonal and group relations?

In what ways are the realities we create bounded or shaped by geographic location, institutional formation, identity politics, and other factors?

What do collisions between the local and the global reveal about our experiences? What do they obscure?

How do prevailing (contemporary) paradigms (or narratives) succeed or fail in capturing our lived realities?

How have disability politics and activism shaped not only the built environment, but human relations as well?

How have endurance, poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, and the persistence of the medical and charity model shape/limit access to the many realities we create in our lives? How do these factors also open possibilities? How have these factors enhanced disability rights?

How have the various disciplines within disability studies explored and analyzed the built environment? What are the strengths and weaknesses of the approaches taken?

How have/might the various disciplines and fields within disability studies work across disciplinary boundaries to enhance the quality of our lives?

How have/might disability studies reach out to local and national organizations and institutions to influence families, religious communities, service providers, political institutions, employers, etc.?

How do enduring poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, and the persistence of the medical and charity model shape/limit access to the many realities we create in our lives? How do these factors also open possibilities? How have these factors enhanced disability rights?

How have the various disciplines and fields within disability studies work across disciplinary boundaries to enhance the quality of our lives?
Power and privilege: Ongoing discussions among SDS board members, members of SDS caucuses, and others led to this strand, intended to look both at the workings of power and privilege broadly and within SDS itself.

Professional development: This strand addresses a need identified by many of our members for professional development, including matters such as locating funding, pursuing academic and non-academic jobs, surviving the tenure track, etc.

Translational research in disability studies and health sciences: Using translational research here to demonstrate how disability studies theory contributes to the conception of health sciences research and practice; (2) to provide best practice examples of disability studies research and practice; and (3) to mentor a new generation of federally funded disability studies researchers and practitioners. We particularly welcome submissions from disabled clinicians/clinical researchers interested in cutting edge disability perspectives.

Pre-registration: Inquiries about 2013 program committee at SDSprogram@disstudies.org.

Welcome to Florida-The Sunshine State!

Sunshine State: Since 1970, Florida is known as "the Sunshine State." Because of its location on the Gulf of Mexico, Florida has a subtropical maritime climate, with hot, humid summers and cool, dry winters. The state is home to many beaches, including Miami Beach, Fort Lauderdale, and Key West.

Orlando: Orlando is Florida's largest city, with a population of over 238,300. It is located in the Central Florida region and is known for its theme parks, including Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, and SeaWorld.

Welcome to Florida-The Sunshine State!
Center.

Hotel Information
http://www.doubletreeorlando.com/

The 2013 conference will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida, just steps from the Universal Orlando Resort. The hotel is the ideal destination for both business and leisure travelers. With its location in the heart of Orlando, Florida, just steps from the Universal Orlando Resort, the DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Studios is the ideal destination for both business and leisure travelers.

Why have the dates of SDS 2013 been changed?
The Doubletree offered SDS some very attractive incentives to move the conference dates out (later) by one week, including an astonishing room rate of $99/night (single/double/triple/quad) and complimentary high-speed internet in all guest rooms. We jumped at the chance to save SDS members some money!

Accessible Tourism

Here's a web-site about accessibility at Universal Orlando:
http://www.universalorlando.com/Resort-Information/Accessibility-Information.aspx

And another about accessibility at Disney World:
http://www.wdwinfo.com/wdwinfo/disabmobility.htm

Accessibility in Orlando:

Any questions about accommodations and amenities can be sent to info@disstudies.org.

SDS Awards

Call for Nominations: 2013 SDS Senior Scholar Award

SDS invites nominations for the 2013 SDS Senior Scholar Award. The award will be presented at the 2013 SDS Conference to be held in Denver, Colorado. Please consider nominating mentors and colleagues who have shaped the field of disability studies.

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS for an SDS Senior Scholar include:

- a terminal degree in a relevant field (PhD, EdD, MFA, DPT, etc.)

Submission deadline is November 15, 2012. Nominees will be notified by December 1, 2012. The award will be presented at the 2013 SDS Conference to be held in Denver, Colorado. Please consider nominating mentors and colleagues who have shaped the field of disability studies. Please consider nominating mentors and colleagues who have shaped the field of disability studies.
• a minimum of a decade of experience as a scholar in the field (such experience can include published scholarship, creative/artistic production, significant grants/applied research, or other equivalent activities).

• scholarship that has made a significant contribution to and/or impact on the field of Disability Studies.

• demonstrated excellence in and commitment to teaching, mentoring, or other kinds of leadership.

There are no restrictions on a nominee’s discipline or area of study (films, performances, on-line publications, traditional academic books and articles are all viewed as equally acceptable and deserving of recognition). People who are not members of SDS are eligible for the Senior Scholar Award.

RESTRICTIONS

Members of the SDS Board are ineligible for the award during their tenure on the board.

SDS SENIOR SCHOLAR APPLICATION

The following must be submitted for an individual to be considered for the award:

• A brief letter of nomination. We encourage self-nominations, as well as nominations of other individuals other than the nominee. If you wish to nominate someone other than yourself, please consult with that individual. We will ask that individual to confirm that she/he is willing to be considered.

• A minimum of two letters of support from individuals other than the nominee.

• A copy of the nominee’s CV.

• Contact information for the nominee.

Additional material may be requested (e.g., if the review committee is unable to locate additional information for the nominee). Application packets can be sent electronically to: info@disstudies.org with SENIOR SCHOLAR in the subject line. Materials sent via USPS should be sent via registered mail to Executive Office, Society for Disability Studies, 107 Commerce Center Drive Suite 204, Huntersville, NC 28078, USA.

AWARD

The recipient of the SDS Senior Scholar Award will receive the following recognition:

• a certificate of recognition.

• the nominee’s name permanently posted on the SDS Website as a recipient of the award.

• a reserved slot to give a presentation at the 2013 SDS Conference.

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• a reserved slot to give a presentation at the 2013 SDS Conference.

• a certificate of recognition.

• the nominee’s name permanently posted on the SDS Website as a recipient of the award.

• a reserved slot to give a presentation at the 2013 SDS Conference.
TIMELINE:
Complete applications must be received by February 1, 2013. The 2013 recipient will be announced on or around April 15th.

Irving K. Zola Award for Emerging Scholars in Disability Studies

The Society for Disability Studies (SDS) is pleased to announce the Irving K. Zola Award for Emerging Scholars in Disability Studies. Funded through the generous support of Professor Zola's colleagues at Brandeis University, this annual award recognizes excellence in Disability Studies. A Y-shaped tree is shown, with the following text:

The award will be announced on or around April 15th of the year.

ELIGIBILITY
The Zola Award is given to an emerging scholar in Disability Studies. A Y-shaped tree is shown, with the following text:

• in a given year, an applicant may submit only one paper for consideration.

AWARD
The winner will receive:

• a financial award of $350;
• conference registration for the SDS 2013 conference;
• an opportunity to present his or her work at the SDS 2013 conference;
• publication of the winning piece in Disability Studies Quarterly;
• the possibility of a public presentation at Brandeis University.

RESTRICTIONS

• In a given year, an applicant may submit only one paper for consideration.

• Past awardees are not eligible to apply.

• Individuals who submitted papers unsatisfactorily in past years may apply again.

• Individuals may apply on behalf of emerging scholars. Emerging scholars who work in non-academic settings are also welcome to apply.

The research submitted must be relevant to Disability Studies, which is defined broadly to include the examination of concepts and values related to disability in all forms of cultural representation throughout history, as well as analyses which extend our understanding of the personal and social dimensions of the lived experience of disability.

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RESTRICTIONS

• In a given year, an applicant may submit only one paper for consideration.

• Past awardees are not eligible to apply.

• Individuals who submitted papers unsatisfactorily in past years may apply again.

AWARD
The winner will receive:

• a financial award of $350;
• conference registration for the SDS 2013 conference;
• an opportunity to present his or her work at the SDS 2013 conference;
• publication of the winning piece in Disability Studies Quarterly.

TIMELINE: Complete applications must be received by February 1, 2013.
The Society for Disability Studies is pleased to announce a program that will provide independent or unaffiliated scholars, artists, and activists who are current members of SDS to affiliate with The University at Buffalo’s (UB) Center for Disability Studies (CDS) for one academic year (July 1–June 30). Affiliated scholars/artists/activists will have both on- and remote access to the UB library system and Center resources for use in disability studies. The affiliated scholar/artist/activist will present a public presentation at UB at the end of the academic year (April 15).

**The Society for Disability Studies is pleased to announce the AFFILIATED SCHOLAR PROGRAM**

The Affiliated Scholar Award is open to independent or unaffiliated scholars, artists, and activists who are current members of SDS. Affiliated scholars/artists/activists will have both on- and remote access to the UB library system and Center resources for use in disability studies. Affiliated scholars/artists/activists will also have the opportunity to present their work at UB and to participate in disability studies activities at UB.

To be considered for the competition, all manuscripts must adhere to the following criteria:

- It must not have been previously published.
- It must be written by a single author who is also primarily responsible for the research described.
- It must be written in English.
- It must be at least 30 pages (double spaced, 12 point font).
- It must be written in a form that is clearly accessible to the audience.
- It must be submitted by February 1, 2013.

**TIMELINE**

- A certificate of recognition.
- All manuscripts must be submitted by February 1, 2013. The affiliate will be announced by April 15.
The opportunity to present a public lecture at the host institution (expenses paid by the SDS) and to receive travel support to attend SDS meetings is also eligible to apply for limited travel support to attend SDS.

Attendances and a modest honorarium for the Affiliated Scholar is also eligible to apply for limited travel support to attend SDS.

The SDS Affiliated Scholar will also receive complimentary registration to one annual SDS meeting to present their work. The Affiliated Scholar is also eligible to apply for limited travel support to attend SDS.

SDS may appoint a maximum of one scholar per year. To apply, please send:

1. A letter of interest describing why you would like to be an SDS Affiliated Scholar and how this will benefit both you personally and the disability studies community.
2. A CV or equivalent biographical statement (max 2 pp). Include any activities you have engaged in related to disability studies.
3. A personal statement (max 2 pp) outlining why you would like to be an SDS Affiliated Scholar.
4. 3-5 brief, but comprehensive, research projects that are related to disability studies.
5. 2 documents detailing your participation in disability studies (max 1 pp).
6. A letter of recommendation from a faculty member who is willing to support your application.
7. A CV or equivalent biographical statement (max 2 pp).
8. A personal statement (max 2 pp) outlining why you would like to be an SDS Affiliated Scholar.
The Affiliated Scholar is expected to:

1. Contribute to the field of disability studies. The project the participant pursues should make a contribution and help to grow the field of disability and SDS.

2. Seek out and gain acknowledgment from a mentor/advisor in their field of expertise who will act as a remote advisor via e-mail, telephone, and Skype. (The UB CDS Director, Mike Rembis, will act as a general advisor and liaison for the affiliated scholar during their affiliation with UB.)

3. Draft an annual end-of-year report for SDS which provides individual status updates and feedback about the program (max 2 pages).

4. Give a public lecture at the host institution (expenses paid by the ASP program)

5. Submit a written proposal at the annual SDS conference

Their ability to reapply for the "scholars" program will be based on the complexity of the proposed project and one's progress and competency during their tenure as an affiliated scholar. Projects lasting longer than one year must be renewed annually by the Board of SDS.

For More Information or To Apply Contact:

UBCDS Website: http://disabilitystudies.buffalo.edu/index.php
Email: SDS@buffalo.edu
Phone: (716) 645-5954
Fax: (716) 645-5956
Building: NY1 14250-4130

SDS Board Members
Michael Rembis, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of History

UB Visitor's Info:
University at Buffalo
Residential Faculty, Department of History

SDS Board Members
Assistant Professor, Department of History

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY CONTACT:

6. The Affiliated Scholar is expected to:

The President's Award

Other SDS Awards

The President's Award honors someone from the host community of the annual meeting of the SDS Board. The Board may use the occasion of the annual meeting to honor someone from the host community. The Board may also use the occasion of the annual meeting to honor someone from the host community of the annual meeting of the SDS Board. The Board may also use the occasion of the annual meeting to honor someone from the host community of the annual meeting of the SDS Board.

SDS Scholar. Projects lasting longer than one year must be renewed annually by the Board of SDS.
Disability Studies and to the Advancement of Disability Justice. This award recognizes the full work of Disability Studies by noting that academia is only one point of focus of our efforts and creativity. The award recipient may or may not be an SDS member; there are no restrictions on who may be considered. The recipient of the President's Award will receive two complimentary registrations for the meeting at which the award is conferred.

Tyler Rigg Award

Generously funded by the Tyler Rigg Foundation, the purpose of the award is to facilitate, promote and encourage ongoing scholarly exploration of disability issues, with emphasis on the examination of representations of disability through the lens of intersectionality, disability studies and disability justice. The $500 prize is granted to one outstanding paper published in DSQ each calendar year.

Chris Bell Memorial Scholarship

The Chris Bell Memorial Scholarship honors the life and scholarship of Chris Bell, disability scholar and activist, former Society for Disability Studies president and co-founder of the SDS People of Color Caucus. In his article “White Disability” (in the Disability Studies Reader) he was an early proponent of including issues of race within the field of disability studies, and his essay “To Act is to be Committed” discusses the challenges of activism within the academy. Chris’s work explored issues of race, disability, AIDS, illness, class and sexuality. At the time of his death in 2009, he was an ARRT Fellow at the Center for Human Policy, Law and Disability Studies at Syracuse University. The Chris Bell Memorial Scholarship seeks to support people of color doing scholarly work in the field of disability studies, with preference for those whose work aligns with Chris’s commitment to intersectionality, identity politics and activism. Eligible applicants must self-identify as a low income, student or international person of color.

Tanis Doe Prize for Best Poster at SDS 2013

Each year, SDS proudly awards the Tanis Doe Prize for the best poster, which includes a cash award and a certificate of recognition. The Tanis Doe Award is open to everyone at all levels of education and experience. The Tanis Doe Prize for Best Poster is awarded to the best poster, which includes a cash award of $500 to $1,000 each.
The deadline to submit a proposal for next year's conference is November 21, 2012. Visit www.disstudies.org to submit!

Member Showcase

Graduate Profile: Olusola John Ogubdola

I work as a disability rights advocate in Nigeria. My first experience at SDS was in 2010 and it was such a wonderful and life-changing experience. It was my first time engaging disabled people in Nigeria, and I was a founding member of Project Restoration (PR), which focuses on disability rights and advocacy. The second time I attended SDS was this year, and the strong community feel continued. However, I was presenting this time around. I was very nervous, but people were wonderful at easing my nerves and comforting me. What a welcoming and receptive audience; it was a wonderful experience! It was great to hear the work of undergraduate researchers and doctoral students. It was also a missing puzzle piece in my own research, and I was able to share my research with others.

Undergraduate Profile: Erica Carson

I am a fourth year undergraduate in Women's and Gender Studies at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. I first became interested in disability studies and social justice when I took a class on disability studies and social justice. The course was taught by Dr. Christine Kelly, and it was one of the most influential classes I have ever taken. Dr. Kelly's course introduced me to the field of disability studies and taught me how to think critically about issues of inclusion and exclusion.

The conference is a wonderful opportunity to meet other disability studies researchers and learn from each other. It is a place where we can share our research and experiences and support one another. I highly recommend attending for anyone interested in disability studies.
for their peculiar needs. Despite being a signatory to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the Nigerian executive arm of government has resisted attempts to domesticate the treaty. Disability rights are human rights and until the Nigerian society appreciates this fact, people with disabilities will continue to be excluded.

In PR, we realize the important role the media play in enhancing issues about marginalized groups, especially in Africa. I have therefore focused our resources in PR toward advocating the protection of interests of Nigerians with disabilities, using the media. Through a Ford Foundation International Fellowship, I am currently a Media Studies master student at the S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University, New York. I have also benefited so much from the Disability Studies and Disability Law programs at the university.

The media mediate our perception of people and issues. How the media portray disability in Nigeria cannot be unrelated to the social exclusion of people with disabilities in Nigeria. My thesis centers on this relationship with a view to understand what media frames contribute to the social exclusion of Nigerians with disabilities.

PR is working towards establishing an Information and Communication Center for people with disabilities in Nigeria. Through this project, we will educate and inform Nigerians with disabilities, and the general society on the rights and potential of people with disabilities. It is our opinion that people are the most important resource in any nation. There are about 25 million Nigerians living with disabilities. It is important that this category of people is empowered to be productive. This is what I am passionate about.

SDS Caucuses

The SDS Caucuses are informal groups that meet to discuss particular issues of concern, provide a network, and advocate for its members in SDS and in the broader community. Contact the caucus chair to be added to a caucus listserv and/or plan to meet up and get involved in Orlando.

A note to caucus chairs: Please use the on-line submission portal to submit a request for accessible meeting space at the 2013 conference in Orlando. SDS may not be able to accommodate meeting space at the 2013 conference in Orlando. SDS may not be able to accommodate meeting space at the 2013 conference in Orlando.


People of Color Caucus, Akemi Nishida, chair (anishida@gc.cuny.edu).

The mission of SDS attempts to forge a meaningful relationship between academic theory and the social practice/justice. Embedded in the disability community, SDS has been confronted about its position in the disability rights and justice movements. While presenting disability rights in position in the disability rights and justice movements, the media mediate our perception of people and issues. In Nigeria, through the media, we will exchange and inform Nigerians with disabilities in Nigeria. My thesis centers on this relationship with a view to understand what media frames contribute to the social exclusion of Nigerians with disabilities.

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The mission of SDS attempts to forge a meaningful relationship between academic theory and the social practice/justice. Embedded in the disability community, SDS has been confronted about its position in the disability rights and justice movements. While presenting disability rights and justice activists' criticism toward disability studies, this workshop urges scholars to unlearn our privilege and to engage in our collective responsibilities to the disability community. We will work with activists and scholars toward disability studies from disability rights and justice perspectives in order to engage in our collective responsibilities to the disability community. We will work with activists and scholars toward disability studies from disability rights and justice perspectives in order to engage in our collective responsibilities to the disability community.

SDS Caucuses
The Queer and Trans caucus provides an informal space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, genderqueer, and other queer and trans conference-goers to meet, network, and share experiences, ideas, and resources. The caucus serves as a hub for queer and trans newcomers seeking community, and for support during the busy, sometimes overwhelming conference schedule. The Queer and Trans Caucus also represents and advocates for queer and trans members within the broader SDS community, and has, in the past, worked with and alongside other caucus groups to bring attention to issues of identity and inclusion at SDS.

International Caucus, Chair: Funmi Akinpelu (funmiakinpelu@2000@yahoo.com)

The International caucus provides an informal space for disability studies scholars to exchange their interests in international, cross national and comparative research in the broad area of disability studies. It serves as an international component of SDS. While the caucus typically engages international students, it also motivates American students to expand their academic and cultural horizons.

On September 27, 2012, the Syracuse University Disability Studies Center received a "Special Recognition Award" from Enable at the 2012 Shining Lights Awards Celebration.

Syracuse University's Disability Cultural Center (DCC) coordinates campus-wide social, educational, and cultural activities on disability issues for students, faculty, staff, and community members with and without disabilities. Other events for the 2012-2013 academic year include:

- Disabilities as Ways of Knowing: A Series of Creative Writing Conversations (three parts)
- Disability and Disability Studies in the 21st Century: A Dialogue on Disability and Disability Studies (four parts)
- Disability as Commodity: A Series of Critical Discussions (ten parts)

Good News!

HURRAY! SAMANTHA SCHALK, ESTEEMED SDS BOARD MEMBER, PASSED HER COMPS!!!

Michelle Nario-Redmond, Arielle Silverman, and Joan Ostrove were invited to the American Psychological Association (APA) workshop in October 2012 on the supports and barriers facing women with disabilities in STEM education at Gallaudet University, which reflects work toward the second phase of a project funded by the National Science Foundation called, "Women with Disabilities in STEM Education: Research Agenda Development Project (WWDSE)."

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- Disabilities as Ways of Knowing: A Series of Creative Writing Conversations (three parts)
- Disability and Disability Studies in the 21st Century: A Dialogue on Disability and Disability Studies (four parts)
- Disability as Commodity: A Series of Critical Discussions (ten parts)

Stony Brook University now has a doctoral concentration in Disability Studies as a part of its Center and the Student Center.

New interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. Course offerings include:

- Disability and Rehabilitation: A Disability Studies Minor
- Disability and Rehabilitation: A Disability Studies Concentration
- Disability and Rehabilitation: A Disability Studies Certificate

Good News!
The Rupture Sometimes is an essay film that explores the potential of disability to expand and enrich ways of thinking. It features nine scholars and artists. Disability, we come to find, is not always about disability as it is usually imagined; it is a disruption, a place where rupture and emergence become guiding principles for the way we interact with our world.

Disability becomes a way of knowing. It allows us to see beyond the ways of thinking that are imposed on us by society. Disability, we come to know, is not a form of pathology to be cured or avoided, but a lens through which we can see the world in new ways. It is a way of looking at the world that challenges our assumptions about normalcy and enables us to see the world in new ways.

Disability is a cultural construct, a way of understanding the world. It is not a fixed category, but one that is constantly evolving and changing. Disability is a way of knowing, a way of seeing the world, and it is a way of thinking about the relationship between individuals and society. It is a way of seeing the world that is not limited by the confines of able-bodied thinking. Disability is a way of looking at the world that challenges our assumptions about normalcy and enables us to see the world in new ways.

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Elizabeth Wheeler has an article on Eli Clare entitled "Don’t Climb Every Mountain" forthcoming in ISLE: Interdisciplinary Study of Literature and the Environment.

Check out DSQ, the first journal in the field of disability studies, is the journal of the SDS. Current issues and the full archives are accessible free of charge at http://www.dsq-sds.org.

We thank all of you who have served on SDS Committees. Please consider serving on an SDS Committee. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the chair of the committee of interest or Allison Carey (accare@ship.edu).

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