Recombinations : Geballe Workshop 2012-13

Co-directors Peggy Phelan and Audrey Shafer

Summary of Meetings

**October 11, 2012**

Presenter: Gail Wight, Art and Art History

Respondent: Peggy Phelan, Theater and Performance Studies/English

Wight shared photographs of her artwork that investigates issues of biology and the history of science and technology.

**November 8, 2012**

Presenter: Sue McConnell, Biology

Respondent: Audrey Shafer, Anesthesiology

McConnell described the challenges and controversies of nature/conservation photography.

**December 6, 2012: “A Journey of Mastery and Mystery”**

Presenter: Stephen Murphy-Shigematsu, School of Medicine, CSRE, Anthropology, and Human Biology.

Respondent: Jessica Nakamura, TAPS

Murphy-Shigematsu chronicled his personal developmental journey, balancing science and art, receiving and telling stories.

**January 10, 2012: Pedagogy Workshop**

No presenter or respondent

We investigated ways in which we have and can continue to develop the inter-relationship between medicine and the arts in teaching. Our discussion touched on outcomes for classes about medicine and the humanities; how to identify students interested in medical humanities; and the possibility of us to truly move between both fields.

**February 7, 2012: "Doctors who write: Diagnosing and Healing by telling stories,"**

Presenter: Hans Steiner, Psychiatry

Respondent: Jonah Willihnganz, VPUE/Stanford Storytelling Project

Steiner presented on motivations and outcomes for doctors who write as well as writing as an exercise for patients.

**March 7, 2012: "Depths from the Surface: Dance and Rorschach's Inkblot"**

Presenter: Janice Ross, TAPS

Respondent: Peggy Phelan, TAPS/English

Ross explored a moment of alignment between choreographic invention and Rorschach’s scientific discovery in the early 20th century. Phelan continued the exploration to Warhol in the mid 20th C.

**April 4, 2012: “To Suffer a Sea Change”**

Presenter: Peggy Phelan, TAPS/English

Respondent: Audrey Shafer, Anesthesiology

Phelan discussed her essay about patienthood and vision, “To Suffer a Sea Change,” part of her larger interest in narrative medicine. Shafer created medical records based on the Phelan’s descriptions to illustrate the gap between medical records and narrative.

**May 2, 2012: “‘Oh, the humanit(ies)!’: Dissent, Danger, Democracy,”**

Speaker: Therese Jones, Director of the Arts and Humanities in Healthcare Program for the Center for Bioethics and Humanities and Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

No Respondent

Jones explored how the medical/health humanities continues to be divided along the fault lines of dualistic and mechanical thinking frequently captured in the use and misuse of the words, “humanities” and “humanism.”

**May 14, 2012: Year sum-up and future plans**

No presenter or respondent

We assessed this year’s workshop sessions and discussed how “Recombinations” should take shape in the future. Decided that Audrey will direct it next year, with more emphasis on undergraduates. She hopes to offer it under the Arts, Humanities, and Medicine Program, with assistance from Stanford Institute for the Arts.