

## Queering STS conference – 1 September 2021

### Speaker Bios (in order of presentation)

#### Kane Race (he/him)

Kane Race is Professor of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He has published widely on matters of HIV prevention, sexuality, drug use, biomedicine, care practices and digital culture. He is the author of *Pleasure Consuming Medicine: the queer politics of drugs* (Duke University Press, 2009), co-author of *Plastic Water: the social and material life of bottled water* (with Gay Hawkins and Emily Potter, MIT Press, 2015), and *The Gay Science: Intimate experiments with the problem of HIV* (Routledge, 2018)

### Session 1 – Making Up Bodies

#### Christopher Olive (he/him)

Christopher Olive is currently qualifying as an archivist at the University of Liverpool. His professional background includes curation at Birmingham Museums Trust; within various West Midlands archives; and as a researcher for History West Midlands. In 2019 he completed an MA Social & Political Thought at the University of Warwick, receiving two awards for research on transition as a site of utopic longing. The ESRC awarded him full funding for an original PhD proposal in Sociology, which he declined for health reasons. His interests include: sociologies of hope and technological progress; trans bodies/temporality; and social histories of early engineering.

#### Kiran Pienaar (she/her)

Dr Kiran Pienaar is a lecturer in Sociology at Deakin University, Melbourne Australia. Kiran's research explores connections between health, gender, sexuality and the body, with a particular interest in drug consumption and sexual cultures, and the sociopolitical dimensions of health. Drawing on science and technology studies, new materialisms and feminist science studies, she has published on topics related to drugs, addiction and the self; the biopolitics of disease; public health and drug policy; and drug experiences in LGBTQ cultures. Her first book *Politics in the Making of HIV/AIDS in South Africa* was published with Palgrave Macmillan.

#### Madeleine Pape (she/her)

Madeleine Pape is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Lausanne, where she is affiliated with the Institute of Sports Sciences, Centre for Gender Studies, and STS-Lab. She obtained her PhD in the Department of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2019. Her work examines feminist and scientific debates over biological sex and how claims about sex difference become part of gender equity projects in sport and biomedicine. Her work has been published in a range of leading journals including *Social Studies of Science*, *Gender & Society*, *Body & Society*, *Sociological Forum*, and *Sociology of Sport Journal*.

#### Jaya Keaney (she/her)

Dr. Jaya Keaney is a Research Fellow at the Alfred Deakin Institute at Deakin University, Melbourne. She is a feminist science studies scholar interested in the intersections of race, gender, reproduction,

and bioscientific cultures. Her book project, titled *Making the Gayby: Between Color, Care, and Choice*, explores racialised kinship in queer reproductive practices. She is also undertaking projects about epigenetics and emerging reproductive modelling technologies.

## **Session 2 – Technologies of Sex**

### **Chase Ledin (he/him)**

Chase Ledin is a PhD researcher in the Centre for Biomedicine, Self and Society at the University of Edinburgh. His research explores the social construction of the 'end of AIDS' health promotion in the US, UK and France. His work has been published or is forthcoming in *Culture, Health and Sexuality*; the *European Journal of Cultural Studies*; *Modern and Contemporary France*; *Sociology of Health and Illness*; and *Somatosphere*.

### **Cornelis Rijneveld (he/him)**

Cornelis is a PhD student and graduate teaching assistant in the Anthropology department at SOAS. My thesis is an ethnography of HIV risk and stigma among queer men in urban India that critically engages the turn from community-based prevention to treatment-as-prevention with reference to chemsex, among other things. A summary of it was published in *The Caravan* ('High Risks: Chemsex and the failure of new HIV prevention strategies in India'), and one chapter recently appeared in *Medical Anthropology* (The Biomedical Closet?). In my spare time I read and write creative non-fiction.

### **Adam Christianson (he/him)**

Adam is a member of the Centre for Innovation and Social Process (CISP), Sex and Drugs Research Group. His is a Wellcome Doctoral Candidate in the Sociology Department at Goldsmiths, University of London. His work focuses on the neglected spaces of activism and evidence production practices in healthcare. His current project investigates the construction and production of PrEP non-use in England.

### **Alex Aldridge (she/her)**

Alex is a Doctoral candidate at the Department of Law and Criminology at Royal Holloway, University of London. Her work focuses on the intersections of sex, drugs, and sexual ethics.

## **Session 3 – New Geographies of Queer STS**

### **Ellie Armstrong (she/her)**

Dr. Eleanor Armstrong (she/her) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Delaware, where she researches the terrestrial geographies of outer space. Her work focuses critical queer, feminist approaches to space sciences; including their representation in cultural institutions in her doctoral research at UCL, and a current focus on the local communities and environments proximate to research sites.

### **Banu Sabramaniam (no preference)**

Banu Subramaniam is Professor of Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

**Sushmita Chatterjee (she/her)**

Sushmita Chatterjee is Associate Professor and Director of Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies at Appalachian State University.

**Monica Mellini (she/her)**

Monica Mellini is a registered professional engineer and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Physics at Montgomery College, a minority-serving Maryland public community college, since 2012. As a member of the Germantown Campus counseling cadre, she provides academic advising to students of all majors. Her 2021-22 sabbatical project is to integrate social sciences and humanities lenses into first-year engineering instruction. Monica is a Ph.D. student in STS at Virginia Tech, and this scholarship helps her understand and make sense of a preponderance of painful and damaging experiences in personal, academic, and professional dimensions of life as a student and practicing engineer.

**Session 4 – Queering STS Theory**

**Alex Giesen (he/they)**

Alexander Theo Giesen is an MSc student in History and Philosophy of Science in the Science and Technology Studies Department at UCL. They work on the philosophy of science, aesthetics, and materialist, performance and queer theories. They are also a freelance editor and translator currently working on a translation of Paul Feyerabend's *Wissenschaft als Kunst*.

**Lars Aaberg (pronoun ambivalent)**

Lars Aaberg is currently completing his doctoral thesis in Gender Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and has taught Geography at the London School of Economics (LSE). His research focuses on the production of queer value in the movement for LGBTQIA+ organizational diversity and inclusion (D&I), for which he has focused on advocacy efforts in corporate India. Central to this project is a queer critique of economic anthropological concerns of corporate citizenship, philanthropy, and globalization. He has worked across south India on development issues and is currently engaged in another project on trans labor in Kerala.

**Angel Samuel Perez (he/him)**

Angel studied Science and Technology Studies (STS) at UCL having previously studied drama and creative writing. As a queer immigrant and a technophile Angel has a passion for exploring and understanding the intersections between technology and identity which is a common feature in his fiction and academic writing. More specifically, Angel is interested in the ways in which new technologies impact disadvantaged social groups. He has over 10 years of experience working as a disability and technology specialist in the disability support sector in the UK. Angel currently works as a Technology and Inclusive Innovation Advisor at Leonard Cheshire, leading innovation programmes to support the inclusion of persons with disabilities at an international level.

### **Jeffrey Christensen (he/him)**

*Jeffrey A. Christensen holds a PhD in Technology and Social Change from Linköping University. His work investigates both the intense and mundane relations of accountability that are enacted by practices of governance. With a praxiography of Swedish HIV treatment, he showed how the subject of governance becomes a manifold subject - a subject enacted in multiple material, technical, ethical, and practical ways. His PhD research described and analysed the means through which the manifold subject of HIV care takes shape in legal, diagnostic, surveillance, and treatment practices.*

## **Session 5 – Queer STS in Practice**

### **Stephen Molldrem (he/him)**

**Stephen Molldrem, PhD** is an incoming Assistant Professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Population Health (PMPH), with membership in the Institute for Bioethics and Health Humanities (IBHH). Stephen is a qualitative researcher primarily situated in Science and Technology Studies (STS), policy studies, and critical bioethics. Among other venues, his writing has appeared in *The American Journal of Bioethics*, *Health Policy*, *Global Public Health*, *The Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *First Monday*, and *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory Technoscience*.

### **Magdalena Wicher**

Magdalena Wicher, psychologist and researcher on aspects of Responsible Research and Innovation (Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna, Austria & SVT, University of Bergen)

### **Anita Thaler**

Anita Thaler, psychologist, education scientist, feminist STS researcher (Interdisciplinary Research Centre for Technology, Work and Culture, Graz, Austria)

### **Daniela Jauk**

Daniela Jauk, assistant professor for Sociology and Criminal Justice (University of Akron, USA) and certified clinical sociological practitioner (C.C.S.)

All three authors are part of the working group QueerSTS: <https://twitter.com/QueerSTS>.

### **Mat Paskins (they/them)**

I am the co-editor of two anthologies of Narrative Science, and have written fairly extensively about publics, materiality, and utopia. I am currently editor for the research blog “Materials and Time”, and currently work as a dementia adviser for the Alzheimer’s Society. I have taught at UCL and Imperial College and undertaken research at Aberystwyth University and the London School of Economics. I prefer it if people use third person plural pronouns when they talk about me, and I am bisexual.

### **Ben Purvis (he/they)**



I am a research associate currently based at the Sheffield School of Architecture. My research primarily focuses on the role of integrated assessment modelling within the climate change literature, and its limited scope for envisioning radical futures. I developed an interest in STS during my PhD research when I was located within a nominally 'interdisciplinary' research group composed of both natural and social scientists. I identify as gay and queer, and use he/they pronouns.