

EMILY SMITH BEITIKS

Department of American Studies

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EDUCATION

Ph.D University of Minnesota, American Studies, expected May 2012
Dissertation: *Disabling the Race to Perfection: Disability and the Techno-Makeover*

Qualifying Exam Areas: Disability Studies, Science and Technology Studies, American Studies

Dissertation Committee: Carl Elliott (Co- chair), Roderick Ferguson (Co-chair), Karen-Sue Taussig, Patrick McNamara, Catherine J. Kudlick

B. A. University of California, Davis, Double Major: American Studies and Sociology of Organizational Studies, Magna Cum Laude and High Honors, June 2005.

Senior Thesis: *Pimp my Wheelchair?: The Supply and Demand of Personalized Wheelchairs*

Adviser: Carolyn de la Peña, Secondary Adviser: Catherine J. Kudlick

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American Studies
Science and Technology Studies
Bodies and Normalcy

Disability Studies
Critical Bioethics
Feminist Science Studies

AWARDS / FELLOWSHIPS

Extramural:

Society for the Social Studies of Science Travel Grant, 2011.

P.E.O. International Women's Scholar Award, 2009-2010.

Katzman Yetman Prize, Mid-Atlantic American Studies Association, Best Conference Paper, Honorable Mention, 2009.

Phi Beta Kappa, Junior year Recipient, Spring 2004.

Intramural - University-wide:

GAPSA Professional Travel Grant 2009.

Yudof Fellowship in Science Policy in Ethics, 2008-2009.

Teaching Commendation, Department of Writing Studies, 2008.

Graduate Research Partnership Program Fellowship, Summer 2008.

Graduate Student Fellowship, 2005-2006.

Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research, Finalist, 2005.

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, 2004.

Dean's List, 2002-2005

Intramural - Department-wide:

Mulford Q. Sibley Award, American Studies, Summer 2008 [declined].

Christenson Award, Summer 2008.

PUBLICATIONS**Peer-Reviewed Publications:**

"The Ghosts of Institutionalization at Pennhurst's Haunted Asylum," *Hastings Center Report* [Forthcoming], anticipated publication: January/February 2012.

With Denise Nepveux. "Producing African Disability through Documentary Film: Emmanuel's Gift and Moja Moja," *Journal of Cultural and Literary Disability Studies*, Volume 4:3 (2010), 237-254.

"Pimp my Wheelchair!: The Supply and Demand for Personalized Wheelchairs," *Explorations: An Undergraduate Research Journal*, Volume 8 (2005): 17-32.

Book Chapters:

"The Final Indignity': Profiting from Pennhurst's Horrific Past," *A World Apart: The Story of Pennhurst School and Hospital*, Ed. Dennis B. Downey, Philadelphia: *Penn State Press*, Forthcoming: September 2012.

Other Publications:

"Should We Fix Children or Attitudes?: Book Review of *Surgically Shaping Children*" *Medical Humanities Review*, Volume 19 (Spring-Fall 2007): 66-70. [Invited].

"Chinese Footbinding" and "Limb Lengthening Surgery" *The Cultural Encyclopedia of the Body*, Pitts, Victoria, ed. Greenwood Press, 2008. [Invited].

Works in Progress:

“Window Shopping at the Mall of Handicapitalism: Disability, Technology, and the Abilities Expos Tradeshows”

“Not Seeing Eye to Eye: The Rise and Fall of the iBOT Mobility System”

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations:

“Past Fox and Limbaugh: Disability and Stem Cell Research” Society for Social Studies of Science, Cleveland, November 2011.

“Dean of Invention: High-Tech Normalcy and Disability Design” American Studies Association, Baltimore, October 2011.

“Non-Invasive Prenatal Genetic Diagnosis: The Neoliberal Climate and the Ongoing Attack on Disability in the Present” The Tarrytown Meetings, Tarrytown, NY, July 2011.

“Disabling the Race to Perfection: Disability and Transhumanism,” The Tarrytown Meetings, Tarrytown, NY, July 2011.

“The Ghosts of Institutionalization at Pennhurst’s Haunted Asylum” Society for Disability Studies. San Jose, California, June 2011.

“The Abilities Expos: Forming Community within the Mall of Handicapitalism,” American Studies Association, San Antonio, November 2010.

“Technology Play at the Abilities Expos: Disability and the New Handicapitalism” Cultural Studies Association, Berkeley, March 2010.

"From the 'Differently Abled' to 'Technotards': Finding New Positions for Disability in Science and Technology Studies" Society for Disability Studies, Tucson, June 2009.

"Fixing Disability in the Name of Progress: The Transnational Capital of Disabled Latinos/as," American Studies Association, Washington D.C., November 2009.

"Classifying the Needy: Disability and the T.V. Techno-Makeover" Literature and Pathology Conference. UC Davis, Sacramento, May 2009.

“Transnational Social Entrepreneurship and the Third World Disabled Body in Need: A Look at *Emmanuel's Gift* and *Moja Moja*” with Denise Nepveux. Neo-imperialism in Post-Independence Africa, Yale University, New Haven, March 2009.

“Cyborgs for Sale: Mediating the Disabled/Machine Interface in the iBOT,” Society for Social Studies of Science, Montreal, October 2007.

“The Newest Poster Child: Transnationalism and the Disabled Body,” Society for Disability Studies, Seattle, May 2007

“Institutionalizing Disability Studies within the Academy: Opportunities and Barriers in Building a Disability Studies Program,” A Roundtable presentation at the Society for Disability Studies, Seattle, May 2007.

“What’s Normal Anyway: Disability and Queer Intersections,” with Jessica Giusti. Alphabet Soup Queer Studies Conference, Minneapolis, February 2007.

“Pimp My Wheelchair?: The Supply and Demand of Personalized Wheelchairs” Poster Presentation, Society for Disability Studies, San Francisco, June 2005.

Invited Lectures:

“The iBOT Mobility System as Material Culture,” American Studies, Guest lecture, UC Davis, April 2011.

“Technological Abandonment and Technological Cures,” P.E.O. International, Minnesota Chapter May meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 2010.

“Body Upgrades?: Embodying Technoscience ‘Progress’ while Resisting Cures,” Co-sponsored Talk by American Studies and Technocultural Studies, UC Davis, May 2010.

“Disability and Immigration,” History, Guest lecture, UC Davis, April 2009.

“The Deinstitutionalization Movement for People with Developmental Disabilities,” History, Guest lecture, UC Davis, April 2009.

“The Body/Machine Interface,” Rhetoric Studies, Guest lecture, University of Minnesota, October 2008.

“Representations of Disability in the Media,” Writing Studies, Guest lecture, University of Minnesota October 2007.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor Positions:

“Introduction to Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies,” Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, University of Minnesota, Fall-Spring 2011. [Online].

“Social Justice and Community,” College 10 Social Justice, UC Santa Cruz, two classes each Fall, 2009 – Fall 2010.

“Technology and the Modern Body,” American Studies/Technocultural Studies [cross-listed], UC Davis, Winter 2010.

“(Re)writing the Body,” Writing studies, University of Minnesota, Fall 2007-Spring 2008.

Teaching Assistantships:

“American Popular Culture and Politics, 1940-Present,” American Studies, Professor Elaine Tyler May, University of Minnesota, Spring 2007.

“American Popular Culture and Politics, 1940-Present,” American Studies, Instructor Soojin Pate, University of Minnesota, Fall 2006.

Related Teaching Positions:

Curriculum Consultant: University of California, Santa Cruz, Spring 2011: Job included rewriting the curriculum for a frosh writing class with social justice-themed content.

Volunteer Teacher of Women’s Health, English, Math, and Science: Kabiti, Ghana, Summer 2006 and 2007.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Center for Genetics and Society, Berkeley, California.
Summer Staff Associate, April - August 2011.
Senior Program Associate, August 2011 - Present.
Organize panels, write panel abstracts, and general planning for the Tarrytown meetings, an academic, policy-maker and activist conference.
Also includes generating research for the center and blog-writing.

Research Assistant under Professor Carolyn de la Peña, American Studies, University of California, Davis. Winter 2003-Spring 2005.
Library research for her book, *Empty Pleasures*, 2010.

Research Assistant under Professor Nicole Fleetwood, American Studies, University of California, Davis. Summer 2004.
Library research to suggest and collect readings for the course, "Race, Culture, and Society in the United States."

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Volunteer work/Leadership positions:

Science and Technology Studies Caucus co-chair, American Studies Association, September 2011-present.

"Doing Disability" working group, University of California, Berkeley, 2011.

Disability Issues Senate Committee, University of Minnesota, 2005 – 2009.

Disabled Student Cultural Center board member, Spring 2006-Spring 2007.

University of California, Davis. American Studies Peer Adviser, September 2004-June 2005.

Reviewer:

Boom: The Journal of California, 2011-present.

Panels Organized:

"Curious Liaisons: Machines, Bodies, and the Making of Inappropriate Technology," Selected as Science and Technology Studies caucus featured panel, American Studies Association, Baltimore, October 2011.

"Access, Voice and Participation: Reconsidering Biotechnological Divides," "Race under the Microscope: Tackling Biological Misunderstandings of Race and Research" and "A Good Market for Bad Science: How Biological Race is Sold to the Public," The Tarrytown Meetings, New York, July 2011.

"Disability Chic: Uses and Abuses of Disability in Commodity Culture," Society for Disability Studies, San Jose, California, June 2011.

"Technology and Disability: Change or Chains in Rehabilitation," American Studies Association, San Antonio, Texas, November 2010.

"Embodiments of Progress: Technology, Machines, and Belonging in Normalcy," American Studies Association, Washington D.C., November 2009.

Roundtable Organizer, "Possibilities (and Uncertainties) of Technocultural Pedagogies," Mid-Atlantic American Studies Association Conference, April 2009.

"Ethnographies of Science and Technology Across Disciplines: The Theory and Practice of 'Ways of Knowing,'" Society for Social Studies of Science, Montreal, October 2007.

Professional Memberships:

American Studies Association
Society for Social Studies of Science
Society for Disability Studies
Cultural Studies Association
Modern language Association

REFERENCES

Carl Elliott (Co-Chair)

Professor of Bioethics, University of Minnesota
Center for Bioethics
N504 Boynton Health Services
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Roderick Ferguson (Co-Chair)

Professor of American Studies, University of Minnesota
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Catherine J. Kudlick (Dissertation Committee member)

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