



Hero image: [Mercedes Mehling on Unsplash](#)

# The Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies

Presented by the Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities  
Advance Research Centre (SSSHARC)

February 20 – March 3, 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

## **Acknowledgements**

We would like to acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which the Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies (HISS) takes place. We acknowledge the tradition of custodianship and law of the Country on which the University of Sydney campuses stand. We pay our respects to those who have cared and continue to care for Country. It is our hope that this year's Institute will offer space for participating scholars to contribute to the decolonization of discourse around gender and sexuality.

# The Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies

## Inaugural Launch

The inaugural Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies (HISS) connects emerging and established researchers to address questions within queer theory, LGBTQIA+ studies and their cognate fields. An initiative supported by the [Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre \(SSSHARC\)](#), HISS is co-directed by Lee Wallace and Victoria Rawlings and runs in step with the [Sydney Mardi Gras](#) and [Sydney WorldPride Festival](#).

### Queer Age / Queer Youth

The Institute will bring together over 30 PhD, postdoctoral, early-career and established researchers around the theme of Queer Age /Queer Youth. Much of the cultural anxiety around queerness centers on youth. Approaching the topic of sexuality from the doubled perspective of youth and age provides some breathing space for more thoughtful approaches to sexual development and social aspiration across the long-term. Age here refers not just to ageing but also to the times, which seem to offer new rights in the form of marriage equality while other horizons of equality disappear in a landscape of fiscal and environmental crisis. More than ever, we need research-informed ways of talking about these developments and their relation to the history of sexuality and the rise of diversity as a cultural value.

### A Queer-Led Classroom

[HISS@SSSHARC](#) will center around a queer-led classroom model of embodied learning and knowledge building. Loosely based around generalist classroom subjects, participants will engage in an experimental series of workshops led by internationally recognized queer scholars and practitioners. The Institute builds on the observation that all of us, young or old, established or emerging, have been school students at some time and might usefully revisit that experience in a queer-led context. Extra-curricular activities will include fieldtrips, school photographs and a formal – all teenage rites of passage that may strike fear in the hearts of queer kids. As we reengage these activities, we invite our HISS teachers and students to think in two temporalities at once: retrospectively, with a deep understanding of past wrongs, and proleptically, in anticipation of a more just future.

## HISS Faculty

HISS has been programmed by [Lee Wallace](#) (Director, SSSHARC) and Australian Research Council DECRA Fellow [Victoria Rawlings](#) (Critical Education Studies, Sydney School of Education and Social Work).

### In 2023, the teachers in our queer classroom are:

- ❖ [Associate Professor Adam Greteman](#) Art Education (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)
- ❖ [Associate Professor Alice Motion](#) Chemistry (Director, Sydney Nano Institute, University of Sydney)
- ❖ [Associate Professor Cherine Fahd](#) Visual Communications (University of Technology Sydney)
- ❖ [Dr. Clara Bradbury-Rance](#) Gender and Sexuality Studies (King's College London)
- ❖ [EO Gill](#) Artist and PhD Candidate (University of Sydney)
- ❖ [Dr. George Radics](#) Sociology and Anthropology (National University of Singapore)
- ❖ [Professor Jen Gilbert](#) Education (York University)
- ❖ [Associate Professor Julie Mooney-Somers](#) Health and Qualitative Research (School of Public Health, University of Sydney)
- ❖ [Professor Karen Tongson](#) Gender and Sexuality Studies, English and American Studies (University of Southern California)
- ❖ [Professor Meredith Weiss](#), Political Science and International Affairs (State University of New York, Albany)
- ❖ [Salote Tawale](#), Artist (Sydney College of the Arts)
- ❖ [Dr Sam Stiegler](#), Visiting Assistant Professor, Educational Studies (Colgate University, NY)
- ❖ [Professor Scott Herring](#), American Studies, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (Yale)
- ❖ [Professor Shane Vogel](#), Theatre, Performance Studies and African American Studies (Yale)
- ❖ [Dr Xavier Ho](#), Interactive Design (Monash University)

## HISS Cohort

This year we have 23 advanced PhD students and Post-doctorate researchers participating in HISS, representing 16 different universities:

- ❖ [Dr. Allison Xinyi Guo](#), Education (Western Sydney University)
- ❖ Ash Catonio, Sociology (University of Toronto)
- ❖ Bailey Flynn, Rhetoric and Public Culture (Northwestern University)
- ❖ [Dr. Bishop Owis](#), Education (University of British Columbia)
- ❖ Florence Smith Nicholls, Computer Science: Intelligent Games, Game Intelligence [IGGI] (Queen Mary University of London)
- ❖ Florin Douglas, Humanities and Social Sciences (Deakin University)
- ❖ [Hannah Maitland](#), Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies (York University)
- ❖ [Hao Zheng, Sociology \(Deakin University\)](#)
- ❖ [James Gardiner](#), Gender and Cultural Studies (University of Sydney)
- ❖ [Dr. Jason Goopy](#), Music Education (Edith Cowan University)
- ❖ [Joe Jukes](#), Sexuality Studies and Geography (University of Brighton)
- ❖ [Jonno Graffam](#), Theatre (Monash University)
- ❖ [Lee Iskander](#), Education (University of British Columbia)
- ❖ Leslie Peters, Mental Health and Substance Use (University of Sydney)
- ❖ Madelaine Coelho, Sociology (University of Toronto)
- ❖ Dr. Mathew Tyne, Theatre and Performance Studies (University of Sydney)
- ❖ Niamh White, Media Studies and Gender Studies (Monash University)
- ❖ Sarah Demekech Graham, Gender and Cultural Studies (University of Sydney)
- ❖ [Sarah Hoffert](#), Sexuality Education (Widener University)
- ❖ [Sophia Garlick Bock](#), Medicine and Health (University of Sydney)
- ❖ [Souksavanh T. Keovorabouth](#), Indigenous Studies, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (Macquarie University and Oregon State University)
- ❖ Tate McAllister, Sociology, Science and Technology Studies (The Australian National University)
- ❖ Victoria Serafini, Media Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies (Cornell University)

## HISS 2023 Timetable

### Pre-program events (optional):

Our team are associated with several events prior to the start of HISS on Monday February 20, 2023. These events are open to the public and HISS Participants are welcome to join. For more information check out the complete WorldPride schedule available at [sydneyworldpride.com](https://sydneyworldpride.com).

Thursday Feb. 16	<p><b>Launch of <u>CLOAK</u> @ <u>UTS Building 2</u></b> 5:30-7pm</p> <p>CLOAK is a cross-disciplinary project aimed at reinventing the lab coat as a symbol of queer pride while spotlighting diversity in science through fashion, photography and video performance.</p>
Friday Feb. 17	<p><b>Launch of <u>45 Light Mural</u> by <u>Xavier Ho</u> @ the <u>Footbridge Gallery's Dash Wall</u></b> Courtyard Cafe 6-8pm</p> <p>Join us under the setting Sydney, sun for the premier of 45, a work Inspired by the rainbow "Gilbert" font, originally designed by Hayato Yamasaki after gay right's activist and creator Gilbert Baker (1951-2017).</p>
Saturday Feb. 18	<p><b><u>Jurassic Lounge</u> @ the Australian Museum</b> 6-9pm</p> <p>Celebrate the queer heroes of STEM with a night of comedy, community and science set against the galleries and hidden spaces of the museum.</p> <p>This is a ticketed event, contact <a href="mailto:HISS@sydney.edu.au">HISS@sydney.edu.au</a> for a discount code.</p>
Sunday Feb. 19	<p><b><u>Mardi Gras Fair Day</u> @ Victoria Park</b> All Day</p> <p>This cherished community event offers over 200 vendors, drag king competitions, voguing balls, live music, picnics and much more!</p>

## HISS 2023 Timetable

### Week One

	10am-12pm		2pm-4pm	Evening (optional)
Monday Feb. 20	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Welcome to Country</b> Gender, sexuality & decolonization with <a href="#">Tribal Warrior</a> & <a href="#">BlaQ</a>	<b>Orientation One</b> Queer pedagogy & critical objects with <a href="#">Vic Rawlings</a>	<b>Media Studies</b> <a href="#">Pride at Play</a> with <a href="#">Xavier Ho</a>	<b>Launch of Pride at Play</b> 5pm-7pm <a href="#">The Botany Lawn</a>
Tuesday Feb. 21	<b>Orientation Two</b> Relations and responsibilities for a queer-led classroom with <a href="#">Adam Greteman</a>		<b>Passing Period</b> Going along methodology with <a href="#">Sam Stiegler</a>	<b>An Evening with 500 Queer Scientists</b> 6pm – 9pm <a href="#">Royal Botanic Gardens</a> Ticketed
Wednesday Feb. 22	<b>Art</b> Ornamentation workshop with <a href="#">Salote Tawale</a>		<b>Art Fieldtrip</b> <a href="#">Fulgara</a> at the National Art School with Salote Tawale & <a href="#">EO Gill</a>	<b>Atomic Choir</b> 7pm-9:30pm <a href="#">Sydney Observatory</a> with <a href="#">Emily Parsons-Lord</a> & <a href="#">Alice Motion</a>  Waitlist for free tickets
Thursday Feb. 23	<b>Science</b> Periodic poetry with Alice Motion		<b>Civics</b> Queer community engagement with <a href="#">Meredith Weiss</a> & <a href="#">George Radics</a>	
Friday Feb. 24	<b>Music One</b> Critical karaoke with <a href="#">Karen Tongson</a>		<b>Music Two</b> Critical karaoke with Karen Tongson	
Saturday Feb. 25	<a href="#">Sydney Mardi Gras Parade</a>			

## HISS 2023 Timetable

### Week Two

	10am-12pm	2pm-4pm	Evening (optional)
<b>Monday</b> Feb. 27	<b>Film Studies</b> Queer attachments and algorithms with <a href="#">Clara Bradbury-Rance</a>	<b>Drama</b> <i>Hir</i> with <a href="#">Shane Vogel</a>	<b><i>But I'm a Cheerleader!</i></b> with Clara Bradbury-Rance 5pm – 7pm Venue to be announced
<b>Tuesday</b> Feb. 28	<b>English</b> The ageing avant-garde with <a href="#">Scott Herring</a>	<b>Sex Education</b> Re-defining risk with <a href="#">Jen Gilbert</a>	
<b>Wednesday</b> March 1	<b>Maths</b> Queer quant with <a href="#">Julie Mooney-Somers</a>	<b>P.E.</b> with Coach Rawlings	<b>Sewing Circle</b> Queer embellishment with Allan Law
<b>Thursday</b> March 2	<b>School Photos</b> The theory with <a href="#">Cherine Fahd</a>	<b>School Photos</b> The practice with Cherine Fahd	
<b>Friday</b> March 3	<b>Muck Up Day One</b> Queer protocol work with Adam, Sam & Jen	<b>Muck Up Day Two</b> What's next with Vic & <a href="#">Lee Wallace</a>	<b>HISS Formal</b> To be planned by the extended HISS community



## Thank You

HISS is facilitated by the Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre (SSSHARC) and funded through the generous bequest of Dr Gary Simes and the Norman Haire Fund for Sexology Studies.

Dr Gary Simes (1950-2017) was a linguistic historian, bibliographer and University of Sydney graduate. The Hunt-Simes bequest is named after Dr Simes and his husband. Norman Haire (1892-1952), who was a homosexual at a different moment in time, studied medicine at the University of Sydney before embarking on a highly successful career as a sexologist and sex education reformer in Europe. Haire left his books and papers to the University Library, where they can be accessed in the Rare Books Collection.

We are grateful for this support, which enabled both HISS faculty and students to travel to Sydney.



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

## **Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre**

RD Watt Building | Level 4

T +61 2 8627 5678 | E [sssharc.research@sydney.edu.au](mailto:sssharc.research@sydney.edu.au)

### **Online Media**

Website: <https://www.sydney.edu.au/arts/our-research/centres-institutes-and-groups/sydney-social-sciences-and-humanities-advanced-research-centre.html>

Twitter: @SSSHARC  
#HISS2023