

ICGC ALUMNI LECTURE SERIES

Racing Intersex: Rethinking Violence and Gendered Medicine in South Africa

Thursday, April 12, 2018

1pm, 120 Elmer L. Andersen Library

Presented by: Amanda Lock Swarr, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, University of Washington

ABSTRACT: Why do South African physicians claim that intersexuality is more common among black South Africans than white South Africans? And how have the parameters of gender been violently inscribed and undermined in medical contexts? This presentation addresses these questions by drawing on fifty years of South African medical scholarship to interrogate the contested parameters of gender and by putting these considerations into conversation with assertions and activism of South Africans who identify as intersex themselves. In so doing, it historicizes contemporary conversations, such as those focused on the mistreatment of Olympian athlete Caster Semenya, and retheorizes gender binaries and gender violence.



Photo credit: (<http://www.iranti-org.co.za/>)

INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER **GLOBAL CHANGE**
for the Study of

For a full list of ICGC Events go to ICGC.umn.edu.
For accessibility and other questions please contact
Laura Bell at icgc@umn.edu

This event offered as part of the African Studies Initiative Symposium on "Reframing Mass Violence in Africa"