August 14, 2015

Corrine Mason, Ph.D. and Amanda Watson, Ph.D.

Guest Editors

*Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture & Social Justice/Études critiques sur le genre, la culture, et la justice*

Dear Drs. Mason and Watson,

Attached, please find our manuscript titled “Intersectionality, Inc.: A Dialogue on Intersectionality’s Travels and Tribulations” for your consideration at the journal *Atlantis* in the special issue cluster “What is intersectional about intersectionality now?”*.* On behalf of Dr. Bhatia, Mr. Casiano, Dr. Lewis, Dr. Parks, Dr. Woodfork, and myself, I thank you for your initial review of our proposal in summer 2014. We are excited to get your feedback on this full manuscript. Per your submission instructions, I have blinded this manuscript completely, included a 50-word abstract, and brief author biographies below.

The authorship order should be as follows: 1) Patrick R. Grzanka, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, patrick.grzanka@utk.edu; 2) Rajani Bhatia, Assistant Professor, Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, The University at Albany-State University of New York (SUNY), rbhatia2@albany.edu; 3) Mel Michelle Lewis, Assistant Professor, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Goucher College, mel.lewis@goucher.edu; 4) Sheri L. Parks, Associate Dean for Research, Interdisciplinary Scholarship, and Programming, College of Arts and Humanities; Founding Director, Arts and Humanities Center for Synergy; and Associate Professor, Department of American Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, slp@umd.edu; 5) Joshua Woodfork, Executive Director, Office of the President, Skidmore College, woodfork@skidmore.edu; 6) Michael Casiano, Doctoral Student, Department of American Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, mc3267@gmail.com. The second through fifth authors contributed equally to this manuscript and are listed alphabetically. The last author recorded, transcribed, and edited the manuscript.

In order to facilitate the peer review process, authors have been given pseudonyms in this version of the manuscript and identifying information has been redacted.

**Abstract** (50 words): In a roundtable discussion held at the American Studies Association’s annual meeting in 2013 the authors interrogate intersectionality’s uptake in diverse settings, considering how its radical potential may be coopted and conflated with “diversity,” “multiculturalism,” “inclusion,” and similarly neoliberal institutional imperatives. The authors also discuss opportunities for resistance and transformation.

**Brief Author Biographies:**

Patrick R. Grzanka, *The University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

Dr. Patrick R. Grzanka is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Tennessee, where he serves as core faculty in the Counseling Psychology Program and as affiliate faculty in the American Studies and Women’s Studies programs. His interdisciplinary research explores emotions and mental health at the nexus of social inequalities, particularly race, gender, and sexuality. His first book, *Intersectionality: A Foundations and Frontiers Reader* (Westview Press/Perseus Books 2014), traces the origins and contemporary frontlines of scholar-activism that critiques how social inequalities are organized along multiple dimensions of difference, power, and inequity. His research on sexual orientation in psychotherapy was funded by a 2012-2013 National Science Foundation grant from the Science, Technology & Society Program, and his work has been published in a wide range of scholarly journals, including *Sexualities*, *Sexuality Research & Social Policy, Symbolic Interaction, Journal of Counseling Psychology,* and *American Journal of Bioethics: Neuroscience.* He holds a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Maryland.

Rajani Bhatia, *University at Albany-SUNY*

Dr. Rajani Bhatia is an Assistant Professor of Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies at the University at Albany (State University of New York). Her research interests lie in developing new approaches to feminist theorizations of reproduction and feminist science and technology studies, with a focus reproductive technologies, health, bioethics, and biomedicine. Through engagement as a scholar-activist within international women's health and reproductive justice movements, Dr. Bhatia has contributed to feminist analysis of global population control, right-wing environmentalism, and coercive practices and unethical testing related to contraceptive and sterilization technologies both inside and outside the United States. She is working on a book based on her dissertation, “Lifestyle Sex Selection: Reproduction, Transnational Flows, and Inequality,” completed in the Department of Women’s Studies at the University of Maryland.

Mel Michelle Lewis, *Goucher College*

Dr. Mel Michelle Lewis is Assistant Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and affiliate faculty in Africana Studies at Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland. Her research focuses on Black queer feminist women, pedagogy as performance, and feminist inquiries at the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality. Recent publications include: “Pedagogy and the Sista’ Professor: Teaching Black Queer Feminist Studies” in *Sexualities in Education: A Reader* (Peter Lang), and “Body of Knowledge: Black Queer Feminist Pedagogy, Praxis, and Embodied Text” (*Journal of Lesbian Studies*). She has also published reviews in *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* and *Feminist Formations.* She is active in the leadership of the National Women’s Studies Association. Dr, Lewis earned a Ph.D. in Women’s Studies from the University of Maryland, an M.A. in Women’s Studies and Public Policy from Towson University, and a B.A. in Women’s Studies from Goucher College.

Sheri L. Parks, *University of Maryland, College Park*

Dr. Sheri Parks is Associate Dean for Research, Interdisciplinary Scholarship and Programming for the College of Arts and Humanities and Associate Professor of American Studies at the University of Maryland; she is also the author of *Fierce Angels: The Strong Black Woman in American Life and Culture* (Ballantine/Random House, 2010) and a new revised and expanded edition, *Fierce Angels: Living with a Legacy from the Sacred Dark Feminine to the Strong Black Woman* (Lawrence Hill Books, 2013). Her general research area is public aesthetics, or the ways in which people find and create meaning and beauty in their everyday lives, with specific emphasis on race, gender, and social class. She is a well-known Black academic feminist, and she has appeared frequently in national and international media including the BBC, NBC News, Anderson Cooper 360, *Newsweek*, and The Los Angeles Times, as well as Polish, Chinese, and German media. On stage, she has interviewed and moderated discussions with a number of prominent figures, including Angela Davis, David Simon, and David Alan Grier. As founding director of the Arts and Humanities Center for Synergy, Dr. Parks facilitates collaborations of scholars inside and outside of the university.

Joshua C. Woodfork, *Skidmore College*

Dr. Joshua C. Woodfork is the Executive Director of the Office of the President and Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. He was formerly the Director of The Consortium on High Achievement and Success (CHAS) at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Prior to joining CHAS, Dr. Woodfork was Assistant Professor of American Studies at American University (2010-2012) and Assistant Professor of American Studies at Skidmore College (2005-2010), where he co-founded Skidmore's Black Faculty and Staff Group. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, his M.A. from Michigan State University, and his B.A. from Colby College, where he has served on the Board of Trustees since 2009. His scholarly interests and teaching center on U.S. history, ethnography, intersectional analysis, popular culture, multiraciality, African Americans, whiteness, and social justice. He recently finished the manuscript of his book project entitled: "Shifting Whiteness: White Parents of Biracial and Black Children."

Michael Casiano, *University of Maryland, College Park*

Mr. Michael Casiano is a doctoral student and Flagship Fellow in the Department of American Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park. In 2012, he received double bachelor’s degrees from the University of Maryland in English and American Studies, as well as a citation in Honors Humanities. His research analyzes contemporary finance culture to explore the relationship between liquidity, small-stakes equity, and speculation. His current project focuses on the recent marketing of securities tied to professional athletes to contextualize the historic racialization of labor, human capital, investment, and risk. As a graduate student, Michael has been active in efforts to unionize graduate assistants on the University of Maryland campus. As an instructor, he has taught intersectionality theory to undergraduates in both introductory and intermediate American Studies courses.

I thank you again for considering our manuscript, and we welcome any feedback you have on our work.

Sincerely,

Patrick R. Grzanka, Ph.D.