

NEWSLETTER #3

Testimonial Cultures

24.01.2012

BEST WISHES FOR 2012 !

Hello everyone – here's hoping that 2012 brings you much success, joy and good health for making the most of what life has to offer!

Should we hold a « study day » this fall??

What are your thoughts?

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The time has come to finalize and sign the partnership agreement – this is a key objective for the beginning of the year!

AGENDA FOR UPCOMING WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

- Feedback on the General Assembly (GA) meeting of 8 Dec 2011
- Member's needs in terms of a virtual workspace
- Partnership Agreement
- Ideas with regards to holding a study day in the fall of 2012



MONDO GUERRA on Project Runway

During the holiday season, Julie developed an obsession for the TV show "Project Runway" which features fashion designers competing to present their works during Fashion Week in New York. In 2010, one participant disclosed his HIV status on the show while discussing one of his designs:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnSYPwQwRrl>

Upcoming Meetings

Working Group 2 (LGBTQI) :
Tue Jan 17, 9 am - noon
W-4210

Working Group 3 (SW) :
Mon Jan 23, 1-4 pm
W-4210

Working Group 1 (PLHA)
Fri Feb 10, 1-4 pm
W-4210

Executive Committee
Mon Feb 20, 9 am - noon
W-4210

Feedback on the General Assembly held Dec 8 2011

Thanks to everyone for coming. The discussions were rich and inspiring! The minutes of the meeting will be sent out shortly.

Follow-up from the Executive Committee meeting held Dec 12 2011

The research professors met with the coordination team and to share their visions of the project and to consider various issues. The specific characteristics of the partnership were highlighted: multisectorality (universities, community groups, associations) with contributions from many disciplines (women's studies, social work, film, criminology, communications, sociology, history, architecture, literary studies, sexology, ...). We will need to develop a work schedule that is both realistic and taking into account the main interests of each working group. Activities will be developed based on a range of ideas that were proposed at the General Assembly meeting:

- Workshop on research ethics
- DVD compilation of testimonial by people living with HIV and by sex workers
- Study Day on the conditions within which testimonials are produced (Fall 2012) bringing together the training expertise of the various partners (LGB testimonials by GRIS-Montreal; popular education by sex worker groups (Sensibilisation XXX); ethical and supportive accompaniment by COCQ-SIDA and the VIHsibilité project)
- Dissemination of research results from the VIHsibilité project
- Development of a virtual workspace offering a dynamic way to share project archives & resources.

UPCOMING EVENT

The Concordia University Community Lecture Series on HIV/AIDS presents a public lecture by activist Doris Peltier : "*N'ginaajiwimi: A Decolonizing Perspective on the Impacts of HIV and AIDS on Aboriginal People*," Thursday January 26, 6:00 pm, Room H-110, 1455 de Maisonneuve Boul. W. (Guy-Concordia metro). For more information: hiv aids@alcor.concordia.ca



NEW PROJECT ACQUISITIONS

We've started a small library for the project - here are a few items we have recently acquired. The reference by Miller, Luchs, and Dyer Jala is also available online.

Frosh, P. and Pinchevski, A. 2011. *Media Witnessing: Testimony in the Age of Mass Communication*. Pelgrave Macmillan: London, 231p.

Miller, L., Luchs, M, Dyer Jala, G. 2011. *Memory Mapping: Participatory Media, Place-Based Stories and Refugee Youth*. Marquis Books: Quebec, 160p. Online version: <http://mappingmemories.ca/book>

Dunar, A. (editor). 2003. *The Oral History Review*. Vol. 30, No. 1, 149 p.

THIS NEWSLETTER is produced by Julie Marceau with contributions from Maria Mensah and Thomas Haig.