



For Immediate Release

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Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality welcomes new director

Dr. Colleen Hoff

San Francisco, September 4, 2008—The **Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality**'s renowned expertise on sexuality issues just became richer, with the appointment of Dr. Colleen Hoff as its new director. And the timing couldn't be better: as CRGS enters its fifth year of providing cutting-edge research, theory development and knowledge on gender and sexuality, Dr. Hoff's extensive skills and experience leave the organization poised to redefine the nature of sexuality research.

The goal of the Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality (CRGS), which is based at San Francisco State University, is to produce new and useful knowledge about sexuality and gender, and to promote social justice and well-being by recognizing and challenging how inequalities undermine healthy sexuality. "CRGS has an accomplished and committed faculty and staff conducting innovative research in the field of human sexuality," says Dr. Hoff. "I look forward to broadening the Center's scope of research by addressing pressing issues facing the field such as sex education, gender inequities, treating sexual disorders, and the social, psychological and medical needs of transgendered individuals." Dr. Hoff's extensive experience working with the effects of couple dynamics and partner negotiation on sexual behavior brings CRGS an additional focus on sexual health promotion.

Dr. Hoff joins CRGS after more than a decade's work at the University of California San Francisco's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. An AASECT-certified sex therapist, clinical psychologist, and researcher, Dr. Hoff is currently the principal investigator of an NIH-funded study examining sexual behavior with primary and non-primary partners of members of gay male couples. Dr. Hoff has published, presented and lectured widely on HIV prevention, sexuality and relationship issues among gay couples.

"With Dr. Hoff's appointment, the CRGS can now truly say that it has the most well-rounded and pioneering approach to sexuality research of any organization in the country," points out NCS Director Gilbert Herdt. "From sexual health to sexual policy, from sexual education to sexual behavior, the CRGS is now attending to every dimension of sexuality and how each impacts overall well being. We are so thrilled to have Colleen on board."

Dr Hoff will lead a talented team of researchers at CRGS. Recent projects include: Dr. Jessica Field's participatory action research project examining HIV prevention among jailed women; Dr. Héctor Carillo's work investigating sexuality and HIV prevention in Mexican-born and U.S.-born Latino communities; and an examination of how issues of religion and gender affect risk assessment and HIV Prevention among African American and Latina women by the head of San Francisco State University's Department of Sexuality Studies, Dr. Rita Melendez.

The Center for Research on Gender Sexuality is the research branch of the National Centers on Sexuality at San Francisco State University, which also includes an academic arm, the Department of Sexuality Studies, and the advocacy-based National Sexuality Resource Center. The cutting-edge research that Dr. Hoff will direct at CRGS will create an empirical foundation that will help ensure that sexuality advocacy, policy and educational efforts throughout the country are grounded in best practices and hard data.

About CRGS and NCS

The Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality (CRGS) is an interdisciplinary community of San Francisco State University faculty, students, and staff dedicated to producing and sharing new and useful knowledge about sexuality and gender. CRGS is committed to developing innovative questions, methods, and theories to promote social justice and well-being and to diminish inequalities and violence stemming from racism, sexism, classism, ageism, ableism, heterosexism, and other forms of prejudice.

<http://crgs.sfsu.edu/>

The National Centers on Sexuality includes the Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality, the National Sexuality Resource Center and the Department of Sexuality Studies. Through advocacy, research and education, the National Centers on Sexuality promote sexual literacy, sexual well being and social justice—and are changing the way America thinks about sexuality.

<http://nsrc.sfsu.edu>

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