

# General Editors' Introduction

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SUSAN STRYKER and PAISLEY CURRAH

Since its inception, one of our primary goals for *TSQ* has been to make it a journal that, within the constraints of being published in English at a US university press, is attentive to the transnational circulations of “transgender” — to the outright resistances to that term as well as to its adoption, dubbing, hybridization, and strategic use, with all the complex negotiations of power and culture those crossings and roadblocks imply. How better to further the goal of putting pressure on the anglophone biases of the field of transgender studies than to explicitly explore the languages through which “transgender,” as an analytic lens or identitarian label, does and does not reproduce itself, how names and concepts change in the translation from one context to another, or how they remain incommensurable and untranslatable? (Of course, we recognize that this replicates at another level the very anglonormativity we seek to contest.)

Much of the work collected here was first presented in rough form at “Translating Transgender,” an international scholarly workshop convened by translation studies scholar David Gramling, January 11–15, 2015, at the University of Arizona, with the explicit intent of including that work in a special issue of *TSQ*, to be coedited by Gramling and *TSQ* editorial board member Aniruddha Dutta. For those in attendance, the Tucson workshop was a truly remarkable intellectual and emotional experience, which one senior scholar characterized as “without a doubt the single most stimulating academic event I’ve ever participated in.” We hope that some of that excitement shines through in the works from the workshop that ultimately were submitted and selected for publication, as well as the works submitted through the regular call for papers process. Special thanks are due not only to the scholars for their essays and to David and Ani for their hard editorial work but also to workshop intern Tara Taylor, who stepped into the breach above and beyond the call of duty, and to the workshop’s various funders at the University of Arizona: the Confluence Center for Creative Inquiry, Institute for LGBT Studies, Poetry Center, College of Humanities, Department of English,

and Department of German. Special shout-outs to the local host committee members not otherwise thanked above—Sam Ace, Frank Galarte, and Max Strassfeld—and to the workshop participants themselves. We'll always have Tucson.

As Gramling and Dutta note in their own (far more substantive) introduction to this issue of *TSQ*, it feels vital at this early phase of its institutionalization to facilitate transgender studies' becoming as multilingual, multidirectional, linguistically centrifugal, and untranslatable as methodologically possible. Like them, we see this issue of *TSQ* as a many-voiced wager on what promises to be a rich, ongoing conversation in years to come, and we look forward in anticipation to whatever future contributions this journal can make to that dialogue.

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