

Beans Velocci

they/them

*Department of History and Sociology of Science
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

University of Pennsylvania

Department of History and Sociology of Science

Assistant Professor (2022–present)

Lecturer (2021–2022)

Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies

Core Faculty (2021–present)

EDUCATION

Yale University

Ph.D., History (2021)

M.A., History (2019)

M.Phil., History (2019)

Graduate Certificate in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (2017)

University of Utah

M.A., History, *with distinction* (2015)

Smith College

A.B., History, *cum laude* (2011)

BOOK MANUSCRIPT IN PROGRESS

Binary Logic: The Power of Incoherence in American Sex Science (solicited by Duke University Press)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Denaturing Cisness: Towards Trans History as Method,” in *Feminism Against Cisness*, ed. Emma Heaney (Durham: Duke University Press, forthcoming).

“Wrenching Torque: On Being Professionally Nonbinary,” *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences* 52, no. 3 (2022): 476–484.

Ambika Kamath [co-first author], **Beans Velocci** [co-first author], Ashton Wesner, Nancy Chen, Vince Formica, María Rebolleda-Gómez, and Banu Subramaniam, “How Hegemonies Shaped this Special Section,” *Nature, Data, Power* Special Section, *The American Naturalist* 200, no. 1 (July 2022).

“Standards of Care: Uncertainty and Risk in Harry Benjamin’s Transsexual Classifications,” The Transsexual/Transvestite Issue, *Transgender Studies Quarterly* 8, no. 4 (November 2021): 462–480.

"Modern Sexuality in Modern Times (1880s-1930s)," Elizabeth Alice Clement and **Beans Velocci**, in *The Routledge History of Queer America*, ed. Don Romesburg (New York: Routledge, 2018).

WORKS EDITED

Ambika Kamath [co-first author], **Beans Velocci** [co-first author], Ashton Wesner, Nancy Chen, Vince Formica, María Rebolleda-Gómez, and Banu Subramaniam, “Nature, Data, Power: How Hegemonies Shape Biological Knowledge” Special Section, *The American Naturalist* 200, no. 1 (July 2022).

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

“Standards of Care w/ Beans Velocci,” [Death Panel](#) podcast (August 4, 2022).

Q&A featured in Eliot Schrefer, *Queer Ducks (And Other Animals): The Natural World of Animal Sexuality* (New York: Katherine Tegen Books, 2022).

“Method and Pedagogy in Trans Studies, Trans History, and the History of Science: An Interview with Beans Velocci by Yingchen Kwok,” [Penn Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies](#) (2022).

“Classification and Contradiction: Interrogating Sex as a Category with Beans Velocci,” [The Order of Multitudes](#) (2022).

“Changes Over Time: Making Sense of Trans Categories in the Archive,” *Adam Matthew Digital Sex & Sexuality Collection* (2020).

Co-curator, “Community in a Time of Crisis: Yale, New Haven, and HIV/AIDS, 1981-1996,” Yale School of Medicine Program for Art in Public Spaces (2020).

Co-curator, “Accolades: Researchers, Networks, and Prizewinning Science at Yale School of Medicine,” Yale School of Medicine Program for Art in Public Spaces (2020).

“These Uncertain Times,” *Avidly: A Channel of the Los Angeles Review of Books* (June 4, 2020).

“Perspective: The battle over trans rights is about power, not science,” *Washington Post* (October 29, 2018).

BOOK REVIEWS

“The Care Praxis Within,” review of Hil Malatino, *Trans Care* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2020), *GLQ* 29, no. 1 (2023): 150–152.

Review of Greta LaFleur, *The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2020), *Isis* 113, no. 3 (2022): 659–660.

Review of Emily Skidmore, *True Sex: The Lives of Trans Men at the Turn of the 20th Century* (New York: NYU Press, 2017), *The Historian* 80, no. 3 (September 2018): 571–573.

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2023 “‘Impossible to Distinguish’: A Trans History of Zoology, Race, and Sexual Dimorphism,” USC Center for Feminist Research (University of Southern California; Los Angeles, CA)

“Eugenic Research and the Invention of Many Sexes,” *Confronting the Legacy of Eugenics in EEB*, American Society of Naturalists Asilomar Conference (Pacific Grove, CA)

2022 Roundtable panelist, *Historians and Political Advocacy Post-Dobbs*, HSS Women’s Caucus, History of Science Society Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)

“Complete Transformability: The Incoherence of Sex at Two Eugenics Laboratories,” Princeton History of Science Colloquium (Princeton University; Princeton, NJ)

“Art at Noon: Harriet Hosmer and the Cis-tems She Defied,” in conversation with Lori Waselchuk, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (Virtual)

“Peculiar Characteristics: Trans Methods for the History of Sex Classification,” fSTS@Yale (Yale University; New Haven, CT)

“Science Studies in the Gender Studies Classroom,” Penn GSWS Pedagogy Seminar (University of Pennsylvania; Philadelphia, PA)

Discussant for Patricio Simonetto, “The Body Where I Was Born In: Embodiment Repertoires During the Sex Change Transition,” CHSTM Medicine and Health Working Group (Virtual)

2021 “Repurposing Life Sciences for Queer Survival,” Science on Tap (Philadelphia, PA)

Roundtable panelist, *Intersectional Futures of the History of the Body*, Virtual HistSTM (Virtual)

“Sex and the Species: Making Human Meaning of Animal Bodies at Cold Spring Harbor Eugenics Laboratories,” *Life/Sciences: Biology and Human Lives* Lecture Series, Science History Institute (Philadelphia, PA)

2020 “Unsolved Problems of Anomalous Sex,” *Sex in the Literature* Workshop, Queer Ecologies/Feminist Biologies Collective (UC Berkeley; Berkeley, CA)

2019 “Sex Science and the Problem of Relevance, or, If Eugenicists Care So Much About Sex, Why is it Hard to Find Them Talking About it in the Archive?” *Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series*, American Philosophical Society (Philadelphia, PA)

PANELS AND SYMPOSIA ORGANIZED

2023 “Sex, Medicine, and Racial Normality,” American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting (Ann Arbor, MI)

2022 “Naming Stakes: Critical Histories of Classification and Categorization,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)

2021 “Publishing Interdisciplinarity: Emergent Questions from a Collaborative Experiment,” Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Annual Meeting (Virtual/Toronto, ON)

2019 “Trans as a (Historical) Category,” CLGBTH Queer History Conference (San Francisco State University; San Francisco, CA)

2018 “Queer Science,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA)

Bye Bye Binary: Writing Histories of Non-Normative Gender, Yale Research Initiative on the History of Sexualities Symposium (Yale University; New Haven, CT)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2022 “‘A 2-Way Breakdown’: Statistical Methods and Sex Categories in the Kinsey Studies,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)

“‘Rarely has the law been used in such a ridiculous and unscientific fashion’: Mayhem and the Making of Trans Medicine,” CLGBTH Queer History Conference (San Francisco State University; San Francisco, CA)

2021 Moderator and panelist, “Publishing Interdisciplinarity: Emergent Questions from a Collaborative Experiment,” Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Annual Meeting (Virtual/Toronto, ON)

- “A Damned Nuisance Most of the Time’: Constructing the Bad Transsexual Patient in the Mid-Twentieth Century,” American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting (Virtual)
- 2019 “Wild Animal Sex: How the Study of Non-Humans Broke the Binary,” Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA)
- “De-minoritizing Trans History: A Manifesto with Primary Sources,” CLGBTH Queer History Conference (San Francisco State University; San Francisco, CA)
- Roundtable panelist, “40 Years of LGBT History: The Routledge History of Queer America,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting (Philadelphia, PA)
- 2018 “Of Course, it was Really a Male: Unknowing Sexual Multiplicity in Nineteenth-Century Animal Studies,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA)
- “Sex, Race, Birds: R.W. Shufeldt and Human Health’s Animal Heart,” Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Medicine (Yale University; New Haven, CT)
- Discussant, “Sexology & Colonial Technologies,” New Histories of Sexology: Genealogies of Race, Sex, and Colonialism (Yale University; New Haven, CT)
- 2017 “That Man-Woman: Bridging Trans and African-American Women’s History with Frances Thompson,” Yale Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Colloquium (Yale University; New Haven, CT)
- “An Abominable Hoax: Transgender History Meets Denial of Black Womanhood,” #QueerAF: (Re)presenting Gender & Sexuality in History & Cultural Studies (Drew University; Madison, NJ)
- 2016 “A Temptation to Children: Sex, Money, and the Meaning of Morality in Turn-of-the-Century New York,” Gay American History @ 40 (CLAGS: Center for LGBTQ Studies; New York, NY)
- “The Fatal Brink: Death and the End of Childhood in Nineteenth-Century Britain,” DC Queer Studies Symposium (University of Maryland; College Park, MD)
- 2015 “Likely to Be Impaired: Legislating Working-Class Children’s Morality in Turn-of-the-Century New York,” Practicing History Conference (University of Utah; Salt Lake City, UT)
- 2014 “Explicit Implications: Reading Colonized Bodies in the Andaman Islands,” Practicing History Conference (University of Utah; Salt Lake City, UT)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

University of Pennsylvania Excellence Through Diversity Grant, “Trans Inclusive Pedagogy: Reaching One of Penn’s Fastest Growing Student Demographics,” with Melissa E. Sanchez and Dani S. Bassett (2022–2023; \$10,000)

William T. Golden Fellow, American Philosophical Society (2019–2020)

John Money Fellow for Scholarship of Sexology, Kinsey Institute (2019–2020)

Junior Fellow, Center for Black, Brown, and Queer Studies (2019–2020)

Kingsley Trust Association Fellow, Yale University (2019–2020)

Conference Travel Grant, Organization of American Historians (2019)

Fund for Lesbian and Gay Studies Award, Yale University (2018)

NSF Travel Grant, History of Science Society (2018)

Ralph H. Gabriel Fellow in US History, Yale University (2018–2019)

Julie ’88 B.A. and Greg ’92 M.A. Flynn Fellow, Yale University (2017–2018)

Burton Scholar, University of Utah (2014–2015)

Dean L. May Graduate Fellow, University of Utah (2013–2014)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Margaret W. Rossiter History of Women in Science Prize, History of Science Society (2023)

George Washington Egleston Historical Prize, Yale University (2022)

John D’Emilio LGBTQ History Dissertation Award, Organization of American Historians (2022)

Gregory Sprague Prize for an Outstanding Paper on LGBTQ History by a Graduate Student, Committee on LGBT History (2020)

University of Utah Nominee, Western Association of Graduate Schools Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award (2015)

Best M.A. Thesis Award, University of Utah Department of History (2015)

Departmental Honors in History, Smith College (2011)

Mary Maples Dunn Prize in East Asian Studies, Smith College (2011)

German Department Prize for Distinguished Performance, Smith College (2009)

First Group Scholar, Smith College (2009)

Dean’s List (2008–2011)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Advisory Editor and Editorial Board Member, *Isis* (2023–present)

Co-Convener, Consortium for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Working Group on Women, Gender, and Sexuality (2022–present)

Pre-Major Advisor, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (2022–present)

Monday Workshop Coordinator, Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania (2022–present)

Referee for Gregory Sprague Prize, Committee on LGBT History (2021)

Diversity Committee, Yale History Department (2018–2019)

Yale History Department Graduate Student Advisory Committee (2018–2019)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND CONSULTING

Consultant on gendered gowned waiting areas, Penn Medicine Radiology (2022)

Invited speaker on transness in the academy, Penn Non-Cis, Philadelphia, PA (2021)

Invited speaker on restroom access in academic buildings, University Council Committee for Diversity & Equity, University of Pennsylvania (2021)

Invited speaker on trans health disparities, Clinical Grand Rounds, Yale-New Haven Hospital Department of Neurology (2020)

Consultant on sex designations in patient documentation, Yale Student Health (2020)

Invited speaker on queer and trans history, Prism Youth Community, Bloomington, IN (2019)

Invited speaker on LGBT health experiences, Yale School of Medicine (2015)

TEACHING

University of Pennsylvania

Queer Life in US History
Capstone Seminar in STSC
First-Year Seminar: Studying Sex
Trans Method
Queer Science

Yale University

Instructor of Record
Queer Science

Teaching Fellow
Historical Perspectives on Global Health
American Environmental History

Extraterrestrials in History
Women in Modern America

University of Utah

Teaching Assistant

American Civilization: US History Survey for Non-Majors

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Social Studies of Science

History of Science Society

Organization of American Historians

Committee on LGBT History