January 24

**DOTTIE DO-GOOD’S WAR ON SIN**

_A Woman Mayor’s Anti-Vice Campaign in Cold War Portland, Oregon_

**SARAH KOENIG (HISTORY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES)**

Koenig traces the rise and fall of Portland’s first female mayor, Dorothy “Do-Good” Lee, who rose to power amidst a post-World War II crime panic. Lee’s mayoral career illuminates both the possibilities and the limits of women’s political involvement in early Cold War America.

February 21

**UNCOVERING THE SPIRIT OF JUSTICE**

_Re-framing Gender in Post 9/11 Iconoclasm_

**MICHELLE MORGAN (AMERICAN STUDIES)**

Morgan looks at John Ashcroft’s covering of the statue Spirit of Justice in the Department of Justice, Washington D.C., during the months immediately following 9/11. Examining the circulation of media images of the statue both prior to and following the covering, as well as artistic responses to the act, Morgan addresses the ways the event was framed by both the “Right” and “Left,” particularly as these “framings” engaged gender, race, nationalism, religion, and the significance of covering the female body—what she calls “the rhetoric of the buckah”—post-9/11. Paying close attention to the iconoclastic aspects of both the covering and the responses it inspired, Morgan will historically contextualize “9/11gate” and Spirit of Justice in relation to other pieces of art in the building, as well as offer a preliminary discussion of how we might “uncover” the spirit of justice in that the statue can speak to a feminist project of visibility in public artworks more generally.

April 11

**THE RECONSTITUTION OF BLACK ATLANTIC BODIES AND MEMORIES IN SHARON BRIDGFORTH’S ‘DELTA DANDI’**

**ANA LARA (ANTHROPOLOGY)**

Delta Dandi, a performance novel by Sharon Bridgforth, uncovers the high and low tides of trauma-embodied in our (collective) memories, bodies and beings as descendants of the African Diaspora. If we are to take the Black Atlantic and its ships as the point of passage between the human and non-human world, the crossings between the living and the dead, what will we find within it?

**‘A FICTITIOUS STORY OF ONE OF HIS OWN SEX’**

_Gender, Fictionality, and the Public Sphere in America, 1797–1808_

**TOM KOENIGS (ENGLISH)**

Koenigs explores the competing understandings of fictionality circulating in early national America, focusing on the way in which a number of novels from this period engage with and complicate the early republic’s dominant, gendered conception of fiction.