INTERCOLLEGIATE FEMINIST CENTER
FOR TEACHING, RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT

NEWSLETTER
Vol. 24 (1) 2014

Announcing Our New Name: IFC

Intercollegiate Women’s Studies is now the Intercollegiate Feminist Center for Teaching, Research and Engagement. Our new name reflects the programs and studies across The Claremont Colleges that we serve and the work that we do, as well as trends in the field. Our work supports not only the women’s, gender, sexuality and feminist studies departments and programs at The Claremont Colleges, but all those who are interested in feminist and gender issues regardless of their majors or academic affiliations. We support programs and projects that are feminist but that are not necessarily focused just on women, and we continue to emphasize feminist engagement with the community and to build connections with social justice organizations. And on campus, we will continue to raise awareness of what “feminism” means and why, in bell hooks’ words, “feminism is for everybody”!

IFC Welcomes Emily Johnson!

IFC welcomed Emily Johnson as our new administrative assistant in August. Emily is highly qualified: she earned a B.A. in Women’s Studies from UCLA and an M.A. in Gender and Global Development from the University of Melbourne in Australia. After teaching Women’s Studies as an adjunct at The University of Arizona and working in the private sector in Washington, D.C., Emily is happy to return to California. Her academic interests are social constructions of gender and beauty, gender and colonialism, and social determinants of women’s health.

Crossroads Award

Crossroads, Inc., a transitional residence for women on parole in Claremont, presented an award to Intercollegiate Women’s Studies and Scripps College at its 40th Anniversary Celebration in February. Sue Castagnetto, Kim Drake, Anne Harley, and Nancy Neiman-Auerbach attended the event to receive the award. IFC’s relationship with Crossroads began with our 2000 conference, “Women, Prisons and Criminal Injustice.” In 2007, our visiting scholar/activist Norma Bowles conducted a workshop with Claremont students and faculty and Crossroads women that produced a play, “If Yes, Please Explain,” to raise awareness of barriers to employment that formerly incarcerated women face, to which potential employers were invited. The event launched Turning Point Staffing Services, Crossroads’ skill-building training program to prepare residents and other at risk women for employment. Over the years, we have collaborated with Crossroads on many projects and programs, including events that have provided speaking opportunities for Crossroads residents. Kim Drake (Writing Program, Scripps) began conducting weekly writing workshops with Crossroads women in 2009 to prepare a cookbook with stories about cooking and life inside prison: Stinging For Their Suppers: How Women in Prison Nourish Their Bodies & Souls (2013), available from Crossroads at (909) 626-7847. Nancy Neiman Auerbach (Politics and IR, Scripps) organized a “Meatless Mondays” program at Crossroads with students from her Food Justice class; students make vegetarian meals with Crossroads women on Monday evenings and discuss nutrition. With her students, Nancy developed an organic garden project at Crossroads, and she spearheaded the Crossroads social enterprise Fallen Fruit From Rising Women, which produces jams, granola, dried herbs, and other treats, available at The Motley and The Cheese Cave, and monthly at a stand at the Sunday Claremont Farmer’s Market, and soon to be available at the Huntington Library. Visit: http://www.fallenfruitfromrisingwomen.org/#. Anne Harley (Music, Scripps) organized a choir of Crossroads women to participate in The True Witness Project: Commemorating African-American Women in the Civil Rights Movement, which premiered at Scripps in November 2013. The choir also sang at the Philippines Benefit Concert held at Scripps in February.

JOIN US AT FEMINISING.COM EVENTS: − APRIL 3
PLEASE SEE LAST PAGE FOR MORE INFO!
Faculty News and Notes

Gail Abrams (Dance, SCR) completed a 200-hour Integrative Yoga Therapy Teacher Training certification program in Hawaii in July. She presented a two-hour workshop on Somatic Awareness Through Partner Work in Tampa, Florida in October.

Betty Bernhard (Theatre, PO) produced Out! Loud!, a documentary exploring how members of a LGBT theatre group in Pune, India devise a play enacting challenges they faced as children and then as adults. It screened at the 6th Annual Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala in May and the Reel Dreams Queer Film Festival in Chennai in June. There will be a screening with panel discussion on April 3, 4:00 p.m., Ahmanson Theatre, LMU. Article about the play in The Indian Express: http://www.indianexpress.com/news/staging-a-revelation/1068961/0.

Audrey Bilger (Literature, CMC) delivered a lecture, “Writing Outside the Academy: Public Scholarship in the Digital Age,” at Wittenberg University in September. She also conducted workshops on public writing for faculty and students there. Her co-edited anthology, Here Come the Brides! Reflections on Lesbian Love and Marriage (Seal Press, 2012), was a 2013 Lambda Literary Award finalist.

Alicia Bonaparte (Sociology, PZ) has two articles in press: “Male Claims of Authoritative Knowledge: Physicians’ Discourse for Regulation of Granny Midwives in South Carolina” in the Journal of Historical Sociology (Vol. 26, no. 4) and “The Satisfactory Midwife Bag: Midwifery Regulation in South Carolina, Past and Present Considerations” in Social Science History (Spring, Vol. 38).

Suchi Branfman (Dance, SCR) performed in the Fireside Series at the Miles Memorial Playhouse in Santa Monica in February.

Susan Castagnetto (IFC/Philosophy, SCR) received an Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges grant, along with Molly Shanley (Vassar) and Anne Dalke (Bryn Mawr), to develop a workshop on college-prison teaching programs. The workshop takes place at Vassar in June.

Piya Chatterjee (FGSS, SCR) was named Chair of PACDI (President’s Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion), which reports directly to the Scripps president. She has also become the Series Editor for Dissident Feminisms (University of Illinois Press), a series which seeks new feminist writing that transverses the fault lines of epistemology and power, particularly the relationship between social action, activism, and theory. She also received an AAUC grant for her campus project, Bridge/Action: An Antiracist, Transnational, Feminist Alliance.


Lara Deeb (Anthropology, SCR) published her book, co-authored with Mona Harb, Leisurely Islam: Negotiating Geography and Morality in Shi‘ite South Beirut (Princeton, 2013. Lara was recently promoted to professor of anthropology.


Juliet Koss (Art History, SCR) lectured at Parsons The New School of Design in New York (Feb. 2013), and at the Humboldt University, Berlin (July 2013). She presented her work at the Twelfth International Bauhaus Colloquium in Weimar, Germany (April 2013). She had a Humboldt Foundation Research Fellowship at the Humboldt University in Berlin, April—July 2013; her essay “Wagnerska Beroend/Wagnerian Addictions,” trans. Jim Jakobsson, was published last spring in the Mer än Ljud/More Than Sound, ed. S. Arrhenius, M. Bergh, and T. Ringborg (Stockholm: Albert Bonniers Förlag, 2013). Juliet will be the new director of the Scripps College Humanities Institute.

Julie Liss (History, SCR) received the 2013-2014 Bernard and Audre Rapoport Fellowship for research at the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati.


Nancy Macko (Art, SCR) has new photo work in the exhibit Natural Subjects, with sculptor Keith Lord, at the Harris Gallery at the University of Laverne. The opening reception is April 3, 6:00—8:00 p.m. The exhibit runs through May 22.

Wendy Martin (English, CGU) is editor of Routledge’s American Literature and Culture Series for ; she is working on a book on American women writers, forthcoming in late 2014/early 2015.


Sheila Pinkel (Emerita, Art, PO) designed a 5’ x 34’ digital mural for the Lucy Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford. The mural engages children in the marvels of California’s ecosystems both through visual ‘Where's Waldo’-type discovery and via an interactive touch pad. Her work recently appeared in Voices of Incarceration at the Laband Art Gallery, Loyola Marymount University. On April 4, 7:00 p.m., the Prison Library Project (Claremont Packinghouse) sponsors “Art and Poetry” with art by Jack Miles, a prisoner in solitary confinement at Pelican Bay, with whom Sheila corresponds; Sheila will do a poetry reading.

Kyla Tompkins (English /GWS, PO) will edit a food studies book series with NYU, Ecologies of Consumption. Her book Racial Indigestion: Eating Bodies in the Nineteenth Century (NYU, 2009) received the 2013 Association for the Study of Food and Society Book Award and the 2013 Lora Romero First Book Publication Prize from the American Studies Association.
The Claremont Colleges has several new faculty members whose work and interests address Gender & Women’s Studies:

Martha Gonzales (Chican@ Latin@ Studies, SCR) received her Ph.D. in Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies from the University of Washington. She is a Chicana artivist (artist/activist), musician, feminist music theorist and scholar. She was a Fulbright fellow (2007-2008) and Ford fellow (2012-2013), and she has published extensively on Chican@ music and popular culture, and music as social movement. Her academic interest in music has been fueled by her own musicianship as a singer and percussionist for East L.A’s Quetzal for the last 17 years. The band won a Grammy in 2013 for Best Latin Pop, Rock, or Urban Album. Visit her website: http://marthagonzales.net/.

Sarah Sarzynski (Latin American History, CMC) received her Ph.D. in History from the University of Maryland. Her research and teaching interests include modern Brazilian history, popular culture and film, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, US-Latin American relations, and processes of identity construction. She is completing a book, Revolutionizing Identities: Popular Culture and Political Struggle in Northeastern Brazil in the Era of the Cuban Revolution. She has also done extensive study and work in Chile, Ecuador, Costa Rica and South Africa.

Liat Yossifor (Art, SCR) received an M.F.A. in Studio Art from UC Irvine and a B.F.A. in Painting from the San Francisco Art Institute. Yossifor’s work ranges from socio-political paintings, such as her early monochromatic portrait series and her war landscapes, to her recent gray action-based painting in which she explores the relationship between the body and abstraction. She has been in numerous solo and group exhibitions, including the Pomona College Museum of Art (a solo show).

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Chris Guzaitis Resigns from Scripps

Chris Guzaitis, Assistant Professor of Feminist, Gender & Sexuality Studies (FGSS) at Scripps, resigned her position this winter and plans to return to her hometown, Chicago. The loss of Chris will be deeply felt by many. She played a formative role in the FGSS Department and was an enormously popular teacher and mentor. In 2012, she received the Scripps Associated Students Professor of the Year award. She also contributed in countless ways to IWS, serving regularly on the Steering Committee and working on planning and programs. In the community, she served on the board of Crossroads, Inc., and was deeply committed to prison activism, including contributing endless energy to the program that takes Claremont students to the local state women’s prison, CIW, for collaborative writing workshops with women inside. We will greatly miss Chris, and wish her the very best in her Chicago endeavors!

Aishah Shahidah Simmons was the O’Brien Distinguished Visiting Professor in the FGSS Department at Scripps this semester. Aishah is a documentary filmmaker, TV and radio producer, cultural worker, and activist who also teaches in Women’s and LGBT Studies at Temple University. During her stay at Scripps, Aishah was guest in a number of classes, organized a roundtable discussion with other members of the editorial collective from the online magazine The Feminist Wire (of which she is associate editor), participated in a screening and discussion of her film, NO! The Rape Documentary, gave a presentation for the Scripps Humanities Institute, and facilitated a discussion with Lisa Factora-Borchers, editor of Dear Sister: Letters from Survivors of Sexual Violence, and Amita Y. Swadhin, a contributor. During her stay, Aishah curated a two-week forum on The Feminist Wire to celebrate the 80th birthday celebration of Audre Lorde, for which she wrote the introduction: http://thefeministwire.com/2014/02/the-lorde-works-in-mysterious-and-magical-ways-an-introduction-to-the-audre-lorde-forum/. Although Aishah’s stay at Scripps is over, you can read her blog at AfroLez*femcentric Perspectives. You can find NO! The Rape Documentary and Dear Sister at the IFC Library in Vita Nova Hall, Scripps.

Danzy Senna is the 2014 Mary Routt Chair of Writing at Scripps this spring. She is the author of the national bestselling novel Caucasia, which won the Book of the Month Award for First Fiction and the American Library Association’s Alex Award; the novel Symptomatic; the memoir Where Did You Sleep Last Night? A Personal History; and You Are Free: Stories. Her works explore themes of multiracial identities and personal histories. Danzy will do a reading on April 7, 5:30 p.m. in the Margaret Fowler Garden at Scripps. The Writing Program and the Mary Routt Chair will also present a reading and discussion by Susan Minot of her new novel, Thirty Girls, March 31, 7:00 p.m., The Hampton Room, Scripps.

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In Memoriam: Katherine Hagedorn

Beloved friend and colleague Katherine Hagedorn passed away in November 2013. Katherine was Professor of Music and Director of the Ethnomusicology Program at Pomona and served as Associate Dean of Faculty, as well, for several years. Both a brilliant teacher and scholar, she received California Professor of the Year in 2000 and won the Alan Merriam Prize for Ethnography for her book, Divine Utterances: The Performance of Afro-Cuban Santeria. She was also a Santeria priestess and played the bata drums. Katherine contributed greatly to Gender & Women’s Studies at the Colleges. She served from 2003 to 2005 as co-coordinator of the Gender & Women’s Studies Program at Pomona, served on the IWS Coordinating Committee, and taught Women’s Studies courses, such as Gendering Performance. For more on Katherine’s life, visit: http://www.pomona.edu/news/2013/11/13-katherine-hagedorn.aspx. The Los Angeles Times obituary appears at: http://articles.latimes.com/2013/nov/18/local/la-me-katherine-hagedorn-20131119.
Fall highlights

SEPTEMBER
Over 50 people attended our Fall Open House, some pictured below:

OCTOBER
Our first student activist networking lunch was a collaboration with Scripps’ SAARC (Sexual Awareness and Assault Resource Committee). It brought together representatives from 5-C organizations to discuss how to support one another in efforts to prevent sexual assault and provide support and care for survivors. We host two or three lunches each semester on different themes, organized by Sarah Devereaux-Hardimon. Our next lunch is April 9. See STUDENT NEWS for information.

Spring events around the colleges

March 27, 4:15 p.m., Benson Auditorium, Pitzer
Ecofeminist Susan Griffin gives the Glass Annual Humanities Lecture, “Sustainability and the Soul.” Griffin’s groundbreaking work Woman and Nature inspired the eco-feminist movement, connecting environmentalism with social justice.

March 31, 7:00 p.m., the Hampton Room, Malott Commons, Scripps
Award-winning author Susan Minot reads from her highly praised new novel Thirty Girls. Sponsored by the Mary Routt Chair, Scripps.

March 31, 7:30 p.m., Humanities Auditorium, Scripps
Screening of Jennifer Baumgardner’s film It Was Rape. The film explores sexual violence through the stories of eight survivors.

April 2, noon, SCORE office, Routt-Frankel Hall, Scripps
Jos Truitt, executive editor of Feministing.com, presents “Feministing, Offline and Unfiltered.” RSVP for lunch: ecerecer@scrippscollege.edu by March 31.

April 2, 4:15 p.m., Hahn 108, Pomona
Aihwa Ong, Professor of Anthropology at UC Berkeley speaks on “Global Babies, Donor Babies: Reassembling the Body, Unsettling Citizenship,” addressing various applications of bio-techniques in the making of the passport baby, the global baby, and the donor baby.

April 7, 5:30 p.m., Margaret Fowler Garden, Scripps
Reading by Danzy Senna, Scripps’ Mary Routt Chair. Refreshments!

April 24, 7:15 p.m., starting location t.b.d.
Take Back The Night event, sponsored by the Scripps chapter of Choice USA. Information: scrippschoiceusa@gmail.com.

May 2, 3:30 p.m., Little Bridges Hall of Music, Pomona
Lavendar Graduation! Sponsored by the QRC to recognize the scholarship and community contributions of LGBTQQIAA students. Keynote: Van Bailey, Director of Harvard’s Office of BGLTQ Student Life.

Through April 13, Pomona College Museum of Art and Pitzer College Art Galleries jointly present Witness: Käthe Kollwitz, featuring works by Kollwitz in several graphic mediums and the West Coast premiere of the song-cycle, Kollwitz-Konnex, performed by Anne Harley (Music, Scripps) and guitarist, Eliot Fisk (March 27); and Andrea Bowers: #sweetjane, which examines the Steubenville, Ohio high school rape case and subsequent trial. For show and event details, visit: http://www.pomona.edu/museum/.

Alex Juhasz (Media Studies, Pitzer) is the current director of The Munroe Center for Social Inquiry at Pitzer. The spring event series is Technology Changes and includes many feminist themes and speakers. Visit: http://www.pitzer.edu/offices/mcsi/2013-14/spring_events.asp for the calendar.

Cândida Jáquez (Music, Scripps), is the current director of the Scripps College Humanities Institute. The spring 2014 theme is Feminisms and the Radical Imagination. For a full schedule of events, visit: http://www.scrippscollege.edu/campus/humanities-institute/feminisms-and-radical-imagination.php.

The Pomona College Women’s Union sponsors Thursday noon discussions that are open to all. Lunch is served. Walker Hall, second floor. Visit: http://womensunion.wordpress.com/.

Visit our website for a full calendar of feminist events at the colleges: http://iws.scrippscollege.edu/-/2/calender/.
To join our event mailing list, email ecerecer@scrippscollege.edu.

ICF Pedagogy Lecture: Teaching to Disrupt Gender
Jody Lisberger, Associate Professor and Director of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program at the University of Rhode Island, will speak on “Teaching to Disrupt Gender: Challenging the Myth of Disposable Women.” The event takes place Wednesday, March 26th, 4:15 p.m., The Hampton Room, Malott Commons, Scripps.

Jody is at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo this year as the Susan Currier Visiting Professor of Teaching Excellence. She is also a creative writer and the author of the story collection Remember Love (2008). The event is co-sponsored by IFC and the CMC Center for Writing and Public Discourse.
Margaret Bonaparte (Scripps ’14) is writing her senior thesis in History on female journalists who, like her grandmother, worked for women’s magazines in the 1950s, investigating whether they were using the magazines to carve out room for women in a male-dominated field and to challenge patriarchal ideas and values.

Romarilyn Ralston (Pitzer ’14) received the Osher Scholarship (2012-13) from Pitzer College in recognition of her academic achievement, educational goals and financial need.

Susie Ferrell (Scripps ’15) and Jade Ulrich (Scripps ’14) received MIT’s Reclaim Open Learning Grant for summer 2013 and presented at UCI’s Open Learning Symposium. With the grant, FemTechNet, a network of scholars, artists, and students who work at the borders of technology, science and feminism, hosted “Wikistorm: The Future of Feminist Technoculture Histories.” For details, visit: http://media.scrippscollege.edu/feature-storys-braving-the-wikistorm.

Jing Gu and Melissa Krassenstein (Scripps ’16) are producing a radio show, Justice and Liberty for All, to provide a platform for stories, challenging mainstream media representations of prisons and the people in them. Airs alternate Sundays, 5:00 p.m., on KSPC 88.7 FM; podcast: interchange887.blogspot.com/2013_10_01_archive.html.

Emily Hampshire (Scripps ’15) received a 2013 Mellon Undergraduate Research Fellowship to plan a summer session of the Claremont Colleges/CIW prison writing workshop for women inside and community members, as well as to research other prison education programs. She has received a 2014 Johnson grant for thesis research on the experiences of queer Irish immigrants in New York.

Theresa Iker (Scripps ’14) is writing her senior thesis in American Studies on the divorce industry in Reno, Nevada, before U.S. divorce law became widespread. Her work dispels notions of divorce as a recent social problem, uncovering significant findings about gender, sexuality, and family life in an era of rapid social change.

Nancy Herrera (Scripps ’15) participated in NEW Leadership Southern California, a weeklong summer training program for undergraduate women in to build leadership skills held at Scripps. She was inspired to change her major to Public Policy and plans to push for change through creating laws that allow underrepresented voices to be heard. Scripps will sponsor the program again this June. http://www.scrippscollege.edu/newleadership.

Claire Hirschberg (Scripps ’15) has received a Mellon Undergraduate Research Fellowship to do research for a thesis on feminism and the justice system. She will intern this summer with Citizens United for a Responsible Budget, a coalition that advocates for reducing the number of people in prisons, as well as the number of prisons and jails.


Megan Pritchett (Scripps ’14) is writing her senior thesis in Sociology on how academic and public discourses on gender roles in marriage are shaping attitudes and actions of college students at Christian universities, particularly those who are already married, engaged or planning to marry soon after graduating.

Jade Ulrich (Scripps ’14) is the president of the Scripps chapter of Choice USA, a national non-partisan youth-based organization that mobilizes and provides skills and support to the diverse generation of young leaders to promote and protect reproductive and sexual autonomy. Choice USA will sponsor Take Back The Night, April 24, 7:15—9:15 p.m., location t.b.d. For meeting information or to get involved, e-mail: scrippschoiceusa@gmail.com.

This year’s Applied Women’s Studies students

Levon Davis received a B.A. in Women’s Studies and Political Science from Spelman College. She is interested in the media representations of Black women and plans a career in film and television, focusing on stories from Black women’s perspectives. She is writing a book of poetry, The Genocide of 53rd and Wallace.

Ashley Shew received a B.A. in Psychology from UT Austin. She worked with community organizations in Austin and took part in state-wide protests for reproductive rights. She is a dual master’s student in AWS and Public Policy. Her interests are women’s health policy and women in politics.

Caeli Waldron received a B.A. in English from the Honors College at the University of Central Arkansas, where she organized the first feminist student organization and was the first advocacy intern for the Little Rock Planned Parenthood of the Heartland office. She also helped found the Arkansas Coalition for Reproductive Justice. She is interested in advocacy and reproductive health policy.

Marian Youssef received a B.S. in Physics from Harvey Mudd, after which she taught math and science for LAUSD for several years. As a member of the Coptic Egyptian community, she has organized for women’s leadership in the Coptic church here and in Egypt. She is interested in women and religion and women in leadership.

GRACE BERRY AWARD

Congratulations to Lisette Davies Ward, doctoral candidate in Cultural Studies at CGU and recipient of the 2012—2013 Grace Berry Award for Women in Graduate Studies. The award provides a $500 honorarium to support the recipient’s graduate work. Lisette works in Media Studies and Cultural Studies, focusing on representations of women in the media. Her dissertation is titled “The Cinderella Myth: Representations of Women in Love-Themed Reality TV and other Media Narratives.” She received a B.A. in Italian Cultural Studies from UC Santa Barbara and an M.A. in Comparative Literature from San Francisco State. The deadline to apply for the 2013—2014 Grace Berry Award is May 23, 2014. Please visit: http://iws.scrippscollege.edu/resources-2/fellowships-and-scholarships/grace-berry-award/ for more details.
Jos Truitt, Executive Editor of the widely read and highly acclaimed feminist blog Feministing, will be on campus on April 3 for two events that IFC is co-sponsoring with the Center for Writing and Public Discourse (CMC), The Scripps Writing Program, and the Scripps Dean of Faculty’s office. Jos is a transgender writer, consultant, printmaker and activist whose interests include trans reproductive justice, blogging for social justice, campus and community organizing, feminism, and gender, race, and pop culture. She first got involved in organizing when she led a walkout against the Iraq War at her high school. As an undergraduate at Hampshire College, she organized an annual reproductive justice conference there. She has volunteered as an escort at an abortion clinic and has done organizing and hotline work for reproductive rights and justice organizations. She holds an MFA in Printmaking from the San Francisco Art Institute, and has shown her work at the Kinsey Institute, the Center for Sex and Culture, SOMArts, the San Francisco Old Mint, Hampshire College Art Gallery, and the Swell Gallery at SFAI. She is currently working on a project about mermaids. Read Jos’ Feministing blog at: http://feministing.com/members/jos/. Jos’ own website is http://jostruitt.com/.

Jos will give a presentation at noon in the SCORE office living room, Routt-Frankel Hall, Scripps. Lunch will be provided. She will also conduct a blogging workshop for students at 4:15 p.m. at Claremont McKenna College. Space in the blogging workshop is limited. For information or to RSVP for either event, please contact Eva at ecerecer@scrippscollege.edu by March 31.

Two local conferences


LGBTQ Youth and the State. April 11, 12:15—5:45 p.m., UCLA School of Law, sponsored by the Williams Institute. Panelists will analyze emerging social science research on the experiences of LGBTQ youth navigating child welfare, homelessness services, law enforcement, and juvenile detention facilities, with attention to the extent to which sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression are significant in explaining disproportionality and disparities. Keynote: The Hon. Tom Ammiano. Free and open to the public.

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