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March 17, 2015

Dr. Melissa Autumn White and Dr. Jennifer Musial (Guest Editors)

*Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture, and Social Justice*

Evaristus 231

Mount Saint Vincent University

Halifax, NS

B3M 2J6

Canada

Dear Dr. Melissa Autumn White and Dr. Jennifer Musial,

Please find enclosed my review essay for the “Belaboured Introductions” special issue of *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture, and Social Justice*.

In my essay, entitled “Becoming Radically Undone: Discourses of Identity and Diversity in the Introductory Women’s Studies Classroom,” I review Robyn Wiegman’s *Object Lessons* and Sara Ahmed’s *On Being Included: Racism and Diversity in Institutional Life*. In so doing, I argue that Women’s Studies must teach students the narratives of the field and of related activist movements and also that we must engage students in critiquing these very narratives—even at the introductory level.

A brief biography follows: Carly Thomsen is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Rice University’s Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality. She completed her Ph.D. in Feminist Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her current book project, *Unbecoming: Visibility Politics and Queer Rurality*, analyzes gay rights advocates’ calls to be “out, loud, and proud” through examining cultural representations, discourses, and experiences of LGBTQ women in rural South Dakota and Minnesota. She has received various fellowships, awards, and grants for this research, including a Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowship and the Lancaster Dissertation Award for the Social Sciences, an honor given to one Social Science dissertation every two years at UCSB. Her work is published or forthcoming in *Hypatia, A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, *Feminist Studies*, *Feminist Formations*, *Queering the Countryside: New Directions in Rural Queer Studies*, and *The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Theory.*

Please feel free to contact me by email at thomsen.carly@rice.edu, by phone at 520-954-8666, or by mail at 105 Avondale St. #5, Houston TX 77006.

Thank you for inviting me to submit this essay. I look forward to hearing back from you!

Sincerely,

Carly Thomsen, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow

Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Rice University