# Eric Plemons, Ph.D.

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2015-Assistant Professor, School of Anthropology

Director, Medical Anthropology Concentration & Certificate Programs

Core Faculty, Transgender Studies Initiative Affiliated Faculty, Institute for LGBT Studies

Affiliated Faculty, Department of Gender & Women's Studies

Affiliated Faculty, Graduate Program in Social, Cultural & Critical Theory

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

2012-2015 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

Postdoctoral Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows

Affiliated Faculty, Doctoral Program in Anthropology & History

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

### **EDUCATION**

2012	University of California Berkeley, Anthropology	PhD
2005	University of Chicago, Social Sciences	MA
1999	DePauw University, History, cum laude	BA

### AREAS OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Medical Anthropology	Trans- Studies	Medical Controversy
Clinical Ethnography	Sex and Gender	Political Economics of Health
Epistemologies/Expertise	Surgical Practice	Anthropology of the Body

September 2018

### **MONOGRAPH**

- The Look of a Woman: facial feminization surgery and the aims of transmedicine. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
  - \* Winner of the 2017 Ruth Benedict Prize (Association for Queer Anthropology)
  - \* Nominated for the 2018 Lora Romero Prize (American Studies Association)
  - \* Nominated for the 2018 Eileen Basker Prize (Society for Medical Anthropology)
  - Reviewed in American Anthropologist; American Journal of Bioethics; The Australian Journal of Anthropology; Critical Inquiry; Medical Anthropology Quarterly; Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery; Sociology of Health & Illness

## SPECIAL ISSUE JOURNAL EDITOR

2018 Eric Plemons and Chris Straayer, eds. *TSQ\*: Transgender Studies Quarterly*. The Surgery Issue 5(2).

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Forthcoming A Capable Surgeon and a Willing Electrologist: Challenges to the Expansion of Transgender Surgical Care in the United States. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*.
- Forthcoming Gender, Ethnicity, and Transgender Embodiment: Interrogating Classification in Facial Feminization Surgery. *Body & Society*.
- In Review Not Here: Catholic Healthcare Systems and the Refusal of Transgender Care in the United States. *CrossCurrents*.
- With Chris Straayer. Introduction: Reframing the Surgical. *TSQ\*: Transgender Studies Quarterly* 5(2): 164-173.
  [DOI 10.1215/23289252-4348605]
- Formations of Femininity: Science and Aesthetics of Facial Feminization Surgery. *Medical Anthropology* 36(7): 629-641.

  [DOI: 10.1080/01459740.2017.1298593]
- Jens U. Berli, Luis Capitán, Daniel Simon, Rachel Bluebond-Langner, Eric Plemons, Shane D. Morrison. Facial Gender Confirmation Surgery: Review of the Literature and Recommendations for Version 8 of the WPATH Standards of Care. *International Journal of Transgenderism* 18(3): 264-270. [DOI:10.1080/15532739.2017.1302862]
- Anatomical Authorities: On the Epistemological Exclusion of Trans-Surgical Patients. *Medical Anthropology* 34(5): 425-441. [DOI: 10.1080/01459740.2015.1036264]

### PUBLICATION (cont)

2014 Description of Sex Difference as Prescription for Sex Change: On the Origin of Facial Feminization Surgery. Social Studies of Science 44(5): 657-679. [DOI: 10.1177/0306312714531349]

2014 It Is As It Does: Genital Form and Function in Sex Reassignment Surgery. Journal of Medical Humanities 35(1): 37-55. [DOI: 10.1007/s10912-013-9267-z]

2013 The Surgical Suite. Journal of Medical Humanities 34(2): 245-247. Invited submission for the special issue, Queer in the Clinic [DOI: 10.1007/s10912-013-9227-7]

### CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

Forthcoming Reconceiving the Body: A Surgical Genealogy of Trans- Therapeutics. In The Emergence of Trans. Iggi Moon and Ruth Pearce, eds. London: Routledge.

Forthcoming The Importance of Facial Gender Confirmation Surgery. With Jens Berli. Invited submission to edited volume. Loren Schechter, ed.

2010 Envisioning the Body in Relation: finding sex, changing sex. In *The Body* Reader: Essential Social and Cultural Readings. Lisa Jean Moore and Mary Kosut, eds. New York, NY: New York University Press. Pp. 317-

### **BOOK REVIEW**

2013 Bodies in Formation: An Ethnography of Anatomy and Surgery Education by Rachel Prentice. Anthropological Quarterly 86(3): 941-946.

### ONLINE PUBLICATION

2017 Transforming Transgender Medicine in the US Prompts Questions of its Aims. Society for Medical Anthropology. Anthropology News. Aug 31. (http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2017/08/31/ transforming-transgender-medicine-in-the-us-prompts-questions-of-itsaims/)

2017 The Future of Trans- Medicine Under Trump. Medical Anthropology Quarterly Blog: Critical Care. (http://medanthroquarterly.org/2017/01/23/the-future-of-trans-medicineunder-trump/)

### PUBLICATION (cont)

2015	The Problem with Transgender Generality. The Huffington Post for the American Anthropological Association. (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/american-anthropological-association/the-problem-with-transgen_b_7622294.html)
2015	How Sex Reassignment Surgery Works in America. The Feminist Wire. (http://thefeministwire.com/2015/05/how-sex-reassignment-surgery-works-in-america/)
2015	Medicare's New Coverage for "Transsexual Surgery" Relies on Dated Notions of Gender. The Feminist Wire. (http://thefeministwire.com/2015/05/medicares-new-coverage-for-transsexual-surgery-relies-on-dated-notions-of-gender/)
2015	Transgender Medicine: Medicare Access to What? The Feminist Wire. (http://thefeministwire.com/2015/06/transgender-medicine-medicare-access-to-what/)
2014	Cut. Somatosphere. (http://somatosphere.net/2014/03/cut.html)

## **WORK IN PREPARATION**

Bodies That Satisfy: The Work of a Category in Trans- Medicine. To be submitted to Social Science and Medicine.

Figures of Suicide, Figures of Regret: Moral Levers for Justification in Transgender Medicine.

Pathological Kinship: The Fraternal Birth Order Hypothesis and the Uterine Search for Transsexual Origins. To be submitted to Science as Culture.

## AWARDS & HONORS

2018	Coolidge Writing Fellowship, CrossCurrents Foundation Summer Research Colloquium, New York City
2017	Ruth Benedict Prize, awarded by the Association for Queer Anthropology for <i>The Look of a Woman</i> , the year's outstanding anthropological monograph on a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer topic
2017	University of Arizona LGBTQ Student Affairs Fabulous Faculty Award
2015	Golden Apple Award Nominee (University of Michigan's student nominated award for outstanding university teaching)

# AWARDS & HONORS (cont)

2012-2015	Postdoctoral Fellowship, Michigan Society of Fellows
2011	Kenneth W. Payne Prize, Association for Queer Anthropology, American Anthropological Association
2008	Ford Foundation Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, Honorable Mention
2007	Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, Commended Scholar

# RESEARCH GRANTS & FUNDING

2017	University of Arizona Provost's Author Support Award
2016	Faculty Stipend Award, University of Arizona, SBS Dean of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Engagement
2015-2016	University of Arizona Transgender Studies Initiative Faculty Research Grant
2012-2015	Postdoctoral Fellowship, Michigan Society of Fellows
2013	Faculty Seed Grant, University of Michigan Institute for Research on Women and Gender (to fund preliminary field research in Ghent, Belgium)
2011	Dissertation Year Fellowship, UC Berkeley Center for the Study of Sexual Cultures
2011	Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, The Wenner-Gren Foundation
2010	University of California Regents Fellowship
2010	Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley
2009	Dissertation Research Grant, UC Berkeley Center for the Study of Sexual Cultures
2008	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship: Spanish

# INVITED LECTURES

2019	Colgate University. Hamilton, NY Surgery Without Surgeons: how clinical gaps shape trans- embodiment. Invited by the Women's Studies Program.
2019	Pennsylvania State University. State College, PA Surgery Without Surgeons: how clinical gaps shape trans- embodiment. Invited by the Gender and Sex Equity Initiative at the Rock Ethics Institute.
2017	Duke University. Durham, NC Good Trans- Medicine: The Aims and Institutions of an Expanding American Specialty. Invited by the program in Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies.
2017	Duke University, College of Medicine. Durham, NC The Next Generation of Trans- Health Clinics. Invited by the Department of Endocrinology.
2017	Butler University. Indianapolis, IN The Look of a Woman: Facial Feminization Surgery and the Aims of Trans- Medicine. Invited by the Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies Program.
2017	DePauw University. Greencastle, IN Facial Feminization Surgery and the Changing Aims of Trans- Medicine. Invited by the Department of Women's Studies.
2016	University of Utah, College of Medicine. Salt Lake City, UT Grand Rounds Presentation. The Past and Future of Transgender Medicine and Surgery. Invited by the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology.
2015	University of Arizona, College of Medicine. Tucson, AZ Trans- Medicine in America: Past, Present and Potential Futures. Invited by MedPride.
2015	University of Michigan, College of Medicine. Ann Arbor, MI Trans- Healthcare in America. Invited by OUT MD.
2014	University of Copenhagen. Denmark Did the Operation Work? Measuring Outcomes of Surgical Sex Reassignment. Invited by the Centre for Medical Science and Technology Studies.

# INVITED LECTURES (cont) 2014 University of California Berkeley, CA Trans- Surgery Matters. Transgender Studies Matters Symposium. Invited by the Center for Race and Gender and the Haas Diversity Initiative. 2013 Pacific University, Portland, OR Making the Gendered Face. Invited by the Anthropology Department. CONSULTATION 2018 Central Florida College of Medicine. Consulted on development of clinical skills curriculum for transgender medicine **TALKS & PRESENTATIONS** Access to Surgery Without Surgeons: The gap in US trans- surgical 2018 capacity and what happens next. Institute for LGBT Studies. Deep Dish Series. University of Arizona. 2017 Con/Di-vergent Queeries? The histories of North American and European Queer Anthropology. Roundtable Participant. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. 2017 Standards and Strategies in Facial Feminization Surgery. The Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders and Sexualities. Hofstra University. Long Island, NY. 2016 Temporalities of Surgical Feminization. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN. 2016 Access to What? Accounting for Variation in Trans- Surgical Practice. Transgender Studies Conference. Tucson, AZ. 2016 Demands on the Institution: Activist Pressure for Expanded Services in Trans- Medicine. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA. 2016 Contested Authority: epistemic claims to transgender surgical outcomes. Medical Knowledge in a Social World. Medical Humanities Initiative, University of California, Irvine. Irvine, CA. 2016 Technologies for Recognition. Gender, Bodies and Technology Conference. Virginia Tech. Roanoke, VA.

# TALKS & PRESENTATIONS (cont)

2016	Trans- Medicine and the Surgical Question. Deep Dish. University of Arizona, Institute for LGBT Studies. Tucson, AZ.
2015	Moderator. Panel on "Trans: Bodies and Histories." New Articulations/ New Translations: Feminist Research Activism. Institute for Research on Women and Gender. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
2014	Bodies Unknown: Negotiating Forms in the Practice of Genital Sex Reassignment Surgery. Interruptions: Sciences, Feminisms, Knowledges Conference. UC Berkeley Center for Science, Technology Medicine and Society. Berkeley, CA.
2014	To Build a Better Vulva: Knowledge and Practice in American Sex Reassignment Surgery. Lesbian, Gay, Queer Research Initiative Colloquium Series. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
2013	Physical Anthropology in the Queer Present. AQA Invited Roundtable: Queer Routes in Anthropology. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL.
2013	The Operation as Event: Temporalities of Surgical Transformation. Anthro-History Symposium: What is an Event? Comparing Perspectives from Anthropology and History. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
2013	Discussant. Michigan Graduate Student Association. Four Field Conference. Ann Arbor, MI.
2012	The Sciences of Facial Feminization Surgery. Science, Technology, Medicine and Society Colloquium. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
2012	Discussant. Queer Science: Feminist Science Studies program. Papers by Paul Vasey and Jennifer Terry. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
2012	The Operating Room. The Socio-Cultural Workshop. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
2012	The Compulsion and Compassion of Trans- Surgery. Trans/Formations: Ethics and Politics of Trans- Medicine and Healthcare. UC Berkeley. Berkeley, CA.
2011	Of Bones and Other Materials: Facial Feminization Surgery and the Location of Sex. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Montreal, Quebec.

# TALKS & PRESENTATIONS (cont)

2011	Anticipation and (Un)Certainty: The Promise of Surgical Embodiment. The Reinvention of Time: Articulations of the Scientific Future in the Past and Present. UC Berkeley. Berkeley, CA.
2011	Genital Form, Genital Function. Medicalization of Sex Conference. Simon Frasier University. Victoria, British Columbia.
2011	It Is As It Does: Genital Form and Function. Gender Symposium. Lewis and Clark College. Portland, OR.
2010	The Look of a Woman: constructions of femininity. UC Berkeley Center for Race & Gender. Berkeley, CA.
2010	From the Bone Room to the Operating Room: techniques of building a feminine face. UC Berkeley Science Technology and Society Center. Berkeley, CA.
2009	Surgical Compassion: The Mark on the Market and the Ethics of Mercy. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, CA.
2008	Look Natural! Surgical Imaginations of the Social Body. Annual Meeting of the Society for Cultural Anthropology. Long Beach, CA.
2008	Genitals as Technologies. New Directions in Scholarship: Science/Gender/Race/Nation. UC Berkeley. Berkeley, CA.
VIRTUAL & GUES	T LECTURES
2018	Book discussion in Queer Ethnography Princeton University
2018	Book discussion in Queer Ethnographies Amherst College
2018	Book discussion in Gender Across Ethnography and Archive Bowdoin College
2018	Biopolitics and Surveillance of Transgender Americans in Queering Education Colgate University
2017	Book discussion in Medical Anthropology University of Texas, San Antonio

# VIRTUAL & GUEST LECTURES (cont)

2014 Techniques of Gender. Theory and Practice in Medical Anthropology. University of California, Berkeley

# EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS ORGANIZED

2016-17	Coordinator, Transgender Studies Colloquium Series, Institute for LGBT Studies, University of Arizona
2016	Steering Committee Member and Program Chair, Trans*Studies: An International Transdisciplinary Conference. University of Arizona.
2012	Co-organizer. Conference: "What's New About 'New Materialisms?" Two-day event. Sponsored by the Science, Technology and Society Center. UC Berkeley.
2012	Organizer. Event: "Trans/Formations: Ethics and Politics of Trans-Medicine and Healthcare." Co-sponsored by Berkeley Center for the Study of Sexual Cultures; Center for Science, Medicine, Technology and Society. UC Berkeley.
2011	Co-convener. Panel: In Epistemic Cultures: Tracing Novelty Through Distinctions. Annual Meeting of AAA.

### COURSES TAUGHT

### **GRADUATE COURSES**

Sex, Gender, Science, Medicine	Arizona
Anthropology of the Body, Health, and Illness	Arizona
Ethnography in Clinical & Community Contexts	Arizona

## UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Bodies in Medicine	Arizona
Anthropology of Gender and Sexuality	Arizona
Introduction to Medical Anthropology	Arizona
Many Ways of Being Human	Arizona
Independent Study: Kinship and Biology	Arizona
Critical Theory in Medicine and Healing	Michigan
The Surgical Body	Michigan
The Problem of Sexuality	Michigan

### COURSES TAUGHT (cont)

Third Sex, Transsex, No Sex: Readings in Gender Variety Berkeley Anthropology of Gender Berkeley

### ADDITIONAL TEACHING ACTIVITY

2018	Member, University of Arizona Faculty Learning Community
2017	Invited to design and facilitate faculty workshops on "teaching transgender" for Butler University, Indianapolis, IN
2013	Research Mentor, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, University of Michigan (2013-15)

#### GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

Paula Martin Dissertation Committee Outside Member, Human Development

University of Chicago

Cleiton Vieira Supervisor, Anthropology

**CAPES** Foundation Visiting Fellow

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte

Austin Duncan Diss Committee Co-Chair (with Monica Casper), Anthropology

University of Arizona

Will Roberston Diss Committee Co-chair (w/Susan Shaw, U Mass), Anthropology

Comps Committee Member

University of Arizona

Mel Ferrara MA Adviser, Gender & Women's Studies

Comps & Dissertation Committee Member

University of Arizona

Scott Bradford Comps Committee Member, Gender & Women's Studies

University of Arizona

Saffo Papantonopoulou Comps Committee Member, Anthropology

University of Arizona

#### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Featured in "The Story of a Face," The New Yorker. By Rebecca Mead. 2018

March 19

# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (cont)

2018	Facilitator, Trans Studies Reading Group, Tucson, AZ
2018	Quoted in futurism, "Reproductive Tech Will Let Future Humans Inhabit the Body They Truly Want," January 9 (futurism.com)
2017	Quoted in WBUR Boston Common Health, "Facial Surgery Could Transform Tami—and Transgender Medicine," November 29. Audio on Boston NPR affiliate WBUR (90.9 FM)
2017	Panelist on GLBT Issues at the Tucson Federal Prison for the University of Arizona Office of Diversity & Inclusion
2016	Quoted in <i>Arizona Daily Star</i> , "Tucson building reputation as a good place for transgender patients," November 9
2016	Quoted in <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> , "Amid Heightened Interest, Transgender Studies Weighs Newfound Influence," September 9
2016	Quoted in <i>Inside Higher Education</i> , "A Push for Transgender Studies," June 22
2016	Featured on "The Show" on Phoenix NPR Affiliate KJZZ, an interview to discuss the Transgender Studies Conference, September 8
2016	Featured in Arizona Public Media (89.1 FM) coverage of the Transgender Studies Conference, September 7
2016	Quoted in <i>TIME Magazine</i> , "What Science Says About the Bathroom Debate," May 19
2016	Quoted in <i>Arizona Sonora News</i> , "Transgender teens face obstacles accessing health care," February 25
2015	Guest speaker at The Loft Cinema (Tucson, AZ), Q&A following Do I Sound Gay? August 19
2015	Quoted in <i>The Guardian</i> , "Lives Transformed: Do Famous Transgender People Help the Cause?" August 23
2015	Research Support, ABC News, "Diane Sawyer," in preparation for "Bruce Jenner: the interview"

TO THE COLLEGE		
2015-2018	Steering Committee, Transgender Studies Initiative. Institute for LGBT Studies, University of Arizona	
2015	Evaluation Committee, ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Competition, University of Michigan	
2014	Seed Grant Review Committee, Institute for Research on Women and Gender, University of Michigan	
2011-2012	Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the LGBT Community at Cal, UC Berkeley	
TO THE SCHOOL/DEPARTMENT		
2017-	Director, Medical Anthropology Concentration & Certificate Program University of Arizona	
2018	Member, School of Anthropology Director's Five-Year Review Committee	
2017-2018	Graduate Fellowships Committee TA Selection Committee	
2016-2017	Curriculum Committee Graduate Fellowships Committee	
2015-2016	Scholarships and Awards Committee	
2013-2014	Socio-Cultural Colloquium Committee, University of Michigan	
2012-2014	New Fellows Application Review, University of Michigan Society of Fellows	
TO THE PROFESSION		
2018	Member, Program Committee, Gay and Lesbian Medical Association Annual Conference	
2017-2018	Member, Executive Program Committee, AAA Annual Meeting	
2016-2018	Secretary, Association for Queer Anthropology, AAA	

### SERVICE (cont)

2015 Member, Program Committee, Association for Queer Anthropology, AAA Annual Meeting

Book Manuscript Reviewer

New York University Press University of California Press

Article Manuscript Reviewer

American Anthropologist

Catalyst

Cultural Anthropology

Culture, Medicine & Psychiatry

Oxford Bibliographies

Public Culture

Social Studies of Science

TSQ\* Transgender Studies Quarterly

### LANGUAGE

English (native), Spanish (proficient: speaking and reading)

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Studies Association

American Sociological Association

American Anthropological Association

Association for Queer Anthropology

Society for Medical Anthropology

Society for Cultural Anthropology