

**Dr. Debanuj DasGupta**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Department of Feminist Studies**  
**University of California, Santa-Barbara**  
[orcid.org/0000-0002-5550-9272](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5550-9272)

**Education:**

PhD (2016)  
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies  
Graduate Minor in South Asia Studies  
The Ohio State University

M.A. (2008)  
Geography & Urban Planning  
The University of Akron

B.A. (1995)  
Sociology (HONS)  
Presidency College. The University of Calcutta

**Current Position**

Assistant Professor  
Feminist Studies  
University of California, Santa-Barbara (2020-Present)

Affiliated Faculty  
Department for Asian American Studies  
University of California, Santa-Barbara (2020-Present)

**Previous Academic Positions**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Geography & Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies  
University of Connecticut (2016-2020)

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Migration Studies, Border Studies, Transnational Sexuality Studies, Transgender & Queer Theory, South Asia Studies, Activism and the Academy.

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

### Scholarly Articles, peer reviewed

DasGupta, D. 2021. "Trans/Space: Race, Class, and the Differential Politics of Gender Affirmation Procedures." *Society & Space: Environmental Planning*. D.

Appears at <https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/trans-space-race-class-and-the-differential-politics-of-gender-affirmation-procedures>

DasGupta, D., Catungal, J.P., Geiseking, J., and Rosenberg, R. 2021. "Pedagogies of Queer and Trans Repair: Letters from a Queer Classroom." *ACME: Journal of Radical Geography*. Vol 20. No 25. 491-508.

Roy, S & DasGupta, D. 2021. "Aparajita and Nishith Chetana: The City's Contested Fabric." *Contemporary South Asia*. 28:4. 434-445.

Jain, D & DasGupta, D. 2021. "Law, Gender Identity, and the Uses of Human Rights: The Paradox of Recognition." *Journal of Human Rights*. 20:1. 110-126.

DasGupta, D. 2019. "The Politics of Transgender Asylum and Detention." *Human Geography: A New Radical Journal*. Vol 12:3. Appears at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/194277861901200304>

DasGupta, D. 2019. "Trauma, Desire, and Trans/Gender Detention Politics in the US." *Women's Studies in Communication*. Vol 41. (3). 324-328.

DasGupta, D. and DasGupta, R.K. 2018. "Being Out of Place: Non-belonging and Queer Racialization in the U.K." *Emotions, Space, and Society*. Vol 27. 31-38.

DasGupta, R.K. and DasGupta, D. 2017. "Intimate Subjects and Virtual Spaces: Rethinking Sexuality as a Category for Intimate Ethnographies" *SEXUALITIES*. Vol 21 (5-6) 932-950.

Di Felicianantonio, C. Gadelha, B. K & DasGupta, D. 2017. "'Queer(y)ing' Methodologies: Doing Fieldwork and Becoming Queer" *Gender, Place, and Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography* (24) 3: 403-412.

Nagar, I & DasGupta, D. 2015. "Public Kothi, and Private Love: Section 377, Religion, Perversity, and Lived Desire." *Contemporary South Asia* 23 (2): 426-441.

DasGupta, D. 2014. "Cartographies of Friendship, Desire, and Home; Notes on Surviving Neoliberal Security Regimes" *Disability Studies Quarterly* 34 (4): 1-21.

DasGupta, D. 2013. "Towards a Politics of Pleasure Knowledge." *Scholar & Feminist Online*. 12 (1-2). Special issue "Activism and the Academy," Fall 2013/Spring 2014. Barnard Center for Research on Women. <http://sfoonline.barnard.edu/activism-and-the-academy/towards-a-politics-of-pleasure-knowledge/>

DasGupta, D. 2012. "Queering Immigration: Perspectives on Cross Movement Organizing." *Scholar & Feminist Online* 10 (1-2) Special issue "A New Queer Agenda," Fall 2011/Spring 2012. Barnard Center for Research on Women. <http://sfoonline.barnard.edu/a-new-queer-agenda/queering-immigration-perspectives-on-cross-movement-organizing/pages?>

### **Books, edited volumes**

Banerjea, N. DasGupta, D. DasGupta, R.K. and Grant, J. Eds. *Friendship As Social Justice Activism*. University of Chicago Press.

DasGupta, D & DasGupta, R.K. Eds. *Queering Digital India: Activisms, Intimacies, and Subjectivities*. The University of Edinburgh Press.

### **Chapters in Scholarly Books**

DasGupta, D. 2018. "Disciplining the Delinquent: Situating Virtual Intimacies, Bodies, and Pleasures among Friendship Networks of Young Men in Kolkata, India." In *Queering Digital India: Activisms, Intimacies and Subjectivities*. The University of Edinburgh Press. Eds: DasGupta, R & DasGupta, D.

Banerjea, N. DasGupta, D. DasGupta, R & Grant, J. 2018. "Why Friendship as Social Activism?" Introduction to *Friendship As Social Justice Activism: Critical Solidarity in a Global Perspective*. University of Chicago Press.

DasGupta, R & DasGupta, D. 2018. "Queering Digital India: An Introduction." In *Queering Digital India: Activisms, intimacies, and Subjectivities*. The University of Edinburgh Press. Eds: DasGupta, R & DasGupta, D.

### **Book Reviews**

DasGupta, D. 2023. Review of *Affective Heritage and the Politics of Memory After 9/11: Curating Trauma at the Memorial Museum* in the *American Association of Geographers, Review of Books*. 11(1); 41-53.

## **SCHOLARSHIP IN PROGRESS**

### **BOOK**

"Trans/Detention: The Politics of Transgender Asylum and Detention in the US."

### **Articles**

Nagar, I & DasGupta, D. "Transgender Rights and Religiosities in India: The NALSA Judgement and Beyond." *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. (Forthcoming).

DasGupta, D. "Streets of Trauma: AIDS, Migration, Melancholia and Queer Memory" *Journal of Memory Studies* (under review)

Scheper, J, DasGupta, D, Winget, A & Ainembambazi, R. "Crossing Pride: Community Collaborations in LGBTQ Refugee Transnational Storytelling and Digital Archiving," *The Foundry*. (In progress)

DasGupta, D & Ja'bary E. "Friendship, Belonging, and Queer Migrations Across the Hemispheres." *Geo Humanities*. (In Preparation)

### **Edited Book**

DasGupta, D, Donica, J & Weiss, M. *Queer Studies Then & Now: Center for LGBTQ Studies and the Kessler Lectures*. Under Contract. Feminist Press.

### **Grants, Fellowships, Residencies, and Awards**

#### **Grants**

Crossing Pride: Transnational LGBTQ Refugee Story Telling and Digital Archiving. UCHRI Engaging Humanities Award. (\$20,000). Co-PI with Jean Schepper, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, UC Irvine; and collaborators Anna Winget, University of California Humanities Research Institute Affiliated Scholar and Ronah Ainembambazi (Stockholm), founder of NGO Maama Girls Foundation, Uganda.

Engaging Humanities Grant, The University of California Humanities Research Institute, 2022-2023.

Crossing Pride: Queer and Trans Refugee Transnational Storytelling & Digital Archiving (\$5,000). Co-PI with Prof. Jean Schepper, WGSS, UC Irvine; Engaging Humanities Grant, The University of California Humanities Research Institute, 2021-22

#### **Fellowships & Residencies**

Activist Scholar in Residence. Multi-Cultural Center and Office of the Dean, Division of Social Sciences. 2022-2023. (\$22,000.00)

Social Science Research Council and National Endowment for the Humanities. 2018-2019. Junior Fellowship in Transregional Studies: Inter-Asian Contexts & Connections. (\$40,000.00)

Salzburg Global Fellow. United Nations Development Program & The German Government GZ. 2018-2019.

Graduate Associate Fellowship. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The Ohio State University. 2014-2016.

Graduate Student Teaching Fellowship. The Ohio State University. 2010-2013

The Ford Foundation & Academy for Educational Development. New Voices Fellowship. 2006-2008.

### **Awards**

Scholarship and Artistic Creativities Award. University of Connecticut. 2020.  
(\$2000)

Global Challenges Research Fund. The British Department for International Development. 2019-2020. )  
(£50,000)

Scholarship Facilitation Fund. Office of the Vice President for Research. University of Connecticut. Spring'2018.  
(\$10,000)

Dean's Award. College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Fund for Interdisciplinary Research Endeavors. University of Connecticut. Spring, 2017.  
(\$10,000)

Faculty Research Award. The Human Rights Institute. University of Connecticut. Fall'2017.  
(\$5,000)

## **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

### **Keynote Lectures**

DasGupta, D. February 2020. "Migration, Asylum, and Transgender Lives." Keynote Speech at the Global Citizen Forum. Drake University, Iowa City.

DasGupta, D. July 2019. "Rethinking Sexuality, Liberalism, and the Promise of Love." Annual Pride Speech. Goethe Institute and the Community Welfare Development Fund. Colombo, Sri-Lanka.

DasGupta, D. March 2017. “Perverse Borders: Sexual Regulation & National Security Politics.” Keynote Speaker. Rainbow Week. *Office of Diversity and Title IX Compliance, Hamline University.*

DasGupta, D. January 2017. “The Geopolitics of Transgender Rights.” *Department of Geography. The Delhi School of Economics.* (Invited as Key Note Speaker for the Human Geography Research Cluster)

### **Invited Talks**

DasGupta, D. May, 2022. “Tracing the Geographies of Queer South Asian Diaspora.” ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries.

DasGupta, D. August 2021. “Toward a Decolonial Dalit/Trans Feminism.” Jadavpur University.

DasGupta, D. March 2021. “Asian American Immigration and Sexualities.” Asian American Studies Institute. University of Pennsylvania.

DasGupta, D. March 2021. “Racialization, HIV/AIDS, and US Immigration Histories.” Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality. Columbia University.

DasGupta, D. April 2021. “Performing Trauma: Transgender Justice and Rights to the City.” O.P. Jindal Global University.

DasGupta, D. July 2020. “Sexing the Region: Thinking About Transgender Identities in South Asia.” School of Liberal Arts & Culture Studies. ADAMAS University, India.

DasGupta, D. March 2020. “Migration, Asylum, and Transgender Lives.” Global Citizen Forum- Keynote Speaker. Drake University. Des Moines, Iowa.

DasGupta, D. January 2020. “Transgender Migrations and Inter-Asian Connections.” Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

DasGupta, D. May 2018. “Teaching Controversial Topics in the Geography Classroom.” *Department of Geography. York University, Toronto.* (class? If so, move down to next category)

DasGupta, D. December 2017. “Toward a Geography of Transgender Rights in India.” *Department of Geography. Presidency University, Kolkata.* (class? If so, move down to next category)

DasGupta, D. December 2017. “Mapping Gender Based Violence and Transgender Activism in India.” *Women’s Studies Resource Center. SNDT Women’s University. Mumbai.*

DasGupta, D. April 2017. “Transgender Detention & the Geography of Human Rights.” Department of Sociology & Douglas Women’s College. *Department of English, Rutgers University.* (class? If so, move down to next category)

DasGupta, D. March 2017. “Trans/Governance, Human Rights and Transnationalism.” *Department of Philosophy. COMPASS Conference. The Ohio State University.* (class? If so, move down to next category)

DasGupta, D. February 2017. "Municipal Politics, Detention Centers and the Precarious Transgender Detainee." Spring Colloquium Speaker. Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences. *The Graduate Center, CUNY*.

### Conference Presentations

DasGupta, D. 2022. "Queering the Pandemic: Racialization, Sexualization, and Border Politics in South Asia." The American Association of Geographers.

DasGupta, D. October 2019. "Trans/Religiosities: Religion and Transgender Recognition in Pakistan and India." Social Science Research Council and the Mellon Foundation. Zentrum Moderner Orient. Berlin.

DasGupta, D. August 2019. "Trans/Childhood." Multiple Childhood Conference, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

DasGupta, D. March 2019. "Queering Geopolitics." Annual Conference of the Association of American Geographers. Washington, DC

DasGupta, D. March 2019. "Enough! On Queer of Color Geographies." Annual Conference of the Association of American Geographers. Washington D.C.

DasGupta, D. January 2019. "Trans/Asian Contexts and Connections." Invited Lecturer. The Jawaharlal Nehru University. Center for Women's Studies. Which category?

DasGupta, D. April 2018. "The National Security State and Precarious Trans/Subject." Keynote Speaker. Annual Lecture for the Sexuality & Space Specialty Group. *Annual Conference of the American Association of Geographers*. New Orleans, LA.

DasGupta, D. November, 2017. "National Security State and the Precarious Transgender Detainee." *American Studies Association*. Chicago, IL.

DasGupta, D. June 2017. "Suburban Railway Network and the Precarious Trans/Koti Worker." 7<sup>th</sup> *Annual Nordic Geographers Conference*. The University of Stockholm. June 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

Das Gupta, D. April 2017. "Sexual Progress and Racialized Killing: The Politics of Transgender Detention and Gay Marriage in Post 9/11 USA." *Annual Conference of the American Association of Geographers*. Boston, MA.

DasGupta, D. April 2017. *AAG Diversity Ambassadors Panel. Annual Conference of the American Association of Geographers*. Boston, MA. (Invited speaker)

DasGupta, D. April 2017. Queer of Color Critique and Queer Spatialities: Keynote response for the Sexuality & Space Specialty Group. *Annual Conference of the American Association of Geographers*. Boston, MA.

DasGupta, D. October 2016. "Toward Queer Libertarianism." *Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies*. The City University of New York. New York, NY. Conference?

DasGupta, D. November, 2015. "The Ordinary City and Delinquent Subject: Understanding Friendship Networks of Run-Away Young Men in Kolkata, India." *American Anthropological Association*. Denver, CO.

DasGupta, D. November 2015. "The Precarious Trans/Migrant Body" *National Women's Studies Association*. Milwaukee, WI.

DasGupta, D. September 2015. "Disciplining the Delinquent: Situating Bodies and Pleasures within Friendship Networks of Run-Away Young Men in Kolkata" *European Geographies of Sexualities Conference*. The University of Sapienza-Rome.

DasGupta, D. November 2014. "Indefinite Detention and the Precarious Trans-Migrant Body." *The National Women's Studies Association*. San Juan, Puerto Rico.

DasGupta, D. May 2014. "Interstitial Intimacies: Situating bodies and pleasures among friendship networks of runaway boys and young men in Kolkata, India." *South Asia by the Bay: Feminist Interventions on Gender and South Asia*. The University of California, Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz, CA.

DasGupta, D. May 2014. "Viral Friendships, (Dis) embodied Intimacies, and Local Activisms: Situating bodies and pleasures among friendship network of delinquent young men in Kolkata, India." *Queer Places, Practices, and Lives*. The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH.

DasGupta, D. 2012. "Queerly Precarious; documenting the politics of survival and place making within queer immigrant collectives in US/global cities" *Royal Geographic Society & Institute of British Geographers Annual Conference*. The University of Edinburgh.

DasGupta, D. April 2012. "Cartographies of Friendship, Desire, and Home." *12th Annual Multiple Perspectives Conference; Disability Experience Understood in Image, Poetry, Narrative and Research*. The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH.

DasGupta, D. April 2012. Geographies of Sexualities after the Cultural Turn. *Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers*. New York, NY.

DasGupta, D. November 2011. "Extraterrestrial Queers Fly Over the Equality Rainbow: Reflections on the Politics of Queerness, Immigration Reform & Radical Love." *National Women's Studies Association*. Atlanta, GA.

DasGupta, D. September 2011. "Un-Plugging the Heart of the Enterprise Society; Notes on Resisting Neo- Liberalism in the Cocoa-Cola Campus" *Activism and the Academy: Celebrating 40 Years of Feminist Scholarship and Action*. The Barnard Center for Research on Women. New York, NY.

DasGupta, D. September 2011. "Illegal Desires: Reflections on the Politics of Queerness and Immigration Reform." *European Geographies of Sexualities Conference*, Hogeschool-Universiteit Brussel. Brussels, Belgium.



## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

### **University of California UCSB**

#### **Department of Feminist Studies,**

Graduate Studies Committee. Feminist Studies. University of California, Santa Barbara. (2020 onward)

### **The University of Connecticut**

#### **Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

Course & Curriculum Committee. Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. The University of Connecticut. (2018-onward)

Undergraduate Studies Committee. Women's, Gender, Sexuality Studies Program. University of Connecticut. (2016-2017)

#### **Department of Geography**

Alumni Relations, Outreach, Development, and Honors Committee. The Department of Geography. University of Connecticut. (2017-2020).

Course & Curriculum Committee. The Department of Geography. University of Connecticut. (2016-2017)

### **Campus-wide**

#### **University of Connecticut**

Co-Op Legacy Fellow Committee. The University of Connecticut. (2017-2020)

UCONN Reads, Book Selection Committee. The University of Connecticut. (2019-2020)

Search Committee Member. Director of the LGBTQ Center, University of Connecticut. Office of Multicultural Affairs. University of Connecticut. (2019-2020).

#### **The Ohio State University.**

Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee. The Council of Graduate Students. The Ohio State University (2015-2016).

Member, Advisory Committee. Work Place Gender Norms Research Project. The Kirwan Institute for Research on Race & Ethnicity. The Ohio State University. (2015-2016).

## **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### **Scholarly Service**

Diversity Ambassador. American Association of Geographers. 2016-2019

Sexual Harassment Prevention and Anti-Bullying Committee. American Association of Geographers.  
2018-2020

Board Co-Chair. The Center for LGBTQ Studies (CLAGS) at the City University of New York, Graduate Center.  
(2017-2022)

### **UC News & Spotlights**

“Queer and Trans Refugee Digital Storytelling & Archive Project Receives UCHRU Grant: Crossing Pride brings together UC scholars and transnational activists,” UCI Humanities Center Spotlight, June 2021  
[https://www.humanities.uci.edu/humanitiescenter/spotlight\\_det.php?id=2615](https://www.humanities.uci.edu/humanitiescenter/spotlight_det.php?id=2615)

Orfalea Center for Global & International Studies. Global Genders & Sexualities Cluster. COVID-19 and Trans/Lives in South Asia: <https://www.orfaleacenter.ucsb.edu/global-genders-and-sexualities/>

### **Podcasts & Ted X Talks**

“Reflections on AIDS and COVID-19 Pandemic,” Just Sex Podcast. 2020  
<https://www.justsexpodcast.com/episodes/queer-feminist-geographer-debanuj-dasgupta-reflects-on-connections-between-the-aids-pandemic-addiction-recovery-and-surviving-covid-19>

“Flip the Script: Humanizing Immigrants in America.” TedX. The Ohio State University. 2016.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53P0aypkpXY>

### **Professional Memberships**

American Association of Geographers

National Women’s Studies Association

Are you a member of any interest groups – list.

National Council of Public History

### **Language Skills**

Bengali (Fluent), Hindi (Fluent), Spanish (Elementary) and Sanskrit (Elementary)