Queer theory in the twenty-first century has focused on a wide range of bodies and minds in a variety of states: failing, wounded, scarred, damaged, infected or infectious, diseased, mad, depressed, or traumatized. Only recently, however, has this focus engaged thickly with disability theory, making a crip turn to what Jasbir Puar describes as “questions of bodily capacity, debility, precarity, and populations.” Debitating Queerness both highlights and extends this turn. If debility signifies infirmity, feebleness, or frailty, what happens to queerness when it is openly theorized through debility and disability? What might it mean to debilitate queerness? How might such a debilitation be opposed to the compulsory able-bodiedness of mainstream LGBT politics? What other critical projects might it be linked to? Please join us for this illuminating series of conversations.

For further information, visit www.lgbts.umd.edu.

Robert McRuer
Queer Austerity and Excess
CRIPPING THE CRISIS OR THE RISE OF DISABILITY CAPITALISM
5 p.m., Thursday, February 7, 2013
Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Hall
Robert McRuer is professor and chair of English at the George Washington University. He is author of Crip Theory: Cultural Signs of Queerness and Disability and the co-author of Disruptions: An Interdisciplinary Reader in Disability and Culture. He is the editor of the GLQ special issue “Debilitating Queerness” which won the 2013 GLQ Research Award from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals.

Eli Clare
Yearning Toward Carrie Buck
5:15 p.m., Thursday, March 7, 2013
Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Hall
White, disabled, and genderqueer, Eli Clare is a writer, speaker, activist, and teacher who lives in Vermont and addresses disability, gender, race, class, and sexuality in his work. He is author of two books, Exile and Pride: Disability, Queerness, and Liberation and The Marrow’s Telling: Words in Motion, a collection of poetry.

Jasbir Puar
Bodies with New Organs: Becoming Trans, Becoming Disabled
5:00 p.m., Friday, April 5, 2013
Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Hall
Jasbir Puar is associate professor of women’s and gender studies at Rutgers University. She is author of Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times and of articles in Gender, Place, and Culture; Social Text; Radical History Review; Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography; and Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society. She has edited or co-edited special issues of GLQ, Social Text, and Society and Space.

Heather Love
“I Am Here, Where Are You?” Autism, Deviance, and the Observational Social Sciences
5:15 p.m., Thursday, April 25, 2013
Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Hall
Heather Love is R. Jean Brownlee Term Associate Professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania. She is author of Feeling Backward: Loss and the Politics of Queer History and editor of a special issue on “Critical Autism” in the GLQ.

For information about our lecture series and other LGBT events, please contact the LGBT Studies Office or visit our website at www.lgbts.umd.edu.