“We envision a society where everyone believes the world is better because of disabled people.”
Above: Authors from the *New York Times* anthology *About Us*, including Director Catherine Kudlick, at the SF Public Library.

Below: A packed house for a Superfest filmmaker panel at the Contemporary Jewish Museum.
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Director Catherine Kudlick with Advisory Council Member & activist Stacey Milbern.
A Note from the Director

Reflecting at the end of summer 2020, I feel so much loss and uncertainty. So much urgency. Such an occasion to redouble efforts to work for what matters. For us, this has meant using our privileged place at a university to seek out and amplify the voices of disabled students and community members. But since the beginning it has also meant working hard to foreground the perspectives of disabled people of color, trans people with disabilities, and others who find themselves on the margins of the margins.

In May, we lost our cherished Advisory Council member Stacey Milbern, pillar of the disability justice movement, dear friend, and fierce warrior for change. Though young, Stacey uniquely modeled what so many activist crips — especially people of color — must learn in order to survive and thrive in a world with too few resources of time, of money, of energy for those who need them most. Stacey, and her passing, added urgency to the Longmore Institute’s drive to build partnerships with people marginalized within disability communities, even before renewed Black Lives Matter protests and COVID-19 made these disparities more shocking to a wider world.

When everything changed virtually overnight in mid-March, the ingenious work-arounds we already used to include students and community members with disabilities attracted widespread attention. I think especially of our cutting-edge Superfest Disability Film Festival, working with a new cohort of SF State students with disabilities, and extending our reach literally to the far corners of the world. It’s said disabled people are canaries in the coal mine or, in activist Alice Wong’s more positive framing, we’re oracles who face adversity with ingenuity and fierceness. In the midst of the recent crises, not only did disabled people know how to rally, we provided concrete examples for non-disabled people to emulate. Most gratifyingly, this message already infused the content of the conversations the Institute has been hosting and educational programs we have been offering these last few years.

I’m proud to offer this year’s highlights in the spirit of Stacey’s vision while also calling out to future Staceys. May we always remember that essential creative work continues, and must be shared.

In solidarity,

Catherine Kudlick

Professor of History and Director
Paul K. Longmore Institute on Disability
Superfest (The World’s Longest Running) Disability Film Festival

In October we hosted the 33rd Superfest Disability Festival, our last year partnering with the SF LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired. This eagerly-anticipated community event shows cutting-edge disability films that push past clichés of pathetic victims and brave overcomers. This year we featured fifteen films from eight different countries, and hosted lively panels and opportunities to meet with filmmakers. The three screenings over a weekend filled The Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco and our new larger venue, Berkeley’s beloved Freight & Salvage. In addition, we shared content from past festivals through our twenty Superfest Showcases that reached an additional 4,000 attendees in programs hosted across the US and as far away as India and Sweden.

Superfest remains the only film festival where all judges proudly identify as people with disabilities. During Spring Semester, Longmore Student Fellows serve as initial screeners during weekly viewing sessions where we discuss disability representations and going beyond stereotypes. Once they’ve narrowed down the nearly two hundred submissions to about forty, a panel of respected experts from the community selects the final line-up and awards.

Learn more at: superfestfilm.com

Special thanks to our Superfest 2019 funders!
"Superfest is about community. I see people that I haven't seen in ages. I make connections and re-connections. ... At Superfest, I feel I have a place at the table, that I belong, that I count. It's one of the few places where I just burst with disability pride."

—2019 festival attendee

"The diverse, rich discussion on the intersection of race, class, and gender was beautiful. As a woman of color, I really needed that."

—Superfest Showcase attendee
Adjusting to COVID-19

As the pandemic’s disproportionately greater toll on the lives of disabled people became more and more apparent, we mobilized quickly to build online community and promote stories of resilience. Just three days after San Francisco State and the rest of California shut down, we hosted our first online showcase of Superfest Disability Film Festival in late March. Drawing from our growing catalog of earlier festival selections, we shared a diverse array of films, such as a short animation about a resourceful one-finned penguin teaching resourcefulness to those with two, and a documentary that followed a Black, lesbian, hip-hop artist with a traumatic brain injury on a journey to find community. Numbers of viewers soared, while our reach expanded into unexpected ways and places. One participant shared that due to their disability, this was the first film festival of any kind they’d been able to participate in. In addition to coming from across the US, participants joined from as far away as the UK, Kenya, and Australia.

The event, which modeled what accessible online programming could be like, generated new conversations and collaboration opportunities. Suddenly, major film festivals and institutions – including the Jewish Film Festival, SFFilm, and the Asian Art Museum – sought our technical and program expertise.

Screenshot during “Crip Camp Conversation: Disability & Sexuality” with Bianca Laureano, Alex Locust, Robin Wilson-Beattie, and ASL Interpreter (from top left, clockwise).
We partnered with Netflix for the release of the documentary, *Crip Camp* (produced by the Obamas). Advanced in part by our “Patient No More” exhibit from five years ago, it tells the disability rights story of how over 150 disabled people occupied San Francisco’s Federal Building for nearly a month in 1977. We hosted a four-part panel series related to the film and current events that drew nearly 2,500 registered participants.

Pivoting to online programming allowed us to continue to offer high quality content that reached diverse groups of people with disabilities. At the same time, it invited reflection and conversation on how to expand the very notion of inclusive, intersectional community.

A Sampling of Spring Online Events:
- A Superfest screening and panel with the Asian Art Museum, featuring films at the intersection of disability and Asian/Asian American identity.
- A Superfest Showcase just for children.
- #NoBodyIsDisposable Summer Film Series, on the politics of disposability, COVID-19, and police brutality.
Bringing Disability Scholar-Activism to SFSU

Longmore Student Fellows
Thanks to our generous donors, our successful Longmore Student Fellows program entered its seventh year. This unique paid opportunity provides disabled SF State students and allies one-on-one mentoring, professional development, and a chance to bond with one another as they learn about disability culture and history. Meeting both in-person and online this year's program had eight fellows (one graduate and seven undergraduates from different departments across campus), who discovered a sense of confidence and disability pride as they participated in different aspects of our programming. As the testimonials of Longmore Fellows over the years make clear, overcoming shame plays an under-appreciated role in student success.

Kudos to past Fellows for their recent accomplishments!
- While she studies for the MCAT, Monica Lois Joy (Health Education, 2019) is working as a Medical Assistant at San Quentin.
- Alex Locust (Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, 2017) accepted a Director position at SF AIDS Foundation focused on creating/implementing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- Danny Thomas Yang (Social Work, 2018) served as a Willie Brown Fellow with the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management (during a pretty active time for the department!) and continues to pursue his MSW in Social Work at SF State.
- Kayla Tolentino is serving as an Associate for ReWork the Bay at the San Francisco Foundation (Health Education, 2017).
- Robyn Kurland (Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, 2020) accepted a position as Advisor for the UCSF School of Pharmacy.

Longmore at SFSU
- The Director Catherine Kudlick and Associate Director Emily Beitiks gave guest lectures in eleven SFSU courses in six different departments and colleges.
- With the School of Theatre & Dance’s Fabula(b) Theatre + New Media Lab, we co-organized three panels which explored how emerging media tools are changing storytelling and accessibility across industries, and how our students can get jobs amid this rapidly evolving landscape, each bringing in a disability perspective.
“Being part of the Longmore Institute’s Student Fellow program has been fantastic. I’ve been able to learn about disability culture, and how I fit into it, while gaining valuable workplace experience and meeting amazing people. I’m so thankful for this opportunity and everything the Institute does.”

—2019-2020 Fellow Nathan Burns

Some of our 2019-2020 Longmore Student Fellows, clockwise from top left: Nader Bahu, Maxfield Hunt, Akaelah Flotho, Ryan Hibdon, Nathan Burns, Sam Hengesbach, and Erin Tagatac in the middle.
The Longmore Lecture in Disability Studies
To honor Paul K. Longmore, the esteemed SF State historian who died unexpectedly ten years ago, each year we bring to campus a scholar-activist who follows Paul's call to creatively challenge perceptions of disability. In February, award-winning African American choreographer, Two Spirit producer, dancer, actor, teacher, model, poet, and Deaf advocate Antoine Hunter presented “Dancing While Deaf” to a packed house in SF State’s J. Paul Leonard Library and to hundreds more online through our live stream.

“I'm still blown away. That was a wonderful evening.”
—Vivian Chavez, Professor of Health Education
Community Engagement & Scholarship

Drawing on cutting-edge disability studies scholarship and the know-how of diverse disability communities, we promote creative thinking about disabled people to our campus and the world.

We're especially proud of the following accomplishments and recognition:

- Director Catherine Kudlick’s piece, “In My Mother’s Eyes and Mine” was selected to be republished in the anthology *About Us: Essays from the Disability Series of the New York Times* (W.W. Norton, 2019).
- In June, Kudlick was a keynote speaker at Kieler Woche, one of Germany’s largest cultural gatherings, and in November spent a month at Umeå University in Sweden as a Visiting Professor funded by the European Research Council.
- Kudlick was awarded the Flora Nichols Beggs Fellowship for a prestigious MacDowell residency in summer 2019.
- KQED radio aired Beitiks’s second “Perspective” in February 2020, this one about losing her mother who lived with a lifelong disability.

The Director and Associate Director served as consultants to introduce elements of creativity and playfulness into disability accessibility while acknowledging the conundrums presented by factors such as limited resources and competing accommodations. They served as consultants on the San Francisco Public Library’s public exhibition, “Disability Changemakers,” served on SFFilm’s Disability Advisory Board, and curated a panel for the international event “Night of Ideas” at the Main Library.

Associate Director Emily Beitiks (left) and Director Catherine Kudlick (right).
Above: Nicole Bohn, Director of the San Francisco Mayor’s Office on Disability chats with Dennis Billups, disability community activist and *Crip Camp* film star.

Below: The Longmore Institute panel at SF Public Library’s 10,000-attendee “Night of Ideas” showcased disabled people of color’s dreams for “Crippling the Future.”
Four years after our pathbreaking, innovative exhibit at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley rekindled interest in the disabled people's month-long "Section 504 Occupation" of San Francisco's Federal building in 1977, our traveling exhibit continues to share disability history. After being chosen by Exhibit Envoy in a highly-competitive process, "Patient No More" has traveled to over 15 venues, including this past year's display at the International Civil Rights Center & Museum, site of the 1960 Greensboro lunch counter sit-ins. Our original contract was to keep the exhibit touring until 2018, but due to its popularity, it will continue to travel through 2023.

Building on the exhibit, we continue to share this history through guest lectures, workshops, and curriculum with K-12 teachers in conjunction with the California History Project.

Learn more at: patientnomore.org
Looking Forward to 2020-2021

As the California State University system faces a massive funding shortfall, we’re using our precious resources judiciously and creatively to give our students and communities what they’ve come to expect from us: quality cutting-edge programs that foster connections and stimulate new thinking about disabled people.

We continue our core programs: the Longmore Student Fellows, Superfest Disability Film Festival #34 in October (entirely online), along with several Showcases in the Spring. Nurturing and building new partnerships will help us do more with less. In Fall 2020, we will continue work with the Disability Visibility Project to host four online events about storytelling, disability justice, and scholarship.

We will also build up our FAIR Education Act disability history content for K-12 teachers through the California History Project, even involving one of our Superfest filmmakers whose 2016 documentary tells the little-known story of "The Invalid Corps" from the US Civil War. In these tough times for disabled students at SF State, and with members of disability communities hit disproportionately hard by pandemic and economic hardship, our work remains more timely and urgent than ever.
Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Income 2019—2020

- Earned Income 48%
- Individual Donations 31%
- Grants 15%
- Sponsorships 5%
- Royalties <1%

Expenditure 2019—2020

- Student Assts/Consultants 35%
- Longmore events (excl. Superfest) 23%
- Accounting and University Expenses 22%
- Superfest 12%
- Office Supplies/Printing 7%
- Business Hospitality 1%

Filmmakers Reid Davenport, Naomi Chainey, Malic Amalya, and Day Al-Mohamed, discuss their craft on a Superfest panel.
Appreciating our Supporters

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported us in 2019-2020 - we couldn't do it without you!

$1,000+
Luise Custer
Trevor and Jessica Getz
Catherine Kudlick

$500-$999
Anonymous (1)
Emily Beitiks
Sumi Colligan
Marianne Constable and Kevin Wood
Genentech Matching Gifts
Anna Gilmore
Paul Grossman
Saraswati Kenkare-Mitra
Gabriel Ledger
Dr. David & Rev. Ellen Longmore Brown
Bil and Jill McCoy
Elizabeth Reis and Matthew Dennis
Milton and Danae Reynolds
Richard Rothman
Elizabeth Sandel
Wendy Tobias
Eric Zigman

$250-$499
Anonymous—in honor of Eric Talbert
Kristina Baer
Allison Coudert
Detroit Disability Power
Wayne and Jennifer Getz
Stacey and Robert Kertsman
Lawrence Klein
Sheila McClear
Mark and Divina Meigs
Dr. Georgia Rhoades and Mr. Dennis J. Bohr
Kate Rousmaniere
Karen Karen Sawislak and Joan Berry
Babette Schmitt
Michael Storman
Olenka Villareal

$1—$249
Anonymous (4)
Katherine Anania and Mel Plaut
Carol Anderson
Jenny and Laura Astwood
Kathleen Beitiks
Wendy Bloom
Beverly Bossler
Letitia and James Brown
Sarah Crabtree and Fatmir Haskaj
Sarah Curtis
Marcy Darnovsky
Leslie Dunn
Robert Eap
Josephine and Asher Engler
Mary Felstiner
Philip Ferguson
Ned Fielden
Anne Finger
Laury Fischer
Maureen Fritzgerald and David Dohrer
Elaine Gerber
Joseph Grigely and Amy Vogel
Raymond Grott
Judith Heumann and Jorge Pineda
Sheri Kennedy
Lila LaHood
Kristin A. Lindgren
Alexander Locust
Bill Lundgren
Darrin Martin
Marty Martinson and Sharon Taylor
Elogeanne Matson Grossman
Mollie McLeod
Michael Mitrani and Frances Roche
Zachary Nathan
Denise Nepveux and David Hill
Regina Neu and Robert Thompson
Maggie O'Brien
Fran Odette
Fran Osborne
Alise Paillard
Mark Potter
Justin Powell and Bernhard Ebbinghaus
Philip Prinz and Kent Hanson
Jarbel Rodriguez and Claudia Rodriguez-Acuna
Harilyn Roussso
Katherine Sherwood
Rachel Simon
Kevin Sitter—in honor of Gene Chelberg
David Smith
Eric Talbert
Anthony Tusler
Deborah van Dommelen
Jacob Wang
Rita Walsh-Wilson
David and Patricia White
Bruce Wolfe
Zelinda Zingaro-Smith
Our 2019-2020 Advisory Council

Members of our Advisory Council give their time, energy and financial support to the development and stewardship of programs within the organization.

Meet our 2019—2020 Council:

Anne Finger, Chair of the Advisory Council & Disability Studies Scholar & Writer
Milton Reynolds, Vice Chair of the Advisory Council & Educator-Activist
Eugene Chelberg, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, SFSU
Trevor Getz, Professor of History, SFSU
Alex Locust, Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and Glamputee Trainer
Sara Kenkare-Mitra, Senior Vice President of Development Sciences, Genentech
Eric Talbert, Nonprofit Director

We’re also pleased to welcome two new advisory members for 2020-2021!

Danny Thomas Vang
Willie Brown Fellow in the San Francisco Department of Human Resources

Dana Bolles
Spaceflight Engineer & Disability in STEM advocate

Rest in Power
Advisory Council Member Stacey Milbern
(May 19, 1987—May 19, 2020)

"I believe that our [crip] ancestors laugh, cry, hurt, rage, celebrate with us. Most important, I believe they learn as we are learning, just as we learn from them. We grow knowledge and movements with them. We criп futurism with them."

Stacey Milbern photograph by Brooke Anderson @movementphotographer.
Support the Institute

We encourage anyone interested in donating or collaborating to contact Director Catherine Kudlick at kudlick@sfsu.edu or Associate Director Emily Beitiks at beitiks@sfsu.edu.
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Website: longmoreinstitute.sfsu.edu
Twitter: @LongmoreInst
Facebook: facebook.com/SFSUDisability

Front cover photograph: Two Superfest attendees meet and converse.
All Superfest photographs taken by Sarika Dagar.