Priscilla Wald, a distinguished critic of American literature and culture, is committed to promoting conversations among scholars in science, medicine, law, and cultural studies. Her books include *Constituting Americans: Cultural Anxiety and Narrative Form* (1994), and *Contagious: Cultures, Carriers, and the Outbreak Narrative* (2008). Her current project investigates the impact of genomics on personal identity, categories of biological and political belonging, and the narrative of human history. She analyzes mainstream media and popular culture to show how language, narratives, and images promote a particular understanding of science that is steeped in (often misleading) cultural biases and assumptions. She is affiliated with the Center for Medical Ethics and Humanities at Duke, and was an NIH Fellow in a Human Genome Seminar at Dartmouth University in 2001.