From the Director’s Desk

I had the privilege of listening to two inspiring talks by Center affiliate faculty members, one by Dr. Sheila Dickison at our Center’s fall reception and one by Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn at the African American Studies fall reception. Serendipitously, both colleagues focused their talks on the history and evolution of Women’s Studies and African American Studies at UF. I was struck by the parallels between these narratives. They both involved dedicated people working together to build new and rigorous programs of scholarship and teaching. They both involved persistence through barriers. They both involved key allies in positions of power stepping up with vigorous support. They both involved hope, vision, and strategic action to achieve institutional milestone after milestone. I’m thankful to Drs. Dickison and Hilliard-Nunn for reminding us of this narrative and helping us preserve this important history, as it also reveals to us the path forward.

Indeed, continuing the footsteps of the many people who shaped what women’s studies is at UF today, we are continuing a path of progress. One of our major initiatives over the past year has been to conduct the research and lay the groundwork for establishing a Department of Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Studies that contains our research center. In this structure, traditional academic functions such as our major, three minors, graduate degrees and certificates, and core faculty teaching, research, and tenure and promotion, would fall within the Department. The proposed Department would retain the Center, through which we would continue our inter-department, inter-college, and campus-community functions such as administering inter-department and inter-college grants and awards, funding and co-sponsoring inter-department and inter-college events and programs, and coordinating public engagement as well as inter-department and inter-college communications and networks focused on advancing scholarship on gender, sexuality, and women.

As feminist scholars, we all know the power of naming and making visible the value and contributions of women’s studies in ways that are legible to internal and external stakeholders. In fact, the history of women’s studies nationally and at UF has been one of persistent progress toward this aim. As Dr. Dickison concluded in her keynote at our fall reception, we are now at yet another exciting milestone in our history. We have the opportunity to formally recognize the Department and Center contributions of Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s

(Continued on page 2)
From the Director’s Desk, continued

(Continued from page 1)

Studies at UF. This aligns us with the top 5 public institutions, all of which have Departments of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies. Importantly, it signifies institutional support to national and international reputation makers and local stakeholders, including our students and faculty. As the proposal makes its way through the various stages of the review process in the coming months, we know that the proposal and its outcome will constitute another important chapter in the history and evolution for all of us and for UF.

Another Exciting Fall Reception

The Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Studies Research held its annual Fall Reception on September 12 in the Atrium in Ustler Hall. Director Bonnie Moradi welcomed over 100 guests including core and affiliate faculty, students, and friends of the Center. Associate Dean Mary Watt outlined the Center’s contributions to UF and beyond. New and returning graduate students, new and continuing affiliate faculty, and campus and community partners were celebrated. Student awards included the O. Ruth McQuown Awards, Madelyn Lockhart Dissertation and Emerging Scholars Awards, and the Cindy Colangelo Award for Breast Cancer Awareness.

Center Affiliate Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn was honored with the Distinguished Affiliate Contribution Award for her sustained contributions to the Center. After giving an inspiring talk on the rich history of women’s studies at UF, Center Affiliate Dr. Sheila Dickison was honored with the Uppity Woman Award for her long-standing feminist leadership.
Welcome New Graduate Students

We are delighted to welcome our new graduate students to the Center’s MA program: Alissa “Sunshine” Adam, Chelsea Gifford, Sky Martin, and Justine Veras. These students bring a rich range of experiences and interests:

Alissa “Sunshine” Adam graduated from the University of Florida in 2019 with a BA in Women Studies and a minor in African American Studies. They are a very proud member of the WELLS Healing and Research Collective, which focuses on promoting the wellness and liberation of marginalized communities. Their ultimate goal is to continue this work and provide accessible psychology, wellness, and healing, particularly to Black and diasporic communities.

Chelsea Gifford graduated from the State University of New York - College at Cortland in 2018 with a BA in English and a minor in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality studies. She aims to focus her research on how individuals navigate through the tensions between their private and public selves and distill their sexual identities. She is passionate about sexuality in literature, queer theory and sexual/reproductive health.

Sky Martin graduated from the University of Florida in 2018 with a B.A. in Women’s Studies and a B.S. in psychology. Her research interests include feminist counseling psychology, mental health, and gendered practices of the body.

Justine Veras graduated from the State University of New York at New Paltz with a double major in Black Studies and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Her research interests include Afro-Latinidad, Afro-spiritualities, and postcolonial theory.

News from Current MA Candidates

Our new students join our current MA candidates who have been hard at work on their exciting and diverse research projects, and have news and updates to share:

Shyamala Engelhart continues her research on women and aging. Her MA project will focus on feminist perspectives on aging. She is also getting a certificate in gerontology to enhance her knowledge of the current research on aging.

Andreina Fernandez is currently working on her MA thesis under the supervision of committee chair Dr. Jillian Hernandez and committee member Dr. Manoucheka Celeste. Her research engages with a selection of memoirs written by queer women of color to analyze how these authors craft their narratives and the traditions of women of color feminist life-writing they implement in their works. In November, Andreina presented her research titled “Where is the Queer Migrant Future? Looking Towards Queer Migrant Cultural Production” at the National Women’s Studies Association Conference.

Kaylee Kagiavas is a second year MA student working on her non-thesis research project chaired by Dr. Connie Shehan. Her research is centered on mentorship as feminist praxis, power-
Welcome New Graduate Students (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

Welcome New Graduate Students (continued) 

differentials, and hierarchical institutions. She will spend her remaining semesters drafting a workshop outline and accessible materials that coincide with the theory component of her project. In March 2020, she will present her research at Florida Atlantic University’s Graduate Symposium on Questioning, Challenging, and Organizing: Turning Feminist Theory into Praxis.

Logan Neser is a second year MA student working on completing his thesis and applying to PhD programs. His thesis seeks to explore how transgender people use means of cultural production to communicate with each other, taking into account themes of surveillance, biopower, and hypervisibility. Logan collaborated with fellow CGSWSR graduate student, Melissa Powers, to create a project on Black Trans Afrofuturism, which they presented at the 2019 National Women’s Studies Association conference held this November in San Francisco, CA.

Melissa Powers is a second year MA student currently working on her thesis project with Dr. Jillian Hernandez. Her thesis explores futures and utopias through use of queer and post-human frameworks, with an emphasis on climate change and the Anthropocene. During the summer, she spent a week in Utrecht, Netherlands taking Dr. Rosi Braidotti’s summer school course on post-humanism. She also presented her research with colleague Logan Neser at the National Women’s Studies Association this November.

Nik Wiles successfully defended their non-thesis project in fall 2019. This project is a memoir-style book that uses the viewpoint of a genderqueer parent to tackle parenting outside of the gender binary. As Nik wraps their time with the Women’s Studies program at the University of Florida in preparation for graduation, they will continue to pursue publication for their book while maintaining their teaching post at Santa Fe College. Nik has also accepted a teaching post at a second institution, which will begin this late winter to coming spring, at which time Nik will be given the opportunity to pursue not only teaching in English and Writing but also, teaching in gender studies.

Alexandria Wilson is continuing as a joint MA/PhD student. She continues to focus on the issues of violence against women and women’s exploitation in Central Eastern Europe. For her final project in the Center she is working on a journal article in which she explores how women’s organizations in the Czech Republic and Slovakia are resisting the new “gender backlash” movement which has taken hold across Europe.

Women’s Studies Graduate Students 2nd year Cohort (Left to Right) Logan Neser, Andreina Fernandez, Shyamala Engelhart, Kaylee Kagiavas, and Melissa Powers
With an Attitude of Gratitude

Thanks to everyone whose generosity helps the Center continue to thrive, including the following donors:

- Mr. Gregory R. Allen
- American Association of University Women, Gainesville Chapter
- Arts Association of Alachua County
- Association for Academic Women
- Dr. Marni A. Brown and Mr. Casey A. Brown
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- Mr. Robert Wilder
- Mr. John H. Williams, Jr.
- Mr. Chuck Woods

Gifts to the Center are used to fund conferences, educational travel for graduate students, scholarship funds, speaker honoraria, and exhibit support.

Opportunities for Giving to the Center

We appreciate the generosity of our donors at all levels. For those thinking of a significant gift to the Center, we have some suggestions:

$250  Garden walk pavers for the Yardley Garden (honor a recent graduate or teacher)
$500  Send a student to a regional or national meeting, or fund a student’s research trip
$1000 Garden enhancement and plants for the Yardley Garden:
  Name a section of the garden for a friend or loved one (a plaque will indicate contribution)
$1000  Inscription for an existing bench in Yardley Garden in honor of a friend or loved one
$2000  A bench in Ustler Hall in honor of a friend or loved one, with an inscribed plaque
$5000  Sponsor a major named lecture (one time event)
$5000  Support faculty research for the summer (Faculty Summer Research Fellowship)
$5000  Course development (New Course Development Grant)
$10,000  Inscription on the Yardley Wall

For majors gifts and other naming opportunities, please contact Christy Popwell, Director of Development, CLAS: (352) 392-1964 or cpopwell@ufl.edu.
Center Alum Integrates the Arts and Therapy to Support Boys and Promote Change

Christine Joseph graduated with the BA in Women’s Studies in 2009. She went on to earn a degree in Mental Health Counseling from Lesley University in 2017. She is an Expressive Arts Therapist at SailFuture group home.

I currently work as an Expressive Arts Therapist at SailFuture group home where I provide counseling to teenage boys during their preparation for sailing journeys to several Caribbean islands. The boys volunteer their time in those islands to help others and to discover and heal their own inner conflicts through service work and moments of reflection on the sailboat.

Socialization to male gender norms can promote emotional repression in some men and boys. Supportive resources and strategies that focus on attachment, identity, the role of caregivers, and different styles of empathetic relations can help men develop their emotional intelligence. Through the use of Expressive Arts Therapy, young men can grow out of learned gender stereotypes that have impacted them negatively. Expressive Arts Therapy provides individuals with ways of exploring and expressing identity.

From my experience with working at juvenile detention centers and high schools with boys between the ages of 13-20, the expressive arts modalities such as music, bibliotherapy (poetry), art, drama, movement and sand-tray therapy guided my relationship with the young men as well as their relationships with themselves. Having a nonverbal outlet to share your thoughts, concerns, anxieties, and fears has been a crucial intervention tool for this demographic.

My women’s studies education has shaped my whole career. I give special gratitude to Professor Stephanie Evans for directing my growth by challenging every single thought and statement made by the students in her course. Dr. Evans challenged us to think critically about how everything is connected and how there is definitely a crossroad between two or more separate subjects.

Because of this, when I was graduating from UF, I was trying to make a decision between taking the leap into pursuing music at a graduate level (I was already a trained classical pianist) or a health profession (health was a broad domain, but I knew I was interested in certain fields under that umbrella). I chose music and found Music Therapy, which then led me to Expressive Arts Therapy after attending Berklee College of Music in 2011.

Dr. Evans’ lessons proved to be true; everything was connected. I was able to bridge music and health. Dr. Evans also always emphasized the phrase, “Now what?” as a reminder to ask myself if I am staying current with today’s issues, what do I do with these issues? Where do I go from here? It is pertinent for my growth as a therapist to move this information forward, share, and actively make changes when necessary to benefit the youth I work with and their communities.

“MY WOMEN’S STUDIES EDUCATION HAS SHAPED MY WHOLE CAREER.”

-Christine Joseph
Center Alum Advances Research and Praxis Centering Indigenous Women’s Resistance and Liberation Activism

Nathalia H. Ochoa graduated with the MA in Women’s Studies in 2013. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS) at the University of Texas-Austin. As a feminist scholar, her work focuses on intersectional analysis of violence against women in Central America, Maya Kaqchikel women’s activism through theater and performance, and decolonial theory and praxis from the perspective of indigenous women in the Americas. She is currently in Guatemala conducting ethnographic work for her dissertation.

My grandmother, Alicia, had a third grade education, and my mother, Patricia, holds a high school diploma from El Salvador. Alicia and Patricia had a pupuseria\(^1\) which was the main income generator for my family. I grew up in San Salvador, El Salvador and moved to the United States when I was seventeen years old. Even though I have had the privilege to pursue higher education in this country, I also have experienced the immigrant conditions of economic hardship, isolation and discrimination. I am a first generation college student who often felt guilty for pursuing an education in Gender and Women’s Studies instead of finding a well-paying job or a “more practical” career. To this date, I have no regrets about my decision, and here is why:

“Estudios de género y feminismos, y eso para qué sirve?”—what is an MA in women’s studies good for? —my mother asked.

Feminism has brought purpose to my life which means, my daily actions, academic work and community engagement often intersect, in my case, to understand how and why violence against women is so prominent across the Americas. The MA in Women’s Studies provided me with a strong foundation on feminist theory, methodologies and frameworks that have guided my academic and professional development. Feminism is not only about “women” like many people think. It is about power relations and structural inequalities often shaped by race, class, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, and religion (among others). These forms of oppression interact with one another in ways that mark certain bodies more vulnerable to violence, exploitation and even extermination.

For my MA project, I collected oral histories of peasant women who were part of the FMLN (Farabundo Martí Liberation Front) during the Salvadoran revolution in the 1980s. I learned how despite the multiple forms of violence these women faced, they still found ways to become leaders and activist to create a better world for themselves and their communities. From this experience, I became more interested in understanding violence against women in Latin America. Central America, my home, has the highest rates of gender-based sexual violence against women and feminicide.

I am a PhD candidate at the University of Texas-Austin pursuing a degree in Latin American Studies and Anthropology. I am currently living in Guatemala learning the Maya Kaqchikel language and conducting research for my dissertation project titled “Curanderas: Maya Women Resisting Violence through Theater and Performance.” In this project, I am collaborating with different Maya Kaqchikel women’s groups to better understand how they are using theater and performance as: (1) a tool to explore their own subjectivities, (2) disrupt violent narratives of historical colonialism, (3) denounce gender-based violence, and (4) imagine liberatory futures guided by their own concepts of healing, justice, and community feminisms.

I am grateful for the Center, their staff, faculty and former students, who inspired my academic searches and showed me “what a feminist looks like.”

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\(^1\)Pupusas are a traditional Salvadoran dish made of corn tortillas filled with cheese, beans and pork paste.
COME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA’S CENTER FOR GENDER, SEXUALITIES, AND WOMEN’S STUDIES RESEARCH TO EARN A MASTER’S DEGREE: The Center offers an interdisciplinary forum for the study of gender and sexualities and their intersections with race/ethnicity, class, and other sociocultural systems. Our vision is to use the tools of gender, sexualities, and women’s studies research to produce and support scholars, leaders, and social change agents who work collaboratively and build coalitions to advance knowledge, contribute to their communities, and promote equity and opportunity for all members of our global society. A Master’s degree from the Center will provide you with a high quality graduate education in an engaged community of scholars, tailored to prepare you for a variety of PhD programs and/or careers.

PARTICIPATE IN A VIBRANT COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS: We have eleven core faculty members who have expertise in gender, race/ethnicity, and sexualities; Black and Latinx feminisms; LGBTQ+ studies; transnational and postcolonial feminist analysis; Latinx, Afro-Latinx, Haitian, and Caribbean studies; critical girlhood studies; and media, cultural, and literary studies. We apply this expertise in the study of critical domains such as collective identity and activism, health and medicine, law and politics, sexual violence and exploitation, immigration, work, leadership and business, history, literatures and cultures, media and art, and social movements. In addition, we have over 100 affiliate faculty members with wide-ranging expertise who offer courses and serve on graduate committees. We also have a strong group of PhD and MA graduate certificate and affiliate students engaged in our program. See our latest newsletter!

STUDY WITH FACULTY MEMBERS IN THE CENTER

- Anita Anantharam, MBA, PhD
- Kendal Broad, PhD
- Manoucheka Celeste, Graduate Certificate, PhD
- Maddy Coy, MA, PhD
- Elizabeth Garcia, PhD
- Laura K. Guyer, RD, PhD
- Jillian Hernandez, PhD
- Bonnie Moradi, PhD
- Constance Shehan, PhD
- Trysh Travis, MA, PhD
- Alyssa Zucker, Graduate Certificate, PhD

“The education I received at the CGWSR has forever changed the lens that I use to view the world and interpret the interaction of law and society.”

-J. Dayton King, Women’s Studies MA/JD, 2016

“In this program, I have found space to do dynamic work that serves a greater purpose. I feel a part of something bigger and I am thankful for all the caring faculty and everything the center has done for me.”

—Marcela Murillo, Women’s Studies MA, 2019

PURSUE THE MA DEGREE THAT MEETS YOUR GOALS: We offer an MA with thesis and non-thesis options. We also offer combined MA/JD degrees and concurrent MA degrees. Students typically complete the MA in 4 semesters. The MA degree requires 30 credits, including three core courses (9 credits) that provide a strong foundation in women’s, gender, and sexualities studies, and additional elective credits that students can choose from a wide range of courses, such as:

- Feminist Media Studies
- LGBTQ+ Health
- Latina Narratives
- Global Women of Color
- Feminist Methods
- Jobs, Gender, Justice
- LGBTQ+ Movements & Activisms
- Race, Sex & Representation
- Critical Girlhood Studies

STUDENT FUNDING: We offer excellent funding to our MA students. This includes assistantships with tuition remission, supplemental scholarships, and generous research and travel funds. Financial aid applications should be submitted with admission materials. Find more information on our website. Contact Dr. Kendal Broad if you have questions.

Application Deadline is FEBRUARY 1st for graduate admission and funding.
Expanding Scholarship and Teaching on Latina Feminisms: 
The Center Welcomes Dr. Elizabeth Garcia

The Center is excited to welcome our newest colleague, Dr. Elizabeth Garcia.

Dr. Garcia, who holds degrees in Economics, American Studies, and Ethnic Studies, was drawn to her field of study after taking an American Studies course at Brown University. “As an undergraduate I went to Brown University, which is a very elite, predominantly white, very wealthy institution, and I was none of those things. It was in my American Studies courses where we talked about people from different races and ethnicities, and it was really the first time that I saw my own experiences represented.” Dr. Garcia says that this experience “sparked the interest in continuing to not just learn from myself but also to teach to others.”

Dr. Garcia’s interdisciplinary research pulls from the fields of history, cultural studies, and literature to examine Latina women’s conceptions of citizenship and belonging. “The main thing that I study is literature, and literary works that are typically novels and autobiographies,” she says. “I take an intersectional approach so I look at literature, but I look at how it represents social issues, such as issues of race, class, sexuality, gender. How do the authors complicate things, what kind of questions do they raise in their presentations of all these different things?”

These questions were central to Dr. Garcia’s approach to her first book, Healing Memories: Puerto Rican Women’s Literature in the U.S., which was published earlier this year as part of a Latino studies series by the University of Pittsburgh Press. Describing the writing and researching process, Dr. Garcia says “The way I approached Puerto Rican women’s literature was looking specifically at how these women authors were writing and documenting the history of Puerto Ricans in the United States through their literary works. I was combining both gender and ethnic identity and how they complicated those two identities through their literary works.” On working with this press, Dr. Garcia says “different publishers are trying to do their part to have a counter-narrative to the national one. I think that context in the academic publishing world allows for my kind of work to have a space.”

Dr. Garcia is currently working on her next book, which aims to expand on her previous work by exploring the narratives of different Latina groups. The book will look at “specifically how, given the anti-immigrant climate that we’re in now, women, Latina women in particular, and their literary works re-imagine forms of belonging and citizenship.”

Drawing from her scholarship, Dr. Garcia is launching a course titled “#SayHerName” as part of the new Quest curriculum for first-year students. Dr. Garcia says “[the course] is about feminist women of color and will utilize a historical perspective. I have taught versions of that class before at other institutions with first year students and it worked really well. I’m hoping that it will have the same response here.” The course title refers to the recent social media movement that brings awareness to the ways Black and African American women and other women of color have been both targeted and silenced by racialized and sexualized violence. Dr. Garcia says this course will use various texts, specifically personal essays and historical narratives, applying a

(Continued on page 15)
Community and Campus to Celebrate 2020: Centennial of the 19th Amendment and Gainesville as a Hub of Feminist Activism

By Danielle de la Torre

Danielle de la Torre is an Advertising major graduating this semester. She is completing a women’s studies internship with Celebrate Women 2020, a Gainesville initiative to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, and Gainesville activists’ leadership in the feminist movement.

“I LEARNED OVER THE COURSE OF MY INTERNSHIP WITH CELEBRATE WOMEN 2020 IS THAT GAINESVILLE WAS ACTUALLY A HUGE PART OF THE WOMEN’S MOVEMENT “

Something I learned over the course of my internship with Celebrate Women 2020 is that Gainesville was actually a huge part of the women’s movement. In 1968, Carol Hanisch moved to Gainesville and started a “freedom for women” project, which eventually turned into the Gainesville Women’s Liberation group, which is active today. Gainesville was also a hub for activism in women’s health and reproductive justice. In 1974, Byllye Avery, Joan Edelson, Judy Levy, and Margaret Parrish found the Gainesville Women’s Health Center. Avery went on to establish the National Black Women’s Health Project, now known as the Black Women’s Health Imperative.

Celebrate Women 2020, where I am an intern, was formed to celebrate the centennial of the 19th amendment and Gainesville’s important place in the history of the U.S. women’s movement. Specifically, we will be organizing, coordinating, and promoting amazing events happening in March to celebrate this important milestone. We are organizing a parade and seminars as well as creating a keepsake magazine with information about Gainesville and the women’s movement. We are particularly fortunate to have confirmed Byllye Avery for a visit back to Gainesville in March to give our keynote address. We hope you will mark your calendars!

UF is also planning events and initiatives to Celebrate 2020. Specifically, the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Studies Research is working with UF’s Chief Diversity Officer, the College of the Arts, and leaders across campus to coordinate commemorative events as well as strategic actions that promote women and gender equity. Many colleges, divisions, and units across campus have submitted their initiatives, which will be collated and publicized. To receive a copy of the UF Celebrate 2020 Call for Action, please contact the Center or your college or division’s Chief Diversity Liaison.

To find Celebrate Women 2020 online, visit our website at http://celebratewomen2020.org/ and our Facebook page “Celebrate Women 2020”. We’re also on Instagram and Twitter @CeleWomenGNV. For more information on the Gainesville Women’s Movement, visit https://ufdc.ufl.edu/rwg/timeline.
Book Nook: Recently Published Books by Center Faculty and Affiliates


Dr. Adams is a Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development in the College of Education and an affiliate of the Center.


Professor Dowd is the David H. Levin Chair in Family Law, the Emeritus Director of the Center on Children and Families, and an affiliate of the Center.


Dr. Gilbert is Albert Brick Professor in the Department of English at the University of Florida and an affiliate of the Center.


Dr. Hind is an Associate Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and an affiliate of the Center.


Dr. Kidd is a Professor in the Department of English and an affiliate of the Center.


Dr. Mennel is the Rothman Chair and Director, Center for Humanities and the Public Sphere, Professor in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, and the Department of English, and an affiliate of the Center.


Dr. Sarmistha is a faculty member in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and an affiliate of the Center.
The University of Florida and the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Studies Research were well-represented at the National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) annual conference, *Protest, Justice, and Transnational Organizing*, held November 14-17, 2019 in San Francisco, CA.

**In Chronological Order:**

**Advice for New Chairs and Directors: The Politics of Knowledge Sharing and Production in WGSS**

Panel Member: **Bonnie Moradi**, University of Florida

**Author Meets Critics, Graffitti Grrlz: Performing Feminism in the Hip Hop Diaspora**

Critic: **Jillian Hernandez**, University of Florida

**Embodied Praxis and Radical Spirit: The Power of Femme of Color Aesthetics**

Dreaming Together in Pink: The Aesthetic and Political Spirit of Femme of Color Rococo -- **Jillian Hernandez**, University of Florida

**Growing Up Feminist: Children's Literature and Activism in Focus**

**Technofeminist Interventions: Creating new knowledge communities through girls tech camps -- Shannon Butts**, University of Florida

**Island Feminist Studies: Theories and Feminist Praxis**

Moderator: **Manoucheka Celeste**, University of Florida

**Ku'er, Lesbian, and Trans Resistance to State Violence and Repression**

Resistencia Sapatão: Black Lesbians, and Human Rights in Brazil Necropolitics - **Mariana Meriqui Rodrigues**, University Of Florida

**#LoveWITHAccountability: Digging Up the Roots of Child Sexual Abuse**

Presenter: **Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons**, University of Florida

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*Women's Studies Graduate Students Melissa Powers (left) and Logan Neser (middle), talk to Women's Studies Professor Jillian Hernandez (right) about their poster.*

*Women's Studies Professor Jillian Hernandez (left), Director Bonnie Moradi, (middle), meet with Graduate Student Andreina Fernandez during the poster session.*
Political Resistance Through Feminist Art and Literature
Colonialism and Potatoes: Transnational Feminist Solidarities in the Fiction of Leanne Howe and Leslie Marmon Silko - Alyssa Hunziker, University of Florida

Poster Presentation and Art Reception
Undoing [Biological] Sex: Understanding the Body as Mosaic - Kelsey Lewis, University of Florida
Visualizing the Future: Black Trans Afrofuturism and Aesthetics of Alternative World-Making - Melissa Powers, University of Florida; Logan Nesper, University of Florida
Where is the Queer Migrant Future? Looking Towards Queer Migrant Cultural Production - Andreina Elena Fernandez, University of Florida

Print Objects: Resisting the Status Quo in Feminist Publishing
Building a Cohort for Protest: Lesbians Cartoonists in Gay Comix - Margaret Galvan, University of Florida

Queer Kinship and the Alternative Family Tree
With Love and Solidarity: Boysan’s House as a Queer Space in Turkey - Ecem Ece, University of Florida

Tension, Promise, and the Limits of Solidarity: Rethinking Transnational Feminisms through Global Black Feminist Politics
Presenter: Tanya L Saunders, University of Florida

Theorizing, Locating, and Scaling Haitian feminism(s)
A Transnationalism Approach: Understanding Haitian immigrant women through the lens of Haitian Feminism - Alexandra Cenatus, University of Florida

Transnational and Transgenerational Mentoring: Women of Color Transforming Academic Borders
Moderator: Manoucheka Celeste, University of Florida
Presenter: Karleen Victoria Schlichtmann, University of Florida

Transnational Posthumanisms: Livestock, Bestiality, and Pornography in Contemporary Japanese Visual Culture
Bestiality themes in Boys Love (BL): dystopic intimacy and kinship in for-women homoerotic media - Casey Lee, University of Florida

Women’s Studies Alum Karleen Schlichtmann (MA 2019), and Women’s Studies Professor Manoucheka Celeste meet before the NWSA conference.
UF Students Inspired by Women’s Conference

The fourth annual Women’s Conference of Florida took place on November 1st, 2019 in Tampa. More than 1,300 attendees from across the state gathered to explore topics of interest to professional women. UF attendees included Elana Pastore, a student completing her Masters in International Business in the Warrington College of Business, Chelsea Gifford, Masters in Women’s Studies student, Anna Kayer, Women’s Studies BA student, and Rachel Borman, finishing her Masters in Management in the Warrington College of Business.

The students, who heard from keynote speakers spanning a wide range of professional spectrums, were led by Women’s Studies Associate Professor Dr. Anita Ananatharam, who teaches the course Women, Leadership, and Diversity in a Global Environment in the Center.

The conference theme, Provoke. Promote. Progress., was geared toward inspiring attendees to work to create solutions to major issues impacting women, while celebrating past, current, and future accomplishments. Anna Kayser remarked, “The Women’s Conference was honestly one of the most impactful experiences that I have gone through. To be immersed in an environment that was full of women who are empowered, determined, and unapologetic in everything they do was incredible. It left me feeling renewed in my goals, and extremely empowered.”

Feminism isn’t about making women stronger. Women are already strong. It’s about changing the way the world perceives that strength. —G.D. Anderson
Welcome Dr. Elizabeth Garcia (continued)

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range of feminist theories and critically exploring various historical methodologies. Core questions explored through the course will be: How do race and class influence definitions of feminism and feminist activism? How did these women use their activism to define their place in the world? How did they navigate conflict within their activist spaces? What lessons can we learn from their experiences that can be applied in our contemporary times? Dr. Garcia says, “I know that the histories that they’re going to read in this class are not histories they’ve ever been exposed to before, such as the experiences of indigenous women in this country, African American women, and so on.” Her goal is to encourage her students “to think about those women in relationship to feminism, which is something that not a lot of people tend to do.” With this in mind, Dr. Garcia says “If I can get first year students that exposure at an early part of their educational experience, hopefully that inspires them to not only major in Women’s Studies, but also to continue to look for those kinds of experiences and courses, and to learn from the beginning to ask all kinds of questions: What am I not learning? What’s missing from my education? Hopefully we’ll learn how to do that in my class.”

In addition to #SayHerName, Dr. Garcia will be teaching a graduate course on Latina narratives and the first ever honors section of WST3015, Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Women’s Studies. Dr. Garcia says “It’s going really well. Teaching a section for the honors program is great because it allows for the honors program and the Center to have a bridge.”

Dr. Maddy Coy and Colleagues Lead International Conference on Faculty and Staff Sexual Misconduct

With funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Dr. Maddy Coy (CoPI, UF), Dr. Julie Libarkin (PI, MSU) and collaborators from the UK and US led a highly successful international conference (June 30- July 2) focused on academic sexual misconduct research, policy and prevention.

This conference was the first international forum to bring together international scholars, advocates, and survivors in order to share knowledge and formulated solutions for addressing power-based faculty and staff sexual misconduct.

“This important effort promotes UF’s visibility as a key contributor to evidence-based policy, practice, and prevention related to academic sexual misconduct,” said Dr. Bonnie Moradi, Center Director

For more information, please see: https://facultysexualmisconduct.com/
Students pursuing graduate work in the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Studies Research will become acquainted with various feminist (and other appropriate) theoretical approaches and methodologies for examining the role of gender in cultural systems. Gender will be understood in intersection with other categories of difference, including race, ethnicity, social class, sexuality, religion, physical ability, age, and nationality.

The Women's Studies Certificate (WST) is designed for graduate students from any discipline who wish to focus on interdisciplinary issues related to feminist theory and practice.

The Gender and Development (GAD) certificate is designed for graduate students from any discipline who wish to focus on issues related to gender and development.

Graduate and professional students from all colleges at UF are eligible to enroll in either certificate program offered in the Center.

Applications for the certificate must be submitted to the Center's Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Kendal Broad. For more information visit the Center's graduate page at http://wst.ufl.edu/graduate-studies/graduate-certificates/