

From the Director's Desk

DR. BONNIE MORADI
DIRECTOR

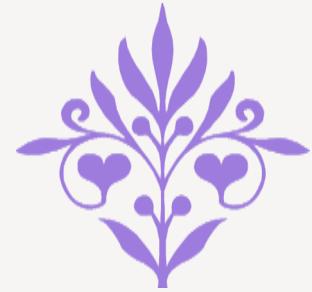
For many at UF, this fall has been marked by significant ongoing concern for the health and well-being of our students, staff, and faculty. Our communities, and especially Black members of our communities, have been facing the confluence of anti-Black racism, COVID-19 pandemic, financial strain, care work, and the labor of activism for social justice. How we operate as individuals and as an institution in this context reveals the alignment between our stated values and enacted decisions, between our rhetoric and our actions.

In this context, every decision we make warrants asking who benefits and who is harmed by this action (or inaction). For example, in our actions about face-to-face teaching, how are we addressing the disproportionate health risks, financial burdens, and care responsibilities that are racialized and gendered and classed? How are we addressing graduate assistants' concerns that they have to choose between risk for COVID-19 or giving up their funding and health insurance? In our work toward racial justice, how are we responding to UF Black Effort's demands about student support, faculty hiring, and institutional investments; demands that Black student activists have voiced for decades? Who are we including at the table and whose experiences are we

centering in our deliberations and decision-making about these issues?

In a system as large as our university, it can be easy to depersonalize the responsibility for asking and acting on these questions because each individual can feel (legitimately) constrained by powers beyond their control. Still, this moment is a mirror reflecting back to us our values through our actions. For me, this has meant daily questioning of my own role in working within systems to mitigate harm versus sustaining systems that perpetuate harm. I struggle with this tension each day.

Looking for guidance, I recently went back and watched a public talk that our dear friend and colleague, Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn gave before she passed this

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From the Director's Desk, continued

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summer. She spoke at the 50th anniversary celebration of the UF African American Studies program. In that talk, she honored elders in the room. She recognized activists and thinkers whose shoulders we stand on. She expressed gratitude to core faculty,

community members, and students for their hard work and persistence. She talked about purpose, struggle, and collaboration as three pillars marking the history and development of African American Studies as a discipline and at UF.

Importantly, she expressed love.

To me, this is one of the most profound gifts that Dr. Hilliard-Nunn gives us: holding love as a compass for our actions. I am grateful to Dr. Hilliard-Nunn for this reminder to hold love in our purpose, struggle, and collaboration, especially when it seems hardest to do so.



"I AM GRATEFUL TO

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-BONNIE MORADI,

DIRECTOR

New Class: Feminist Futures/Professional Development

"What can you do with a BA in Women's Studies?" Dr. Alyssa Zucker and Center graduate student Sky Martin are excited to work with students to answer this question. Starting in spring 2021, we will be offering a new one-credit course called *Feminist Futures/Professional Development*. Using the textbook *Transforming Scholarship: Why Women's and Gender*

Studies Students Are Changing Themselves and the World, this class will help students connect their undergraduate degree to meaningful postgraduate employment and/or advanced study. Students will also develop elevator pitches, cover letters, and résumés, and will have the opportunity for peer and instructor feedback on these portfolio items.

"What can you do with a BA in Women's Studies?"

Plenty! With a women's studies education you gain a deep understanding of gender, race, sexuality, and other systems of power, how they operate, and how to transform them to promote liberation, justice, and feminist futures!



Welcome New Graduate Students

We are delighted to welcome our new graduate students to the Center's MA program: **Terri L. Bailey, Priya Gurjar, Bailey Haas, Maria Saldana, Jessica "Jess" Trochez, and Lucy Xie.** These students bring a range of rich experiences and interests to the Center:



**Terri L.
Bailey**

graduated from Bethune Cookman University in 2009 with a BS in Elementary Education (Magna Cum Laude, ESOL Certification) and from Southern New Hampshire University in 2016 with an MA in English and Creative Writing (with the distinction of Outstanding Graduate Student).

She is a Community Educator/Advocate and the founder of the nonprofit organization, the Bailey Learning and Arts Collective, Inc (BLAAC2basics). BLAAC's first official program is the Queens Room Women's Empowerment Group that focuses on women's self-care and emotional wellbeing. Her area of interest is the reemergence of women in leadership in African Traditional Religions. She is a poet, spoken word artist, and Afrofuturistic/Black Horror writer and a firm believer that all social justice movements must include some form of artistic expression.



Priya Gurjar
graduated from the University of Florida in 2019 with a BA in Women's Studies and a BS in Psychology. Her

research interests include gender-based violence, healing narratives, and women's health.



Bailey Haas
graduated from Macalester College in 2019 with a BA in Psychology and Sociology. Her

research interests include identity as an individual experience and social positionality, meritocratic beliefs and systems, and social movements and collective action.



Maria Saldana
graduated from the University of Florida in 2020 with a BA in Women's Studies and a BS in psychology. She is part of the WELLS

Healing and Research Collective, which focuses on promoting the wellness and liberation of marginalized communities. Her research aims to explore how Queer and Transgender People of Color and Indigenous People move towards healing and activism, particularly through testimonios and storytelling. Her heart continues to be in Iquitos, Peru where her family resides.



**Jessica "Jess"
Trochez** graduated from the University of Florida with a BA in both Psychology and Women's Studies. Her pronouns are she/her/they/them. They are a

pansexual, first-generation college student and first-generation Honduran -American with invisible disabilities and a proud member of the WELLS Healing and Research Collective at UF. She envisions herself as a counseling psychologist with an emphasis on social justice and Black and feminist of color frameworks to advocate for Black, Indigenous, and queer and transgender people of color. They are also hopeful and motivated to bridge more Central American representation in Psychology and Women's Studies scholarship by amplifying grassroots organizations that are dedicated to critical consciousness and dismantling anti-Blackness in Central American communities. Her research interests also include decriminalization of sex work, accessible trauma interventions that are healing centered, dismantling violence against women and gender nonconforming people, and abolishing white supremacy.



Lucy Xie
graduated from York University in Toronto in 2019 with a BA in Psychology. Her research interests primarily involve sociocultural and environmental determinants of mental health. She hopes to pursue feminist counseling psychology.

(Continued on page 4)

Graduate Student Update *(continued)*

(Continued from page 3)

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:

Sunshine Adam is currently starting their second year in the Women Studies MA program. Their research explores the collective healing of Black and Afro-diasporic communities and interventions that facilitate Black liberation. As a member of the WELLS Healing and Research Collective, they are also engaged in research in the field of Psychology. Ultimately, they aim to work full-time in providing accessible and free wellness and healing practices for Black and/or queer communities.

Chelsea Gifford is a second year MA student working on her non-thesis research project under the supervision of Dr. Trysh Travis as chair. Her research is centered on the impulses and motives behind sexual storytelling and queer print culture. She will spend her remaining semesters curating these topics as

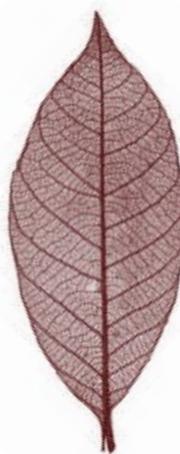
undergraduate and graduate course syllabi. They will explore the definitions and purpose of these subjects, how they take form in historical and contemporary practices, and the ways in which commodity culture has impacted these modes of queer identity. In addition, Chelsea is an instructor for "What is the Good Life" here at UF.

Sky Martin is a second year MA student currently working on her thesis project with Dr. Alyssa Zucker. Her thesis focuses on Black women's experiences of embodiment and how these experiences are affected by Black racial identity development and womanist identity development. Sky will continue her research and will be applying to counseling psychology PhD programs this year.

Justine Veras is a second year MA student currently working on her thesis project on Afro-spirituality and brujeria in popular culture under the supervision of committee chair Dr. Jillian Hernandez and committee member Dr. Tanya Saunders. She will continue her research and graduate assistantship work this semester.



WOMEN'S STUDIES 2ND YEAR GRADUATE STUDENTS
(LEFT TO RIGHT) JUSTINE VERAS, SKY MARTIN,
SUNSHINE ADAM, AND CHELSEA GIFFORD





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
- ♥ Reverend Glen A. Busby & Mrs. Linda C. Busby
- ♥ Mr. Fred H. Cantrell, Jr.
- ♥ Mrs. Jean Chalmers
- ♥ Mr. Evan G. Coe
- ♥ Community Foundation of North Central Florida
- ♥ Mr. Neil O. Contess
- ♥ Ms. Susan F. Delegal
- ♥ Dr. Sheila Dickison
- ♥ Dr. Paul Doughty
- ♥ Mrs. Melissa J. Ellis and Mr. Matthew A. Ellis
- ♥ Ms. Jasmine Esmailbegui
- ♥ Dr. Margaret U. Fields & Dr. Michael J. Fields
- ♥ Mr. Michael B. Friskey
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- ♥ Dr. David G. Hackett
- ♥ Ms. Jeanette K. Helfrich
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- ♥ Dr. Sidney Homan, Jr. & Mrs. Norma M. Homan
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- ♥ Mr. Sid Kennedy
- ♥ Dr. Angel Kwolek-Folland & Mr. Nathan O. Folland
- ♥ Dr. Angela Lindner & Mr. James H. Lindner
- ♥ Dr. Madelyn Lockhart
- ♥ Dr. Mary K. Lockwood
- ♥ Mr. Grady McClendon
- ♥ Dr. Judith W. Page and Professor William H. Page
- ♥ Mrs. Cheryl D. Paradis and Mr. Kenneth H. Paradis, Jr.
- ♥ Dr. Jaquelyn L. Resnick and Dr. Michael B. Resnick
- ♥ Mr. Juan Luis Rodriguez
- ♥ Mr. Jon Rou
- ♥ Ms. Lynne E. Roy
- ♥ Mrs. Lori L. Saxon and Mr. Robert S. Saxon
- ♥ Ms. Christine N. Sheridan
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- ♥ Ms. Anita R. Sundaram
- ♥ Ms. Kathryn Chicone Ustler
- ♥ Ms. Deborah Whippen
- ♥ 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.



USTLER HALL

Center for Gender, Sexualities and Women's Studies Research

Offers an interdisciplinary forum for the study of gender and sexualities, their intersections with race/ethnicity, class and other sociocultural systems, and their functions in cultures and societies.

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 major gifts and other naming opportunities, please contact
Christy Popwell, Director of Development, CLAS: (352) 392-1964 or cpopwell@ufl.edu.

Remembering Scholar, Filmmaker, Activist, Performer and Publisher, Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn

By Dr. Agnes Leslie

"WHEN I WAS
COMING UP,
COMMUNITY
WAS
EVERYTHING
AND CULTURE
WAS
EVERYTHING."

—DR. PATRICIA HILLIARD-NUNN

Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn ascended to join the ancestors on August 5, 2020. She was a deep, creative and engaging scholar and the foremost scholar on African-Americans in Alachua County. She was a core faculty member in the African American Studies Program and an affiliate of the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research, and taught courses in both units. In 2019, Dr. Hilliard-Nunn received the Distinguished Affiliate Faculty Award from the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research. In 2019-2020 she received the UF College of Liberal Arts Teacher of the Year Award. The two awards reflect her record of distinguished service and her devotion to the profession and academic excellence. She was among the principal advocates for transforming the African American Studies Program into a department.

She was a scholar, activist, community organizer, filmmaker, performer, dancer, and publisher. She embraced academia from the standpoint of caring about humanity and

activism.

Her enthusiasm for teaching about Africa and African American studies was infectious. The courses she taught include *Black Women and Film*, *Introduction to African American Studies*, *Blacks in Film*, and *The Black Experience: Psychological Perspectives*. One of Dr. Hilliard-Nunn's more popular courses among students and even faculty at UF was *Black Hair Politics*. The course included an interdisciplinary examination of issues related to the history, culture, sociology, psychology, health, employment, and economics of Black hair. I would find Dr. Hilliard-Nunn enthusiastically preparing for the students' presentations with food and drinks. And of course, she would invite everyone she knows to participate.

She worked tirelessly in the community. Indeed she was the true embodiment of uniting town and gown. Dr. Hilliard-Nunn was a natural at organizing and leading public events, bringing diverse people together, and extending love and warmth to all. She wrote and directed a video entitled "In the Shadow of

Plantations," about the history of Black enslavement in Alachua County, produced by the Alachua County Communications Office. In relation to the research she conducted public tours to educate people about African American history in Alachua Country. She also produced a DVD entitled: "45 Years of Triumph and Struggle: African American Studies at UF."

Most recently she led the creation and unveiling of a plaque dedicated to recognizing the lynching of African Americans in Jonesville, Florida. She researched and wrote the information for the Florida State Historical Marker on the Newberry Lynching of 1916 and was the lead speaker at the official dedication of the marker in August 2018. She made several public presentations related to her research about the lynchings.

Patricia and I worked together on programs promoting Africa and African American history in K-12 and the community, even before she joined the university. She was always full of enthusiasm. She never said no to teaching and working in

(Continued on page 7)

(Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn,
Continued from page 6)

the community. A few weeks before she ascended, I asked her – I did not know her state – if she would lead a session in my summer institute on African-American history. Without hesitation she said, “I will be glad to do it.” I did not know then that she gave the presentation from the hospital. She was, as always, full of humor, talking about how if she was at home, she would be on the floor showing the teachers examples of teaching about Africa. As I went on to introduce her, she joked; “Agnes, you are taking my time for my presentation!”

Her engagement in the community has not gone unnoticed. In 2018 she was awarded the Andrew Mickle History Award by the Cultural Arts Coalition. In 2017 she received the Unsung Hero Award by Ayoka Gifts Homowo Festival in Monteochea, FL, an organization that focusses on African and African American history and culture. She also received the Ida B Wells Award from the Gainesville Commission of the Status of Women and the Santa Fe College Women of Distinction Award. She also served on the boards of most of the African American organizations in Gainesville.

Our lasting memory of this creative, eloquent, humorous, magnificent, beautiful and powerful scholar is the 50th anniversary celebration of African American Studies at the University of Florida on February 21st, 2020, which she orchestrated. It was one of the

biggest academic celebrations the university has witnessed. Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn, dressed in a gold colored African outfit, strode majestically in the University



AFFILIATE FACULTY MEMBER
DR. PATRICIA HILLIARD-NUNN

Auditorium accompanied by drums and pomp leading all the African Americans she could assemble who were the first to attend the university. She proudly led the delegation of distinguished awardees including a judge, lawyers, academics, church people and private businesspeople up to the stage. The onlookers stared in admiration at her graceful command of the stage as she introduced the program and its importance for the University. She opened as she always did by thanking the ancestors. Her presence exuded knowledge, power, and beauty in an inclusive and non-threatening manner. Alas, this would be our last glimpse of this dear sister,

friend, teacher, colleague, scholar and activist!

African societies celebrate the ascendancy of seniors for having accomplished all they could in their lifetime. The ascendancy of Dr. Hilliard-Nunn in her prime, however, has jolted and left the university, and the community with a huge void and a collective ache. Our heartfelt condolences to her spouse, UF Professor of Law, Kenneth Nunn and daughters Foluke and Dayo, her mother Patsy Jo Hilliard, her siblings Robi Hilliard Herron and Hakim Hilliard. Nonetheless the imprint she has left is like an eternal flame. She will forever glow through her many accomplishments, the memories and how she impacted each of us in a unique and positive way. She has left many examples for us to emulate. No doubt she is already performing some higher activism in the company of distinguished ancestors including Mary Jane McLeod Bethune, Zora Neale Hurston, Dorothy Heights, Mwalimu (teacher) Julius Nyerere, Nelson Mandela, Wangari Maathai and John Lewis. “Hamba kahle lala kahle, Sis.” “Go well, sleep well, my sister.” (Sesotho).





UF | Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research

COME EARN YOUR MASTER'S WITH US!

The Center offers an interdisciplinary forum for the study of gender and sexualities and their intersections with class, race/ethnicity, 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.

STUDY WITH FACULTY MEMBERS IN THE CENTER

[Anita Anantharam, PhD](#)

[Kendal Broad, PhD](#)

[Manoucheka Celeste, PhD](#)

[Maddy Coy, PhD](#)

[Elizabeth Garcia, PhD](#)

[Laura K. Guyer, PhD](#)

[Jillian Hernandez, PhD](#)

[Bonnie Moradi, PhD](#)

[Constance Shehan, PhD](#)

[Trysh Travis, PhD](#)

[Alyssa Zucker, PhD](#)

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!](#)



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 gender, sexualities, and women's studies, and additional elective credits that students can choose from a wide range of courses, such as:

Intersectional Activisms

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.

Beyond 120: Experiential Learning and Professional Development in Women's Studies

The UF College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' *Beyond120* initiative aims to enrich undergraduate experience and growth beyond the 120 credit hours required for graduation. It does so by helping students engage in experiential learning, such as internships, mentored research, study abroad, and professional development opportunities. Our Center has long engaged in such activities because feminist praxis—putting feminist theory into action—is core to our mission and pedagogy. One way we do this is through our Women's Studies internship and Health Disparities practicum courses.

This fall, we have 12 students enrolled in WST 4940, interning at sites as varied as Peaceful Paths Domestic Violence Agency, the Child Advocacy Center, and the State Attorney's Office Crimes Against Women and Children unit. We recently added a new site, Days for Girls, which aims to empower women and girls through sustainable menstrual care and health education. We also restarted a partnership with the Civic Media Center. Additionally, 55 students minoring in Health Disparities in Society are enrolled in WST 4941C practicum, working to increase provision of culturally competent and

equitable services at organizations such as the Gainesville Fire Rescue Community Paramedicine Program, the Center for Independent Living, and the Pediatric Pulmonary Center of the College of Medicine.

While the primary work in the internship and practicum classes consists of time spent engaging with the work of the site, students also participate in learning activities, such as reflection and discussion, which help integrate their classroom and experiential learning. Students often find that their internship experiences are transformative, putting them on a path of translating their academic learning into personal growth, feminist action, and feminist careers.

We are thrilled to share that the women's studies internship program will benefit from a generous bequest from **Dr. Sheila Dickison**. Dr. Dickison, a long-time friend and affiliate of the Center, recently retired from her role as Director of Academic Programs at UF's Bob Graham Center for Public Service. As Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS, 1989-1995), Dr. Dickison was a strong



DR. SHEILA DICKISON

advocate for the Center and its origin; in the late seventies, she served as a member of a task force that indicated how important it was for CLAS to launch this new direction of teaching and scholarship. Dr. Dickison continues to be an enthusiastic supporter of cultivating internship opportunities for students. Her pledged gift will help ensure the sustainability of the women's studies internship for students long into the future. We are deeply grateful for Dr. Dickison's longstanding support and generosity.



It takes 120 credit hours to earn an undergraduate degree, but there are infinite ways to navigate your college journey and prepare for life beyond graduation. *Beyond120* is about students translating the knowledge, skills, and perspectives they are cultivating through their education into personal growth and professional development. If you would like to learn more about *Beyond120*, visit <http://www.advising.ufl.edu/beyond120/>

Celebrating Undergraduate Student Research

This year, the Center's undergraduate students are pursuing funded research projects that translate their academic learning into advancing scholarship and addressing real-world challenges. Through this research, these students help us realize the mission of the Center's academic program to offer students cutting-edge education in gender, sexualities, and women's studies; the intersections of gender and sexualities with race, class, and other systems of power; and how to transform these systems to promote justice. We encourage students to pursue these and other undergraduate research awards to work on research with faculty in the Center!

University Scholars Program

Haaniya Ahmed

Class of '21; double major in Biology and Women's Studies, minor in Health Disparities in Society

Project title: Rape Prosecution in Alachua County: The Role of the State Attorney's Office

Mentor: Dr. Alyssa Zucker



Asia Barlow

Class of '23; major in Exploring Humanities & Letters

Project title: Alachua County Sheriff's Office Response to Rape Allegations

Mentor: Dr. Maddy Coy



Trevon Bailey

Class of '22; major in Biology

Project title: Using an Intersectional Lens to Examine Explicit and Implicit Messaging Associated with Diversity in the Journal of the American Dental Association

Mentors: Dr. Laura Guyer and Dr. Virginia Dodd



College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Scholars Program

Alexandra Quintana

Class of '23; major in Political Science

Project title: Characteristics and Outcomes of Child Sexual Abuse Cases in Alachua County, FL

Mentor: Dr. Maddy Coy

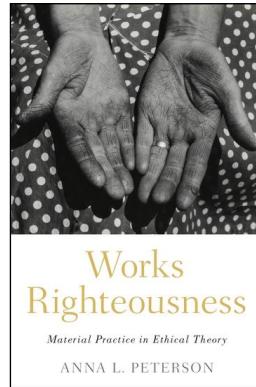


Book Nook: Recently Published Books by Center Faculty and Affiliates



Jillian Hernandez, *Aesthetics of Excess: The Art and Politics of Black and Latina Embodiment*, Duke University Press, 2020

Dr. Hernandez is an Assistant Professor in the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research.

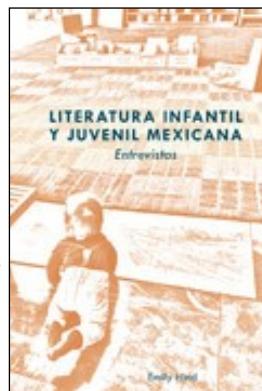


Anna Peterson, *Works Righteousness: Material Practice in Ethical Theory*, Oxford University Press, 2020

Dr. Peterson is a Professor in the Department of Religion and an affiliate of the Center.

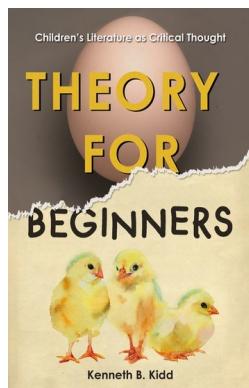
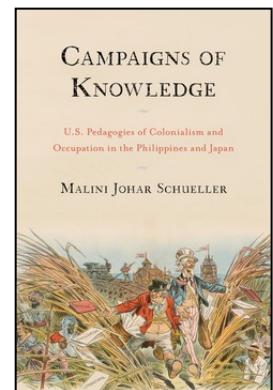
Emily Hind, *Literatura Infantil y Juvenil Mexicana: Entrevistas* (Title translation: *Mexican Children's and Young Adult Literature: Interviews*) Peter Lang, 2020

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



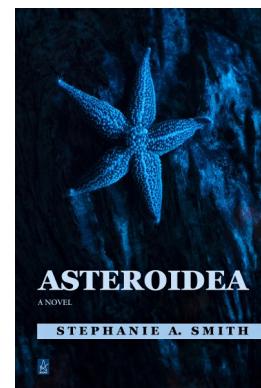
Malini Johar Schueller, *Campaigns of Knowledge: U.S. Pedagogies of Colonialism and Occupation in the Philippines and Japan*, Temple University Press, 2020

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



Kenneth B. Kidd, *Theory for Beginners: Children's Literature as Critical Thought*, Fordham University Press, 2020

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

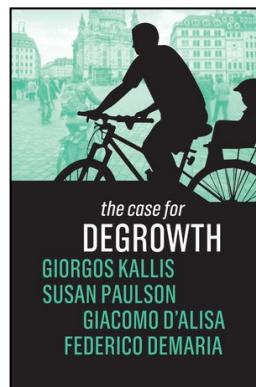


Stephanie A. Smith, *Astroidea: A Novel*, Adelaide Books, 2020.

Stephanie A. Smith is a Professor of English and an affiliate of the Center.

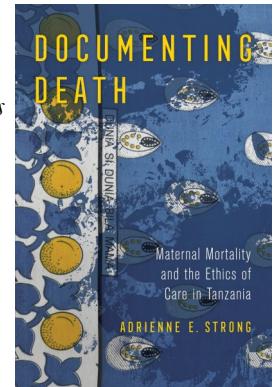
Giorgos Kallis, Susan Paulson, Giacomo D'Alisa, Federico Demaria, *The Case for Degrowth*, 2020, Polity Press

Dr. Susan Paulson is a Professor in the Center for Latin American Studies and an affiliate of the Center.



Adrienne E. Strong, *Documenting Death: Maternal Mortality and the Ethics of Care in Tanzania*, University of California Press, 2020

Dr. Adrienne E. Strong is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and an affiliate of the Center.



Center Alum and Published Author Pursues her Love of Haiti, Reading and Writing

*By Mackintosh Joachim,
UF Women's Studies major, class of 2021*



“*MY WOMEN'S
STUDIES
EDUCATION
GAVE ME A
CRITICAL LENS
TO LOOK AT THE
WORLD
THROUGH.*”

-MARITZA MOULITE

*Maritza Moulite graduated with the B.A. in Women's Studies in 2013. She is now a published author of young adult novels, including *Dear Haiti, Love Alaine*, co-authored with her sister Maika Moulite. She is currently pursuing her PhD in education at the University of Pennsylvania.*

“What's Women's Studies?” “Why Women's Studies?” Maritza Moulite was asked those questions by her peers and parents when she mentioned that she was a Women's Studies major. Growing up as a Haitian American, her parents wanted her to become either a lawyer, doctor, or engineer. Like many immigrant parents, they were trying to ensure stability in their child's life. Moulite's parents were not happy when she told them that she was a Women's Studies major but became more understanding after they found out that she planned to pursue more schooling after earning her undergraduate degree.

After graduating in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in Women's Studies, Moulite decided to enter the world of journalism. She interned at a local Haitian television station under the National Broadcasting Company, and then earned a master's degree in journalism at the University of Southern California. In 2015, Moulite became a news associate at NBC, and came to the realization that she no longer wanted to be on television. She decided to go back to the basics—reading and writing. She became a literacy tutor and, in September 2019, published her first book, a young adult novel titled *Dear Haiti, Love Alaine* which she co-authored with her sister Maika. The Moulites wrote *Dear Haiti, Love Alaine* because they wanted to write a story about a “strong, confident Haitian American girl” who is not afraid to speak her mind. It is the type of book that the Moulite sisters wished they had while growing up.

As a Haitian American, the Moulites' book spoke to me personally. Similar to the Moulite sisters, I had never encountered a Haitian American coming of age book. It was powerful to read about Alaine and her coming of age journey. The Moulite sisters have a second book, *One of the Good Ones*, which is set to be published on January 5, 2021. The book is about two sisters' journey to honor their deceased sister, who was killed at a

social justice rally.

In addition to being a successful author of young adult fiction, Moulite is currently pursuing a doctoral degree. During her time as a literacy tutor, Moulite realized that there were questions—such as how family engagement and intervention programs affect literacy outcomes in early learners from low-income communities—that she wanted answers to, but none were available. As a result, she decided to go back to school to answer those questions through research. She is now a first-year Ph.D. student in education at the University of Pennsylvania with a focus on reading and writing in literacy.

When asked, “How has your Women's Studies degree helped shape your career path?” Moulite stated that “[it] gave me a critical lens to look at the world through.” Women's Studies provided the language and skills to process specific issues. She stated she really enjoyed her “classes in the women's studies department... Dr. Anita Anantharam and Dr. Tace Hedrick were my favorite professors.”

It was an honor and a pleasure to interview Maritza Moulite (future Ph.D.).

From Feminist Theory to Feminist Practice: Center Alum Pursues Career in Social Work



WHITNEY SHADOWENS
M.A., WOMEN'S STUDIES
UF CLASS OF 2012

Whitney Shadowens graduated with the MA in Women's Studies in 2012. She obtained a Master of Social Work (MSW) in May 2020 from the University of South Florida and is currently a Registered Clinical Social Worker Intern, working toward licensure as a Clinical Social Worker, and providing psychotherapy services to individuals and couples in Pinellas County, Florida.

In 2004, I began my undergraduate studies at the University of Florida with the goal to become a high school English teacher. I came from a sheltered home and a small private school. Much of my undergraduate experience was learning to understand the world into which I had just been thrust. I coasted through my undergraduate studies without passion or a true connection to what I was learning. As I entered my senior year, I felt unfulfilled by the career path I had chosen and searched for deeper meaning and purpose. My last semester of college, I took a feminist theory course on a whim – and I realized what I was missing. I decided to pursue a graduate degree at the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research (CGSWSR) at UF.

When I graduated in 2012 with my MA, I obtained a full time job working for Peaceful Paths Domestic Abuse Network, a non-profit agency in Gainesville, Florida. Working for the agency took my graduate education to the next level, from theory to practice. In the program, I developed an awareness of myself in relation to systems of power, oppression, and privilege. However, it was not until working with survivors that I witnessed first-hand how race, gender identity, ability level, sexuality, culture, religion and socioeconomic status create obstacles to safety, healing, and justice to those experiencing abuse. During my time at the agency, I worked directly with survivors

and the community, engaging in community education, community task forces, and co-coordinating a survivor art exhibit.

After nearly a decade of advocacy work with survivors of domestic violence, I returned to graduate school and received a Master of Social Work (MSW) in May 2020. I chose social work as a profession because of its commitment to social justice issues, social change, and understanding individuals through person-in-environment framework — all of which align with the knowledge, values, and skills I obtained during my graduate program in the CGSWSR. My graduate education challenged my worldview and provided me a theoretical lens to critically evaluate how various identities and oppressions intersect to shape policy and impact lived experience. In my current clinical work, I aspire to help clients identify their strengths, develop self-awareness through a lens of their intersecting identities and social contexts, and empower them to embrace their personal power to enact change within themselves and their community.

I am immensely grateful for the exceptional education I received at UF's CGSWSR. The Women's Studies program shaped me on a deeply personal and professional level, informing how I interact with individuals, communities, and systems to bring about social change.

As Patricia Hill Collins said in Black Feminist Thought, a book that deeply influenced my education, growth, and professional development: "...the goal in life, in the world, is not to merely survive or to fit in or to cope; rather, it becomes a place where we feel ownership and accountability...There is always a choice, and power to act, no matter how bleak the situation may appear to be."

UF's WOMEN'S
STUDIES
PROGRAM SHAPED
ME ON A DEEPLY
PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL
LEVEL, INFORMING
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WITH INDIVIDUALS,
COMMUNITIES,
AND SYSTEMS TO
BRING ABOUT
SOCIAL CHANGE.

-WHITNEY SHADOWENS

The Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research
Call for Proposals for Awards and Grants

We invite students and faculty to submit proposals for the following Center awards and grants:



AAUW Gainesville Student Grant: The AAUW Gainesville Branch Student Grant provides up to \$1000 to support women's studies students to conduct research, education, or initiatives that align with AAUW's mission: <https://www.aauw.org/> and <https://gainesville-fl.aauw.net>

Applications are due on March 15th, 2021



CHARLES T. WOODS, JR.

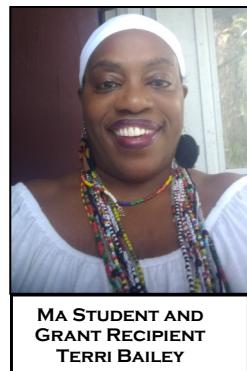
Charles T. Woods Faculty Grant: The Charles T. Woods Faculty Grant supports faculty research or service intervention projects that benefit LGBTQ+ communities. Grants of up to \$6,000 will be awarded that can be used over a period of one academic year

in the form of salary (e.g., summer, course release) or reimbursement for expenses required for the project. All projects should clearly connect research and praxis, with an applied component that benefits LGBTQ+ communities. Applications are due on March 15th, 2021

Charles T. Woods Student Grant: The Charles T. Woods Student Grant supports student research or service/community projects that benefit LGBTQ+ communities. Grants of up to \$4,000 will be awarded that can be used over a period of one academic year in the form of salary (e.g., summer, graduate assistantship) or reimbursement for expenses required for the project. All projects should clearly connect research and praxis, with an applied component that benefits LGBTQ+ communities.

All proposals are due March 15, 2021, and should be submitted via the application portal on the Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies website. Please visit <https://wst.ufl.edu/funding/> for more information.

Center MA Student Terri Bailey wins Alachua County Arts Grant



MA STUDENT AND
GRANT RECIPIENT
TERRI BAILEY

Congratulations to Center MA student Terri Bailey who won an Alachua County Arts grant to support her work. Bailey is the founder of The Bailey Learning and Arts Collective (BLAAC) which focuses on "social justice through the arts."

For more information about Terri Bailey and her Alachua County Arts Grant, visit <https://www.wuft.org/news/2020/10/15/alachua-county-artists-plan-to-engage-the-community-through-arts-grants>

*Center Faculty Organized Successful Virtual Events
to Connect Faculty, Students, and Community around Key Scholarly Topics*

Talking Covid: A Survival Guide For People of Color
July 25 & 26, 2020

ONLINE SERIES AND ACTIVITIES



Wellness Saturday (July 25, 2020)
12:00 pm-4:00 pm EDT

- 12:00 pm: How to Care for Yourself
- 1:30 pm: Career Conversation with Jo'Net Glover
- 1:45 pm: Making Music for Survival: Songwriting 101 with Martha Gonzalez
- 3:00 pm: Yoga with Andrea Smith

Information Sunday (July 26, 2020)
12:00 pm-4:00 pm EDT

- 12:00 pm: Getting Informed: Learning about Different Aspects of the Coronavirus
- 1:30 pm: Collage Making: Art and Healing with Porchia Moore
- 2:00 pm: Let's Talk about Coronavirus: A Community Conversation
- 3:00 pm: Yoga, Breathing & Meditation with Simonne Sequeira

“Talking Covid: A Survival Guide for People of Color” organized by Dr. Manoucheka Celeste and Intersections grant collaborators

For event details and a full list of cosponsors, visit the events page on our website.

THE CENTER FOR GENDER, SEXUALITIES, AND WOMEN'S STUDIES RESEARCH PRESENTS:

PERREO AS QUEER FEMINIST RESISTANCE: A CREATIVE CONVERSATION

THIS PANEL WILL EXPLORE HOW PERREO COMBATIVO AIMS TO EMPOWER BLACK AND LATINX QUEER PEOPLE TO ENACT TRANSFORMATIVE SOCIAL CHANGE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND BEYOND.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, 4:00-6:00 PM VIA ZOOM
VIRTUAL PERREO SET BY DJ SAD BOY: 9:30-10:30 PM**

“Perreo as Queer Feminist Resistance”
organized by Dr. Jillian Hernandez

THE CENTER FOR GENDER, SEXUALITIES, AND WOMEN'S STUDIES RESEARCH PRESENTS

BODIES LIKE OCEANS: QUEERS IN NATURE
A DISCUSSION WITH ARTIST SHOOG MCDANIEL



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH, 4:00-5:30PM

“Bodies Like Oceans: Queers in Nature”
organized by Dr. Jillian Hernandez and Center MA student Maria Saldana

Edna Saffy Lecture Series Co-sponsors Dr. Safiya Noble Event



**YOUR SEARCH
ALGORITHM
IS POLITICAL**

In collaboration with the African American Studies Program and other cosponsors, the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research Edna Saffy Lecture for fall 2020 was leading scholar, Dr. Safya Noble,

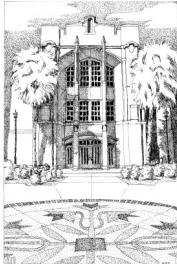
Assistant Professor in the Annenberg School of Communication at USC. In her lecture titled, “Your Search Algorithm is Political,” Dr. Noble, provided evidence on how search algorithms, like Google search, misrepresent people and communities, and the harm that comes from these algorithmic practices. She described how search engines and similar decision-making systems contribute to oppression and racist marginalization and underscored that with artificial intelligence must come accountability.



P.O. Box 117352
Gainesville, FL 32611-7352

Phone: 352-273-0382
Fax: 352-392-4873
wst.ufl.edu

**VISIT US IN
BEAUTIFUL
USTLER
HALL, IN
THE HEART
OF THE UF
CAMPUS.**



Two Graduate Certificates Offered in the Center

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, 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/>