

2017 -
2018

**CONSORTIUM FOR GRADUATE
STUDIES IN GENDER, CULTURE,
WOMEN, AND SEXUALITY**

ANNUAL REPORT

BOSTON COLLEGE * BOSTON UNIVERSITY * BRANDEIS
UNIVERSITY * HARVARD UNIVERSITY * MIT *
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY * SIMMONS COLLEGE * TUFTS
UNIVERSITY * UMASS BOSTON

Table of Contents

GCWS Board of Directors	2
The Mother Board & Past Faculty.....	3
GCWS Mission Statement	3
2017-2018 Courses	4
Workshop for Dissertation Writers in Women’s and Gender Studies	5
Feminist Inquiry	7
Women in Contemporary U.S. Science	8
Resistance in Feminist Queer Theater/Theory	9
Breakdown of Student Participants.....	10
Breakdown of Faculty Participants	11
2017-2018 Workshops, Events, and Initiatives	12
Feminisms Unbound	12
Women Take the Reel: A Film Festival Celebrating Women’s History Month.....	19
The Mother Board Writing Prize	22
Higher Ed in the Era of #MeToo	23

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in Gender, Culture, Women, and
Sexuality (GCWS)**

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The Mother Board & Past Faculty

The ‘Mother Board’ consists of the six founders, feminist faculty who conceptualized and brought the GCWS into existence: Carol Hurd Green (BC), Joyce Antler (Brandeis), Alice Jardine (Harvard), Ruth Perry (MIT), Laura Frader (NEU), and Christiane Romero (Tufts). We continue to rely on their institutional knowledge, insight, and expertise in feminist scholarship as the GCWS evolves. We draw on the Mother Board and other past faculty members as we continue to respond to the changing needs and opportunities within the field of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

GCWS Mission Statement

The Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality housed at MIT brings together feminist scholars and teachers from nine Boston area institutions for the purpose of advancing interdisciplinary, intersectional feminist scholarship and teaching in the areas of women’s, gender, and sexuality studies. The consortium is committed to the following:

- Exploring the intersections of power and identity, including but not limited to gender, race, ethnicity, class, physical ability, nationality, religion, and language
- Cultivating collaborative intellectual communities across fields and disciplines
- Supporting innovative pedagogical practices
- Contributing to the professional development of students and faculty
- Providing a sustainable model of institutional collaboration

In line with the history of women’s studies, GCWS relies on shared expertise, wisdom, and vision to work toward a more just and equitable future for all people.

Student comment:

“I really like being able to talk with the authors of the articles. I think that helped understand more of their methods and how the actual research process looks like.”

2017-2018 Courses

Workshop for Dissertation Writers in Women's and Gender Studies

Fall and Spring Semesters: Thursdays 5:30-8:30 PM

September 7, 2017 – May 10, 2018

Taught by Robin Chandler, Associate Professor of Cultures, Societies, and Global Studies, Northeastern University

The Politics of Madness: Gender and Psychiatry through Film and Theory

Fall semester: Thursdays 3:00-6:00 PM

September 7, 2017 – December 14, 2017

Taught by Emily Fox-Kales, Department of Psychiatry at Harvard and Feminist Media Studies at Northeastern

Sarah Pinto, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Tufts

Feminist Inquiry

Spring semester: Tuesdays 1:30-4:30 PM

January 28, 2018 – May 6, 2018

Taught by Linda Blum, Professor of Sociology, Northeastern University

Karl Surkan, Lecturer in Women's & Gender Studies, MIT

Women in Contemporary U.S. Science

Spring semester: Tuesdays 5:00-8:00 PM

January 30, 2018 – May 8, 2018

Taught by Kathrin Zippel, Associate Professor of Sociology, Northeastern University

Gerhard Sonnert, Research Associate, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and

Associate of Harvard Physics Department

Resistance in Feminist Queer Theater/Theory

Spring semester: Wednesdays 5:00-8:00 PM

January 29, 2018 – May 7, 2018

Taught by Andrés Fabián Henao Castro, Assistant Professor of Political Science, UMass Boston

Jennifer Row, Assistant Professor of French, Boston University

Student comment

“I appreciate that it is a consortium course and thus brings together students from many schools. Also the class size is great – enough people to not be daunting but small enough to feel like you can get to know everyone in the class. Finally, it being co-taught is strength. It's great to see good scholarship and scholarly disagreement modeled regularly.”

Workshop for Dissertation Writers in Women’s and Gender Studies

Fall and Spring Semesters: Thursdays 5:30-8:30 PM
September 7, 2017 – May 10, 2018

This workshop intends to establish a community of inquiry for graduate students in various stages of the dissertation writing process with status assessments taking place the first two weeks of class. The class is intended to provide a safety net for personal well-being, self-care, and spiritual focus during what may be one of the most intense and self-serving processes of one’s life journey. The seminar will cover the technical aspects of data sources and subjectives, writing proposals for research funding, publication practices, and navigating local institutional politics. Primarily, this is an opportunity for graduate students to obtain feedback on their writing in gender and feminist theory, critique, policy, and methodology, particularly interdisciplinary projects and individuals that embody the realities of “difference.” But it also aims to discuss the challenges, tensions, and politics of getting certain interdisciplinary projects through the institutional pipeline. The course will include mini-lectures, writing and review, assigned readings using the RL Model, and 15- to 30-minute guest ‘testimonials’ from seasoned scholars. For those doing fieldwork abroad, this workshop will highlight topics in international development, transnational feminism, and gender policy and practice updates that affect the research policies.

Faculty

Robin Chandler is Associate Professor of Cultures, Societies, and Global Studies. She is an interdisciplinary social scientist and gender specialist. Her research in international development is focused on 21st century nations undergoing rapid social, political, and economic change. She is former director of Women’s Studies at Northeastern University and is an author of *Women, war, and violence: Personal perspectives and global activism*.

The Politics of Madness: Gender and Psychiatry through Film and Theory

*Fall semester: Thursdays 3:00-6:00 PM
September 7, 2017 – December 14, 2017*

As far back as Greek antiquity's diagnosis of hysteria as a function of the "wandering uterus," popular understanding of female psychopathology has been located in the body of the woman. As such, the natural history of psychiatry is inextricably linked to cultural constructions of power, gender, and psychosexuality and thus provides a rich and complex context within which to interrogate the hegemonic

medicalization of mental illness and human behavior. This course will bring together conceptual tools from the disciplines of medical anthropology, clinical psychology, and film studies. We will put into dialogue media representations and scholarly analyses from two cultural sites—India and the US—to investigate four clinical entities: trauma, paranoia, hysteria, and eating disorders/body image disturbances, with the goal of complicating universalizing assumptions about illness, healing medical practices, and psychosexual development. Key questions we will address include: how do comparisons of psychiatric structures illuminate gendered emotional experience across cultures and psychohistories? How does the practice of psychiatry in different settings both perpetuate and destabilize patriarchal narratives of the women's psyche? And how might such interrogations in turn inform social policy and clinical practice?

Faculty

Emily Fox-Kales is a clinical psychologist who specializes in the treatment of eating disorders in the Department of Psychiatry at the Harvard Medical School. She also teaches feminist media studies at Northeastern University. She has served as Film Editor of the journal *Gender & Psychoanalysis* and is the author of *Body Shots: Hollywood and the Culture of Eating Disorders*.

Sarah Pinto is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Tufts University, who specializes in medical anthropology, gender and sexuality, kinship, and global mental health. She is author of *Where There is No Midwife: Birth and Loss in Rural India*, and *Daughters of Parvati: Women and Madness in Contemporary India*, and co-editor of *Postcolonial Disorders*.

Student Comments

"The instructors and the syllabus seemed very deliberate about the application of particular methodological approaches to the study of ancient texts that really brought the material alive and highlighted their relevance for the contemporary moment."

"Other courses I've had in Divinity School around sex + gender tend to remain fairly 101. And this course pushed my feminist and queer thinking."

Feminist Inquiry

SPRING: Tuesdays, 1:30-4:30 PM
January 28, 2018 – May 6, 2018

Feminist Inquiry is a seminar designed to investigate the relationships between feminist theories and the research practices that feminist scholars use to study women and gender across a range of disciplines. It is not intended as a survey course on feminist theory, although students will recognize many pivotal thinkers included in our reading list. As an interdisciplinary course, feminist inquiry also cannot offer a strict “how to” approach to research, but instead will engage students in feminist scholarship, questioning disciplinary assumptions and methodologies, seeking new ways to frame scholarly questions, and reconsidering the relationship between subjects and objects of study. Feminist inquiry often asks new and difficult questions about what the analysis of gender, race, class, culture, sexual orientation, and other social factors bring to a particular project or area of research. Students will also have the opportunity to engage in two “hands-on” research inquiries of their own.

Faculty

Linda M. Blum is Professor of Sociology at Northeastern University. She is the author of *Between Feminism and Labor: The Significance of the Comparable Worth Movement*, *At the Breast: Ideologies of Breastfeeding and Motherhood in the Contemporary United States*, and *Raising Generation Rx: Mothering Kids with Invisible Disabilities in an Age of Inequality*.

Karl Surkan has taught in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program at MIT since 2005. Dr. Surkan does interdisciplinary work in queer, feminist, and new media studies with a humanities focus, and is currently writing a series of articles on technology and the (trans)gendered body.

Student Comments

“The content was very interesting and provided an opportunity to expand my knowledge base. Dividing the course up by building a theoretical foundation and then moving on to case studies was also helpful.”

“The interconnectedness was really valuable and I appreciated the opportunity to dig into various fields’ methods, approaches, and ways of structuring inquiry.”

Women in Contemporary U.S. Science

SPRING: Tuesdays 5:00-8:00 PM
January 30, 2018 – May 8, 2018

Using a variety of disciplinary lenses (history, psychology, sociology), this course explores the factors that impede women from successful participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers in the United States. A look into history will reveal that in different times and places, science, or at least certain branches of science, has been considered an entirely appropriate arena for women and that the advancement of women in the sciences does not follow a linear progressive trend. The course will also cover a variety of sociological and psychological mechanisms (including critical mass, accumulation of disadvantages, stereotype threat, implicit association, and attribution theory) that currently tend to distance women from scientific pursuits. Our investigation will range from what happens in the educational system to the situation of women scientist in the workplace. Furthermore, we will examine programs and interventions that are designed to support and promote women in STEM. Particular attention will be paid to how gender intersects with other powerful mechanisms of stratification, such as sexuality, race/ethnicity, and class.

Faculty

Gerhard Sonnert is Research Associate at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and an Associate of the Harvard Physics Department. An enduring focus of his work has been gender in science. Among his publications on the topic are *Gender Differences in Science Careers* and *Who Succeeds in Science?: The Gender Dimension*.

Kathrin Zippel is Associate Professor of Sociology at Northeastern University. Her research explores gender and global transformations of academia. Her books are entitled *Women in Global Science: Advancing Careers Through International Collaboration* and *The Politics of Sexual Harassment in the United States, the European Union and Germany (CUP)*.

Student comment:

“I loved interviewing the scientist! What a fun assignment!”

“It was great to have a course that approached the topic of women and science from multiple angles, like public health and sociology.”

Resistance in Feminist Queer Theater/Theory

SPRING: Wednesdays 5:00-8:00 PM

January 29, 2018 – May 7, 2018

There is something “spectacular” about revolutions: the drama of barriers being broken, the emotion of the crowd. And for feminist and queer activism in particular, the nature of visibility, spectacle and protest has been integral to gains made by groups such as ACT UP! or the Combahee Women’s Collective. This course, however, moves beyond the relationship between the social movements and theater to hone in on a critical theory of performance: why and how is theater so important to feminist and queer thought? From Judith Butler’s sense of “performatively” constructed gender to José Esteban Muñoz’ theory of “disidentification” in queer of color critique, theatricality and performance studies have lent robust paradigms to queer and feminist theory. In other words, one aspect of the course will examine what theater and queer theory share: troubling the nature of representation, investigating mimesis and secondariness, spectacle and masochism. However, another aspect of this course will look at how queer and feminist thought can put pressure on the theater (and vice-versa); how do the theater’s exigencies of action (drama) oppose theories of neutral or passive (minimal, bored) resistance? What type of spectatorship does queer and feminist theater elicit? Can the theater stand as realm of change, or is there a sense in which the “revolution can not be televised?”—that is to say, when the powerful sentiments of the disgruntled, disenfranchised, or dispossessed are captured in aesthetic form, does it lend legibility, genealogy of performativity and performance and its relationship to feminist theories and queer critique. Interweaving political philosophy, theater studies, and literary analysis, the course asks students to think speculatively and creatively about the poetics and politics of theatricality, sex, race, and gender.

Faculty

Andrés Fabián Henao Castro is Assistant Professor of Political Science at UMass Boston. His research deals with the relationships between ancient and contemporary political theory, critical race theory, and de-colonial theory. He is also a member of *Performance Philosophy* and a columnist for the online journal of political analysis *Palabras al Margen*.

Jennifer Row is Assistant Professor of French at Boston University and affiliate faculty with BU’s WGSS program. Her research and teaching interests include early modern theater, queer and feminist theory, and affect theory. Her book project, *Queer Velocities: Time, Sex and Biopower on the Early Modern Stage* looks at the impact of the newly precise timekeeping technologies and the theater on queer erotics.

Student comment

“I love the team-taught format and interdisciplinary nature of the professors. That brought a lot of variety in approaches and methods to the readings, which was helpful, as someone who doesn’t primarily work in theater or in either one of those fields.”

Breakdown of Student Participants

By Institution

Boston College	2
Boston University	6
Brandeis University	4
Harvard University	7
MIT	1
Northeastern University	2
Simmons College	3
Tufts University	5
UMass Boston	3
Total Enrollment	33

By Discipline

Anthropology	1	Public Policy	2
Art and Architecture	1	Religion	1
Art, Design, and Public Domain	1	Science Education	1
City Planning	1	Science, Technology, and Society	1
Critical/Creative Thinking	1	Social Behavioral Science	2
English	2	Social Welfare	1
History	1	Sociology	1
International Business	2	Sustainable International Development	1
International Journalism	1	Transnational, Cultural, and Community Studies	2
International Relations	1	Virology	1
		WGSS	1

Breakdown of Faculty Participants

By Institution

Boston College	0
Boston University	1
Brandeis University	0
Harvard University	2
MIT	1
Northeastern University	3
Simmons College	0
Tufts University	1
UMass Boston	1
Total Teaching Faculty	9

By Discipline

Anthropology	1
Astrophysics	1
Cultures, Societies, and Global Studies	1
French	1
Physics	1
Political Science	1
Psychiatry	1
Sociology	2
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	1

2017-2018 Workshops, Events, and Initiatives

Feminisms Unbound

The GCWS hosted the fourth year of Feminisms Unbound. This series, organized by GCWS affiliated faculty, features debates that focus on feminist concerns, theories, and practices in this contemporary moment. The goal of Feminisms Unbound was to foster conversations and community among Boston-area feminist intellectuals and activists. The series, in its open configuration, endeavored to allow the greatest measure of engagement across multiple disciplinary trajectories, and a full array of feminist investments. All three discussions were hosted at MIT. Over 150 people attended the series, including faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, as well as members of the public. The series continues to be a success and will be continuing into the 2018-2019 academic year.

The event organizers, GCWS affiliated faculty **Kimberly Juanita Brown**, Assistant Professor of English and Africana Studies, Mount Holyoke College, **Lisa Lowe**, Professor of English and American Studies, Tufts University, and **Jyoti Puri**, Professor of Sociology, Simmons College, programmed three topic-based discussions in this series:

Feminisms Unbound Panels 2017-2018

Black. Body. Art. Feminist Articulations of Race, Gender, and Geography - Sept. 20, 2017

- Dell M. Hamilton, Harvard University
- Anique Jonlan, Whippersnapper Gallery, Toronto Ontario
- Amanda Russhell Wallace, Smith College
- Moderated by: Kimberly Juanita Brown, Mount Holyoke College

Women of Color Feminists in Authoritarian Times - Nov. 15, 2017

- Erica Edwards, Associate Professor of English and Presidential Chair in African American Literature, Rutgers University
- Lorgia García Peña, Assistant Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University
- Iyko Day, Associate Professor of English and Critical Social Thought, Mount Holyoke College
- Moderated by Lisa Lowe, Tufts University

Undoing Empire: Form, Function, Feminism - Feb. 7, 2018

- J. Kēhaulani Kauanui, Professor of American Studies and Anthropology, Wesleyan University
- Kalpana Seshadri, Professor of English, Boston College
- Kaysha Corinealdi, Assistant Professor of History, Emerson College
- Moderated by Jyoti Puri, Simmons College

Feminisms Unbound: Black. Body. Art. Feminist Articulations of Race, Gender, and Geography

September 20, 2017

This panel engages artistic practitioners who utilize their own bodies in their work. Three multimedia/performance artists will discuss the geographic parameters of their creative productions, the promise and perils of using their bodies as art, and the future of visual culture. Dell M. Hamilton, Anique Jordan, and Amanda Russhell Wallace will introduce us to the genres of representation and craft that allow them to create art for the future, but forged from the past. World-making is often the space between the tangible and the abstract, interiority and exteriority. How might we imagine a world made and unmade by black women? What new visions might this world engender?

Roundtable discussion participants:

Dell. M. Hamilton, Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, Harvard University

Dell M. Hamilton is an interdisciplinary artist, writer and independent curator whose research, artist talks, solo performances, collaborative projects and group performances have been presented to a wide variety of audiences in the U.S., Italy, France and Chile. Her practice wrestles with the social and geopolitical constructions of memory, gender, race, language and history through the mediums of photography, video, drawing, installation & performance (live art, theater, film). She has completed artist residencies with Samsøñ (Boston) and bigredandshiny.com. Her latest curatorial series, recently presented at Five Myles Gallery in Brooklyn and Mount Holyoke College, is entitled “#BlackGirlLit: Between Performance, Literature and Memory,” which explores the intersections between performance art and black feminist and diasporic oral and written traditions. She currently works at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University and is a member of The Dark Room: Race and Visual Culture Faculty Seminar.

Anique Jordan, Whippersnapper Gallery, Toronto Ontario

Anique Jordan is a multi-disciplinary artist, award-winning writer, scholar and social entrepreneur. As an artist, her artwork plays with the aesthetics found in traditional Trinidadian carnival and the theory of hauntology challenging historical narratives and creating, what she calls, impossible images. Her art creation processes are guided by the questions: What stories do we tell that go unchallenged? And in how many ways can we know a thing? Anique’s work has taken her to Jamaica, Costa Rica, South Africa, Ecuador, Trinidad and Barbados exploring the connections between art and socio-economic survival. Anique has performed and exhibited in

galleries across Canada including Art Gallery of Windsor (2017), Eastern Edge Gallery (2016), Art Gallery of Ontario (2016), Nuit Blanche (2016), Gallery 44 (2016), Crossroads Artspace (2015) and The Watah Gallery (2015). She is currently the executive director of Whippersnapper Gallery and a curator at the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Amanda Russhell Wallace, Harnish Visiting Artist and Lecturer in Photography, Smith College

Amanda Russhell Wallace is a multimedia, multi-disciplinary-interested artist born in Dallas, Texas. Her work ranges from documentary family photography to current experiments with time-based media. Many of her projects explore internal and external (social) identities. She considers the notion that cultural identity and acceptance are based on the remnants of speech, texts, and imagery gathered and carried in various pockets of the brain throughout time. These remnants are used to represent the associations and typologies we use to form, assign (to ourselves and others), and perform identity daily, whether at home, work, the public, and online or on social media. Wallace recently joined the art department at Smith College as the Harnish Visiting Artist/Lecturer in Photography. Her artwork is exhibited nationally and internationally. Most recently, an adaptation of her video *Mo(u)rning Tea, Extracted* and a new video work, *Here There*, are being screened at e4c, a storefront electronic gallery in Seattle, WA.

Moderated by:

Kimberly Juanita Brown, Assistant Professor of English and Africana Studies, Mount Holyoke College.

Kimberly Juanita Brown's research engages the site of the visual as a way to negotiate the parameters of race, gender, and belonging. Her book, *The Repeating Body: Slavery's Visual Resonance in the Contemporary* (Duke University Press) examines slavery's profound ocular construction and the presence and absence of seeing in relation to the plantation space and the women who existed there. She is currently at work on her second book, tentatively titled "*Mortevivum: Photography, Melancholy, and the Politics of the Visual.*" This project examines images of the dead in *The New York Times* in 1994 from four geographies: South Africa, Rwanda, Sudan, and Haiti.

Feminisms Unbound: Women of Color in Authoritarian Times

November 15, 2017

This roundtable features a conversation about the important analytic and practice that women of color feminism, Indigenous feminisms, queer of color critique, and intersectionality brings to our current political moment of war, Islamophobia, antiblackness, media outrage, and authoritarian state practices. Speakers consider the genealogies of women of color feminism and its current relevance to our current post-election political moment of state violence and increased threats to Black, Muslim, Latinx, Native American and Asian immigrant communities, undocumented and refugee communities, LGBTQI peoples, working peoples, people who are differently abled, women and girls.

Roundtable discussion participants:

Erica Edwards, 2017-18 Fellow at Radcliff Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard

Erica Edwards specializes in African American literature, gender and sexuality, and black political culture. She is the author of *Charisma and the Fictions of Black Leadership*, which won the Modern Language Associations' 12th annual William Sanders Scarborough prize. Her work, published in such journals as *American Quarterly*, *Callaloo*, *American Literary History*, and *Black Camera*, shows how contemporary African American literature challenges us to think in new ways about the relationships between African American narrative, American popular culture, and the contemporary history of black politics and black social movements. Professor Edwards is currently at work on a book on African American literature and the War on Terror.

Lorgia García Peña, Assistant Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University

Lorgia García Peña specializes in contemporary U.S. Latino/a literature and cultures, Caribbean literature and cultures, performance studies, race and ethnicity, transnational feminism, migration, human rights, Dominican and Dominican diaspora studies. Her book, *The Borders of Dominicanidad: Race, Nation, and Archives of Contradictions*, examines the ways official narratives and histories have been projected onto racialized Dominican bodies as a means of sustaining the nation's borders. García Peña constructs a genealogy of deomnicidad that highlights how Afro-Dominicans, ethnic Haitians, and diasporic Dominicans have contested these dominant narratives and their violent, silencing, and exclusionary effects. Her current research project, *Translating Blackness: Latino/as Negotiating Race and Belonging Across the Atlantic* engages various geopolitical spaces: Latin America, the United States and Europe, providing a new cartography for understanding contemporary Latinidad as resulting from the vaifen of peoples and ideas across geographical and imaginary spaces.

Iyko Day, Associate Professor of English and Critical Social Thought, Mount Holyoke College

Iyko Day's research focuses on Asian American literature and visual culture, race and settler colonialism, and Marxian political economy. Her book, *Alien Capital: Asian Racialization and the Logic of Settler Colonial Capitalism*, re-theorizes the history and logic of settler colonialism by examining its intersection with capitalism and the racialization of Asian immigrants in Canada and the United States. She co-edits the book series *Critical Race, Indigency, and Relationality*.

Moderated by:

Lisa Lowe, Professor of English and Humanities, Tufts University

Lisa Lowe works in the fields of comparative literature, comparative colonialisms, and the cultural politics of race and migration. She has authored books on orientalism, immigration, and globalization. Her most recent, *The Intimacies of Four Continents* (Duke UP, 2015), is a study of settler colonialism, transatlantic African slavery, and the East Indies and China trades. With Jack Halberstam, she co-edits the book series, *Perverse Modernities*, for Duke University Press.

Feminisms Unbound: Undoing Empire: Form, Function, Feminism

February 7, 2018

To what extent is “empire” useful as a theoretical and political tool for countering hegemonies in these uncertain times? How is it understood—as metaphor for unchecked power or perhaps as historically specific arrangement of domination and influence? What kinds of questions does this concept enable and what kinds of inquiries does it foreclose? Does empire serve well to understand the complexities of colonial as well as contemporary forms of global power holding sway in numerous parts of the world? But, what of the “internal” dimensions of empires, that is, ongoing assaults on indigenous, subaltern, and marginalized communities?

Taking on these and other salient questions, the participants in this roundtable reflect on the salience of empire for contending with forms of economic, cultural, political, and militarized dominations. Bringing to bear expertise in indigenous studies, colonial and postcolonial studies, they offer insights and provoke conversations on the racialized, sexualized, and gendered dimensions of “internal” and “external” hegemonies at this historical moment.

Roundtable Participants

J. Kēhaulani Kauanui, Professor of American Studies and Anthropology, Wesleyan University

J. Kēhaulani Kauanui teaches comparative colonialisms, indigenous studies, critical race studies, and anarchist studies. She is the current Chair of American Studies as well as the Director of the Center for the Americas. Her first book is *Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Sovereignty and Indigeneity*, published by Duke University Press in 2008. Kauanui’s second book, *Paradoxes of Hawaiian Sovereignty* (forthcoming, Duke University Press), is a critical study on land, gender and sexual politics in the competing nationalist claims between those advocating for federal recognition and those who seek to have Hawaii restored as an independent nation. Kauanui serves as a radio producer for an anarchist politics show called, “Anarchy on Air,” and she previously hosted the radio program, “Indigenous Politics; From Native New England and Beyond,” which aired for seven years and was broadly syndicated through the Pacifica network. A book of select interviews from that show titled, *Speaking of Indigenous Politics*, is forthcoming (2018, University of Minnesota Press). Kauanui was one of the six co-founders of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association. She is actively engaged in Palestine solidarity activism and serves on the advisory board of the US Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel.

Kalpna Seshadri, Professor of English, Boston College

Kalpna Seshadri teaches courses in Anglophone literatures and contemporary theory with a focus on global relations of power. She is the author of two books on the philosophy of race: *Desiring Whiteness: A Lacanian Analysis of Race* and *HumAnimal: Race, Law, Language*. She is currently completing a book project entitled *Posthuman Economics: The Terms of Gaia*, which looks at the shared discourses of world ecology and economy and the meaning of nature.

Kaysha Corinealdi, Assistant Professor of History, Emerson College

Kaysha Corinealdi's research interests include twentieth century histories of empire, migration, and activism in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States. Her current book manuscript, *Defining Panama*, focuses on politics of racial exclusion and transnational activism in Panama and the United States from the late 1920s to the early Cold War period. Dr. Corinealdi's work has appeared in *The Global South* and she has also served as book reviewer for journals such as the *Hispanic American Historical Review* and *Western Folklore*.

Moderator

Jyoti Puri, Professor of Sociology, Simmons College

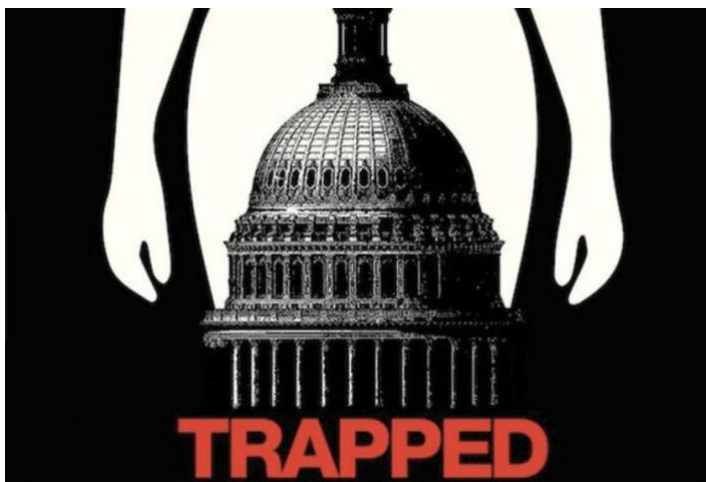
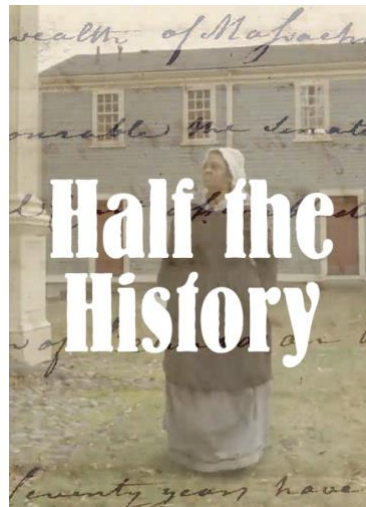
Jyoti Puri works at the crossroads of sociology, sexuality and queer studies, and postcolonial feminist theory. Her book, *Sexual States: Governance and the Struggle against the Antisodomy Law in India*, was recently published by Duke University Press (February 2016). She has also published books, including *Woman, Body, Desire in Post-colonial India* (Routledge 1999) and *Encountering Nationalism* (Blackwell Publishers 2004), as well as articles, book chapters, and journal special issues on sexuality, state, gender, and nationalism. She is currently working on a project on death and migration.

Women Take the Reel: A Film Festival Celebrating Women's History Month

March 1 – March 29, 2018

This annual film festival, now in its eighth year, is a collaborative effort among Women's and Gender Studies departments involved in the Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality (as well as select institutions/universities aligned with its mission) that features films directed by women and about issues relating to gender, race, sexuality, class, and/or feminism.

The focus on intellectual investigation of these issues, as well as visibility for women directors, meant most films are accompanied by a Q&A and discussion with either the film director, producer, or a faculty member from the film screening's host institution. All films were free and open to the public.



Screenings of Films by GCWS Institutions

Boston College

Stepford Wives and Wonder Woman

Directed by Frank Oz; and Patty Jenkins

March 24, 2018 at 1:00 PM

McGuinn Hall Auditorium

Brandeis University

Tupperware!

Directed by Laurie Kahn

March 6, 2018 at 12:30 PM

Women's Studies Research Center

Discussion with film director, Laurie Kahn, to follow film

MIT

Kiki

Directed by Sara Jordeno

March 1, 2018 at 7:00 PM

Bartos Theater

Discussion with director, Sara Jordeno to follow film

Birthright: A War Story

Directed by Civia Tamarkin

March 15, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Bartos Theater

Discussion with Luchina Fisher, co-executive producer and writer of Birthright to follow film

Northeastern University

And the Rest is Drag & Güerita and Prietita

Directed by Melisa Brittain, Shani Mootoo, and Danielle Peers; Directed by Kathy High and Shani Mootoo

March 28, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Shillman Hall

Discussion with films director, Shani Mootoo, to follow film

Tufts University

"Half the History" Short Film Series

Directed by Jennifer Burton

March 28, 2018 at 12:30 PM

Tufts Alumnae Lounge

UMass Boston

Trapped

Directed by Dawn Porter

April 25, 2018 at 4:00 PM

Healey Library

Discussion with Professor Shoshanna Ehrlich to follow film

Additional Films by Other Participating Institutions

Emerson College

Lady Bird Johnson

Directed by Greta Gerwig
March 1, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Bright Family Screening Room

In the Hills and Hollows

Directed by Keely Kernan
March 15, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Bright Family Screening Room

Sighted Eyes, Feeling Heart

Directed by Tracy Heather Strain
March 20, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Bright Family Screening Room

Unrest

Directed by Jennifer Brea
March 21, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Bright Family Screening Room

Barracuda

Directed by Julia Halpern and Jason
Cortland
March 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Bright Family Screening Room

Lesley University

Pariah

Directed by Dee Rees
March 6, 2018 at 4:00 PM
Sherrill Library

The Mother Board Writing Prize

In 2006 – 2007, the GCWS Board proposed an annual student support initiative: The Mother Board Writing Prize. The Prize commemorates the founders of the GCWS: carrying on the spirit of intellectual leadership that the mother Board modeled when they created the GCWS in 1992. It is awarded annually for outstanding student research and writing in the field of Women’s and Gender Studies. All graduate students matriculated in GCWS member institutions and who have taken or are currently taking a GCWS seminar are eligible for this prize.

The 2017-2018 prize was awarded to the following student:

Mariah Gruner, Boston University
Materiality, Affect, and the Archive

Honorable Mention:

Ethel Mickey, Northeastern University
Doing Gender, Doing Networks: Exploring Individual Networking Strategies in High-Tech

This year’s prize committee included:

- Freeden Blume Oeur, Sociology, Tufts University
- Anthony Petro, Religion and Women and Gender Studies, Boston University


Higher Ed in the Era of #MeToo

April 20, 2018 1:00 – 5:00 PM
MIT Campus

In April of 2018, the GCWS hosted a half-day event for students and faculty surrounding the impact of the #MeToo movement on higher ed and, more specifically, graduate student populations. Conversations about sexual assault prevention and response on college campuses predominantly revolve around undergraduate populations. Graduate and PhD students also experience sexual violence though the way it happens and the impacts it has are remarkably different.

The #MeToo movement, started by Tarana Burke in 2006, highlights the prevalence of sexual violence within all aspects of our society—from Hollywood to college campuses. More survivors are publicly sharing their stories, seeking formal and informal resources, and pushing for change within their lives and communities. Marginalized communities, such as people of color, LGBTQ+ people, and immigrants, have led the movement against sexual violence for decades, yet history has put their work and experiences on the margins. As more survivors share their experiences, we need to find additional creative ways to support, prevent, innovate, and collaborate on this issue that elevate the communities and individuals most marginalized and impacted.

This half day conference was organized by four graduate students from a number of GCWS member institutions. It brought scholars, activists, and researchers together to discuss the implications of sexual violence on college campuses in light of the focus and attention #MeToo generated. Each panel and workshop encouraged discussion, questions, and inward reflection about the changes that could be made on individual and community levels to produce lasting and supportive change. The mix of activists and researchers allowed for a rich dialogue from a number of perspectives and experiences.





Higher Ed in the Era of #MeToo

a symposium
for faculty &
graduate students

April 20, 2018
1:00 - 5:30 PM
Reception to follow

MIT
Building 3
Room 170

Photo: Ashley Washburn, Black Press Media

Sponsored By:  

Schedule:

Plenary Panel

Featuring:

Chardonnay Madkins, Ending Rape on Campus

Dr. Ashwini Tambe, Associate Professor of Women's Studies, University of Maryland at College Park

Dr. Kimberly Theidon, Professor of International Humanitarian Studies, Tufts University

Breakout Sessions

Panel: #MeToo in the Media

Featuring:

Dr. Barbara Gottfried, Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Boston University

Julianne Escobedo Sheperd, Jezebel

Dr. Ashwini Tambe, Associate Professor of Women's Studies, University of Maryland at College Park

Workshop: From Margins to Center: Working Toward Intersectional Justice and Sexual Freedom

Featuring: Aida Manduley, MSW

Panel: Critical Perspectives of Title IX

Featuring:

Katharine Silbaugh, Professor of Law, Boston University

Moriah Silver, MSilver Consulting

Ruth Vaughn, Victim Rights Law Center

Workshop: Bystander Invention

Featuring: Boston Area Rape Crisis Center

Speaker Information

Aida Manduley, Executive Board Member; Women of Color Sexual Health Network

Aida Manduley, MSW, is an award-winning Latinx activist known for big earrings and building bridges. With specialties in arenas such as sexuality, trauma, and community justice, they're working to make the world a more equitable place through education, therapy, and community organizing centering LGBTQ people and communities of color.

Ashwini Tambe, Associate Professor of Women's Studies, University of Maryland College Park

Ashwini Tambe is the editorial director of *Feminist Studies*, the oldest US journal of feminist interdisciplinary scholarship. She studies how societies regulate sexual practices. In her book *Codes of Misconduct*, she traced the history of sex trade regulation in Bombay. Her current book focuses on age standards for sexual consent.

Barbara Gottfried, Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Boston University

Barbara Gottfried is Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies in the WGS program at Boston U. and teaches "Women and Media / Pop Culture," "Women and Film," "Women and Comedy," and "American Masculinities" all of which she created for the WGS curriculum. Her research involves current strands in stand-up and streaming featuring women-run content.

Chardonnay Madkins, Program Manager, Ending Rape on Campus

Womanist, speaker, writer, and activist, Chardonnay Madkins has been dedicated to ending structural inequalities. With 6+ years of experience in community organizing, Madkins hopes to improve the lives of marginalized communities, particularly the Black community. She recently launched the Centering the Margins website that will help college students understand their civil rights in education and stay in school through student activism.

Julianne Escobedo Shepard, Deputy Editor, Jezebel

Julianne has written about culture and politics for the New York Times, the Guardian, Rolling Stone, and many other publications. She is a former adjunct professor at New York University.

Kimberly Theidon, Professor of International Humanitarian Studies, Fletcher School, Tufts University

Kimberly Theidon is a medical anthropologist focusing on Latin America. Her research interests include political violence, transitional justice, reconciliation, and the politics of post-war reparations. She is the author of many articles, and *Entre Prójimos: El conflicto armado interno y la política de la reconciliación en el Perú* (Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, 1st edition 2004; 2nd edition 2009) and *Intimate Enemies: Violence and Reconciliation in Peru* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012). *Intimate Enemies* was awarded the 2013 Honorable Mention from the Washington Office on Latin America, Duke University Libraries Book Award for Human Rights in Latin America, and the 2013 Honorable Mention for the Eileen Basker Prize from the Society for Medical Anthropology for research on gender and health. She is the Henry J. Leir Professor in International Humanitarian Studies at the Fletcher School, Tufts University.

Moriah Silver, Principal, MSilver Consulting

Moriah Silver has worked in the field of gender-based violence for over a decade. Moriah's Title IX expertise grew from her time at the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women and from providing training, technical assistance, and advocacy for survivors at the Victim Rights Law Center.

Ruth Vaughan, Staff Attorney, Victim Rights Law Center

Ruth Vaughan joined the Victim Rights Law Center in January 2017 as a Staff Attorney, primarily representing survivors of sexual assault in education matters. Her practice includes conducting holistic, comprehensive legal intakes and assisting survivors in grades K-12 and college who need help stabilizing their educational trajectories. She has represented campus sexual assault victims through campus resolution processes, including investigations, hearings, and appeals, and works on education projects to help improve the response to gender-based violence on campus. Prior to joining the VRLC, Ruth worked as a Staff Attorney at Northeast Legal Aid representing low-income clients on housing and consumer matters. She is a graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Law, Yale Divinity School, and Emory University.

Breakdown of Conference Registrants

By Institution

BC	10
BU	23
Brandeis	5
Harvard	9
MIT	29
NU	6
Simmons	5
Tufts	10
UMass Boston	4
Other	22
Total	124

*Consortium for
Graduate Studies in
Gender, Culture,
Women, and
Sexuality*

INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

STUDENT INITIATIVES

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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