



Governors State University
College of Arts and Sciences

Presents

GENDER MATTERS

*An Interdisciplinary Academic Conference
on How and Why Gender Matters*



April 8, 2011



www.govst.edu/gendermatters



GENDER MATTERS

April 8, 2011

University Park, IL



Gender Matters is an academic conference highlighting research on gender, women, and sexuality across all disciplines and historical periods. Its goal is to bring together students, activists, and researchers in order to discuss the ongoing role of gender in structuring society.

The conference theme playfully invokes the germinal work of Judith Butler referencing both *Gender Trouble* and *Bodies that Matter*. Participants will be presenting work on all matters of gender and, more specifically, work that explicates how gender matters, and continues to matter, in our world.

Conference Planning Committee

Jason Zingsheim, Chair

Daniel Cortese

Chelsea Haring

James Howley

Caron Jacobson

Elizabeth Johnson

Terri Pantuso

Tammara Winn





GENDER MATTERS

BRIEF SCHEDULE

- 9:00 – 9:30 **Registration & Breakfast**
HALL OF HONORS
- 9:30 – 10:30 **Concurrent Session 1**
VARIOUS ROOMS; D-WING, 3RD FLOOR
- 10:45-11:45 **Concurrent Session 2**
VARIOUS ROOMS; D-WING, 3RD FLOOR
- 12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch**
HALL OF HONORS
- 1:00 – 2:00 **Keynote Address**
SHERMAN MUSIC HALL
- 2:15 – 3:30 **Concurrent Session 3**
VARIOUS ROOMS; D-WING, 3RD FLOOR
- 3:45 – 4:45 **Concurrent Session 4**
VARIOUS ROOMS; D-WING, 3RD FLOOR
- 5:00 – 6:30 **Closing Reception**
E-LOUNGE



The **GSU Bookstore** is carrying a variety of gender-related titles and will be open from 10:00 – 4:00 for the convenience of conference participants. Please stop by.



GENDER MATTERS

9:30 – 10:30

Concurrent Session 1

1-A Gendered Discourse: From Loving to Fucking

D34115, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Tammy Winn, *Governors State University*

I Say 'I Do': Performing and Positioning the Self
in Discourse on Wedding Vows

Serena Williams

University of California, Davis

Romancing the Old: Age, Gender and Discourse
in Intergenerational Relationships, 1890-1930

Stella Ress, Loyola University - Chicago

Public Talk about Private Acts:

Sex Talk and Sexual Agency

Valerie Peterson

Grand Valley State University

1-B Challenging Western Constructions of Masculinity

D34011, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Daniel Cortese, *Governors State University*

"I just kept walking...": Fathers, Place, and Care
for Children with Autism

Karen Falconer Al-Hindi

University of Nebraska at Omaha

"I Love You Man... No Homo." A New Kind of
Bromance An Analysis of Narratives from
Heterosexual-Homosexual Male Friendships

Dustin Smith, Eastern Illinois University

The Graffiti Tag: Critical Practice or Masculine
Rite of Passage?

A.C. Frabetti, University of Louisville



GENDER MATTERS

9:30 – 10:30

1-C Literary and Narrative Analysis

D34012, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: James Howley, *Governors State University*

The Duplicitous Enthusiasm for the Flawed Female Image in the Captivity Narrative of Hannah Dustan

Consuella Kelly

Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

The Silenced Voice of Camila Henríquez Ureña in "In the Name of Salomé" by Julia Alvarez

Rebecca Mason, *University of Notre Dame*

Exploring Academic Achievement and Ethnic Assimilation in Narratives of Chinese Immigrant Women

Shweta Singh, *Loyola University Chicago*

Suzanne Smith, *Loyola University Chicago*

Shin Yee Tan, *Loyola University Chicago*

1-D Cultural Links to Gender in Activism

D34104, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Chelsea Haring, *Governors State University*

ACT UP: Through the Perspective of Maxine Wolfe and Other Lesbian Activists

Carol Millington, *DePaul University*

Internet Technologies and Emerging Sherazades

Houda Abadi, *University of North Carolina*

South African Women's Organizations in the Transitional Period: Assessing the Value of Gender Mainstreaming as a Political Approach

Emily Reid, *Saint Louis University*





GENDER MATTERS

10:45-11:45 **Concurrent Session 2**

2-A Gendered Discourse: Witches, and Antichrist, and Bono (oh my)

D34115, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Jason Zingsheim, *Governors State University*

Bullying Sexuality: Witch Hysteria of the Twenty First Century

Carolyn Pitcairn

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Kristeva On Why Cixous & Derrida Scare Lars Von Trier; An Analysis of Gender Lines in Antichrist

Allen (A.J.) Haughton, Jr., *Beloit College*

Fuck as a Metaphor for Male Sexual Aggression

Pamela Hobbs

University of California, Los Angeles

2-B Sporting Identities: From Flamingos to Garters

D34011, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Chelsea Haring, *Governors State University*

The Pink Flamingo Aquatic Event: A Site of Gender Play and Conflict

Terry Allison, *Governors State University*

Achieving Athletic Middle Class Motherhood

Jennifer Hanis-Martin, *University of Chicago*

Garters on the Gridiron: A Critical Reading of the Lingerie Football League

Bobbi Knapp, *Southern Illinois University Carbondale*



GENDER MATTERS

10:45-11:45

2-C Gender and Disparities: Does Gender Effect Health Care Outcomes?

D34012D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Terry Thompson, *Governors State University*

Roundtable Discussion

Health Disparities In Women

Terry Thompson, *Governors State University*

Raven James, *Governors State University*

JoAnne, Smith, *Governors State University*





GENDER MATTERS

12:00 – 1:00

Lunch

HALL OF HONORS

1:00 – 2:00

Keynote Address

SHERMAN MUSIC HALL

Welcome

Terry Allison, Provost, *Governors State University*

Doing Intersectionality: Power, Privilege and
Oppression in Political Activist Communities

Karma Chávez, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*

Much has been said in feminist of color, queer of color and critical race scholarship about the importance of taking an intersectional approach to our understanding of identity and how institutions impact people differently. While intersectionality is a term that originally emerged to explain the precarious position of black women in relation to a legal system that acknowledges only (white) women and blacks (men) (Crenshaw 1991), and a political and cultural system that perpetually erases black women, it has (before and after) also been extended as a critique of simplistic theory and political practice. Taking an intersectional approach to theory is a difficult, but possible task as numerous scholars advance meticulous intersectional discussions and analyses (Combahee River Collective 1983; Crenshaw 1997). However, bringing an intersectional approach to politics and activism where immediate and dire needs must be met, may prove more difficult.



GENDER MATTERS

After conducting a year-long qualitative research project on an activist coalition between people in a queer rights and a migrant rights organization in Southern Arizona, the difficulties of engaging politics intersectionally became especially transparent. Though my research pertained to coalition building, in the analysis that follows, I discuss how internal dissonances within each group demonstrate the difficulties of actually *doing* intersectionality. Drawing upon a long history of feminist, particularly queer feminist of color writing about the difficulties of intersectionality, what this discussion further reveals is the pervasiveness of white and middle-class status normativity that truncates a thorough intersectional politics, thereby minimizing the possibilities for coalition and alliance building. After analyzing cases from these two organizations, I point to conclusions that suggest alternatives for engaging in intersectional politics that deal with privilege and oppression.





GENDER MATTERS

2:15 – 3:30

Concurrent Session 3

3-A Reframing Butler

D34115, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: James Howley, *Governors State University*

De-materializing Disordered Identity: Rethinking Transgender Identity and Pathological Classification through Judith Butler's *Bodies that Matter*

Brian Kanouse, *Keene State College*

Confession as Performance in the Poetry of Robert Lowell and Elizabeth Bishop

Victoria Lozano, *Appalachian State University*

Middlesex and Obligatory Kinship

Rhiannon Catherwood

Northern Illinois University

A Strange, Metallic Something: Meditating Cyborg Gender with C. L. Moore's "No Woman Born"

Fontaine Lien

University of California, Riverside

3-B Bodies & Gendered Displays

D34011, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Daniel Cortese, *Governors State University*

The Construction of Passing among Male to Female Transsexuals

Stephanie Dykes, *Independent Scholar*

The All-American, the Intellectual, the Tough Guy, and the Adonis: The Influences of Culture and Size on Perceptions of Men's Bodies

Sarah Butler, *DePaul University*



GENDER MATTERS

2:15 – 3:30

What (Not) To Wear as Hijab: An Exploration of How Gender Matters for Islamic Clothing Choices and Acculturation Processes in a Muslim American Community

Melissa Howe, *University of Chicago*

Mighty is Whitey: The Pathology of Beauty and Medicalization of Skin-Lightening in the U.S.

Sabrina Pasztor, *University of Illinois at Chicago*

3-C Mediating Sexuality: Queer Punks & Tricksters, Dragon Blossoms, & the Lesbian Aesthetic

D34012, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Tammy Winn, *Governors State University*

What the Punk? Gender, Sexuality and Resistance in Queer Subcultures

E. L. Lawson, *University of Louisville*

Autobiography, Identity, and Ritual in Liminal Space: Images of Trickster in Sadie Benning's *Flat is Beautiful*

Alison Beyer, *Columbia College Chicago*

Dragon Blossom: Analyzing the Depiction of Sun in ABC's *LOST*

Natalie Daniels, *DePaul University*

Mediated Sexualities: Systems Theory, Deconstruction and the Lesbian Aesthetic

Molly Slattery, *Rice University*



Concurrent Session 3 continued on next page.



GENDER MATTERS

2:15 – 3:30

Concurrent Session 3 *continued*

3-D Gendered Work/Class & Working Gender/Class

D34104, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Caron Jacobson, *Governors State University*

He Said She Said: A Comparison of Sexualized and Non-Sexualized Work Environments Involving Sexual Harassment

Sarah Hanson, Northern Illinois University

The Relationship Between Working Conditions and Women's Socio-Economic Status: A Global Exploratory Study

Jingqiu Guan, Saint Mary's College

An Interrogation of the Domestic: Domestic Work, Political Subjectivity and Maria da Penha Law in Brazil

Jaira Harrington, University of Chicago

Class Matters: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Worker Experiences in the Workplace

Trevor Gates, University of Illinois at Chicago

3:45 – 4:45

Concurrent Session 4

4-A Border Crossings

D34115, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Karma Chávez, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*

El Camino: Crossing the Border Through the Eyes of Mexican-Migrant Women

Erica Hurley, Northern Illinois University

A Volitale Concoction: NAFTA, Women, Labor, and Violence on the Mexican Border

Katie Schlechter, St. Louis University



GENDER MATTERS

3:45 – 4:45

Mexican Migrant Women Negotiating Gender Performance: A Transnational Context
Kimberly Leifker, *Northern Illinois University*

4-B Bodies & Power

D34011, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Elizabeth Johnson, *Governors State University*

Hidden Truth: Forced Marriage and Sexuality Under the Khmer Rouge Regime
Shay Galto, *Northern Illinois University*

Mouths, Tits, and Milk: Speaking in the Feminine Corpse
Lisa Hayes
Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

From the Corset to Spanks: Dressing the Female Body
Miriam Aloisio, *University of Chicago*

4-C Applying Gender to Pedagogies

D34012, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Raven James, *Governors State University*

Modern Day Oppression Against Women
Lauren Turner
Adler School of Professional Psychology

To Be Taught By Your 'Own Kind': Power, Desire and Identity Politics in Women's Studies
Christine Neejer, *University of Louisville*

Teaching about Gender in Addictions Studies
Raven James, *Governors State University*
Colleen Wray, *Solley's Place*



Concurrent Session 4 continued on next page.



GENDER MATTERS

3:45 – 4:45

Concurrent Session 4 *continued*

4-D The Interplay of Gender and Institutions

D34104, D-WING, 3RD FLOOR

Chair: Caron Jacobson, Governors State University

Gender in the 19th-Century Chicago City Jail
Susan Garneau, *Loyola University*

Narrative, Power and the New Girl Scout
Leadership Experience

Jessica Rich, *Ithaca College*

Cory Young, *Ithaca College*

Gender Trouble: A "Broad's" Wearing the Blue
Angela Corbo, *Widener University*

5:00 – 6:30

Closing Reception

E-LOUNGE





GENDER MATTERS

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE

The Metra Electric Line commuter rail provides service between downtown Chicago and University Park. There are three downtown stations (Millennium Station; Van Buren; and Museum Campus/11th Street) close to "the Loop." The final stop is University Park, located near the GSU campus. The station is a short walk (15-20 minutes) to the University and is served by a free university shuttle.

Metra Electric (\$5.50 one way)					GSU free shuttle	
Train #	Millennium Station	VanBuren	Museum Campus/11 th St.	University Park	Arrives at Univ. Park Metra	Arrives at GSU (main entrance)
111	7:48am	7:50am	7:53am	8:50am	8:50am	9:00am
113	8:30am	8:32am	8:35am	9:34am	9:35am	9:45am

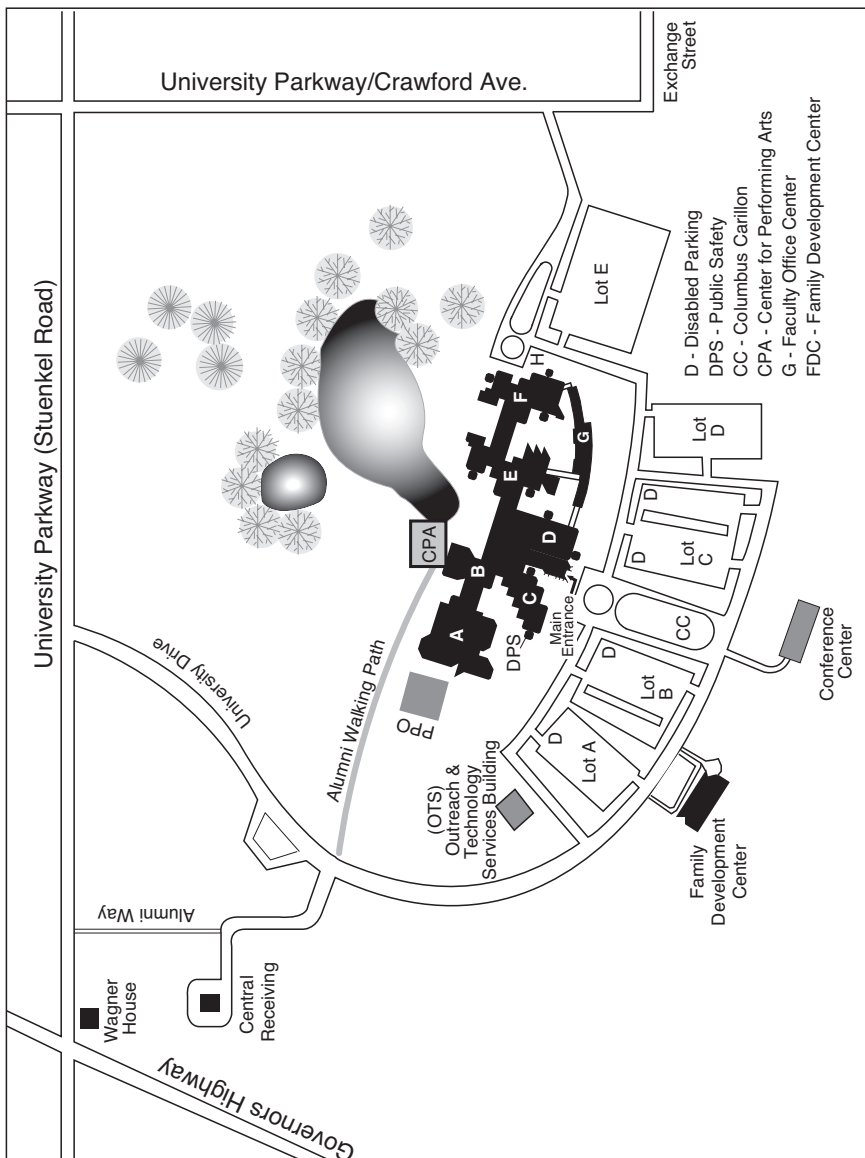
GSU free shuttle			Metra Electric (\$5.50 one way)				
Departs GSU (main entrance)	Arrives at Univ. Park Metra		Train #	University Park	Museum Campus/11 th St.	VanBuren	Millennium Station
4:20pm	4:30pm		132	4:36pm	5:29pm	5:32pm	5:36pm
5:20pm	5:30pm		136	5:40pm	6:40pm	6:43pm	6:46pm
6:20pm	6:30pm		140	6:40pm	7:35pm	7:38pm	7:41pm





GENDER MATTERS

GSU CAMPUS OVERVIEW



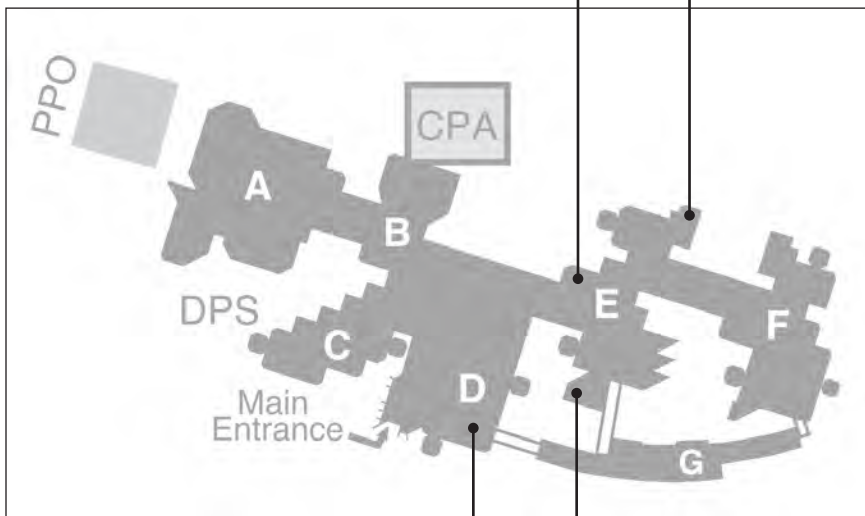


GENDER MATTERS

GSU CAMPUS DETAIL

Hall of Honors
D1491 in E-wing

E-lounge
E1571 in E-wing



D-wing, 3rd floor rooms:

- D34115
- D34011
- D34012
- D34104

Sherman Music Hall
E1530 in E-wing





Gender Matters was made possible by the generous support of:

Elaine Maimon, President , *Governors State University*
Terry Allison, Provost, *Governors State University*
Karen D’Arcy, Interim Dean, *College of Arts & Sciences*
James Howley, Chair, *Division of Liberal Arts*
Governors State University Intellectual Life Committee
School of Interdisciplinary Studies

Special Thanks to:

Karma Chávez, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*
Katie Cox, *Information Technology Services*
Lindsay Gladstone, *Public Affairs*
Carolyn Hamilton, *Graphics*
Sandi Kawanna, *Division of Liberal Arts*
Rhonda Jackson, *College of Arts & Sciences*
Student Affairs
College of Education
Special thanks to student volunteers,
Masters in Criminal Justice

