

The First Annual
**KENTUCKY GENDER &
WOMEN'S STUDIES
CONFERENCE**

SEPTEMBER 16, 2017



Welcome to the First Annual **KENTUCKY GENDER & WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE**

September 16, 2017 • University of Kentucky

In the wake of the 2016 presidential election, moments of solidarity and community building are of utmost importance, particularly in “red” states. The Kentucky Gender and Women’s Studies Conference (#KYGWS) was imagined as a form of resistance in the face of continued state sponsored violence, police brutality, xenophobic immigration policies, homophobic and transphobic legislation, and an uprising in white supremacist organizing. With more than three hundred participants representing twenty-nine universities from ten states, we are overjoyed to welcome feminist scholars and activists to our campus community. As PhD students from the Department of Gender & Women’s Studies at the University of Kentucky, we hope the KYGWS Conference provides each participant with space to build new networks, reaffirm old ones, and revel in resistance.

In solidarity,

Shawna Felkins, Mikaela Feroli, Billy Korinko & Ashley Ruderman
Founders & Conference Organizers

Schedule at a Glance

8:00AM - 1:00PM	Registration
8:30AM - 9:45AM	Session 1
10:00AM - 11:30AM	Morning Keynote & Book Signing
11:30AM - 1:00PM	Lunch - on your own
1:00PM - 2:15PM	Session 2
2:30PM - 3:45PM	Session 3
4:00PM - 5:30PM	Afternoon Keynote & Book Signing

All sessions will be held in the Don and Cathy Jacobs Science Building (JSB). Lunch is available at various locations within walking distance. A dining map appears on the last page of this program. Additional dining information can be found at the registration desk.

The University of Kentucky actively seeks to foster an inclusive campus for everyone, including individuals who are trans* or gender non-conforming. An individual should use the restroom that makes her/him/them feel safe, respected, and that corresponds to her/his/their gender identity. A lockable, single toilet restroom is on the first floor of the JSB, room 160.

KYGWS Safer Spaces

What is a safer space? A safer space allows for members of the group to feel comfortable expressing themselves without fear of harassment or ridicule. A safer space is not necessarily a free-for-all. No space can be 100% safe, but we can promote an environment of accommodation, respect, and accountability.

It is important to use language that is respectful and inclusive. Please avoid using racist, sexist, cissexist, homophobic, classist, ableist (“lame,” “crazy,” and “ret**ded”), or other offensive language.

Refraining from making assumptions about gender or pronouns is part of creating a safer space. We invite everyone to list their pronouns on their name tags.

As advocates for survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence, we should not make jokes that are triggering to survivors. This includes (but is not limited to) making rape jokes, using rape as a synonym for something that is not rape (I “raped” that test, that video game “raped” me), and belittling the danger that people in IPV situations face. To avoid triggering survivors, we should strive to steer clear of violent rhetoric whenever possible. Preparing people before discussing triggering content is an incredibly helpful way to accommodate survivors.

Part of a safer space is recognizing that people can and should be held accountable for their words and actions. Remaining conscious of social location and privilege is vital in spaces where many folks have been excluded or dismissed in conversation. Often, that means many of us will need to prioritize listening.

Additionally we encourage participants to welcome those who are new to feminist spaces and are trying to learn. It is important to make room for mistakes and accountability, and “calling people in” is a more compassionate way of holding folks accountable. This is first and foremost a learning environment, and we want all of our participants to feel like they can contribute and be a part of that.

Everyone should be aware conference photographers will be taking pictures throughout the day. Photographers will have identifying name tags. If you do not want your photo used in KYGWS promotional materials, please check in at the Registration Desk.

Live-streaming or filming sessions is not allowed unless explicitly agreed to by all session presenters. Members of the press are required to check in at the registration desk and request a press pass. Press passes should be displayed at all times. Members of the press should ask permission before interviewing or recording any participants. Participants should note that they are not required to speak to members of the press.

The conference organizers have taken several steps to ensure the security of everyone attending our conference. There is a chance that a disruptive presence might gather around the conference site. While we respect the need for folks to react to these events in their own way, we propose a collective front of refusal to engage any protesters at this conference. It can be argued that reserving our energy for the conference so that we may listen, share, and plan attentively is the most strategic plan. Please reach out to a conference organizer if you feel unsafe or want to bring up concerns at any time.

REGISTRATION 8:00AM - 1:00PM

SESSION 1 8:30AM - 9:45AM

**WORKSHOP | Herland vs. Man's World:
Exploring Imaginary and Real Feminist
Utopias from Wonder Woman's Paradise
Island to Womyn's Ecovillages**

ROOM 103

Journey McAndrews
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**WORKSHOP | Devised Theatre for Social
Change**

ROOM 108

Margaret McGladrey
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**WORKSHOP | Implementing an Unconscious
Bias Training program with first year
students in LLP's (Living Learning
Programs)**

ROOM 114

Heather Carpenter
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Mel Lesch
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**PANEL | Is this what justice looks like?
Perspectives on Netflix's *Orange is the New
Black***

Room 139 Moderator: Tammy Whitlock

The Animals Are Trapped: Sexual Assault in
US Prisons

Natalie Heimbrock
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Fallen and Forgotten: The Role of *Orange is
the New Black* in the Age of Racial Justice
Movements

Isabelle Martin
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Orange is the New Black: A Platform to
Discuss the Privatization of the Prison System

Emily Major
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

PANEL | Appalachia and Affrilachia

Room 203

Moderator: David Nemer

Granny Witch in Training: An Analysis of
Gender in Appalachian Mysticism

McKenna Revel
EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Black Women Clergy in the '21st Century
Resistance Movement': Organizing in Rural
East Tennessee

Frances Henderson
MARYVILLE COLLEGE

New Opportunity School for Women: Tales of
Appalachian Women's Empowerment

Jennifer Walden
BEREA COLLEGE

**PANEL | Perspectives on Community and
Resistance: Performing Solidarity Work in
Marginalized Communities**

Room 213

Moderator: Sophonie Bazile

Don't Count Us Out: The University and
Activism in Kentucky

Rory Barron
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

6000 Miles of Resistance from Syria to the US

Ranym Nenneh
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Where Incarceration and Gender Violence
Meet: Black Women's Responses and
Resistance to Criminalization and Violence

Kaylyn McCoomer
INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR

Dyke Sappho and Faggot Alexander: Queer
Resistance Through Reclamation of Greek
Cultural Symbols and Violent Language

Meg Coppala
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Annie Baker
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

PANEL | Confronting Rape Culture

Room 231

Moderator: Victoria Bengé

Critical Masculinity Studies and Its Effect on
Violence Against Women Research

Katie Ratajczak

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

The Impact of “20 minutes of action”: Rape
Culture and the 2016 Brock Turner Sexual
Assault Case

Lisa Schroot

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education
Project

Kristin Beers

INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR

**PANEL | *The Handmaid’s Tale* and Feminist
Activism: Then and Now**

Room 243

Moderator: Michelle Sizemore

“If It’s a Story I’m Telling, Then I Have Control
Over the Ending”: The Shifting Feminist
Influences on *The Handmaid’s Tale*

Kathryn McClain

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Recognition and Structure of Address in *The
Handmaid’s Tale* and Ashley Judd’s Speech at
the Women’s March on Washington

Daria Goncharova

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

“Power of a Dog Bone”: Race and Privilege in
The Handmaid’s Tale

Brittany Sulzener

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

PANEL | Exploring Sexual Boundaries

Room 337

Moderator: Charlie Zhang

When We Were Women: The Allowable Limits
of Lesbian Specificity Within a Cis/Trans
Paradigm

Sasha T Goldberg

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON

‘Curing’ the Invert: How Society Uses
Psychology to Create and Maintain ‘Normal’
People

Payton Moore

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Women’s Sexual Fluidity in Swinging: Entering
and Exiting the Scene

Felicia Brown

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

**PANEL | The Importance of Women’s Sexual
Desire in Sexual Health Research**

Room 347

Moderator: Robyn Brown

The Sociocultural Context of Sexually Diverse
Women’s Sexual Desire

Danielle Rosenkrantz

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

The Medicalization of Women’s Sexual Desire

Kristen Mark

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

The Impact of Sexual and Relational
Satisfaction on Feigning Orgasm in Diverse
Individuals

Nathaniel Wilson

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Session 1 continued on the following page

MORNING KEYNOTE | DR. SUSAN BORDO

“What’s Happened Since: Assessing the Politics of Gender During and After the 2016 Presidential Election”

Dr. Susan Bordo is Professor of Gender & Women’s Studies and the Otis A. Singletary Chair in the Humanities at the University of Kentucky

Judging from the massive participation and energy of the protests against Donald Trump’s inauguration, it seemed that a vibrant coalition, united in resistance to Trump’s policies, was forming. But while resistance in many forms has continued, so have the forces fragmenting that resistance. Among those forces has been the widespread acceptance of narratives that scapegoat Hillary Clinton for the Democrat’s loss at the same time as they ignore the role played by gendered double standards and stereotyping, both during the election and after. These are sneered at by the right as “playing the woman card,” dismissed by the left as a defunct “identity politics,” and as far as the mainstream media goes: silence. It seems that when it comes to attention to the politics of gender, we’ve gone backwards since 2012, when Mitt Romney’s “binders full of women” generated a national conversation, and misogynist comments about rape and reproductive rights could sink a politician’s chances. How did this come about? What does the future hold? And in the face of the marginalization of feminist issues, is a new generation of feminist resistance emerging?

AFTERNOON KEYNOTE | DR. PATRICIA HILL COLLINS

“Taking a Stand: Intersectionality and Political Solidarity”

Dr. Patricia Hill Collins is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland, College Park and the Charles Phelps Taft Emeritus Professor of Sociology within the Department of African American Studies at the University of Cincinnati

Prior to the 2016 Presidential election, individuals and groups who spoke out against social injustices were pressured to remain silent, and were often accused of creating the very problems they aimed to address. Yet the resurgence of visible social injustices of racism, sexism, homophobia and/or Islamophobia throughout the Obama administration, and their escalation after the 2016 election, has made it clear that silence is no longer an option. When it comes to how social justice matters for the survival of American democracy, we are all called upon to take a stand. But to do that, we each need to know where we stand and who stands with us.

My presentation asks, what are the possibilities and challenges of building political solidarity in this current social, intellectual and political climate? Intersectionality offers some answers. As a form of critical inquiry and praxis, intersectionality views the disparate experiences of poor people, African Americans, indigenous peoples, women, Latinos, LGBTQ people, rural white people and new immigrant populations among others as distinctive yet intertwined, hard-wired into the fabric of U.S. society, yet always unsettled. The American story has been historically unjust for many people, yet intersectionality is part of a broader effort to write a different story for the future. When it comes to social injustice, rather than covering up the workings of race, class, gender, sexuality, age, and citizenship status in our lives, intersectionality might help each of us recognize where we do and might stand.

PANEL | Clutching Past Privilege; Framing a New Politics

Room 357

Moderator: Julia Bursten

Make America Great (for Men) Again?

Angie Phifer

DENISON UNIVERSITY

Culture of Fear: White Anxieties Surrounding the Changing Face of America

Alena Lassen

DENISON UNIVERSITY

Race, Privilege, and Sexual Violence: Trump's Hypocrisy

Makynzie Horvath

DENISON UNIVERSITY

We See Through Your Pandering

Elizabeth Corronel

DENISON UNIVERSITY

BREAK

9:45AM - 10:00AM

KEYNOTE | Dr. Susan Bordo

10:00AM - 11:30AM

Room 121

LUNCH

11:30AM - 1:00PM

Lunch is available at various locations within walking distance. Dining maps are enclosed in your registration materials.

SESSION 2

1:00PM - 2:15PM

WORKSHOP | Centering LGBTQ and POC in Reproductive Justice

Room 103

Giselle Henry

KENTUCKY HEALTH JUSTICE NETWORK

Oliver Hall

KENTUCKY HEALTH JUSTICE NETWORK

WORKSHOP | Situated Solidarities: Putting Research to Work

Room 108

Christine Woodward

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

PANEL | Respecting Survivors

Room 114

Moderator: Ed Morris

“No one would believe me”: Male Rape Myths/ Culture and Men's Sexual Assault Experiences

Lindsey Bartgis

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

Acknowledged Versus Unacknowledged Rape Victims and Psychological Outcomes

Kaitlyn Barriere

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Ava Ferguson

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Amy Brausch

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Social Media as a Transformative Practice for Victims of Domestic Violence

Stephanie Dean

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

PANEL | Unexpected Confrontations

Room 139

Moderator: Joseph Mann

Adaptation of International Students: View Change on the LGBTQI Community

Sheyla Finkelshteyn

BEREA COLLEGE

“This is super scary”: Responses to the 2016 Election at the University of Kentucky

Araby Smyth

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Rory Barron

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

“Fuck her and we'll split the Euros”: When a feminist geographer confronts sexual harassment in the field

Manon Lefevre

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

PANEL | Images of Women

Room 203

Moderator: Amy Taylor

Invisible Women and Dysfunctional Men:
Chinese and Irish Immigration in Nineteenth
Century Political Cartoons

Maggie Sullivan
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Julia Child

Heather Carpenter
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Struggle of Women in Afghanistan: Examining
the Plight of Policewomen

Julie Grim
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

PANEL | Crafting Resistance

Room 213

Moderator: Payton Moore

Elsa Schiaparelli: The Artist Who Made
Clothes

Bradlee Murch
PENNSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY

Stick it to the Man: Women Use Embroidery
and Craft to Amplify their Voice

Brandi Lewis
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

Embracing Feminist Artists: An Argentine
Community Makes Room

Tania Robinson
BEREA COLLEGE

PANEL | Comical Transgressions

Room 231

Moderator: Katie Morrissey

Heroic Re-Gendering in Children's and Young
Adult Comics

Kyle Eveleth
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Adolescence, Queerness, and the Possibilities
of Liminality

Josh Daniel
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

“Plain Old Diana Prince”: The
Disempowerment of Wonder Woman in the
Mod Era

Brianna Anderson
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

PANEL | Writing Women's Lives

Room 243

Moderator: Alex Menrisky

Survival of the Feminist: Fitzgerald's
Anticipation of Female Evolution

Sarah DeGeorge
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Anne Finch's Strategic Retreat to the Country
House

Jeongoh Kim
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Little Less Conversation, a Little More Action:
Using the Life and Works of Sarah Schulman
to Conceptualize Postmodern Activism

Keighlyn Alber
INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR

PANEL | Gender, Government, and Society

Room 337

Moderator: Sharon Yam

Limits and Potential of Family Justice Centers
in Latin America: Institutional Mechanisms to
Address Women's Access to Justice

Julie Marzec
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

Gendered Policy Value and Individual
Gender-role Attitudes

Ruwen Chang
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Undying Coals: The Resilience of Cherokee
Women

Heather Bailey
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

**PANEL | Feminist Philosophy:
Interrogations and New Perspectives**

Room 347 Moderator: Liang Luo

Intersectional Ambiguity: Black Feminist
Critical Interventions in Philosophy
Qrescent Mason
BEREA COLLEGE

Well-Adjusted Wives and Good Dogs:
Feminism, Animal Welfare, and Liberation
from the 'Pharmiararchy'
Michele Merritt
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Establishing the case for discipline-specific
feminist philosophy of science
Vanessa Bentley
CENTRE COLLEGE

**PANEL | Gender and Health Research: The
Contributions of BIRCWH Scholars**

Room 357 Moderator: Mark Whitaker

Evaluating Online Cognitive Behavioral
Therapy to Reduce Stress, Insomnia, and
Sedative Hypnotic Use in Appalachian Women
Aged 45+
Mairead Moloney
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

The Role of Women's Sexual Health in Overall
Health and Happiness
Kristen Mark
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Understanding and Treating Posttraumatic
Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Addiction in
Women Following Exposure to Trauma
Christal Badour
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**BREAK
2:15PM - 2:30PM**

**SESSION 3
2:30PM - 3:45PM**

**WORKSHOP | Black Twitter and Pantsuit
Nation: Trust and Political Power in the
21st Century**

ROOM 103

Anna Grace Keller
BEREA COLLEGE

**WORKSHOP | Teaching the Real bell hooks:
Using Archives to Enhance Student
Learning**

ROOM 108

Rachel Vagts
BEREA COLLEGE
Beth Feagan
BEREA COLLEGE
Qrescent Mason
BEREA COLLEGE

**WORKSHOP | The Significance of Gender on
Western Responses to Islam**

ROOM 114

Rebecca Moore
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

**PANEL | Public Feminisms: Methods for
Political Resistance**

Room 203 Moderator: Anastasia Curwood

The Semiotics of the Kitchen: Marxism,
Feminism, and the Politics of Consumption in
Martha Rosler's Art Practice
Emily Goodman
PENNSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY

Democracy for Women: The South Korean
Problem
Jid Lee
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Black Women's Civil and Gender Rights: Mary
McLeod Bethune's Intellectual and Political
Push

Kim Warren
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

PANEL | Reproductive Politics

Room 213 Moderator: Ann Kingsolver

“No Sexual Revolution Here”: How Birth Control Advertisements Control Consumers
Laura Daley
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

“Black Babies’ Lives Matter!”: Reproductive Rights at the Alabama Women’s Center for Reproductive Alternatives
Dayzaughn Graves
BEREA COLLEGE

Breaking Silences: A Contemporary Black Feminist Reading of Rebecca Walker’s Memoir *Baby Love: Choosing Motherhood after a Lifetime of Ambivalence*
Cheryl Hopson
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Women’s Reproductive Health: Cuba’s Feminist Model
Kodi Mullins
BEREA COLLEGE

PANEL | Digital Lives

Room 231 Moderator: Nick Proferes

The Femvertising Fad: Exploring What It Means to Be a Woman in a Digital Media World
Jordan Long
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Killing Trolls and Playing Dress-Up: Tactics of Subversion and Empowerment Employed by Female Gamers in World of Warcraft and Guild Wars 2
Jessica Krawec
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Looking at Others Got You Down? Can Brief Infographics Reduce Negative Body Image Effects from Model Exposure?
Jessica Cox
BEREA COLLEGE

PANEL | Whose Gender is it, Anyway?

Room 243 Moderator: Kristen Mark

A Multiperspectival Cultural Studies Analysis of the “We Happy Trans*” Digital Activism Project
Jordan Miller
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

The White Woman’s Co-Optation of “Female Empowerment:” A Critical Lens Applied to “Pussy-Centric” Politics
Alexis Annunziata
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

“A Curious Mix”: Thoughts on Eliza Lynn Linton and Transgender Existence
Deborah Meem
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

PANEL | Disrupting Dominant Ideologies: Interrogating 21st Century Politics

Room 337 Moderator: Jeanmarie Rouhier-Willoughby

Ball vs. Boobs: An Examination of Masculinity and Femininity in Presidential Elections
Sarah Hartsock
DENISON UNIVERSITY

Qualifications, Experience, and Being a Woman
Molly Reckinger
DENISON UNIVERSITY

Transgender Voters in the 2016 Presidential Election: A Mark of Citizenship or Exclusion?
Justine Morelli
DENISON UNIVERSITY

PANEL | Girl Culture

Room 347 Moderator: Ruth Dike

Team Katniss? Adolescent Girls Participation in a Voluntary Archery After School Program
Shara Crookston
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

Pizza, pajamas and periods: Finding folklore in adolescent girls' slumber parties

Robin Hershkowitz
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

The Impact of Today's Youth on Organizing for Women's and Girls' Issues in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Chelsea Cutright
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

PANEL | Women in Higher Education

Room 357 Moderator: Ashley Sorrell

Effects of Institutional Climate and Culture on Leadership Opportunities for Female Social Workers in the Academy

Molly Kerby
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Gayle Mallinger
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

The Faculty Leadership Year (FLY) Program and Its Impact for Female Faculty

Evelyn Trasher
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Barriers to Superintendency in Kentucky: Voices of Female Leaders

Victoria Sherif
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Beth Rous
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Lars Bjork
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

A feminist coven in the university

Araby Smyth
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Jess Linz
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

BREAK
3:45PM - 4:00PM

KEYNOTE | Dr. Patricia Hill Collins
4:00PM - 5:30PM
ROOM 121

Visit the tables of KYGWS Campus and Community Partners

The **Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center** is made up of Kentuckians with diverse backgrounds, skills, and philosophies who are united by a commitment to end sexual violence. We envision a world free of all forms of violence and oppression. BRCC manages a 24 hour resource line, offers individual and group therapy, and has a robust education and outreach effort that focuses on prevention of sexual violence and the creation of healthy communities. Everyone is included in our work. Learn more at www.bluegrassrapecrisis.org!

GreenHouse17 is an advocacy agency committed ending intimate partner abuse in families and the community. We believe domestic violence is a community issue. Every individual has the right to live a safe and violence free life. Our specially trained crisis counselors are available to help people harmed by intimate partner abuse any time of the day, every day of the year. Our services are based on a trauma-informed care model and we honor that everyone responds to and heals from trauma in different ways. What makes us truly special is the opportunity to be out in the fresh air on a beautiful 40 acre farm that surrounds our emergency shelter. Taking therapeutic advantage of the natural beauty surrounding our emergency shelter and throughout our 17 county service area, our families are able to economically benefit from farm work while growing strong in body and mind.

The main goals of **#IAMAWomanInSTEM** are to encourage female undergraduate students to stay in STEM majors, provide female undergraduate students with positive role models by pairing students with peer and professional mentors, create discussion on the issues facing women in STEM+H fields, both in the classroom and in the workplace, and involve female undergraduates in the leadership and development of the #IAMAWomanInSTEM initiative.

KYNOW: Founded in 1966, the National Organization for Women (NOW) is the oldest and largest multi-issue feminist organization in the United States. The Kentucky Chapter of NOW was established in 1987. We're currently based in Lexington with a satellite chapter located in Bowling Green. Kentucky NOW is a diverse group of women and men who fight for a variety of issues including but not limited to: Constitutional Equality, Reproductive Freedom, Economic Justice for Women, and Ending Violence Against Women. We stand and fight in proud solidarity with communities of color, immigrants, refugees, Muslims, LGBTQIA people and with those with disabilities. We are dedicated to ensuring that women are better represented in America's legislatures, businesses, and boardrooms.

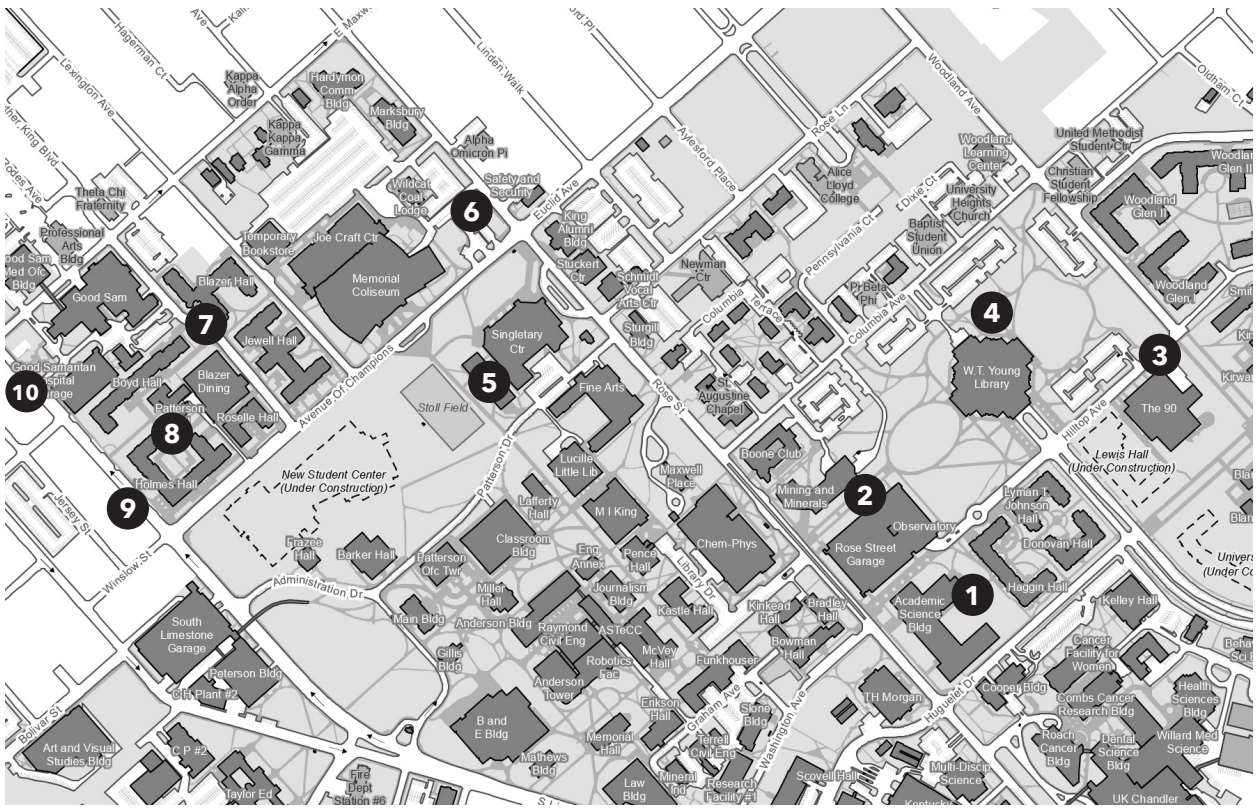
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Lexington is a 501c3 non-profit organization that provides assistance to Families, Caregivers and Individuals whose life experience includes living with a serious and persistent mental illness. NAMI Lexington directly serves central Kentucky and partners to serve communities across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We offer free advocacy, education, outreach and support programs and special events designed to raise community awareness and reduce stigma around mental health issues. Our guests encounter passionate "lived experience" wisdom in a welcoming environment." In 1979, five family members who wanted to create change, provide education, reduce stigma associated with mental illness and help improve care, access to care, etc for their family members and others, decided to start BAMI (Bluegrass Alliance on Mental Illness). NAMI Lexington has grown from a small group of five members and continues to grow each year. NAMI's growth is due to dedicated founding members, volunteers, staff, and visionary leaders, that inspire, motivate, and energize. NAMI Lexington has been a front-runner in family education, consumer program development and peer-empowerment, collaboration, inclusiveness, diversity, cultural competence, and scope of services.

The Office of LGBTQ* Resources at the University of Kentucky is the central hub for accessing information, groups, and services related to diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Our mission focuses on the three core pillars of education, advocacy, and community building. Our ultimate goal is to highlight the wonderfully diverse experiences of LGBTQ* Wildcats while working to decrease marginalization in all forms.

The Queer Project is a student group at the University of Kentucky dedicated to being a creative outlet for queer identifying students on campus to be able to express their identities and shared experiences through art, activism, and creative exploration.

WHY Queer Health: Although data collection has vastly improved on women's health in general, we are missing a focus on queer women's lives and how our experiences influence our health. We are using "queer" as an umbrella term to capture women who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer and/or transgender. WHY (Women's Health & You) Queer Health is a survey, but it's more than that. It's a way to get to know you, your life experiences, and your health priorities over time. WHY Queer Health? *Because we have higher rates of depression and anxiety. *Because we have higher rates of breast and cervical cancer. *Because we are stronger together. *Because we want to hear your stories to design health promotion programs that are by and for queer women!

University of Kentucky Campus Map & Dining Locations



- 1 Jacobs Science Building**
 KYGWS Conference Location
- 2 Rose Street Parking Garage**
 Park here free of charge. Access via Hilltop Ave., no access via Rose Ave.
- 3 The 90**
 Aqua Sushi, 12PM - 10PM
 Fresh Food Company, 10:30AM - 10PM
 Papa Johns, 10AM - 12AM
 Taco Bell, 12PM - 1AM
 Wildcat Pantry, 12PM - 1AM
- 4 W. T. Young Library**
 Starbucks, 9AM - 9PM
- 5 Bowman's Den**
 Chick-fil-A, 11AM - 3PM
 Subway, 11AM - 3PM
 Starbucks, 11AM - 3PM
- 6 Local Restaurants**
 Bangkok House, Burger-Fi, Coffea, Papa Johns, QDOBA
- 7 Blazer Hall**
 Blazer Dining, 10:30AM - 8PM
- 8 Holmes Hall**
 Steak 'n Shake, 10AM - 3AM
 Wildcat Pantry, 12PM - 1AM
- 9 Local Restaurants**
 Noodles & Company, Pazzo's Pizza Pub, Jimmy John's, Han Woo Ri, McDonald's
- 10 Local Restaurants**
 Chipotle, Blaze Pizza, Goodfella's / Two Keys Tavern, Local Taco, Tin Roof, Sav's Grill

Thank you!

As chair of the department of Gender and Women's Studies at University of Kentucky, I am enormously proud of the four founders of this conference – our PhD students, Shawna Felkins, Mikaela Feroli, Billy Korinko, and Ashley Ruderman. These fab four founders had a vision and made it come together like lightning. I am thrilled that this first effort has elicited such a strong response: three hundred registrants!

I want to take this opportunity to thank not only our organizers but also the staff of the College of Arts and Sciences, led by Dean Mark Kornbluh, who has always been a champion of Gender and Women's Studies. The College's business office and its events team known as The Hive were crucial partners. The queen in the hub of all this activity was our department manager, Michelle Del Toro. We benefit daily by her grace under pressure.

In addition, faculty and staff outside the College were instrumental in making the conference possible. The Office of Institutional Diversity provided the seed money without which we could do nothing. We are also grateful for the collaborations and connections made possible by The Martin Luther King Center, the Office of LGBTQ* Resources, and BIRCWH (Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health). Khalil Baker and Lance Poston deserve thanks in particular. Our volunteers and moderators hail from all kinds of departments across the university – thank you for your contributions to making this a truly interdisciplinary endeavor.

Our two remarkable keynote speakers, Dr. Bordo and Dr. Hill Collins, have sustained generations of feminists with wisdom. We are incredibly lucky to hear from them in person today. Thank you for sharing your words and challenging our minds.

To you attendees, I say thank you for coming

out on a Saturday during an incredibly volatile time in history. Joining together to share experiences, research, and vision is the only way I can think of to get through this time in life. I am grateful for your enthusiasm and patience as we work our way through this inaugural event. Your remarks on the enclosed evaluation sheet will allow us to make next year's conference – slated for September 22, 2018 – an even greater success.

We owe gratitude also for the many unseen contributors – those who deliver, clean, tweak, and oversee the details that are often forgotten. Together we gather in a place not originally ours with the hope of creating a space for all. So, as a final offering of gratitude, I quote from "Hymn," Sherman Alexie's new poem that asks "Who will I become/ As we gather in this terrible kingdom?"

"My friends, I'm not quite sure what I should do.

I'm as angry and afraid and disillusioned as you.

But I do know this: I will resist hate. I will resist.

I will stand and sing my love. I will use my fist

To drum and drum my love."

It is my hope that this day gives you a drumbeat to follow, and a reason to keep resisting with research, inquiry, and critique. Thank you for coming together here at the University of Kentucky!

Yours in solidarity,

Carol Mason
Professor and Chair
Department of Gender and Women's Studies
University of Kentucky

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