The First Annual

KENTUCKY GENDER & WOMEN’S STUDIES CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2017
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 uprise 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

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>8:00AM - 1:00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30AM - 9:45AM</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00AM - 11:30AM</td>
<td>Morning Keynote &amp; Book Signing</td>
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<td>11:30AM - 1:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch - on your own</td>
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<td>1:00PM - 2:15PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00PM - 5:30PM</td>
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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.
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 | 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

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 | Confronting Rape Culture**  
Room 231  
Moderator: Victoria Benge  

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**  
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM

**Keynote | Dr. Susan Bordo**  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
Room 121

**Lunch**  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Lunch is available at various locations within walking distance. Dining maps are enclosed in your registration materials.

**Session 2**  
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

**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

“Fuck her and we’ll split the Euros”: When a feminist geographer confronts sexual harassment in the field  
Manon Lefevre  
University of Kentucky

**Workshop | Centering LGBTQ and POC in Reproductive Justice**  
Room 103  
Giselle Henry  
Kentucky Health Justice Network

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

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

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

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  
TRANSVLANIA UNIVERSITY

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

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

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

“Plain Old Diana Prince”: The Disempowerment of Wonder Woman in the Mod Era  
Brianna Anderson  
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
**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 ‘Phamiarchy’  
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

**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  
Transylvania 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

**Break**
2:15PM - 2:30PM

**Session 3**
2:30PM - 3:45PM
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<td>“No Sexual Revolution Here”: How Birth Control Advertisements Control Consumers</td>
<td>Laura Daley</td>
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<td>“Black Babies’ Lives Matter!”: Reproductive Rights at the Alabama Women’s Center for Reproductive Alternatives</td>
<td>Dayzaughn Graves</td>
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<td>Breaking Silences: A Contemporary Black Feminist Reading of Rebecca Walker’s Memoir Baby Love: Choosing Motherhood after a Lifetime of Ambivalence</td>
<td>Cheryl Hopson</td>
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<td>Women’s Reproductive Health: Cuba’s Feminist Model</td>
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<td>The Femvertising Fad: Exploring What It Means to Be a Woman in a Digital Media World</td>
<td>Jordan Long</td>
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<td>Killing Trolls and Playing Dress-Up: Tactics of Subversion and Empowerment Employed by Female Gamers in World of Warcraft and Guild Wars 2</td>
<td>Jessica Krawec</td>
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<td>Looking at Others Got You Down? Can Brief Infographics Reduce Negative Body Image Effects from Model Exposure?</td>
<td>Jessica Cox</td>
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<td>A Multiperspectival Cultural Studies Analysis of the “We Happy Trans*” Digital Activism Project</td>
<td>Jordan Miller</td>
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<td>The White Woman’s Co-Optation of “Female Empowerment:” A Critical Lens Applied to “Pussy-Centric” Politics</td>
<td>Alexis Annunziata</td>
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<td>“A Curious Mix”: Thoughts on Eliza Lynn Linton and Transgender Existence</td>
<td>Deborah Meem</td>
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<td>Ball vs. Boobs: An Examination of Masculinity and Femininity in Presidential Elections</td>
<td>Sarah Hartsock</td>
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<td>Qualifications, Experience, and Being a Woman</td>
<td>Molly Reckinger</td>
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<td>Transgender Voters in the 2016 Presidential Election: A Mark of Citizenship or Exclusion?</td>
<td>Justine Morelli</td>
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<td>Team Katniss? Adolescent Girls Participation in a Voluntary Archery After School Program</td>
<td>Shara Crookston</td>
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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
Évelyn 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 Bowmen’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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