The Second Annual
KENTUCKY GENDER &
WOMEN’S STUDIES
CONFERENCE
“A Common(wealth) of Justice”

KYGWS
KENTUCKY GENDER &
WOMEN’S STUDIES CONFERENCE
2018

SEPTEMBER 8, 2018
Welcome to the Second Annual
KENTUCKY GENDER & WOMEN’S
STUDIES CONFERENCE

September 8, 2018 • University of Kentucky

The conference this year is focused on the intersection of activism, politics and academia. How do we form a “Common(wealth) of Justice” when new incidents happen that threaten the civil rights of many? We hope that this space will be a place for resistance in our shared community building and solidarity. Let’s learn from each other about survival, speaking out and thriving. Andrea Jenkins will give us hope about political victories and Garth Greenwell will inspire to thrive in spaces that might not accept us. We are not alone, and the 15 panels will show us how our communal voices matter. Thank you for participating in the conference this year.

In Solidarity,
Shawna Felkins and Mel Lesch
Co-Chairs and KY GWS PhD Students

Schedule at a Glance

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH
7:00-8:30 PM Welcome Mixer

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH
8:00 AM-1:00 PM Registration
8:30-9:45 AM Session 1
10:00 AM-11:00 AM Morning Keynote
11:30 AM-1:00 PM Lunch
12:30-1:00 PM Poster Session
1:00-2:15 PM Session 2
2:30-3:45 Session 3
4:00-5:30 PM Afternoon Keynote
10:00 PM After Party at the Bar Complex

Special thank you to this year’s Master of Ceremonies, Jen Martin.

All sessions will be held in the Bill Gatton Student Center. Lunch can be purchased at a variety of venues located on the first and second floor of the Student Center. There are also restaurants along South Limestone Street.

The University of Kentucky actively seeks to foster an inclusive campus for everyone, including individuals who are trans* or gender-nonconforming. A lockable, single toilet restroom available on the first, second, and third floors of the Student Center, rooms A234, A332, A130G. Lactation spaces are available in rooms A130F, A211, and A320. No reservations are necessary.
**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.

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**UK students: Become a Tomasky Leader!**

The Department of Gender and Women's Studies is proud to launch The Tomasky Leaders Scholarship Program. This program chooses up to three University of Kentucky undergraduates who desire to transform society through public service, electoral office, activism, or advocacy. As a Tomasky Leader, you will attend a leadership conference, training, or internship of your choice in spring or summer 2019, with a scholarship of no more than $2000 to cover the costs of travel, lodging, and registration. Preference will be given to female students and those who are first-generation, minority, and/or Appalachian students. Selection criteria include financial need; commitment to reproductive justice and health; and potential impact of the training, conference, or internship on the student's career aspirations. To learn more, attend one of these two workshops today:

- **1pm: Getting’ It Done: A Young Person’s Guide to Organizing and Self Care with Mia Sullivan of Civil Liberties and Public Policy, Hampshire College**
- **2.30pm: Exposing Fake Clinics with Clarie Randall of Feminist Majority Foundation**

Plan to attend a meeting on Wednesday October 10 at 11am in Breckinridge Hall. Also, please contact Carol Mason, Chair, or Melissa Stein, Director of Undergraduate Studies of Gender and Women's Studies with questions. This program is sponsored by Susan Tomasky, who graduated from University of Kentucky in 1974. We are grateful for her vision and generosity!
MORNING KEYNOTE | 10:00-11:00am

ANDREA JENKINS

Andrea Jenkins is a writer, performance artist, poet, and transgender activist. She is the first African American openly trans woman to be elected to office in the United States. Andrea Jenkins has experience working in community development in North Minneapolis, and in delivering social services in South Minneapolis.

Andrea Jenkins moved to Minnesota to attend the University of Minnesota in 1979 and was hired by the Hennepin County government, where she worked for a decade. Andrea Jenkins worked as a staff member on the Minneapolis City Council for 12 years before beginning work as curator of the Transgender Oral History Project at the University of Minnesota’s Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Studies.

Andrea Jenkins holds a Masters Degree in Community Development from Southern New Hampshire University, a MFA in Creative Writing from Hamline University and a Bachelors Degrees in Human Services from Metropolitan State University. She is a nationally and internationally recognized writer and artist, a 2011 Bush Fellow to advance the work of transgender inclusion, and the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships.

Dr. DaMaris Hill, Assistant Professor of English, will introduce and facilitate discussion with Ms. Jenkins. Dr. Hill is the author of The Fluid Boundaries of Suffrage and Jim Crow: Staking Claims in the American Heartland (Lexington Books, 2016).

AFTERNOON KEYNOTE | 4:00-5:30pm

GARTH GREENWELL

Garth Greenwell is the author of What Belongs to You (FSG, 2016), which won the British Book Award for Debut of the Year, was longlisted for the National Book Award, and was a finalist for six other awards, including the PEN/Faulkner Award, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. A New York Times Book Review Editors’ Choice, it was named a Best Book of 2016 by over fifty publications in nine countries, was praised as “the great gay novel for our times” by The New Republic, and is being translated into a dozen languages.


When asked about being labeled a “gay writer” in an interview that appeared in Guernica, Garth Greenwell said, “I feel an intense debt to the queer writers who made my life—my life as a writer, my life full stop—possible, and I hope very much that I’m continuing a tradition of queer writing. I also absolutely reject any suggestion that by writing specifically queer stories and in aesthetic traditions or modes that have been coded as queer I am sacrificing any of the universal relevance or impact literature can lay claim to. I write from my experience as a queer man, and I write for queer readers. I also write out of my sense of the literary tradition, broadly conceived, and I write into and for that tradition. I am a gay writer, absolutely. And in no way does that fact limit the reach or importance of what I write.”

Garth Greenwell holds graduate degrees from Harvard University, Washington University in St. Louis, and the Iowa Writers Workshop. A native of Kentucky, Garth Greenwell taught high school in Sofia, Bulgaria for four years before returning to the States. He is the 2018-19 John and Renée Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi. He lives in Iowa City.

Dr. Michelle Sizemore, Associate Professor of English, will introduce and facilitate discussion with Mr. Greenwell. Dr. Sizemore is the author of American Enchantment: Rituals of the People in the Postrevolutionary World (Oxford University Press, 2017).
WORKSHOP | The Future of Inclusive Activism
Lidya Yatin - University of Kentucky
Room 330E, 3rd Floor

WORKSHOP | Men Are Trash, But Are We Raising Them to Be Trash?
Jasemine Jones - University of Kentucky
Room 350C, 3rd Floor

PANEL | Roots of Reproductive Justice
Moderator: Ashley Ruderman
Room 331, 3rd Floor
- Renee Mikorski: Knowledge is Power is Reproductive Justice: Advocating for Comprehensive Sex Education in Knox County, Tennessee | University of Tennessee-Knoxville
- Della Winters: The New Jane Crow: Sterilization as Oppression in the Age of Mass Incarceration | University of Tennessee-Knoxville

PANEL | Religion, the Right, and Homosociality: Masculinities
Moderator: Melissa Stein
Room Executive Boardroom, 3rd Floor
- Erin Alexander: “Unite the Right:” Rural Masculinity and Values Based Similarities of Far Right Hate Groups | University of Kentucky
- Rachel Davis: The Fear of God: Religious Self-Regulation and Men’s Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration | University of Kentucky
- Elisa Sperandio: The Soccer Fandom as Homosocial Enclave: Masculinity and National Identity in the Wake of Italian Exclusion from the World Cup | University of Kentucky

PANEL | Interrogating White Supremacy
Moderator: David Nemer
Room 330C, 3rd Floor
- Joie Meier: White Supremacy in the Northeast: Keystone United in Pennsylvania | Indiana University - Bloomington
- Courtney Thompson: White Feminism: Then and Now | Western Kentucky University
- Frances Henderson: Intersectional Solidarity – Potentialities and Limitations: The Case of Blount County United | Maryville College

PANEL | Examining and Subverting Anti-Queer Discourse
Moderator: Nick Proferes
Room 330AB, 3rd Floor
- Tyler Kibbey: Hurricanes and Homosexuality: Theopolitical Metaphor Systems of Natural Disasters in the United States | University of Kentucky
- Adriana Sisko and Rory Barron: Saving Our Memories: Preserving LGBTQ+ Student Activism at the University of Kentucky | University of Kentucky
- Jon Rosenstadt: The Trans Panic Defense and the Potential for Victim Erasure | University of South Florida

PANEL | #MeToo
Moderator: Lauren Cagle
Room 330D, 3rd Floor
- Noland Aull: Intersectionality, the #MeToo movement, and unlearning the stigma of Sexual Assault | University of Kentucky
- Lisa Schroot: The Inevitable Backlash: The MeToo Movement and Rape Culture | University of Kentucky
- Nathaniel Cortas: Maybe I’m My Own Greatest Fear: #MeToo Accusations and Emo’s Latest Crisis of Masculinity | University of Kentucky

Break
9:45 AM-10:00 AM
Morning Keynote | Andrea Jenkins & Dr. DaMaris Hill
10:00 AM-11:00 AM
Lunch
11:30 AM-1:00 PM
In an attempt to offer more opportunities to students across disciplines to present their research, we have encouraged students to submit and present original research posters. These posters will be on display throughout the conference in the Social Staircase, but researchers will be stationed at their posters during this time to explain their work and answer questions from other conference attendees. We encourage you to check out their amazing work as you return from lunch.

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

**WORKSHOP | Feed the Resistance: Empowering Your Community by Becoming a Food Justice Advocate**
*Journey McAndrews - University of Michigan-School of Social Work*
Executive Boardroom

**WORKSHOP | Gettin' It Done: A Young Person's Guide To Organizing and Self Care**
- *Madeline McCubbins, Family Advocate at the Center for Women and Families in Louisville*
- *Oliver Hall, Trans Health Coordinator, Kentucky Health Justice Network*
- *Keanan Gottlieb, Research Analyst at the Program for LGBTI Health at Vanderbilt University*

**PANEL | Gender-Based Violence**
*Moderator: Srimati Basu*
Room 330E, 3rd Floor

- *Mary Wallace: The Importance of Understanding Culture and History in Examining Arranged Marriages vs. Marriages of Choice | Transylvania University*
- *Margaret Campe: College Campus Sexual Assault and Students with Disabilities | University of Kentucky*

**PANEL | Health In & Out of Appalachia**
*Moderator: Jenn Hunt*
Room 350D, 3rd Floor

- *Rebecca Moore: Investigating the Impact of Stigma on Outcomes for Opioid Addicts in Kentucky | Western Kentucky University*
- *Mairead Moloney: Too Tired to Sleep? Exploring the Intersections of Stress, Gender, and Insomnia in Appalachian Women Ages 45+ | University of Kentucky*

**PANEL | Popular Culture: Stars, Fans, and Community**
*Moderator: Liang Luo*
Room 330D, 3rd Floor

- *Emma Fagan: Celebrity Image and Structures of Gender: Traditional Domesticity and the American Dream | Wayne State University*
- *Adriana Sisko: He’s a Lesbian: Lesbian Cross-Gender Identification in Fandom Culture | University of Kentucky*
- *Kaitlyne Motl: “You Make Lifelong Friends Out of Strangers Here”: Women Creating Communities (Despite Danger) within Jamtronica Music Festivals | Georgetown College*

**PANEL | Representations of Sexuality in the Humanities**
*Moderator: Michelle Sizemore*
Room 330AB, 3rd Floor

- *Maria Ciprani: Privilege on the Prairie | CUNY-John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
- *Jid Lee: A Conscious Family: The Lesbian Parents in Amie Miller’s She Looks Just Like You | Middle Tennessee State University*
- *Bradlee Murch: Celebrity, Fame, and Aura: Gender and Sexuality in Mapplethorpe’s Portraiture | The School of the Art Institute of Chicago*

**PANEL | Historical Black Oppression: From Colonial Times to Now**
*Moderator: Akiko Takenaka*
Room 331, 3rd Floor

- *Huntly P. Brown: Black Queer Exclusion: A British Colonial Relic | Indiana University Bloomington*
- *Michael Schultz: Spanning the Chasm: African-American Women and the Push for Inclusion in WWI | Eastern Kentucky University*
- *Mahaliah Little: The Inability to Hide and Everything to Fear: Black Women, Police Violence, and Opacity*
Break
2:15 PM-2:30 PM

Session 3
2:30 PM-3:45 PM

WORKSHOP | Exposing Fake Clinics
Clarie Randall - Feminist Majority Foundation
Room 330E, 3rd Floor

WORKSHOP | Transformation Into Fierceness
Anthony Alterio - University of Kentucky
Room 330AB, 3rd Floor

WORKSHOP | Feed the Resistance: Empowering Your Community by Becoming a Food Justice Advocate
Journey McAndrews - University of Michigan School of Social Work
Room 330C, 3rd Floor (SEC Meeting Room)

PANEL | A Campus in Transition: Transgender Student Leaders in Conversation at the University of Kentucky
Moderator: Mikaela Feroli
Room 331, 3rd Floor
- Rory Barron, Lukas Bullock, Meg Coppala, Morgan Thomas | University of Kentucky

PANEL | Moving Up and Out: Resisting Socioeconomic Inequality
Moderator: Jeanmarie Rouhier-Wiloughby
Room 330C, 3rd Floor (SEC Meeting Room)
- Angelica Miller: Marked for Erasure: the Black Non-male Body and the Logics of Capitalism | Independent Scholar
- Ranym Nenneh: 6000 Miles of Resistance from Syria to Kentucky | University of Kentucky
- Heather Bailey: Patriarchal Economics | Western Kentucky University

PANEL | Translating Gender Performance
Moderator: Rusty Barrett
Room 330D, 3rd Floor
- Pony Meyer: Albertan Drag Kinging and Accessing Male Power | University of Alberta
- Samantha Lo’ren: Performance Art: Overcoming Trauma and Changing Perspectives | Berea College

PANEL | Embodiments: Hysteria, Trauma, Abjection
Moderator: Charlie Zhang
Room Executive Boardroom, 3rd Floor
- Erin Clancy: Attempts at Affirming Bodily Boundaries: embodying/resisting abjection and desire in anorexia | University of Kentucky
- Chloe Brown: Treatment as Trauma: Transfolk, Medical Establishment, and Vernacular Resistance | Independent Scholar
- Annie Jo Baker: No Man’s Martyr: Simone Weil and the Ideal of the Hysterical Saint | University of Kentucky

PANEL | Entrenched Stereotypes, Emerging Narratives
Moderator: Karen Tice
Room 350D, 3rd Floor
- Chidera Oblinali: The Influence of Gender in Artificially Intelligent Personal Assistants | Georgia Southern University
- Katharine Alexander: Beyond “Woman the Gatherer,” Engendered Narratives of Agricultural Origins | University of Kentucky
- Storm Shultz: Us As Well: American Cultural Refusal to Allow Men to be Victims of Rape | Eastern Kentucky University

PANEL | The History and Future of Scandalous Women
Moderator: Julie Human
Room 350C, 3rd Floor
- Rebecca Thacker: “My history has a subtext”: The use of temporal drag to re-envision the future in ‘The Book of Joan’ | University of Cincinnati
- Maria Cipriani: Feminizing Gendered Signifiers and the Second-Class Citizen | John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
- Emma Fagan: Celebrity Image and Structures of Gender: Traditional Domesticity and the American Dream | Wayne State University

Afternoon Keynote
Garth Greenwell & Michelle Sizemore
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
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.

The University of Kentucky’s Feminist Alliance is dedicated to educating society on the importance of intersectional feminism through discussing matters related to gender, sexuality, ethnicity, race, and all other identities. The Feminist Alliance also works with different local and national organizations that pursue ways to create an equal and just society.

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 BAMII (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!

GreenHouse17
Thank you!

As chair of the department of Gender and Women's Studies at University of Kentucky, I am thrilled to welcome you to the second annual Kentucky Gender and Women's Studies conference. Last year, four graduate students – Billy Korinko, Mikaela Feroli, Ashley Ruderman, and Shawna Felkins -- founded the event. This year Shawna has stayed on to co-chair the conference with Mel Lesch, another doctoral student in Gender and Women's Studies. They have been brilliant organizers and collaborators with our office staff, namely Michelle Del Toro, amazing queen of details and Department Manager, and Rory Barron, our righteous student worker. I also thank the many volunteers and panel moderators, as well as our stellar plenary speakers, Garth Greenwell and Andrea Jenkins, and our emcee, Jen Martin. This year we again have the awesome support of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Office of LGBTQ* Resources. Major funding has also come from Student and Academic Life and the Department of English MFA Program in Creative Writing. In these times, it is immensely important for people to come together, share ideas, and support the intellectual inquiry and human expression that this conference has invited. Thank you for joining us. I hope your connection to Gender and Women's Studies today is a meaningful and inspiring one.

Sincerely,

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

Support the Gender and Women’s Studies Discretionary Gift Fund

As you enjoy this stellar social justice conference, be part of its legacy by making a tax-deductible, charitable donation to the GWS discretionary gift fund. Your generosity ensures that our department can continue to host this conference and support the students who organize and attend this unique annual gathering.

Go to https://bit.ly/2MyLekT to give, or email Carol Mason, department chair, at carol.mason@uky.edu to discuss funding and naming opportunities.
Support for The Second Annual KENTUCKY GENDER & WOMEN’S STUDIES CONFERENCE is provided by

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Gender and Women's Studies

Department of English and MFA Program in Creative Writing

Office of LGBTQ* Resources

Student Organizations and Activities

justfundKY

Student and Academic Life