

UB Gender Institute Presents

Gender Across Borders 2016

Forging Alliances/Vive les differences!

Friday, April 8 9 a.m.-3:15 p.m.
South Lake Community Center, UB North Campus

Program

9:00-9:15 Coffee and bagels

9:15-10:30 Kari Winter, Welcome and Introductions

Round table discussion: What are pressing concerns in feminist theory and praxis today?

Moderator: Carine Mardorossian, Professor of English

Presenters:

Kristina Marie Darling, Ph.D. Candidate, English

Mopelolade Oreoluwa Ogunbowale, Ph.D. Student, Global Gender Studies

Sarah A. Robert, Asst. Professor, Learning and Instruction

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

10:45-12:00 **Janice L. Moritz Distinguished Lecture on Women and Labor**

Martha McCluskey, Professor of Law and William J. Magavern Fellow

“Are We Economic Engines Too? Precarity, Productivity and Gender”

12:00-12:30 Lunch

12:30-1:45 **Moslem Women Activists**

Moderator: Kari Winter, Director of the Gender Institute

Nadia Shahram, Esq., Moslem Women’s Rights Activist

“Women in Islam versus Moslem Women”

Jennifer L. Gaynor, Asst. Professor of History

“@ David Cameron -- #TraditionallySubmissive”

Filomena M. Critelli, Assoc. Professor of Social Work

“Women’s Activism in Pakistan: Progress and Challenges.”

1:45-2:00 Coffee break

2:00 – 3:15 **Presentation of Gender Institute’s 2016 Excellence in Mentoring Award**

Moderator: Margaret W. Sallee, Assoc. Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy

Introduction by Pat McDevitt, Assoc. Professor of History

Susan Cahn, Professor of History, “Mentoring Matters”

Participants

Susan Cahn, Professor of History, is currently working on a feminist cultural history of borderline personality disorder (BPD) in the modern U.S. Her research focuses on women's sport, lesbian history, sexuality, and chronic illness. Her books include: *Sexual Reckonings: Southern Girls in a Troubling Age* (Harvard University Press, 2007), *Women and Sports in the United States: A Documentary Reader* edited by Jean O'Reilly and Susan K. Cahn (Northeastern University Press, 2007), and *Coming on Strong: Gender and Sexuality in Twentieth-Century Women's Sport* (NY: Free Press, 1994; Harvard University Press, 1995; 2nd edition, 2007).

Filomena M. Critelli, LCSW, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at the University at Buffalo. She is also Co-Director of the Institute for Sustainable Global Engagement which promotes cross-national research projects, globally focused research that advances trauma informed and human rights perspectives, international scholarly exchanges and teaching collaborations. Her research is focused on women's rights activism and gender-based violence and in domestic as well as international contexts. She has been conducting research in Pakistan since 2006. Additional areas of research are human rights of immigrants and refugees and disability rights.

Kristina Marie Darling, Ph.D. Candidate in English at UB, is the author of over twenty collections of poetry and hybrid prose that have been described by literary critics as "haunting," "mesmerizing," and "complex." Poet and *Kenyon Review* editor Zach Savich writes that her body of work is a "singularly graceful and stunningly incisive exploration of poetic insight, vision, and transformation." Donald Revell writes of her *SELECTED POEMS*, "Here is a new tradition, alive in bright air." The recipient of many major awards and fellowships, Kristina's work has been recognized twice with the Dan Liberthson Prize from the Academy of American Poets. She has received nominations for the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the PEN/Diamonstein-Spielvogel Award, and the Kingsley Tufts Award. Kristina is also a well-published literary critic. She is currently working toward both an M.F.A. in Poetry at New York University and a Ph.D. in English Literature at S.U.N.Y.-Buffalo, where she was awarded a Presidential Fellowship and a Gender Institute Dissertation Fellowship.

Jennifer L. Gaynor, Asst. Professor of History at UB, works on Southeast Asian history since the sixteenth century, and on the region's contemporary society and culture, from boardrooms to backwaters.

Carine Mardorossian, Professor of English, focuses on world literature, postcolonial and Caribbean studies, ecocriticism, and feminist theory. Her books include *Framing the Victim: Rape, Agency, and Structural Masculinity in the Contemporary United States* (Rutgers UP, 2014) and *Reclaiming Difference: Caribbean Women Rewrite Postcolonialism*. (University of Virginia Press, 2005).

Martha McCluskey, Professor of Law and William J. Magavern Faculty Scholar at UB, teaches constitutional law, torts, insurance, regulation, economic inequality and the relationships

between work and family. Her scholarship examines the relationship between economics and inequality in law. She is working on a book entitled *A Field Guide to Law, Economics and Justice*. Many of her publications explore connections between economics and feminist legal theory, including *Feminism, Media, and the Law*, which she co-edited (Oxford UP, 1997). Another strand of her work builds on critical legal analysis of gender and race to develop the jurisprudence of disability and of economic class by addressing economic ideology. She is a co-organizer of the ClassCrits project, which brings together scholars in law, economics, and other disciplines to develop a critical legal analysis of economic inequality through workshops, conference panels, scholarly publications and a blog.

Patrick McDevitt, Assoc. Professor of History, teaches and researches in the fields of Modern Europe, North & South Atlantic, Gender/Sexuality, Imperialism/Colonialism, Religion, and Social/Cultural History. He is currently looking at British and Irish reactions to the British invasion of St Domingue during the Haitian Revolution, and continues to pursue his interests in transatlantic manifestations of liberation theology, sports, and the global history of clothing and fashion. He is the author of many essays as well as *May The Best Man Win: Sport, Masculinity and Nationalism in Great Britain and the Empire, 1880-1935* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004; paperback 2008).

Mopelolade Oreoluwa Ogunbowale is a Ph.D. student in Global Gender Studies.

Sarah A. Robert's research focuses on understanding how teachers' work and teachers' knowledge are affected by neoliberal education reform. She is specifically concerned with how teachers understand and then do policy in and out of the classroom. She often looks at the ways gender is involved in these struggles for educational change and equity. She focuses on educational reform in the Americas, particularly in Argentina and the United States. In these contexts she conducts ethnographic and qualitative studies of global reform initiatives from the perspective of local communities. She directs UB's Social Studies Education Program.

Margaret W. Sallee, Assoc. Professor of Higher Education in UB's Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, focuses on two broad areas: faculty work and the graduate student experience. She uses a critical lens to examine the intersection of individual experiences and organizational culture to interrogate the ways in which gender and other social identities operate on college campuses. At the individual level, she considers how men and women have different experiences, both within the professoriate and in graduate school. At the organizational level, she considers how the practices of various departments and the university as a whole produce a culture that privileges one gender over others. Bringing these two lenses together, she frequently considers how individual experiences are shaped by the culture and practices of the university. She is the author of *Faculty Fathers: Toward A New Ideal in the Research University* (SUNY Press, 2014).

Writer and activist **Nadia Shahram** is a mediation lawyer with a private practice in Amherst and Orchard Park, New York. In 2001, after the tragic events of September 11, Nadia started questioning the role of Muslims in the image of Islam. Her course, "The Effects of Religion and Culture on Family Laws in Eastern Countries," was created as a quest to find answers to Nadia's own questions about the manner in which religion is being practiced in the 21st Century, and suggests a reform is needed to reconcile the misinterpretation of the practice of the religion with the intention of the religion. In 2010, she published *Marriage on the Street Corners of Tehran*, a novel based on true stories of Iranian Muslim women facing legal and cultural inequality in everyday life as well as in court rooms. An advocate of Muslim women rights, Nadia regularly presents the differences in interpretation verses the actual text of the holy book of Koran. Nadia, along with her students at UB Law School, wrote the Declaration of Equalities for Moslem Women which was unveiled during Convention Days in Seneca Falls in 2014 and is on permanent display at the National Women's Park in Seneca Falls. Ms. Shahram has received multiple awards for her practice and activist work including Buffalo Business First's 'Legal Elite of Western New York' and 'Women of Influence' Awards. Buffalo Public Schools recognized her with an 'Education and Culture' Award, and the 'Yellow Rose' Award from Zonta of Buffalo, and the 'Spirit of Woman' Award from the Family Justice Center.