
GENDER MATTERS

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER



**WOMEN'S RIGHTS
DEMONSTRATION,
WASHINGTON DC, 13
NOVEMBER 1989. DUKE
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES**

**PLANNED PARENTHOOD
RALLY IN NYC.
DECEMBER 2021. FROM
CREATIVE COMMONS.**



UB GENDER INSTITUTE

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CONTENTS

Message from the Director	3-4
About the Institute	5
Social Reproduction Lecture Series	6-7
Feminist Research Alliance Workshop	8
New Books, New Feminist Directions	9
Awards	10
Resource Links	11
Stay Connected	12



Many thanks to the *New Yorker* cartoonist Liza Donnelly for the permission to use her “Lady Liberty is crestfallen” image from the [Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/2022/06/26/lady-liberty-is-crestfallen/), June 26, 2022. See <https://lizadonnelly.com> and her newsletter “Seeing Things.”

IMAGE CREDITS:

Cover: Women’s Rights Demonstration, Washington DC, 13 November 1989. Duke University Archives

Cover: Planned Parenthood Rally in NYC. December 2021. From Creative Commons.

The Institute
for Research &
Education on
**Women
& Gender**

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



This year, we reach a number of important milestones. First, the UB Gender Institute celebrates its 25th Anniversary! It began as a faculty and graduate student reading group in the 1990s to become the only research

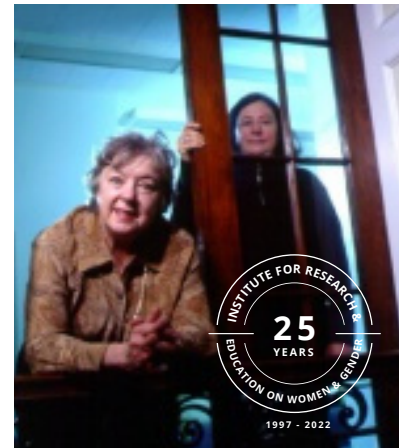
institute in the SUNY system devoted to the study of women, gender, and sexuality. This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Women's Studies department at UB, which was one of the first in the country. During that same year—1972—Title IX was enacted, which prohibits discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities that receive federal funding. Although there is still unfinished business regarding Title IX and the struggle for gender equity continues, this legislation has nonetheless transformed the lives of girls and women. In 1972, for instance, approximately 300,000 girls nationwide played high school sports every year. Today, that figure is three million. For college women athletes in 1971, the scene was grim. Only 15% of NCAA student-athletes were women. Today, that number is 44%.

And yet in the midst of all of these important signs of progress, we continue to see our country move backward on fundamental rights including the right to abortion, LGBTQ+ rights, trans rights, and civil rights. With the Supreme Court overturning *Roe v Wade* in *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization* (JWHO), more than 36 million women of reproductive age, and more people who can become pregnant, in 26 states have already lost or will soon lose access to abortion. And those in blue states are not safe either. Although New York

has vowed to be a sanctuary state for abortion rights, the Supreme Court in the future could overturn this state law just as we saw them overturn NY's gun licensing law in *NYSRPA v Bruen* this summer.

This grim picture also includes the rise of anti-LGBTQ+ policies at the local and state levels ranging from Florida's "Don't Say Gay" law to the Texas GOP platform. But of the nearly 240 anti-LGBTQ+ bills filed in 2022, the vast majority of them target trans people. Most of these bills eliminate or ban trans people from accessing public life, education, and gender-affirming care.

It is at this critical juncture that the UB Gender Institute will celebrate its 25th anniversary, and I use "celebrate" here advisedly to acknowledge the important work that we do as a community



(L) Peggy Acara, (R) Isabel Marcus

whether it is sharing our published work or engaging in conversations on contemporary issues at one of our events. Now more than ever such connections are needed. To this end, the Provost has increased the UB Gender Institute's budget to include more funds for our research, which will go toward faculty projects, as well as toward increased investment in our dissertation fellowships. Details will be forthcoming.

PLANS FOR THE YEAR

We have an exciting array of programs planned for the coming year. During our anniversary year, the UB Gender Institute received a generous Baldy Center Conference Grant for a year-long series of lectures, book events, and panel discussions on the theme of “*Social Reproduction: Labor, Social Justice, and the Value of Human - Life.*” The series, which will be in-person with a virtual option, will kick off on Thursday, September 22nd with Silvia Federici, co-founder of the International Feminist Collective and an organizer of the wages for housework campaign in the 1970s. She will discuss her most recent book *Patriarchy of the Wage*. In 1980, she received her doctorate from the Philosophy Department at UB and the Philosophy has generously agreed to co-sponsor this event. On Thursday, October 27th, Premilla Nadasen, Claire Tow Professor of History at Barnard, will speak on her most recent work on social reproduction. Thanks to the English and History Departments for co-sponsoring this event.

We will also continue our *New Books, New Feminist Directions* series for a second year with two exciting events. Katja Praznik (Arts Management) will discuss her new book *Art Work* (Toronto 2021), which demystifies the romantic notion of creating art as an act of love without financial concerns, and looks instead at art as a form of labor. Silvia Federici will offer commentary on Friday, September 23rd.

The second book event will feature Miriam Thaggett’s forthcoming *Riding Jane Crow: African American Women on the American Railroad* (U of Illinois P, 2022), which highlights Black women’s experiences as passengers and workers on or near the American trains from 1860- 1925. Madhu

Dubey at the U of Illinois, Chicago will serve as commentator. This will be a virtual event on Thursday, November 17th.

Finally, our Feminist Research Alliance Workshop continues for its 12th season. We have a wonderful line-up of UB faculty from a wide range of disciplines, beginning with Shaanta Murshid (Social Work) on “Transnational Bangladeshis in love, desire, and violence” on Thursday, October 6th at noon. Other workshop participants include Anne B. Curtis, SUNY Distinguished Professor in the School of Medicine, who will speak on “Gender disparities in patients with cardiac arrhythmias” on November 3rd at noon, and Deborah Reed-Danahay, Jean Monnet Chair, Anthropology, who will speak on “Life Stories of Middle-class French Women in 21st -century London” on December 1st at 12 noon. All will be virtual events.

As you can see, we have an exciting year ahead! To find out more about the Institute, check out our website and join our listserv by becoming an affiliate. I look forward to seeing you at our events this year.

Carrie Tirado Bramen

Director of the Gender Institute Professor,
Department of English



Planned Parenthood Rally in NYC. From Creative Commons

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

Q/A with Deputy Director Jo Freudenheim

by Surabhi Pant



You were part of the original group of women faculty who helped found the Gender Institute, what has changed since it was founded?

Everything has changed! When the institute was started, there were many feminist scholars at UB who networked with each other, but there wasn't any organized way for them to connect, particularly to include those who worked in disciplines outside the humanities. I was recruited to join the initial group because I was in the sciences. From the inception, there has been a commitment in the Gender Institute to work across disciplines, with important efforts to bring people together across disciplines to develop new ideas and to move research

forward on gender and sexuality at UB.

What prompted your research interest in cancer and epidemiology?

My background is in nutrition; I worked for several years in clinical and community nutrition before I went to graduate school. From that experience in the field, I knew that I wanted to do epidemiologic research on nutrition in relation to chronic diseases. I came to UB because there were researchers here doing groundbreaking work on cancer and nutrition. It was a great opportunity to work with them.

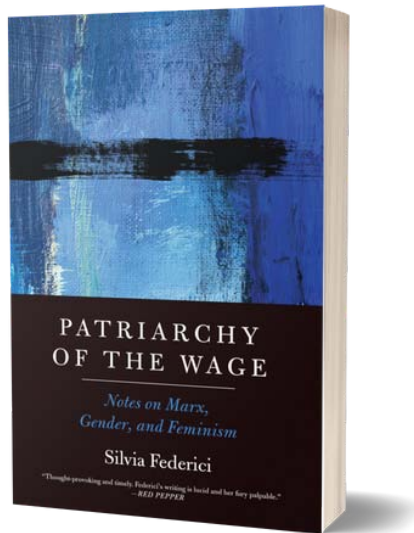
How does cancer research relate to gender? (I know one of your interests includes breast cancer)

Most of my research is focused on breast cancer which has everything to do with gender—while a small number of men get breast cancer, it predominantly affects women and, as you are probably aware, breast cancer affects a large number of women. There are more than 2 million new cases and about 685,000 breast cancer deaths globally each year. Women have been very influential at every level in moving breast cancer research forward to improve understanding, prevention and treatment, and in making sure that appropriate funding is available to address this important public health issue. They have been pivotal in advocacy, in funding decisions and in doing the research.

To read more visit <https://bit.ly/UBGenJo>

SOCIAL REPRODUCTION THEORY LECTURE SERIES

SIGNATURE EVENTS | FALL 2022 | HYBRID



Patriarchy of the Wage: Notes on Marx, Gender, and Feminism
(PM Press, 2021)

There is a 25% discount with using the code: **Silvia** for any of Federici's title books at <https://pmpress.org/>



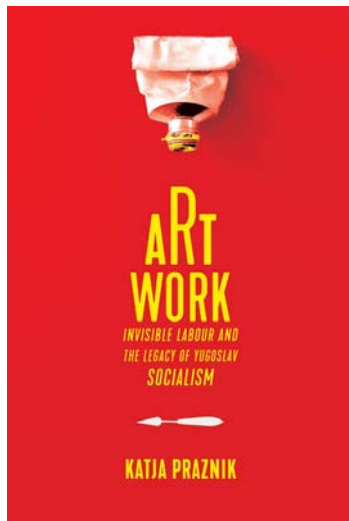
Silvia Federici

*Feminist Activist, Writer,
Scholar, and Teacher*

Thursday, September 22, 2022 | 509 O'Brian Hall | 3:30 PM - 5 PM

Silvia Federici is one of the key figures among the group of feminists that spurred the new radical theorizing of social reproduction in the 1970s. In her keynote address, Federici will discuss the enduring relevance of social reproduction and how the theorizing of contradictions in this terrain are necessary for social movements dedicated to reorganizing everyday life and creating non-exploitative social relations.

Co-sponsored by UB's Baldy Center, and the Department of Philosophy.



Art Work: Invisible Labour and the Legacy of Yugoslav Socialism
(University of Toronto Press, 2021)

There is a 25% discount with using the code: **ArtWork25** for *Art Work* and at <https://utorontopress.com/9781487508418/art-work/>



Katja Praznik

*Associate Professor,
Art Management*

**Friday, September 23, 2022 | 509 O'Brian Hall
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

This double book launch will be an intergenerational conversation on the past, present, and future of Social Reproductive Theory. Federici and Praznik will engage in a transgenerational feminist discussion to point out the relevance of social reproduction and the ways feminist interventions in this terrain provide alternatives to capitalist relations.

SOCIAL REPRODUCTION THEORY LECTURE SERIES

SIGNATURE EVENTS | FALL 2022 | HYBRID



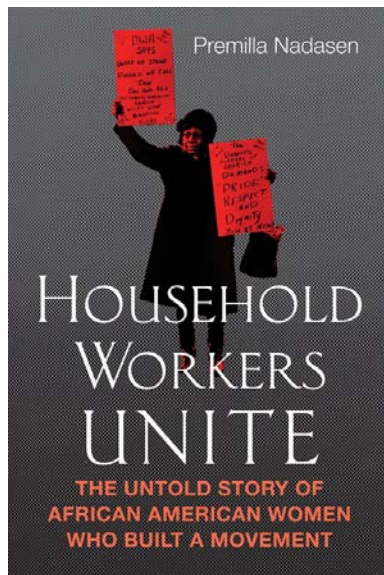
Premilla Nadasen

The Claire Tow Professor of History at Barnard

Thursday, October 27, 2022 | 3:30 PM

509 O'Brian Hall

Premilla Nadasen is the author of four books, most recently *Household Workers Unite: The Untold Story of African American Women Who Built a Movement*, which is a new classic of history-from-below that reconstructs the work of mainly Black women domestic workers in the post-war period. Nadasen is the winner of the first Ann Snitow Prize for writers who combine intellectual pursuits with feminist and social justice activism. Her keynote at UB will be based on her forthcoming book on social reproduction with Haymarket Press.



Household Workers Unite: The Untold Story of African American Women Who Built a Movement

ABOUT *HOUSEHOLD WORKERS UNITE*

Telling the stories of African American domestic workers, this book resurrects a little-known history of domestic worker activism in the 1960s and 1970s, offering new perspectives on race, labor, feminism, and organizing.

In this groundbreaking history of African American domestic-worker organizing, scholar and activist Premilla Nadasen shatters countless myths and misconceptions about an historically misunderstood workforce. Nadasen shows how these women were a far cry from the stereotyped passive and powerless victims; they were innovative labor organizers who tirelessly organized on buses and streets across the United States to bring dignity and legal recognition to their occupation.

Co-sponsored by UB's Baldy Center, Department of History, and the English Department.

FEMINIST RESEARCH ALLIANCE WORKSHOP

Thursdays | Via Zoom

12:00 - 1:00 PM



Nadine Shaanta Murshid

Associate Professor, Social Work

October 6, 2022

"Transnational Bangladeshis in love, desire, and violence."



Anne B. Curtis, MD

Professor, Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

Charles and Mary Bauer Professor,

SUNY Distinguished Professor

November 3, 2022

"Gender Disparities in the Management of Patients with Cardiac Arrhythmias."



Deborah Reed-Donahay

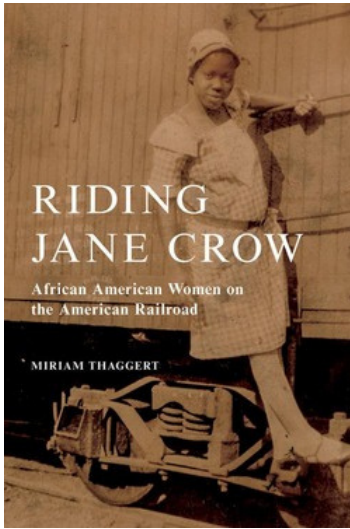
Jean Monnet Chair,

Professor, Anthropology

December 1, 2022

"Finding One's 'Place': Life Stories of Middle-Class French Women in 21st century London"

NEW BOOKS, NEW FEMINIST DIRECTIONS



Riding Jane Crow

African American Women on the American Railroad

Thursday, November 17, 2022

12:00 PM | Via Zoom

Miriam Thaggert

Associate Professor, English

ABOUT RIDING JANE CROW:

Riding Jane Crow foregrounds Black women's experiences as passengers and workers on or near the American train. Focusing on the period from 1860 to 1925, the book reads the train compartment as a contested travel space or problematic work site.

To "ride Jane Crow" is to challenge the mythological aura of the railroad in American culture. Reading legal, labor, and travel history; census records and town directories; blueprints, newspapers and town councils records; diaries, short stories, letters, film, and photographs, the book examines the large cultural archive of the railroad in the U.S. and that archive's notable absence of women of color, studying how the space of the archive replicates some forms of the American train car; both are repositories that inadequately hold the African American woman.

Commentator:



Madhu Dubey

Professor

Director of Graduate Studies, Black Studies

University of Illinois Chicago

There is a 30% discount using the code: **S22UIP** for Thaggert's book at press.uillinois.edu

AWARDS

Ph.D. DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

Hannah Ginn

PhD Candidate, Social Work

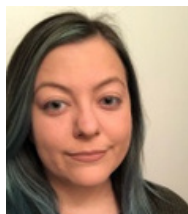


"Questioning capacity: The impact of 'capacity to sexual consent' policies and practices on the sexual rights of women labeled with intellectual disability."

ISABEL MARCUS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Victoria Nachreiner

PhD Candidate, History



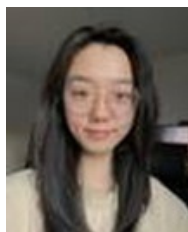
"A Marriage of Aesthetics: Afropolitan Consumption, Bodily Practices, and Cis-Atlantic Gendering in Old Calabar, 1840-1940"

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS



Nelli Kisliuk,

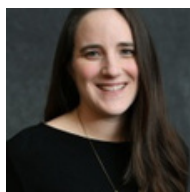
School of Public Health and Health Professions



Yunhan Wang

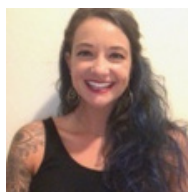
Department of Computer Science

DUKE FEMINIST THEORY WORKSHOP TRAVEL GRANT



Kathleen Naughton

PhD Candidate, English



Jocelyn E. Marshall

PhD Candidate, English

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Private gifts to the Gender Institute have a profound effect on the lives of university faculty, students, and staff.

Please print your name as you would like to be acknowledged:

Name _____

☐ Please make my gift anonymous

Address _____

Phone/Email _____

☐ Please make my gift in honor of _____

☐ I have enclosed a check in the amount of _____ payable to the UB Foundation.

To make a donation with a credit card, please visit www.buffalo.edu/genderin/support0

Your donation allows us to continue funding emerging feminist scholarship and research projects like these. We are especially appreciative for your support amid COVID-19.

Please detach and return to:

UB Gender Institute
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 207
Buffalo NY 14228

THANK YOU!

Reproductive Justice Resources

Gender Institute Statement Leaked Draft of the Supreme Court Decision to Overturn Roe v Wade

The University at Buffalo's Gender Institute is outraged at the implications of the leaked draft of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn the landmark 1973 case of Roe v Wade. The fact that we are writing this statement at a time of unimaginable hate and violence, when a white supremacist terrorist attacked Buffalo's East Side, killing ten people and injuring three, reminds us of the founding principles of the Reproductive Justice (RJ) movement as stated by SisterSong, the nation's largest multi-ethnic RJ collective: "the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities."

The rights to equality, bodily autonomy, dignity, and safety are fundamental human rights that link the fight against white supremacy with the fight against legislation that criminalizes access to safe abortions.

Visit us to see more resources

<https://bit.ly/ReproJust>

RESOURCES

Compiled in Collaboration with Erie County Commission on The Status of Women.

[Lay of the Land: Abortion Policies and Access in the United States](#)

[The National Network of Abortion Funds \(NNAF\)](#)

[PLAN C at-home abortion pills \(Based in Europe delivers to U.S., FDA Approved\)](#)



Protest after Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt Texas abortion case, Supreme Court, Washington, DC. From Creative Commons

These are interconnected struggles. If states will now have the power to force women to endure unwanted pregnancy and childbirth and all their significant risks to women's health, which is what the state of Mississippi is arguing in Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization (JWHO), then more than 36 million women of reproductive age, and more people who can become pregnant, in 26 states could lose access to abortion...

[READ MORE](#)

ARTICLES RELATED TO REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

[Tracking the States where Abortion is Banned Right Now](#)

[How to Help Women if You're Mad About Roe v. Wade](#)

[Defending Safe Abortion Access Post-Roe v. Wade](#)

[Looming Roe Decision Increases Urgency for Scaling Up Abortion...](#)



University at Buffalo
207 UB Commons
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IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Grants & Scholarships Deadlines for Applications 2022-2023

Oct 27	Faculty Research Award
Dec 9	Duke Travel Grant
Feb 13	Isabel Marcus International Research Fellowship
Feb 27	Undergraduate Scholarship
April 3	Excellence in Mentoring Award
Apr 21	PhD Dissertation Fellowship

STAY CONNECTED



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