

Fall 2021 Newsletter

Gender Matters



University at Buffalo

**Institute for Research and
Education on Women and Gender**

UB GENDER INSTITUTE

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COVER IMAGES AND CREDITS (clockwise from top left):

Cassidy R. Sugimoto; Monica Ramirez; Justice for Migrant Women Logo;
Sally Roesch Wagner; Nadine "Dean" Hubbs; Nicole Elizabeth Barnes.

IMAGE CREDITS

p.2: Douglas Levere, (Panoramic View of North Campus);

p.3: Anne Marie Butler, (Carrie Bramen); Jo Freudenheim;

p.4: Mónica Ramírez; Justice for Migrant Women; Cassidy R. Sugimoto;

p.5: Jim Holstun; Jean Wactawski-Wende; Cody Mejeur; Stephanie Vander

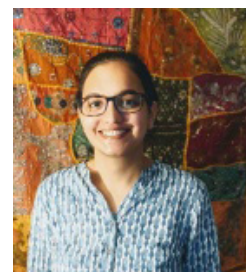
Wel; Book cover image of *Hillbilly Maidens, Okies, and Cowgirls*; Nadine
"Dean" Hubbs;

p.6: Wang Feng; Nicole Elizabeth Barnes; Sally Roesch Wagner;

p. 7: Michael Rembis; Alyssa Schwendener; Marta Aleksandrowicz.

PAGE DESIGN: Surabhi Pant and Hilary Vandenbark

The Gender Institute welcomes Surabhi Pant as the new Graduate Assistant. Surabhi is a PhD Candidate in Sociology. She is a qualitative researcher interested in understanding changes in land use and gender relationships resulting from development discourses in India.



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

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



A year ago, we were busy adjusting to a virtual university. We adapted our courses, anxiously learned the various features of Zoom, and fiddled with our background filters. For the Gender Institute, this meant creating a virtual community through a year of online programming. Our goal was to keep things as familiar as possible in truly exceptional times, and in doing so, to sustain a sense of camaraderie through our computer screens.

What followed was a truly memorable year that featured signature lectures made possible through collaboration with colleagues. People tuned into these events from around the world and the scale of our outreach expanded significantly. Our Feminist Research Alliance (FRA) series was also well attended and some presentations attracted attendees from across the country as well as from Europe and Asia.

With this in mind, and given the uncertain situation that we continue to find ourselves in regarding the pandemic, we will carry on with a largely virtual format for Fall 2021. The format will be familiar—Signature Lectures and FRAs—but now we've added a new series: *New Books, New Feminist Directions*. To showcase the exceptional feminist research being done at UB, we will celebrate the publication of a faculty member's new book related to women, gender, and sexuality. To kick off this series, we will discuss Stephanie Vander Wel's new book *Hillbilly Maidens, Okies, and Cowgirls: Women's Country Music, 1930-1960*. Join us for this virtual event on Wednesday, October 27th at noon.

I also want to thank **Dr. Glenna Bett** who is stepping down as Deputy Director but will continue as a vital member of our Executive Committee. She oversaw the Sex, Gender, and Health Initiative, and she was

the co-principal investigator of the NAVIGATE project, with former Engineering Dean Leisl Folks, which received major NSF funding to launch a pilot program here at UB on training women graduate students in STEM to navigate bias, inequity, and discrimination in the workforce.

I am delighted to welcome two new members of the Gender Institute. Our new GA is Surabhi Pant, a doctoral student in the department of Sociology whose research focuses on the impact development policies have had on rural women's relationship to the land in India. She brings extensive work experience and qualitative research skills to the Institute.

Our new Deputy Director is **Dr. Jo Freudenheim**, SUNY Distinguished Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health. We are thrilled that Jo has decided to serve in a leadership position at the Gender Institute, since she



was among the original cohort of faculty members who proposed a research institute on women, gender, and sexuality in the early 1990s, and helped to develop its health component. Since then, Jo has remained an active member of the Gender Institute community and received a distinguished faculty award in 2003. As Deputy Director, she looks forward to working with colleagues and students to develop programming and research opportunities that build on the interdisciplinary and collaborative commitment of the Gender Institute.

Becky and I look forward to working with Jo and Surabhi in the coming year—and we all hope to see you at our upcoming events.

Carrie Tirado Bramen
Director of the Gender Institute
Professor, Department of English

Signature Events | Fall 2021

Mónica Ramírez

Justice for Migrant Women

“Authentic Leadership During Turbulent Times”



Thursday, October 7, 2021 | Noon (EST) via Zoom

To register: <https://bit.ly/RamirezGenderInstitute>

In 2014, Mónica Ramírez founded Justice for Migrant Women, a national advocacy and technical assistance project focused on representing female farmworkers and other low-paid immigrant women who are victims of workplace sexual violence. In addition to her work for Justice for Migrant Women, Ramírez acted as the Deputy Director / Director of Gender Equality for the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement from 2016 to 2018.



University at Buffalo

Inclusive Excellence

Office of the Provost

Presented with the Office of Inclusive Excellence
“Let’s Talk About Race” Series



Cassidy R. Sugimoto

“The Magnification of Inequities During COVID-19 and Why It Matters for Science”

Professor and the Tom and Marie Patton Chair in the School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology

Thursday, November 4, 2021 | Noon (EST) via Zoom

To register: <https://bit.ly/CassidySugimoto>

Cassidy R. Sugimoto is Professor and Tom and Marie Patton Chair in the School of Public Policy at Georgia Institute of Technology. Her research examines the formal and informal ways in which knowledge is produced, disseminated, consumed, and supported, with an emphasis on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

What's Happening Virtually

FEMINIST RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Noon via Zoom

Register here: <https://bit.ly/GI-FRA>



Jim Holstun
English

Thursday,
September 23, 2021

“Big Red Books:
Simone de Beauvoir, Nawal el Saadawi,
and Social Reproduction Theory”



Jean Wactawski-Wende
*Epidemiology and
Environmental Health*

Thursday,
October 14, 2021

“Women’s Health Initiative (WHI):
Updates 1993-2027”



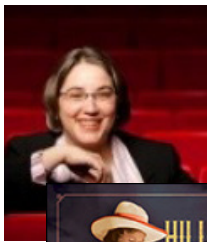
Cody Mejeur
Media Study

Wednesday,
November 10, 2021

“Storytelling in Queer and Trans
Video Games”

New Series!

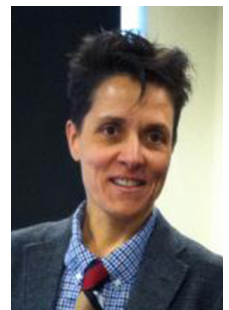
New Books, New Feminist Directions



Wednesday,
October 27, 2021
Noon via Zoom

Register here: <https://bit.ly/GINewBookEvent>

Join us for a discussion of Stephanie Vander Wel’s recent book on the women stars of the golden age of country music from 1930-1960 such as Patsy Montana, Rose Maddox, and Kitty Wells. The conversation will feature a response from Nadine “Dean” Hubbs, Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies and Music at the University of Michigan.



Nadine “Dean” Hubbs,
University of Michigan

Co-Sponsored Events

“China’s Age of Abundance: Origins, Ascendancy, and Aftermaths”



Wang Feng

*Professor, Sociology
University of California, Irvine*

**Nov. 3, 2021
12 p.m. (EST)
509 O’Brian Hall**

In the last four decades, especially the last two, China’s integration into the global economy has created one of the greatest and most transformative economic miracles in human history. China is now basking under an age of abundance. This talk traces the origins of this transformation, summarizes the paths of China’s rise to material abundance, and revisits its underlying driving forces.



Nicole Elizabeth Barnes

*Assistant Professor, History
Duke University*

**Monday,
September 20, 2021
Noon (EST)
Virtual**

“Follow the Women: A Nursing Historian’s Reflections on China’s Experience of SARS-CoV2”

The talk presents a detailed history of the early formation of professional nursing in China in the 1930s and 40s. In this period, remarkable women such as Major General Zhou Meiyu served as capable and recognized leaders. Prof. Barnes will use understanding of this history to inform her analysis of the place of women in China’s medical profession today, with a focus on how the nation has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Sally Roesch Wagner,
Historian

From Suffrage to the ERA Equity, Resilience, Activism

**Saturday, October 2, 2021
9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Daemen College and via Zoom**

The Western New York Women’s Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee is presenting an engaging seminar featuring noted historian Sally Roesch Wagner and esteemed panelists who will examine the past, present and future of the women’s movement.

The Gender Institute is a proud partner of the Western New York’s Women’s Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee.

AWARDS

Excellence in Mentoring Award

To promote and recognize outstanding achievements by faculty and staff in cultivating the professional potential of their colleagues and students, the Gender Institute makes annual Excellence in Mentoring Awards.



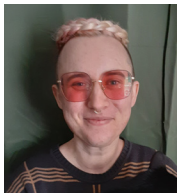
Michael Rembis

Associate Professor,
History
Director of the Center
for Disability Studies

Michael Rembis is an expert on disability history, including the history of madness. He is director of the Center for Disability Studies at UB and has worked with colleagues around the world to expand and solidify the fields of disability history and disability studies. Rembis' research interests include the history of institutionalization, mad people's history, and the history of eugenics. He has also studied and written about contemporary issues concerning mental health and mental illness and mass incarceration.

Ph.D. DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

Alyssa Schwendener
Department of Visual Studies



"It's the 90s: Lesbian Chic in Context."

Alyssa Schwendener researches lesbian and queer histories and visual cultures in the United States. Her dissertation returns to an under-theorized moment in the history of lesbian visibility in the US, highlighting the ways in which decade specificity curtails popular and academic approaches to the study of marginalized histories. This focus on temporality is highlighted in the title's use of the phrase "it's the 90s," a phrase used repeatedly in popular media of the decade as shorthand for the yoking of chronological advancement with political and social progress.

ISABEL MARCUS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Marta Aleksandrowicz
Department of Comparative Literature



*"Flight, Cockroach, and the Maid:
Toward a New, Feminine Universal in
Olga Tokarczuk, Clarice Lispector, and
Gloria Anzaldúa."*

Marta Aleksandrowicz examines connections between postsocialist Eastern European and decolonial Chicana and Latin American feminisms from literary perspectives to argue that their new formulations of universality create new forms of transnational feminist solidarity. In particular, she focuses on the Brazilian novelist Clarice Lispector, 2019 Polish Nobel prize winner Olga Tokarczuk, and Chicana writer Gloria Anzaldúa.

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THANK YOU!



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IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Grants & Scholarships Deadlines for Applications

Dec 06	Faculty Research Award
Feb 07	Isabel Marcus International Research Fellowship
Feb 18	Undergraduate Scholarship
Apr 04	PhD Dissertation Fellowship

STAY CONNECTED

www.buffalo.edu/genderin

