

# Gender Institute

 **University at Buffalo** The State University of New York



## From the Director

August 2014

Welcome (back) to UB!

In celebration of the intellectual vibrancy of our outstanding community of researchers and educators, this issue of the Gender Institute's newsletter highlights achievements of 2013-14 and glances forward to our 2014-15 programs.



## Who We Are

A university-wide research center founded in 1997 and funded by the Office of the Provost, the Gender Institute supports and promotes research and teaching related to women, gender, and sexuality. We serve faculty and students across the university and welcome affiliation by all scholars who participate in or support our mission, as these statistics suggest:

Executive Committee: 18 faculty & staff from 6 UB schools, 9 departments, & 10 offices.

Affiliates: 70 faculty & staff from 7 UB schools, 26 departments, 7 offices, & 2 community organizations.

Since 1997: 56 Research Grants to faculty from 8 UB schools and 35 departments.

Since 1998: 21 Course Development Grants to faculty from 6 UB schools & 17 departments.

Since 2008: Scholarships to 17 students from 8 UB schools & 8 departments.

Since 2011: Dissertation Fellowships to 9 Ph.D. candidates from 2 UB schools & 7 departments.

In 2013-14 the Gender Institute held three major one-day symposia, nine Feminist Research Alliance workshops, and dozens of other events. One of our most rewarding new initiatives involved becoming an institutional cosponsor of Duke University's renowned international feminist theory workshop in March 2014. We provided travel grants to four graduate students to participate in the workshop, and they reported that it was "a great experience," "extremely beneficial," and "awesome."

## Next Big Event

You are invited to our fall 2014 symposium, "Gender and Color"

Date: Friday, October 3, 2014

Daytime location: 105 Harriman Hall, UB South Campus

8 p.m. lecture by David Batchelor at Albright-Knox Art Gallery

Other keynote speakers include: Anne Eaton, Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago

Jolene Rickard, History of Art & Visual Studies; American Indian Program, Cornell

Beth Tauke, Architecture, UB

Why do there appear to be powerful, almost primal, associations in human perceptions between color and gender as well as color and class, race, nation, and notions of good and evil? How and why have various societies at various points in time invested color with meaning? Are its meanings merely social and temporal, or do colors have enduring impacts on human psychology? Participants will explore these and other questions.

A special welcome to our new Graduate Assistant, Tina Žigon, a Ph.D. candidate in English whose research focuses on transgender studies.

With gratitude to all of the faculty, staff, students, and community members who conduct path-breaking research, teach invaluable courses, organize important events, create works of art, participate in our events, and serve on our committees, I look forward to another invigorating year of research, education, and creativity.

Kari J. Winter

Director of the Gender Institute  
Professor of Transnational Studies

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# Annual Welcoming Reception



On October 7, 2013 the Gender Institute inaugurated the year's programming with our Annual Welcoming Reception at the Frank Lloyd Wright Fontana Boathouse on the Buffalo Waterfront. This was also the occasion of the Janice L. Moritz Distinguished Lecture on Women and Labor, delivered by Debra Street, Professor and Chair of Sociology at the University at Buffalo.

## GENDER WEEK 2013: GENDERS OF ARCHITECTURE/ARCHITECTURES OF GENDER

### Building Talent: Women, Patronage, and Mentoring

The Gender Institute's fall symposium (October 22, 2013) brought together seventy practicing architects, architectural historians, feminist scholars, writers, and community activists. In addition to screening her short documentary film about 100 women architects who worked with Frank Lloyd Wright, Beverly Willis reflected on seventy years of her own pioneering achievements in architecture and social innovation. Marika Shiori-Clark, a recent Harvard graduate, electrified the audience with her description of practicing "empathic architecture" through such projects as a hospital in rural Rwanda and an art colony that is rejuvenating a 40-block section of Cleveland.

The other participants (Lori Brown, Assoc. Professor of Architecture, Syracuse University; Wanda Bubriski,

Past Executive Director, Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation; Susan Chin, Vice President of American Institute of Architects (AIA); Kelly Hayes McAlonie, Interim Director, UB Capital Planning Group; Joyce Hwang, Associate Professor of Architecture, UB; Jack Quinan, Professor Emeritus of Visual Studies, UB) each contributed keen insights into the histories of women in the architectural past and the ongoing struggles for inclusion and equity within diverse architectural practices today. Their work collectively confirms the urgency of what Robert Shibley, Dean of UB's School of Architecture & Planning, described as the central mission of architecture: achieving environmental justice for human beings as part of our quest to sustain our true home, the earth.



Kelly Hayes-McAlonie presents on the history of women architects and their patrons



Panel featuring Beverly Willis, Marika Shiori-Clark, Susan Chin, Lori Brown, and panel chair Joyce Hwang



A reception was held between panels at the Greatbatch Pavillion, overlooking the Darwin Martin House



## Gender Week 2013 continued



### Women in Medicine: A Panel Discussion

*for students considering a career in medicine*

**Thursday, October 24**

**4:00 - 5:15 p.m.**

**107 Talbert Hall**

**UB North Campus**

**Dr. Glenna Bett, moderator**

Deputy Director of the Gender Institute  
Vice Chair for Research in Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Dept. of Physiology and Biophysics  
School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UB

**Dr. Gale Burstein**

Erie County Health Commissioner  
Clinical Professor  
Dept. of Pediatrics  
School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UB

**Dr. Nancy Nielsen**

Past President of the American Medical Association  
Clinical Professor  
School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UB

**Dr. Diana Wilkins**

Residency Program Director, Family Medicine  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UB



Free and open to the public.  
Refreshments will be served.



### KAREN FINLEY VISIT

*Monday, October 21*

Lecture: "Trauma and Creativity"

*Tuesday, October 22*

Lecture: "Censorship and the Arts"

Performance: "Written in Sand:

Collected AIDS Writings"



### Ph.D. Dissertation Writing Workshop

Since we inaugurated our Ph.D. dissertation writing workshop in January 2013 to support Ph.D. candidates writing dissertations related to women and/or gender, the institute has held 64 weekly workshops during 3 semesters and 4 summer sessions. Participants have included 34 doctoral students from 10 departments in 4 UB schools and 13 countries of origin.

"a tremendous boon to the final stages of my dissertation" --- David Squires, English

"What a great way to meet new people, make friends, and form new networks within the University. I found it beneficial because not only did it set aside that time on Monday for writing, but it helped to keep my dissertation prospectus at the front of my attention, which motivated me to write throughout the week." --- Sarah Handley-Cousins, History

"The opportunity to participate in the Dissertation Workshop . . . offered a terrific boost to my project. The weekly meetings were incredibly helpful." --- Ronan Crowley, English

"a rewarding and inspiring experience . . . When I joined the group I had barely started writing my dissertation . . . at the end of the Gender Studies Institute Workshop, I had submitted four of my seven chapters with a total of almost 125 pages. On average I would write 700 to a 1000 words every Monday morning that would motivate me to go to the library and continue working." --- Rehab Ghazal, Educational Leadership & Policy

The workshop is free, but space is limited and registration is required. Staunch commitment to the weekly meetings is required for participation; more than two missed sessions will result in dismissal from the workshop. For more information or to register, contact the workshop's facilitator, Tina Žigon, at [tzigon@buffalo.edu](mailto:tzigon@buffalo.edu).

# Sex, Gender, Health 2014: Narrating Wellness



Professor Michael Rembis (History) presents his talk, "Perfectible You: Gender, Narrative Ethics, and Wellness"



Susan Mann Dolce (Accessibility Resources) presents the film *Voices from the ADA Generation*

Because statistics cannot capture individuals' and communities' complex, lived experiences of disease, injury, resilience, and well-being, the Gender Institute's annual Sex, Gender, Health symposium on March 25, 2014 explored participants' diverse narratives of wellness and examined how storytelling and art can enrich research and practice. Faculty, staff, and students from ten departments and offices across the university presented lectures, told stories, and held roundtable discussions on topics ranging from transgender wellness to disability, veterans' issues, masculinity, domestic violence, and campus efforts to prevent sexual assault.

For more information about the Sex, Gender, Health Symposium or to join the SGH listserv, visit:  
<http://genderin.buffalo.edu/sexgenderhealth.shtml>



## Gender Across Borders 2014:

### SUITING UP: Disciplining the Aesthetics of Difference

Focusing on fashion as a cornerstone in the "architecture of gender," the Gender Institute's international symposium on April 4, 2014, "Suiting Up: Disciplining the Aesthetics of Difference," brought together an interdisciplinary group of scholars to examine how fashion shapes human expressions and readings of identity. A central tenet of feminist theory is that gender is built, not innate. ("One is not born a woman, but becomes one."--Simone de Beauvoir.) Charged with the signifiers of sexuality, class, race, ethnicity, age, beauty, (dis)ability, nation, and religion as well, the body is overlaid with social meanings that shift with changing fashions of time and place. An audience of seventy faculty, students, and staff responded enthusiastically to a brilliant keynote talk by Marjorie Jolles (Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, Roosevelt University), "Breaking Fashion Rules: Postfeminist Paradoxes of Freedom," followed by two dozen presentations exploring how gender is socially designed, subverted, and re-invented through fashion, art, law, medicine, and other practices related to bodily aesthetics.





# Highlights of Cosponsored Events

The Gender Institute cosponsored dozens of university and community events in 2013-2014. The sampling below highlights just a few of the events that we supported with cosponsorship funds, staff support, and publicity.

**Jagadamba: A One-Woman Play in Two Acts**, Sept. 7: This play explored the life of Kasturba, the wife of Mohandas K. Gandhi. Jagadamba is the story of an uneducated woman who becomes a source of inspiration and comfort to one of the most important leaders of the 20th century. Cosponsored with Triveni and UB Asian Studies, the play offers unique insights into the life of Mohandas Gandhi from the perspective of Kasturba, and examines two of Gandhi's most important principles—satyagraha (literally “truth force,” but now synonymous with nonviolent resistance) and brahmacharya (“celibacy,” but in a larger sense, renunciation).

**Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine**, October 11: The Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention, Center for Literacy & Reading Instruction, Gender Institute, and Wellness Education Services hosted a screening of *Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine*. This documentary is about Matthew Shepard, a gay freshman at the University of Wyoming who was murdered on October 6, 1998, in Laramie, WY. “Though framed through a very personal lens, *Matthew Shepard Is a Friend of Mine* tells a universal story that highlights the responsibility we have now to make sure young people around the world are not at risk of falling victim to the same story ending Matt was.”

**UB Sit With Me**, March 4: Raising the visibility of women in technology, and attracting more women to the profession and retaining them in the field, is the mission of Sit With Me, a national advocacy campaign organized by the National Center for Women & Information Technology, a non-profit coalition that works to increase diversity in computing and IT. UB, which has the distinction of being one of a handful of institutions of higher education to have women serving simultaneously as dean of its engineering school — Liesl Folks — and as chair of its computer science department — Aidong Zhang — joined that campaign by presenting its own “Sit With Me” celebration on March 4.

**Erie County Women's History Month Kickoff Event**, March 7: The Gender Institute joined regional non-profit groups at the Central Branch of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library for a kickoff of Women's History Month events. A ceremony at noon featured keynote speaker Erie County Deputy Sheriff Elizabeth Fildes, Human Trafficking Task Force.

**Writing Disabled Lives Symposium**, April 24-25: Cosponsored with the Center for Disability Studies and the Humanities Institute, Writing Disabled Lives featured discussion by a panel composed of Disability Studies scholars Rachel Adams, G.T. Couser, Joseph Valente, and Cynthia Wu. Additionally, the keynote address was given by Harilyn Rousso, author of *Don't Call Me Inspirational: A Disabled Feminist Talks Back* (Temple University Press, 2013).

**Center for Psychoanalysis and Culture Symposium, “What is Sex”**, April 25: “What is Sex” aimed to generate more varied accounts of gender/sexuality outside the orbit of heteronormativity, and to consider how a psychoanalytic emphasis on sexual difference de-prioritizes other forms of embodied difference, such as race or dis/ability.



# Gender Institute 2013-14 Faculty Research Grants

The Gender Institute congratulates the winners of this year's Faculty Research Grants for the exceptional significance and promise of their research on women and gender.



**Dr. Ana Mariella Bacigalupo**, Assoc. Professor of Anthropology  
*The Lives of Francisca Kolipi: The Historical Consciousness of Mapuche Women Shamans in Chile*



**Dr. Vanessa M. Barnabei**, Prof. and Chair, Obstetrics and Gynecology  
*The Correlation of Symptoms, Treatment and Treatment Responses in Women with Vulvodynia*



**Dr. Filomena Critelli**, Assoc. Professor of Social Work  
*An examination of NGO strategies and interventions to address gender-based violence in Pakistan: Impacts, successes and challenges*



**Dr. Erin Hatton**, Asst. Professor of Sociology  
*Between Work and Slavery: Workers at the Margins of the Law*



**Dr. Marion Werner**, Asst. Professor of Geography  
*What Role For Women? Smallholder Production of Organic Agricultural Exports in the Dominican Republic*

## Isabel S. Marcus International Research Fellowship

Salwatura Prabha Manuratne  
Ph.D. Candidate, English  
*Modern Incarnations of Figures of Violence  
in Asian and Asian Canadian Literature and Film*



## Undergraduate Scholarship

Samah Asfour  
Political Science & Global Gender Studies  
*Muslim Women in France and the U.S.:  
Historical, Political, and Social Comparisons*



## Gender Institute Ph.D. Dissertation Fellows 2013-14

David Squires  
English

“Adapting the Archive:  
Modern Literature and  
the Rise of Library Science”



Bincy Wilson  
Social Work

“Examination of the Process  
of Exit of Women from  
Commercial Sexual Exploitation  
(CSE) Across Cultures - India  
and the US”



## Gender Institute Ph.D. Dissertation Fellows 2014-15

Averill Earls  
History

“Queering Dublin: Same Sex  
Desires and Masculinities in  
Ireland, 1885-1965”



Lara Iverson  
Geography

“The Impact of Social Stigma  
and Associated Behaviors in  
Women Seeking Treatment for  
Tuberculosis Infection in  
Lusaka, Zambia”



### FEMINIST RESEARCH ALLIANCE WORKSHOP

Founded in 2010, the Feminist Research Alliance (FRA) works to advance and energize transnational feminist research through interdisciplinary conversation. Our nine workshops in 2013-14 explored: community resistance to the branding of the female body as a marketing tool in the restaurant business (UB law professor, Dianne Avery); Mapuche Shamanic practices in Chile (UB anthropologist Ana Mariella Bacigalupo); grassroots women's groups in the Arab Spring (Professor of Sociology Beata Kowalska, Jagiellonian University, Poland; Fulbright Senior Fellow, New School for Social Research); poet Muna Lee's influence on radio plays about inter-American cultural exchange (David Squires, UB Ph.D. Candidate, English); the gendered, racialized impacts of export garment industry re-structuring on Dominican and Haitian workers (UB geographer Marion Werner); spirituality, cosmology, and the “feminine” in Vodou (Professor of Africology Patrick Bellegarde-Smith, Univ. of Wisconsin--Milwaukee); ways in which hyper-visibly tattooed white women challenge concepts of whiteness and white femininity (Stevie Berberick, Ph.D. student, Communications, Penn State); and the gendered architecture of Polish urban subcultures (Marta Marciniak, UB Ph.D. Candidate, American Studies). The FRA also cosponsored the Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis & Culture's highly successful one-day symposium, “What is Sex?” If you would like to present a portion of your research-in-progress in 2014-15, please contact Prof. Kari Winter at [kwinter2@buffalo.edu](mailto:kwinter2@buffalo.edu).

### Become a Friend of the Gender Institute

We face serious funding challenges in our quest to support the courageous and important research of faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates. Please consider becoming a Friend of the Gender Institute by making a gift via credit card at our secure credit card site (<http://genderin.buffalo.edu/contribute.shtml>) or by sending a check to: the Gender Institute, 207 UB Commons, 520 Lee Entrance, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14228-2567. You may designate your gift to support our General Fund, the Isabel S. Marcus International Research Fellowship, or the Janice L. Moritz Distinguished Lecture on Women and Labor.

### Stay Connected

Our phone number: 716-645-5200

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Join the Feminist Research Alliance Workshop (<http://tinyurl.com/ka2vojw>)

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

207 UB Commons  
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Buffalo, NY 14228-2567



## DAVID BATCHELOR

### “The Luminous and the Grey”

Friday, October 3, 2014  
8:00 p.m. @  
The Albright Knox

In partnership with the Albright-Knox, the Gender Institute is pleased to conclude our “Gender and Color” symposium at the museum with a “First Friday” keynote lecture by Scottish artist and cultural theorist David Batchelor. Based in London, Batchelor is recognized as one of the world’s leading artists and theorists of color and urbanism. His work has been exhibited widely in the UK, continental Europe, the Americas and Asia, and some of his pieces are in the Collection of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. *Chromophobia*, Batchelor’s book on color and the fear of color in the West, was published by Reaktion Books, London, in 2000 and is now available in eight languages. His other books include *Colour* (2008), *Found Monochromes: vol. 1, nos. 1-250* (2010), and *The Luminous and the Grey* (2014).



Artwork: ‘Magic Hour’, 2004–07  
David Batchelor

