



# CENTRE FOR FEMINIST RESEARCH

2018-2019

*Annual Newsletter*



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## **Want to get involved?**

- *Attend CFR events*
- *Get the newsletter*
- *Propose an event*
- *Apply for a grant*
- *Organize a cluster*

## **Get in touch with us**

[cfr@yorku.ca](mailto:cfr@yorku.ca)

## **... and join CFR**

[cfr.info.yorku.ca/associates/](http://cfr.info.yorku.ca/associates/)

# Director's Note

As I complete my five-year term as director, I would like to thank all our members for their continuing contributions and dedication to CFR, and congratulate them on all their accomplishments. It truly has been a pleasure and a privilege to have worked with the CFR community so closely over the past few years. I have learned so much and have been so inspired by the dynamism of feminist research at York in all its multifaceted and ever-shifting dimensions. I would like to acknowledge and thank CFR coordinator **Julia Pyryeskina** for her hard work and dedication. Without her, none of CFR's accomplishments would have been possible.

I am very pleased to report that CFR has successfully completed its re-chartering process, and will begin a new five-year charter from July 2020-June 2025. Many thanks to all our members who participated in this very time-consuming and ultimately successful process. It was so encouraging to see the level of commitment from our membership to ensuring a successful outcome; it bodes very well for the next five years.

I am also delighted to announce that Research Associate **Elaine Coburn** (International Studies, Glendon) will assume the CFR directorship for a five-year term beginning in July 2020. I would like to thank her for agreeing to take on this position, and know that she will take CFR in new and exciting directions. And I would also like to thank Research Associate **Enakshi Dua** (School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies) for agreeing to be the interim director for 2019-20. As a former director of CFR, she has the experience and vision to ensure a steady transition period over the next year.

A few examples of events and projects we supported over this past year:  
Led by Graduate Associated **Evan Vipond**, we held our inaugural interdisciplinary graduate student conference TRANS MATTERS, with keynote lectures from Research Associate **Jin Haritaworn** and **Gwen Benaway**, trans girl poet of Anishinaabe and Métis descent. We hosted a very well attended launch for Graduate Associate **Shraddha Chatterjee** and her book *Queer Politics in India: Towards Sexual Subaltern Subjects*. Introduced by Research Associate **David Murray**, the event was moderated by Graduate Associate **Harshita Yalamarty**, with commentary from Graduate Associates **Preity Kumar** and **Karuna Chandrashekar**. We hosted seven visiting scholars, including three from Brazil, one from India, one from the Netherlands, and two from Canada. They all played a key role in the life of the Centre, running workshops, giving talks, engaging with students, and increasing CFR's outreach and reputation in national and international networks.

## Director's Note

We held the second event in our very popular Indigenous Women's Speaker Series, *Politics, Knowledge, Ecology, Culture*, organized by **Elaine Coburn**, with talks by Research Associate **Deborah McGregor**, and **Cheryl Suzack** and **Karen Recollet** from the University of Toronto. We celebrated the 20th anniversary of **Sherene Razack's** *Looking White People in the Eye* in an event organized by Research Associate **Carmela Murdocca** and her co-editors of the special issue of the Canadian Journal of Women and the Law to mark the anniversary, **Gada Mahrouse** (Concordia), and **Leslie Thielen-Wilson** (Nipissing). As a partner in the SSHRC Partnership Grant *Bodies in Translation: Activist Art, Technology and Access to Life*, we worked with Research Associate **Allyson Mitchell** and Graduate Associate **Allison Taylor** to develop the subproject, *Ephemeral History of Pretty Porky and Pissed Off and the BIT Fat Archive*, housed at CFR. And we re-launched our girlhood studies research cluster, led by Research Associate **Cheryl Van Daalen-Smith** and **Deanne Williams**.

I would like to thank our 2018-19 Executive for their invaluable support, advice and commitment: **Patrick Alcedo** (AMPD), **Elaine Coburn** (Glendon), **Daria Davydova** (Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies), **Christo El Morr** (Health), **Laura Kwak** (LA&PS), **Deborah McGregor** (Osgoode), **Jacinthe Michaud** (School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies), **Allyson Mitchell** (Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies), **Carmela Murdocca** (LA&PS), **Nicole Ritchie** (Social and Political Thought), and **Anna Zalik** (FES).

Many thanks are also due to our Associates who sat on our Mary McEwan Award sub-committee last year: **Agnès Whitfield** (chair), **Christo El Morr**, and **Ratiba Hadj-Moussa**; and to our wonderful GAs and Work/Study students for their hard work and commitment: **Adam Lake**, **Allison Taylor** and **Hailey Young**.

*Dr. Alison Crosby*

# Spotlight on Our Events

Twenty Years of *Looking White People in the Eye*. March 18, 2019.

Lecture by Dr. **Sherene H. Razack**, Distinguished Professor and Penny Kanner Chair in Gender Studies, UCLA



**Dr. Sherene Razack** is one of Canada's leading critical race feminist theorists, known for developing an analytic that shows how racial violence is often legally and socially authorized and is integral to the making of states, and how racial violence is gendered and sexualized. She is the founder of the virtual research and teaching network Racial Violence Hub.

**Dr. Razack** gave a keynote to a packed audience of 225 people at the event in honour of the 20th anniversary of her ground-breaking book *Looking White People in the Eye: Gender, Race and Culture in Courtrooms and Classrooms* (now in its fourth edition), and her important and ongoing contributions to critical race feminisms and socio-legal studies.

She was introduced by co-editors of the special issue of *Canadian Journal of Women and the Law* celebrating the book's 20th anniversary: **Dr. Gada Mahrouse** (Concordia), **Dr. Leslie Thielen-Wilson** (Nipissing) and **Dr. Carmela Murdocca** (York, event co-organizer).

# Spotlight on Our Events

Second Annual Indigenous Women's Speakers' Series Event  
*Politics, Knowledge, Ecology, Culture*. April 8, 2019.

With Indigenous scholars Drs. **Deborah McGregor** (York University), **Cheryl Suzack** (University of Toronto) and **Karyn Recollet** (University of Toronto).  
Moderated by Dr. **Elaine Coburn** (York University, event co-organizer).



The second event in our very popular Indigenous Women's speaker series, *Politics, Knowledge, Ecology, Culture* gathered 60 York University and community members to listen to Drs. **Deborah McGregor**, **Cheryl Suzack** and **Karyn Recollet** present their ongoing research, followed by a stimulating discussion.

**Dr. Cheryl Suzack** shared her *How the Academic Institution Silences Indigenous Faculty: Top 10 Strategies* presentation with the CFR, collected from 17 years of experience as an Indigenous faculty, bringing up land acknowledgements without Indigenous people present, the burden of speaking up for issues of equity placed on Indigenous faculty, and the lack of institutional support for the few Indigenous faculty present in the academy.

# From Our Associates

## NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS

*"When you hear something wrong it's up to everyone to let people know":  
The Acceptance of Homosexuality and the Reconstitution of Social Regulation.*

PI: Enakshi Dua

Funder: SSHRC Insight Grant

Recently, influential critical race and sexuality studies scholars have noted the ways in which Western states have become 'accepting' of same-sex relationships. Rather than celebrating the emergence of this acceptance, scholars have pointed to its limitations; that such acceptance perpetuates neoliberal discourses of individualism and often presupposes racialized minorities as homophobic, thus perpetuating post 9/11 racial discourses that support the 'war on terror'.

Drawing upon feminist, critical race and sexuality studies, this multidisciplinary project investigates (1) How the politics of neoliberalism, liberalism and homonationalism construct a new heterosexual subject that is accepting of homosexuality; (2) How this heterosexual subjectivity is interpolated in policing the boundaries of acceptable racial, gender and class formations; and; (3) How this subject is located in racialised discourses.

*Bodies in Translation: Activist Art, Technology, and Access to Life* project

Co-Directors: Drs. Carla Rice (UGuelph) & Eliza Chandler (Ryerson)

*Ephemeral History of Pretty Porky and Pissed Off  
& the Bodies in Translation Fat Archive* sub-project

Funder: SSHRC Partnership Grant Led by Dr. Allyson Mitchell (co-applicant)

Bodies in Translation (BIT) is a multidisciplinary, university community research project that at its core, aims to cultivate and research activist art. In this project, 'activist art' refers to: disability art, Deaf art, Mad art, aging and e/Elder art, fat art, and Indigenous art.

The Ephemeral History project is a data collection of materials produced by and about fat activists and artists in Canada. This collection begins with the organization and digitization of materials held by and about Toronto fat activist group Pretty Porky and Pissed Off (1995-2008).

Documents include various forms of analog film and video recordings, still photographs, pamphlets, zines, notes and costumes. As this collection is documented it will expand to include ephemeral materials from other fat activist groups in Canada. Select materials will become accessible through the Bodies in Translation: Activist Art Technology & Access to Life web portal.



**BODIES IN  
TRANSLATION:  
ACTIVIST ART,  
TECHNOLOGY, AND  
ACCESS TO LIFE**

# From Our Associates

## PUBLICATIONS

*Engendering Public Engagement, Democratizing Public Space* project  
PI Barbara Cameron

[Policy4Women](#) website

Policy4Women is an initiative of the SSHRC PDG *Engendering Public Engagement, Democratizing Public Space*, a community-university collaboration exploring new ways to bring feminist voices into discussions of public policy in Canada. A twenty-person team of university and community-based researchers is testing five approaches to engaging feminists in different locations in a dialogue around a new gender justice agenda for Canada.

[Rise Up! Digital Archive of Feminist Activism](#) website

The Rise Up! project aims to create a digital archive of original publications, documents, flyers, posters, and many other materials representing feminist activism from the 1970s to 1990s. Their goal is to help preserve the diversity, vibrancy and radical legacy of this era and to make it accessible online to new generations of activists, students, and researchers.

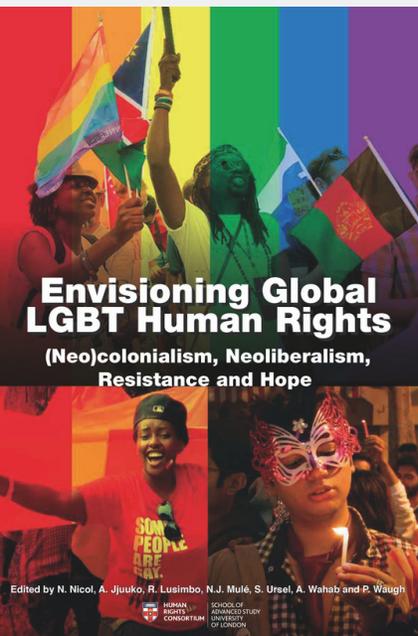
[Nancy Nicol Collection at The ArQuives](#) archive collection



Documentary filmmaker and Professor Emeritus in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design (AMPD), **Dr. Nancy Nicol** has donated her collection to The ArQuives (formerly the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives), establishing the Nancy Nicol Collection - now available for access.

Nicol describes her body of work, which documents a period of intense change in lesbian and gay rights in Canada between 1969-2009, as “a moving history, charged with optimism and resilience in the face of prejudice and ignorance.” She hopes her contribution to the Archives will be a way of remembering and celebrating this history, will provide vital materials for queer history students and researchers and will inspire future generations.

# From Our Associates



*Envisioning Global LGBT Human Rights* project PI Nancy Nicol

*Envisioning Global LGBT Human Rights: (Neo)colonialism, Neoliberalism, Resistance and Hope*

anthology (accessible online for free)

On the brink of global change, *Envisioning Global LGBT Human Rights, (Neo)colonialism, Neoliberalism, Resistance and Hope*, is bursting with invaluable first hand insights from leading activists at the forefront of some of the most fiercely fought battlegrounds of contemporary sexual politics in India, the Caribbean and Africa.

Authors from Canada, Botswana and Kenya examine key turning points in the advancement of sexual orientation and gender identity issues at the United Nations, and turn a critical eye on LGBT asylum in Canada. Authors speak to a need to reorient and decolonise queer studies, and turn a critical gaze northwards from the Global South.

*Marvellous Grounds: Queer of Colour Imaginaries of the Toronto Queer Village* project

PI Jin Haritaworn

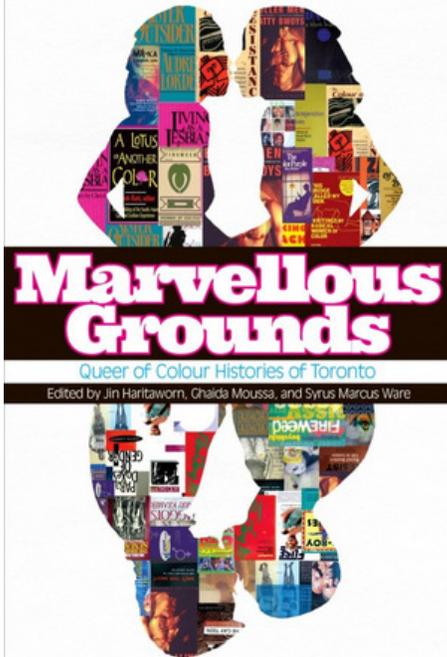
*QTBIPOC Interactive Story Map* website

*Marvellous Grounds* has created this interactive map to share with each other sites of QTBIPOC joy, and sites of QTBIPOC grief/rage. The map also includes stories about past QTBIPOC spaces that no longer exist, and stories about places where we, as QTBIPOCS, find each other and found new meeting places. The project team hopes that this map will itself become a meeting place where narratives that are rarely shared in public can come together.

*Issue #2 | Bodies as Archives: QTBIPOC Art and Performance In Toronto*  
online journal

In this issue, the Marvellous Grounds team presented art and narratives from QTBIPOC artists, organizers, facilitators, and performers who create and deliver stories that, read together, form a collective archive that is quite unlike the heteronormative and homonormative archives. Unlike the traditional archive, the one offered here transgresses neatly packaged realms of past, present, and future, and troubles linearity. Whether it is through the art of drag, spoken word, burlesque, theatre, writing, or zinemaking, these stories are told not only to reenact the past but also, through queries and reimagining, to reinvent the past. At the same time, they challenge the present, and envision, embody, and explore alternative future possibilities.

# From Our Associates



## *Marvellous Grounds: Queer of Colour Histories of Toronto (2018)*

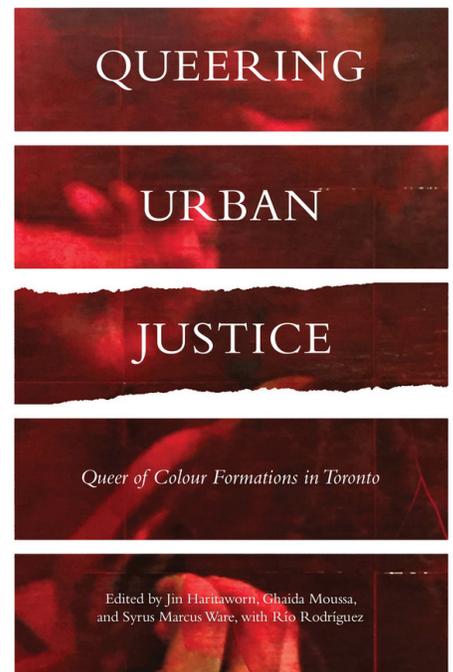
*Edited by Jin Haritaworn, Ghaida Moussa and Syrus Marcus Ware.*

The first collection of its kind to feature the art, activism, and writings of QTBIPOC in Toronto, *Marvellous Grounds* tells the stories that have shaped Toronto's landscape but are frequently forgotten or erased. Responding to an unmistakable desire in QTBIPOC communities for history and lineage, this rich volume allows us to imagine new ancestors and new futures.

## *Queering Urban Justice: Queer of Colour Formations in Toronto (2019)*

*Edited by Jin Haritaworn, Ghaida Moussa, and Syrus Marcus Ware, with Río Rodríguez.*

*Queering Urban Justice* foregrounds visions of urban justice that are critical of racial and colonial capitalism, and asks: What would it mean to map space in ways that address very real histories of displacement and erasure? What would it mean to regard Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (QTBIPOC) as geographic subjects who model different ways of inhabiting and sharing space?



## RE-LAUNCHED RESEARCH CLUSTER

### *Girls' Studies York Research Network (GSYRN) research cluster*

GSYRN is a network intended to bring together academic researchers, practitioners, and graduate and undergraduate students working in girls' studies in all disciplines and interdisciplinary fields. GSYRN aims to contribute to the development of the field of Girls' Studies, at York, in Canada, and internationally, through sharing information and resources and encouraging discussion, especially between academics and community members outside the university.

**Upcoming meetings:** Girls' Studies York Research Network (GSYRN) launch, 2-4pm, September 13, 2019, Kaneff Tower 7th floor lounge, York University.

**For more information:** contact Dr. Cheryl Van Daalen-Smith (Nursing) [cvandaal@yorku.ca](mailto:cvandaal@yorku.ca) and Dr. Deanne Williams (English) [dmw@yorku.ca](mailto:dmw@yorku.ca).

# Mary McEwan Memorial Award winners

*Named in honour of Dr. Mary McEwan, a feminist psychiatrist, the Mary McEwan Memorial Award is awarded annually to one PhD dissertation produced per year at York University in the area of feminist scholarship. The 2017-18 Award was issued to joint winners.*



Dr. Nael Bhanji's dissertation, **Trans Necrointimacies: Affect, Race, and the Chalky Geopolitics of Trans Memorialization**, explores the centrality of the memorialization of racialized trans death in structuring whiteness as emblematic of contemporary trans(normative) life. Taking his point of departure from the chalk outlines of dead bodies that frequently appear during rituals of trans memorialization, he analyzes how the affective circulation of racial decay and necropolitical violence—a phenomenon he has termed transnecrointimacies—is central to the securitization of both whiteness and trans-homonationalism within the nation-state. In tracing the affective worldings that occur through the spectacularization and consumption of 'ordinary' racialized trans death, this dissertation animates the seemingly disparate narratives of counter-terrorism and trans politics, the trans body and the terrorist body, and vigilant reactions and the vigil that re-acts ordinary violences.



Dr. Anna Augusto Rodrigues has a PhD in Education and a specialized graduate diploma in Language and Literacy Education from York University. Her dissertation, **Pop-Up Pedagogy: Exploring Connections between Street Art, Feminist Literacy Practices and Communities** investigated the potential of feminist street art to create informal spaces of learning on the streetscape while considering its pedagogical significance as a feminist literacy practice that could assist women, and those who identify as women, to participate in the shaping of community and global conversations. In her dissertation, Dr. Rodrigues argues that feminist street art, as artifacts, and the actions associated with its production, can be considered a form of feminist public pedagogy that facilitates informal learning outside of traditional educational systems and also encourages women to contribute to the conversations happening in their communities, both online and in real life.

# Visiting Scholars

**Dr. Barnita Bagchi** teaches and researches Comparative Literature at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. Educated at Jadavpur University, India, and the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, she has published widely on utopia, histories of transnational and women's education, and women's writing in western Europe and south Asia. She directs the Utrecht Utopia Network ([utrechtutopianetwork.nl](http://utrechtutopianetwork.nl)).

Most recently, she has been awarded a British Academy Visiting Fellowship to conduct research on Transcultural Utopian Imagination and the Future: Tagore, Gandhi, and Indo-British Entanglements in the 1930s, at Lancaster University in late summer and early autumn 2018.

**Chandni Bhambhani** was a Visiting Graduate Student at the Centre for Feminist Research at York University under the supervision of Dr. Meg Luxton, and a Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute Doctoral Fellow. Chandni came from the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, India, where she is pursuing her PhD in Sociology. Her PhD research aims to examine the decision making process among couples who choose to remain childless. As a visiting scholar at CFR, she compared the Indian and Canadian contexts shaping the decision to be childless in two diverse societies.



One of the two 2017-18 Mary McEwan Memorial Award winners, **Dr. Nael Bhanji** is also the 2018-2019 Visiting Scholar in Sexuality Studies at the Centre for Feminist Research at York University and a lecturer at Carleton University. Drawing upon critical race theory, trans studies, psychoanalysis, and affect theory, his research explores articulations of necropolitics, racialization, surveillance, and counter-terrorism within an increasingly globalized trans movement. Nael's work appears in *Transgender Migrations: The Bodies, Borders, and Politics of Transition*, *The Transgender Studies Reader 2*, *Trans Studies Quarterly* 4.1, *Canadian Ethnic Studies*, and *The Equity Myth: Racialization and Indigeneity at Canadian Universities*. He is presently working on his monograph entitled "Trans Necrointimacies: Race and the Chalky Affects of Trans Memorialization."

**Laura França Martello** is a PhD candidate in Political Science, Federal University of Minas Gerais with the support of Foundation for Coordinating Capacity-building of Personnel in Higher Education, Brazil, and a CFR Visiting Graduate Student through the Emerging Leaders of Americas Program from Global Affairs Canada International Scholarships. Laura researches Brazilian and Latin American feminist movements and resistance cultures, especially autonomous groups, collective organizing and feminist gatherings, focusing on intergenerational relations amongst feminists and self defense in its multiple dimensions as a feminist theory and practice of autonomous justice.



# Visiting Scholars

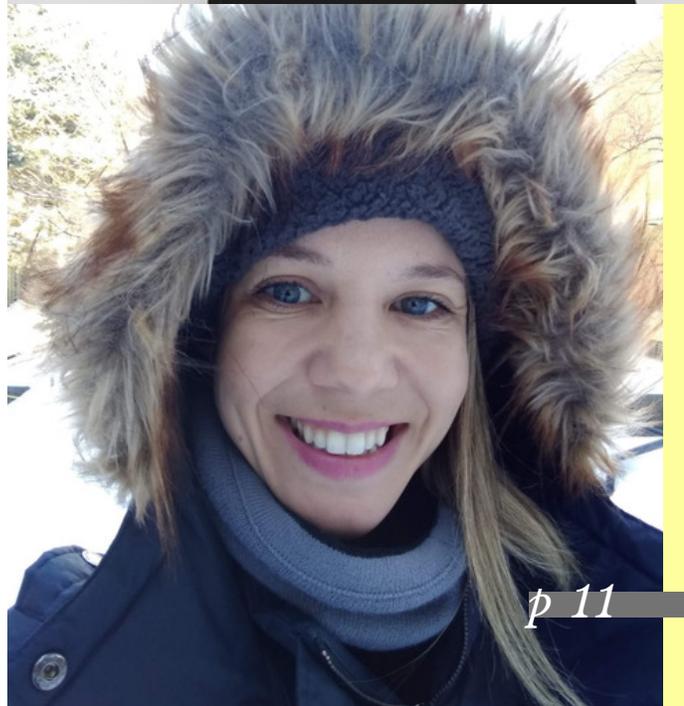
**Dr. Tiffany Pollock** is a Visiting Postdoctoral Student at the Centre for Feminist Research. Her research employs feminist ethnographic methods to examine the negotiations involved in the transnational mobility of cultural practices, people, capital and ideas. Situated within an interdisciplinary framework that encompasses feminist and queer anthropology, transnational gender and sexuality studies, and ethnomusicology/dance studies, her work elaborates how social actors grapple with the politics and tensions of contemporary global encounters through affective and musical modalities. Tiffany's current postdoctoral project critically examines the intersections of music, embodiment and mobilities in young peoples' lives.



**Vinícius Santiago** is a Visiting Graduate Student at the Centre for Feminist Research and a PhD candidate in International Relations at the Institute of International Relations of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (IRI/PUC-Rio), Brazil. His master's thesis at the same university dealt with state violence in the slums of Rio de Janeiro. He has been engaged in an ethnographic work with the mothers whose sons have been murdered by the Military Police in the slums of the city. His field work involved following the mothers on public encounters such as protests, marches, vigils where they are able to mourn publicly those lives. His research attempts to open space to rethink the arbitrariness of some sovereign practices which are put into play by the armed wings of the Brazilian state.



**Cristina Pereira Vieceli** is a CFR Visiting Graduate Student, a PhD candidate in the Graduate Programme of Economics at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) and an economist at the Department of Statistics and Socioeconomic Studies (Dieese), Brazil. Cristina's interests lie in issues of gender, labour, and economy with special attention to the Brazilian economy. Her master's dissertation subject was about domestic employment in Brazil, looking for the characteristics of peoples and jobs at the domestic employment from 1996 to 2013 and at the intersection of gender, class and race. This dissertation and further studies from other researchers originated the book "Emprego Doméstico no Brasil: raízes históricas, trajetórias e regulamentação" ("Domestic employment in Brazil: historical roots, trajectories and regulation"), a preview of which in Portuguese may be accessed here: <http://www.ltr.com.br/loja/folheie/5803.pdf>.



# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

## CONFERENCES

**TRANS MATTERS Interdisciplinary Trans Studies Graduate Student Conference**  
**Organizing Committee:** Evan Vipond, Bridget Liang, Evelyn Ramiel and Maverick Smith.  
June 21 - 22, 2018 at OISE, University of Toronto.

Co-Sponsor(s): Department of Social Justice in Education at OISE, UofT; York University CUPE 3903 Trans Caucus, Department of Humanities, Department of Politics, Department of Social Science, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Environmental Studies, Faculty of Health, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Graduate Women's Studies Student Association, Institute for Feminist Legal Studies at Osgoode Hall Law School, Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design, School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, SexGen York, Sexuality Studies and York Accessibility Fund.

## WORKSHOPS

**"The Walking Dead: Necropolitics and Genealogies of Governance"**  
**Graduate Student Workshop with Dr. Nael Bhanji, 2018-2019 Visiting Scholar**  
**in Sexuality Studies at the CFR. April 15, 2019, 626 Kaneff Tower.**

This workshop explored the centrality of Achille Mbembe's "necropolitics." Open to grad students at any stage of the writing process, this reflective and relational workshop discussed both biopolitical and necropolitical lenses as they pertain to issues of state surveillance on, for instance, race and racialization, counter-terrorism, sexuality, embodiment, settler colonialism, prison industrial complex, etc. This workshop was a great chance to network and discuss your ideas.

Co-Sponsor(s): Sexuality Studies, and the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies.

## LECTURES

**TRANS MATTERS Interdisciplinary Trans Studies Graduate Student Conference**  
**Keynote "Marvellous Grounds: Remembering Futures Where We Might Survive"**  
**by Dr. Jin Haritaworn. June 21, 2018 at OISE, University of Toronto.**

As the longer history of murders of trans women and cis-men in and around the Church-Wellesley village, many of whom were people of colour, hits the mainstream news, these questions once again arise: Whose lives are worth missing? Whose disappearances from spaces imagined as gay or LGBT are worth reporting and investigating? How are notions of innocence and violence, and horizons of redress and transformation, complicated when the perpetrator is both a gay man associated with the degenerate/regenerating urban space of the "gay village," and a white cis-man whom dominant voices in the village, and to some extent the media and police, register as "one of us"? And how do our activist scholarly practices of archiving, curating and programming serve to unmap or reinscribe these practices?

# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

**TRANS MATTERS Interdisciplinary Trans Studies Graduate Student Conference**  
Keynote "Holy Wild" by Gwen Benaway. June 22, 2018 at OISE, University of Toronto.

Holy Wild is a critical reflection on the embodied experience of Indigenous Queer and Trans subjects. Drawing on critical Indigenous and Trans scholarship, Holy Wild explores the contradictions, complexities, and impossibilities of being Indigenous, Trans, and Queer. Benaway argues that mainstream Western Queerness is an extension of the colonial project, rooted in colonial thought and transmisogyny. Liberation for Indigenous and Trans subjects cannot arise from Queerness without a sustained engagement with the colonial past as well as the sexual economies of Queer desire. Using Indigenous storytelling and worldview, Benaway interrogates the ways that Queerness does not hold Indigenous and trans experiences in their fullness. Holy Wild is a theoretical rupture of generative resistance. Unwilling to perform apology nor productiveness, this talk is intended to challenge the non-Indigenous Queer subject to a dialogue with their colonial depression.

**"Speculation, Education, and Literature:  
Aspects of South Asian Women's Writing in the 20th and 21st Centuries"**  
by CFR Visiting Scholar Dr. Barnita Bagchi. June 27, 2018 at OISE, University of Toronto.

Dr. Bagchi investigates utopian and dystopian writing by South Asian feminist and activist women, in particular Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, from the first half of the 20th century, Lila Majumdar, from the second half of the 20th century, and Vandana Singh, from contemporary times. With utopia articulating dreams of a better life and anticipations of the future, combining social and imaginative experimentation, the presentation sought to synthesize non-Eurocentric feminist utopian studies, histories of women's education, and comparative literary approaches.

Co-Sponsor(s): Department of Social Justice Education at OISE, University of Toronto.

**"Queer Archives, Regional Archives: The Unruly Visions of Sheba Chhachhi and Akram Zaatari"** by Dr. Gayatri Gopinath. September 13, 2018, 626 Kaneff Tower.

Dr. Gayatri Gopinath drew on her forthcoming book *Unruly Visions: The Aesthetic Practices of Queer Diaspora*, to identify a "queer regional imaginary" in the works of contemporary artists Akram Zaatari and Sheba Chhachhi. She foregrounded the category of the region, in both its sub-national and supra-national senses. In a queer diasporic frame in order to produce a new mapping of space and sexuality; this alternative mapping rejects dominant cartographies that either privilege the nation-state or that cast into shadow all those spaces, and gender and sexual formations, deemed without value within the map of global capital.

Co-Sponsor(s): The Department of Anthropology, the Department of Social Science, Graduate Program in Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies, the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, the Sexuality Studies Program, and YCAR.

# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

**"Rethinking the Role of the Critical Intellectual" by Dr. Elaine Stavro (Trent).** January 17, 2019, 305 Founders College.

During the Algerian War (1954-62), Djamila Boupacha, a member of the Algerian independence movement Front de Libération Nationale (FLN), was tortured and raped by French soldiers to gather information. In protesting her torture, Boupacha's lawyer solicited Simone de Beauvoir's assistance to mount her defense. De Beauvoir's intervention raises the question of whether an intellectual can represent a marginal group or, whether it is impossible to escape appropriating minority voices and thereby contributing to their disempowerment.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** Founders College, Graduate Program in Social and Political Thought, School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, and the Department of Politics.

**"Women's Resistance to Violence in Brazil" Seminar with CFR Visiting Graduate Students Vinícius Santiago and Laura Martello.** January 28, 2019, 519 Kaneff Tower.

Laura França Martello (PhD candidate in Political Science at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, UFMG, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, gave a paper entitled, *Young feminist protests resisting the conservative reaction and the neoliberal offensive:*

Massive street protests against sexual abuse and femicide and in defense of sexual and reproductive rights have taken place in the last years in Brazil, resisting the conservative reaction and neoliberal offensive that coordinated a misogynist coup and the recent election of an ultra-right wing president. Combining elements of festivity and disruption in protests deeply rooted in local popular culture, young feminists are developing self-defense strategies to deal with patriarchal, capitalist and racist violence.

Vinícius Santiago (PhD candidate in International Relations at the Institute of International Relations of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (IRI/PUC-Rio), Brazil), gave a paper entitled *Mothers resisting state violence in favelas of Rio de Janeiro:*

Black people who live in favelas are one of the main targets of military violence in Brazil.

Military police invasion in favelas has been one of the most outrageous state practices through which the pacification policy has been carried out in the last years in Brazil. The murdering of black people in favelas of Rio, especially black youths, reveals the deadly racism of a country that leads the murder rate of young black men in the world. Due to this devastating context, some mothers have come to the streets to protest this murderous state practice and to mourn publicly their sons' lives. Public mourning has been a sign of resistance to state violence and a political tool to claim justice in face of the arbitrariness of the state.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** CERLAC.

# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

## **"Trans Necrointimacies: Race and the Chalky Affects of Memorialization"** by CFR Visiting Scholar in Sexuality Studies at CFR Dr. Nael Bhanji.

February 5, 2019. 280A York Lanes.

What sorts of affective worldings emerge from the spectacularization and consumption of 'ordinary' racialized death? How can we read projects of memorialization as intimately entwined with the mobilization of national subjects within broader mechanisms of hypervigilance and surveillance against people of colour? What connections can we make between practices of trans memorialization, state-securitization, and counter-terrorism? Tracing the connections between necropolitical intimacy, spectacularized violence, and 'bare life' in the circulation of affective belonging, this talk explored the centrality of "necrointimacies" in structuring whiteness as emblematic of contemporary life.

Co-Sponsor(s): Sexuality Studies and the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies.

## **"Contesting Conceptions of the LGBTQ+ Community at Hong Kong Migrants Pride: Queering Colonialism, Globalisation and Corporate Diversity"** by Dr. Daniel Conway (Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations, University of Westminster).

March 2, 2019. 626 Kaneff Tower.

This paper drew from research conducted as part of a Leverhulme Trust Fellowship exploring the contemporary global politics of Gay Pride, focusing specifically on the forms of activism and issues raised at Hong Kong Migrants Pride 2018. Migrants Pride was first held in 2015 and is organised by migrant women's groups in Hong Kong. Held the day after Hong Kong Pride, and separately from the Pink Dot and Pink Season LGBTQ+ festivals, the Migrants Pride Parade weaves through central Hong Kong, past the migrant women workers and their families who sit on cardboard boxes in the shadow of designer shopping malls and HSBC's headquarters.

Co-Sponsor(s): The Centre for Refugee Studies, YCAR and the Sexuality Studies Program.

## **BOOK LAUNCHES**

**"Queer Politics in India: Towards Sexual Subaltern Subjects"** by Shraddha Chatterjee (GFWS PhD Student). Moderator: Harshita Yalamarty (GFWS). Respondents: Preity Kumar (GFWS) and Karuna Chandrashekar (SPTH). November 6, 2018, 626 Kaneff Tower.

*Queer Politics in India* simultaneously tells two interconnected stories. The first explores the struggle against violence and marginalization by queer people in the Indian subcontinent, and places this movement towards equality and inclusion in relation to queer movements across the world. The second story, about a lesbian suicide in a small village in India, interrupts the first one, and together, these two stories push and pull the book to elucidate the failure and promise of queer politics, in India and the rest of the world.

Co-Sponsor(s): Graduate Program in Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies.

# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

**"The Time Has Come: Why Men Must Join the Gender Equality Revolution" with Dr. Michael Kaufman. February 26, 2019, 305 Founders College.**

*The Time Has Come* explores how a patriarchal culture that has given power and privilege to men comes at a huge cost to women, children, and, surprisingly to men as well. It details how very achievable changes in our workplaces and families, in the ways we raise boys to be men and dismantle rigid gender binaries, and in the movement to end men's violence will bring significant rewards to communities all around the world.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** Founders College, The School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies and the Department of Sociology.

## FILM SCREENINGS

**INNERSPEAK MEDIA Productions: "I Am Rohingya: A Genocide in Four Acts" with director Yusuf Zine, cinematographer Kevin Young, and cast members. October 25, 2018, Nat Taylor Cinema.**

They will not be erased. They will not be silenced.

*I Am Rohingya: A Genocide in Four Acts* chronicles the journey of fourteen refugee youth who take to the stage (in front of a live audience) to re-enact their families' harrowing experiences in Burma and beyond; before, during, and immediately after the escalation of military violence in their native homeland, Rakhine state; their unforgiving escape by foot and by boat to makeshift camps in Bangladesh; and their eventual resettlement in the strikingly unfamiliar Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario. There, the children resolve to raise awareness for a conflict that has increasingly resembled a cruel and systematic ethnic cleansing campaign.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** The Department of Politics, YCAR, CRS, the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS), and the Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI).

**"A Piece of Paradise" film screening with director Dr. Patrick Alcedo (Dance) and Q&A with Director and Cast. February 25, 2019, 626 Kaneff Tower.**

Canada is a nation of immigrants, and it comes as no surprise that many Canadians share more than one homeland. For many Filipinos, family members living and working overseas is commonplace, and yet the strain of being apart is never easy. When your heart is torn between two places you love, how do you find your piece of paradise?

**Co-Sponsor(s):** The Department of Dance, CRS, and YCAR.

# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

## CO-SPONSORED EVENTS: CONFERENCES

Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) Youth Action Gathering  
"The power of being you: liberating our intersecting identities." *June 6, 2018.*

Co-Sponsor(s): The Center for Refugees Studies at York University, Amnesty international at York and WUSC Keele committee at York.

"Strategies of Critique: Great Black North" Social and Political Thought Program  
Graduate Student Conference. October 11-13, 2018.

Co-Sponsor(s): Social and Political Thought Graduate Students Association, The Department of Social and Political Thought, Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, Institute for Social Research, CITY Research Institute, the Centre for Feminist Research, York United Black Students Alliance, OPIRG, Lakehead University Students' Union, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Education, Department of Visual Arts, The Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African Peoples.

4th Annual Global Labour Research Centre (GLRC) Graduate Student Symposium  
February 21-22, 2019.

Department of History Graduate Student New Frontiers Conference  
"Reclaiming Histories: Discourses of Colonization, Reconciliation, and Recolonization."  
Co-Chairs Aaron Armstrong, Ludia Bae, Alan Corbiere, Anna Jarvis. February 21-22, 2019.

Co-Sponsor(s): Department of History, Graduate History Student Association, the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, Faculty of Graduate Studies, York University Graduate Student Union, Avie Bennett Historica Chair in Canadian History.

## CO-SPONSORED EVENTS: WORKSHOPS

Law and Society Association (LSA), Sex, Work, Law and Society Collaborative  
Research Network (CRN) workshop "IM/Migrant Sex Work:  
Exploring Experience, Policy & Partnership", organized by Research Associate Dr.  
Tuulia Law (Social Science). June 6, 2018.

Co-Sponsor(s): SWAN Vancouver, Butterfly Toronto, Law and Society Association, Carleton University's Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Legal Studies and Institute of Gender Justice, and Hayli Millar.

# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

**Feminist Times, Feminist Futures** A series of events celebrating the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies' 20th Anniversary event "**The Problem with Work?: Strategies for De-commodifying Everyday Life**"

**Co-Sponsor(s):** Office of the College Head-Founders College, the Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation, the Office of the Vice-Provost Academic, LA&PS Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, the Office of the Principal of Glendon, the Departments of Humanities, Human Rights and Equity Studies, Social Science, Sociology, Politics, Global Labour Research Centre, The Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies.

## CO-SPONSORED EVENTS: BOOK LAUNCHES

**"Envisioning Global LGBT Human Rights: (Neo)colonialism, Neoliberalism, Resistance and Hope."** September 13, 2018, Glad Day Bookshop. **with Nancy Nicol** (PI, Envisioning Global LGBT Human Rights project), **Maurice Tomlinson** ( senior policy analyst with the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network), **Jane Wothaya Thirikwa** ( global partnerships coordinator at KAIROS Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives), **Arvind Narrain** ( founding member of Alternative Law Forum in Bangalore, India) **and Amar Wahab** Associate Professor at York University).

**Co-Sponsor(s):** Glad Day Bookshop, Centre for Feminist Research.

**"Indian Migration and Empire: A Colonial Genealogy of the Modern State"** (Duke University Press, 2018) **by Radhika Mongia.**  
September 13th, 2018, The Theatre Centre, 1115 Queen St West.  
**with Radhika Mongia** (York University), **Bhavani Raman** (University of Toronto), **Nandita Sharma** (University of Hawaii) & **Alissa Trotz** (University of Toronto).

**Co-Sponsor(s):** Another Story Bookshop, York Centre for Asian Research, Centre for Feminist Research, Centre for Refugee Studies, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, Graduate Program in Sociology, and the Institute for Feminist Legal Studies (Osgoode Hall Law School).

**"Sharing Breath: Embodied Learning and Decolonization,**  
**edited by Sheila Batacharya and Yuk-Lin Renita Wong.**  
November 10, 2018, Room 5-260, OISE, University of Toronto.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** Athabasca University Press and OCAD University.

# Highlights of 2018-19 Events

**"Personal and Political: Stories from the Women's Health Movement 1960-2010"**  
with Dr. Lorraine Greaves (Centre of Excellence in Women's Health).  
November 16, 2018, Victor Phillip Dahdaleh Building Room 1005.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** The School of Nursing, Women's Health Research Chair in Mental Health Office, Health and Society, LAPS Health Policy & Management, Faculty of Health at York University; The Feminist History Society; and Second Story Press.

## CO-SPONSORED EVENTS: FILM SCREENINGS

**"Community Screening Event of "Face, the Other Side" 얼굴, 그 맞은편.**  
with Director Lee Sun Hee. November 17, 2018, Innis Town Hall, University of Toronto.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** The East Asian Studies Department at the University of Toronto, YCAR, The Cinema Studies Student Union (CINSSU). Presented by: The Centre for the Study of Korea (CSK), The Dr. David Chu Program in Asia-Pacific Studies, Women Initiate New Domains (WIND).

## CO-SPONSORED EVENTS: DONATION DRIVES

**Winter Clothing Drive for FCJ Refugee Centre.** November 1, 2018, York University.

**Co-Sponsor(s):** WUSC Keele Committee and CERLAC.

## Coming up in 2019-20...

**Third Annual Indigenous Women's talk with Joyce Green (University of Regina)**

**Bridget Liang's YA novel book launch, *What Makes You Beautiful***

**Frances Latchford's book launch, *Steeped in Blood: Adoption, Identity, and the Meaning of Family***

**Nick Mulé's film screening, *QueerEdge: From Gay to Queer Liberation***

**Amar Wahab's book launch, *Disciplining Coolies: An Archival Footprint of Trinidad 1846* and exhibition, *Coolie Hauntings***

... and MORE!