

Building Out From the Margins

NEW DIRECTIONS IN INTERSECTIONALITY

*Celebrating 30 Years of
Feminist Work in
Rhetoric and Composition*

March 13, 2019 • Pittsburgh, PA
David L. Lawrence Convention Center
6:00-8:00 PM • Rms 301-305

COALITION OF FEMINIST SCHOLARS IN THE
HISTORY OF RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION



PROGRAM WELCOME

Twenty-five years ago, in "Mapping the Margins," Kimberlé Crenshaw provided feminist academics and activists with the critical vocabulary they needed to define identity politics at various intersections of sexism and racism, in turn equipping us with structural, political, and representational "frameworks" for thinking about the fraught or hybrid spaces we occupy.

Emphasizing frameworks over "totalizing theor[ies] of identity" (Crenshaw), this Wednesday evening session dedicates itself to an interrogation and exploration of how those intersections look today, and of where intersectionality has led us as a Coalition, and as a field. What constitutes a "margin" or a "hybrid/fraught" space? How can we witness these marginalizations compound? What are the implications of moving beyond these notions of marginalization? Or of *not* moving beyond them?

As we convene to discuss some of these questions, the evening may serve as a sober reminder of how much we have yet to be transformed by Crenshaw's critique. Even still, let the evening serve as a stark reminder of how much the organization has accomplished and grown, owing to the ingenuity, labor, and love of 13 presidents, 13 Advisory Boards, and hundreds of unacknowledged members and volunteers, unafraid to speak out, speak to, and speak with.

-Tarez Samra Graban, CFSHRC President

CONGRATULATIONS TO RECENT AWARD WINNERS:

Kathleen Ethel Welch Article Award 2019

Leah DiNatale Gutenson & Michelle Bachelor Robinson

Winifred Bryan Horner Outstanding Book Award 2018

Jean Bessette

Honorable Mention: Rebecca Lorimer Leonard

Feminist Research Grants 2018

Christine Garcia, Krystin Gollihue, Nancy Henaku

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

6:00–7:00 PM

Welcome, Announcements, Awards

Critical Microtalks

Sarah Singer

Ph.D. Candidate, English & Comp Lit, UNC Chapel Hill

Heather Adams

Asst. Professor of English, UNC Greensboro

Jenny Unghba Korn

Fellow, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society

Lana Oweidat

Asst. Prof of Rhetoric & Composition, Goucher College

Roundtable Discussions

7:00–7:10 PM

Momentary Break & Celebration

Please help yourself to some celebration cake as you move to the mentoring tables.

7:10–8:00 PM

Mentoring Tables

In honor of the Coalition's 30th year, we have installed a gallery of presidents. Please enjoy the visual displays, and take away some commemorative pins (\$1/pin suggested donation; all proceeds going to Pennsylvania Women Work in Pittsburgh).

CRITICAL MICROTALKS & ROUNDTABLES

Sarah Singer speaks on “Chronic and Contested Illnesses,” asking us what ethical issues, methods, or tools feminist rhetoricians should consider when they apply intersectional analyses to studies ranging from well-understood conditions (e.g., Type I Diabetes) to generally un-manageable conditions (e.g., Myalgic Encephalopathy or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome).

Heather Adams speaks on “Intersectionality and Age,” asking us to consider age not only as an ideological construct—thus, as a frame for interpreting development, decline, non/normalcy, durability/vulnerability, and potentiality—but also as a narrativizing device for contemporary rhetorical activism.

Jenny Ungbha Korn speaks on “Representational Intersectionality Online,” asking us to consider how cultural constructions in online texts across race and gender operate on black-white dichotomies, excluding Latinx and Asian-American women from nuanced discussions of representational justice.

Lana Oweidat speaks on “Disrupting Empty Multiculturalisms,” asking us to examine a series of cross-cultural encounters that challenge even contemporary re/conceptions of “tolerance for the Other” and discomfit even postmodern re/conceptions of how U.S. empire and racist discourses occur in the classroom.



MENTORING TABLES

Table 1 – Academic Allyship

Wendy Sharer & Rachelle Joplin

Table 2 – Contingent Labor

Paula Patch & Trish Fancher

Table 3 – Globalizing Feminist Historical Study

Hui Wu

Table 4 – Graduate School & the Job Market

Erin Wecker & Patty Wilde

Table 5 – History & Historical Methodologies

Jane Donawerth & Wendy Hayden

Table 6 – Preparing for Publishing

Jen Wingard

Table 7 – Responding to Violence in the Profession/ Academy/Classroom

Kathleen Welch & Stephanie Larson

Table 8 – Starting & Sustaining Community Engaged Work

Jenn Fishman & Alexandra Cavallaro

Table 9 – Working & Teaching in/through Digital Spaces

Pamela VanHaitsma & Michelle Grue



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MICROTALK REFEREES

Anonymous Reviewer
Mariana Grohowski
Charlotte Hogg
Rebecca Richards
Lisa Shaver
Rebekah Sims

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Set-Up & Space
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Special thanks go to Erin Cooper (National Council of Teachers of English), and Betsy Johnson and Jamie Huckleberry (David L. Lawrence Convention Center).

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About the COALITION OF FEMINIST SCHOLARS IN THE HISTORY OF RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION



The Coalition (originally the Coalition of Women Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition) was founded in **1989**, in response to a perceived need from scholars in the field for mentorship and scholarly support for those doing feminist historical work, under the leadership of Kathleen Welch (President), Marjorie Currie Woods (Vice President), Winifred "Win" Horner (Secretary), C. Jan Swearingen, and Nan Johnson. The group first began to present at its Wednesday night meeting at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication in **1994**, and has presented annually ever since.

In **2016**, the organization officially changed its name to The Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition, reflecting changes in both membership and scope. As an organization, we foster inquiry in feminist histories, theories, and pedagogies of rhetoric and composition. As a network of diverse teachers and scholars, we promote intersectionality, collaboration, and communication in the following areas:

- the advancement of feminist research and pedagogy across histories, locales, identities, materialities, and media;
- the education and mentoring of feminist faculty and graduate students in scholarship, research methods, praxis, and the politics of the profession.

We welcome and sustain those who do feminist historical work, inclusive of all genders, sexualities, races, classes, nationalities, religions, abilities, and other identities, in their research and/or classrooms.

Please come join us
<http://cwshec.org/membership/>

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