Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment

36th Annual Conference

Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender

Michigan Technological University
Houghton, Michigan

October 10–13, 2013
The **Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender**, OSCLG, has grown from a series of interdisciplinary conferences that began at Bowling Green State University in 1978. Since that time, it has sought to provide a forum for professional discussion, presentation of research and demonstration of creative projects in the areas of communication, language and gender, and to promote recognition of those doing work in this area.

Members of OSCLG believe that interaction across a wide spectrum of disciplines is needed to foster more insightful discussion of the issues of language, gender and communication. Similarly, OSCLG seeks to include contributions from teachers, consultants, and practitioners as well as researchers.

The annual conference supports the mission of OSCLG and awards are made during this conference to honor individuals who contribute to the study of communication and gender. Some conferences have led to the creation of scholarly books devoted to language and gender.

An interdisciplinary research journal affiliated with OSCLG is *Women and Language*. The mission of *Women and Language* is to provide a feminist forum for those interested in communication, language, and gender.

**2013 Conference organizers:**
Patty Sotirin
Diane Shoos
Vicky Bergvall

**Sponsored by**
The Department of Humanities
at Michigan Tech

The conference theme, **Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment** brings together three richly productive feminist problematics: feminist interdisciplinarity; gender and technology; and feminist perspectives on the natural environment. This theme is inspired by the interdisciplinarities that characterize research and teaching at Michigan Technological University, a research university emphasizing engineering and the sciences yet with a strong humanities and arts presence.
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Conference Phone Numbers
Dedicated Conference number ................................. 906-281-8602
Transportation assistance number .......................... 906-370-3385
IT Help ................................................................. 487-1111

Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment | 1
Welcome to the 36th Annual Conference of the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender (OSCLG), held on the campus of Michigan Technological University and sponsored by the Department of Humanities (Dr. Ronald Strickland, Chair).

Conference Theme: Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment

This theme brings together three richly productive feminist problematics. Interdisciplinarity has been promoted as critical to feminist work in gender, language, and communication. Feminist concepts like intersectionality and hybridity attest to the significance of multiple perspectives in dialogue. Yet realizing an interdisciplinary scholarly community reaching across philosophical and methodological continuums remains a work in progress with numerous challenges. At the same time, interdisciplinarity is often viewed as the most promising way to address the complexities of contemporary issues such as the implications of technologies and problems of the natural environment. The relationships among feminism, women, technologies, and the material world are deep and complex. Certainly, feminist discussions of technologies, environmentalism, feminism in the sciences, even feminist spiritualities might provoke interdisciplinary explorations that challenge us to question our assumptions, our goals, and our identities as feminist scholars.

Set within a rich natural environment of fresh water, fresh air, and deep woods, this conference setting reminds us that our environment affects us deeply: the millions of dollars of copper extracted from beneath our feet depended on state-of-the-art technological advances, gave rise to this university (originally a college of mines), now much expanded into a multi-disciplinary scholarly community. We celebrate the complex interweaving of environment, technology, and the interdisciplinary approaches that this setting affords us.

Dr. Roxane Gay, our featured speaker, reminds us that there are many ways to do feminism and we need to find ways to engage the multidimensional intersectionalities that compose, decompose, and recompose our feminist identities and projects. Inevitably, the viability of feminism must be realized in committed and sustained political engagements on many fronts at once. This is a vision of feminism as an internally difficult, fluid, yet passionate solidarity. Interdisciplinarity, not as collaboration or camaraderie, but as a context and mode of feminist inquiry, enables such a solidarity by calling us to scrutinize the questions we ask, the methods we use, and the conclusions we can draw. We are pleased that in many ways the conference sessions address the need for and difficulties of connecting across disciplinary and academic/community boundaries. In addition, the conference program highlights opportunities to dialogue with others from differing perspectives, particularly in the participation
of women STEM faculty, the MTU showcase poster exhibit, co-mentoring, and in discussions about campus initiatives, feminist interventions, and innovative research projects. We welcome OSCLG scholars to Michigan Tech for an invigorating engagement with interdisciplinary inquiry and praxis.

The Venue

Michigan Technological University is an especially appropriate venue for a conference highlighting interdisciplinarity, technologies, and the environment. This is a research university emphasizing engineering and the sciences yet with a strong Humanities and Arts presence. We have a campus tradition of connections among women across disciplines, promoted by groups such as the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, Women in Science and Engineering (WISE), and initiatives undertaken by the NSF ADVANCE grant Steering Committee. The university’s Interdisciplinary Institute houses research teams devoted to complex problems in areas such as water systems, transportation, health, energy, and sustainability. The university sponsors several interdisciplinary research and learning programs such as the PAVLIS Leadership Institute, the Great Lakes Research Center, and the Enterprise program.

Michigan Tech is also home to a thriving humanities and arts community. In addition to publishing *Women & Language*, the Department of Humanities sponsors *PANK*, a nationally-acclaimed literary journal, while the Visual and Performing Arts Department and the Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts offer national and international art exhibits, dance and theater productions, and musical performances. Along with art galleries at Michigan Tech, neighboring Finlandia University, and other community arts venues, the area boasts numerous local historical museums, and the world-famous Seaman Mineral Museum.

Finally, the Upper Peninsula is prized for outdoor beauty, quite evident in October when the autumn color season is on full display. The vibrancy of the local scenery is a gorgeous backdrop for spirited and productive intellectual discussion.
Notes of Gratitude

We wish to thank those whose sponsorship and assistance have made the conference possible. First and foremost, we are indebted to the generosity of the Department of Humanities and Chair Ronald Strickland. It was Dr. Strickland’s strong enthusiasm that brought the conference to Michigan Tech.

In addition, we wish to thank the following MTU offices and departments for tangible support:

• School of Forest Resources and Environmental Sciences Dean Dr. Terry Sharik; College of Engineering Dean Dr. Wayne Pennington; Dean of Students Dr. Bonnie Gorman; and Center for Diversity and Inclusion Director Shezwae Fleming and Assistant Director Renee Wells.

• Graduate School Marketing and Recruitment Director Jacque Smith

• Van Pelt Library Director Ellen Seidel for conference space and support for Thursday’s sessions

• Visual and Performing Arts Chair Dr. Anne Beffel and Director Dr. Joel Neves for donating tickets to the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra concert

Special thanks to College of Sciences and Arts Dean Dr. Bruce Seely for sponsoring the Thursday evening President’s Reception in the Rozsa Lobby.

The Mentoring Lunch on Friday was sponsored in full by the Corporate Advisory Board for Institutional Diversity and the Dale Stein Special Diversity Projects Fund, both managed by Chris Anderson.

Our featured speaker Dr. Roxane Gay came here out of her commitment to feminist community and we appreciate her willingness to forego the usual speaking contract. Our Awards Banquet performer, April Lindala, likewise shared with us her Native American music in the spirit of feminist mutuality and intersectionality. We also thank singer/songwriter and Department of Humanities colleague Erin Smith for the use of her music CD for the Awards Banquet Social Hour.

Kevin Cassell is our transportation coordinator; he has been diligent, efficient, and a lifesaver. Diane Keranen produced the bound conference program; our immense gratitude for her expertise, aesthetic acumen, patience, and good humor. Tara Sotirin designed all of the creative conference logos: the autumn leaves, the winter birds, the spring flowers, and the cute owl. The Department of Humanities office staff have gone out of their way to assist us: our thanks to Jackie Ellenich and Gina Dunstan. Student worker Surbhi Thakur translated all the PayPal and mailed registration forms onto an invaluable spreadsheet, ably assisted by Kali Nelson. Faculty colleague Dr. M. Ann Brady donated give-away materials.

The enthusiastic assistance of Department of Humanities graduate students was of particular assistance in carrying out conference tasks; we thank them all for pitching in on projects large and small. We are especially grateful to the following:

• Tom Adolphs for a long-distance chocolate bar transportation and art/history tours

• Katie Snyder for leading the color hike

• Joel Beatty and Kevin Cassell for guiding the pub crawl
Graduates of the Rhetoric and Technical Communication program who stepped in to assist include:

- Lisa Watrous for art/history tours
- Cyndi Weber for overflow lodging and Registration assistance

Other undergraduate assistance from the student volunteers from Vicky Bergvall’s HU3401 Gender and Culture and HU2400 Introduction to Diversity Studies classes.

Colleagues from across MTU campus:

- Heidi Reid, Facilities and Events Coordinator, MUB
- Carol Makkonen, Access Services, Van Pelt Library
- Jodi Filpus, College of Business
- Rodney Thompson and the crew at MTU Printing Services
- Al Drew, MTU Catering Services
- Audrey Johnson, Rozsa Center

Thanks as well to:

- Jessica Juntunnen, Graphic Designer
- Mitch Helminen, R&A Transportation
- Gary Gutsell, Superior Graphics
- Bryon Waters, Manager of the Franklin Square Magnusen Hotel
- Lori Thomas and Sue Brunet at the Baraga Lakeside Inn; a special note of gratitude to them for accommodating our conference
- Local merchants Chickadees and Wicker and Willow for generously providing discount coupons to conference attendees

Our thanks to the intrepid trio of OSCLG women who visited MTU in Spring 2013, made a great impression, and created lots of enthusiasm for holding (and sponsoring) this conference at Tech: Patrice Buzzanell, Laura Ellingson, and Robyn Remke.

We enlisted the aid of colleagues Melanie Mills (Eastern Illinois University) and Linda Seward (Middle Tennessee State University) as OSCLG conference representatives at the Baraga Lakeside Inn to make sure everyone there was informed about and included in conference transportation and activities. They are the ones wearing lovely purple scarves!

We are all also grateful to our families for their support: Tara, Tavis (for transportation help), and Zakris (for his patience with a distracted mother); Marty Smith (for testing wine and chocolate, and transportation help); and Craig Waddell (for sustaining us with fresh vegetables and advice).

The other purple scarves are worn by my friends and co-organizers Vicky Bergvall and Diane Shoos who have invested countless hours, suffered incessant anxieties, and shared the relief of small triumphs, caffeine and chocolate throughout the past year as we cajoled this conference into being. The success of this conference is truly a tribute to their energy, vision, and sheer grit.

Patty
Participant Information

Conference Locations
All conference presentations and meals will be held on the Michigan Tech University campus. Thursday’s sessions will be in the Van Pelt Library on the second and third floors and in Rekhi Hall adjoining the Library by a pedestrian skywalk. The Registration Desk/Conference Lounge will be on the Library’s third floor from 11:00 AM through 6:00 PM. Evening events will be in the Lobby of the Rozsa Performing Arts Center. Friday and Saturday, all sessions and events will be held in the Memorial Union Building (MUB). The Registration Desk/Conference Lounge will be in the Alumni A Lounge on the MUB’s first floor. The Registration Desk/Conference Lounge will be open Friday from 7:30 AM through 6:00 PM and Saturday 8:00 AM through 4:00 PM. All sessions and meals will be on the MUB’s second floor.

Our dedicated phone number for the conference is 906-281-8602. Please call this number with any questions.

Panels
Panel sessions last one hour and 30 minutes. Presenters should plan to leave at least fifteen minutes for audience interaction. The rest of the time can be evenly divided among presenters. Most panels do not have a designated chair so presenters should follow the order listed in the program and designate a time keeper. There will be fifteen minutes between each session.

Poster Display Thursday Afternoon
The Thursday afternoon Poster display on the third floor of the Van Pelt Library and displays the variety of programs, activities, research, and support that engage women on the Michigan Tech campus. The following displays are included: Department of Humanities graduate and undergraduate programs; the Center for Diversity and Inclusion; The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Sciences; Michigan Tech’s ADVANCE Workshop on Bias Literacy; the School of Business MBA program; Representatives of Beyond the Glass Ceiling, MTU’s undergraduate feminist newspaper; Society of Women Engineers MTU Chapter; ecumenical student organization; Office of Affirmative Programs; MTU Graduate School; Women in Science and Engineering (WISE).

President’s Reception Thursday Evening
The President’s Reception, hosted by the College of Sciences and Arts, will be held Thursday, October 10, from 6:00–7:30 PM in the Lobby of the Rozsa Center for Performing Arts. There will be heavy hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar.

Dr. Roxane Gay, Featured Speaker presents “Bad Feminist”
We are pleased to welcome MTU doctoral alumna Dr. Roxane Gay for a talk about her feminist commentary and her own creative writing. Dr. Gay teaches at Eastern Illinois University and is a powerful feminist voice in the current digital public sphere. Her
blog is called “Roxane is Spelled with One N” at: http://roxanegay.tumblr.com/ She is a featured feminist blogger at Salon.com: http://www.salon.com/writer/roxane_gay/ And her posts for NPR’s “Code Switch” discussions about race and feminism are insightful and provocative: http://www.npr.org/blogs/codeswitch/2013/08/22/214525023/twitter-sparks-a-serious-discussion-about-race-and-feminism.

Dr. Gay’s collection of stories about experiences of Haitian diaspora, Ayiti, published in 2010 by Artistically Declined Press, was named one of the National Book Critic Circle’s “Small Press Highlights of 2011” (http://bookcritics.org/blog/archive/small-press-highlights-of-2011). Her fiction, nonfiction and criticism are widely published in venues such as Best American Short Stories 2012, Best Sex Writing 2012, New Stories from the Midwest 2011 and 2012, Virginia Quarterly Review, American Short Fiction, Oxford American, Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Salon, The Rumpus, and others. She is a co-editor with Matt Seigel, Associate Professor of Creative Writing and Diverse Literatures at MTU, of Pank, a highly regarded creative fiction journal and was design editor of Women & Language in 2010-2011. Her novel, An Untamed State (Grove/Atlantic), and her essay collection Bad Feminist (Harper) will be released in 2014.

Mentoring Box Lunch, Friday 11:30AM-1:00PM

Advanced registration required for box lunch. Others who wish to attend may purchase lunch in the MUB Food Court on the ground floor.

This luncheon is devoted to one-on-one and group mentoring discussions that highlight career stages from getting through graduate school to job hunting to preparing for tenure as well as advice for career development and issues affecting women faculty in STEM-related research areas. Tables will be marked with mentoring topics and a facilitator with expertise in the topic will be at each table. Conference participants are invited to pick up their box lunch selection and join a mentoring conversation.

Awards Banquet Friday Evening

The Awards Banquet will begin with a Social Hour from 6:00–7:00PM with a cash bar. Dinner will be served at 7:15PM. Campus sponsors include School of Forest Resources and Environmental Sciences Dean Dr. Terry Sharik; College of Engineering Dean Dr. Wayne Pennington; Dean of Students Dr. Bonnie Gorman; Department of Humanities Chair Dr. Ronald Strickland; and Center for Diversity and Inclusion Director Shezwae Fleming. Dinner will include a performance by April Lindala (Grand River Six Nations), Director of the Center for Native American Studies and Associate Professor of English at Northern Michigan University. She will perform Anishinaabe traditional songs. The Awards ceremonies will begin with a special Transition Ceremony by the OSCLG WISE Women’s Council in honor of Dr. Linda A.M. Perry and conclude with April Lindala’s performance of an Honor song for award winners. Award winners will present their work on a special Awards Winners panel on Saturday following the Business Luncheon.

After Hours Wine and Chocolate Gatherings

It is a tradition at OSCLG for the President to host informal wine and chocolate social gatherings each night of the conference. This year the gatherings will be held in the OSCLG Hospitality rooms at both hotels (Franklin Square Magnusen Hotel and Baraga
Lakeside Inn) beginning at 9:30 PM. President Renee Houston and Past President Robyn Remke will share hosting responsibilities. All conference participants are welcome to meet for conversation and refreshments.

**OSCLG Local Activities**

The following activities will be held Saturday and Sunday following the conference. Pre-registration is required. For more information on these events, see the final pages of this program.

**Saturday**

- 2:30–6:30 PM  
  Brockway Mountain Color Hike
- 2:30–5:30 PM  
  Visit to local art galleries and Keweenaw National Historical Park history museum
- 4:00–5:00 PM  
  Houghton canal stroll (from MUB to downtown Houghton)
- 7:00–9:00 PM  
  Film screening: *Stories We Tell*
- 7:30–10:00 PM  
  Keweenaw Symphony Concert
- 8:00–10:30 PM  
  Houghton pub crawl

**Sunday**

- Color Walk and Finnish Breakfast

**OSCLG-L@mtu.edu Discussion list**

An OSCLG electronic discussion list is maintained on the Michigan Technological University server. Please contact pjsotiri@mtu.edu if you would like to subscribe.

**Conference Website**

The conference website is at http://hdmzweb.hu.mtu.edu/osclg13/ and can be accessed as well at www.mtu.edu/humanities using the “Quick Links” on the left side bar. The site includes the conference call, an updated conference schedule, program information, shuttle schedule, and information on the local area.
General Information and Services

Airport Shuttle Service
Complimentary shuttle service from the Houghton/Hancock Memorial Airport and the Marquette/Sawyer International Airport to both the Franklin Square Magnusen Hotel and the Baraga Lakeside Inn will operate Wednesday through Sunday. Shuttles will be timed to get to the airport well before all arriving and departing flights. **Reservations must be made in advance.** For questions or emergencies, please call 906-370-3385.

Book Display
A not-for-sale book display will be open at during the conference hours Friday 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM and Saturday 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Alumni A Lounge, Memorial Union. Conference participants who have authored books are encouraged to display them.

Conference Meals
Conference meals are included in the conference fee if you have indicated your attendance on the registration form. Meals are not included for one-day registrants. Breakfasts other than the Sunday morning event are on your own in the conference hotels or at local restaurants. Refreshments will be available during conference hours at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge (third floor of the Library on Thursday and on Friday and Saturday at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge in Alumni A Lounge, second floor of the Memorial Union).

Disabilities Accommodations
Conference organizers are committed to facilitating full conference participation by all registered participants. All campus buildings are fully accessible with elevators, entrance ramps and automatic door openers. A copy of the conference program in large print is available at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge on the first floor of the Memorial Union or on the conference website in .pdf format.

Michigan Technological University complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please contact the Registration Desk at 906-281-8602.

Driving in the Upper Peninsula
While driving around Houghton and Hancock, remember that the main streets in both towns are one way. If you are driving elsewhere in the Upper Peninsula, keep a few things in mind. One, be alert for deer and moose. Two, start with a full tank of gas. Gas stations are often far apart in the U.P. Finally, enjoy the Fall colors!
Internet Access
There is guest access to the Michigan Tech server for all registered conference participants. Please see the instructions in your conference folder. All presentation rooms have internet access and are equipped with projectors and both PC and Mac laptops.

Future Conference
The 37th Annual OSCLG Conference will be held at the Westin San Francisco Airport Hotel, October 16–19, 2014. The theme is “(En)Gendering Technologies.” The conference organizer is Dr. Laura Ellingson, Santa Clara University (llellingson@scu.edu). Please see the inside back cover page of the program for more information.

Illness and Medical Emergencies
Dial 911 on any local or cell phone. All emergencies should be reported to the OSCLG Registration Desk/Conference Lounge in the Alumni A Lounge, Memorial Union; call 906-281-8602 or the Department of Public Safety and Police Services at 906-487-2216. For conference shuttle emergencies, call 906-370-3385.

Lost and Found
Personal items either lost or found should be turned in to the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge located in Alumni Lounge A on the first floor of the Memorial Union.

Parking
Weekday parking on campus is limited and most nearby side streets have restricted parking. Parking passes are available upon request. After 5:00am and all day Saturday, all campus parking lots are open and available for parking. However, the conference coincides with Parents’ Weekend at MTU so parking spaces on campus will be very hard to find. Those who drove cars are encouraged to park them at the hotels and take the conference shuttles to/from campus. A $3.00 all-day parking lot (change only) is located across from the Memorial Union; however, the spaces are usually taken for the day by 8:00am. Those who wish to drive to campus are advised to use Lot 24, a larger on-campus parking lot located above the main campus about a ten-minute walk from the Memorial Union. Lot 24 is accessible off Sharon Avenue behind the Gates Tennis Center and the Student Development Complex (SDC). A MTU shuttle runs between Lot 24 and the Memorial Union during peak hours. There is a steep hill between the lot and the main campus, but the walk is short and picturesque.

Shuttle service
A complimentary shuttle service is available to all attendees to and from both conference hotels and campus. The shuttle will run during posted times and a schedule will be available at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge in the Alumni A Lounge and at the hotel desks in both hotels. All conference participants will receive a schedule with their conference materials. The shuttle will pick-up/drop-off at the front of the conference hotels and pick-up/drop-off at the Memorial Union south (highway side) entrance. Special needs arrangements may be made by calling 906-370-3385. However,
if you find yourself wanting to go on foot, from downtown it’s a fairly pleasant walk (less than one mile). For conference shuttle emergencies, call 906-370-3385.

Registration Desk/Conference Lounge

Information, assistance, and conference materials can be obtained at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge. All pre-registered conference participants should check in to affirm their attendance and pick up their conference materials. Information about local attractions, restaurants, and shops will be available. The conference shuttle schedule and local transportation information will be posted. The Desk will be hosted on Thursday from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM on the third floor of the Van Pelt Library; on Friday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM and on Saturday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Alumni Lounge A, first floor of the Memorial Union.

Contact the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge for assistance with medical emergencies, technological problems, or whatever needs for assistance might arise. The Registration Desk/Conference Lounge phone is 906-281-8602. After hours, contact MTU campus security: dial 911 or 487-2216.

Smoking/Tobacco

All Michigan Technological University buildings are smoke- and tobacco-free. Smoking inside campus buildings is not permitted.

Technology needs and assistance

All conference presentation rooms are equipped with LCD projectors, screens, and PC and Mac laptops. However, if you have a Mac, you need to bring an adapter that will allow you connect to the LCD projector. Information Technology (IT) staff will be available to assist presenters with technology needs and problems. Request staff assistance at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge by calling 906-281-8602 or 487-1111.
Program at a Glance

WEDNESDAY, October 9
6:00PM–10PM  OSCLG Wise Women’s Council Retreat, Great Lakes Research Center

THURSDAY, October 10
8:00AM–NOON  OSCLG Wise Women’s Council, Franklin Square Hospitality Room
8:00AM–NOON  OSCLG Executive Board, Great Lakes Research Center
11:00AM–6:00PM  Registration Desk/Conference Lounge, Library 3rd floor SW
NOON–6:00PM  Poster display, Library 3rd floor SW
NOON–1:30PM PANEL–Beyond the Glass Ceiling: Experiences in Founding a Feminist Newspaper on a Traditional STEM Campus
ROUNDTABLE– Mothers and Daughters: The Conversation Continues
1:45–3:15PM PANEL–Mediating gender
PANEL–Breast Cancer: New Issues and Residual Sorrows
3–5:00PM PANEL–Feminist Interdisciplinarity and Pedagogies
PANEL–Re-Viewing Bodies: Perceptions, Technologies, Theories
6:00–7:30PM President’s reception, Rozsa Lobby
7:30–8:30PM FEATURED SPEAKER: Roxane Gay, Rozsa Lobby
~9:30–11:00PM After hours, Franklin Square and Baraga Lakeside Hospitality Room

FRIDAY, October 11
7:30AM–6:00PM Registration Desk/Conference Lounge, Alumni A
8:15–9:45AM PANEL– Changing Views of Men and Masculinity
PANEL–Reframing Gendered Epistemologies
PANEL–Mediated Bodies: Framing Discourses of Health, Violence, Surveillance, & Corporality
10:00–11:30AM PANEL–Stigmatized Motherhood
PANEL–Perspectives on Ecofeminism
PANEL–Navigating the Ranks of Higher Education: A Panel on the Importance of Mentoring, Sponsoring, and Advocating for our Colleagues
PANEL–Bodies Keeping Time: Performing Women's Memory Work
11:30–1:00PM Conversation & Lunch: Mentoring & Interest Tables, Ballroom A
12:45–1:30PM W&L Board meeting, Alumni B
1:00–2:30PM ROUNDTABLE–Assessing the Need for a Women’s and Gender Equity Resource Center: Feminist Intentions and Interventions of a Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) on a Catholic Campus
PANEL–Televisual Constructions of Gender
PANEL–Locating Gender
2:45–4:15PM PANEL–Marginal (Gendered) Identities in Healthcare Contexts
PANEL–Mediating Media Identities: The Portrayals of
Minorities in Reality Television

PANEL – Wise “Speech”: Feminism, Buddhism, and Invitational Rhetoric B3

4:30–6:00PM PANEL – Care, Community, Support, and Balance B1

ROUNDTABLE – Writing and Narrative Pedagogy: Learning about Gender through Reflection and Dialogue B3

6:00–7:00PM Social Hour Ballroom A
7:00–9:00PM Awards Banquet Ballroom A

~9:30–11:00PM After hours at the Franklin Sq and Baraga Lakeside Hospitality Rm

SATURDAY, October 12

8:00–4:00PM Registration Desk/Conference Lounge Alumni A
8:00–9:30AM PANEL – Exploring the Potency of “Social Media”: Gender Advocacy, Gender Commercialization B1
PANEL – Negotiating from All Sides of the Professional-Personal Periphery: A Collection of Stories from These Margins B2

ROUNDTABLE – Weaving a Network of Alternative Feminist Scholarship: A Conversation Among Cheris Kramarae’s Mentees/Friends B3
PANEL – Traversing Culture/Negotiating Identity Alumni B

9:45–11:00AM VICE PRESIDENT’S PANEL – Some Provocative Ways of Thinking About Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment B2-3

11:00AM–12:30PM Business luncheon Ballroom A

12:45–2:15PM PANEL – The Care in Health Care: Patient-Centered Care, Proof, Relationality, Liminality B1
OSCLG Awards Panel
PANEL – Gendered and Feminist Performances in the Social “Theater of Food” B2
PANEL – Using the Research Journal to Grant Agency and Encourage Reflexive Praxis: Four Women Find Intersections Between Lived Life and Academic Engagement Alumni B

2:30–4:00PM PANEL – Critical Pedagogy and Gender/Racial Justice: Consciousness-Raising in the COMM Classroom B1
PANEL – Framing Technology/Media Relationships B3

2:30–6:30PM Brockway Mountain Color Hike, Meet at Alumni A
2:30–6:00PM Art Gallery and local history museum visit, Meet at Alumni A
4:00–5:00PM Houghton stroll, Waterfront trail between hotel and park
7:00–9:00PM Film screening: Stories We Tell, Franklin Square Hospitality Room
7:30–10:00PM KSO Symphony Concert
8:00–10:30PM Pub crawl

~9:30–11:00PM After hours, Franklin Square and Baraga Lakeside Hospitality Room

SUNDAY, October 13

8:30–9:30AM Color Walk, Franklin Square
9:30–10:30AM Finnish breakfast at Franklin Square Hospitality Room
Thursday at a glance

8:00 AM–NOON  OSCLG Wise Women’s Council
Franklin Square Hospitality Room

8:00 AM–NOON  OSCLG Executive Board
Great Lakes Research Center

11:00 AM–6:00 PM  Registration Desk/Conference Lounge
Library 3rd floor SW

NOON–6:00 PM  Poster display
Library 3rd floor SW

NOON–1:30 PM  PANEL: Library 209
ROUNDTABLE: Rekhi 101

1:45–3:15 PM  PANEL: Library 209
PANEL: Rekhi 101

3:30–5:00 PM  PANEL: Library 209
PANEL: Rekhi 101

6:00–7:30 PM  President’s reception, Rozsa Lobby

7:30–8:30 PM  FEATURED SPEAKER, Rozsa Lobby

~9:30–11:00 PM  After hours
at the Franklin Square and
Baraga Lakeside Hospitality Rooms,
Chocolate, wine, cheese
**Thursday, Noon–1:30 PM**

**DISPLAY • Noon–6:00 PM • Library 3rd floor SW**

**Poster Display**

The following displays are included: Department of Humanities graduate and undergraduate programs; the Center for Diversity and Inclusion; The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Sciences; Michigan Tech’s ADVANCE Workshop on Bias Literacy; the School of Business MBA program; Representatives of Beyond the Glass Ceiling, MTU’s undergraduate feminist newspaper; Society of Women Engineers MTU Chapter; ecumenical student organization; Office of Affirmative Programs; MTU Graduate School; Women in Science and Engineering (WISE)—1) Kyung In Huh, Geological and Mining Engineering and Science; 2) Adrienne Minerick, Chemical Engineering; Lynn Mazzoleni, Chemistry; 3) Zhiying Shan, Kinesiology and Integrative Physiology; 4) Nilufer Onder, Soner Onder, Zhenlin Wang, Computer Science; 5) Laura Brown, Nilufer Onder, Computer Science; Gretchen Hein, Engineering Fundamentals; Leonard Bohmann, Electrical and Computer Engineering; 6) Judith Perlinger, Civil and Environmental Engineering; 7) Amber Kemppainen, Engineering Fundamentals; 8) Feng Zhao, Biomedical Engineering; 9) Pat Heiden, Chemistry.

**PANEL • Noon–1:30 PM • Library 209**

**Beyond the Glass Ceiling: Experiences in Founding a Feminist Newspaper on a Traditional STEM Campus**

Katie Snyder, Michigan Tech
Katherine Baeckeroott, Michigan Tech
Megan Walsh, Michigan Tech

Founding members of MTU’s new student newspaper, Beyond the Glass Ceiling, will discuss the difficulties and opportunities of writing from a feminist orientation for a largely non-feminist audience.

**ROUNDTABLE • Noon–1:30 PM • Rekhi 101**

**Mothers and Daughters: The Conversation Continues**

Alice Deakins, Wm Patterson
Helen Sterk, Western Kentucky
Rebecca Lockridge, U of Massachusetts
Amber Kinser, Eastern Tennessee State (respondent)

In this roundtable, several authors of chapters in Mothers and Daughters: Complicated Connections Across Cultures, all members of OSCLG, will reflect on the research they did for their chapters in the book, their ongoing connections—both personal and professional—with their material, and their sense of what still needs to be done in their area.
1:45–3:15 PM, Thursday

PANEL • 1:45–3:15 PM • Library 209

Mediating Gender

Vicky Bergvall, Michigan Tech

Against Pink Brain/Blue Brain Dichotomies: STEMing Gender Conflicts in “The Ultimate Battle of the Sexes”

Using feminist Critical Multimodal/Discourse Analysis, I critique Brain Games, a National Geographic TV program on recent neuroscience research. The “Battle of the Sexes” episode is rife with harmful “pink brain/blue brain” dichotomizing that distorts the original neuroscience, overplaying gender difference and paradoxically working against engaging women in STEM fields.

Wincharles Coker, Michigan Tech

Browsing the Female Body: A Comparative Study of Scopophilia in Ghanian and Nigerian Film Trailers

Diane Keranen, Michigan Tech

Images of Masculinity and PTSD in Contemporary Visual Media

Contemporary visual media demonstrates a quickness to associate PTSD with violent behaviors or a desire to live with continued conflict in its images of men. In this paper, I compare images constructed of with images constructed by combat veterans to consider their respective rhetorical approaches to (or perspectives on) masculinity and PTSD.

Kristine Granger, Northern Michigan

Organ Grinders

Grinding organs, a difficult task but a task that must be complete for survival. Organ grinder melody, the dichotomy of sound and image reiterates the struggle of the internal and external existence of being. Shifting the unconscious, altering negative image stereotypes, illuminating the betrayal that is so ingrained is imperative.

PANEL • 1:45–3:15 PM • Rekhi 101

Breast Cancer: New Issues and Residual Sorrows

Ariane Anderson, U of South Florida

The Construction of Breast Cancer Survivor Identity through a Breast Cancer Support Business: An Institutional Ethnography

Kristina Davis, Abilene Christian

Mutilations, Mastectomies, and the Choices We Make

In this session, Dr. Kristina Davis will be analyzing the stories of women from across the country who have discovered that they are carriers of the breast cancer gene. Using their narratives, she will evaluate the complex issues that face these women and discuss what medical professionals can do to address these women’s unique needs.
Marcy Meyer, Ball State  
**Give Her Your Voice**  
This autoethnographic essay describes one woman’s last visit to her best friend’s mother, who is dying from breast cancer. By performing this narrative, the author hopes to open up a discursive space in which audience members can reconnect with lost loved ones.

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**PANEL • 3:30–5:00 PM • Library 209**

**Feminist Interdisciplinarity and Pedagogies**

M. Ann Brady, Michigan Tech  
**Webs of Relationship: Theorizing Feminist Interdisciplinarity**  
I propose that feminist interdisciplinary exchange depends on “webs of human relationships,” constituted by language and shaped by actions, which are “never possible in isolation” (Arendt). Using the metaphor of touch—not sight (Young) or incursion (Klein), I describe one university program’s efforts to construct such a web.

Kevin Cassell, Michigan Tech  
**Metistic Maggie: The Craft of a Cunning Quilter**  
Metis is an ancient Greek term associated with perceptively acquired experiential knowledge. It is often translated as “cunning intelligence.” Some feminist rhetorical scholars offer metis as a model for navigating situations in which the rhetor is disenfranchised. I show how Alice Walker’s “Everyday Use” is an exemplary illustration of this particular tactic.

Linda Seward, Middle Tennessee State  
**Pedagogical Strategies to Breaking the Stereotypes: Revealing the Complexities of Gender Roles in the Middle East**  
Media coverage in the West has contributed to a monolithic portrayal of Muslim women in the Middle East as universally oppressed and downtrodden. This presentation will discuss methods and sources that can be used in the classroom to explore a more realistic view of the diversity that actually exists.

Keshab Acharya, Michigan Tech  
**“New Voices”: Conceptualizing the Gender, Power, and Language Use of Hijras in Hindu Culture**  
Because of the complex genital features, hijra in Hindu culture are mostly treated as a socio-culturally marginalized group. But I argue that addressing hijras as a marginalized group is to ignore their use of language and gestures as powerful mechanisms through which they come to the mainstream culture as spiritually-empowered-blessed-women.
3:30–5:00 PM, Thursday

PANEL • 3-30–5:00 PM • Rekhi 101

Re-Viewing Bodies: Perceptions, Technologies, Theories

Siobhan Smith, U of Louisville
Quiniqua Carthan, U of Louisville

In the Eye of the Beholder: Body Image Perceptions and Gaps in the African-American Community in Kentucky

This quantitative study focuses on the body image perceptions of African-American men (N=82) and women (N=162) in two different parts of Kentucky: Louisville and Hopkinsville. Using surveys, we examined participants’ perceptions of their own weight and compared respondents’ views with medically established norms. The study reveals a gap between perceptions and norms and also reveals some of the contextual factors surrounding the gap.

Lara Stache, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Medical Authority Over a Woman’s Body: A Critical Analysis of the “Octomom” Controversy as Reproductive Rights Rhetoric

I argue through a critical analysis of the decision to revoke the license of Nadya Suleman’s (aka Octomom) fertility doctor, Michael Kamrava, that the medical board’s decision in light of the public controversy suggests a rhetorical framing of reproductive rights within the boundaries of a medically mediated “right” body.

April Lindala, Northern Michigan

Tragic Hands Reach for Tragic Food: Positioning Native Women to Cook Fry Bread and Forget

How can participating in an Indigenous food sovereignty project serve as a catalyst to a revisioning of Native films that have positioned Native women cooking colonizers’ food? How do we critically examine these films (which many contend empower Native people) to see past the assimilated and accepted behavior?

Bren Murphy, Loyola Chicago

“Dressing for Success”: The Significance of Dress for Women Religious

Jessica Lauer, Michigan Tech

Tall, Dark, and Strong: Brewing Gender Stereotypes in a Local Coffee Shop
Friday at a glance

7:30AM–6:00PM  Registration Desk/Conference Lounge
                Alumni A

8:15–9:45AM  PANELS: B1, B2, B3

10:00–11:30AM  PANELS: B1, B2, B3, Alumni B

11:30–1:00PM  Conversation & Lunch: Mentoring & Interest Tables, Ballroom A

12:45–1:30PM  W&L Board meeting, Alumni B

1:00–2:30PM  ROUNDTABLE: B1
              PANELS: B2, B3

2:45–4:15PM  PANELS: B1, B2, B3

4:30–6:00PM  PANELS: B1, B2
              ROUNDTABLE: B3

6:00–7:00PM  Social Hour, Ballroom A

7:00–9:00PM  Awards Banquet, Ballroom A

~9:30–11:00PM  After hours
                Franklin Square and
                Baraga Lakeside Hospitality Room,
                Chocolate, wine, cheese
Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment

Friday, 8:15–9:45 AM

PANEL • 8:15–9:45 AM • B1

Changing Views of Men and Masculinity

M. Kathleen Rister, U of Southern Indiana
Stephanie Young, U of Southern Indiana

Gett’n Fuzzy with the Men in the Family
Rhetorical analysis of the comic strip compilation Get Fuzzy: The Dog is Not a Toy. Using a text of popular culture, the Get Fuzzy analysis indicates the comic strip represents a new norm and departure from traditional family structure and communicates three distinct masculinities falling outside strictures of hegemonic masculinity.

Johnny Jones, Austin Peay State

Memoirs of Most…: An Ethnographic Essay of Black Men in Relationships

Gloria Pindi Nziba, Southern Illinois U at Carbondale
Amanda Patrick, Southern Illinois U at Carbondale

Black Male Consciousness in Diasporic Contexts: An Ethnographic Study of Afro-Caribbean Men’s Constructions of Feminism
There is a controversial debate among Black feminists on whether men should collaborate with women or not in feminism. This ethnographic study explores African and Caribbean men’s constructions of feminism in diasporic contexts. While participants value a feminist collaboration with women, they seem reluctant to its practice to all spheres.

Tom Adolphs, Michigan Tech

Brews, Bros, and Ballgames: Selling American Masculinity

PANEL • 8:15–9:45 AM • B2

Reframing Gendered Epistemologies

Lisa Carlson, Ball State

Communication as Inmaterial Labor: An Interdisciplinary Feminist Examination of Emotional and Affective Labor
This study seeks to integrate the social scientific notions of Hochschild’s (1983) emotional labor with the literary/political theory of affective labor to expand possibilities for feminist praxis within communication studies. The broad Marxist ideas of affective/immaterial labor can further the political implications of the already-compelling feminist discourse of emotional labor.

Rachel Davidson, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Constituting a Rhetorical Problem of Community: Counterproductive Discourse and Competing Tensions in Family Care Giving
This study highlights a rhetorical problem of community for family caregivers. I highlight the rhetorical qualities of community on two caregiving advocacy websites that subvert the possibility of productive discourse because the values embodied by the community do not serve the needs of those it claims to assist.
8:15–9:45AM, Friday

Sonia Goltz, Michigan Tech
Patty Sotirin, Michigan Tech

Diversity Literacy at a STEM University: Learning from Experience
We use first-person narrative to describe our experiences in designing and implementing a Provost-mandated university-wide initiative to train faculty on unconscious bias. Through critical self-reflection, we engage with the paradoxes of these experiences and our ambivalences as feminist change agents in a STEM university.

Alexandra Morrison, Michigan Tech

“I have had my vision”: Mood, Perception and Transformative Agency in Woolf and de Beauvoir
Woolf and de Beauvoir both found, in literature, a form of writing adequate to the 20th century philosophical idea that subjects are fundamentally situated in the world. I will discuss how their novels develop this insight in stories of feminist self-transformation and emergent agency.

PANEL • 8:15–9:45AM • B3

Mediated Bodies: Framing Discourses of Health, Violence, Surveillance, & Corporality

Laura Ellingson (chair), Santa Clara
Margaret Quinlan, U of North Carolina at Charlotte
Jennifer Bute, IUPUI
Lindsay Quandt, IUPUI

Public Discourses of Celebrity: Media Representations of Illness and the Body of Giuliana Rancic
Entertainment journalist Guiliana Rancic has shared her struggles with pregnancy loss, infertility, and breast cancer in public forums. We analyzed public discourses surrounding Rancic’s health revelations, arguing that public discourses about health-related issues offer insight into the pervading ideologies that shape our understanding of health and illness.

Molly McKinney, U of North Carolina at Charlotte

Who Owns Our Bodies?: A Feminist Poststructural Analysis of Rape in the U.S.
The definition of rape in our country has faced systematic re-defining since it was presented as a plank in the GOP platform during the 2012 presidential election. Conservative politicians have worked to keep rape as a male-defined regulatory tool to perpetuate the subordinate position of women. Feminists have fought back against this War on Women, demanding that rape be re-defined from the embodied female perspective. I have examined this conversation using the social media site Pinterest.
Meghan Snider, U of North Carolina at Charlotte

Constructing Docile Bodies: A Feminist Poststructural Analysis of Cosmetic Surgery as a Product of Compulsory Heterosexuality

This paper discusses how cosmetic surgery is normalized into female subject positions as a disciplinary performance. Operating under Rich’s (1980) concepts of compulsory heterosexuality, I apply Foucauldian scholarship to cosmetic surgery, showing how the disciplinary ideologies discovered by previous scholars are interdependent, colonized under the heteronormative discourse of compulsory heterosexuality.

Jay Baglia, DePaul

Defending My Family, the Second Amendment, or Hegemonic Masculinity?: Discourses of Gun Advocates

This paper tracks the gendered discourses of both institutional (e.g. National Rifle Association) and personal responses (via comments sections of news sources) to the suggestions of gun control. This paper analyzes metaphors found both in carefully prepared official statements as well as less thoughtful comments in order to illustrate the hegemonic masculinity inherent in America’s love affair with guns.

Marie Thompson, Wright State

A Confluence of Others: Foucault, Bio-Power and Critiquing the Marginal Investment to Fully Involve Boys and Men in Vaccinations against HPV

This work critiques the profound lack of media attention/effort directed towards males for the participation in the Gardasil vaccination protocol. The author explores the relationship between hegemonic masculinities and those who craft public policy directly impacting the sexual and reproductive health for both women and men.

PANEL • 10:00-11:30AM • B1

Stigmatized Motherhood

Katherine Denker, Ball State

Mommy’s Internal War and the Fight Against Internalized Norms: Stigma and Motherhood

Cynthia Weber, Michigan Tech

Crime and Punishment: Monitoring Women’s (Pregnant) Bodies

In recent years, many U.S. state legislatures have proposed and/or made into law various measures that serve to control and monitor individual women’s reproductive health, including their pregnant bodies. This paper examines these technologies of power through the lens of Michel Foucault’s theories as described in Technologies of the Self and Power and Society.
10:00–11:30 AM, Friday

Lara Stache, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

A Rhetorical Construction of Technology and the Female Body: The Representation of Botox in Reality Television From a Technophilic Lens

Drawing upon theories of the technophilic body, I argue that the rhetorical construction of Botox parties in reality television activates a positive rhetoric of technology that focuses on the potential to enhance and perfect the body, but simultaneously creates a sense of otherness from the viewing audience.

Diane Shoos, Michigan Tech

Adoption and the Performance of Motherhood in Contemporary Film

This paper takes a postmodern feminist perspective on Rodrigo Garcia’s 2009 Mother and Child as emblematic of the tensions in contemporary adoption films between hegemonic notions of the maternal and alternative frameworks that open the maternal to possibilities of agency and resistance.

PANEL • 10:00-11:30 AM • B2

Perspectives on Ecofeminism

Fatuma Buro Guyo, Southern Illinois U Carbondale
Gloria Pindi Nziba, Southern Illinois U Carbondale

Interaction of Pastoralist Women and Environment: A Cross-Disciplinary Review of Current Scholarship

As two Black female diasporic subjects – respectively from the Caribbean (Grenada) and from Africa (Democratic Republic of Congo) — we are particularly interested in collecting Afro-Caribbean men’s discourses around feminism within the diasporic community. This study calls for “Black male consciousness” to promote a productive dialogue between Afro-Caribbean men and women in feminist activism.

Audrey Mayer, Michigan Tech

Sustainable Forest Management in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan from an Ecofeminist Perspective

Diane Miller, Finlandia

Not Out of the Woods Yet: Becoming an Ecofeminist as an Act of Impassioned Balance

This paper draws from the experience of campaigning to save Michigan’s wolves from a trophy hunting season. Field note entries challenge the notion of “male logic” and suggest that the phrase “Woman and Nature” is redundant.

PANEL • 10:00–11:30 AM • B3

Navigating the Ranks of Higher Education: A Panel on the Importance of Mentoring, Sponsoring, and Advocating for our Colleagues

Nilufer Onder (co-chair) and MTU WISE
Robyn Remke (co-chair) and OSCLG WISE
Bodies Keeping Time: Performing Women’s Memory Work

Nicole Defenbaugh (chair and facilitator), Lehigh Valley Health Network
Shauna MacDonald, Villanova
Brianne Waychoff, CUNY Borough of Manhattan CC

Assessing the Need for a Women’s and Gender Equity Resource Center: Feminist Intentions and Interventions of a Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) on a Catholic Campus

Paige Edley, Loyola Marymount
Michele Hammers, Loyola Marymount
Ani Shabazian, Loyola Marymount
Maria Alderete, Loyola Marymount
Judy Battaglia, Loyola Marymount
Kathleen Norris, Loyola Marymount

Panelists explore the need for, and planning of, a gender equity center focusing on women’s and LGBT student, faculty and staff empowerment, leadership, self-esteem, relationships, body image, and sexual assault, services and programming. An interdisciplinary feminist needs-assessment and experiences of academic advisors and students inform the discussion.

Televisual Constructions of Gender

Laurena Bernabo, U of Iowa
Glee-talia: Adapting Glee for an Italian Audience

Jumah Taweh, Ball State
Let It Grow Naturally: The Emergence of “Going Natural” and the Rhetorical Situation

One commonality most young girls share is getting their hair done. Therefore, what happens if your hair is different from dominant portrayals of hair on TV? Growing up as a minority in a Eurocentric society presents many challenges. This paper explores the rhetorical situation of going natural.

Siobhan Smith, U of Louisville
Ryessia Jones, U of Texas, Austin
Dyed, Fried, and Laid to the Side: A Textual Analysis of VH1’s Beverly Hills Fabulous

Shannon Hicks, U of TX, Austin
Modalities of Transgression in Here Comes Honey Boo Boo
1:00–2:30PM, Friday

PANEL • 1:00-2:30PM • B3

Locating Gender

Melina Sherman, U of Southern CA

**Dancing Alone, Together: A Gendered Politics of Visibility Inside a “Music Scene for Bros”**

This project examines the gendered dimensions of a popular genre of electronic dance music known as *dubstep* and describes how the experience narratives of young women in Chicago's dubstep concert scene reveal the different ways in which cultural identities and gendered selves are mapped through participation in youth cultural sites.

AnnaBeth Fish, Ball State

**We’re Women, Not Girls: Stereotypes, Stigma, and Sisterhood in Women’s Colleges**

In the U.S. for those who continue their education beyond high school, there are many types of educational institutions to choose from. Once the norm, single-sex education is now considered by many to be archaic. This presentation examines the experiences of women's college graduates in coed graduate programs.

Megan Getter, Ball State

**Doing Laundry: Performances of Class and Gender in the Laundromat**

Jenny Ungbha Korn, U of Illinois at Chicago

**“You Know a Girl Is from Alabama When….” Discourses of Place with Gender in Online Identities**

American online users enact place in symbolic ways that reflect their understandings of belonging to that place as part of their identity. Focusing on cultural representations of place on the Internet, I analyze examples of “economical communication” uniting the “consociate crowd” within textual and visual discourses of Alabama-based belonging found online, particularly those that emphasize gender.

Morgan Summers, Michigan State

**Feminist Mormon Housewives: An Examination of Tensions Faced by Self-identified Mormon Feminists**

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PANEL • 2:45-4:15PM • B1

Marginal (Gendered) Identities in Healthcare Contexts

Elliot Hamer, U of North Carolina at Charlotte

**“Tired and Hungry” in North Carolina: A Critical Approach to Confronting the Eugenic Labeling of Disability through Reverse Discourses**

This study is a critical examination of discourse surrounding NC's eugenics program and the sterilization of Elaine Riddick. The labeling (by state and medical institutions) of subjects as deviant and disabled persons and the possibilities for creating alternative identities of gender, race and disability are highlighted and explored as constitutive processes.
Emily Tamilin, U of North Carolina at Charlotte

Jenna Talackova: Trans-womanhood’s Public (Counter)Narrative

Rachel Thomas, U of North Carolina at Charlotte

“Crazy Carrie” and Mainstream Media’s Understandings of Mental Illness in Women

I will discuss a representation of mental illness in women and the relationship between the areas of gender, mental illness, and media representations on the television show *Homeland* (2011). *Homeland* (2011) unites these areas through the character Carrie Mathison, a woman with bipolar disorder. Three themes emerged through an analysis of journalistic and blogger discourse surrounding Mathison.

Jay Baglia, DePaul

Rachel Silverman, Embry Riddle Aeronautical

Confronting the Silence and Stigma of Pregnancy Loss: Narrative as Consciousness Raising in Examples of Infertility and Miscarriage

Margaret Quinlan, U of North Carolina at Charlotte

Renee Houston, U of Puget Sound

Healthy for Women in Transitional Housing?: Just-Getting-By (Poverty/Survival Mode) to a Getting Ahead World (Stability Mode)

Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-by World (hereafter GA) is a curriculum designed to help low-income families and individuals create more stable, secure lives by learning the hidden rules of the middle class culture. In our study, we interview women who graduated from the GA program and are living in transitional housing in North Carolina. The two research questions guiding this study are: 1) How does GA create empowerment for women? 2) How does the GA program create disempowerment for women living in poverty? From our initial analysis, we have found that participants’ discussion of their experience reveal that the program creates personal transformation that generates dialectic tensions.

PANEL • 2:45-4:15PM • B2

Mediating Media Identities: The Portrayals of Minorities in Reality Television

Siobhan Smith (chair), U of Louisville

Cerise Glenn, U of North Carolina at Greensboro

*Braxton Family Values: Upper Class Black Women in Realty Television*

*Braxton Family Values* portrays the family dynamics of five upwardly socially mobile African-American women who work in various sectors of the entertainment industry. It stars Toni Braxton, Grammy award winning R&B and pop star, and her four sisters: Towanda, Tamar, Trina, and Traci. This paper utilizes an intersectional feminist approach that analyzes gender roles within public and private spaces and ways in which these roles can be challenged and/or reinforced in family structures. Ultimately, the show focuses on Braxton and her sisters’ negotiation of their identities as African-American women in their homes and in the media.
2:45–4:15 PM, Friday

Ryessia Jones, U of Texas, Austin
Johnny Jones, Austin Peay State
Siobhan Smith, U of Louisville

“You Don’t Know Me”: Portrayals of Black Masculinity in *T.I. and Tiny: The Family Hustle*
This study utilizes a critical analysis to examine the portrayal of rapper T.I. as a Black father in reality television series, *T.I. & Tiny: The Family Hustle*. This show features an authentic Black, blended family and T.I.’s struggles with life after incarceration, career/family balance, and child-rearing. The paper explores themes of Black husbandhood and fatherhood reminiscent of Bill Cosby, as rapper T.I. attempts to balance his image as a hardcore rapper and a doting family man. We (a) investigate themes of Black fatherhood and (b) explore Hip-Hop culture as a productive critical research tool for the study of race and class.

Dana Seay, U of Louisville

**Praise for a Price: The New Reality for First Ladies and First Daughters**
The Black Church is an important institution for many African Americans. The pastors are usually the main attraction on any given Sunday. However, we are now seeing their wives and the children vying for their share of the fame in reality TV. This paper examines how stereotypical images of African American females, specifically first wives and daughters, are depicted in *Sisterhood* and *Preachers’ Daughters* and viewer responses to these portrayals.

Krysten Goldberg, U of Texas

**Jon Plus 8 as Mass Ornament for Kate**
This paper critically examines media portrayals of Kate Gosselin from a suburban mom to celebrity, woman-scorned, and super-bitch in relation to her bi-racial husband and children. The presence of Jon and the children function as mass ornament (Siegfried & Levin, 1995) in the scopic regime of Gosselin’s media image. The extent to which the children and Jon function as such is directly related to the style of Gosselin’s media representation. In sum, this paper posits that RTV has constructed Kate Gosselin quite differently when she is without the company of her (ex-)husband and eight children.

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\text{PANEL} \quad 2:45–4:15 \text{ PM} \quad B3
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**Wise “Speech”: Feminism, Buddhism, and Invitational Rhetoric**

Carol Winkelmann, Xavier

**The Language of Compulsive Eaters: Skillful Means in a 12-Step Program**
In this presentation, I examine conventional western 12-step language for compulsive eaters from a Buddhist perspective. I propose “upaya” or skillful means as: 1) a useful framework for non-theistic participants of 12-step programs; 2) a corrective to the very real problems of traditional 12-steps programs identified by feminists; and 3) a small contribution to the merging of eastern and western feminist philosophies of communication.
Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment

Friday, 4:30–6:00 PM

Karla Scott, St. Louis

The Invitation of Intergroup Dialogue: Mindful Communication, Right Speech and Transformation

Elizabeth Nelson, U of Minnesota Duluth

Quilt Culture and Wise “Speech”: A Locus of Invitational Rhetoric

Cheris Kramarae, U of Oregon

Wise Speech: Expanding Invitational Rhetoric
Invitational rhetoric principles are valuable for many speaking situations and also for computer-mediated interactions. However, might a unified feminist philosophical approach to all relationships help guide all our actions so that we get much daily practice, and our rhetorical behavior becomes first-nature, harmonious with all that we think and do?

PANEL • 4:30–6:00 PM • B1

Care, Community, Support, and Balance

Kathy Miller, Arizona State

Representing and Living Work Family Balance
In the mid-1960s, women faced a clash of cultures between the domesticity of the 1950s and early second wave feminism. The “Women's Section” of newspapers played a pivotal and contradictory role in these struggles. This essay considers three women’s editors to illustrate how work and family were managed – and represented – during this time period.

Jessica Freeman, Wichita State

Michele Dreiling, Wichita State

Deborah Ballard-Reisch, Wichita State

“Stop Being Her Doormat”: Social Support in an Online Relationship Discussion Board

Lisa Watrous, Michigan Tech

Lullabies of Loss: Understanding Motherhood Through Personal Narratives of Pregnancy Loss
It is a conversation between three women who have experienced pregnancy loss in various stages and their own creative written work surrounding the loss. The women have each contributed an entry from the pages of their personal journals composed at different times in the grieving process. The paper and presentation will move freely between the writing of the three contributing mothers and dialogue with the compiler in order to convey how each woman has come to understand herself in relation with the children she has lost in terms of her own written work.
4:30–6:00 PM, Friday

Jennifer Hawkins, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Loss and Trying Again: Conversations During Pregnancy**

Jennifer Hawkins, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Loss and Pregnancy After Loss Support Groups**

Two presentations focus on understanding communication surrounding women’s experiences of pregnancy loss. One provides insights gained upon observing communication occurring in support groups facilitated at a hospital. The second utilizes poetic exploration of the overarching theme identified within one woman’s story of early pregnancy loss obtained via in depth interview.

**PANEL • 4:30–6:00 PM • B2**

**Stigma, Harassment, Violence: Feminist Responses**

Elsa Roberts, Michigan Tech

“I Would Ride That”: A Critical Analysis of Women’s Representation in Fixed-Gear Bike Culture

Although images of women as objects and accessories to bikes in cycling is prevalent in the subcultural narrative of the cycling scene, women disrupt this narrative and create tension within it through their participation in the culture by creating and sharing their own visual representations of themselves and engaging in cycling activities.

Katrina “Neely” Farren-Eller, Upper Iowa

**Narrative Identity and Social Responses to Women and Long Distance Cycling**

Mariana Grohowski, Bowling Green State

**Rhetoric of Politeness as Subtle Harassment**

Jennifer Seifert, Ohio

**Escaping Hades: Virtual Memorializing of Rape in an Age of Computer Mediated Communication**

Conversations about public and online memorialization raise important questions about commemorating tragedy on the Internet. Thus, this presentation offers an analysis of Escaping Hades, a website commemorating rape survivors, and argues that rape and memorialization culture operate against the commemoration of rape survivors in both the physical and virtual realm.

Rebecca Frost, Michigan Tech

**Ann Rule: Writing at the Intersection of True Crime and “Feminism”**

Within the male-dominated true crime genre, Ann Rule is often praised for her feminist approach. Since true crime is a formulaic genre that leaves little room for deviation, the question arises of whether Rule’s work is indeed feminist, or described as such simply because it was written by a woman.
ROUNDTABLE • 4:30-6:00PM • B3

Writing and Narrative Pedagogy: Learning about Gender through Reflection and Dialogue

Angie Day, Ball State
Jane Jorgenson, U of South Florida
Katherine Denker, Ball State
Tammy Jeffries, U of South Florida
Jimmie Manning, Northern Illinois
Kimberly Parker, Bellarmine

The purpose of this panel is to explore approaches to classroom writing as a way of teaching and learning about gender and diversity. Panelists will share best practices from their teaching and will also invite the audience to share their own practices.
Saturday at a glance

8:00-4:00 AM  Registration Desk/Conference Lounge, Alumni A
8:00-9:30 AM  PANELS: B1, B2, Alumni B
              ROUNDTABLE: B3
9:45-11:00 AM Vice President’s Panel, B2-3
11:00 AM-12:30 PM  Business luncheon, Ballroom A
12:45-2:15 PM  PANELS: B1, B3, Alumni B
                OSCLG AWARDS PANEL: B2
2:30-4:00 PM  PANELS: B1, B2, B3
2:30-6:30 PM  Brockway Mountain Color Hike
              Meet at Alumni A
2:30-5:30 PM  Art Gallery and museum visit
              Meet at Alumni A
4:00-5:00 PM  Houghton stroll, Waterfront trail between hotel and park
7:00-9:00 PM  Film screening: Stories We Tell, Franklin Square Hospitality Room
7:30-10:00 PM KSO Symphony Concert
8:00-10:30 PM Pub crawl
~9:30-11:00 PM After hours, Franklin Square and Baraga Lakeside Hospitality Rooms,
                Chocolate, wine, cheese
PANEL • 8:00-9:30AM • B1

Exploring the Potency of “Social Media”: Gender Advocacy, Gender Commercialization

Shannon Stevens, U of Minnesota

Yelping: The Journey from Carefree Consumerism to Creative Expropriation

My presentation will discuss challenges we face as critical scholars attempting to “have fun” with new media while at the same time understanding/exposing the exploitative nature of corporations like Yelp that profit on the creative, unpaid labor of so many.

Ruth Beerman, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

When STANDing for Justice, Remember the Message: An Analysis of Marilyn Wann’s I STAND Pro-fat Campaign

Marilyn Wann’s “I Stand Against Weight Bullying” Tumblr offers insights into fat activism and advocacy. Focusing on Wann’s poster, and drawing on argumentation, visual rhetoric, and motherhood theories, I argue the visuals overwhelm her stance as militant mother protecting fat children. Simply using technology is not enough for social change.

Dana Schowalter, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“Liking” Poverty: Social Media, Brand Value, and International Development

Nike’s Girl Effect campaign uses social media to market their CSR work on behalf of girls in the Global South to consumer citizens in the Global North. I offer a critical analysis of this campaign that highlights the dichotomy between the systemic nature of global poverty and the shallow vision of activism offered by this campaign.

Lisa Watrous, Michigan Tech

Fantasies of Femininity: Pinterest, Facebook, Feminism, and the Re-glorification of the Domestic Space

Building upon the work of Sherry Turkle, Sheryl Sandberg, and the bloggers of feministing.com, I propose that contrary to opening a space of connection and liberation for women, social media sites like Facebook© and Pinterest© actually create a community that devalues women by reinscribing harmful definitions of femininity and affirming narcissistic, male-dominated fantasies of self worth.

Jessica Houf, U of Utah

Conceptualizing Our Encounter with the Human Microbiome: Re-thinking “Superorganism” as Companion Species

This presentation explores microbiomist conceptualizations of the human microbiome. Microbiomists use the metaphor “superorganism” to understand the relationship between humans and microbes. In this project, I explore the limits of thinking about this relationship through the metaphor “superorganism,” and investigate the possibility of humans and microbes understood as companion species.
PANEL • 8:00-9:30AM • B2

Negotiating from All Sides of the Professional-Personal Periphery: A Collection of Stories from These Margins

Patricia Geist-Martin (chair)

This panel offers a set of short stories that capture women's experiences of negotiating the professional-personal periphery. The panel is organized to offer women's readings of their short stories and then move into an open-ended discussion of the configurations of these difficult, painful, and at times empowering discoveries.

Lisa Gates, San Diego State

The (Inevitable) Costs of Professional Alignments

Resigning from an academic position is a deeply painful process of letting go. This story explores the myth of “separation” from institutional life and the upside and downside of living wholeheartedly.

Patricia Geist-Martin, San Diego State

On the Other Side: Beginning: A Reclamation Living Through Empty Next

The paths of mothering my daughter until she left for college are deeply embedded in my every step, every thought of where she will be and when she might need me. Yet, I feel for the first time that I am on the other side of something. On this other side, I ache as this piece of my identity slips away. On this other side, I am thoughtfully considering what I can do to move through this life transition gracefully, even with gusto.

Laura Ellingson, Santa Clara

Saying “Vagina” Out Loud at a Jesuit University: The Promises, Perils, and Particulars of a Joint Appointment in Communication and Women’s and Gender Studies

The ups and downs of being jointly appointed, specifically in women’s & gender studies, radically complicates my life at a Jesuit school, in both good and bad ways.

Angela Jacobs, Eastern Illinois

You’re Doing Fine! As a Matter of Fact, You Make This Look Easy

My story details the struggles I faced in balancing my personal and professional life after the suicide loss of my spouse. I was left to raise four children while trying to meet the demands of a tenure-track job. Compounding these issues was the stigma of suicide loss. My story highlights the tensions I faced in the midst of balancing my personal and professional life under the guise of, in the words of a friend, “making this look easy.”

Melanie Mills, Eastern Illinois

Work with Me, the Surgeon Only Does Eyes on Mondays

I will tell the story of my struggle to meet both my classes’ and my husband’s needs over a year of three eye surgeries and declining vision, which created more class time conflicts than I’ve ever had to negotiate. It layers the stress of
maintaining my identity as “good professor” and my identity as “good partner/wife”—both personally and negotiated with others—to illustrate how messy the tensions between the personal and professional can be.

Jeanine Minge, California State U Northridge

Many Blessings: Giving Care and Academic Life
This story explores the difficulties being the primary caregiver to my partner who is living with cancer and maintaining my professional life within the academy. While we often times see the difficulties and obstacles, I must also acknowledge the many blessings associated with academic life and the space it created for us throughout this difficult journey.

ROUNDTABLE • 8:00-9:30AM • B3

Weaving a Network of Alternative Feminist Scholarship: A Conversation Among Cheris Kramarae’s Mentees/Friends

Victoria DeFrancisco, U of Northern Iowa
Lori Blewett, Evergreen State College
Maureen Eben, U of Massachusetts
Lee Jenkins, San Francisco State
Maria Mastronardi, Northwestern
Elizabeth Nelson, U of Minnesota Duluth
Karla Scott, St. Louis
Ann Russo, DePaul

Developing a network of scholars who are doing alternative, interdisciplinary work requires a unique intellectual climate. Participants in this session are all alumni of a Ph.D. program with Cheris Kramarae. They share examples of how their relationships empowered them to push the boundaries of scholarship and creative work.

PANEL • 8:00-9:30AM • Alumni B

Traversing Culture/Negotiating Identity

Rachel Silverman, Embry Riddle Aeronautical

Earthly Delights: Erotic Capital, Urban Homesteading, and Travel Writing at Versailles

Merle Kindred, Costford India

Ecofeminist Invitational Rhetoric as Lived Practice: Evolution of Experiences in India

Merle Kindred lives her dissertation on ecofeminist invitational rhetoric focused on the built environment. She encapsulates nearly ten years of living this alternative rhetorical strategy with an Indian NGO in Kerala, India. Merle shares two projects: an energy efficient house she commissioned and establishment of a unique architectural education centre.
9:45–11:00 AM, Saturday

Leslie Harris, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
**Rhetoric of Gender and Chinese Immigration in the Nineteenth-Century US**  
Accusations of prostitution have long been used to limit women’s mobility. Through a rhetorical analysis of instances of Chinese women’s immigration to the US (1875-1920), I argue that women were represented as containers of culture. The supposed prostitution of Chinese women represented a threat to both whiteness and proper female sexuality.

Nicole Defenbaugh, Lehigh Valley Health Network  
**Searching for Feminist Disneyland: A Narrative Journey of the Birthplace of Women’s Rights**  
This presentation is a journey to Seneca Falls, NY, the U.S. birthplace of Women’s Rights and site of the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention. One-hundred and sixty-five years after its creation, the document signed at Wesleyan Church is a reminder of the sacrifice and determination of a small group of pioneers demanding equality for women. Through personal narrative, photographs, and quotations, I invite you to journey back with me to the place where first-wave feminism began and where the struggle for gender equality and freedom still exists.

Gloria Pindi Nziba, Southern Illinois U Carbondale  
**I Am a Single Lady: A Congolese Woman’s Journey of Identity Negotiation Across Cultures**  
I explore in this paper various social perceptions attached to my feminist identity as well as my single status of a Black African woman navigating between two cultures: US American and Congolese.

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**VICE PRESIDENT’S PANEL • 9:45-11:00 AM • B2-3**

**Some Provocative Ways of Thinking About Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment**

Bren Murphy (chair), Loyola Chicago  
OSCLG Wise Women’s Council  
Feminist perspectives on technology, nature, and environment have provided a long and interesting discourse with scholars working in the areas of philosophy of science, the ethics of cyberspace, language and technology, eco-feminism, and feminist critiques of science. This panel explores fundamental questions regarding the conference theme and invites all present to contribute to the discussion. It will begin with a brief summary of major feminist theorists in this area and move on to a general discussion. Questions considered include: What is technology? What do people assume when they encounter that term? What may be some cracks in those assumptions? Is there a “natural” environment? If so, what are its parameters? Does this assume an “unnatural” environment? What do feminist perspectives contribute to our understanding of technology, nature, and environment? What do feminist perspectives contribute to our understanding of the opportunities, restrictions, and pitfalls of new communication technologies?
The Care in Health Care: Patient-Centered Care, Proof, Relationality, Liminality

Jeanine Minge (chair), California State U Northridge

Making Place with Illness: The Radical Transitory
This story is not my story. It is his story, and subsequently as his primary caretaker, our story. This cancer narrative began only nine months ago, and it is, for both of us, only beginning. This story isn’t a simple story of place making, but making place with illness. Making place with illness is finding peace in the chaos, in the unease of liminality. John and I exist in a radical liminal space that has no beginning, no clear ending. We stand on the threshold, at the mercy of healing toxins and doctors, of community support groups, family and friends, to move us from this place into another safely, soundly, and without permanent injury. We exist in a radical transitory space that moves us from one “place” to another.

Nicole Defenbaugh, Lehigh Valley Health Network

To Do No Harm: Teaching the Many Faces of Care to Medical Residents
This presentation offers insight into the curriculum of a residency program that teaches patient-centered and relationship-centered care, empathy, support, and nurturing of its residents as they learn to care for themselves and the well-being of others.

Nicole Embree, California State U Northridge

Proof: An Autoarchaeological Experience of the In/visibility of Bipolar Disorder
I catalogue artifacts dug up from the beginning stages of my own clinical diagnosis of bipolar disorder through the end of my graduate career to further explore the multiple modes of communication experienced within the mental health system.

Jennifer Marshall, California State U Northridge

A Daughter and her Father: A Caregiving for Cancer Narrative
This paper intends to uncover front and back stage tensions as an emerging adult daughter experiences in her relationship with her father serving as his caregiver, preparing for doctor predicted death, and analyzing the author’s narrative according to Erving Goffman’s theory of dramaturgy.

Michael Martin, Bloomsburg

Examining Care and Gender in a Memory Unit
This paper examines the cross-gender dilemmas experienced by an elderly patient suffering from dementia and her caregiver as they negotiate a residential care facility. The paper also considers how state requirements governing residential care of the elderly are affected by issues of language, terminology, and training.
12:45–2:15 PM, Saturday

**AWARDS PANEL • 12:45-2:15 PM • B2**

*OSCLG Awards Panel*

Award recipients (TBA)

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**PANEL • 12:45-2:15 PM • B3**

**Gendered and Feminist Performances in the Social “Theater of Food”**

Amber Kinser (chair), Eastern Tennessee State

**Motherhood and Family Meals in Appalachia**

Despite enormous emphasis in the public domain on the physiological, psychological, and social benefits of shared family meals, neither barriers to them nor their practice as gendered have been part of the dialogue. Drawing from focus group data, this paper examines mothers’ experiences of and struggles with meal provision and its impact on their lives and identities.

Brianne Waychoff, SUNY Borough of Manhattan CC

**Femivores and Feminism: The Politics of Food Consumption and Production**

In 1990, Carol J. Adams published *The Sexual Politics of Meat: A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory*, an international sensation that draws connections between patriarchal values and meat eating by weaving together feminist, literary, and animal-defense theory. In this paper, I take cues from Adams’ work to interrogate the notion of femivorism as a progressive (or not) politics.

Rachel Silverman, Embry Riddle Aeronautical

**Food for Thought: Changing Our Consumption and Our Communities One Student at a Time**

In this paper, I address the following ideas about food and feminism: food as communication and communication as inherently gendered, service learning as feminist pedagogy, and the space of a/my classroom as a place for changing our food culture.

Judy Battaglia, Loyola Marymount

**Virginia Woolf and Food**

Since her time spent in the shared nursery of her youth, Virginia Woolf has had an ambivalent relationship to food; this paper explores that relationship. Food was a form of control and her withholding it from herself speaks to a very real problem that women and girls of the postmodern era still struggle against.
PANEL • 12:45-2:15PM • Alumni B

Using the Research Journal to Grant Agency and Encourage Reflexive Praxis: Four Women Find Intersections Between Lived Life and Academic Engagement

Joey Pogue (chair), Pittsburgh State

With this panel I will provide a detailed explanation of how I use the research journal as a pedagogical approach for undergraduates and recruit future gender scholars.

Rachel Rider, Pittsburgh State

Awakened in the Shadows on the Sidelines of Friday Night Lights

Focusing on her journey to return to school, her journal explores the dynamics responsible for her transition from poor student to good student and her decision to become a teacher. She also elaborates on the relational challenges she and her husband have had to face as they found it necessary to “grow up” together.

Melissa Doura, Pittsburgh State

Personal Currency Derived from Natural Resources: Is Beauty a Blessing or a Curse?

A non-traditional student with an equally non-conventional profile, Melissa just returned to school after a long break. Of the many areas Melissa’s journal explores, three stand out with particular significance – the importance of adopting a world mindedness, the challenges behind mixing liking and loving within the context of intimate relationships and the acquisition of contrasting power currencies.

Mary English, Pittsburgh State

Embracing My Future and Forgiving My Past

As the single mother of a four-year-old Autistic son, Mary returned to college after 17 years because she needed to understand more about her son’s diagnosis and she needed to get a “real job.” However, journaling for Interpersonal Communication class has become a powerful kismet.

Miranda McCuistion, Pittsburgh State

Moving Away from Friends while Dealing With Dyslexia: A Future Teacher Learns Empathy

Diagnosed with dyslexia when she was in middle school, Miranda’s reading was slow but analytical. To survive reading assignments she used mnemonics. Her incapacity to gloss over information quickly and haphazardly has come to represent a strength for her and yet another means of having empathy for the quest of others. Miranda’s journal reveals the profile of a woman whose sense of agency and reflexive work revolve around the interpersonal care of others.
Critical Pedagogy and Gender/Racial Justice: Consciousness-Raising in the COMM Classroom

Shannon Stevens, U of Minnesota

Toulmin and Twitter: A Tale of Two Techniques
This paper details my experience combining traditional argumentation theory with new media during “Civil Rights” and “Feminism” theme weeks with surprising success.

Debbie Way, California State University, Long Beach

Empowering Diverse Voices in the Public Speaking Classroom
I will discuss one particular speech activity I have created as a means to transgress the constraints of institutionalized pedagogical practice in order to privilege and empower the voices of students lived experiences.

Dana Schowalter, U of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“Are You Saying We Shouldn’t Educate Girls?” Critical and Transnational Critiques of Philanthropy in the Classroom
This presentation will focus on how studying corporate philanthropy in the classroom provides an interdisciplinary frame that aids students in questioning several intersecting areas of their privilege, including the assumptions they make about helping “distant others.”

Leadership and Religion: Rhetoric and Emerging Women Leaders

Carol Winkelmann, Xavier

Emergent Buddhist Women’s Leadership: Competing Discourses at the Intersection of the Sacred and the Profane
Traditionally, Buddhist women have been barred from leadership roles in their communities. As they now attempt to situate themselves as leaders, they use distinct discourses to construct their identity. This paper suggests an alternative at the intersection of post-structuralist feminism, secular leadership paradigms, and Buddhist principles.

Robyn Remke, Copenhagen Business School

Feminization of Spiritual and Religious Leadership

Leland Spencer, Miami

Leadership Lessons from Women Bishops
Framing Technology/Media Relationships

Amanda Girard, Michigan Tech

Mythology as a Means of Being with Technology

Andrew Frisbie, Missouri State
Levi Costello, Missouri State

Mobile Phone Text Message Response Expectations

Cerisse Glenn, U of North Carolina at Greensboro

Utilizing Feminist Perspectives of Socialization: Constructing Online Work Groups in Academia

This project examines the creation of on-line research discussion groups to increase understanding of the research process and promote active research agendas. It begins with a pilot study regarding how mentoring can occur in small group settings in “live” and asynchronous chat formats. Strengths and challenges to these approaches will be discussed.

Isidore Dorpenyo, Michigan Tech

Resilient Women, Metistic Scientists: A Multiple Case Study of How Women Negotiate their Situatedness in Science Fields

My project was influenced by the feminist theory of feminist rhetorical resilience. This theory holds that the marginalized and the minority in societies employ strategies in order to succeed. I sought to find out how women, considered to be a minority in science, employed feminist rhetorical strategies in their quest to succeed.
Sunday at a glance

8:30-9:30 AM  **Color Walk**  
Franklin Square

9:30-10:30 AM  **Finnish breakfast**  
Franklin Square Hospitality Room
Welcome to the Copper Country

The Keweenaw Peninsula is located at the uppermost tip of Upper Michigan and surrounded by Lake Superior. This area is known for the abundance of natural copper and a 7000-year history of copper work and mining. It is just as well-known for beautiful fall colors, winter snow, natural waterfalls, and wooded trails.

Michigan Tech

Michigan Technological University (MTU) was established in 1885 as a mining college. Today, over 7000 students pursue degrees in liberal arts, sciences, engineering, and business. The campus is compact and includes instructional facilities, research centers, housing, and recreational areas. Of particular interest for visitors to campus are the Seaman Mineral Museum, the Rozsa Performing Arts Center, and the Tech Trails south of campus.

Department of Humanities

The Department of Humanities, host of this year’s OSCLG conference, offers nine undergraduate degree programs and the Rhetoric and Technical Communication graduate program. The department houses the state-of-the-art Humanities Digital Media Zone (HDMZ) and the award-winning Multiliteracies Center.

Local Community

The surrounding community has a rich history and a unique local culture marked by Native American tribal life, mining and logging industries, immigration (especially from Finland and northern Europe), and the beauty and challenge of a northern climate. The City of Houghton features a charming downtown area with a variety of shops, restaurants, and the Carnegie Historical Museum. Look for the statue of the miner at one end and the famous lift bridge across the Portage Canal at the other end. Across the bridge is the City of Hancock, home to Finlandia University. The City of Calumet includes a number of art galleries, the historic Calumet Theatre, and several popular restaurants.
Conference Activities

Saturday Afternoon

**Brockway Mountain Color Hike, 2:30–6:30PM**
Meet at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge in Alumni Lounge A of the MUB for a mountain hike that offers a spectacular view of Lake Superior and the Fall colors of the Keweenaw forest. The peak of Brockway Mountain is 1,320 feet (402 m) above sea level and 720 feet (220 m) above the surface of Lake Superior. There are several trails available within the Brockway Mountain Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Visit to local art galleries and Keweenaw National Historical Park history museum, 2:30-6:00PM**
Meet at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge in Alumni Lounge A of the MUB for a visit to Calumet’s amazing local art galleries and the Keweenaw National Historical Park museum.

**Portage Canal stroll, 4:00-5:00PM**
Meet at the Registration Desk/Conference Lounge in Alumni Lounge A of the MUB for an after-conference stroll along the Portage Canal. The Portage Canal skirts the east edge of the MTU campus and is part of the Keweenaw Waterway which connects various small rivers and lakes in the area with Lake Superior. A walking and biking trail follows the waterway and offers a great view of the local area and eventually, the famous Houghton-Hancock Lift Bridge, the world’s heaviest and widest double-decked vertical-lift bridge.

**Film screening, 7:00-9:00PM Franklin Square Magnusen Hospitality Room 626**
Join feminist film scholar Diane Shoos for a brief introduction, screening, and discussion of the film *Stories We Tell* (2013). In this multilayered memoir, Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Sarah Polley (*Away from Her*, 2006) mixes actual and faux home movies with interviews with family members who each relate their version of the family mythology, uncovering its deepest secrets. *Stories We Tell* was named best Canadian film at the 2012 Toronto Film Critics Association Awards and best feature-length documentary at the 2013 Canadian Screen Awards.

**Keweenaw Symphony Concert, 7:30-10:00PM**
Join conference organizer Patty Sotirin in the Rozsa Performing Arts Center Lobby at 7:15 for an evening of classical music as the KSO presents “The Color of Sound.” The program celebrates the music of Berlioz, Mahler, and Dvorak, pioneers of Romantic orchestration who luxuriated in colorful palettes of sound.

**Houghton pub crawl, 8:00-10:30PM**
Meet in the lobby of the Franklin Square Magnusen hotel for a night on the town including downtown Houghton’s Continental Fire Company, the city’s best and only night club; the Keweenaw Brewing Company, a premier microbrewery; and ending at the Franklin Square’s own Franklin Square Tap.
Sunday Morning

**Color Walk, 8:30–9:30 AM**
Meet in the Franklin Square lobby for a scenic color stroll along the waterfront.

**Finnish Breakfast, 9:30–10:30 AM**
Join the conference organizers for a breakfast featuring Finnish specialties at the Franklin Square Hospitality room. A shuttle will pick up hungry conference participants from both hotels (8:15 AM from Baraga Lakeside and 8:45 AM from Franklin Square).

**Local Attractions**
There are many local attractions that can be explored on your own. Following is a brief selection.

**Michigan Tech Trails Color Walk**
MTU maintains an expansive system of walking and cross-country ski trails (~500 acres). The Lower Trail system skirts the west edge of the campus and offers a pleasant walk on wide, well-groomed trails that provide both exercise and a ground-eye view of Fall colors.

**Seaman Mineral Museum**: An international collection of minerals, the museum features informative displays and a museum shop. Open Monday-Saturday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM. Admission is $3.00.

**Portage Lake Cruise**: The Isle Royale Queen cruises the Portage Lake shoreline for sunset cruises each evening. Boarding time is 5:30 PM, departure at 6:00 PM.

**Mount Riply Chair Lift Color Tour**: Sponsored by the Mount Ripley Ski Patrol and Ski Team, the chair lift offers a birds-eye view of Fall colors. Running 3:00-6:00 PM. Tickets are $5.

**Quincy Mine Tour**: A trip through an historic copper mining shaft, home of the world's largest steam hoist. Tours at 2:45 PM, 3:15 PM, and 3:45 PM. Tickets are $16.60.

**Old M-26 Lakeshore Drive from Calumet to Copper Harbor**: This 35-mile drive follows the Lake Superior shoreline along picturesque bays like Great Sand Bay and Sand Dunes and beaches like Agate Beach. The road is framed by the Keweenaw forest and dotted by small towns. Attentive visitors will find rock shops, waterfalls, and local antiques. This is the best way to see the U.P.'s famous scenery.

**Fort Wilkins State Park**: Located north of Copper Harbor on Highway US-41, the park includes a restored 1844 army military outpost and one of the first lighthouses on Lake Superior built in 1866. A park fee is required.

**McLain State Park**: Located north of Hancock on Highway M-26, the park offers two miles of sand beach on Lake Superior with plenty of trails and a view of the lighthouse. A park fee is required.

**Jampot**: Run by the monks of the Society of St. John's, this tiny shop features jams, jellies, baked goods, and confections made by the monks themselves. It is located just past Jacob's Creek Falls on scenic Highway M-26 – 3 miles East of Eagle River and 5 miles
West of Eagle Harbor. Open Monday through Saturday, 10AM TO 5PM. Be sure to see the beautiful monastery on the other side of the road from the shop.

**Waterfalls:** There are many waterfalls in the U.P. but among the easiest to find are those near Eagle River off Highway M-26 including Eagle River Falls, Upper Eagle River Falls, Silver River Falls, and Jacobs Falls. Hungarian Falls near Lake Linden is a local favorite. South of Houghton is Canyon Falls featuring a footpath from the roadside park on Highway US-41.

There are many other local attractions and outdoor activities. See the following websites for more information.

- Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau: www.keweenaw.info
- City of Houghton: www.cityofhoughton.com
- Keweenaw Heritage Sites: www.keweenawheritagesites.org
(En)Gendering Technologies

October 16-19, 2014
Westin San Francisco Airport Hotel, Millbrae, CA

Santa Clara University will be hosting the OSCLG 2014 in the vibrant technology center of Silicon Valley, situated in the beautiful San Francisco Bay Area. We welcome submission of papers, panels, performances, and workshops around the theme of "(En)gendering Technologies" or exploring gender and intersectionality more broadly. For those planning ahead, the hotel is adjacent to (and with free shuttle to and from) the San Francisco International Airport (SFO), and public transportation, shared vans, and taxis are available to the hotel from the other two airports in the region – San Jose International (SJC) and Oakland (OAK).

Conference Planner: Laura Ellingson, Santa Clara University (lellingson@scu.edu)
Feminist Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and the Natural Environment

36th Annual Conference

Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender

Michigan Technological University is an equal opportunity educational institution/equal opportunity employer.