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Newsletter

The Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies



The Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies was established in 1987. The Institute fosters research and study, sponsors workshops and speakers, and promotes discussion and debate on women's issues among faculty and students across the campus.

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Save the Date!

Feminist Futures

Jan 17, 2017

Dr. Ummni Khan

Feminist Incubator Series

Ongoing
Workshop series for potential research ideas.

Feminist Sex Wars

Feb 27, 2017
Full day symposium on sexual representation in society.

From the Director's Desk...

The Fall 2016 term has finally wound down and we are in the throes of winter. Fall was a busy term and winter is shaping up that way too. The Institute is buzzing with activity and changes. The Feminist Futures Lecture series continues. This year we are showcasing the work of some faculty from our sister units. In the fall, we had three wonderful lectures. Marie-Eve Carrier-Moisan (Sociology & Anthropology) spoke on sex tourism, Megan Rivers-Moore presented on her newly published book *Gringo Gulch*, and Benjamin Woo (Journalism & Communications) talked to us about geek culture and toxic masculinity. The winter term began with Ummni Khan's (Law & Legal Studies; Joint Chair in Women's Studies) talk on 'Rapey' music. In February, Laura Horak (Film Studies) will speak on *Trans and Gender Variant Filmmakers*. The series culminates with the Florence Bird Lecture. This year, we have a panel of three inspiring indigenous writers, Kateri Akiwenzi-Damm, Geraldine King, and Lee Maracle who will reflect on their own experiences and field questions from students.

We have had some changes in the faculty this year. Dr. Karen March will be retiring this June. She has kindly agreed to become an Adjunct Professor with the Institute so we won't lose her altogether. Karen has been a wonderful member of the unit and has done an excellent job with our graduate program and with our practicum. This is a well-deserved retirement. Karen has served Carleton in many important capacities in her tenure here. She has been Associate Dean of Students, in the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, and in the Faculty of Graduate and Post-doctoral Affairs. She has chaired many, many doctoral defences and has worked in multiple capacities to build programs and the University. It is hard to find the words to express our respect and admiration for what she has done. So, thank you Karen, you are irreplaceable.

Dr. Graham will be going on a well-deserved sabbatical. Debra has been an outstanding Undergraduate Supervisor for the unit. She took on this role early in her career and has done a wonderful job. During her year of study and research, she will be continuing her research into the lives and oeuvres of two artists, Elizabeth Vigée Le Brun and Marie-Ann Collot. In addition, she will be working on developing exciting new courses on Gender and Self (Re)Presentation and Gender and the Nonhuman. We will miss her and are looking forward to her return (refreshed) from this research leave.

We are also seeing changes in the Institute Executive. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Megan Rivers-Moore will be our new Undergraduate Supervisor and Dr. Amrita Hari will be our new Graduate Supervisor. Most of you know both of these colleagues. They are among the brightest and the best of new scholars. Both are pivotal in teaching in our graduate and undergraduate programs while pursuing very active research agendas. We thank them for taking on these key roles. As we move forward into the future these young scholars will lead the way.

We are busy putting the finishing touches to the timetable for 2017-18 and look forward to a great winter term. We are here to help and support you. If you have any questions or concerns contact Claire in the office. She will assist you or get you in touch with one of us to help. Have a great term.

- Katharine

FACULTY

Administration

Director

Katharine Kelly

Joint Chair

Ummni Khan

Assistant to Joint Chair

Ann Morneau

Graduate Supervisor

Karen March

Undergraduate Supervisor

Debra Graham

Institute Administrator

Claire Ryan



Full Time Faculty

Grace Adeniyi Ogunyankin

Amrita Hari

Megan Rivers-Moore

Roseann O'Reilly Runte

Adjunct Professors

Aalya Ahmad

Rena Bivens

Lori Burns

Denise Chong

Betty-Anne Daviss

Vanaja Dhruvarajan

Rose Shayo

Contract Instructors

Peter Balogh

Louise Edmonds

Hal Goldman

Karen Herland

Tuulia Law

Emily Lind

Esther Post

Cindy Stelmackowich

Lori Stinson

WGST Events

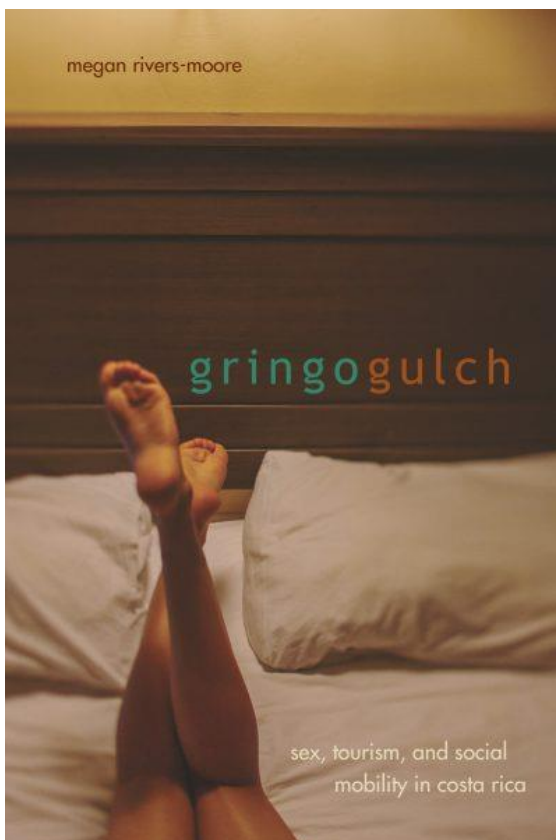


Talk by Midori Nishiura

September 28, 2017

“Women in the Workplace over Three Decades - What Must be Done for Changes in Japan?”

Nishiura spoke about the many changes that need to be made in Japan in the future, in order to further improve gender equality, particularly in the work place.



“Gringo Gulch” Book Launch

October 21, 2017

Despite the pouring rain, over a hundred people came out to Dr. Rivers-Moore’s new book launch “Gringo Gulch: Sex, Tourism, and Social Mobility in Costa Rica.”

The event was held at SAW Gallery and guests were treated with drinks and burlesque provided by Capital Tease.

For her launch, Rivers-Moore said she wanted it to be more of a party compared to typical book launches. Working with the organization POWER, the launch ended up being just that! “Everyone danced until we asked them to leave,” Rivers-Moore said.

The event was also a fundraiser for La Sala that helps support sex workers in Costa Rica. By the end of the night, \$2000 was raised for the charity.

The Joint Chair: Ummni Khan

For the next two years, a new face will fill the position of Joint Chair. Dr. Ummni Khan will be at the helm as Joint Chair, representing both Carleton University and the University of Ottawa.

Prior to this position, Khan predominantly worked in Legal Studies. She is an associate professor with the Department of Legal Studies at Carleton and has a S.J.D from the University of Toronto. While working in Legal Studies, Khan says that she would often use feminist methods and feminist frameworks for her research. Her research focuses primarily of how the law and sexuality intersect, in particular with BDSM. In 2014, Khan published *Vicarious Kinks: Sadomasochism is Socio-Legal Imaginary* with the help of her findings from her Ph.D. dissertation.



During her time as Joint Chair, Khan hopes to start a series of feminist debates around sexuality. She wants to bring together feminists that would not normally be found in the same room and those feminists having opposing ideas. Eventually, she would like to turn these debates onto a website.

For 2016-2017, Khan has two events planned. On November 1, the Joint Chair will host an evening with Trey Anthony, the playwright, producer and actor for *Da Kink in my Hair*, followed by viewing a performance of the play.

In the winter semester, Khan is planning a roundtable discussion on sexuality within feminism with a focus on pornography and censorship.

Khan is currently working on constructing an oral history of sexuality debates in a Canadian context, with topics such as censorship and pornography.

Outside the office Khan enjoys cooking, in particular Indian food just like her mother makes. She also likes hiking in Gatineau Park and has a hobby of taking trash and turning it into something useful. Last year this meant turning a two-hole binder into a gravestone for a Halloween decoration.

The Feminist Incubator Series 2016/17

The JCWS initiated a new series of workshops entitled “The Feminist Incubator Series” for faculty, contract instructors and graduate students at both Carleton and the University of Ottawa.

Professors and graduate students are encouraged to submit a paragraph about an idea, theoretical framework, concept or approach they are developing. The purpose of these workshops is not only to create a space for scholars to meet and brainstorm ideas informally, but to continue to build academic relationships between professors and students from Carleton and the University of Ottawa.

There were three incubator sessions in the fall term, and we are planning three in the winter, alternating between Ottawa U and Carleton. Ottawa U faculty and CIs will be hosted at Carleton, Carleton faculty and CIs will be hosted at Ottawa U.

The three Feminist Incubator submissions this fall were:

September – Amrita Hari – Carleton University, professor in the department of Women’s and Gender Studies (Presented at the University of Ottawa)

Title: "Skiing to temporary work in Banff, Alberta: Examining Canada's selective holiday work visa."

November - Jamie Liew – University of Ottawa, professor in the department of Common Law (Presented at Carleton University)

Title: “Rendering the Invisible Visible: Migrant and Immigrant Sex Workers and the Law”

December – Laura Horak – Carleton University, professor in the Department of Film Studies (Presented at the University of Ottawa)

Title: “Investigating the History of Trans and Gender Variant Filmmakers”

An Evening with Trey Anthony...



Joint Chair Ummni Khan with Trey Anthony

The Joint Chair in Women's Studies at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa hosted an evening with Trey Anthony, the award-winning playwright, actor, executive producer, and director of the theatrical production "Da Kink in My Hair".

Anthony was the first black Canadian woman to write and produce a television show of the same name for the Global Television Network and has been a writer and producer for the W Network, Comedy Network and CTV. Anthony volunteers with Black Queer Youth Group in Toronto, mentoring female adolescent girls and in 2009, she founded a woman-focused wellness facility The Trey Anthony@One Centre in Toronto.

Following the talk, faculty and students were welcome to stay for the performance.



1991 Kiss & Tell Susan Stewart (Photographer) in collaboration with Persimmon Blackbridge and Lizard Jones

Feminist Sex Wars: Sexual Representation as Threat and Empowerment

Carleton University, February 27, 2017

(Sponsored by the Joint Chair in Women's and Gender Studies, the Faculty of Public Affairs, Sexuality Studies)

This full-day symposium engages with historical and current controversies relating to sexual representation. Experts in the feminist pornography debates of the 80's and 90's will provide historical, cultural and legal context, and consider how those debates inform contemporary struggles over issues like 'sexting', 'revenge porn' and 'rape culture.'

Blending critical analysis with creative expression, the symposium also features artist-scholars who will offer performances and insight on the role of erotica as empowerment, pleasure and resistance. The day will conclude with a video viewing and conversation with members of the Kiss & Tell collective, whose sexually explicit photographic exhibition, Drawing the Line, made a key intervention into the Canadian sex wars.

Panelists include Brenda Cossman (University of Toronto), Karen Busby (University of Manitoba), Trish Salah (Queen's), Lara Karaian (Carleton University), Patricia Gentile (Carleton University), Lizard Jones (Kiss & Tell), Tracy Bear (University of Alberta) and Ummni Khan (Carleton University).

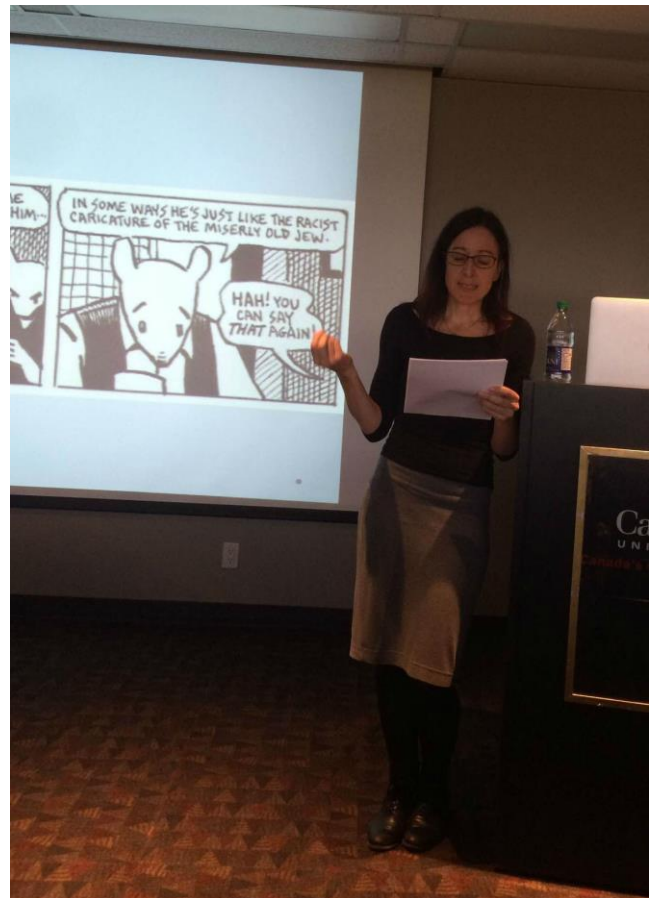
Feminist Futures

Dr. Marie-Eve Carrier-Moisan

“When Sex Tourism Goes ‘Graphic’”

September 27, 2016

In this talk, I reflect on the process of adapting my ethnographic research on sex tourism in Brazil into graphic novel form. Informed by feminist and ethnographic engagements with visual research and methodologies, I discuss the potential and limitations of this medium for knowledge production, and the kind of ethical-political conundrums it generates. I also explore some of the affinities between ethnography and the graphic novel medium, and reflect on the capacity of graphic novels to generate multiple meanings, address complex and difficult subject matter, offer unique insights into the shifting and situated experiences of the protagonists, and render the experiences of the protagonists relatable and comprehensible. Graphic novels are in many ways unique in how they combine text/image to create meaningful stories – but the genre nonetheless poses challenges for processes of knowledge production and representation. Images may evoke, provoke and open our imagination; but, similar to words and text, they can reduce and dilute meanings as well. Finally, I also engage with the ‘affective capacity’ of graphic novels, namely, their capacity to generate, mediate and organize particular affects – an aspect that becomes particularly salient in the context of my work, given that sex tourism is already mediated by visual affective politics.





Dr. Megan Rivers-Moore

“Gringo Gulch: Sex, tourism, and social mobility in Costa Rica”

October 18, 2016

Gringo Gulch considers the meanings that are made from participation in the sex industry, exploring how the purchase and sale of sex in San José, Costa Rica allows certain kinds of social and economic mobility for those involved. Focusing on the experiences of sex tourists, sex workers, and state employees, the book considers how the geopolitics of transnational tourism are played out in the embodied labour of sex workers and how the specific configurations of the sex industry in San José are tied to a variety of local, national, and global processes that reflect and produce particular intersections of gender, race, sexuality, and class.



Dr. Benjamin Woo

“Angry Young Nerds: Geek Culture and Toxic Masculinity”

November 29, 2016

If geek culture has often been imagined as a place indifferent or unfriendly to women, then it has looked downright hostile in recent years. From online harassment campaigns targeting prominent women in geek cultural industries to mass shootings explicitly framed in misogynistic “men’s rights” discourses, a certain segment of nerds and geeks have embraced a particularly toxic form of masculinity. However, it was not so long ago that nerds and geeks promised something different, an alternative to hegemonic masculinity. Even today, more progressive conceptions of geek identity organized around enthusiasm, sharing, and radical openness compete with reactionary ones, though it is by no means clear who is winning. How did we get from “sensitive new age geeks” to “angry young nerds”?

In this talk, I explore some cultural logics that feed into both sides of this struggle for the soul of geek culture. Drawing on a sub cultural ethnography of one Canadian city’s geek culture scene, including several extensive, life course interviews with participants, I conceptualize geek culture as a set of cultural practices. These are “focal practices,” defined by a particular set of internal goods, communities, institutions, and a distinctive ethos, or conception of the good, and they occupy a very important place in many participants’ everyday lives. On the one hand, these practices generate cultural spaces that function, in Erik Olin Wright’s terms, as “real utopias,” such as in accounts of fandom as a progressive participatory culture. On the other hand, many of the same values and logics can be twisted by resentment into reactionary and even violent forms.

Upcoming lectures for 2017

Jan 17- Dr. Ummni Khan

Feb 14- Dr. Laura Horak

Mar 7- Florence Bird Lecture

New Faces: Tuulia Law

Tuulia Law joined PJIWGS for the fall semester teaching a new class on sexual violence on campus. Law just completed her Ph.D. this past spring in criminology with a focus on third parties in the sex industry.

For the fall semester, Law taught a fourth year course on sexual violence on campus. The course she says was born out of the various sexual assault cases at universities over the years, but specifically at the University of Ottawa where Law completed her Ph.D.



In the aftermath of the cases, the criminology department at the University of Ottawa held several meetings to address the issue. Out of this came a workshop partnered with the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW). Law says that Carleton approached her if she wanted to teach a course on sexual assault on campus. With the course, Law hopes to be able to critique rape culture and change how students view sexual assault. In particular, Law wants to challenge the notion that women have no sexual agency often present in discussions about rape culture. In the winter semester, Law will be working with her thesis supervisor at University of Ottawa on a textbook on gendered violence.

For her current research, Law is focusing on men who work in the sex industry. In the future, she hopes to turn this research into courses on masculinities in particular criminalized men. She says that one of her focuses would be on how sex offenders are viewed in comparison to men who have committed crimes that are far more serious.

With the little time she has outside of her research Law enjoys contemporary art, the more abstract the better. She is also a fan of creating delicious vegan baked goods and says that she likes to “convince people through good food” when it comes to veganism.

Scholarship Winners 2016



Harriet Emma Empey Memorial Scholarship
Awarded to a student proceeding from one year to another in the Honours BA in Women's and Gender Studies.

Alanna Yaraskavitch

Ruth Bell Centennial Scholarship
Awarded bi-annually to an outstanding undergraduate student of the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Women's and Gender Studies.

Katherine Velluso



Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship
Awarded to a student proceeding from third to fourth year in Honours BA in Women's and Gender Studies.

Wilder Tweedale



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

FALL 2016

B.A. Honours

Owusu-Peprah, Elizabeth
Michael, Gemma Beatrice
Smart, Desirae

Minor

Camacho, Adriana
James, Nyota Andrea Danielle

Masters

Ahmed, Saher

