**Science & Gender Matters:**

No Limits Student Conference 2013

**University of Nebraska – Lincoln**

City Campus Union, East Campus Union, and the Sheldon Museum of Art

March 1-2, 2013

**Featuring:**

**Keynote by Professor Janet Kourany: “But What Happens When the Scientists Are Women?”**

When it comes to the issue of women as scientists, the persistent concern has been that the science will be less sound if women are allowed to conduct it because women are not as analytically gifted as men. Kourany challenges us to move beyond this assumption in a variety of ways.

Professor Kourany is a feminist philosopher of science at the University of Notre Dame. An influential and prolific scholar, she has spoken and written widely about the philosophy of science, science and values, feminist philosophy, and agnotology.

**Roundtable: “Applying Gender to Psychology Research: Helping Students Create New Knowledge”**

In this roundtable discussion, a panel of students will describe their experiences working with Professor Sarah Gervais’ research team, which applies gender analysis to psychology research. They will begin by sharing details about their individual projects, which include such topics as objectification, obesity stigma, and self-sexualization. The roundtable will then proceed to an informal Q & A, in which audience members can participate.

**And 52 student presentations** from a variety of disciplines related to women’s issues, lives, histories, or cultures; feminism; and women’s and gender studies.

**Friday, March 1 Events:**

Registration, Welcome Lunch, and Student Panels: East Campus Union

Keynote Address: The Sheldon Museum of Art on City Campus

**Saturday, March 2 Events:**

Registration, Student Panels, and Roundtable: City Campus Union

This conference is co-sponsored by UNL’s Students Advocating Gender Equity (SAGE); the UNL, UNO, and UNK Women’s (and Gender) Studies Programs; with additional contributions from the Sheldon Museum of Art, School of Biological Sciences, College of Journalism, Humanities in Medicine Program, Honors Program, University Program Council, Academic Senate Convocations Committee, and Research Council as well as UNL’s departments of Anthropology, Communication Studies, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Educational Psychology, English, Ethnic Studies, History, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and others.

**Conference Program Schedule**

**Friday, March 1, 2013**

East Campus Union (registration, lunch, and student panels)

Sheldon Museum of Art on City Campus (keynote/reception)

**Friday, 10:00am-11:00 – Registration (East Campus Union: 3 Floor Loft)**

**Friday, 11:00am-12:15 – Opening Welcome / Lunch (East Campus Union: Cottonwood Room)**

**Friday, 12:15pm-1:30**

Session 1: Sexuality, Rhetoric, and Media **(East Campus Union: Columbine)**

Moderator: Kris Gandara (UNL)

Kristine Pothast (UNL) – “Sexuality Through a Pornographer’s Lens”

Katherine Robbins (UNL) – “Explicitly Speaking: The Rhetoric of Pleasure”

Aja Pelster Kneip (UNMC) – “Survivorship, Sexuality, and Script Theory”

Session 2: God, the Human, and the Metaphysics of Gender **(East Campus Union: Goldenrod)**

Moderator: Linda Van Ingen (UNK)

Clare LaFrance (UNL) – “Thinking Through Unhappy Incidents of Gender”

Louisa Ehrlich (Nebraska Wesleyan) – “Sex and Gender As It Relates to ‘Human’”

Shayla Covington (Creighton) – “Woman’s Spiritual Journey: Finding Holiness in the Eyes of a Masculine God”

Session 3: Madness, Power, and Feminism in Literature **(East Campus Union: Sunflower)**

Moderator: Kathleen Lacey (UNL)

Joseph Burgess (Creighton) – “Power and Authority in Louise Erdrich’s *Tracks*: ‘We Thought She Would Keep the Good Ways’”

Amaya Bañuelos Marco (UNO) – “Madness in African and African-American Feminist Novel: A Journey of Reconciliation”

Rachel Bonini (Creighton) – “‘You Is Important’: *The Help*’s Supportive Role in the Construction of a Post-Racial and Post-Feminist Contemporary American Discourse”

**Friday, 1:45pm-3:00**

Session 4: Historical Perspectives on Women’s Work **(East Campus Union: Columbine)**

Moderator: Jessica Henry (Hastings College)

Alyson Alvarez (UNL) – “Where Were the Women? Examining the Visibility of Women the English Book Trade in the 17th Century”

Sarah Ashley (Nebraska Wesleyan) – “‘Enlist and Unite’ Utilizing Women in the Crusade Against Alcohol: A Study of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union in Nebraska”

Tara Nettifee (UNK) – “Through the Eyes of a Woman: Her Work Through the Decades”

Stephanie Lyons (UNK) – “Jane Addams: Finding One’s True Calling Through Helping Others”

Session 5: Addressing Social Issues Through Art **(East Campus Union: Goldenrod)**

Moderator: Amber Harris Leichner (UNL)

Nicholas Teets (UNL) – “LGBTQ Homelessness: America’s Hidden Epidemic” (film)

Moriah Thomas (the New School) – “The Shadow Behind the Rainbow” (film)

Madeline Wiseman (UNL) – “Women Write Resistance: Poets Resist Violence”

Session 6: Gender and Pop Culture **(East Campus Union: Sunflower)**

Moderator: Kayla Pritchard (UNL)

Ayla Cook (UNO) – “Negative Displays of African American Womanhood in Hip-Hop and the Effects on Young Black Girls”

James Vnuk (UNO) – “Shut the &%$! Up, Donny: Silencing Talk, Gender, and Sexuality in ‘The Big Lebowski’”

Kelsey Deabler (UNL) – “Differences in the Portrayal of Male and Female Roles in Crime and Justice Dramas”

**Friday, 4:30pm-6:00 – Keynote Address by Janet Kourany, “But What Happens When the Scientists Are Women”**
**(the Sheldon Museum of Art on the City Campus)**

**Friday, 6:00pm-7:00 – Reception (the Sheldon Museum of Art on the City Campus). Light refreshments will be served.**

**Saturday, March 2, 2013**

City Campus Union (all events)

**Saturday, 8:15am-9:00 – Registration (City Campus Union: Fischer Lounge)**

**Saturday, 9:00am-10:15**

Session 7: Women in Professional Contexts **(City Campus Union: Regency A)**

Moderator: Karen Falconer Al-Hindi (UNO)

Laura Brunner (University of Maryland) – “Forming Professional Identities: Women in Technology Entrepreneurship at the Dawn of the Twenty-First Century”

Lulu A. Ferdous (UNO) – “Gender Differences in Communication and Leadership in the Aviation Industry”

Libier Isas (UNL) – “Subtyping of Mexican American Women”

Session 8: Theorizing the Body **(City Campus Union: Regency B)**

Moderator: Stacey Waite (UNL)

Emmilie Baker (UNL) – “Relations Between Social Anxiety, Objectification Experiences, and Self-Objectification”

Rachel Schmitz (UNL) – ““Forging Elite Fitness”: Exploring the CrossFit Phenomena Through a Gendered Lens”

Danielle Rue (UNL) – ““Real Girls,” Advocacy and the “Helpful Friend”: *Seventeen*’s Rebranding Moment”

Session 9: Women, Feminism, and Public Policy **(City Campus Union: Regency C)**

Moderator: Emily Kazyak (UNL)

Lyndie Christensen Nader (UNL) – “Women’s Voices Survey, 2011-2012: Results of a WGS Internship Project for the Mayor’s Commission on Women”

Laura Carlson (Creighton) – “The Necessity of Unification of the Schools of Arts and Sciences In Order to Overcome to the Adversity of the Glass Ceiling”

Danielle Thurber-DeGroot (Grand Valley State University) – “Feminism, Poverty, and Policy”

Dana Radatz and Emily Wright (UNO) – “Polyvictimization Among Incarcerated and Non-Incarcerated Women”

**Saturday, 10:30am-11:45**

Session 10: Medicine and Gender **(City Campus Union: Regency A)**

Moderator: Carly Woods (UNL)

Charla Peeks (UNK) – “Boys Will Be Boys: An Examination of Misdiagnosing Biological Behavior in Boys”

Joanna Rebensdorf (UNO) – “Sexual Health Education and Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Douglas County, Nebraska”

Brittney Ryba (UNO) – “Mommy Blogging, Inc. - Band-Aids to Children’s Health Awareness”

Session 11: Gendering Childhood **(City Campus Union: Regency B)**

Moderator: Jackie Harris (UNL)

Jacqueline Horani (UNO) – “Gender Rearing from Pre-Natal to Pre-School”

Leandra Hernandez (Texas A&M) – “The Lolita Spectacle: Exploring the Production and Performance of Femininity in Toddlers & Tiaras”

Rebecca Boellstorff (Nebraska Wesleyan) – “Writing Her Own Story: Ofelia of Pan’s Labyrinth and the Construction of a Non-Gendered Narration”

Session 12: Women and Violence **(City Campus Union: Regency C)**

Moderator: Chantal Kalisa (UNL)

Sarah Dibb (Creighton) – “Domestic Violence: Deviance and Social Problem In Need of Social Control”

Nivedita Kamat (UNO) – “Do We Have A Solution?”

Natalie Gorup (Creighton) – “First to Amend: Pornography as Violence”

**Saturday, 12:00pm-1:15**

Session 13: Undergraduate Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Roundtable **(City Campus Union: Regency A)**

Moderator: Donna Woudenberg (UNL)

Marina Bradaric (UNL), Cassie McKay (UNL), Katie McKeon (UNL), Amanda Kelebit (UNL), and Molly Stukenholz (UNL)

Session 14: Reconceiving Marriage: Past and Present **(City Campus Union: Regency B)**

Moderator: Brie Owen (UNL)

Sangeeta Boken and Merlene Omollo (UNK) – “Global Marriages: Examination of Arranged Marriages and Polygamous Marriages”

David Cossart (UNL) – “The Effect of Democratization on Same-Sex Marriage in Argentina, South Africa, and Spain”

Rebecca Sevela (UNK) – “Raising the 1950s Family”

Emily Johnson (Hastings College) – “Bride-Price in a Developing World: A First-Hand Look at the Transforming System of Negotiating Marriage in Kenyan Society”

Session 15: Perspectives on Prostitution **(City Campus Union: Regency C)**

Moderator: Clare LaFrance (UNL)

Christian Gilbert (Washington University) – “Youth of a Nation”

Rebecca Brune (Nebraska Wesleyan) – “Film Representation of Prostitution: Does Film Have a Social Responsibility to Define Prostitution?”

Kathy Barron (Kansas State) – “The Mexican ‘Cabaretera’ versus the Hollywood ‘Show Girl’ in the Melodrama/Film Noir Genre: A Comparative Analysis Between Ninón Sevilla and Rita Hayworth”

**Saturday, 1:30-2:15 – Lunch (City Campus Union: Heritage Room)**

**Saturday, 2:30-3:30 – Roundtable Panel “Applying Gender to Psychology Research: Helping Students Create New Knowledge” (City Campus Union Auditorium)**

Professor Sarah Gervais (UNL) – Moderator

Emmilie Baker (UNL) – “Relations Between Social Anxiety, Objectification Experiences, and Self-Objectification”

Kara Brostrom (UNL) – “A Test of the Balanced Objectification Theory: Does Balance Motivate Different Outcomes from Complimentary and Critical Objectification Experiences?”

Maggie Shauer (UNL) – “Salads or Sandwiches: Investigating the Role of Exclusion and Rejection Sensitivity in Food-Related Compensation”

**Presenter Biographies and Abstracts**

**Alyson Alvarez** (session 4)

**Biography:** Alyson is a MA student in History at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she will begin work on her PhD next year. She is also pursuing an interdisciplinary graduate specialization in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Alyson’s research has focused on widows in early modern England and America.

**Abstract:** This paper examines the visibility of women in the seventeenth century English book trade. This paper argues that many women contributed significantly to the book industry, but for the most part were unrecognized for their work. This essay not only displays women’s contributions to but also analyzes the conditions in which women were visible.

**Sarah Ashley** (session 4)

**Biography:** Sarah is a student at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

**Project Title:** “‘Enlist and Unite’ Utilizing Women in the Crusade Against Alcohol: A Study of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union in Nebraska”

**Emmilie Baker** (session 8 and Saturday roundtable panel)

**Biography:** Emmilie is a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she is completing her Bachelors of Arts in Psychology and Women’s & Gender Studies. As a McNair Scholar, Emmilie does research in Dr. Sarah Gervias’ Subtle Prejudice Lab. She also works with Dr. Debra Hope’s clinical lab.

**Abstract:** Self-objectification contributes to negative consequences, including body shame and body anxiety. This study examined whether individual differences in social anxiety moderated the relationship between objectification experiences and self-objectification. Results indicate a relationship between sexual advances and body surveillance for women low with anxiety, but no relationship among women with high anxiety.

**Kathy Barron** (session 15)

**Biography:** Kathy is a freshman at Kansas State University and involved in the Developing Scholars Research Program. She is a pre-law student pursuing a dual major in American Ethnic Studies and Women’s Studies. She is also minoring in Spanish. She hopes to attend Stanford University for her law degree and practice somewhere in California.

**Abstract:** Inspired by my dual nationality as a second generation Mexican-American and my passion for women’s studies, I worked with Dr. Maria DePaoli and assisted her in a research project through the Developing Scholars Program. A product of this collaboration, my paper compares the Mexican cabaretera to the American showgirl in 1940s films through consideration of the male gaze, sexuality, and national archetypes and family values.

**Rebecca Boellstorff** (session 11)

**Biography:** Rebecca is a student at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

**Project Title:** “Writing Her Own Story: Ofelia of Pan’s Labyrinth and the Construction of a Non-Gendered Narration”

**Sangeeta Boken** (session 14)

**Biography:** I am a student at University of Nebraska-Kearney. My major is family studies with a minor in psychology. Originally from India, I am now a resident of the United States. I am completing my 25th year in an arranged marriage and also pursuing research on arranged marriages.

**Abstract:** Along with Merlene Omollo, I will focus on global marriages, specifically arranged marriages and polygamous marriages, and examine the aspects that impact these varied marital unions.

**Rachel Bonini** (session 6)

**Biography:** Rachel is a junior American Studies major at Creighton University with minors in English and Women’s and Gender Studies. Her scholarly inquiries generally involve issues of gender performance and the representation of women. This will be her first presentation of a paper at a conference.

**Abstract:** Scholars often dismiss Kathryn Stockett’s *The Help* for various reasons, but its popularity indicates a larger popular American discourse. An analysis of some of the major characters and the contemporary context of the novel’s publication reveals the work’s supportive role in the construction of a post-racial and post-feminist contemporary discourse.

**Marina Bradaric** (session 13)

**Biography:** Marina is a senior physics major at UNL. She works as the Coordinator of Astronomy Outreach for the physics department, informally teaching kids about science through fun activities. Her other hobbies include writing, reading, and music.

**Abstract:** Marina will be participating in the roundtable on Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

**Kara Brostrom** (Saturday roundtable panel)

**Biography:** Kara is a senior Psychology major at UNL with minors in English, Political Science, and Sociology. She will be attending law school in the fall. Kara is currently working on her thesis and is interested in the sexual objectification of women and factors that affect the experience.

**Abstract:** Expanding upon past research, which focused on existing objectification theory, this study introduces a new “balanced” objectification theory with the inclusion of consistency motives and social outcomes of objectification. The study focuses specifically on valence, source, and body sentiment.

**Rebecca Brune** (session 15)

**Biography:** Rebecca is a junior at Nebraska Wesleyan University, studying social work, gender studies, and psychology. She has dedicated her life to public service by addressing the needs of vulnerable populations through her global service learning, Wesleyan involvement, and internships with the ACLU and Senator Amanda McGill.

**Abstract:** This presentation compares the views of prostitution in mainstream American cinema. While the film *Pretty Woman* provides an example of a misinformed view on the “prostitute,” *Chaos* is a film based on the realities of human trafficking. Human trafficking, which includes the prostitution of women, is an epidemic in the US.

**Laura Brunner** (session 7)

**Biography:** Laura is a Doctoral Student in Women’s Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her research focuses on the cultures and representations of women’s work since World War II. In her dissertation, she will explore the portrayal of professional women in film and television.

**Abstract:** This paper identifies difficulties for women in the field of technology entrepreneurship. The women interviewed for this study were presumed to have insufficient technical skills and too many family responsibilities to be successful in the field. Discrimination persists in the form of a professional culture that is hostile to women.

**Joseph Burgess** (session 3)

**Biography:** Joseph is a student at Creighton University.

**Project Title:** “Power and Authority in Louise Erdrich’s *Tracks*: ‘We Thought She Would Keep the Good Ways’”

**Laura Carlson** (session 9)

**Biography:** Laura is a BFA student of Studio Art and Art History at Creighton University, focusing on large scale installation. Laura has participated in multiple gallery shows and curated the CreighTEA Art Gallery. She is also president of the Creighton Student Art League and interns at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts.

**Abstract:** The glass ceiling exists in both the arts and sciences. The solution is to unify against discrimination in order to take equal share of the professional world. If we intend to compete unimpeded by our genders, we must understand our interests may be individual, but the ambition is identical.

**Ayla Cook** (session 6)

**Biography:** Ayla is a student at University of Nebraska-Omaha.

**Abstract:** “Negative Displays of African American Womanhood in Hip-Hop and the Effects on Young Black Girls”

**David Cossart** (session 14)

**Biography:** David is a sophomore at UNL. Majoring in Global Studies, he is also interested in international LGBT rights as well as global issues of gender and sexuality. In addition to his studies, he participates in the EN Thompson International Scholars community, Model United Nations, and Spectrum UNL (UNL’s LGBT student organization).

**Abstract:** David’s presentation examines how democratization created the opportunity for LGBT activists to achieve marriage equality in Argentina, South Africa, and Spain. The presentation also raises related issues surrounding this common historical process, including its effects on intersectional identity groups and the potential relevance of alternative approaches to LGBT equality.

**Shayla Covington** (session 2)

**Biography:** Shayla is a senior at Creighton University, majoring in Theology and minoring in Women & Gender Studies. Her interests include LGBTQIA and Women’s studies, Residence Life, and vocal music. Shayla is excited to be attending the “No Limits” conference for the first time this year.

**Abstract:** This paper explores feminist theologies while arguing against the use of masculine language for God. When masculine God language is used, we instill a male image of God in our minds, diminishing the likeness of women to God. For this to change, we are called to use more inclusive language.

**Kelsey Deabler** (session 6)

**Biography:** I am a senior Spanish major with minors in criminal justice and English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I am a participant of the UCARE program for undergraduate research, and I have been working with Dr. Batton of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice for two years.

**Abstract:** The paper I am presenting represents the culmination of my undergraduate research in the field of criminal justice, focusing on the portrayal of men and women as law enforcement professionals on television. It also serves as my Honors Program thesis.

**Sarah Dibb** (session 12)

**Biography:** Sarah is an undergraduate at Creighton University, majoring in Sociology and Criminal Justice and minoring in Business Administration. She has worked closely with the Domestic Violence Research Center of Oregon, and is passionate about creating awareness and prevention surrounding the social problem of domestic violence.

**Abstract:** Domestic violence is a social problem because it disrupts a normative, healthy, and safe intimate relationship between couples through its many forms of abuse. This presentation discusses the different aspects of this social problem, and ways in which researchers have proposed and attempted to address and prevent domestic violence.

**Louisa Ehrlich** (session 2)

**Biography:** Louisa is a student at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

**Project Title:** “Sex and Gender As It Relates to ‘Human’”

**Natalie Gorup** (session 12)

**Biography:** Natalie is a student at Creighton University.

**Project Title:** “Sex and Gender As It Relates to ‘Human’”

**Lulu A. Ferdous** (session 7)

**Biography:** Originally from Bangladesh, I graduated from UNO with a BSc in Aviation: Air Transportation Administration and am now a student pilot. Currently, I am a research assistant with the NASA Nebraska Space Grant & EPSCoR and president of Women in Aviation UNO Chapter. I plan to do graduate studies in Human Factors Engineering.

**Abstract:** My paper discusses communication styles in regards to diversity. With the number of female flight crew members increasing, channeling women’s different communication and leadership methods for maximizing assimilation and crew performance is urgent for creating a solid safety culture.

**Christian Gilbert** (session 15)

**Biography:** I am a junior at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas. I have declared a major in History and a minor in Women and Gender Studies. I have done an extensive amount of research on sexually exploited women and children throughout my studies at Washburn.

**Abstract:** My paper raises awareness about the realities of prostituted women and children in the United States, and it discusses where common assumptions about sexually exploited women and children come from. Furthermore, my paper demonstrates the importance of changing these assumptions, and how women and children can benefit.

**Leandra Hernandez** (session 11)

**Biography:** Leandra is a PhD student in the Department of Communication at Texas A&M University-College Station. Her research focuses on health communication topics such as women’s health experiences, patient-provider communication, and reproductive politics as they intersect with race, ethnicity, culture, and gender. She’s also interested in media representations of masculinities and femininities.

**Abstract:** Her project focuses on the production and performance of femininity in TLC’s “Toddlers & Tiaras.” It argues that the identity performances that are “done” in the show construct a new definition of femininity that resonates with contemporary ideologies about the celebration of the body, extreme attention to personal appearance, and personal transformation.

**Jacqueline Horani** (session 11)

**Biography:** Jacqueline is a student at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

**Project Title:** “Gender Rearing from Pre-Natal to Pre-School”

**Libier Isas** (session 7)

**Biography:** Libier is a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Project Title:** “Subtyping of Mexican American Women”

**Emily Johnson** (session 14)

**Biography:** Emily is a junior political science and sociology major from Hastings College. Passionate about women’s rights in developing countries, she spent fall 2012 in Western Kenya interning for a women and children’s empowerment organization. She is planning on attending law school for international human rights law.

**Abstract:** Although the bride-price (“dowry”) system of negotiating marriage in Kenyan society is traditionally valued as an appreciation of the woman, changing economic structures have transitioned it to a commodity based system, thus creating significant implications of the practice as a whole.

**Nivedita Kamat** (session 12)

**Biography:** Originally from India, I am a student at UNO pursuing a degree in Management Information Systems. I always wondered why somebody didn’t do something about rape. Then I realized, I am somebody! I am closely involved in Teach for India Initiative where we aim to bridge the gap of education between urban and rural India. I also was associated with Nachiketa trust, which is a school for challenged children.

**Abstract:** My paper talks about the heinous crime, which women across the world go through, “RAPE.” The victim is often tortured and struggles for a long time afterwards while the culprit is sentenced for few years of imprisonment and is left scot-free. I want to seek an answer to this and try to understand where we are heading.

**Amanda Kelebit** (session 13)

**Biography:** Amanda Kelebit is a senior international transfer student from Malaysia majoring in Civil Engineering. She is involved Engineering Week, acts as a representative for American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Engineering Student Advisory Board. Amanda is also involved as an Engineering Ambassador in College of Engineering.

**Abstract:** Manda will be participating in the roundtable on Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

**Aja Pelster Kneip** (session 1)

**Biography:** Aja is a first year PhD student at the College of Public Health at UNMC and recently earned her Masters of Public Health from the same institution. Her research interest is in sexuality and its intersection with chronic disease survivorship, especially the time beyond diagnosis and treatment.

**Abstract:** This literature review investigates the juncture of sexuality and breast and gynecological cancer survivorship in current research, which is dominated by the biomedical script of sexuality, and proposes steps to increase the existing knowledge base by viewing sexuality as a more dynamic entity which exists outside of the medical realm.

**Clare LaFrance** (session 2)

**Biography:** LaFrance is a graduate student in the philosophy PhD program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her primary interest is feminist philosophy, concentrating on ethics and social and political philosophy. LaFrance coaches the UNL Ethics Bowl team and serves on the Chancellors Commission on the Status of Women.

**Abstract:** Broadly construed gender theorists divide into social constructivists and realists. Philosopher Ásta Kristjana Sveinsdóttir has developed an account of gender such that gender is a conferred property. This account gives a metaphysical foundation for constructivist views. I will be considering circumstances of misfires and misattributions on this view.

**Stephanie Lyons** (session 4)

**Biography:** Stephanie is a junior at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, majoring in secondary education in social sciences. She is from Omaha and has worked at the Two Rivers State Recreation Area. She plans a career with the National park Service, focusing on public history interpretation.

**Abstract:** Jane Addams was an early twentieth-century reformer who improved conditions in Chicago by becoming the city’s first female Garbage Inspector. Although she grew up in a time of discrimination against women, Addams made an impact on others as a social worker, founder of Hull House, and the peace movement.

**Cassie McKay** (session 13)

**Biography:** Cassie is a sophomore Mathematics Major and Spanish Minor from Sioux Falls, SD. She intends to study Financial Mathematics at the graduate level and pursue a doctorate in Financial Engineering. She also aspires to write a financial advice column for young women.

**Abstract:** Cassie will be participating in the roundtable on Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

**Katie McKeon** (session 13)

**Biography:** Katie is a senior math major with a minor in computer science at UNL. She plans to attend graduate school next fall to pursue a PhD in math.

**Abstract:** Katie will be participating in the roundtable on Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

**Lyndie Christensen Nader** (session 9)

**Biography:** Lyndie is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Project Title:** “Women’s Voices Survey, 2011-2012: Results of a WGS Internship Project for the Mayor’s Commission on Women”

**Tara Nettifee** (session 4)

**Biography:** Tara is a student at the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

**Project Title:** “Through the Eyes of a Woman: Her Work Through the Decades”

**Merlene Omollo** (session 14)

**Biography:** Merlene is a freshmen international student at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. Her major is pre- nursing. She intends to attend a Nebraska nursing school after completing the UNK pre-nursing program. Merlene is originally from Kenya.

**Abstract:** Along with Sangeeta Boken, she will focus on global marriages, specifically arranged marriages and polygamous marriages, and examine the aspects that impact these varied marital unions.

**Charla Peeks** (session 10)

**Biography:** Charla is a Family Studies Major at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. The focus of research will be psychotropic medications and their impact on children’s development. She extends her gratitude to UNL Women’s and Gender Studies for the opportunity to present.

**Abstract:** The presentation will address boys between ages 6-12 overly diagnosed with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The paper challenges current trends in diagnosing appropriate biological behavior with dangerous stimulant medications. Methylphenidate and methamphetamine will be examined; effects on the brain along with alternatives to treating children with ADHD will be discussed.

**Kristine Pothast** (session 1)

**Biography:** I am a senior at UNL, majoring in Sociology and Women’s and Gender Studies. I will graduate in August. I am currently working for the United States Immigration and Customs Service in the Verification division. I plan to continue my education by getting my Master’s degree in Sociology.

**Abstract:** My paper is a look at how the adult entertainment industry shapes men’s and women’s views of sexuality in ways that are harmful to both men and women.

**Dana Radatz** (session 9)

**Biography:** Danais a doctoral student at UNO in the criminology and criminal justice department. She is working towards a specialization in female victimization, particularly the victimization of marginalized women. She will be presenting with her advisor Dr. Emily Wright

**Abstract:** Research studies involving multiple victimizations (also known as polyvictimization) among adult women are lacking. This project aims to increase understanding regarding polyvictimization among incarcerated and non-incarcerated women through the use of life history interview responses to identify commonalities and correlations between different forms of victimization.

**Joanna Rebensdorf** (session 10)

**Biography:** Joanna is a student at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

**Project Title:** “Sexual Health Education and Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Douglas County, Nebraska”

**Katherine Robbins** (session 1)

**Biography:** I am a PhD student in UNL’s Teacher, Learning, and Teacher Education program and am working on a specialty in Instructional Technology.  My paper originated from a class I used to teach on Sexuality in Sixteenth Century Literature.

**Abstract:** My paper is one that analyzes the rhetoric of pleasure in Shakespeare and select seventeenth century poems. Specifically, I’m interested in exploring explicit sexual texts and coded sexual texts to provide insights into issues of male pleasure, female pleasure, and couple’s pleasure.

**Danielle Rue** (session 8)

**Biography:** Danielle is a sophomore at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is double majoring in English and Women’s Studies, with a minor in Human Rights and Humanitarian affairs. Danielle is a member of UNL’s Honors Program and interned for the Domestic Violence Council last summer.

**Abstract:** This presentation will discuss *Seventeen Magazine’s* rebranding strategy after falling under scrutiny last summer for not “showing real girls.” Although *Seventeen* appears to be an empowering space for young girls, the new postfeminist language the magazine has adopted is more problematic than its original messages.

**Brittney Ryba** (session 10)

**Biography:** Brittney is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She is a Communications and Marketing Coordinator at the Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC), an organization that certifies Athletic Trainers. As a mother of a 2-year-old, her interest includes children and health communication.

**Abstract:** Mothers who write about caring for their children are reshaping healthcare and safety for kids through their blog postings. Acting as their children’s voice to the outside world, this presentation will share how mothers using Computer Mediated Communication (CMC) affects awareness and spreading advocacy of issues concerning children’s health and diseases.

**Maggie Schauer** (Saturday roundtable panel)

**Biography:** Maggie is a senior psychology major/business minor at UNL. She serves as president of two student organizations and is involved in two research labs on campus. Maggie is currently applying to graduate programs in industrial-organizational psychology where she hopes to study stigma and discrimination in the workplace.

**Abstract:** As part of the Saturday roundtable, Maggie will describe her project, “Salads or Sandwiches: Investigating the Role of Exclusion and Rejection Sensitivity in Food-Related Compensation”

**Rachel Schmitz** (session 8)

**Biography:** Schmitz is currently a Master’s graduate student in the department of sociology at UNL and will graduate this spring with a specialization in Women’s and Gender Studies. Her Master’s thesis is a qualitative analysis of the gendered transitions homeless youth experience as they fluctuate between the street and housed environments.

**Abstract:** Through the presentation and analysis of a filmed documentary from local CrossFit gyms, I will explore the gendered components of CrossFit in both their latent and manifest representations. Footage of workouts in action demonstrates physical differentiations between men and women, while interviews reveal varied reasons for beginning CrossFit, experiences with workouts and fitness goals.

**Rebecca Sevela** (session 14)

**Biography:** Rebecca is a student at the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

**Project Title:** “Raising the 1950s Family”

**Molly Stukenholz** (session 13)

**Biography:** Molly was born and raised in Nebraska City and graduated with a class of 32 students. She is a junior at UNL, majoring in mathematics with a concentration in statistics.

**Abstract:** Molly will be participating in the roundtable on Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

**Nicholas Teets** (session 5)

**Biography:** Nick is a senior chemistry major raised in Omaha. He aims to break the stereotypes of science majors with his efforts in community involvement, audio & video production, and event promotion.

Abstract: *HOME* is a short film that highlights the everyday struggles of members of the LGBTQ communities and emphasizes the fact that many LGBTQ youth are alienated and discriminated against to the point of homelessness. It is estimated that 40% of homeless youth in America associated themselves with the LGBTQ community.

**Moriah Thomas** (session 5)

**Biography:** Thomas, a graduate of Spelman College in Atlanta, GA, is a widely acclaimed musician, music composer, and documentarian. In 2011, Thomas co-produced the documentary, *The Shadow Behind the Rainbow,* which addressed the Human Rights Movement from the perspective of Black Queer Women and allies who fought for social justice.

**Abstract:** *The Shadow Behind the Rainbow* chronicles the gay rights movement from past to present day, highlighting those lost faces and voices, but also shedding light on the various forms of activism that exist within the movement.

**Danielle Thurber-DeGroot** (session 9)

**Biography:** Danielle is a recent graduate of Grand Valley State University. This presentation is based on a paper she wrote for an independent study as part of her Bachelors of Social Work curriculum at Grand Valley. She is currently seeking entrance into a Graduate program at Western Michigan University.

**Abstract:** The original paper explored the feminization of poverty, the three waves of feminism and their effect on policy, and their connections to social work practice. Here she will focus on the United States and a few specific policies from each wave to develop connections between each concept.

**James Vnuk** (session 6)

**Biography:** James is a student at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

**Project Title:** “Shut the &%$! Up, Donny: Silencing Talk, Gender, and Sexuality in ‘The Big Lebowski’”

**Laura Madeline Wiseman** (session 5)

**Biography:** Wiseman has a doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she teaches. She is the author of seven collections of poetry, including *Sprung* (San Francisco Bay Press, 2012). She is also the editor of the forthcoming anthology *Women Write Resistance: Poets Resist Gender Violence* (Blue Light Press). [www.lauramadelinewiseman.com](http://www.lauramadelinewiseman.com)

**Abstract:** WOMEN WRITE RESISTANCE: POETS RESIST GENDER VIOLENCE (Blue Light), views poetry as a transformative art. By deploying techniques to challenge narratives about violence against women and making alternatives to that violence visible, the American poets in WOMEN WRITE RESISTANCE intervene in the ways gender violence is perceived in American culture.

**Emily Wright** (session 9)

**Biography:** Wright is an Associate Professor at UNO in the criminology and criminal justice department who specializes in victimization, specifically domestic violence examined from a neighborhood level analysis. Wright will be presenting with her doctoral student Dana Radatz.

**Abstract:** Research studies involving multiple victimizations (also known as polyvictimization) among adult women are lacking. This project aims to increase understanding regarding polyvictimization among incarcerated and non-incarcerated women through the use of life history interview responses to identify commonalities and correlations between different forms of victimization.