

## WGS South 2024 Conference Schedule

### Thursday, March 28

#### 8:30 CHECK IN TABLE – CAMPUS LIFE CENTER

#### 9:00-10:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (THURSDAY)

Session A **CANCELED** – McMenamain moved to 10:25

#### Session B – Centering Care: Medical Misogyny, Feminist Healthcare, and Reproductive Justice

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Presenters:

- Hysterical Women or Negligent Doctors? Examining How Barriers in Healthcare Communication Are Killing Pregnant Women and Their Babies in the United States - Monika Shehi Herr, University of South Carolina Upstate
- Envisioning an Intersectional and Feminist Future of PCOS Care - Stacey Williams, East Tennessee State University
- Self and M/other: Technologies and Discourses of the Posthuman Pregnancy - Julia Mason, Florida Atlantic University

Moderator: Phyllis Thompson, East Tennessee State University

#### Session C – Categories Matter: Creating the Terms of our Lives

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Toward an Anasexual Study - Daniel Haley, Elon University
- Queer Racialized Masculinity: Consequences of Anti-Trans and Anti-Queer Neoliberal Measures - Whitney Roach, University of South Carolina
- Decolonial Trans Futurity: A Trans of Color Critique of Normative Assimilation - Billie Waller, University of North Carolina Charlotte and Sanjula Rajat, University of Oregon

Moderator: Hil Malatino

#### Session D – Felt Spaces: Afrofuturist, Queer, and Crip Counter Maps

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Mapping Care and Restoration in the Landscapes of N. K. Jemisin's *Broken Earth Trilogy* - Katherine E. Bennett, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Queer / Crip Embodied Mapping - Alexandra Teixeira Riggs, Georgia Institute of Technology
- The Politics of Rest: Mapping Access for/from Chronic Illness - Sylvia Janicki, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Women Redefining Education: Caregiving/taking, Invisible Disabilities, and Pedagogical Practices -Tiffany Harris and Ashleigh Werth, College of Charleston

Moderator: Sylvia Janicki, Georgia Institute of Technology

## 10:25-11:40 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (THURSDAY)

### **Session A – BIPOC Caucus Panel: Black Mothering as Site of BIPOC Revolutionary Ethics of Care**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom

Presenters:

- Mothering in the Slave Trade: Critical Trauma Theory and the Black Female Birthing Body - Felecia Harris, University of North Carolina Charlotte
- Womanist Mothering as an Ethic of Care for Women and Girls: Nurturing Empowerment and Resilience - Michelle Meggs, University of North Carolina Charlotte
- Where does Black Feminine Grief Reside? An Exploratory Essay on the Death of My Mother and My Mourning as a Communal Care Practice - Julia Jordan-Zachery, Wake Forest University

Moderator: Jayme Canty, Virginia Commonwealth University

### **Session B – Climate and Queer Subjectivity: From the Catastrophic to the Transcorporeal**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Disorientation and Disruption: A Queer Phenomenology in the Face of Climate Catastrophe, Trey Best, Appalachian State University
- Bura Ura, Kendu Waiyo (Rain Falls, Water Rises): The Tyranny of Water and an Agenda for Abolition in Kodi (Sumba Island, Indonesia) - Cynthia Fowler, Wofford College
- Transcendent Flesh: Queer Transcorporeality in Gloria Anzaldúa's Borderlands - Sarah Lofstrom, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Purple Killbox: Queer Necropolitics of Fort Liberty, NC - Nathan McMenamin, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Moderator: Frances B. Henderson, University of Kentucky

### **Session C – Learning Otherwise: Affect Aliens, Hot Feminism, and Algorithms of Care**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Presenters:

- Affect's 1st Lesson: Coalitional Subjectivities and Affect Aliens in the Intersectional Classroom - Heather Palmer, University of Tennessee
- Writing Feminist Newsletters - Emily Taylor, Presbyterian College
- Where is the Feminist Internet? Queering Information Technologies through Algorithms of Care - Hannah Steinhauer, Virginia Tech, Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought

Moderator: Lauran Whitworth, Agnes Scott College

### **Session D – Thinking Critically about the Geographies of Care: Reflections on Space, Place, and Embodiment**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Roundtable Topic: Bringing together work in critical fat geographies, crip/queer theory, youth geographies, theories of Black masculinities, Black feminist theory, mad studies, and archaeology, we hope to engage in an interdisciplinary discussion on the spaces and places where care happens, the influence of space/place in the

enactment of care, care as a practice, and the embodied nature of care. As a group, we tend to the “multiplicity of care” in its various spatialities, modes, desires, needs, and embodiments (Nishida, 2022). The body, home, community center, school, asylum are sites through which we can theorize the liberatory, violent, messy, and entangled nature of care. Further, we understand care through intersecting structures of white supremacy, cisheteropatriarchy, disablism, and anti-fatness. In our roundtable, we think critically about how care gets carried out, who gets cared for, and who is seen as unworthy of care.

Presenters:

- Leiha Edmonds, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Annie Elledge, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Betsy Olson, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Antonia Randolph, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Zoe Schwandt, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Moderator: Annie Elledge, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**11:40-1:00 BREAK FOR LUNCH – SEE LOCAL SITES DOCUMENT FOR SUGGESTIONS**

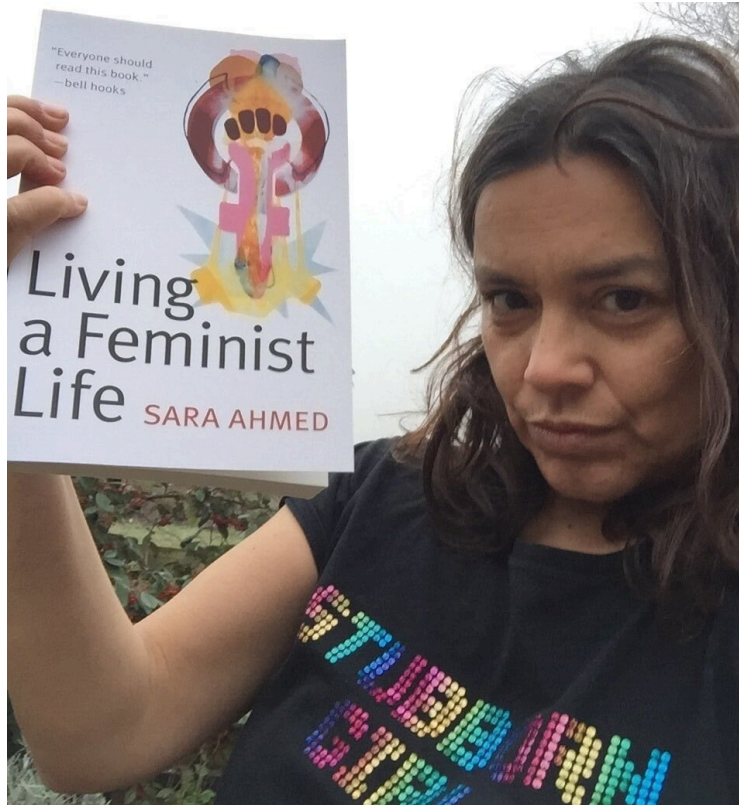
**RECEPTION**

**12:00-12:45 BIPOC CAUCUS RECEPTION (Catered)**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom

**1:00-2:15**

**KILLING JOY AS A QUEER PROJECT, KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY SARA AHMED Room: Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom (Streaming from the UK)**



Dr. Sara Ahmed is a feminist writer and independent scholar who works at the intersection of feminist, queer, and race studies. Her research is concerned with how bodies and worlds take shape, and how power is secured and challenged in the worlds of everyday life and institutional cultures.

Until the end of 2016, Dr. Ahmed was a Professor of Race and Cultural Studies at Goldsmiths, University of London, having been previously based in Women's Studies at Lancaster University. She resigned from her post at Goldsmiths in protest of the institution's failure to deal with the problem of sexual harassment.

Dr. Ahmed's primary focus now is on writing and research. She lives on the outskirts of a small village in Cambridgeshire with her partner Sarah Franklin and their beautiful dogs, Poppy and Bluebell. She has just completed a book tour in the UK and US for *The Feminist Killjoy Handbook* (#FeministKilljoysonTour), the project from which this keynote address is drawn, and she will be sharing new work in other venues soon.

## 2:25-3:40 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (THURSDAY)

### Session A – Sick of It: Surviving Together

Room: Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom

Presenters:

- Toward Liberatory Futures: Autoethnographic Explorations of Sick and Disabled Scholars' Conference Experiences - Jesselyn Dreeszen Bowman, University of South Carolina and Leah

Dudak, Syracuse University  
Kinship in Unexpected Places: Fostering Community for Disabled Students off but around Campus - Sharayah Bradley, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

- Crip Care: or, How to Love Another as the Old World Dies - B. Ethan Coston, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Unfashionable Commitments: Reclaiming a Politics of Radical Self-Love - Ellen Cox, Transylvania University

Moderator: Hannah Steinhauer, Virginia Tech

### **Session B – Beyond Diagnosis: Crippling/Queering Psychiatric Disabilities**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Queering Minds: The Medical Model - Faelyn Cowan, University of South Florida
- The Paradoxical Power of Movies: Representations of Schizophrenia and Dissociative Identity Disorder in Horror Films of the Last Fifteen Years - Riley Deyo, University of Georgia
- Care and Autism: The Power of Special Interest Engagement - Marley Goldman, Emory University

Moderator: Kenneth Barideaux, University of South Carolina Upstate

### **Session C - Care in Latinx Contexts Canceled**

### **Session D – Care, Hope, Love: Activist Feelings, Theoretical Findings**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

- Care and Hope in Activist-Scholarship: Centering Community in and out of the Classroom - Morgan Carter, University of North Carolina Greensboro
- How Does that Make You Feel?: Affective Activism, Feminist Ethics of Care, and Feminist Coalitions - Rebecca Lambert, Appalachian State University
- Rosa Ibarra's Creative Journey: From Illustrating US-Latino Children Picture Books to Community Service - Ana Hontanilla, University of North Carolina Greensboro

Moderator: Sarah Lofstrom, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### **3:50-5:05 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (THURSDAY)**

### **Session A – Covid and Collective Trauma: Pedagogical Practices of Care in a Global Pandemic**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom

Presenters:

- Neurodivergence, Mental Illness, and the Debilitation of Late Capitalism: Challenges to Teaching and Learning in These Times - Daniel Coleman, Georgia State University
- Conflicts of Care: Teaching for Justice in Pandemic Times - Julie Kubala, Georgia State University
- Trauma-Informed Teaching and Digital Humanities Tools: Nurturing Resilient Classroom Communities Post-Pandemic - Rosita Scerbo, Georgia State University
- Hot Sauce in My Bag Swag: The Role of Performance and Authenticity in Building Classroom Communities - Constance Bailey, Georgia State University

Moderator: Julie Kubala, Georgia State University

**Session B – Care Feminism Is for Everyone: Reaching the Isolated, the Stranded, the Incarcerated, and the Enlisted**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Feeling Stranded by the City: Navigating Questions of Women's Access to Infrastructure Through an Examination of Greensboro, North Carolina's Services - Erin Collins and Sarah Colonna, University of North Carolina Greensboro
- A Praxis of Revolutionary Inside/Outside Care - Maria Mejia, Elon University (with Lynn Green)
- Rape, Consent, and The U.S. Military - Siris Fernandez, Old Dominion University

Moderator: Renu Pariyadath, USC Upstate

**Session C – Abortion Care: Why Keeping Access to Reproductive Healthcare is Paramount**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Mental Health, Financial Strain, State Lines, and the Importance of Abortion Care - Lynne Schmidt, LMSW-cc
- Observations on Reproductive Healthcare in South Carolina - Emily Taylor, Presbyterian College
- Alison's Piepmeier's Welcome Table: Family Planning and Feminist Disability Studies - Mikaela Way, USC Upstate

Moderator: Monika Shehi, USC Upstate

**5:15-6:15 PLENARY SESSION**

**BLACK FEMINIST DISABILITY STUDIES ON ABILITY AND DISABILITY**

Moderator: Michelle Meggs, UNC Charlotte

Room: Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom

- "Black Women's Gendered & Racialized Experiences of Neurodivergence in Higher Education,"  
Kat J. Stephens-Peace



Dr. Kat Stephens-Peace is a creative, intellectual troublemaker, and curious researcher. She is an Assistant Professor of Higher Education Leadership at Oakland University in Michigan. Her research interests are connected by representation of self and identity formation. Her recent work has centered Black women graduate students who experience various forms of neurodivergence—ADHD, OCD, and Autism—and their journey in disability culture and identity through the lens of gender and race. Her focus on disability justice and academic ableism lends itself to the intersectionality between racialized communities. Other research interests center Black immigrant and international student populations as they make sense of race in a Western context, their experiences with(in) and outside of the Global South, and internationalization in continental United States institutions. She earned her doctorate in Higher Education and Student Affairs from University of Massachusetts Amherst and her Masters degree in Higher and Postsecondary Education from Teachers College, Columbia University.

- “Tears as Storytelling: Our Ethic of Care,” Julia S. Jordan-Zachery





Dr. Julia S. Jordan-Zachery is Professor and Chair of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Wake Forest University. Her interdisciplinary research focuses on Black women and public policy. Her publications include a recent essay on "What Everyone Gets Wrong about High-Achieving Black Women and Depression" in *Harper's Bazaar* and an edited collection on *Black Women and da 'Rona* with co-editor Shamara Wyllie Alhassan. She is the author of the award-winning book, *Black Women, Cultural Images, and Social Policy*. Dr. Jordan-Zachery's current project, *Lavender Fields: Black Women Experiencing Fear, Agency, and Hope in the Time of COVID-19*, is forthcoming. Her other publications include *Shadow Bodies: Black Women, Ideology, Representation, and Politics*, *Erotic Testimonies: Black Women Daring to be Wild and Free*, and "Black Girl Magic Beyond the Hashtag." She is also the producer of the documentary *Healing Roots*.

## Friday, March 29

**8:30 CHECK IN TABLE – CAMPUS LIFE CENTER**

**9:00-10:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (FRIDAY)**

**Session A – Navigating Place in Times of Need: Critical Queer and Crip Geographies**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Presenters:



- Public S/pacing: Between Architecture and Crip Time - Helen Stratford, Sheffield Hallam University
- To Be the Candle of Change or the Mirror Reflecting It: LGBTQ+ Student Affairs Work - Bri Newton, University of South Carolina and Jessica Fisher, Weber State University
- Systems of Care: Trauma, Empowerment, and Safety Planning - E. Triolet, Independent Scholar

Moderator: Max Thornton, Kean University

### **Session B – Caring for WGSS in the South: Perspectives from South Carolina**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Caring for WGSS in the South through Frameworks of Academic Kindness & Academic Justice - Kris De Welde, College of Charleston
- Realities of Caring for the Praxis - Stephanie Mitchem, University of South Carolina
- Caring for WGSS Programs at Small Southern Liberal Arts Colleges - Kathleen Casey, Furman University
- Attention with A Tension: Le “Care” French Style - Lauren Ravalico, College of Charleston

Moderator: Lauren Ravalico, College of Charleston

### **Session C – Hot and Cold Feelings: Reconsidering Family, Romance, and Motherhood**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Presenters:

- Unsentimental Natures: Anti-Mothers in *Spleen* and *Chouette* - Kara Russell, University of Mississippi
- From Refrigerator Mothers to Martyr Moms: Still Blaming After All These Years - Amy S.F. Lutz, University of Pennsylvania
- The Knife Between Her Legs: An Examination of a “Bad Girl’s” Family - Moksheda Thapa, George Mason University

Moderator: Kaitlyn Stembridge, USC Upstate

### **Session D – Radicalizing the Reproductive Justice Movement: Practicing Solidarity, Building Networks of Care**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Roundtable Topic: This discussion will critically examine Access Reproductive Care-Southeast’s (ARC-Southeast) organizational culture, structure, and strategies for achieving reproductive justice. ARC-Southeast is a Black and queer-led abortion fund and reproductive justice organization operating in six Southeast states. As one of the most restricted abortion funds in the United States, ARC-Southeast’s Organizing and Outreach team prioritizes the radical possibilities of reproductive justice and considers how our work needs to shift to remain in alignment with the values at the core of this nonprofit organization: radical love, Southern synergy, autonomy and self-determination, and collective power. Vital to our work is an understanding that our nonprofit organization is a form of mutual aid. Mutual aid projects are radical and revolutionary because they aim to directly impact the material conditions of vulnerable people by showing that we, as a community, can care for each other instead of relying on the systems that create and maintain the unlivable conditions so many find themselves in.

Presenters:

- Britni Louise, Spelman College and Access Reproductive Care-Southeast

- Duke Virginia, Access Reproductive Care-Southeast
- Sierra Reyes, Georgia State University and Access Reproductive Care-Southeast
- Zoe Bambara, Access Reproductive Care-Southeast

Moderator: Sierra Reyes, Access Reproductive Care-Southeast

## **10:25-11:40 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (FRIDAY)**

### **Session A – Mad/Crip/Neuroqueer Care: What We Reveal or Obscure—and Why**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Presenters:

- 17 Steps and a Ring of Fire: A Queer Feminist Killjoy’s Crip Coming Out (and Some Notes on Queer Worldmaking) - Jennifer Purvis, University of Alabama
- Neuroqueer Illegibility as Performance Method - Desiree Rowe, Towson University
- Logics of Cure, Mad Practices in Care, and a Future for Self-Harm - Sarah Redikopp, York University
- **Hypo/mania: Mad Femme Insights on Academia as Disabling Institution, Katie Horowitz, Davidson College**

Moderator: Lisa Johnson, USC Upstate

### **Session B Queer and Feminist Archival Potentialities moved to 4:10-5:05 Session D**

### **Session C – Ecofeminism, Intersectionality, and Female Adventure Athletes: On the No Man’s Land Film Festival**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Beth Keefauver will discuss the No Man’s Land Film Festival in Denver, Colorado as a proliferation of cutting-edge ecofeminist themes relevant to scholars and students of women’s and gender studies. Through clips from short films featured at the festival earlier this month, Keefauver will focus on representations of female and BIPOC adventure athletes in these films and the role such films can play in raising the visibility of WGS in campus events like Earth Day.

### **Session D – Strategies of Care for Students, Curriculum, and the Self**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Coaching Frameworks and Care Feminisms: Reimagining Mentoring and Career Success in WGS - Letizia Guglielmo, Kennesaw State University
- Reproducing Harm in Care Education: A Social Work Case Study - Justin-Ray Dutton, Wake Forest University

Moderator: Emily Kofoed, USC Upstate

## **11:45-1:00 BUSINESS LUNCHEON**

Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom – Sign up sheet available for Disability Caucus

## **Trans, Mad, Weird: Lessons from the Reed Erickson Archive, Keynote Address by Hil Malatino**



Dr. Hil Malatino is an Associate Professor in the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, a senior research associate in the Rock Ethics Institute, and affiliate faculty in the Department of Philosophy. He holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy and a graduate certificate in Feminist Theory from Binghamton University. Prior to coming to Penn State, Dr. Malatino was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Gender Studies at Indiana University and Assistant Director and Lecturer in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at East Tennessee State University. Dr. Malatino will complete his two-year term as president of WGS South this spring.

Dr. Malatino's work draws upon trans and intersex studies, critical sexuality studies, transnational feminisms, disability studies, and medical ethics to theorize how experiences of violence, trauma, and resilience play out in trans, intersex, and gender non-conforming lives.

His most recent book, *Side Affects: On Being Trans and Feeling Bad* (University of Minnesota Press, 2022), is a critical phenomenology of fatigue, envy, burnout, numbness, and rage amid the ongoing onslaught of casual and structural transphobia. His first book, *Queer Embodiment: Monstrosity, Medical Violence, and Intersex Experience* (University of Nebraska Press, 2019), examines the relationship between intersex embodiment, biomedical technologies, and the forms of subjectivity both enabled and constrained by the medicalization of gender non-conformance.

His second book, *Trans Care* (University of Minnesota Press, 2020), offers a critical intervention in how care labor and care ethics have been thought, arguing that dominant modes of conceiving and critiquing the politics and distribution of care entrench normative and cis-centric familial structures and gendered arrangements.

His essays have appeared in *Hypatia*, *TSQ*, *Signs*, and many other journals and edited volumes.

Dr. Malatino's current research combines trans, mad, and disability studies to think through and about trans philanthropist Reed Erickson's archives and legacy.

## **1:10-2:25 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (FRIDAY)**

### **Session A – Need an Abortion? Access, Funding, and Stigma Post-Dobbs**

Room: **Campus Life Center 309**

Roundtable Topic: Considering abortion in the contexts of public health disparities and the precarity produced by neoliberal philosophies of self-reliance and personal responsibility, this discussion will build on feminist scholarship that embraces a disability-approach to access and critiques of autonomy (Jarman 2015). Through a discussion of literary and social representations of abortion, as well as a historical look at the National Network of Abortion Funds (NNAF), we will examine abortion stigma, crisis pregnancy centers, abortion funds, and abortion telehealth. In addition to securing funding, abortion providers and activists continue to seek ways to subvert the effects of Dobbs, as abortion care has become simultaneously hyper public—with life and death cases splashed across news headlines—and hyper private, as abortion medication has moved abortion from clinic to home. Abortion fund activists and their allies have innovatively developed the slogan, “abortion care is community care,” taking us back to the Women’s Health Movement’s DIY-esque origins. In light of these social changes, we explore tactics used by abortion funds to avoid negative attention while seeking enough visibility to maintain the level of donations they require. We also raise the question of the role of public universities in resisting the dissemination of false information by crisis pregnancy centers within their communities. What are best practices for this sort of intervention?

Presenters:

- Molly O’Donnell, James Madison University
- Gretchen Ely, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Hannah Dudley-Shotwell, Longwood University
- Mary Thompson, James Madison University

Moderator: Mary Thompson, James Madison University

### **Session B – LGBTQ Caucus Panel 1**

**Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom**

Presenters:

- Gender in Performance, Gender as Performance: Surveillance, Transgender Studies, and Reconsidering Dress Codes for Symphony Orchestra Musicians - Daniel McCarthy Howard, Sarah Lawrence College
- Against Conservation of the Norm: Regenerative Trans and Crip Ecologies in the Anthropocene - Lauran Whitworth, Agnes Scott College
- Transgender Embodiment in the Classroom and Impact on Youth - Charles Suor, University of South Florida
- Deputizing Carceral Care Through Anti-Trans Legislation - ash stephens, University of Illinois - Chicago

Moderator: David Rubin, University of South Florida

### **Session C – Heaven and Hell: A Poetry Reading with Khalisa Rae and Lynne Schmidt**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Presenters:

- Khalisa Rae, Writer and Activist
- Lynne Schmidt, Writer and Activist

Moderator: Tasha Thomas, USC Upstate

### **Session D – Leaking the Story: First-Person Illness Narratives and/as Care**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- (Almost) Crying in Costco; or, Adderall is an Essential Substance - Bailey Szustak, University of Illinois, Chicago
- Cancer in Two Voices and Editing as End of Life Care - Allison Fagan, James Madison U
- Leaky Bodies and the Social Construction of Intelligence - Kathleen Beres Rogers, College of Charleston

Moderator: Stacey Williams, East Tennessee State University

## **2:35-4:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (FRIDAY)**

### **Session A – Access, Mutual Aid, and ACT UP Philly’s Futures of Care: The Kiyoshi Kuromiya Hospital Vigil**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom

Moderator: Colby King, USC Upstate

Roundtable Topic: The archive at the William Way LGBTQ Center in Philadelphia holds a remarkable document—a running account of ACT UP Philadelphia founding member Kiyoshi Kuromiya’s last days, May 1-10, 2000. A rotating group of friends and comrades kept a vigil in his hospital room. On loose-leaf paper in at least 5 different hands, they recorded the experience in a range of genres: part medical chart, part meeting minutes, part living memorial of Kuromiya’s thoughts, feelings, and trademark humor. In this hybrid panel activation, we explore the shape and impact of ACT UP Philly’s structures of care by analyzing and animating the materials surrounding Kuromiya’s death, as well his activist life. Born in the Heart Mountain internment camp, Kuromiya was a high impact civil rights and anti-war activist. As a founder of ACT UP Philly he brought his uniquely intersectional perspective on community organizing to the group. Distinguished from the primarily white male treatment activism of ACT UP NY, ACT UP Philly focused on poor people’s movements, needle exchange, and equitable healthcare access for BIPOC, trans, and incarcerated people. ACT UP Philly’s combination of radical access and mutual aid helps create the conditions for access intimacy as revolutionary care. This roundtable animates the archive through a performance of scholarship as social practice.

Presenters:

- Carol Stakenas, Providence College
- JD Davids, Activist/Writer
- Libbie Rifkin, Georgetown University
- Che Gossett, University of Pennsylvania

### **Session B – LGBTQ Caucus Panel 2**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Moderator: David Rubin, University of South Florida

Presenters:

- Who's in Danger?: The Vulnerability and Political Power of LGBTQ+ Educators & Students - Carrie Hart, University of North Carolina School of the Arts
- Black Trans Impossibilities: Struggles of Legibility Articulated by Khalil Jordache - Jordan Keesler, University of Maryland College Park
- **The Intersex Exception - David Rubin, University of South Florida**

### **Session C – Unraveling Genocide Dynamics: Comparative Analysis of Gaza, Rwanda, and the Congo**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Roundtable Topic: Our comparative analysis of Gaza, Rwanda, and the Congo examines the underlying factors of genocide, shedding light on the gendered dimensions of genocidal acts. The interplay of cognitive dissonance, religious narratives, and political maneuvering is explored through a feminist lens to highlight the gendered dynamics often masked in conventional analyses. The intricate interplay of gender, power, and violence that characterizes the conflict in Gaza shapes the experiences of both men and women. Furthermore, this framework spotlights the unique vulnerabilities, agency, and resilience of women in the face of genocide. Our methodology centers on a content analysis of western and eastern media sources to identify prevailing narratives, social attitudes, and instances of cognitive dissonance regarding violence in the context of the Gaza conflict.

Presenters:

- Jennie Burnet, Georgia State University
- Tiara Mbonisi, Georgia State University
- Nazih Raychouni, Georgia State University

Moderator: Jennie Burnet, Georgia State University

### **Session D – Embracing the “Rejected Body”: Disability, Illness, and Cognitive Difference**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Moderator: Max Thornton, Kean University

Presenters:

- Care Justice, Interdependency, and Complex Dependency - Amanda Apgar, Loyola Marymount University
- Risk and Responsibility: The Exceptionalization of Fetal Disability within “Pro-Life” and “Pro-Choice” Pregnancy Narratives - Rebecca Lentjes, University of Kentucky
- Crippling Evolution: Disability and Darwinism - Max Thornton, Kean University

### **Session E – Yoga 3:00-4:00**

Room: Humanities and Fine Arts Building (HPAC) First Floor Art Gallery

Teacher: Ani Perez

**4:10-5:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (FRIDAY) - please note this session is 65 minutes**

### **Session A – Toward a Feminist, Queer, and Disability Studies Major in the U.S. South**



Room: Campus Life Center 310

Roundtable Topic: At Elon University, a private institution in North Carolina, we are faculty and staff in a WGS program currently transitioning into an academic major. We are rethinking the program's name and the conceptual foundations on which the name is based. We want to meet the high expectations of our students, following Elon's five-star ranking in the Campus Pride Index. How can the formation of our academic major push our institution to live up to these promises to our 2SLGBTQIA+ students? Despite the positive ranking, the campus remains driven in many ways by Greek Life in a conservative county. How can an academic major work with our Gender & LGBTQIA+ Center to support more liveable conditions for queer and trans folks? We will describe the institutional roadblocks and political resistance we have encountered in the process of building a Feminist, Queer, and Disability Studies major. We will also recount our efforts to create a home for critical thinking and creative activist work, establishing networks of care and solidarity for communities on the ground. We include Disability Studies in our name because we recognize the need to openly acknowledge the ableism embedded in higher institutions and university practices, and we aim to disrupt and challenge those practices. We believe a WGS program that features disability studies will be more attuned to the flourishing of students, faculty, staff, and the wider community. We will share some of our programming and curriculum ideas, such as Leyla Savloff's Disability Justice class, guest lectures with Elon faculty and staff about navigating academia with disabilities, Libby Coyner's work across our WGS courses with zines as institutional sites of resistance, and Lauren Guilmette's Ethics in the Archives course, co-designed with Libby. We hope to connect with others who have done similar work of *caring about WGS* in this region and hearing what has and has not worked for other WGS programs.

Presenters:

- Leyla Savloff, Elon University
- Lauren Guilmette, Elon University
- Libby Coyner, Elon University

Moderator: Lauren Guilmette, Elon University

### **Session B – BIPOC Methods and Response to Lack of Care**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Luisa Capetillo and Dominga Cruz-Becerril: The Divergent Paths of Radical Puerto Rican Women under U.S. Jim Crow Empire - Don Polite, Augusta University
- Health Consequences of Racial Disparity in Access to Abortion - Lacy Frye and Calvin Odhiambo, University of South Carolina Upstate

Moderator: Don Polite, Augusta University

### **Session C – Then and Now of Care: Politics/Practices of Kinship in the Near Future**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Beyond Self-Care: Establishing a Methodology of Care in a "Post-Care" America - Sierra Reyes, Access Reproductive Care-Southeast and Vic Kennedy, Independent Scholar
- Divining Care: Justice-Centered Tarot in and Against the New Age - Krystal Cleary, Tulane University

Moderator: Amanda Apgar, Loyola Marymount University

### **Session D – Queer and Feminist Archival Potentialities**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Presenters:

- Radical Illegibility: Queer Women's Archives as Resistance - Claudia Cabello Hutt, George Mason University
- Rhetorics of Care and Harm: Into the 1996 Olympic Gender Verification Archive - Sarah Cooper, Clemson University
- Unboxing Queer Poetics: Students Utilizing LGBTQIA+ Archival Materials in Original Documentary Poetry Sequences - Emilia Phillips, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Moderator: Kara Russell, University of Mississippi

**Yoga 4:15-5:15**

Room: Humanities and Fine Arts Building (HPAC) First Floor Art Gallery

Teacher: Ani Perez

**5:30-6:30 Keynote**

**Care at the Edge, Keynote Address by Laura Mauldin**

Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom

[Sign up sheet available for Disability Caucus](#)



Laura Mauldin is a writer and scholar based in New York City. She is a 2024 New America National Fellow, Associate Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University of Connecticut, and a nationally certified American Sign Language interpreter. Her

research and writing investigate how ableism structures our lives by examining the experiences and expertise of disabled people, family caregivers, and their communities. She is the author of *Made to Hear: Cochlear Implants and Raising Deaf Children*, creator of the website [www.disabilityathome.org](http://www.disabilityathome.org) and her next book, *Care Nation*, will be published by Ecco in 2025.

## **Saturday, March 30**

### **8:30 CHECK IN TABLE – CAMPUS LIFE CENTER**

### **9:00-10:15 – CONCURRENT SESSIONS (SATURDAY)**

#### **Session A – Embracing the Unknown: Public Pedagogy as Revolution**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Presenters:

- Embracing Ambiguity: Feminist Pedagogies, Mutual Aid, and the Unknown - Morgan Seate, Elon University
- Cultivating Student Resistance in and Beyond the Classroom, or, Pedagogy as Killjoy Revolution - Kristina Grob, University of South Carolina Sumter

Moderator: Frances B. Henderson, University of Kentucky

#### **Session B – Care and Empathy: Surviving and Thriving in Women's and Gender Studies at UGA**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Roundtable Topic: In what ways can teaching-learning-praxis in WGS address the holistic needs and well-being of students, faculty, staff, and community members? Our roundtable aims to provide useful tools for coalition building by relating our experiences of teaching and advising students, promoting dialogue through book clubs, engaging in community activism, and navigating graduate school. Inspired by the work of Grace Lee Boggs, Sara Ahmed, Audre Lorde, and Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, we center empathy, creativity, and neuroqueer theory—pushing beyond perfectionist models of teaching and presenting in academic spaces to promote collective healing. Together, we resist the oppressive and even carceral structures in academic life to embrace interdependence, value emotional labor, build trust, generate joy, and dream feminist futures.

Presenters:

- Cecilia Herles, University of Georgia
- Elise Robinson, University of Georgia
- Erin McDermott, University of Georgia
- Jess Martinez, University of Georgia,
- Vanessa Raditz, University of Georgia

Moderator: Cecilia Herles, University of Georgia

#### **Session C – Caring and Healing in the Novels of Virginia Woolf and Jesmyn Ward**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Presenters:

- Hidden in Plain Sight: The Invisibility and Hypervisibility of African American Women in America - Jaily Newell, Hazlehurst City School District
- “You push . . . until it stops hurting”: Gestures of Care as Acts of Resistance in Two Novels by Jesmyn Ward - Anne MacMaster, Millsaps College
- The Illness of the Patriarchy - Victoria Richard, Independent Scholar

Moderator: Anne MacMaster, Millsaps College

### **Session D – Transgender Cultural Studies: Bathrooms, Becomings, and Nonbinary Readings**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Invasion of the Gender Snatchers: A Popular Culture Trope and the Denial of Trans Bathroom Access as Intersectional Cisgenderism - Peter Cava, Louisiana State University
- Beyond “Before” and “After”: Affective Trans Becomings Through Queer Kinship - Whitney Roach, University of South Carolina and DJ Ralston, George Washington University
- *Detransition, Baby*: Step Into and Out of the World, Kara Pernicano, Stony Brook University

Moderator: Peter Cava, Louisiana State University

## **10:25-11:40 – CONCURRENT SESSIONS (SATURDAY)**

### **Session A – A Feminist Analysis of *Ted Lasso*: Problematizing Gendered Care**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Presenters:

- Jen Byrd, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Tiffany Morin, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Lauren Yost, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Moderator: Jen Byrd, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

### **Session B – Queer, Trans, and Disabled in Eastern Kentucky: Surviving the Now to Care for the Future**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Roundtable Topic: In March of 2023, Kentucky State Senate Bill 150 went into effect, denying gender affirming care, including social supports, to transgender youth and criminalizing providers who offer such care to their patients. It also prohibits instruction of any material that “has a goal or purpose of students studying or exploring gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation” (KY SB150 2023). Rooted in the desire for a more livable and expansive future for queer and trans young adults, discussants will consider how intergenerational care webs are built, nourished, and tested within a public mid-sized regional PWI university system in Kentucky. Examples are drawn from the lived experiences of the discussants: two full-time University staff members who are also part-time instructors in the Women and Gender Studies (WGS) program, one graduate student invested in fostering community among queer and trans students, and three undergraduate WGS students.

When considered together, these narratives highlight the fact that the needs and well-being of Kentucky queer and trans students, staff, and faculty – who are also disproportionately disabled – are chronically underserved. The social problems of burnout, brain drain, and precarious employment are prevalent in this setting, and we observe a systemic white-supremacist, ableist, and cisheteronormative consolidation of resources at this institution. Despite

how horrible it feels, this scenario organically opens the space for transformative world-building practices that disrupt the student, staff, and faculty class divide as we pull together to create more livable lives. We find that nurturing an investment in feminist theories, methods, and movements both inside and outside the WGS classroom allows us to move beyond a reproduction of neoliberal and individualistic imperatives of self-care and campus well-being. “Survival,” as Hil Malatino has written in another context, “thus becomes a shared feminist project.”

Presenters:

- Ashton Chaffins, Eastern Kentucky University
- Chase Powell, Eastern Kentucky University
- Orion Vermillion, Eastern Kentucky University
- Quinn Spencer, Eastern Kentucky University

Moderator: Miles Feroli, Eastern Kentucky University

### **Session C – Digitizing Handwritten Letters: Working with Students to Preserve Women’s History**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

In this presentation and workshop, Tammy Pike will describe her innovative approach to teaching women’s history at USC Upstate. Her service-learning project gives students hands-on experience collecting, digitizing, and preserving handwritten letters from the Margaret Payne collection at the Piedmont Historical Preservation Society (dated between 1905-1945). In this session, learn about the scope and purpose of this learning activity, as well as the digital exhibit and LibGuide associated with it. Discover the thrill of transcribing historical letters as a way to interact with women’s history and immerse yourselves in the life of one South Carolina woman—from over a hundred years ago! You’ll also learn about the positive economic impact this project has had on one small town.

### **Session D – Animating Affects: Care, Community, Coalitions, and Caution**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Feminist Teaching: Centering Care, not Compromise - Phyllis Thompson, East Tennessee State University
- A Case for Investing in Feminist Pedagogy in Community Education - Megs Peterson, University of South Florida

Moderator: Megs Peterson, University of South Florida

**11:45-1:00 – BREAK FOR LUNCH – SEE LOCAL SITES DOCUMENT FOR SUGGESTIONS**

## **RECEPTION**

**12:00-12:45 – LGBTQ CAUCUS RECEPTION**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

**1:00-2:15 – CONCURRENT SESSIONS (SATURDAY)**

**Session A – Student Caucus Seminar: Discovering Disability Studies (1:00-3:00 CLOSED SESSION)**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Participants:

- Philip Bonanno, Penn State University
- Shawna Irissari, University of Kentucky
- Katie Sullivan, Vanderbilt University
- Siobhan Pokorney, City University of New York Graduate Center
- Gaea Polanik, Appalachian State University
- brin nesryn, College of Charleston
- Sar Fenske, University of North Texas
- Charles McGregor, Old Dominion University
- Molly Dickerson, College of Charleston
- Sophie Volpe, University of Georgia

Moderator: Gabrielle McCoy, University of South Carolina

**Followed by Student Caucus Reception, 3:00-3:40 in Campus Life Center 310 - Ballroom (OPEN TO ALL STUDENT MEMBERS OF WGS SOUTH)**

### **Session B – Queer, Trans, or Brown in Place: Building Community and Care Networks in the US South**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Presenters:

- Building Queer Communities: Creating and Sharing Spaces for Intergenerational Queer Survival and Flourishing - Oliver McGowan, Elon University
- “I do say I’m a Southerner because I will not leave”: Discursive Negotiations of Trans Life in North Carolina’s Sociopolitical Climate - Archie Crowley, Elon University
- *Mindy Kaling’s Never Have I Ever* and U.S. South Asian Girlhood; plus, *A Guide for Brown Girls in Predominantly White Communities* - Nandi Boini, University of North Carolina Charlotte

Moderator: Whitney Roach, University of South Carolina

### **Session C – Reflection, Resilience, and Restoration: UNC Charlotte Women's Studies Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary!**

Room: Campus Life Center 317

Roundtable Topic: In the mid-1970s, after a group of UNC Charlotte women students called for the creation of gender-related courses, English and African American/African Studies Professor Dr. Ann Cathey Carver and a committee of like-minded faculty and students underwent an almost ten-year journey to develop and gain administrative approval for a Women's Studies curriculum. Over forty years ago, in 1984, UNC Charlotte launched the new Women's Studies Concentration (now Women's and Gender Studies) with Dr. Carver as its founding director. To recognize this achievement, the WGST Program collaborated with the Public History Program and UNC Charlotte’s Atkins Library Special Collections to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Women's and Gender Studies Program by sponsoring a three-part project/event titled Reflection, Resilience, and Restoration: Women's Studies Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary!

In this roundtable, we will provide a detailed snapshot of the outcomes, infrastructure, and other forms of support involved in this elaborate and energizing project, which will have culminated one week before the WGS South conference. From this vantage point, we will discuss the trials and triumphs of planning such a milestone event, as



well as the impact of the Women's and Gender Studies Program on students, administrators, faculty, UNC Charlotte, and on local and regional communities. Moderated by WGST part-time professor Dr. Felecia Harris, panelists include current and former WGST directors, full-time faculty, alums, interns, and research fellows joining together to reflect on one central question: What is the legacy and future of our WGST program?

Presenters:

- Sonya Ramsey, UNC Charlotte
- Leila Adams, UNC Charlotte
- Staci Bachelor, UNC Charlotte
- Jennifer Byrd, UNC Charlotte
- Debarati Dutta, UNC Charlotte
- Erica Monroe, UNC Charlotte

Moderator: Felecia Harris, UNC Charlotte

### **Session D – Care, Kinship, and Sexuality Outside the Family Policing System**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- We Will Save Our Children from “The Family”: Building Liberatory (Queer) Kinships against the State - Cristina Dominguez, College of Charleston and Meghan Watts, North Carolina State University
- Why Abolish the Family (Policing System) - Kate Davies, University of Texas at Dallas/National Humanities Center
- Coming Together for Care: Resisting Eldercare Structures through Coalitions and Community - Erica Janko, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Moderator: Hil Malatino, Penn State University

## **2:25-3:40 – CONCURRENT SESSIONS (SATURDAY)**

### **Session A – Student Caucus (closed session continues through 3:00)**

Room: Campus Life Center Ballroom – 310

**Followed by Student Caucus Reception, 3:00-3:40 (OPEN TO ALL STUDENT MEMBERS OF WGS SOUTH) Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom**

### **Session B – Tradition, Imitation, and Gender Identity: The Challenge of Composing an Authentic Self**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Mary Shelley's Creature: Promethean Ambition, the Romantic Era, and Female Authorship - Mary Frances Dickie, Millsaps College
- Colonialism and Gender Identity in Zimbabwe - Anesu Chipendo, Millsaps College
- Isa Glenn: Telling a Novelist's Life Story Through Poetic Form - Isabella Suell, Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Moderator: Anne MacMaster, Millsaps College

## **Session C – Care-full Readings in Critical Sexuality Studies**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- **Undefinable, yet Identifiable: Asexuality as Living an Indeterminate Ideal** - Christopher Vanbeukering, Georgia State University
- **Black + Lavender (Re)Visions: Exploring the Gender Identity, Expression, and Performance of Black Nonbinary Lesbians** - Joanay Tann, Georgia State University
- **Beyond Silence: The Transformative Power of Comprehensive Sex Education** - Nazih Raychouni, Georgia State University
- **Joyful in Her Place, Content in Her Purpose: The Rise of Tradwives as an Archetypal case of Feminine Fascism** - Kearney Quillen, Georgia State University

Moderator: Daniel Coleman, Georgia State University

## **3:50-5:05 – CONCURRENT SESSIONS (SATURDAY)**

### **Session A – Radical Healing and Soul Care for BIPOC Folx**

Room: Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Roundtable Topic: This session will highlight radical healing and soul-care for BIPOC folx. This population is on the front lines of resisting (or just living through) racism in systemic and everyday forms. As a result, BIPOC professors, students, and community workers face significant health disparities, including mental and physical ill-health, as well as a deep sense of weariness stemming from historical and ongoing race- and ethnic-based violence; individual, institutional, and/or historical trauma; and the rolling back of race, gender, sexuality, and other identity-based legal protections. Foundational theories for this presentation will include intersectionality theory, liberation psychology, ethno-political psychology, Black feminist theory, and Black/African American psychology.

Part 1: Presenters will deliver culturally-reflective introductions, review attendee agreements, and acknowledge threats to wellness among BIPOC-identified folx. After this introductory material, attendees will be provided with a brief overview of *radical healing* and its applicability for people of color and indigenous people. Additionally, presenters will discuss being or becoming whole in spite of injuries/wounds or trauma based on one's membership in an oppressed racial or ethnic group (Adames et al., 2023).

Part 2: Presenters will then guide participants through an experiential, self-reflective activity to identify sources of advantage and disadvantage associated with their intersectional identities. Next, a small group activity will ask participants to provide identity-based introductions to each other and engage in dialogue about their intersectional identities. The session will conclude with a facilitator-led wellness activity, guiding participants through the creation of a radical healing and soul-care plan.

Presenters:

- Justin Williams, Emory University School of Medicine and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- Naadira Upshaw, Emory University School of Medicine and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- Jade Baptiste, Oglethorpe University
- Sophie Volpe, University of Georgia

Moderator: Justin Williams, Emory University

### **Session B – Politics of Trans-Negativity: Identity, Ambiguity, Affect, & Strategic Repulsion**

Room: Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- Trans Negativity, or an Archeology of Erasure - Rylie Johnson, Emory University
- Transphobic Entanglements: Abjection and Ambiguity in the Age of Affirmation - Spenser Shelley Feller, Emory University
- Transphobic Feminism and the Politics of Ressentiment - Samantha Pinson Wrisley, Emory University
- Drag Performance and Political Repulsion in Chile - Lau Romero, Northern Michigan University

Moderator: Samantha Pinson Wrisley, Emory University

### **Session C – New Choreographies of Care in Dance, Philosophy, Television Studies, and Performance-Art Pedagogy**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Caring for Queer Choreographies: "Nervous System" as Speculative, Methodological Companion in Nonbinary Worldmaking - Caitlin Spencer, University of North Carolina, Greensboro
- The Art of Queer Care - Shannon Flaherty, Earlham College

Moderator: Rebecca Lambert, Appalachian State University

### **Session D – Yoga**

Room: Humanities and Fine Arts Building (HPAC) First Floor Art Gallery

Teacher/Style: Ani Perez

## **5:15-6:30 – CONCURRENT SESSIONS (SATURDAY)**

### **Session A – Chronically Ill Communities: Body Positivity, Fatness, Rest, and Visualizing Pain Through Time**

Campus Life Center 310 – Ballroom

Presenters:

- “Help Me, Notice Me”: An Archive of PCOS and Fatness on Reddit - Jessie Reynolds-Clay, Clemson University
- The Next Step Past the Safe Space: Implementing Mindful Body Positivity Activities in the University Classroom - M. Tiffany Messer-Bass, Clemson University
- The Role of Feminism and Disability in Social Change: A Restful Critique of Nonprofit Labor - Gabrielle Secker, Appalachian State University
- Disappearing Bodies, Visualizing Pain: Crippin’ Time in Rhetorical Theory - Hannah Taylor, Duke University

Moderator: Jessie Reynolds-Clay, Clemson University

### **Session B – Fostering Feminist Leadership and Community Care in Academic Settings: A Multidimensional Exploration**

Campus Life Center 309

Presenters:

- The Collective WGSS: Activism Through Care in WGSS Communities - Xiaoya Jang, Wake Forest University
- Self-Care as a Collective Responsibility: Digital Calendars, Series, and Events, Nadia Marie Johnson, Wake Forest University
- All About Love: 14 Insights from bell hooks - Sophie Guymon, Wake Forest University
- Multidimensional Care: An Exhibition - Madison Patel, Wake Forest University

Moderator: Wanda Balzano, Wake Forest University

### **Session C – Queer/Black Women’s Southern Ecological Stewardship as Praxes of Care**

Room: Campus Life Center 319

Presenters:

- Food N’Security: Black Women Agrarians & Feeding the Community - Anterior Leverett, Georgia State University
- Nourish the Soil, Nourish the Soul: Black Women’s Connection to Nature as a Healing Practice - Zaree Ross, Georgia State University
- Grits, Greens, and Glory: Ecowomanism's Influence on Southern Black Queer Activism - Ayana de la Cruz, Georgia State University

Moderator: Daniel Coleman, Georgia State University

## **WGS SOUTH 2024 SPONSORS**

- WGS South
- Milliken
- USC Upstate
  - Center for Women’s and Gender Studies
- Penn State
  - Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
  - Rock Ethics Institute
- Clemson University
  - Women’s Leadership Program
  - Commission on Women
  - Accessibility Commission
  - Rhetorics, Communication, and Information Design Program
- Kennesaw State University
  - Department of Interdisciplinary Studies

## **Gender-Neutral Bathrooms**

- Campus Life Center, 3rd floor behind the Ballroom
- Health Education Complex, near the Spartan Rec Center

- Library, next to Starbucks cafe

### **ANNOUNCING THE WGS SOUTH 2025 LOCATION: ATLANTA**

For the 50th Annual Conference of WGS South (a SEWSA legacy), the membership will meet in Atlanta, Georgia, returning to the site of the first meeting of this organization in 1975—three years before the National Women’s Studies Association was founded. The unique challenges of the southeastern region have prompted its minoritized residents to organize, critique, intervene, and convene on a regular basis—prompting a long history of creative and collaborative problem-solving related to social inequalities. Watch for the call for proposals for this golden anniversary conference—WGS South 2025—by late summer.