



Newsletter

2021-2022

BU

Boston University

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program

Table of Contents

03

Letter from the Director

05

Letter from the DUS

06

WGS Seminar Series

07

WGS Community Events

14

Small Grant Updates

16

UNESCO/UNITWIN

17

Awards and Recognitions

19

End of Year Party

20

Faculty Spotlight

A Message From The Director



Cati Connell
WGS Program Director

A Message from the Director:

For me, the end of the academic year is always cause for reflection on the health and vitality of the BU WGS Program—on our successes, our challenges, our vision for the coming years. This year is an especially poignant period of contemplation for me, as I complete my 6th and final year as Director. Back in 2017, we held a two-day retreat in Wellfleet, Massachusetts to discuss and determine a five-year plan for the program. Since this marks the end of those five years, I thought it might be a fitting end to my term as Director to revisit those goals and assess how far we've come toward realizing them.

At that retreat, we recommitted to our aspirations as a distinctly transdisciplinary program, as reflected in our foundational course, Gender & Sexuality: An Interdisciplinary Introduction, team-taught by a humanist, a social scientist, and a natural scientist to offer students a more holistic education in gender & sexuality. This introduction helps students bridge and see parallels between radically different disciplines and intellectual traditions. After an external review in 2021, we decided to synthesize it into a one-semester course (rather than a two-semester sequence) so that we can more successfully realize our goal of offering clear and consistent transdisciplinary foundations for our students. This change to minor requirements was approved and will go into effect next academic year (see [our website](#) for more on the new minor requirements). In 2019, we also launched a seminar series that brought in scholars from the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences to discuss urgent theoretical, methodological, and activist interventions in WGS (see our [previous newsletters](#) for more on past seminar series events). This ongoing dialogue between these academic traditions has included some of the most exciting and challenging moments of my leadership and it's something I'm proud to have helped facilitate.

During that 2017 retreat, we also agreed that our vision of WGS includes honoring the program's role as an activist space on campus. Historically, the program played a crucial role as a safe haven for faculty and students through more gender and sexuality hostile administrations and eras. Even though WGS today is well-supported by our administration, we did not want to lose sight of the program's continued responsibility to be a resource for marginalized students, staff, and faculty. To that end, over the past five years we have been involved in a number of student and faculty actions, including advising [The Center for Gender, Sexuality, and Activism](#), developing a CGSA Alumni Network through Gabby Newton, starting a menstrual products campaign, supporting a student-led "Yes on 3" campaign to uphold LGBTQ+ legal protection, contributing to the development of an LGBTQ+ faculty and staff office, organizing an workshop on reproductive justice, supporting the Anarchist Bookfair and nonviolent protest workshops, developing and hosting multiple queer and trans inclusivity workshops and teach-ins, organizing a scholars of color network, and participating in actions on Black Lives Matter, anti-AAPI violence, gender inclusive housing and bathroom campaigns, graduate student unionizing efforts, protesting campus sexual harassment and assault, and combatting homophobic/transphobic rhetoric, among others.

The past five years have also been time of enormous growth. We have more than doubled our affiliated faculty ranks; our 50 WGS faculty affiliates span more than a dozen disciplinary areas and seven colleges within BU (CAS, Sargent, Law, Theology, Met, CGS, & Kilachand). Our course offerings have grown tremendously as well. As of spring 2022, we have developed 16 core courses and added a substantive number of cross-lists for a total of 59 WGS courses that are offered on a yearly (or near-yearly) basis (see [our website](#) for the complete course list).

During my time as Director, our students and faculty have developed an enviable and extensive roster of accomplishments. Congratulations to this year's WGS minor and certificate graduates and to our Sarah Joanne Davis award winners ([see info on p.17](#)). Check out [p.20 for announcements and congratulations](#) regarding publications and professional accomplishments from our WGS community!

There are no words that could truly capture the complexity and the volume of gratitude I've experienced working with this community during my six years as Director. As this program has grown, I have grown right along with it—learning more about myself, higher education, gender and sexuality scholarship and activism, and how to lead with integrity in good times and bad. I owe this education to the incredible role models and interlocutors have had the pleasure to learn from during this time, a list that includes a broad swath of undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, staff, and campus leaders. I have been fortunate to spend one last year working with our Program Coordinator Olivia McCargar and our Media & Outreach Coordinator Lauren Hagy, who will be graduating this spring from Kilachand & Pardee and who we will miss greatly! Thank you to our Director of Undergraduate Studies, Sarah Miller, and our Director of Graduate Studies, Sandy McEvoy. Thank you especially to Susanne Sreedhar, who will be taking over as Director next year; I know we will be in more-than-capable hands and I look forward to your leadership as we move forward!

Finally, thank you as always to all of the WGS faculty who come to meetings and events, teach our courses, mentor our students, offer research expertise and raise the program's profile with their work, and bring diversity and richness of experience to our program. I look forward to continued collegiality and collective action with you all in the next five years to come.

Cati Connell
WGS Director



A Message From The Director of Undergraduate Studies



Sarah Miller
WGS Program DUS

A Message from the Director of Undergraduate Studies:

WGS Minor Update: Beginning in Fall 2022, the WGS minor requirements have changed. Please review the following chart and reach out to Dr. Miller if you have any questions.

UPDATED WGS MINOR REQUIREMENTS

New Starting Fall 2022	Old Before Fall 2022
WS 101	WS 101 & 102
Five Other Courses □ 2 of which must be Core	Four Other Courses □ 1 of which must be Core

As of Fall 2022, WS 102 will no longer be offered.

- If you already took 101 and 102, 102 will count as Core and towards one of the five other required courses.
- If you already took 102, but have not yet taken 101, you do not need to also take 101. We will count 102 as satisfying the 101 requirement.
- 101 and 102 retain their original Hub units. This means that while you may count 102 as 101 to satisfy the minor, the Hub units you received from 102 will stay the same. You cannot receive 101 Hub units for 102.

WS Intro Series Hub Capacities

WS 101: Philosophical Inquiry, Scientific Inquiry I, Critical Thinking
WS 102: Social Inquiry I, Ethical Reasoning, Critical Thinking



WGS Seminar Series

Hybrid Virtual and In-Person Seminars 2021-2022



Being Street: The Trans Woman of Color as History

November 15, 1:30PM-2:45PM

Jules Gill-Peterson

University of Pittsburgh

Co-sponsored by the BU Department of English and the Health Humanities Project



American Studies for the Future: Cheryl Hicks

March 3, 5:00PM

Cheryl Hicks

University of Delaware

In collaboration with the American and New England Studies Program



Queer Space in a Church?

Delayed to Fall 2022 due to COVID conditions

Heather White

University of Puget Sound

Co-sponsored by the BU Department of Religion and the Health Humanities Project



Dividual Economies, Of Data, of Flesh: Maiming as Global Governance

April 20, 4:00PM-5:00PM

Jasbir K. Puar

Rutgers Univeristy

In collaboration with the BUCH and the Seeing Not Seeing Seminar

Community Events

Co-sponsored and other Events of Interest to WGS from 2021-2022

Religion & (Breaking) Boundaries: Virtual Conference

September 26, 2021

The Boston University Graduate program in Religion Student Association invites you to attend their 2021 virtual graduate student conference on the study of religion. The event will feature a keynote address from Prof. Sarah McFarland Taylor of Northwestern University. You must register to receive the Zoom meeting IDs and conference program before the event. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tyler J. Fuller.

Margaret Fletcher: Catholic Womanhood, Class, Family, and Celibacy

October 8, 2021 from 12 to 1:30 pm

With Kathryn Lamontagne, Lecturer, College of General Studies. By choosing a single, celibate life Margaret Fletcher (1862-1943) was engaging with a virginal Marian conception of Catholicism as well as informally rejecting the procreative, marital conception of motherhood for herself, as the proper culmination of lay Catholic womanhood. Through this rejection of certain aspects of “assumed” Catholic womanhood she gave herself the freedom to pursue her professional paths and her work for Catholic women. Her individual rejection of the sacrament of marriage cannot be seen apart from a greater idealistic secular New Woman ideal, but it is also evidence of a strong engagement with the catechesis of the Church in England. For Fletcher, there were often multiple strands that motivated personal and domestic decisions: religious and secular, necessity and theory.

American Women and the Ongoing Battle to Save Democracy

October 7, 2021 at 4 PM ET

Lecture by Jennifer Rubin, Washington Post opinion writer and author of *Resistance: How Women Saved Democracy from Donald Trump*. Rubin will examine the persistent threat to American democracy and the central role women from across the political spectrum played in opposing and ultimately defeating Trump. In this lecture, Rubin will discuss how American women redefined US politics and, looking ahead, will examine women’s importance to defending the rule of law and multiracial democracy. Rubin will be joined in conversation with Michael Martin, weekend host, NPR’s *All Things Considered*. The event is free and all are welcome to attend.

Cheffes de Cuisine: Women and Work in the Professional French Kitchen

October 15, 2021 from 12 pm - 1 pm

Though women enter France’s culinary professions at higher rates than ever, men still receive the lion’s share of the major awards and Michelin stars. Rachel E. Black looks at the experiences of women in Lyon to examine issues of gender inequality in France’s culinary industry. Known for its female-led kitchens, Lyon provides a unique setting for understanding the gender divide, as Lyonnais women have played a major role in maintaining the city’s culinary heritage and its status as a center for innovation. Voices from history combine with present-day interviews and participant observation to reveal the strategies women use to navigate male-dominated workplaces or, in many cases, avoid men in kitchens altogether. Black also charts how constraints imposed by French culture minimize the impact of #MeToo and other reform-minded movements. Evocative and original, *Cheffes de Cuisine* celebrates the successes of women inside the professional French kitchen and reveals the obstacles women face in the culinary industry and other male-dominated professions.

Tender Black Feelings: A Conversation on Pedagogy and Research

October 19, 2021 from 5 pm - 6:30 pm

A conversation with Dr. Ianna Hawkins Owen, Assistant Professor of English and African American Studies at Boston University moderated by Dr. Takeo Rivera, Assistant Professor English and affiliate of African American Studies at Boston University.

Boston Mayoral Student Forum

October 29, 2021 from 7-8 pm

Hosted by BU student Government in conjunction with the Boston Intercollegiate Government, join us to hear from mayoral candidates Annissa Essaibi George and Michelle Wu. This event is supported by the Howard Thurman Center for Common Ground and the BU Initiative on Cities.

Hispanic Cinema Series: Daresha Kyi. Co-director of “Chavela”

October 28, 2021 at 4:30 pm

Daresha Kyi is an Emmy award winner who writes, produces, and directs documentary and narrative film and all kinds of television in Spanish and English. A natural born storyteller, she made her first short, experimental film “Schism” at the age of 16. In 2017 she co-directed and co-produced the feature-length documentary, “Chavela”, which was nominated for the Teddy Award. CHAVELA is the captivating portrait of beloved singer Chavela Vargas, whose passionate renditions of popular Ranchera songs made her a beloved figure in Mexico, even as her androgynous appearance and unconventional life challenged norms of the day. Click [here](#) to view the film.

Queering the Field: Fostering a More Equitable Experience for LGBTQ+ Researchers in Field-Based STEM Research with Dr. Christopher A. Schmitt

October 28, 2021 from 12-1 pm

Although being queer or LGBTQ+ is increasingly accepted in academic contexts internationally, this acceptance is not universal, and progress is rarely felt outside urban areas. This poses numerous special risks for LGBTQ+ biologists and other scientists who work in field-based conditions. WGS Professor Dr. Christopher A. Schmitt will explore some of these risks, how they pose systemic barriers to queer participation in scientific research, and offer some solutions to make field-based research more equitable. Sponsored by LGBTQ+ Center for Faculty and Staff and College of Arts and Sciences.

BU LGBTQIA+ Scholars Series: Creating Early Childhood and Curriculum that Welcome and Support Children with Behavior, and Families with LGBTQIA+ Members with Ellie

November 5, 2021 from 2-3 pm

Dr. Ellie Friedland will present her work that early childhood educators with knowledge and to create environments that welcome and support staff of all sexual orientations and gender identities with gender expansive behaviors and/or identities. The development begins with the necessary personal work to accept knowledge and the professional responsibility to The interactive workshops focus on knowledge of the of gender, accurate meanings of the ever-expanding related to gender and sexual orientation, knowledge and for implementing curriculum that includes LGBTQIA+ and actively counters gender stereotypes and assumptions genders and sexual orientations. Workshops include real-life situations teachers face or anticipate facing about they have questions and concerns.

Boston University Arts and Sciences Department of Anthropology

SYSTEMIC RACISM IN HEALTH AND MEDICINE: AN EMERGING SCHOLARS PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE

ZOOM WEBINAR
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 12TH FROM 4:00 - 5:30PM
<https://bostonbu.zoom.us/j/92818928282>

SUPPORTING PROGRAMS

- CAS Dean's Office
- CAS Office of Associate Dean for Diversity & Inclusion
- CAS Department of Sociology
- CAS Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
- CAS African American Studies
- BU MS Medical Anthropology and Cross-Cultural Practice

DR. DANA-AN DAVIS
Professor of Anthropology, Queer College and CUNY Graduate Center
CHAIR AND MODERATOR

DR. NATALI VALDEZ
Assistant Professor of Mission and Gender Studies, Wellesley College
MODERATOR

DR. CHELSEY CARTER
Postdoctoral Fellow, Princeton University
PANELIST
"Medical Backsliding" in ALS Care: Black Patients' Quest to be Heard, Seen and Understood

MS. YESMAR OYALZUM
PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Rice University
PANELIST
On Anti-Black Racism and Dermatological Perception

MS. CLAUDIA MORALES
PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University
PANELIST
Disability, Debitation, and Migration: the Emergence of Networks of Care

MR. TADIAN FERNANDEZ
PhD Candidate (MSW) PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Berkeley
PANELIST
Policing Care - Safety and the Administration of Racialized Minds in a U.S. Emergency Department

DR. DIANA BURNETT
ALS Fellow, Karolinska Center for Religious, Rights, and Social Justice
PANELIST
Spiritualizing Racial Health Inequalities: The Conversation between Pathology and Theology

BU Boston University Diversity & Inclusion

Workshop for Faculty & Staff: Pronouns Matter

November 15, 2021 from 12-1:30 pm

According to the Trevor Project 1 in 4 LGBTQ youth use pronouns and pronoun combinations that fall outside the traditional gender binary and respecting the pronouns of transgender and non-binary people is in and of itself suicide prevention. Faculty and staff regularly use pronouns in everyday speech without thinking and often make inferences that are incorrect. As part of Transgender Awareness Week (November 13-19), the Dean of Students Office, Equal Opportunity Office, and LGBTQIA+ Center for Faculty & Staff are collaborating on a workshop that will provide a primer to inclusively and respectfully using transgender and non-binary students' and colleagues' pronouns and lived names. Our time together will include an educational overview, a panel of trans and nonbinary members of the BU campus community speaking about their experiences, information about pronoun and lived name use in the context of Title IX and compliance, and a question and answer period. This will be an informative workshop and an opportunity to learn more about ways to be an ally to and support trans and nonbinary students and colleagues at BU.

BU LGBTQIA+ Scholars Series: Challenges in Queer Theological Education: The Scholar's Identity, the Student's Success, and the Curriculum's Failure with Luis Menéndez-Antuña

November 12, 2021 from 11 am - 12 pm

Dr. Luis Menéndez-Antuña will discuss some of the specific dilemmas that religious and theological educators face in institutional settings, name some of the challenges that students studying for ministry and who self-identify as sexual minorities encounter in the classroom, and point at the problems of developing a theological curriculum that is attentive to queer sensibilities.

LGBTQ+ Wellness Fair

November 17, 2021 from 10 am - 3 pm

(1) Resource Fair (10 am - 3 pm): Talk with Boston LGBTQ+ community organizations about their wellness resources. You can also build your own self-care kit from a selection of squish toys, skincare masks, fuzzy socks, beanies, safer sex supplies, menstrual products, and more. (2) Referral Coordinating Appointments (12-3 pm): Meet 1-on-1 with LGBTQ+ therapists & referral coordinators who can help you find LGBTQ+ competent therapists that meet your needs and answer questions about mental healthcare options.

BU LGBTQIA+ Scholars Series: LGBTQIA+ Teacher Wellbeing: A Duoethnography

November 19, 2021 from 12-1 pm

Featuring Tawnya Smith and Kính T. Vũ, both Assistant Professors of Music, Music Education, College of Fine Arts. Dr. Tawnya Smith and Dr. Kính T. Vũ will share their experiences as LGBTQIA+ music teachers in order to interrogate how the dominant discourses and metanarratives in education negatively impacted their health and wellbeing as early career teachers. They will present their performative duoethnography as a means to convey their stories as a point of departure for a discussion on the topic.

Remembering Our Transcestors: Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil

November 19, 2021 from 5-6:30 pm

On this year's Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), join the Queer Activist Collective ("Q") to honor the memory of transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence, especially with 2021 being the deadliest year on record. Chastity Bowick (she/her) from the Transgender Emergency Fund will speak to provide awareness and education about TDOR, including community action steps we can take to prevent future deaths and the importance of Black Trans leadership in liberation movements. This will be followed by a name reading ceremony and vigil to highlight the lives of TGNC community members we have lost across New England.

TGNC Expressive Arts Group Space

November 21, 2021 from 2-3:30 pm

In honor of TDOR, the Queer Activist Collective and the Trans Listening Circle invite any trans and nonbinary BU students to join us in the Terrace Lounge to exist and reflect together. Led by Kirbie MacEwen (they/them), a licensed therapist, this group will be centered around expressive arts. We hope to offer a space for community conversation where TGNC folks can connect, create, and process in community.

Movie Screening: Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt

November 30, 2021 from 6-8 pm

In conjunction with our AIDS Memorial Quilt display, we'll be having a movie screening of Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt, a 1989 documentary film that tells the story of the Quilt. The film focuses on several people who are represented by panels in the Quilt, which were created by surviving families and friends of people who died of AIDS. Sponsored by the Queer Activist Collective.

World AIDS Day: AIDS Memorial Quilt Unveiling

December 1, 2021 at 1:30 pm

In observance of World AIDS Day, join us for an unveiling of the AIDS Memorial Quilt on Monday, November 29 at the BU Arts Initiative suite. The display will be viewable by all on the 2nd floor of the GSU for a week. The AIDS Memorial Quilt is a 54-ton tapestry that includes nearly 50,000 panels dedicated to more than 105,000 individuals. Sponsored by the Queer Activist Collective, BU Arts Initiative, and LGBTQIA+ Center for Faculty and Staff.

Urban Inequalities Workshop with Dr. Greggor Mattson

December 3, 2021 from 2:30 - 4 pm

Dr. Mattson, chair of Sociology at Oberlin College, will present his work in progress titled "Gay Bars Were Never Safe Spaces."

Supporting Folks Living with HIV/AIDS: World AIDS Day Panel

December 3, 2021 from 5 - 6:30 pm

Although significant advances have been made, HIV/AIDS continues to disproportionately affect the LGBTQ+ community, especially Black and Latinx folks, transfemme people, incarcerated individuals, sex workers, and those at the intersections of these communities. We must take action. Join the Queer Activist Collective ("Q") for a panel discussion to learn how we can support folks living with HIV/AIDS, end the stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS, and debunk common myths & misconceptions.

Decolonizing Migration Studies

February 3, 2022 from 5:00-7:00 pm

The Boston Area Migration Workshop will host a panel discussion on Decolonizing Migration Studies. The Workshop provides a meeting space for scholars of global migration and immigration to exchange ideas and discuss research projects. We welcome faculty, students, and researchers from across the broad range of social sciences disciplines, methods, and perspectives.

Indian Sexual Politics and the Global AIDS Crisis

February 4, 2022 from 12:00-1:30 pm

Part of Sociology's Spring 2022 Seminar Series. Gowri Vijayakumar is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Her research and teaching use feminist and transnational perspectives to illuminate the trajectories of social movements, the everyday life of the state, and the political economy of globalization.



Negotiating Utopia:
Ethnography and Theorizing from
Entangled US Trans Subjectivities

prabhdeep kehal
Brown University

02.07.2022 • 4 PM ET

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/negotiating-utopia-a-talk-by-prabhdeep-kehal-tickets-225446325027>

Blindfolded and Bound: The Homonormative Urban Lens

February 11, 2022 from 2:30-4:00 pm

Lecture by Landon Lauder, PhD Student in Sociology.

BIPOC Wellness Fair

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Join the BIPOC Mental Health Collective, Queer Activist Collective, and Mental Health Committee for our BIPOC Wellness Fair. We'll have everything from a fair with culturally competent support resources, to therapy consultations, to free self-care supplies and more.

Learn More Series: Double Rainbow: The Life and Love of LGBTQ+ People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

February 25, 2022 from 12:00-1:00 pm

For this panel presentation, LGBTQ+ self-advocates will share personal stories and the findings from 20 interviews to teach about struggles and triumphs in the lives and relationships of LGBTQ+ people with I/DD.

WGS Graduate Certificate Workshop
Pedagogy and Practice to Support Undergraduate Teaching
Led by Sandy McEvoy, Clinical Assoc. Professor of WGS and Political Science

 MARCH 2 • 4:30 - 6:30 pm
Register: <https://bit.ly/3HWPYcP>

In search of support for your graduate teaching assignment? Need tips on creative ways to engage with undergraduates in discussion sections? This informal workshop focuses on undergraduate pedagogy in multidisciplinary courses and on the development of practical skills including: creating a syllabus, preparing engaging lectures and effective building assignments.

BU Conversations in the Arts & Ideas presents “An Evening with Bill T. Jones.”

March 2, 2022 at 7:00 pm, doors open at 6:30 pm

The renowned choreographer, director, and dancer Bill T. Jones joins Professor Louis Chude-Sokei for a public conversation about his life and work. Admission is free, a reservation is required. Bill T. Jones is recognized for his contributions as a dancer and choreographer. Renowned for provocative performances that blend an eclectic mix of modern and traditional dance, Mr. Jones creates works that challenge us to confront tough subjects and inspire us to greater heights. This event is sponsored by the Boston University Center for the Humanities, Kilachand Honors College, Office of the Provost, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, BU Arts Initiative, NEH Distinguished Teaching Professorship, CAS Core Curriculum, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, and Dean of the College of Fine Arts.

Celebrate Transgender Day of Visibility

March 31, 2022 from 12:00 - 3:00 pm

In honor of Transgender Day of Visibility—a day which brings visibility to, celebrates, and raises awareness about transgender people and our lived experiences—the LGBTQIA+ Center for Faculty & Staff will be hosting an open house. Stop by to pick up trans and nonbinary flag cookies, buttons, and educational materials to honor and celebrate the day at BU. Sponsored by the LGBTQIA+ Center for Faculty and Staff.

Indigenous
Voices in
the Americas

Storytelling Sovereignty

March 23rd @ 6 pm
Howard Thurman Center Event Space,
808 Commonwealth Ave

More info and Registration at:
bu.edu/arts/monikaillie

Boston and BU Covid Safety
Protocols will be enforced.

Free & Open to the Public

Monika Ille - Abenaki First Nation of Odanak
CEO Aboriginal Peoples Television
Network (APTN)

BU Arts Initiative

“Conscience, not Bigotry” and Other Framings in Conflicts over LGBTQ+ Rights and Religious Liberty

April 1, 2022 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm

In this talk, Linda C. McClain, Robert Kent Professor of Law at BU Law, will evaluate the different rhetorical framings of whether and how religious liberty and LGBTQ+ rights appear to collide in Supreme Court cases involving marriage equality and public accommodations laws. McClain will explore how competing understandings of pluralism and what limits government may place on the “free exercise” of religious liberty in the “public square”—both in the marketplace and in public/private partnerships—shape these controversies. Sponsored by LGBTQIA+ Center for Faculty and Staff and the BU School of Law.

BU Clothesline Project

April 5 - April 12, 2022

The LGBTQIA+ Center for Faculty & Staff is holding space, along with others on campus, for survivors to participate in this year’s BU Clothesline Project. Staff and faculty, as well as students, who are survivors and allies of survivors are invited to share their story on a shirt that will be displayed at the BU Arts Initiative in the GSU. You are welcome to stop by the Center Monday through Friday from 9 am - 5 pm. Other locations where you can design shirts are the Center for Gender, Sexuality & Activism (CGSA), Howard Thurman Center (HTC), and Sexual Assault Response & Prevention Center (SARP).

The Anti-Racist Roots of Queer and Trans Activism: A History of Direct Action and the Body

April 8, 2022 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm

This talk explores how we must turn to the body as it was deployed and theorized in anti-racist uses of direct action if we are to truly understand the queer and trans activism that arose in the late sixties, seventies, eighties, and nineties. This lecture continues an emergent line of investigation that tries to unearth the intersectional genealogies of queer and trans liberatory organizations and movements by illuminating the legacies of anti-racism in those struggles.

LGBTQIA+ Scholar Series: The Caged Bird Sings: Welcoming Identities through Music-making

April 8, 2022 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm

The arts are a distinct and unique means through which one can express one’s wholeness. In this session, André de Quadros will trace a trajectory of LGBTQ+ narratives, issues, and problems from his childhood in South Asia, to LGBTQ group singing internationally, to activism on the Mexico-US border, and masculinity in American prisons.

The poster is for a book launch and discussion of 'Model Minority Masochism' by Dr. Takeo Rivera. It features the BU College of Arts & Sciences African American Studies logo, a 'BLACK HISTORY SEASON 2022' graphic, and a photo of Dr. Rivera. The text includes the book title, author name, and event details: 'APRIL 26th 6 PM African American Studies Program 138 Mountfort Street Brookline, MA 02446'. A small bio of Dr. Rivera is also present.

BU College of Arts & Sciences
African American Studies

BLACK HISTORY SEASON 2022

DR. TAKEO RIVERA
Model Minority Masochism
BOOK LAUNCH & DISCUSSION

Come celebrate the launch of *Model Minority Masochism: Performing the Cultural Politics of Asian American Masculinity*, by Dr. Takeo Rivera, Assistant Professor of English, WCS, and AFAM at Boston University.

While many are quick to disprove the model minority as “myth,” Rivera instead reflects the model minority as cultural politics in this new book, arguing that Asian Americans have formulated their racial and gendered subjectivities in masochistic relation to the model minority. *Model Minority Masochism* provides a new theory of Asian American affect across theater, literature, graphic novels, historical archives, and video games.

In conversation with Dr. Carrie Preston, Director of Kikuchi Honors College and Professor of English and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

APRIL 26th
6 PM
African American Studies Program
138 Mountfort Street
Brookline, MA 02446

bu.edu/afam | @afam_bu

Boston University Lavender Ceremony

April 10, 2022

This event is held to recognize the achievements and contributions of the graduating class of undergraduate LGBTQ+ students at BU. During the ceremony, graduating students will have their names read and receive a rainbow stole, which can also be worn with academic regalia during commencement. The ceremony will be followed by a reception with food and drinks. It is open to all undergraduate students graduating in 2022. The ceremony will take place on May 21, 2022 from 7:00-9:30 pm but the deadline to register is April 10, 2022.

Refuge: A Virtual Conversation

May 12, 2022 from 1:00 - 2:30 pm EST

Please join the Boston Area Migration Workshop and Boston University Sociology for a virtual conversation with Nega Maghbouleh, Rhacel Parreñas, Victor Ray, and Heba Gowayed on her new book *Refuge* published with Princeton University Press. The conversation will be led and moderated by Nazli Kibria.



Collage by Kendrick Daye | Photograph by Hank O'Neal (1977)

Small Grant Updates



From Michele “Shelly” DeBiase, Shannon Peters, Hagere Yilma

Project Title: Distress Tolerance and Emotional Regulation as Determinants of Social Justice Work Engagement

Participation of white-identified individuals in antiracist actions is essential to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion and disrupt systemic racism. Relatedly, the need to diversify healthcare professions has received renewed attention, and healthcare education programs and professional organizations have been tasked to improve diversity within their professional ranks and inclusion in professional spaces. Improving diversity, equity, and inclusion among healthcare professionals has the potential to reduce health disparities and increase diversity and inclusion in healthcare professional education programs. Distress tolerance (DT) and emotional regulation (ER) are two emotional/behavior constructs that describe an individual’s ability to withstand and modulate negative emotional states. “White fragility” is a recently coined term that describes the emotional/behavioral reactions of white-identified individuals to threats to their self-concept as “good people”. Specifically, at times when white-identified individuals are caused to realize their extant biases (implicit/explicit) against those racialized as Black or “of color”, they experience negative emotional states that often reveal themselves in outward expressions of emotions (“crying”), and/or distancing themselves from the situation that evoked the emotional response. These responses are termed “white fragility” (WF). We hypothesize that WF, DT, and emotional regulation (ER) are related to white-identified individual’s engagement with anti-racist actions (EARA). Our work will determine the relationships between these variables and if any variable exerts a mediator or moderator effect upon EARA. If our work demonstrates a relationship, the research suggests that including principles of dialectic behavior therapy (DBT) into diversity and inclusion trainings might help individuals improve their DT and ER abilities and decrease experience of WF such that EARA might be more meaningful and impactful.

From Sarah Miller

With the assistance of a WGS small grant, Dr. Miller received developmental editorial assistance for her upcoming book, *The Tolerance Generation: Growing Up Online in the Anti-Bullying Era*, currently under advance contract with University of Chicago Press. She presented chapters from this book at the Eastern Sociological Society’s Annual Meeting, the Creating Spaces 2022 Conference and will be presenting again at the American Sociological Association’s Annual Conference this August in Los Angeles.

From Takeo Rivera

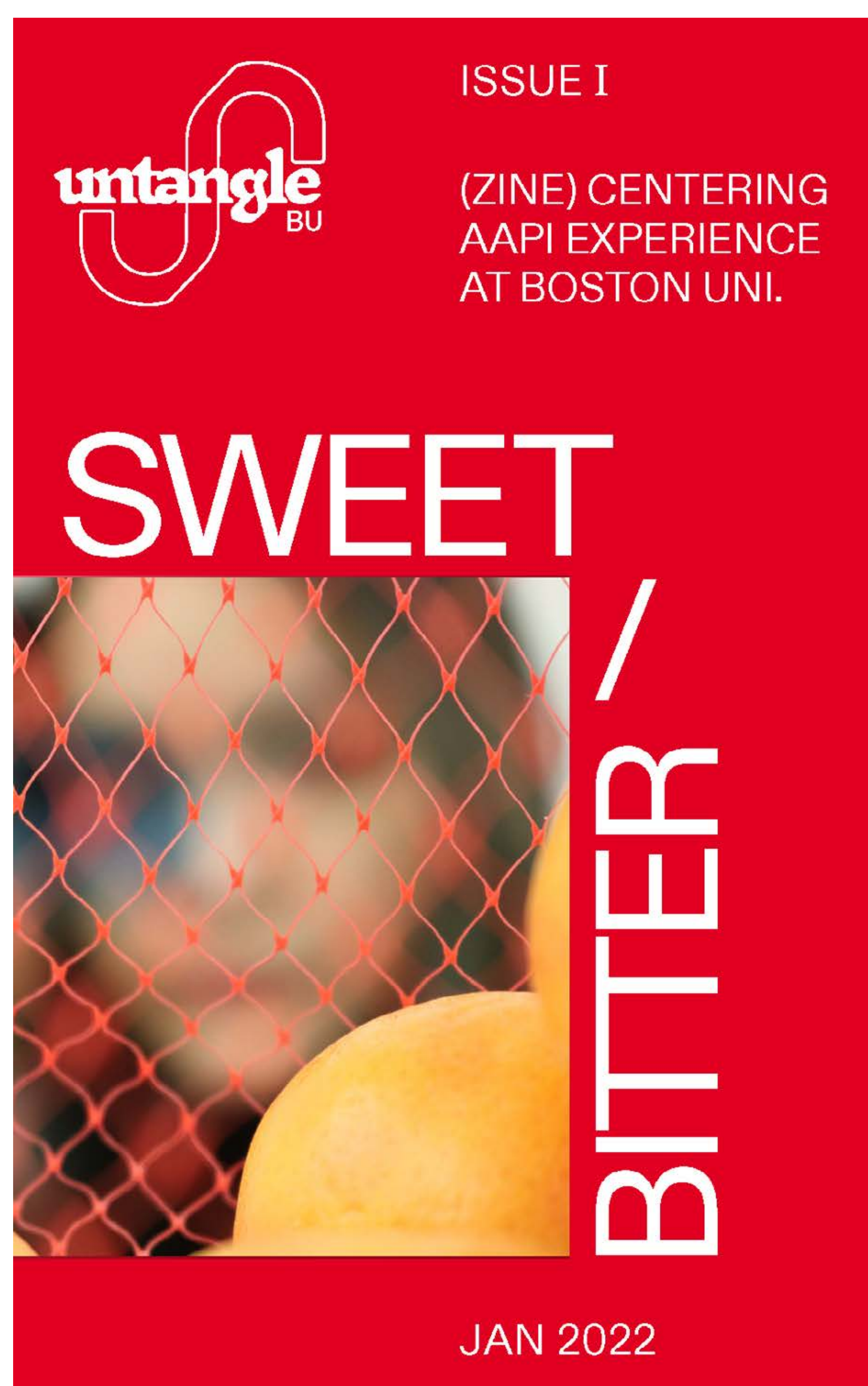
Utilizing a WGS small grant, Takeo Rivera helped fund the first print run of BU's first Asian American zine, *Untangle*. Created by undergraduates Emily Wu and Alyssa Yeh and featuring contributors from throughout BU's Asian American student community, *Untangle* is a breathtaking leap forward for Asian American creative expression on campus, presenting over sixty pages of original art, essays, and poems. Thanks to the support of WGS, *Untangle* now has a physical presence, amplifying Asian American voices at a time when such avenues have been few and far between at BU.

You can see the digital version of the zine here for free: https://www.dropbox.com/s/j2hg29j8iky2q27/Untangle_Vol1_FINAL2.pdf?dl=0

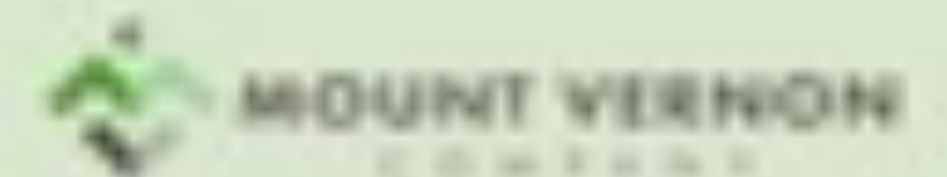
From Susanne Sreedhar

I was very grateful for the WGS research grant, which offset the cost of editorial assistance in the writing of a proposal and sample chapters for my second book, entitled *Hobbes on Sex*. These materials then earned me a contract with Oxford University Press.

Thanks, WGS!



UNESCO/UNITWIN Network on Gender, Culture & Development



The BU/WGS-based UNESCO/UNITWIN Network on Gender, Culture & People-Centered Development supports the work of academics at member universities and of social-activists in partner NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations), promoting the transcontinental sharing of voices and interdisciplinary collaboration. The Network is a global partnership of 13 universities and NGOs in India, West Africa and Greater Boston. Several examples of initiatives of this partnership in 2021-22 figure below.

Grand Opening Ceremony of the Arthaus Gallery of Unbound Visual Arts (UVA), Allston-Brighton's first community-based art gallery! (December 12th 2021 at 43 North Beacon Street in Allston, Massachusetts): This new gallery is enabling UVA, a UNESCO/UNITWIN Affiliate, to showcase original works of art from diverse artists throughout Greater Boston. The opening of the Arthaus Exhibit Gallery has long been sought to provide a formal space for metro Boston "creatives" and to enrich Allston's historic and cultural arts district. UVA aims to make unique visual artwork available through one-of-a-kind exhibitions, and to advance the organization's educational and social justice missions. UVA held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the Arthaus Gallery in the presence of our City Councilor Liz Breadon, State Senator Will Brownsberger, State Representative Kevin Honan, City Councilor At-Large Ruthzee Louijeune, Mount Vernon Chairman and Founder Bruce Percelay, plus numerous UVA Members and other artists and art supporters, alongside enthusiastic neighbors!

(This feature draws content from: <http://www.unboundvisualarts.org>)



Photo: en.unesco.org

Tribute to Gloria Bonder & The UNESCO Regional Chair on Women, Science and Technology in Latin America (based in Buenos Aires) on its 20th Anniversary: Gloria Bonder, who heads up both this Regional Chair and the Global Network of UNESCO Chairs on Gender, has worked tirelessly herself and guiding her colleagues to celebrate the feminist achievements of scholars worldwide. Her partnership with our Boston University-based UNESCO/UNITWIN Network on Gender, Culture and People-Centered Development led to invaluable collaboration on volumes of Gender Perspectives in Case Studies Across Continents that we co-edit and co-publish. For the near future, I suggest that the stellar work of the Regional Chair merits the preparation and publication of a case study in our joint "Women & UN Origins" series, showcasing both challenges the Chair confronted and its accomplishments as a model contributor to the global dialogue promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. (From Brenda's Tribute on behalf of the UNESCO/UNITWIN on the Regional Chair's 20th Anniversary Jumbotron). Prof. Asha Mukherjee of our UNITWIN Network in India contributed a Tribute focusing on female training and education in West Bengal. "Brava" Gloria & team!

Dr. Brenda Gael McSweeney
Director
UNESCO/UNITWIN at BU WGS



Photo by Fran Gardino



Awards and Recognition:

Sarah Joanne Davis Award Winners

The Sarah Joanne Davis Scholarship Award competition is conducted every year in WGS. The award is given to a Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies minor who has made a significant contribution by either writing a paper in one of their WGS courses, or to their community through activism, leadership, artistic creation, publication, political engagement, or other initiatives. We are delighted to announce the 2021-2022 award winners:



Kelsey Brown

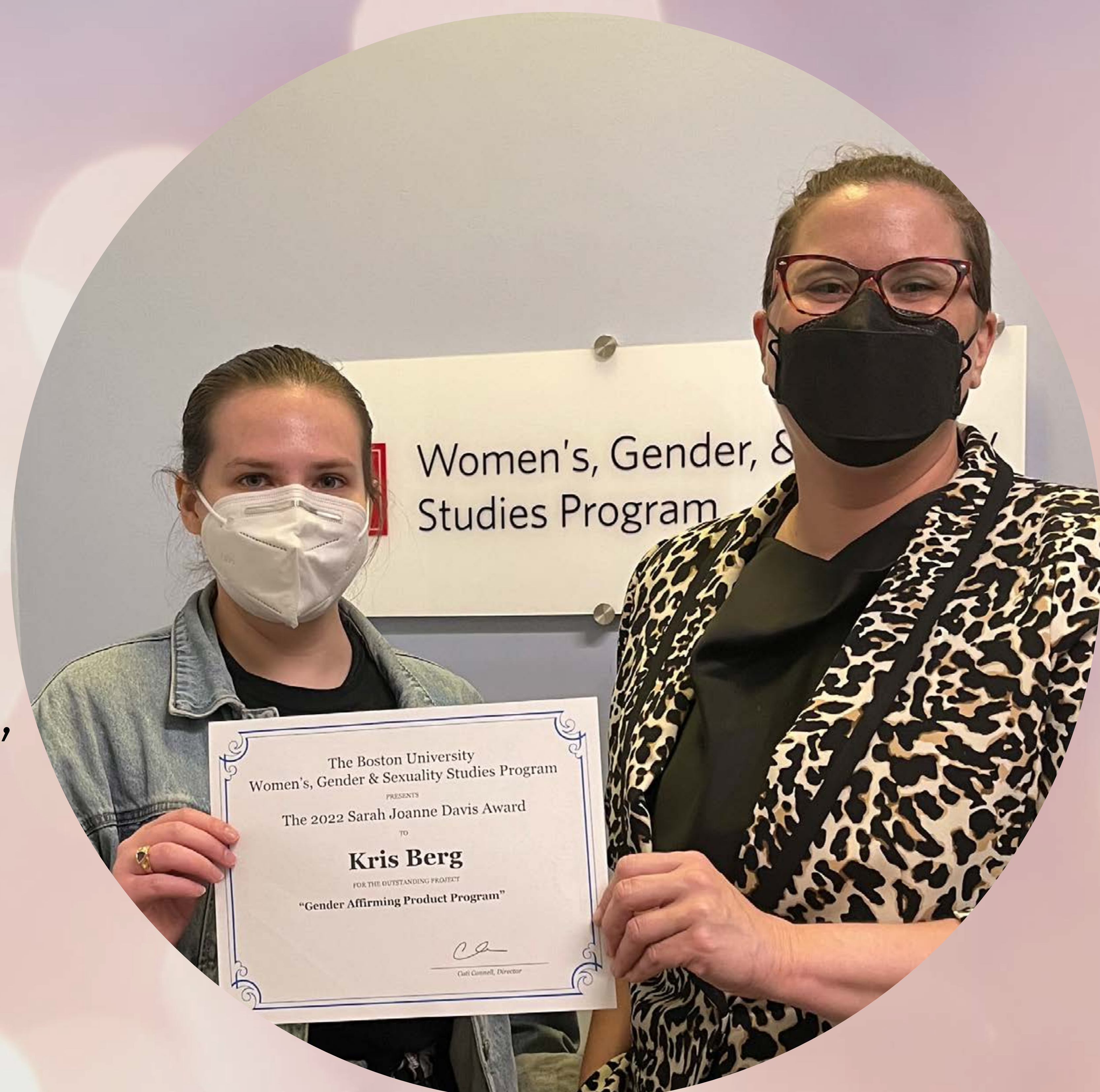
for the outstanding paper

"Privilege and Boundary Work in Boston Party Cultures"

Kris Berg

for the outstanding project

"Gender Affirming Product Program"



Please visit www.bu.edu/wgs/sjd for more

Awards and Recognition:

WGS Certificate Completions

Every year we celebrate our grad students who have completed the WGS certificate at our end of the year party; while we can't gather in person, we are still very proud of the new certificate holders and can't wait to see their future work and accomplishments

Jena DiMaggio
Ph.D., English

Jose Roberto Dominicci Buzo
Ph.D., Hispanic Language and Literature

Awards and Recognition: WGS End of Year Celebrations



Awards and Recognition:

Faculty Spotlight

WGS is an interdepartmental program with faculty members spanning many disciplines, and every year we like to celebrate our members' professional accomplishments.

Kecia Ali

- She edited an open access reader on American Muslim marriage and divorce, bringing together twenty years' worth of selected publications from half a dozen scholars along with a few purpose written essays. It has been viewed over 6,000 times and downloaded more than 1200 times in less than a year.
- She is currently working on a follow-up reader with practice-oriented essays called Tying the Knot: A Feminist/Womanist Guide to Muslim Marriage in America. <https://open.bu.edu/handle/2144/42505> and <https://open.bu.edu/handle/2144/44079>

Shelly Debiasse

- Published: DeBiasse MA, Branham A, McFarland N. Experiences of LGBTQ-identifying students, interns, and practitioners of dietetics. *Journal of Critical Dietetics*. 2022;6(2):7-23.
- Published: DeBiasse MA, Burt KG, Branham AK, Breeding Z. IDEA: Let's design, conduct, and report research with diversity and inclusion in mind. *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*. 2022;122(1):30.

Petrus Liu

- Awarded a Harvard Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Fellowship in 2021-22
- Published: "Thinking Gender in the Age of the Beijing Consensus," *Feminist Studies* 47, no. 2 (2021): 341-71.
- Published: "Lu Xun's Literary Revolution in Chinese Marxism," in Colleen Lye and Christopher Nealon, eds., *After Marx: Literary Criticism and the Critique of Value*, 161-75. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2022.
- Presented: "Queer Asia as Method." Keynote speech. King's College London, UK, September 5, 2021.
- Presented: "The Specter of Materialism." University of Toronto, April 5, 2022.
- Presented: "Queer of Color Transits and Racial Capitalism," Yale University, March 25, 2022.
- Presented: "Cold War as Method." Modern Language Association annual convention, Washington DC/virtual, Jan. 9, 2022.
- Presented: "The Specter of Materialism." Harvard University, Dec. 7, 2021.
- Presented: "On Yapp's Minor China." New York University, April 15, 2021.
- Presented: "What's Left of Queer: The Work of Cui Zi'en." Duke University, April 14, 2021.
- Presented: "Cold War Structure of Feeling." American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) annual convention, April 11, 2021.
- Presented: "Left of Queer." Social Text Collective/Yale University, Feb 12, 2021
- Presented: "Provincializing Queer Theory, Decentering Marxism." SOAS, University of London, Feb 4, 2021.

Erin Murphy

- Published: “Erotic Origins: Genesis, the Passion, and Aemilia Lanyer’s Queer Temporality,” in *Worldmaking Women: New Perspectives on the Centrality of Women in Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century Culture*, eds. Pamela Hammons and Brandie Siegfried (Cambridge University Press, December 2021)
- Gave a keynote address: “Amazons and Zombies: Margaret Cavendish’s Soldiers, Gender, and the Paradoxes of War” Keynote Address for the Villanova Gender and Women’s Studies Student Research Conference, Villanova University, Villanova, PA, March 2022.
- Symposium: “Bodies at War,” Invited paper for the symposium on “Margaret Cavendish and John Milton: Rethinking Seventeenth-Century. Literature and Culture,” Rutgers University, NJ, February 2022.

Carrie Preston

- Published: “Ozu’s A Story of Floating Weeds and the Art of Being Behind,” in *A Modernist Cinema*, eds. Scott Klein & Michael Valdez Moses (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021).
- Published: “Ezra Pound as Noh Student: The Lessons of Hagoromo’s Angel,” *Approaches to Teaching Pound*, eds. Ira Nadel & Demetres Tryphonopoulos (Modern Language Association, 2021).
- Lecture: “Broadway’s 2016 Duel: Shuffle Along and Hamilton,” Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, February 23, 2022.
- Lecture: “Performing Borders, Policing Borders,” Mellon School of Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University, June 10, 2021.

Karen Warkentin

- Presented “Crossing boundaries, disrupting binaries: A queer perspective on studying behavioral diversity” as a plenary address for the Animal Behavior Society meeting. The [video](#) of this talk has been used in courses in multiple universities and viewed over 2700 times; Warkentin also gave seminars, workshops, and guest lectures at four universities based on this talk.
- • Published “Queering herpetology: On human perspectives and the study of diverse animals” in *Herpetologia Brasileira Contemporânea*
- • Collaborator, with colleagues across the USA, in an incubator project on “Creating a More Inclusive Biology Curriculum” funded by the National Science Foundation
- • Wrote two invited book chapters (in press) for general audiences: “From childhood curiosity to an egg-science career: Social and environmental effects on the development of an integrative biologist” in *Global Women in Herpetology* and “Lessons in patience: Frog eggs, snakes, and rain” in *Lost Frogs and Hot Snakes: Herpetologists’ Tales from the Field*
- • Published two biology papers, with student first authors, on their research on tropical frogs
- • Forthcoming methods chapter on “Research approaches in mechanosensory-cued hatching and the iterative development of playback methods for red-eyed treefrog embryos” in *Biotremology: Physiology, Ecology, and Evolution*, from their collaboration with vibrations engineer J. Gregory McDaniel

Credits

Design and Copyediting by Olivia McCargar

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