

Registration: 8-9 am

Atrium

Opening Session: 9-9:45 am

Ohio Room

Opening Remarks

and

Keynote Speaker: Betsy Crane, PhD, Director of Graduate Programs in Human Sexuality at Widener University

Keynote Title: Demythologizing Sex, Gender, and Sexual Orientation: Understanding Where We've Been and Envisioning New Possibilities

Keynote Topic:

How we think about the concepts of sex, gender, and sexual orientation has a profound influence on our everyday lives. Dr. Crane will discuss each in terms of their history and complexity, and inspire us to consider what it means to envision a broader menu.

Session 1: 10-11 am*

Monongahela Room

Cherri Randall, PhD (Moderator)

Panel Title: Mothers and Daughters: How Maternity, Tradition, and Economics Become the Crossroads to Female Identity in 21st Century Society

Abstract:

In this panel, four female students read creative non-fiction memoir manuscripts written in response to their own experiences as daughters of mothers challenged in some way, by either tradition or economics, to provide the ideal childhood for their children. For some students, this experience encompasses the habitual habits of mothers who are addicted to drugs, from nicotine to alcohol and beyond, and for some students, their experiences as daughters have led them to a consideration of how culture is learned in our culture through the transmission of tradition, especially relative to gender conceptions of femininity regarding appearance: hair, cosmetic use, and fashion. Additionally, one essay deals with the construction of male identity as shaped by childhood experience. Panel Moderator Dr. Randall will discuss how each text represents the Judith Butler's repetitive performance theory of learning gender through culture.

Nakita Cook

"The Goose Is Loose" creative non-fiction memoir

Kristen Kane

"Hair" creative non-fiction memoir

Carissa Ciciarelli

"Sacrificed Paths" creative non-fiction memoir

Caitlin Scanlon

“Willow Tree” creative non-fiction memoir

Kelly Cernetich

“Westmont, Revisited”

Allegheny Room

Tedd Cogar and Dr. John Mueller

Panel Title: "Injustice at Every Turn-Study finds discrimination continues for transgender and gender non-conforming people"

Abstract:

Tedd Cogar and Dr. John Mueller discuss findings from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and National Center for Transgender Equality comprehensive study released in February.

Conemaugh Room

Nina Santiago, Gina Szepesi, Kristin Baker, Adam Leahy, Katelyn Bachelder, and Nichole Craig

Title: Transgender Students and Their Partners Speak Out

Abstract:

This program is designed to discuss awareness around transgender issues. Through a panel discussion with members of the transgender and transexual communities the topics of terminology, identity, membership within the lgtbqia community, and dating under our identities. Along with the members of the panel will discuss their coming out stories and how they navigate these obstacles. Also we will be using a powerpoint presentation about different terms used when referring to an individual who identifies as transgender or transexual. Members of the panel will consist of members of the transgender community and their partners.

Knowlton Room

Panel Title: Controversial Sexualities

Brad D. Baumgartner

Title: On the Raunch: Sade, de Beauvoir, and Radical Aesthetics

Abstract:

Although the Marquis de Sade is known for his scandalous life and provocative literature, the existential philosopher Simone de Beauvoir argues that perhaps there is something lurking beneath the surface of Sade's controversial work which demands further interpretation. In her essay entitled, "Must We Burn Sade?" de Beauvoir argues that Sade's literature is trying to "communicate an experience" to his readers "whose distinguishing characteristic is, a tendency to be incommunicable" (4). Moreover, Beauvoir contends that Sade wishes to improve the conditions in which we live. Herein Sade creates an elaborate systematic rhetoric in which he tries to justify his dichotomous sense of self--the author and the sexual pervert. For, as Beauvoir puts it, "it was not murder that fulfilled Sade's erotic nature: it was literature" (33). Ultimately, de Beauvoir's reading of Sade implies that each individual act existentially in honor of his own existence in response to the inherent tension among a community of existences. In a conference length essay of eight pages, I will attempt to construct an ethic of Sade's radical aesthetic practices, which involved, for one, the

literary employment of the libertine, Sade's anti-hero, as the "third thing" which bridged the gap between perverse sexuality and existential struggle. Perhaps this ethic served a larger societal function: inducing social change through the radical politics of sexual defilement.

Theo W. Sery

Title: The Binding of Chrystos: Two-Spirit Poetry in the Process of Erotic Decolonization

Abstract:

The poetry of the Native American poet, Chrystos, can be difficult to handle for many readers in that she tends to be extremely graphic. With her continual references to domination, to various sexual toys and positions, as well as her liberality with the term "cunt" it is understandable that many readers would approach her writings with apprehension. However, in my analysis, I plead for patience, as beneath the overt sexuality is a subtext that can only be teased out through subsequent readings. Chrystos employs the medium of poetry as a rhetorical tool in order to lift the feminine and Two-Spirit erotic out of a deep colonial slumber. Through Native American erotic scholars such as Audre Lorde and Qwo-Li Driskill, we learn of how Native American Eroticism has been largely silenced, and therefore colonized by hegemonic power structures. For example, the once celebrated concept of Two-Spirit eroticism, usually equated with homosexuality (though it's much more complex), has been largely replaced by homophobia. The works of Chrystos, as I shall discuss in my analysis, puts Native American Two-Spirit eroticism right out in the open and therefore acts as a powerful tool for the process of decolonization.

Megan M. Gallagher

Title: Our Closet Monsters: The Modern Fear of the Wardrobe and Its Impact on Closet Drama

Abstract:

My paper addresses the gradual change, through advancing modernity, on perceptions and associations of the term "closet." I believe this will add to the discourse of the conference by drawing attention to the relatively new constraints of sexuality and its impact on textual experiences. During the English Renaissance, the private and intimate space of the closet in one's home was a place for only the most important of guests and ceremonies. That same structure has now become the space used to hide the "unmentionables" of society. Somehow this physical place where families would read devotional literature and meditate has changed into an abstract cell for, so-called, perversity. This phenomenon of separation between normative and perverse behaviors hampers the natural multiplicities of both sexuality and textuality. By exploring modern, textual, relationships to the closet and comparing these with that of the Renaissance textual experience of the closet, one can see the cultural shift from the celebration to segregation of this space. I argue that our modern fear of closets and, more aptly, who and what is inside of them has skewed our ability to appreciate the closet drama.

Session 2: 11:15-12:15 pm*

Monongahela Room

Panel Title: Creative and Performing Arts

Amanda L. Stamm

Title: Dance from a Broken Heart & Soul to "Whiskey Lullaby" by Brad Paisley and Alison Krauss

Abstract:

I just recently went through an extremely hard relationship for 4.5 years, and I finally put my foot down with everything. I thought he was the one for me last year, but he only turned out to be the opposite. After talking to him more

about our relationship, he felt it necessary to start screaming and yelling at me for no reason. Plus, he was never honest with me about anything. Every time he did lie to me it hurt me more and more, but I couldn't feel the pain after so long because I was becoming use to it. I didn't want to go through with that anymore. I didn't want to have to run everything by him first and have everything go his way. I am a virgin girl who takes pride in her beliefs, and he never did. This song I feel represents everything that I went through, and I want my story to be shared.

Cherri Randall, PhD

Titles: “How Women Woo”, “Why Fellatio”, “Why Cunnilingus” & “Yield”

Abstract:

15-minute reading of gender-intensive poetry

Elaine Zedack

Abstract:

I would like to present a creative paper on the experience of continually sleeping with someone you hate. It will be funny with a sentimental ending.

Allegheny Room

Elizabeth A. Kincade, Ph.D.

Title: Feminist Therapy: A Social and Individual Change Model

Abstract:

Feminist (psycho) therapy uses feminist theory and philosophy to organize techniques and strategies into a coherent mode of psychotherapeutic practice . Feminist therapy is based in a feminist philosophy emphasizing awareness of social context, client empowerment and a focus on strengths rather than weaknesses.

This workshop presents a brief history of feminist therapy and feminist psychology and current relevancy of feminist therapy for both men and women seeking help with mental health concerns. It provides a brief overview of methods and techniques used in feminist therapy and participants will gain general knowledge about feminist therapy and learn the four basic tenets of feminist therapy: The personal is the political, the relationship between client and therapist strives towards egalitarianism, the experiences of women and other oppressed peoples are privileged and clients are empowered rather than disempowered (the focus is on strengths rather than weaknesses). Distinctions between feminist therapy and the more well-known therapeutic modalities will be made and the politics of psychological diagnosis will be discussed.

Conemaugh Room

Panel Title: Overcoming Institutional Oppressors

Dorothy Craig

Title: American Attitudes Toward Gay Marriage: The Role of Religiosity, Mothers in Family Structure, And Personal Contacts

Abstract:

Attitudes toward people who are gay and lesbian have become more accepting over the last decade with regard to civil liberties, education, employment, and housing (Brumbaugh, Sanchez,

Nock, & Wright, 2008). However, most Americans are opposed to gay marriage even though support for civil unions has increased. The idea of legalizing gay marriage has not reached the plateau of acceptance with most Americans as it has in other countries such as Canada, Spain, Netherlands, and Belgium (Brumbaugh et al.).

My thesis will explore the role of religiosity, mothers' role in family structure, number of personal contacts, and individuals' attitudes toward gay marriage. This research study will explore the relationship between various measures of religiosity -- religious preference, strength of religious affiliation, how religious respondents are, how spiritual respondents are, and individuals' attitudes toward gay marriage. This study will also examine the relationship between the roles of mothers in family structure, the number of cohabiting people and gay and lesbian people respondents have personal contact with, and individuals' attitudes toward gay marriage.

Religious measures, mothers' role in family structure, the amount of personal contact with cohabiting people and gay and lesbian people are relevant to both public and scholarly debates on gay marriage. Previous research on attitudes toward gay marriage has not considered these factors together. By combining different social and attitudinal dimensions related to gay marriage, my work may shed additional light on the issue of gay marriage.

I plan to analyze publicly-available secondary data from the General Social Survey, a national probability sample based on personal interviews and designed to monitor social characteristics and attitudes on numerous topics, including gay marriage (Davis, Smith, & Marsden, 2009). The statistical analyses used in this study will coincide with the type of variable and level of measurement. Multivariate analyses using linear and ordered logistic regression will be conducted to test my hypotheses and to statistically control for potential sources of spuriousness. The data for this study involve cross-sectional data collected in 2006, since this is the most recent year that the General Social Survey asked respondents about gay marriage. The General Social Survey provides excellent external validity because it is a multi-stage area sample. The results of this study should be of interest to scholars, policy makers, and activists interested in attitudes towards gay marriage.

Mathilda Spencer

Title: Community Supervision of Domestic Violence Offenders: A Study of the Supervision Practices of Adult Probation Officers in Pennsylvania

Abstract:

"Domestic violence causes far more pain than the visible marks of bruises and scars. It is devastating to be abused by someone that you love and thinks loves you in return."

—Statement of Senator Dianne Feinstein

"Domestic Violence in America" October 6, 2004

Domestic violence presents several complications for effective probation supervision. Intimate partner violence differs significantly from other forms of violence because of the relationship between the offender and the victim. Often there are strong emotional ties between victims and their batterers. Victims are reluctant to enter into an adversarial proceeding or invoke punishment (Dutton, 1995). Victims may also be financially dependent on the batterer and incarceration may result in the family being plunged into poverty. The historical basis of the criminal justice response is deterrence. Police arrest, prosecutors proceed, and judge's convict and probation officers supervise with the expressed purpose of keeping the victim safe by deterring the offender. This is extremely difficult to accomplish, because batterers and victims often live together with ongoing unsupervised contact (Fagan, 1996). These issues represent the historic challenge to the criminal justice system to respond adequately to domestic violence crimes. The goal of this presentation is to increase public awareness of the post-conviction supervision of the DVO.

Shenila S. Khoja-Moolji

Title: Re-defining Muslim Women: Aga Khan III's Reforms for Women's Education

Abstract:

In the history of Muslim India, the late nineteenth and early twentieth century formed a period that witnessed intense public contestation over the role of women. This was also the time when Indian Muslims were engaged in the balancing act of participating in a rapidly modernizing environment under the British Colonial government and retaining the authenticity of their culture, tradition and religion. Discussions regarding women, and their role in society and in the uplift of the Muslim qaum (community) became symbolic of the many contradictions that Indian Muslims faced. Debates about women's education, their legal status, their rights in Islam, their right to vote etc. were commonplace and demonstrated the deep anxieties of Muslims in Colonial India. It is in this context that I will explore the thoughts and institutional initiatives of the forty-eighth Imam (spiritual leader) of the Ismaili Muslims, Sultan Mahomed Shah Aga Khan III, on women's education.

I contend that the Aga Khan's approach towards women's education was markedly different when compared to other Muslim leaders of India, and that it was due to his religious authority as the Imam that he was able to implement his vision for women's reforms more effectively than his fellow Muslim leaders. I will bring to bear my study of some primary texts from the early twentieth century written by Muslim leaders on the topic of women's education and compare these leaders' views with those of the Aga Khan.

Knowlton Room

**Jessica Showalter
Andrea Harms
Maria E. Bodenschatz**

Panel Title: Women's Musings: Exploring the Inspirations of 19th- and Turn-of-the-Century Women Writers

Abstract:

This panel, consisting of three 15-min. paper presentations, will examine a variety of ways in which women writers of the 19th and turn-of-the-century illustrate the artistic and domestic inspirations of their subject matter. Jessica Showalter, doctoral candidate in the Literature and Criticism Program at IUP, will present a paper exploring some of Emily Dickinson's inspirations (transcendental discourse, temperance discourse) presented in her poetry written from 1850 through 1886 and examining whether artistic inspiration comes from some kind of higher power (muse, spirituality, abstract ideals, etc.), physical intoxication, and/or material conditions. Andrea Harms, doctoral candidate in the Literature and Criticism Program at IUP, will present a paper examining how a sense of curiosity inspires the women writer characters presented in Ella Hepworth Dixon's *The Story of a Modern Woman* (1894) and George Paston's *A Writer of Books* (1898). Maria E. Bodenschatz, doctoral candidate in the Literature and Criticism Program at IUP, will present a paper centered on issues of identity. Through an analysis of Mary Austin's *A Woman of Genius*, published in 1912, this paper identifies the main character's struggles to reconcile the various aspects of her identity as a mother, wife, and actress.

Poster Session and Brown Bag Lunch: 12:30-1:30 pm*

Atrium

October Surprise

Poster Title: "Of Humane Bondage: Sadomasochism and Consent"

Abstract:

I will present a poster containing definitions and basic concepts in regard to the BDSM community. Current theory regarding the make up and disposition of BDSM participants will be explained, along with a large section covering the BDSM model of sexual consent.

Laura Miller

Poster Title: Service Learning in Jamaica

Abstract:

The Service Learning in Jamaica class has opened up my once sheltered world and broadened my views and life experiences. It has shown me a new world full of amazing people and a new culture outside of what I am used to. By participating in this five week course I was able to spend three of those weeks living in rural Jamaica, immersed fully in the culture, living the lives of an everyday Jamaican citizen. I was able to work with local youth at an empowerment camp and I was able to create strong bonds with the other students that participated in the course and also with the Jamaican people. I have created a poster full of pictures of my experience and journal entries from my time spent in Jamaica. To be able to share my experience with others brings me much joy.

Cherri Randall, PhD

Poetry Poster Title: “Monochromatic Slaves”

Sadie Hauck and Group Members

Abstract:

This poster relates to the graduate course Sociology of Race and Ethnicity and a book by Patricia Hill Collins titled *Black Sexual Politics* where she discusses the intersections of race and sexuality. We will be presenting a poster, offering details on her insights and analysis, and handing out some candy along with some statistics on sexuality and race.

Session 3: 1:45-2:45 pm

Susquehanna Room

Natalie Corkos, Courtney Buchna, Peter Glovas-Kurtz and Jared Sims

Nurhaya Muchtar, PhD (Faculty Advisor)

Panel Title: Portrayal of women in Media: A kaleidoscope of exploratory approach

Abstract:

The impact of globalized media has increased our awareness to media influence in depicting women in America as well as international context. This panel highlights research findings and experiences of communication media students in exploring the impact of global media and their role in everyday lives. This interdisciplinary panel will showcase students' research findings and their creative projects. Topic areas include portrayal of women in horror films, depictions of women in foreign literatures, sorority women's perception about how they are portrayed and a portrayal of African American women in society through the eyes of an aspiring new film maker.

Monongahela Room (two, 25-minute sessions)

1:45-2:10 pm

Dr. Alison Downie

Title: It's Not Your Father's Story: Freeing Eve and Adam from the Patriarchal Garden

Abstract:

The major world religions were born in the shadow of patriarchy and struggle today with this legacy. Can traditions change and yet remain true to their religious identities? Feminists across religious traditions ask a different question: Can religious traditions remain true to their deepest values if they refuse change?

The myth of Adam and Eve, which has long shaped gender roles in Western culture, is a foundational example of the harm done by Christian patriarchal teaching. Everyone knows this story teaches that woman was created as secondary, an afterthought to man. And everyone also knows it teaches that women are more gullible and more likely to succumb to temptation than men, right? What not everyone knows is how feminist scholars argue this story has been misread.

Feminist theologians have been analyzing and critiquing patriarchal assumptions embedded in texts, teachings, and practices for roughly forty years; these perspectives, however, rarely enter the pews of many churches. Public discussion concerning "what the Bible says" or "what Christianity teaches" also generally proceeds without awareness or acknowledgement of feminist scholarship.

This proposed half hour teaching workshop will summarize Phyllis Trible's close reading of Genesis chapters 2-3. What everyone knows about this story turns out to be a misogynistic reading not supported by careful scholarship or sound interpretive principles. What everyone knows about Adam and Eve is a myth of patriarchy.

2:20-2:45 pm

Cherri Randall, PhD

Titles: "Women Rock"

Abstract:

Workshop detailing the progress (and progression) of women in the music industry, from Madonna and the coinage of "Himbos" to Lady Gaga's new release "Born This Way" – a close up look at how biology and human reproduction is featured in music videos and how this medium is one of the first to empower women artistically and economically, giving female artists the creative control of projects in an unprecedented way in the market, and thus the culture. As the first media in which the glass ceiling was shattered, we have much to learn from engaging the music from a critical perspective based on Ariel Levy's groundbreaking work: "Female Chauvinist Pigs".

Allegheny Room (90-minute panel)

1:15-2:45 pm

Panel Title: The sexual double standard: Sluts, scripts, hookups and the walk of shame

Abstract:

Although ethnographies of secondary schools and other qualitative approaches such as participant observation, communication analyses, and retrospective interviews find evidence of the double standard (Eder, Evans & Parker 1995; Oliver & Sedikides 1992; Sprecher, McKinney & Orbuch 1987), often more quantitative methodologies fail to find similar results (Gentry 1998; Milhausen and Herold 1999; Marks and Fraley 2005; 2006). Quantitative tests of the sexual double standard often employ attitudinal survey instruments to measure individuals' judgments of men's and women's sexual

conduct (see review by Crawford and Popp 2003). In this empirical approach, the double standard is viewed as residing in individuals' beliefs and attitudes about "gender appropriate" sexual behaviors. In more qualitative approaches, researchers examine the social practices of sexual standards, link labels and terms with socially constructed meanings and experienced outcomes, bringing us closer to understanding how sexuality is regulated in a given social context and who potentially benefits or is stigmatized by these processes. In this session we examine sexual double standards from both standard quantitative and qualitative approaches. We explore the sexual derogation of women as social practice and examine the consequences of those practices.

Rebecca Santi and Maureen McHugh

Paper 1 Title: Ratings of male and female targets as a function of script and number of partners

Abstract:

The derogation of sexually active women as "sluts" without a comparable term for sexually active men is evidence of the sexual double standard. Although demonstrated in interview and ethnographic studies, the sexual double standard (i.e., differential evaluation of male and female sexuality) has not been confirmed in many vignette studies (Crawford & Popp, 2003). . In this empirical approach, the double standard is viewed as residing in individuals' beliefs and attitudes about "gender appropriate" sexual behaviors. Recent research does not indicate that college students' evaluations of sexually active men and women include a sexual double standard. The present study used a script approach to examine the impact of sexual responsibility on evaluation of sexually active men and women. Male and female undergraduate respondents evaluated a (male or female) target whose recent sexual experience was described in script format. In this study male and female undergraduate students rated a target student (male or female) whose sexual experience was described. The sexual encounter was described as a hook up (without emotional involvement) or relational (as involving an emotional connection). The resulting design is a 2x2x2x2 with sex of respondent, gender to target, type of script and number of partners. The narrative also revealed that the target had 2 or 10 previous experiences like this. The MANOVA analysis of 12 items did not confirm the hypothesized sexual double standard. Only the item good indicated a sex of target by script by number of partners interaction effect. Individuals involved in hook ups, regardless of gender, were rated more negatively in terms of the moral dimension (good, moral ,decent). Results did indicate a generally negative evaluation of both men and women who participated in a hook-up, especially along the dimensions of good/decent/ moral and caring/affectionate/warm. The implications of these results are discussed.

Beth Watson and Diana Marie Zuhlke

Paper 2 Title: Sluts! Sexual derogation as sexual double standard

Abstract:

Slut is a pervasive insult for teenage girls in the US. In 1993 an AAUW survey of teen-age girls indicated that two out of every five girls nationwide had sexual rumors spread about her (Barringer, 1993). According to Tanenbaum (2000), slut bashing is a prevalent form of verbal sexual harassment, and is evidence of the sexual double standard. Although public perceptions and popular trade books with titles such as Slut! (Tanenbaum 2000), Fast Girls (White 2002) and Promiscuities (Wolf 1997) support the sexual double standard, scientific evidence remains equivocal and contested. The reality of slut bashing and the sexual double standard is a significant question with relevance for the sexual development and identity of girls. Multiple qualitative studies have documented the application of deleterious labels to women for sexual norm violations and have examined the responses of individuals' to sexual derogation. These studies link labels and terms with socially constructed meanings and experienced outcomes, bringing us closer to understanding how sexuality is regulated in a given social context and who potentially benefits or is stigmatized by these processes. For example, qualitative studies by Orenstein (1994), Moffat (1989), and Tolman (2002) suggest that young women's fears of the "slut" label curbs their sexual expressions, while young men are encouraged to demonstrate their masculinity through sexually permissive behavior.

This presentation reports on a series of qualitative studies of college students' constructions of the term slut. In classrooms and in focus group discussions, students

described who was labeled a slut in their junior high and high schools and who labeled them. Analyses of the discussions indicated that a young woman may be labeled for certain sexual behaviors, i.e. having sex with many different partners, or talking explicitly about her sexual experiences, but also for self presentation, i.e. for being flirtatious or dressing provocatively, or for dating popular or older boys or someone else's boyfriend. In the course of the discussion several students revealed insights about the label slut as being applied arbitrarily or maliciously, and as manifesting the sexual double standard.

Becky Pearlson and Samantha Scarillo

Paper 3 Title: The Walk of Shame and the Stride of Pride: Hook ups and the sexual double standard

Abstract:

Depicted in popular culture, and satirized on You Tube, the "walk of shame" has been ignored by academics, even those studying human sexuality. The walk of shame refers to the morning return of students to their rooms, still dressed in the party garb of the previous night. As Lunceford (2008) points out, this taunt disciplines women for certain (alleged) sexual practices and reinforces gendered norms and stereotypes. In this paper we provide an analysis of how the walk of shame functions as a contemporary social practice that "reinscribes sexual double standards.. and negates female sexual desire." (Lunceford, 2008, p 319). We examine the walk of shame as understood and discussed by undergraduate students at a moderately-sized public university in rural Pennsylvania. Students acknowledged the walk of shame as a widely referred to phenomena that refers specifically to young women on campus. Men were viewed as being proud or at least not shameful after a night of sexual interaction. There was some discussion of which elements of drinking and hook-ups resulted in discomfort or awkwardness for men and for women. In these discussions, the walk of shame was tied to the hook up script, and the practice of hooking up was also examined. The responses of the students are presented and discussed.

Conemaugh Room

Panel Title: Expressions of Masculinity

Christian Vaccaro

Title: Emotionalizing Manhood: Fighting and Fostering Fear in Mixed Martial Arts

Abstract:

Based on two years of fieldwork and over 100 interviews, we analyze mixed martial arts fighters' fears, how they managed them via scripting, framing, and othering, and how they adopted intimidating personas to evoke fear in opponents. We conceptualize this process as "emotionalizing manhood," which we define as emotion management that signifies, in the dramaturgical sense, masculine selves. Our study contributes to emotion management research by furthering our understanding of how men's emotion work is gendered and how, more generally, emotion work is a means to accomplish gendered identity work. We further propose that emotionalizing manhood is a dynamic and transsituational process that can be explored in diverse populations and social settings.

Paul T. Hershberger

Title: "Male Homosexuality and German Fascism"

Abstract:

Hitler's Germany and by association Fascism is often considered contradictory when combined positively with homosexuality. However, as historical monographs have attested to, this incompatibility could not be further from the truth. German Fascism was in fact a bastion of homosexual activity, and this homosexual influence continues. Where many scholars have attempted to displace the corollary between homosexuality and fascism, gay men, particularly those who have adopted the trope of "leather daddy," continue to embrace consciously or subconsciously, the very symbols of Fascist oppression and degradation. Employing the body of work accumulated by Oosterhuis and Kennedy, Lively and Abrams, Eleanor Hancock, and others, I will endeavor to suggest that the personification of fascist tropes by gay men continues to assimilate a modern re-identification and redefining of fascism.

August Samie

Title: The True Maiden: The Emasculated Winterbourne and His Queerness in Henry James's Daisy Miller: A Study

Abstract:

Daisy Miller: A Study, Henry James's 1878 novella, uses Fredrick Winterbourne to undermine the norm of the nineteenth-century American male. As Lauren Cowdery explains, "[Winterbourne] would be recognizable to a conventional audience of the 1880s as a punctilious gentleman [...] but as it emerges in the tale [...] being civilized seems to mean having one's passion—lust, jealousy, anger—restrained within limits defined by social responsibility" (79). The novella seems, in fact, to function as an exploration of the relationship between Victorian conceptions of male social responsibility and the ways that these responsibilities are enacted through masculine sexual identity and gender expectations. Leaving familiar speculations aside regarding James's homosexuality, critical energies might be more constructively deployed by examining how James's writing of Winterbourne's character illuminates the workings of sexual identity within American expectations. While Winterbourne's performance of the European masculine gender is portrayed as socially adequate, his relations with Daisy are sexually ineffectual and are undermined by his homosocial desire for Giovanelli, rendering Winterbourne maidenly in a contemporary context.

Knowlton Room

Panel Title: Threatened Identities

Gregory Luke Chwala

Title: Subdue Our Fears: Supplanting Homophobia in Bram Stoker's Dracula

Abstract:

Victorian Britain feared many things. Although expansion and colonialism brought to Victorians new ideas and financial gain, they also threatened their conservative way of life. Victorian society feared different people would infiltrate their culture and impress upon it ideas that would contradict their feigned morale. Likewise, sexuality was heavily repressed and feared and any deviation from sexual norms was deemed a perversion. Although the term homosexual had not yet entered their vocabulary, the idea of homosexuality had increasingly begun to threaten Victorian society throughout the nineteenth-century. Scandals involving what Victorians came to call 'sexual inversion' uprooted their conservative beliefs; the existence of homosexuality, after being ignored for decades after Lord Byron's social ruin, was finally forced into the public domain with the trial of Oscar Wilde. Bram Stoker was heavily influenced by the trial of Oscar Wilde, and like most of Victorian society, feared homosexuality, which caused him to displace homosocial male desire and homoeroticism in his novel.

Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, a founding authority of literary Queer Theory, theorizes that the strong close personal relationships between men needed for success in nineteenth-century Britain placed Victorian males in a state of continual homosexual panic, a panic that was often assuaged by triangulating the relationship through a woman in literature. This paper investigates the way that Dracula uses these triangular relationships to both support and oppose homosocial bonding and argues that Bram Stoker's Dracula supplants onto the vampire a long standing tradition of nineteenth-century homophobic panic and paranoia deep-rooted in an internalized fear of homosocial male bonding by Victorian society; upon Oscar Wilde's persecution and condemnation for his homosexuality, these fears were brought to a heightened consciousness, culminating to create and displace the homosexual-as-monster in Dracula.

Rev. Dr. David von Schlichten, D.Min.

Title: Daddy, You Bastard?: Comparison of the Role of Fathers in the Sexuality and Artistry of Elizabeth Stuart Phelps (1844-1911) and Sylvia Plath (1932-1963)

Abstract:

Although Phelps and Plath were notably different in terms of the content and style of their work (and, of course, the times in which they lived), there are poignant similarities between these two authors. Central to each author is her complex relationship with her father and how that relationship affected both her relationship with her husband and her struggle as an artist. Linda Huf notes parallels between the two writers in *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Woman*, in which she explores how gender roles have had a negative impact on women artists. Drawing from Huf's work, I will explore intriguing similarities between these two authors.

Specifically, I will show that a problematic relationship between the author and her father led to a troubled relationship with a husband and the creation of literary works that simultaneously draw toward men while also warning against how men can cripple a woman's creativity. I will focus on Phelps's *The Story of Avis* (1877) and Plath's *The Bell Jar* (1963), both of which, as Huf indicates, are *Kuenstlerromanne* that reveal how a conflicted relationship with fathers (and then husbands) leads to frustration (but also to inspiration) for the woman writer.

Pedagogically, the comparison of Phelps and Plath is valuable in that it sheds new light on Plath while drawing attention to the underrated Phelps. The comparison also reveals a disturbing truth: the struggle of the woman writer, over the course of nearly a century, received little relief.

Robbin Zirkle

Title: Keats Overcoming Resentment through Lamia

Abstract:

It is perhaps one of the primary goals of literary criticism to ascertain how a work of literature reflects its creator or the environment in which it was crafted. What some criticism fails to do, however, is identify how these innate relationships may be overcome in a text, that is, how an author overcomes his or her own perspective, or the perspective of society at large. Many literary critics identify John Keats's emotional and psychological issues with female dominance or perceived power and point out how these problems, as well as problematic attitudes from society reveal themselves in his work. After reconsidering Keats's *Lamia* and the work of the critics Karla Awles, Margaret Homans and G.J. Barker-Benfield, it is clear that the implication that his work is solely a representation of his own youthful angst and repression is shallow. In contrast, it seems that his poem *Lamia* in particular represents an internal struggle with female power which Keats overcomes through the characterization and reclamation of the creature *Lamia*.

Session 4: 3-4 pm

Susquehanna Room

Tedd Cogar and other members of the GLBT Commission

Panel Title: GLBT Commission

Abstract:

Tedd Cogar, Chair and other members of the GLBT Commission will share information and answer your questions about the campus climate for Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender members of the university community.

Monongahela Room (two, 25-minute sessions)

3-3:25 pm

October Surprise

Title: The Safe-Word is Banana: Sexual Consent and the BDSM Community

Abstract:

BDSM is a double-layered acronym meaning Bondage, Discipline, Dominance, Submission, Sadism and Masochism, BDSM community members are linked together

by interest in or identification with one or more of these facets.

The focus of my sociological, qualitative graduate research is the consent model utilized by BDSM identified individuals. The BDSM consent model is based on pre-sexual-event discussion and vetting by all involved parties, and contains built in safety-measures such as “safe-words”, used by submissive participants to control or stop the direction of the sexual event.

3:35-4 pm

Panel Title: Images of Men and Masculinity.

Melissa Connelly

Paper 1 Title: Images: Close Male Friendships

Abstract:

The presentation will discuss the close personal friendships of men and women, examining differences in the reactions of others to images depicting intimate connections between same sex dyads. The presentation builds on the insights generated in reaction to the photography exhibit, “Shifting Gears.” This exhibit by Robert Heasley and Neal Wecker portrays close and intimate relationships between males, friendships that are rarely portrayed in popular culture. Often, for males, the process of “maturing” is associated with a process of creating barriers that discourage such closeness. As a result, the world of adult male relationships often focuses on interactions based in the external world – sharing activities or talking about events. “Shifting Gears” displayed friendships that seem to transcend these barriers - friendships between two men where tenderness is intrinsic, where sharing joy and pain is natural, and where intimacy makes a public appearance. This presentation explores the reactions of the audience to the photos from the exhibit, and considers the ways in which responses to photographs of female friends might differ.

Female and male same sex dyads are viewed differently by people for reasons related to personal experience, as well as gender related reasons related to socialization (Dolgin, 2001). Closeness is often discouraged for men, and can restrict men’s displays of affection and abilities to be accepting of males in close physical proximity. Women also are discriminatory against males showing affection and are quick to deem their behavior inappropriate, alongside male subjects (Yang., Ding, Chen, & Zhang, 2008). Women are more likely to be physically close to their women friends since women bond over disclosure, while men bond over activities (Swain, 1989) perceptions of behavior between same sex dyads.

Roddy Gibbs

Paper 2 Title: Media images of ideal male bodies: The impact on college men’s body esteem and objectified body consciousness

Abstract:

Extensive research has documented the impact of media images on women (Grabe, Ward & Hyde, 2008; Triggerman & Kuring, 2004). Unrealistic and idealized images of women impact women’s disordered eating, body satisfaction and body shame. More recently, researchers have begun to examine the impact of media images of male bodies on men. Media images of women have become increasingly thin; at the same time images of male bodies have become hyper-masculinized (Leit, Pope & Gray, 2001). Pope and Olivardia (1999) tracked changes in the most popular action figures over the past thirty years, demonstrating a clear trend toward extremely muscular figures. Lorenzen, Grieve and Thomas (2004) assessed the effects of exposure to such hyper-masculinized images on college men’s body satisfaction; men with exposure to muscular images reported lower body satisfaction scores. The presenter reviews the research examining men’s reactions to highly idealized images of male bodies, concluding that exposure to images of idealized male bodies often impacts men’s satisfaction with their body. This presentation examines college men’s body satisfaction as impacted by idealized/muscular male image; men’s objectified body consciousness is explored as a mediating factor.

Allegheny Room

Panel Title: Panel on Gender & Violence

Abstract:

Understanding the relation of gender to violence requires more than head counts of male and female victims and perpetrators. Gender is no longer viewed as a simple dichotomous category system, or self identity. Using more complex, dynamic and multidimensional approaches to gender may result in new understanding of interpersonal violence and to better interventions .

Beth Watson

Paper 1 Title: Stranger and acquaintance rape: A feminist perspective on our “rape culture”

Abstract:

Rape is a prevalent and persistent phenomenon that profoundly impacts the lives of women and girls in the US. Cultural constructions of rape, sexuality and gender roles contribute to the continued prevalence of rape, and impact our response to rape victims. Changes in our conceptions of rape, modification of sexual scripts, and elimination of rape myths and victim blaming responses may provide more effective interventions and lead to rape prevention. Feminists have argued that rape is the result of an androcentric (male-oriented) culture which privileges male experience and desire. Rape is a reflection and a result of gender inequality, a tool and a consequence of gender oppression (Roze, 2000). In this analysis, rape is, in part, the result of women as having less power than men, and rape and other forms of violence against women are social practices which keep women powerless (Brownmiller, 1975). Feminist authors have argued that an understanding of the experience of rape requires an analysis of the cultural context in which rape is persistently committed. Feminist theory stresses that rape is both socially produced and socially legitimated. Cultural attitudes towards women, gender, sexuality and aggression underlie our criminal justice system, and influence the treatment that victims receive in a wide range of agencies and settings. Roze (2000) argues that the persistence and prevalence of rape may best be explained by examining our cultural constructions and attitudes towards rape. This paper examines our “rape culture” with regard to how it impacts the prevalence of rape and the treatment towards victims.

Andrea Poet and Maureen McHugh

Paper 2 Title: Teen dating violence: Developmental and gender issues

Abstract:

Teen relationship violence is prevalent, and may have long term serious consequences for young men and women. Teen relationship violence can be perpetrated by both boys and girls, and may often be reciprocal, but teen age girls are more likely to sustain serious injury or to be killed. Although both boys/young men and girls/young women perpetrate violence in dating relationships, teen relationship violence is not necessarily gender symmetrical or gender-neutral. Gender impacts the type of violence perpetrated, the strategy and motive for the violence, the perception of the violence by both actor and recipient, and the short and long term impact of the violence. We need to continue to examine the impact of gender and gender roles on teens' use of violence in relationships, and to develop more complex models of gender and violence. Currently, we have limited understanding of the why physical aggression, psychological abuse and/or sexual violence is prevalent in teen relationships.

For example, we proposed that in teen years, the pressure and/or desire to have a boyfriend, and the acceptance, or even romanticization, of violence in relationships contribute to teen relationship violence. Further, teens may be especially inexperienced in relationship problem solving, and unable to express anger and to resolve conflict. Research documents a connection between violence in teen relationships and violence in adult relationships. The patterns of conflict and violence that teens observe in parental and peer relationships appear to influence their own relationship patterns. Moreover, the patterns of physical, psychological and sexual abuse experienced in teen relationships may be repeated in later adult relationships unless effective interventions are implemented. Additional research on teen relationship violence that advances our understanding of why teen relationship violence occurs may result in more effective interventions.

Maureen McHugh, Catherine R. Swiderski & Samantha Rakowski

Paper 3 Title: Psychological Abuse: What's gender got to do with it?

Abstract:

Psychological abuse measures are based on original interviews and reports from battered women. This has impacted our conception and measurement in several ways. 1) Methods designed to measure psychological abuse have often emerged from the work with physical violence. 2) Our measures are designed to measure male abuse of female partners. Just changing the pronouns does not make these measures appropriate for measuring female perpetration of psychological abuse to male partners. Are there distinct forms of psychological abuse used by women? 3) Specific abusive behaviors may change over time. For example, sending harassing text messages or posting images of partner online are more common among younger couples. Existing conceptions and measures may not include psychological abusive behaviors used in contemporary intimate relationships. 4) Current measures tend to be exhaustive lists of everything a partner may do to hurt you. We need to develop a more sophisticated and dimensional conceptualization of psychological abuse.

Perhaps one of the most problematic basic underlying assumptions of psychological abuse is that women are the victims, and men the perpetrators. Very few studies look at women's use of psychological abuse. One approach is to use existing measures and flip the pronouns. We challenge the validity of this approach. Is female-perpetrated psychological abuse really the same as male-perpetrated psychological abuse.

Research has indicated that men and women use violence at similar rates (McNeely & Mann, 1990; Straus & Gelles, 1986). However, other authors point out that simply because women use violence does not mean that it is the same as men's use of violence (McHugh & Bartoszek, 2001; McHugh & Swiderski, 2010). Women and men may use violence for different reasons and the same act committed by a male is viewed differently than if committed by a female (e.g., a man slapping a woman is not viewed as "the same" as a woman slapping a man). If the next step in the psychological abuse literature should be to reexamine our conceptualization, then it follows that it would be important to address the issue of gender. We know that women can also be psychologically abusive, but we do not yet know if women's use of psychological abuse should be conceptualized differently than a man's. In this presentation we examine the issue of gender as it impacts our experience, and our understanding of psychological abuse.

Conemaugh Room

Brianna Booth

Title: Beyond Sex: What is Sexual Flourishing? Positive Psychology meets Human Sexuality

Abstract:

In this workshop, I will apply the lens of Human Flourishing to our understanding of sexuality. I am currently in two degree programs: a masters in Applied Positive Psychology and a doctorate in Human Sexuality. These two fields have yet to mutually inform and influence one another, and so this workshop will be a dialogue of this rich intersection. The dialogue will center on two questions: What is the role of sexuality in flourishing? And, What is sexual flourishing? To do this, I will present an overview of the field of Positive Psychology, elicit participants to define flourishing for themselves, and then describe a model of flourishing put forth by the field's founder, Martin Seligman. Participants will then consider their thoughts on sexual flourishing, and I will guide a discussion on the various elements proposed. I will end with my thoughts on this intersection of sexuality and positive psychology going forward.

Knowlton Room

Panel Title: Dual-ing Selves

Gregory Luke Chwala

Title: Silence the Social Hermaphrodite: Gender Subversion in Heldris's Roman de Silence

Abstract:

Silence is a romance that deals with issues of gender formation and identity. The story questions the correlation drawn between biological sex and gender. Silence, the protagonist of the tale, is born female, but her father, Cador, makes a decision to disguise her as a boy in order for her to retain her right to inherit. Raised as a boy, Silence identifies strongly with the

masculine characteristics he has acquired throughout his adolescence. At the end of the story, Silence's secret identity is uncovered when King Evan strips the clothing from her body, revealing a female biological sex, and weds her. With this action, Silence is not only stripped of his masculine façade, but he is also forcefully stripped of his male gender identity. The rapid subversion of Silence's male gender identity at the end of the romance dismisses the fact that gender is learned—it is performative—and becomes part of a person's identity. Silence's acquired male identity cannot just vanish. Therefore, why is Silence so easily reclassified as female at the end of the romance? Could Silence be viewed as a new, different gender that is neither male nor female? A careful examination of the language and a closer look at gender as performance can help answer these questions and tackle this problem of gender subversion posed in Silence. This paper will argue that although Silence is easily regendered female at the end of the tale to send a message to the reader that women can be ultimately silenced and controlled, this resolution ignores the protagonist's gender formation and identity; Silence is neither a male nor female at the end of the romance, but a new engendered being of both sexes—a social hermaphrodite.

Jennifer M. Woolston

Title: "The Magdalene/Christ Dichotomy Bolstered by the Occupation of Nursing within Elizabeth Gaskell's Ruth"

Abstract:

Gaskell's Ruth does serve as a strong example of a "fallen woman" text, as Ruth turns into a savior and abandons her socially outcast position as a sexual sinner through a series of Christ-like behaviors linked with her nursing of the infirmed. When viewing Ruth as a model of the "sexual sinner" motif in Victorian literature, one must contextualize the notions historically held within 19th century England concerning a woman's sexual status. Within a bulk of Victorian fiction, there was an "assumption that motherless girls are destined to fall" (Logan 7). Gaskell's text is often viewed as a response to the unfair social dichotomy of Madonna/Whore placed upon many women of her day, while the men involved in sexual liaisons often escaped their confines socially unscathed. Gaskell has crafted, within the pages of Ruth, a clever commentary on the saint/sinner binary, as it refers to, (or refuses to refer to), women within Victorian society.

Rebecca Kay Santi

Title: He Can Why Can't I

Abstract:

Men and women are evaluated differently for the same behaviors (Marks & Fraley, 2005). A male is awarded and encouraged to have an active sex life without commitment, while females are criticized for doing the same thing. The sexual double standard refers to the practice of evaluating the sexual activities of men and women using different standards (Muehlenhard & McCoy, 1991). Although demonstrated in interview and qualitative studies, other researchers have not been able to confirm the sexual double standard (for review see Crawford & Popp, 2005), leading some to conclude that sexism with regards to evaluation of women and men has diminished (e.g. Gentry, 1998). This research examines the degree to which gender influences the evaluative judgments made about sexually active adult male and female targets. A sample of male and female college students from introductory psychology will read scripts about a target individual as a "person perception" task, and rate the target on a series of scales. The target individual will be described as having sexual relations with one or ten individuals and as not in a committed relationship, OR in a committed relationship. In addition, the respondents' will complete a dependent measure questionnaire. It is predicted that female targets with many sexual partners in a non-committed script will be evaluated negatively.

Final Session: 4:15-5 pm

Ohio Room

Closing Remarks

and

Pride Alliance Panel

***Concurrent Schedule (Those attending must pre-register).**

10-12 pm

Susquehanna Room

Continuing Education Workshop with Betsy Crane, Ph.D. and Robert Heasley, Ph.D.

12:15-1:15 pm

Delaware Room

Q&A Luncheon with Betsy Crane

Ask questions you may have had after the keynote address or CE workshop, discuss possible career advice in the field of human sexuality, or just enjoy lunch with an interesting and inspiring individual!

Please register if you would like to attend the luncheon by emailing iupgenderandsexuality@gmail.com by April 11th, 2011. Include your name, email address, and any dietary restrictions.