



GENDER, SEXUALITY, & POLITICAL ACTION

A conference organized by the 2002/2003 Fellows of the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities at Vanderbilt University. The program brings together scholars and political activists for discussion and reflection about the rich intersections between academic and activist work on issues of gender and sexuality.

All sessions held in
134 Featheringill
Hall, Vanderbilt
University

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Sex, Gender, and Activism: Nashville, Tennessee

Victor Anderson, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics at Vanderbilt University, represents Brothers United, an education program designed to provide HIV prevention education to gay and bisexual men of color as well as to promote self-empowerment and community building.

Pamela DeGross is spokesperson and newsletter editor for Tennessee Vals, a support group for transgendered people. Tennessee Vals is the largest transgendered support group in the mid-south.

Abby Rubinfeld has a general law practice in Nashville with an emphasis on family law, sexual orientation issues, and AIDS-related issues and is on the Board of Directors of the Human Rights Campaign.

Becca Stevens, Chaplain, St. Augustine's Chapel at Vanderbilt University, founded Magdalene, a residential housing and recovery program for Nashville women with a history of prostitution and drug abuse.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

9:00-10:00 a.m.

International Gay and Lesbian Rights

Alejandra Sarda coordinates the Program for Latin America and the Caribbean at the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Sex, Gender, and Activism: The National Scene

Monica J. Casper, Executive Director of the Intersex Society of North America, is an internationally recognized medical sociologist and biomedical ethicist and the author of *The Making of the Unborn Patient: A Social Anatomy of Fetal Surgery* (Rutger University Press).

Emi Koyama is a multi-issue social justice activist synthesizing feminist, Asian, survivor, dyke, queer, sex worker, slut, intersex, genderqueer, and crip politics.

Meri Nana-Ama Danquah is the author of *Willow Weep for Me: A Black Woman's Journey Through Depression* (Ballantine Books, 1998), the first book published by an African-American to address the topic of depression.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m.

Gender, Power, and the Living Wage

Reverend Lillian Daniel is the Senior Minister at the Redeemer United Church of Christ, New Haven, Connecticut, and co-chair of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Center for a New Economy, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the economic and social well-being of working families in Connecticut's urban centers.

Reverend Scott Marks is the leader of the New Growth Outreach Ministries and serves as the New Haven director of the Connecticut Center for a New Economy.

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

"The Dirt We Eat: The Unfinished Struggle for Women's Liberation"

Minnie Bruce Pratt teaches Women's Studies, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Studies, and Creative Writing as a member of the Graduate Faculty of The Union Institute. She is the author of numerous publications, including *S/HE* (Firebrand Books) and *Walking Back Up Depot Street* (University of Pittsburgh Press).

**ROBERT PENN WARREN
CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES**

“GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND POLITICAL ACTION”

**An interdisciplinary conference organized by the
2002/2003 Warren Center Fellows**

October 31 and November 1, 2003
134 Featheringill Hall
Vanderbilt University

Support for this program has also been provided by the
Department of History and the Women's Studies Program at Vanderbilt University

2002/2003 Warren Center Fellows

Brooke Ackerly
Assistant Professor of Political Science

Katherine Crawford
Assistant Professor of History

Carolyn Dever, Co-director
Spence and Rebecca Webb Wilson Fellow
Associate Professor of English
Acting Director, Women's Studies Program

Lisa Duggan
William S. Vaughn Visiting Fellow
Associate Professor of History and American Studies, NYU

Lynn Enterline
Professor of English

José Medina
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Diane Perpich
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Kathryn Schwarz
Associate Professor of English

John Sloop, Co-director
Jacque Voegeli Fellow
Associate Professor of Communication Studies

Gender, Sexuality, and Political Action

Friday, October 31
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Welcoming Remarks: **Nick Zeppos**, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

“Sex, Gender, and Activism: Nashville, Tennessee”

Panel Members:

Victor Anderson, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics at Vanderbilt University, represents Brothers United, an education program designed to provide HIV prevention education to gay and bisexual men of color as well as to promote self-empowerment and community building.

Pamela DeGross is spokesperson and newsletter editor for Tennessee Vals, a support group for transgendered people. Tennessee Vals is the largest transgendered support group in the mid-south.

Abby Rubinfeld has a general law practice in Nashville with an emphasis on family law, sexual orientation issues, and AIDS-related issues and is on the Board of Directors of the Human Rights Campaign.

Becca Stevens, Chaplain, St. Augustine's Chapel at Vanderbilt University, founded Magdalene, a residential housing and recovery program for Nashville women with a history of prostitution and drug abuse.

Panel Moderator: **José Medina**, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Vanderbilt University and 2002/2003 Fellow, Warren Center

A reception will be held in the Featheringill Lobby following the first session.

Saturday, November 1st

10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

“Sex, Gender, and Activism: The National Scene”

Panel Members:

Monica J. Casper, Executive Director of the Intersex Society of North America, is an internationally recognized medical sociologist and biomedical ethicist and the author of *The Making of the Unborn Patient: A Social Anatomy of Fetal Surgery* (Rutgers University Press).

Emi Koyama is a multi-issue social justice activist synthesizing feminist, Asian, survivor, dyke, queer, sex worker, slut, intersex, genderqueer, and crip politics.

Meri Nana-Ama Danquah is the author of *Willow Weep for Me: A Black Woman's Journey Through Depression* (Ballantine Books), the first book published by an African-American to address the topic of depression.

Panel Moderator: **Alison Piepmeier**, Associate Director of Women's Studies and Senior Lecturer in Women's Studies, Vanderbilt University.

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

“Gender, Power, and the Living Wage”

This session is in honor of our colleague, Professor Shafali Lal

Opening Remarks: **Rowena Olegario**, Assistant Professor of History, Vanderbilt University.

Panel Members:

Lillian Daniel is the Senior Minister at the Redeemer United Church of Christ, New Haven, Connecticut, and co-chair of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Center for a New Economy, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the economic and social well-being of working families in Connecticut's urban centers.

Scott Marks is the leader of the New Growth Outreach Ministries and serves as the New Haven director of the Connecticut Center for a New Economy.

Panel Moderator: **Jennifer Carlisle** is a senior in the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University and is chair of the Vanderbilt Living Wage Campaign.

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

“The Dirt We Eat: The Unfinished Struggle for Women’s Liberation”

Minnie Bruce Pratt teaches Women’s Studies, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Studies and Creative Writing as a member of the Graduate Faculty of the Union Institute. She is the author of numerous publications, including *SHE* (Firebrand Books) and *Walking Back Up Depot Street* (University of Pittsburgh Press).

Introduction: **Carolyn Dever**, Acting Director of Women’s Studies, Associate Professor of English, and 2002/2003 Spence and Rebecca Webb Wilson Fellow of the Warren Center, Vanderbilt University.

Closing remarks: **John Sloop**, Associate Professor of Communication Studies and 2002/2003 Jacque Voegeli Fellow of the Warren Center, Vanderbilt University