

Society for Socialist Studies  
Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences  
May. 31 – June. 3, 2016, University of Calgary  
<http://www.socialiststudies.ca>

**Call for Papers**  
**Updated January 3, 2016**

**Theme:**  
**Energizing Class Struggles: Race, Gender, and Colonialism**

We wish to **energize class struggles**, understanding that the class relationship in contemporary capitalism is mediated by forms of oppression related to gender, race, able-bodiedness and orientation, and is articulated with the ongoing colonization of Indigenous peoples across lands and waters claimed by Canada. At the same time, energetic class struggles are a variable historical reality across the whole of society, in areas ranging from the arts to literary studies to everyday economics in the home, the workplace and the community. The University, too, is a site of sometimes-energetic, sometimes-waning class struggle. On the one hand it reflects the relative dominance of the capitalist class in radically unequal times, including the power of resource extraction industries to shape university institutions and aims. On the other hand, the working classes, women (and women-identified) and subaltern groups have sought to challenge the expression of capitalist power in academia and society more broadly. At least since the 1970s, diverse Indigenous peoples have likewise sought simultaneously to 'decolonize' and 'indigenize' university spaces as part of broader struggles of Indigenous self-determination and liberation. In short, the working classes have never merely accepted their domination but have always fought battles against the power of capital in very unequal conditions. We consider ***energizing class struggles*** as a possibility – the potential for revitalized struggles by and for equity-seeking groups, subaltern classes and among diverse Indigenous peoples against an unjust colonial-capitalist world system.

The theme of the 2016 CFHSS Congress is 'Energizing Communities'. In our attempt to **Energize Class Struggles**, the Society invites participants to critically reflect upon the histories of vital class opposition. We call upon contributors to think through the possibilities for re-energizing class and Indigenous struggles in an historical moment of unprecedented capitalist class power.

From May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>, join us at the University of Calgary on Treaty 7 territory for four days of wide-ranging and engaged analysis and dialogue. Among other events, the conference will feature our Keynote Speaker Glen Coulthard, presenting "Red Capital: A Critique of Settler Political Economy".

**If you wish to submit a proposal for a paper**, please go to our conference website by clicking [HERE](#). The 'submit an abstract' button is under the first paragraph. You will first be asked to register, with a user name and password (of your creation).

Then, choose the 'conference track' (i.e., session) best suited to your paper. **The conference tracks correspond to the sessions listed below.** If your paper does not seem to fit into any of the listed sessions, choose the track, 'General Paper', and we will try to find a place for it. **Paper titles and abstracts (maximum of 100 words) should be submitted before Friday, January 29, 2016.**

The following sessions are currently accepting papers. We hope to see you in Calgary!

SSS 2016 Programme Co-chairs  
[rosa1919@uvic.ca](mailto:rosa1919@uvic.ca)

## **MOVING BEYOND THE LOW WAGE ECONOMY: STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND POLITICS FOR DECENT WORK AND WAGES**

This panel invites papers concerned with forms of resistance to the expansion of low-waged work. In particular we are interested in studies of campaigns to increase the minimum wage, to establish a living wage, and/or new forms of worker organization and mobilization. In addition we are interested in a critical assessment of these movements, their methods and effectiveness in shaping state policy.

### **Organizer:**

Bryan Evans, Ryerson University, [B1evans@politics.ryerson.ca](mailto:B1evans@politics.ryerson.ca)

## **CORPORATE POWER AND CARBONIFEROUS CAPITALISM**

This session welcomes papers that explore the social organization of corporate power in and around the carbon-extractive sector, broadly defined (including petroleum and bitumen, natural gas, coal, and transport via pipelines etc.), whether extracted using conventional or unconventional methods. Papers may focus on any of a variety of modalities through which corporate power is expressed, including the strategic control of firms, elite networks, the allocative power of finance, operational power exercised within corporate chains of command, the power inscribed within transnational commodity chains, cultural power via media relations and corporate social responsibility initiatives, and political power vis-à-vis state bodies. While the social organization of corporate power is the main focus, papers that address how that power is contested in the struggle for a just transition to a better world are also welcome.

### **Organizer:**

William Carroll, University of Victoria, [wcarroll@uvic.ca](mailto:wcarroll@uvic.ca)

## **ALBERTA IN TRANSITION**

Alberta's 2015 provincial election saw the NDP come to power, ending nearly 44 years of Progressive Conservative rule. Was it a blip? Or does it signify deep changes in Alberta's political, economic, and social structures? This session will explore ways of understanding the election.

### **Organizer:**

Trevor Harrison, Parkland Institute and the University of Lethbridge.  
[trevor.harrison@uleth.ca](mailto:trevor.harrison@uleth.ca)

## **SOCIAL REPRODUCTION: THEORY MEETS EMPIRICAL INQUIRY**

Social reproduction has become one of the most promising and exciting concepts for research on contemporary social life, used in multiple ways, with developments in geography, indigenous studies, labour and activism, studies of care and many more. This session invites papers that capture and explore some of this richness, in order to inquire how this concept is being employed and the promise it holds. What is the relationship between social reproduction and capitalism NOW, and how does a social reproduction perspective foster analyses of all oppressions – gender, race, class, sexuality, ability and more –including their connections? Can social reproduction inspire us to imagine bold, emancipatory futures and if so, how?

### **Organizer:**

Susan Braedley, Carleton University, [susan.braedley@carleton.ca](mailto:susan.braedley@carleton.ca)

## **POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY**

Political sociology is a vibrant field with constantly redefined boundaries. This session invites empirical papers in sociology that focus on the political realm broadly defined, to include power relations in diverse areas of social life and among a wide variety of actors: governmental and non-governmental institutions, organizations, and citizens. Diverse and intersecting bases of political engagement, including class, identity, and citizenship are of interest, as are investigations of the political process itself. We welcome research using quantitative, qualitative and historical methods.

### **Organizer:**

Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto Mississauga, [knezevic@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:knezevic@chass.utoronto.ca)

## **PRECARITY AND INTERNATIONALIZATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

This session invites scholars to present theoretical and empirical perspectives on the internationalization of higher education, specifically as it relates to conditions of precarity. Papers may present analyses grounded in a particular geographical context (e.g., North America, East Asia, China), in an examination of relations between such contexts (e.g., North-South or East-West relations), or in a consideration of social relations within and between institutions [e.g., tenured vs. contingent faculty, north-south Massive Online Universities (MOUs)]. Papers may be exclusively theoretical or primarily practice-oriented. Where possible and appropriate, session participants are encouraged to orient their papers to conference theme.

### **Organizers:**

Lorin Geoffrey Yochim, Beijing Normal University, [lyochim@ualberta.ca](mailto:lyochim@ualberta.ca), and Robert McGrey, Brock University, [rmcgray@brocku.ca](mailto:rmcgray@brocku.ca)

## **THE LEFT IN SOUTH ASIA AND GENDER JUSTICE: MISSING THE WOODS FOR THE TREES?**

This panel focuses on the commitment, or lack thereof, of political parties of the 'left' in South Asia to consistently articulate policies on gender justice and equality. The region's 'left' parties oftentimes lag behind leading equal rights and gender justice activists. How compatible are gender justice and equality objectives with the agendas and strategies of leftist parties, and do they possess the potential to promote such causes across caste and class boundaries? This panel calls for a cross-cutting critical reflection on this and other related interrogations.

### **Organizer:**

Dr. Chaminda Weerawardhana, Queens University Belfast,  
[cweerawardhana02@qub.ac.uk](mailto:cweerawardhana02@qub.ac.uk)

## **RE-ENERGIZING THE DIALECTIC**

Marx said the dialectic was "critical and revolutionary." However, as a mode of inquiry and presentation it has been neglected, if recognized at all, in much Marxian and socialist thought. This session contributes a "re-energizing" of the dialectic by taking it seriously as an epistemology and a method. A broad range of papers including a reflection on the dialectic as a philosophy of knowledge and as a means of conceptualizing and representing the dynamism of capital accumulation expands our understanding of the current moment and its reactionary and revolutionary opportunities. .

### **Organizer:**

Sean F. McMahon, American University in Cairo, [smcmahon@aucegypt.edu](mailto:smcmahon@aucegypt.edu)

## **PARENTHETICALLY SETTLED: RACED AND GENDERED BODIES NEGOTIATE IMPERIALIST ACADEME**

*Although colonial universities saw themselves as being part of an international community and inheritors of a legacy of Western knowledge, they were also part of historical processes of imperialism. They were established as a central part of the colonizing process, a bastion of civilization and a sign that a colony and its settlers had 'grown up'. (Smith, 1999, p. 65)* This session is energized by Tuhiwai Smith's understanding of the role of universities in legitimizing and reproducing imperialist orders. We seek abstracts that examine the infantilization, pathologization and surveillance of gendered, racialized, indigenous, LGBTQ2S and disabled challenges to capitalism within academe.

### **Organizers:**

Katie Aubrecht, Mount Saint Vincent University, [katieaubrecht@gmail.com](mailto:katieaubrecht@gmail.com),  
Stephanie Latty, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, [sk.latty@gmail.com](mailto:sk.latty@gmail.com),  
Isabel Mackenzie Lay, Artist, Mental Health Counsellor and Gestalt Psychotherapy Student, [Isabelmackenzielay@gmail.com](mailto:Isabelmackenzielay@gmail.com),  
Tania Ruize-Chapman, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, [t.ruiz.chapman@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:t.ruiz.chapman@mail.utoronto.ca)

## **ENERGIZING INSPIRATION: RADICAL WOMEN REMEMBERED & ENGAGED**

This panel focuses on the contributions of particular women radicals with the goal of not just "remembering" but also engaging their contributions to theory, philosophy, organization, and radical thought broadly construed. In a sense, the panel is an act of reclamation, seeking to place women in their historical contexts and ensuring that their contributions and commitments are not simply displaced or excluded from our historical narratives and contemporary thinking. The focus of the paper can be a living or deceased "radical woman" whose legacy and contribution are often overlooked even among critical thinkers. We are seeking additional papers to complement those listed below:

- "Graphic Rosa: Rosa Luxemburg's biography and political thought in Kate Evans' graphic biography" – Dr. Sandra Rein
- "Has the Personal Overshadowed the Political? Taking Emma Goldman seriously as Philosopher" – Dr. Janet Wesselius
- "You Don't Know Helen: the overlooked and forgotten contributions of Helen McFarlane" – Ms. Stacey Haugen

### **Organizer:**

Sandra Rein, University of Alberta, [srein@ualberta.ca](mailto:srein@ualberta.ca)

## **FORESHORTENED AND DISPLACED CRITIQUES OF CAPITALISM IN THE GLOBAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT**

Neoliberal globalization has been accompanied by the rise of resistance movements/spaces in both the Global North and South – Occupy, Via Campesina, Andean indigenism, the World Social Forum, etc. – and writers/academics supporting this “newest left.” Strongly influenced by populism, nationalism, and/or academia’s “cultural turn,” many of these challenge neoliberalism and/or transnational finance capitalism rather than capitalism per se. Some even go so far as to reduce neoliberalism to its “cultural underpinnings” in (Enlightenment) modernity and its universalizing tendencies. Papers should address the following questions: What are the political implications of such foreshortened and displaced critiques of capitalism? Are they merely reformist or do they embody deeper contradictions?

### **Organizer:**

Regina Cochrane, University of Calgary, [r.cochrane@ucalgary.ca](mailto:r.cochrane@ucalgary.ca)

## **BLACKNESS, GENDER AND CLASS**

Frantz Fanon’s chapter, “The Fact of Blackness” in *Black Skin, White Masks* (1967) starkly notes the experience of being “an object in the midst of other objects.” Citing the Hegelian moment of “being for others,” Fanon notes the specific ontological reality that frames colonialism in terms of the body, consciousness, negation and the gaze. Contemporary Blackness studies draws upon Fanon’s work, as well as leading Marxist scholars such as WEB DuBois, CLR James and Angela Davis. This panel draws on current research that attends to these conversations, with a focus on the intersection of Blackness, gender and class.

### **Organizer:**

Abigail Bakan, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, [abigail.bakan@utoronto.ca](mailto:abigail.bakan@utoronto.ca)

## **INDIGENOUS PERFORMATIVITY ON THE CAPITALIST STAGE**

Critiques of capitalism are often oriented towards a political and/or economic analysis and tend to overlook the implications of unequal power and class structures for cultural participation, in/formation, and expression. Within the Canadian context, capitalism and colonialism have unapologetically targeted Indigenous culture, identity, and performance, using various political, economic, and social means in attempting to silence and expel Indigenous languages, ceremonies, and expressions. Just as the capitalist-colonial system attempts to institutionalize and normalize stratifications, it actively attempts to homogenize populations, reorganizing cultural bodies into depoliticized consumers and uncultured labourers. However, Indigenous culture has not been erased; Indigeneity continues to be performed through a variety of means (cultural and otherwise) and this panel seeks to better understand how to account for and support examples and displays of Indigenous cultural resistance to a system that denies Indigenous cultural expression.

In particular, this panel explores the ways in which Indigenous performativity challenges the capitalist-colonial project by focusing on examples of popular culture that redefine common perceptions of Indigeneity. The inherent performativity within cultural expression is inextricable from anti- and decolonial acts, and demonstrates unique ways in which these expressions intentionally and unintentionally challenge capitalism.

Panellists already confirmed:

- Greer Brabazon, discussing Indigenous hip-hop.
- Charlotte Hoelke (Carleton University), discussing TV series "Mohawk Girls".

### **Organizer:**

Greer Brabazon, Independent Scholar, [greerbrabazon@gmail.com](mailto:greerbrabazon@gmail.com)



## **CASTE OPPRESSION TODAY**

Although caste discrimination has been officially outlawed in India and affirmative action programs have been introduced to combat its horrendous effects, the great majority of Dalits (formerly “untouchables”) continue to suffer from extreme poverty and social marginalization. Moreover, those who attempt to challenge this situation are often subject to violence with impunity. This session will focus on the reality of caste oppression today by examining topics like: the impact of Modi and the BJP on caste politics, the intersection of caste and gender, the continuation of caste oppression in immigrant communities in Canada, and the contemporary relevance of Ambedkar’s writings.

### **Organizer:**

Regina Cochrane, University of Calgary, [r.cochrane@ucalgary.ca](mailto:r.cochrane@ucalgary.ca)

## **THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF FOOD PRODUCTION IN NORTHERN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES**

“Food insecurity” has become a mobilizing issue across Northern Canada for Indigenous communities who continue to face the twin challenges of contemporary capitalism: deepening structural inequality and climate change. Community members depend on locally harvested plants and wildlife (country food) for their sustenance, and yet while these resources are under threat, the social systems that support country food economies and that are integral to community life are also changing. In this panel we will consider how local food economies are impacted by the forces of global capitalism, and how the study of political economy can inform our understanding of these changes. Presenters from multiple disciplines are encouraged to participate. In holding this panel we hope to deepen our theoretical understanding of local food economies and the role of the state and Indigenous institutions in shaping them, and to share new empirical insights from across Canada (and internationally, if relevant).

### **Organizer:**

Rebecca Schein, Carleton University, [RebeccaSchein@CUNET.CARLETON.CA](mailto:RebeccaSchein@CUNET.CARLETON.CA)

## **ALTERNATIVE MEDIA, THE LEFT AND SOCIAL MOVEMENT STRUGGLES**

Despite the bankruptcy of neoliberalism, at least since the onset of the global financial crisis in 2008, the left and social movements continue to struggle to reach out beyond the 'radical ghetto' to new audiences to bring about progressive social change. If the growth in accessibility of new digital technologies and social media platforms has 'solved' many obstacles that impeded alternative media in the 1990s, why do dominant media continue to set the political agenda and negatively frame social movements and left parties? What future is there if we are unable to build our movements through our own independent media – to communicate with each other without censorship or omission, and to represent ourselves, ideas and visions to others? This session calls for contributions, whether practical, theoretical and/or analytical, to consider how, why and where might alternative media contribute to building an alternative (party, movement, coalition) to austerity and crises affecting our communities. Papers might wish to draw upon examples from history or propose ways to advance alternative media or identify problems with the existing or previous thinking around the left and alternative media.

### **Organizer:**

Herbert Pimlott, Wilfred Laurier University, [hpimlott@wlu.ca](mailto:hpimlott@wlu.ca)

## **CRISES? WHAT CRISES?**

This session invites papers discussing any of the following questions:

- Which kinds of crises is capitalism facing these days? Crises of the economy, ecology, legitimation, representation and/or hegemony?
- Do these crises affect only subsystems of capitalism or do they add up to an organic or general crisis of capitalism?
- Are these crises structural or conjunctural?
- What role can the left play in overcoming capitalist crises?
- Is the left in crisis, too? If so, what kind of crisis is that and how might it be overcome?

### **Organizer:**

Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University, [ingos@athabascau.ca](mailto:ingos@athabascau.ca)

## **ORGANIZING FOR SOCIALISM**

Neoliberal capitalism is in a crisis of legitimacy. In many countries, though, it is the political right, rather than the left, that thrives on that crisis. In Canada, an organized socialist voice is all but absent. This session explores the reasons for the weakness of the left and possible ways out of it. It invites papers dealing with the following questions:

- What are recent experiences the left can learn from?
- Which role do unions and social movements play in reinventing socialism?
- Does socialism need a new type of party? What would that look like?

### **Organizer:**

Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University, [ingos@athabascau.ca](mailto:ingos@athabascau.ca)

## **QUEERLY ANTI-CAPITALIST: PERSPECTIVES ON SEXUAL LIBERATION**

This session will address the challenge of constructing a queer anti-capitalist theory and practice that points beyond lesbian and gay equality rights towards sexual liberation. The development of such a politics requires that we enhance our understanding of the ways sexuality is grounded in ways of life and work that include the gendered and racialized organization of paid and unpaid labour as well as global relations of imperialism and settler colonialism. Papers should address issues in the development of a sexual liberation politics oriented around an eco-socialist, feminist, anti-racist, anti-colonialist, queer anti-capitalism.

### **Organizer:**

Alan Sears, Ryerson University, [asears@ryerson.ca](mailto:asears@ryerson.ca)

## **TRANSFORMATIONS AND TRADITIONS OF REPRESSION AND CONTROL**

This panel seeks those working to understand the changes and continuities in policing and security practices in protest and community contexts in Canada and internationally. These include militarization, surveillance, community policing, privatization, and spatial control, keeping in mind the ways that these trends affect Black communities and other communities of colour, indigenous communities, poor people and other marginalized groups.

### **Organizer:**

Leslie Wood, York University, [ljwood@yorku.ca](mailto:ljwood@yorku.ca)

## **REVISITING THE 'RESOURCE CURSE': DEVELOPMENT IN EXTRACTIVE STATES**

Most states (whether socialist or otherwise) that rely on the export of primary commodities benefited to varying degrees from the recent commodity boom. The literature on developmental states has tended to argue that 'development' has been difficult or impossible in states with enormous natural resource wealth due to the distorting effects that it can have on class and state formation. We invite papers that engage with these debates, either focusing on case studies as well as theoretical treatments of these debates.

### **Organizer:**

Susan Spronk, University of Ottawa, [Susan.Spronk@uOttawa.ca](mailto:Susan.Spronk@uOttawa.ca)

## **WHAT IS TO BE DONE? A ROUNDTABLE ON STRATEGIES TO CHALLENGE THE CORPORATIZATION OF CANADA'S UNIVERSITIES**

A substantial body of scholarship has mapped out the nature and harmful implications of the corporatization process. The casualization of academic labour, over-regulation of academics and their work, commercialization of publicly funded knowledge, and downsides of the programme prioritization process, among other aspects of corporatization, have received critical attention in previous Congress sessions. What has not received as much attention is what to do in response to such issues. This roundtable session will focus on strategies for confronting corporatization in ways that restore and strengthen the public serving focus of higher education. Contributions are invited that do any of the following: (a) describe how you and your colleagues have dealt with, or are trying to deal with, a corporatizing policy or initiative in your own institution, with a view to undermining or diverting its negative effects; (b) propose a strategically focused response to a corporatizing trend currently unfolding in higher education; (c) develop a strategy that links responses to corporatization undertaken within a given university or college with social movements based outside. Contributors will have up to 10 minutes to present their work for discussion, with a view toward developing strategic suggestions that can be circulated to concerned colleagues.

### **Organizers:**

Janice Newson, York University, [janewson@eagle.ca](mailto:janewson@eagle.ca), Claire Polster, University of Regina, [claire.polster@uregina.ca](mailto:claire.polster@uregina.ca)

**Note:** This session is a joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association (CSA). In order to join this session, you may submit either to the Society for Socialist Studies website or the Canadian Sociological Association (but not both, please). You

must be a member in good standing of one of these associations in order to submit.  
Deadline: February 1, 2016.

### **MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA: MANY FACES OF STRUGGLES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**

This panel explores the many faces of struggles for social justice in contemporary Middle East and North Africa (MENA). It reflects on social/civil rights movements as diverse as the urban poor movements, activism of labour union/workers, women's and student movements, and environmental activists. Moreover, the panel investigates the quest for grassroots democratic socialism in political discourses of socialist Muslims and the new left in the MENA region.

This panel examines the extent to which the manifestations of these social phenomena nullify/challenge the old and naïve discourse of "Middle East Exceptionalism", i.e. Middle East exceptionally resists progressive ideals and democratic institutions. Furthermore, it suggests the neo-liberal discourse/policies have exacerbated the crisis in the region.

**Organizer:**

Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta, [mahdavia@ualberta.ca](mailto:mahdavia@ualberta.ca)

### **DISABILITY AND CLASS STRUGGLE**

In a time of intensifying austerity, imperialism, financialization, militarism and incarceration, the ideological and material conditions of disability and disablement have never been more formidable, both in Canada and globally. This panel intends to reveal the ways in which addiction, disability, disablement, illness, mental health, and psychiatry are formed both ideologically and materially in this present moment, situating disability as an important site of class struggle. Presentations include analyses of Canadian mental health policy, addictions and harm reduction work, austerity and financial restructuring in the areas of prisons, war, education and healthcare institutions, as well as community organizing in these areas.

**Organizers:**

Mary Jean Hande, [maryjeanelizabeth@gmail.com](mailto:maryjeanelizabeth@gmail.com), Elisabeth Harrison, [elisabeth.ae.harrison@gmail.com](mailto:elisabeth.ae.harrison@gmail.com)

**INTERDISCIPLINARY FEMINIST SESSIONS AT CONGRESS 2016 /APPEL À PROPOSITIONS DE COMMUNICATIONS: SESSIONS FÉMINISTES INTERDISCIPLINAIRES AU CONGRÈS 2016**

Members of the associations co-sponsoring these two interdisciplinary feminist sessions at Congress are circulating this call for papers to their members. Proposals may ONLY be made on the Canadian Sociological Association (CSA-SCS) web site, *but members of other co-sponsoring associations may propose papers to these sessions without be(com)ing members of CSA-SCS.* Deadline for proposals: Feb 1, 2016.

/ Les membres des associations qui co-marrainent ces deux sessions féministes interdisciplinaires au Congrès transmettent cette invitation à leurs membres. Des propositions peuvent être soumises SEULEMENT sur le site web de la Société canadienne de sociologie. *Toutefois les membres des autres associations qui co-marrainent peuvent proposer des communications pour ces sessions sans être ou devenir membre de CSA-SCS.* Date limite pour les propositions : 1 février 2016.

**SESSION 1 : FEMINISM AND ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CONVERSATION / LE FÉMINISME ET L'ÉNERGIE DES COMMUNAUTÉS: UNE CONVERSATION INTERDISCIPLINAIRE**

The Congress theme of 'energizing communities' has been an implicit or explicit focus of feminism and feminist critique. In this session we explore how we can collectively learn from experiences of feminist research and engagement about communities, whether at the local, regional, national or transnational levels. Presenters are invited to *briefly* describe their experience (direct or through, for example, historical documentation), including its context and its conceptualization of community, and then to reflect on the insights and processes of action-reflection (praxis), consciousness, transformation, and/or conceptualizations which might be gained from these empirical experiences. Presenters can articulate the particular contributions that their *feminist* approach offers. Other possible topics may include: community-based research; the roles that researchers bring into communities; the themes/issues and structural arrangements which facilitate the bridging of diversities within varied social, political, historical, economic and/or geographical contexts; insights from Indigenous scholars and community organizations; social relations within communities and potential visions for social change; critique of patriarchal relationships that characterize contemporary societies and/or the contrasts between economic and social development; comparison of contemporary communities with feminist communities. We hope that the conversation in this session will enrich our feminist understandings of communities.

/ La thématique du Congrès, « l'énergie des communautés », a été une orientation implicite ou explicite du féminisme et des critiques féministes. Dans cette séance nous allons examiner comment nous pouvons apprendre collectivement des expériences de la recherche et de l'engagement féministes au sujet des communautés, soit aux niveaux locaux, régionaux, nationaux ou transnationaux. Les

conférencières et conférenciers sont invité(e)s à décrire brièvement leurs expériences (soit directes ou, par exemple, par la documentation historique) avec de telles recherches, y compris son contexte et sa façon de concevoir « communauté », et ensuite de commenter des processus de praxis, conscientisation, transformation, et/ou conceptualisations qu'on peut retirer de ces expériences empiriques. Les conférencières et conférenciers peuvent discuter les contributions précises qui découlent de leur approche *féministe*. Parmi d'autres thématiques possibles : la recherche basée sur une communauté (« community-based » research); les rôles des chercheuses au sein des communautés; les thématiques/problématiques et organisations structurelles qui peuvent mieux permettre de faire des ponts entre des diversités au sein des contextes sociaux, politiques, historiques, économiques et/ou géographiques; des éclaircissements offerts par des érudit(e)s indigèn(e)s et des organisations communautaires indigènes; des rapports sociaux au sein des communautés dans le cadre des visions possibles du changement social; une critique des rapports patriarcaux qui caractérisent des sociétés contemporaines et/ou le contraste entre le développement économique et social; des comparaisons entre des communautés contemporaines et des communautés féministes. Nous espérons que les conversations dans cette séance vont enrichir nos compréhensions féministes des communautés.

## **SESSION 2 : FEMINIST INTERSECTIONALITY IN THEORY, RESEARCH AND PRAXIS : AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CONVERSATION / L'INTERSECTIONNALITÉ DANS LA THÉORIE, RECHERCHE ET PRAXIS FÉMINISTES : UNE CONVERSATION INTERDISCIPLINAIRE**

Intersectionality has become an important approach for examining the interconnectedness of systems of oppression in women's lives, including by feminist scholars. It has varied manifestations - theoretical, methodological, historical and contextual. We invite presentations on feminist intersectionality in theory, research and/or praxis. Presenters may *briefly* discuss their use of feminist intersectionality methodologically, in theory and/or in their praxis, and *also* reflect on the strengths, limitations, implications and/or challenges of their experiences with it. Other questions might include: how is an approach *both* intersectional and feminist? How is such analysis stronger than analysis that is not intersectional? Or feminist? What are the contradictions, limitations of how women's multiple dimensions are considered? What is the relationship in research and praxis between gender, race, class and other intersections such as indigeneity, sexuality, age, religion, family status, birthplace and/or culture? Without feminist intersectional analysis, how are women's individual and group identities ignored? Has this absence contributed to women's victimization/ marginalization? How does feminist intersectionality contribute to understanding the diversity of women's identity, social location and the structural barriers they experience? How does intersectionality contribute to considering patriarchy and other systems of oppression? We hope that this session will encourage fruitful interdisciplinary exchanges about these issues.

/ L'intersectionnalité est devenue une approche importante, y compris par des chercheuses féministes pour l'examen des interrelations des systèmes d'oppression dans les vies des femmes. On s'en sert comme approche théorique, méthodologique, historique et comme contexte. Nous invitons des communications concernant l'intersectionnalité féministe en théorie, en recherches et/ou en praxis. Les auteures peuvent discuter *brièvement* leur utilisation de l'intersectionnalité féministe dans leur méthodologie, théorie et/ou praxis, et *aussi* commenter les forces, faiblesses, implications et/ou défis de leurs expériences avec cette approche. Parmi d'autres questions possibles : comment est-ce qu'une approche est *à la fois* intersectionnelle et féministe? Comment est-ce qu'une telle approche est plus puissante qu'une analyse qui n'est pas intersectionnelle? Ou féministe? Quelles sont des contradictions, des limitations à l'analyse des multiples dimensions des femmes? Quel est le rapport en recherche et en praxis entre genre, race, classe et d'autres intersections, telles indigénéité, sexualité, âge, religion, statut familial, lieu de naissance et/ou culture? Dans l'absence d'une analyse féministe intersectionnelle, comment est-ce qu'on passe sous silence des identités individuelle et collective des femmes? Est-ce que cette lacune contribue à la marginalisation, la victimisation des femmes? Comment est-ce que l'analyse féministe intersectionnelle contribue à la compréhension des diversités des identités des femmes, de leur positionnement, et des barrières structurelles qu'elles vivent? Comment est-ce que l'intersectionnalité contribue à l'analyse du patriarcat et d'autres systèmes d'oppression? Nous espérons que cette séance permettra des échanges interdisciplinaires fructueux autour de ces problématiques.

**To submit a proposal to either of these sessions:/ Pour présenter une proposition pour l'une ou l'autre de ces sessions:**

Go to: <http://www.csa-scs.ca/files/webapps/csapress/annual-conferences/call-for-abstracts/> ('click to submit your abstract' is at the bottom of that page). You will first be asked to register, with a user name and password (of your creation). On the next screen go to author and click on 'new submission'. On the next screen you are asked to identify the 'conference track' for the submission – this is the session name (all are listed alphabetically by session title in the drop-down menu). Then continue on, following the instructions.

/ Allez à <http://www.csa-scs.ca/files/webapps/csapress/annual-conferences/call-for-abstracts/> et cliquez sur 'Français' au début de la page ('submit an abstract' est en bas de cette page) – la plupart des directions sont également en français, mais malheureusement pas toutes les entêtes ni l'inscription. Passant à l'anglais pour l'inscription, on vous demande d'abord de vous inscrire, avec un nom et un mot de passe que vous choisissez. Ensuite allez à 'author' et cliquez sur 'new submission'. Sur le prochain écran on vous demande d'identifier le 'conference track' pour la proposition – il faut choisir le nom de la session (toutes sont dans la liste du menu, en ordre alphabétique selon le titre de la session, en anglais). Ensuite continuez, selon les directives. Votre résumé et votre présentation éventuelle peuvent être en français.



---

**Interdisciplinary Session Organizers:**

Ann Denis, University of Ottawa, adenis@uottawa.ca (CSA / SCS)

Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University, ruffman@smu.ca (CSA / SCS)

Marleny Bonnycastle, University of Manitoba (CASWE / ACFTS)

Louise Carbert, Dalhousie University (CPSA / ACSP)

Lisa Starr, McGill University (CASWE/ACÉFÉ)

Rhonda Hinthner, Brandon University (CCWH/CCHF)

Susan Spronk, University of Ottawa (SSS / SES)