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CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The **National Women's Studies Association** leads the field of women's studies in educational and social transformation. Established in 1977, NWSA has more than 2,000 members worldwide. Our annual conference regularly draws nearly 2,000 attendees and is the only annual meeting in the US exclusively dedicated to showcasing the latest feminist scholarship.

The 2017 conference will open on Thursday, November 16 with three pre-conferences. The Program Administration and Development and Women's Center meetings offer networking and professional development opportunities for women's and gender studies and women's center administrators. The Women of Color Leadership Project is designed to support women of color in their professional goals and leadership development; interested candidates must apply to participate.

The General Conference begins on Thursday afternoon and concludes Sunday afternoon; it will feature concurrent breakout sessions, receptions, and professional development sessions for graduate students and junior faculty.

ABOUT THE THEME: 40 Years after Combahee: Scholars and Activists Engage the Movement for Black Lives

NWSA is an organization of feminist scholars and scholar-activists that emerged out of the social movements of the 1960s and 70s. It is fitting then that since our 40th anniversary conference will take place in Baltimore, the site of the massive Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests of 2015, and in the year that marks the 40th anniversary of the Black feminist manifesto, the Combahee River Collective (CRC) statement, that the theme of our annual gathering will be: "40 years after Combahee: Feminist Scholars and Activists Engage the Movement for Black Lives."

The Movement for Black Lives (M4BL), also referred to as the Black Lives Matter Movement, is a Black-led movement, comprised of multiple organizations, with widespread support in people of color and progressive white communities in the United States as well as internationally. Solidarity actions and delegations have linked M4BL to Palestine, Brazil, Canada, England and South Africa, as well as the immigration rights movement and indigenous and First Nations' struggles across North America. Significantly, this is the first mass movement with such a broad reach that is being led by young Black feminist organizers, many of them queer and trans. They have reconfigured how we think about race, gender, sexuality, violence, politics, and power in the 21st century.

The question this conference theme poses is how do we make Black lives matter in our own feminist research and praxis and how do we stand in

solidarity with the growing and broad-based movement against state, gender-based and other forms of



Co-Chairs:

- Barbara Ransby, University of Illinois, Chicago
- Premilla Nadasen, Barnard College

2017 Review Chairs:

- Moya Bailey, Northeastern University
- Rose Brewer, University of Minnesota
- Mary Hooks, Southerners on New Ground
- Lisa Yun Lee, University of Illinois, Chicago
- Ntanya Lee, LeftRoots and Ear to the Ground Project
- Erica R. Meiners, Northeastern Illinois University
- C. Riley Snorton, Cornell University
- Robyn Spencer, Lehman College



violence? Under the expansive banner of M4BL, this emerging movement is strengthened by the #SAYHERNAME campaign, which has demanded attention on the Black queer, trans, gender non-conforming, women and intersex people who are also victims of state and gendered violence. M4BL notes in its national platform that it seeks to elevate “the experienced and leadership of the most marginalized Black people, including but not limited to those who are women, queer, trans, femmes, gender nonconforming, Muslim, formerly and currently incarcerated, cash poor and working class, disabled, undocumented, and immigrant.”

M4BL’s vision statement asserts, “patriarchy, exploitative capitalism, militarism, and white supremacy know no borders.” With that principle in mind, we want to make sure that contemporary transnational feminist praxis is as much a part of our program as it was in the 1977 CRC statement and the current praxis of M4BL organizers.

We invite paper, panel, performance and workshop proposals that build creatively and critically on our theme, and sub-themes. We strongly encourage independent scholars, non-academic writers, artists, researchers and organizers to propose panels and presentations, and to be included in sessions alongside community college, college, and university-based scholars.

Please note that **submitted proposals *must* address one of the seven themes below to be eligible for inclusion in the program.** Sub-themes for the conference include:

SUBTHEME ONE: Solidarities: Trans-National and Local

Both NWSA and CRC highlight the importance of trans-national feminist solidarities and local collaborations in struggles for social justice. In some cases solidarity is defined as “ally-ship.” However, we welcome submissions that transcend or trouble this notion. We encourage proposals that resist monolithic universals and false symmetries, and build upon Chandra Mohanty’s critique of the “discursive colonization” of the lives of women from the Global South. We encourage submission of papers, presentations and creative performance that help to further the dialogue, understanding and potential for solidarity among and between women and gender non-conforming and trans people of color, indigenous people and other overlapping and intersecting oppressed communities. How can modes of solidarity lead to a deeper engagement with politics and an understanding not just of how support is strategic, but how issues are interconnected? What are the meanings and possibilities of joint struggle in theory and practice? How are we reimagining transnational solidarity as we also critique nation states? What are the race, class, ethnic, cultural, gender tensions in practicing solidarity across borders and boundaries?

SUBTHEME TWO: Arts and Culture: How are social media, visual culture, and social practice art changing how we view, engage and transform the world?

M4BL and recent hyper-publicized incidents of anti-black violence have been represented and complicated in works by numerous artists and cultural producers. References and themes related to M4BL and to the police violence that sparked the movement have been the subject of artistic expressions across a range of genres, including visual art, film, video, and sound installations, television, poetry, spoken word and performance art. Secondly, the uses and abuses, of social media have been at the center of M4BL organizing, mobilizing, and debate. How do we understand, contrast and compare the role of art and culture, including social media in M4BL and other movements for change: movements that have



sought to effect policy and power as well as how we think and relate to one another in the world. How do we study the dynamic work that social media activists are creating without compromising the efficacy of their work or their safety in the context of widespread surveillance and national security repression? Feminists have long analyzed how heteropatriarchal, racist, and sexist violence has been re-inscribed through various cultural practices and institutions. What do feminist and queer frameworks, theories and sensibilities have to offer to our read of the role of art, culture and various communications technologies in the context of resurgent movements against white supremacy in the U.S. and the world? How do we study the dynamic work that social media activists are creating without compromising the efficacy of their work or their safety? What is the role of art in the feminist imaginary?

SUBTHEME THREE: Revisiting Intersectionality

Building on the work of Angela Davis, bell hooks, Frances Beal, Audre Lorde, the CRC and others, critical race theory scholar and feminist, Kimberle Crenshaw, coined the term intersectionality in 1989. Since then it has been a powerful paradigm in feminist scholarship and thinking. In the M4BL key organizers have centered black feminist and queer politics and theory, identifying themselves as the feminist/ queer and trans leaders of a larger Black Freedom and Freedom struggle. At the same time feminist thinkers from Premilla Nadasen to Jasbir Puar, Ella Shohat, and Jennifer Nash have pushed us to rethink and reimagine the metaphor of intersections in our understanding of multiple identities and systems of oppression operating in concert. What are new metaphors that capture the dynamism of this moment and the complex ways in which feminist organizers, cultural workers and others are defining injustice and envisioning a different future? How do intersectionality and the formation of women's studies foster connections between theory and praxis, and how might this inform the development of future feminist theory? How has language like Moya Bailey's *misogynoir* challenged simplistic renderings of sexism and misogyny? In what ways are women of color, queer feminists, and trans activists challenging an imagined central white feminist agenda? Are we any closer to realizing Cathy Cohen's call for political solidarity based in our relationships to power? How are theories, narratives, research data and movements related to disability studies, and struggles, situated in our evolving notions of multiple systems of oppression and communities of resistance?

SUBTHEME FOUR: Engaging, Questioning and Transcending the State

M4BL has been an anti-state violence movement above all else. Focusing on anti-black violence M4BL has raised fundamental questions about the role of the state in our lives and the role of coercive state power on the lives of women, Black people, LGBTQIA folks, those living under settler colonial regimes and authoritarian regimes throughout the world. Is the state still, as it was in certain moments of history, a viable site for claims of individual protection, demands for reparations, and political, economic and rights? How has the very notion of state sovereignty led to exclusions, marginalizations, and hierarchies? How has a focus on the state impeded transnational alliances and solidarity? How have indigenous and other alternative constructions of sovereignty served as a space of resistance to dominant forms of control? What has women of color and queer of color thought contributed to movements seeking to end state violence and war? What is the changing nature of the state under Neoliberalism and what are mechanisms activists and artists are using to respond to state violence or in some cases the abandonment by the welfare and service programs of the state? How do prisons and carcerality, literal and metaphorical, fit in? What alternatives are being considered? What is the relationship of the state to nature and environment, and how does this inform the movement for black lives?



SUBTHEME FIVE: Violence, Trauma, Agency and Resilience

From the unprecedented number of deportations, drone attacks, police, vigilante, sexual, and economic violence, vulnerable communities have been increasingly assaulted and traumatized. M4BL initially focused on one acute example of this violence, anti-black state and vigilante killings, but has expanded to include various forms of violence and injustice. As scholar-activist Beth Richie has argued, some feminist anti-violence work has relied too heavily on the state, ignoring and undermining the agency and survival agenda of women who are poor, black and brown, trans, queer and/or sex workers. As a feminist-prison abolitionist, along with Angela Davis, Ruth Gilmore and others, she urges us to think beyond the state for solutions. How do we critically engage and learn from and with M4BL in terms of restorative justice practices, the rejection of the notion of human disposability, and the implementation of creative practices of accountability and healing justice? We invite papers that explore the sub-themes of violence, trauma and resilience with particular attention to issues of race, power, gender, class, empire and abolition. There is a rich body of literature by Hortense Spillers, Saidiya Hartmann, Lena Meari and others that focuses on various forms of trauma and torture. We encourage the submission of papers that wrestle with these difficult and complex themes. How do the notions of wounded and damaged bodies, bare life, erasure, and disposability offer insight into the longevity of structures of power, hetero-patriarchy, settler-colonialism and white supremacy? And what does research on these themes tell us about human agency and resilience? What does the work of radical disability activists and scholars offer to our understanding of the discourses and practices of violence, trauma, disposability and resistance?

SUBTHEME SIX: Movement Building and Freedom-Making

From CRC to M4BL, artists, scholars and organizers have wrestled with competing definitions of freedom and liberation? So, we pose the question - what are our feminist freedom dreams? And what kind of movements, mobilizations, and practices will help realize those collective yearnings? How do our respective dreams coalesce and/or conflict across national borders and other boundaries of difference? M4BL has proposed policy agendas and have embraced various slogans and images that project their visions of freedom. What do those visions look like? How do we see them in a transnational feminist, queer and trans context? What tactics, strategies, and forms of organization are in the mix as we enter a period of precarity in the U.S. and the world? What forms of leadership contribute most productively to social transformation? What is the role of established institutions, the state, funding agencies, and grassroots support in movement building? Does a politics of resistance or refusal necessarily lead to transformative change, movement building and freedom making? And what is the role of academics and intellectuals, especially insurgent ones? How do notions of fugitivity, marronage and the undercommons, advanced by Fred Moten and Stefano Harney, speak to this moment in feminist scholarship and activism? How do we, in the words of Grace Lee Boggs work to “decolonize our radical imaginations” such that we are able to dream beyond the limits of the oppressive systems in which we are enmeshed?

SUBTHEME SEVEN: Sexualities, Sexual Politics, and Visions of Liberation

The CRC statement advanced a cultural and political vision that represented a broad and far-reaching critique of war, violence, capitalism, hetero-patriarchy and various forms of hierarchy and repression. They grounded their analysis in their lived experiences as Black lesbians. Similarly, in recent years Black queer and trans women and femmes have played a prominent role in MBL, and have refused to be marginalized. The Black Youth Project 100 (byp100), a prominent M4BL organization, views its work



explicitly through a “black queer feminist lens.” The Black Lives Matter network calls for “freeing ourselves from the tight grip of heteronormative thinking.” Feminist scholars from Judith Butler and Lauren Berlant to Roderick Ferguson and Mireille Miller-Young have reminded us of the ways in which sexuality is deeply implicated in various systems of power, and therefore equally relevant to movements for freedom and liberation. Lamonda Horton-Stallings’ work insists that “black sexual cultures (in particular, have) produced radical ideologies,” that impact labor, community, art, politics, and sexuality. Building upon, engaging and going beyond the Combahee and M4BL articulations of sexuality, politics and race, we invite proposals that illuminate and interrogate, nationally, trans-nationally and historically, the relationship between sexuality and liberation, broadly defined. What is the relationship between neoliberalism, racial capitalism, settler colonialism, empire and sexuality? What do gender-nonconforming living and transgressive sexual practices have to teach us about revolution and social transformation? How do discourses about sexuality migrate, colonize, and bolster regimes of power? How do sexual imaginaries dismantle regimes of power and/or critique the state’s seemingly universal notions of ethics, choice, consent, and agency? How have queer theory, queer of color theory, and LGBTQIA political campaigns engaged, informed, disrupted or advanced larger movements for change and new concepts of freedom?



NWSA invites all of those interested to submit proposals for panels, roundtables, papers, and workshops that represent the wide range of intersectional and transnational scholarship in the US and beyond.

Please note that **submitted proposals *must* address one of the seven themes above to be eligible for inclusion in the program.**

AUTHORS MEET CRITICS SESSIONS

Authors Meet Critics sessions are designed to bring authors of recent, cutting-edge books, deemed to be important contributions to the field of women’s studies, together with discussants chosen to provide a variety of viewpoints.

Three or four such sessions will be included in the program and NWSA members are invited to nominate **books published between 2012 and 2017**. Both single- authored books and edited collections that are the result of collaborative engagement among the contributors will be considered. **Only NWSA members may submit nominations, including self-nominations; nominations by presses will not be accepted.**

Members of the 2017 program committee will review the nominations and make selection decisions. Any individual who proposes a session for consideration in the program will be notified about the committee’s decision and, in the event that a proposed session is accepted, serve as its session organizer.

Nomination Deadline for Author Meets Critics Sessions: February 22, 2017



PAD and WC PRE-CONFERENCES

The Program Administration and Development (PAD) and Women's Centers (WC) constituent groups host day-long sessions that offer important networking and professional development opportunities for women's and gender studies and women's center administrators on **Thursday, November 16**. The pre-conferences include a registration fee in addition to the general conference registration.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT PRE-CONFERENCE

The PA&D Pre-Conference organizers invite the submission of proposals on a broad range of topics related to women's, gender, and sexuality studies program administration and development. The 2017 NWSA conference theme is "40 Years After Combahee: Feminist Scholars and Activists Engage the Movement for Black Lives." We encourage submissions that actively and creatively engage with this theme, and we also welcome submissions aimed at best practices and innovations in program administration and development. **(PLEASE NOTE: Proposals that are not specifically related to program administration and development should be submitted to the general conference.)**

We encourage proposals for workshops, roundtables, complete panels, or any variety of other packaged formats. *Proposals for interactive sessions or sessions with a hands-on component are especially welcome, and tend to draw the biggest audiences.* Authors of individual papers and those with ideas for panels are encouraged to use the Program Administrators' Google group or Facebook group to generate interest to complete panels before submitting. We encourage the creation of diverse panels that attend to inclusivity and equity in representation of individuals, ranks, programs, and institutions. All proposals must be submitted via NWSA's online proposal submission system.

Suggested topics include but are not limited to:

- Program & Campus Activism
- Surviving "T" in the White House
- Supporting DACA Students
- Session for New Chairs/Growing a Program
- Teaching Intro to WGS/Gen Ed
- Junior Faculty & Associate Professor Needs
- Curriculum Across Disciplines, Sharing Resources Across Campuses
- Academic Freedom and Faculty Retaliation
- Strategies for Navigating Politics with Campus/State/National Pressures
- Hiring and Supporting Faculty from Underrepresented Groups
- Self-Care for WGSS Directors and Faculty: Creating Networks
- Boundaries around Emotional Labor for WGSS Directors & Faculty
- Making Invisible Service Visible
- Workshop: Courageous Conversations about White Privilege
- Budgeting 101: Strategies in the Age of the Neoliberal University
- WGS Faculty in Administration and on Tenure & Promotion Committees
- Celebrations of WGS Successes
- Graduate Programs in WGS
- Digital Technologies in WGS

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
40 Years After Combahee: Feminist Scholars and Activists Engage the Movement For Black Lives
November 16-19, 2017 • Baltimore, MD



If you have any questions, please contact the PA&D Co-Chairs, LeeRay Costa (lcosta@hollins.edu) and Christa Craven (ccraven@wooster.edu). We look forward to joining you for some great PA&D panels in Baltimore!



WOMEN'S CENTERS PRE-CONFERENCE

The NWSA Women's Centers Committee invites proposals for its Pre-Conference, to be held Thursday, November 16, 2017, the day before the general NWSA conference. Approximately 80-100 professionals attend the daylong Women's Center Pre-Conference each year for networking, discussions, brainstorming, and exchange of ideas. The Pre-Conference provides an opportunity for professional development as well as a supportive environment in which to explore the successes and challenges of our work. We also are accepting poster submissions; please see below.

Pre-Conference Theme: Women's Centers at the Intersections: Exploring Activism, Advocacy, and Allyship

Thematic Explanation: For this pre-conference we encourage papers, panels, workshops, and knowledge shares that examine Women's Centers and Gender Centers as that use practices and theories related to intersectionality to engage in activism, advocacy, and allyship.

We encourage proposals that explore how Women's Centers have proposed and facilitated programs that are centered on intersectionality and allyship, proposals that discuss how Women's Center personnel have advocated, in a variety of ways, for inclusivity in their Centers, on their campuses, and in the community, and proposals that discuss how Women's Centers have created and maintained safe and brave spaces for women (including transwomen) who have intersecting marginalized identities (ie. Chicana women, Black women, women on the spectrum of ability, or Queer women). Proposals that explore how the historical activist legacies of community and university based activists has shaped the contemporary practices of your work or the work of your Center as a whole are encouraged given the general conference theme.

We would also like to encourage submissions that discuss current challenges to inclusive work such as organizational changes, limits to and the elimination of funding, institutional, community, local, and national climate, etc.

Paper, Panel, Workshop, and Knowledge Share Proposal Guidelines:

We welcome proposals that foster group interaction such as roundtables and skill-building workshops, interactive workshops, trainings, and moderated discussions that highlight current challenges and propose innovative solutions. We also encourage papers, panels, workshops, and knowledge share proposals that discuss assessment and research related to the above theme.

Poster Submission Guidelines:

This year we are also accepting poster submissions. Posters may address multiple topics focused on women's center work, particularly programming and events. We hope that the poster format will facilitate the exchange of ideas about effective and innovative events and programs. These posters should describe a successful program or event and explain its goals and methods. In order to inspire others to replicate your event or program, posters might also include advertisements, handouts, assessment results, learning outcomes, timeline, required materials, collaborators, recommended readings, outreach techniques, and other relevant logistical details.

To be considered for the poster session during the Women's Center pre-conference, submit under the Women's Centers subheading. We look forward to receiving your proposal submissions! The theme for



this year's NWSA conference is "40 years after Combahee: Feminist Scholars and Activists Engage the Movement for Black Lives." Be sure to identify your proposal with the keyword "Women's Centers". See the NWSA 2017 main conference CFP for more information.

All proposals must be submitted electronically via the NWSA submission site, which can be found on the NWSA website at www.nwsa.org, by 11:59pm EST on February 22, 2017. Late submissions will not be considered. Please remove any identifying language from the text of the proposal. We endeavor to make review decisions without knowing the identity of the author. In order for your proposal to be considered for the Pre-Conference, select the WCC Pre-Conference track in the online submission system.

Please Note: We would like to encourage Pre-Conference attendees to submit other proposals to the general conference as well if said proposal fits the theme and sub-themes of the general conference. Should you have any questions, please contact the Women's Center Pre-Conference Co-Chairs: Nicole April Carter (Nicole.carter@wright.edu) and Shareia Carter (shareiacarter@hotmail.com).

WOMEN OF COLOR LEADERSHIP PROJECT

The Women of Color Leadership Project (WoCLP) is committed to increasing the number of students and faculty members of color working within the field of women's studies, related disciplines, and interdisciplinary fields; working at women's centers; and assuming positions of power and leadership in NWSA, including the Program Administration and Development and Women's Center Committees. The WoCLP is also designed to support women of color in their professional goals and leadership development.



Women of color in women's studies, ethnic studies, or related fields may apply if they aspire to leadership within women's studies or NWSA. Applicants may include advanced graduate students, faculty, and current program administrators who wish to be more involved in program or Association leadership. To learn more please visit www.nwsa.org



SESSION FORMATS

PANELS

Panels provide an opportunity for examining specific problems or topics from a variety of perspectives given that they include **3-4 participants**. Panels may present alternative solutions, interpretations, or contrasting points of view on a specified subject or in relation to a common theme. Panel members are expected to prepare papers addressing central questions described in the proposal. *The National Women's Studies Association and the Proposal Review Committee especially encourage complete panel submissions.*

SPONSORED SESSIONS

Sponsored Sessions may be submitted by NWSA constituent groups on topics of particular interest to group members and NWSA members as a whole. One sponsored session per constituent group will be offered space in the conference program if submissions are received by the proposal deadline and proposals meet review criteria.

ROUNDTABLES

Roundtables typically include a moderator and 4-6 presenters who make brief, informal remarks about a specific idea or project. They allow for extensive discussion and audience participation.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops provide an opportunity to exchange information or work on a common problem, project, or shared interest. Workshops are typically experientially oriented, grounded in some sort of women's and gender studies research agenda, and include brief presentations that allow adequate time for reflective discussion and interaction.

INDIVIDUAL PAPERS

Individual Paper proposals are submitted individually and arranged into sessions by the Proposal Review Committee. In paper sessions, authors present 10-12 minute papers followed by audience discussion. A typical structure for a session with four papers allows approximately 5 minutes for the moderator to introduce the session, 10 minutes for each presenter, and 30 minutes for discussion.

IMPORTANT: *Due to meeting room space constraints, individual paper submissions are frequently converted into poster sessions. NWSA strongly encourages presenters who wish to deliver traditional papers to organize complete panels with colleagues.*

POSTER

Poster proposals research or analysis on a topic by combining graphics and text on a 4'x8' board. The poster is available during an assigned session time in order to interact on a one-on-one basis with the attendees viewing the poster. A well-planned poster communicates its message in a visually and textually powerful way, allowing the attendee to grasp the information quickly.



- All panel proposals must include complete contact information for ***AT LEAST THREE*** participants ***PLUS*** a non-presenting moderator. Incomplete panels with fewer than three participants will not be considered for review.
- Workshops and roundtable proposals that feature multiple participants must include all participants' names and contact information at the time of proposal submission.
- In rare cases a one-person workshop may be considered, but the proposal should indicate why the presenter is uniquely suited to address the topic independently.
- Session organizers who intend to present need to add themselves as presenters via the online submission system.



PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Different session formats carry different submission requirements. We recommend reviewing the requirements below and assembling your proposal in a Word document from which you cut and paste **before** logging in to the submission system.

PANEL	PAPER, POSTER, ROUNDTABLE, OR WORKSHOP	AUTHORS MEET CRITICS
Panel Title <input type="checkbox"/>	Title <input type="checkbox"/>	Book Title <input type="checkbox"/>
Panel Rationale (100-250 words) <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstract (50-100 words) <input type="checkbox"/>	Book Summary (150 words) <input type="checkbox"/>
Rationale Works Cited <input type="checkbox"/>	Rationale (100-250 words) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rationale (250-500 words including publication date, publisher, ISBN number, author name and affiliation, and discussion of the book's importance to the field of women's studies and/or conference themes) <input type="checkbox"/>
Individual Paper Titles and Abstracts (50-100 words each) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rationale works cited <input type="checkbox"/>	List of 3-4 critics with affiliations and their rationale for inclusion <input type="checkbox"/>
Audiovisual Rationale (if an LCD projector is required) <input type="checkbox"/>	Audiovisual Rationale (if an LCD projector is required) <input type="checkbox"/>	Audiovisual Rationale (if an LCD projector is required) <input type="checkbox"/>



Internet/Wifi is not available in any meeting space.



Sponsored Sessions

Sponsored Sessions are typically panel proposals and must comply with the guidelines above, whatever form they take.

Abstracts

Abstracts explain to conference attendees the proposal's topic, foci, and/or goals in a clear and succinct manner in the program. Abstracts may be revised or edited for the program.

Proposal rationales

Proposal rationales and abstracts serve as the basis for evaluation by the Proposal Review Committee and should include some or all of the following, as appropriate:

- Objective or purpose of the paper, panel, workshop, etc.
- Perspective and/or theoretical framework and/or references to relevant texts, research, or on-going debates in women's and gender studies or related fields
- Results and/or conclusions and point of view
- Relevance to the conference theme or subtheme
- Discussion of how the session will be structured

Works cited

Works cited should list the scholarship to which the rationale refers

Audiovisual rationales

NWSA receives far more requests for AV resources than we can provide at the conference. The Program Committee reviews all requests for accepted proposals including the audiovisual rationale and makes those decisions as a part of developing the conference program. LCD rooms include: LCD projector, laptop and computer speakers. **AV rooms are not Internet equipped.**



- All proposal rationales **MUST** be explicit about how the proposed poster, panel, paper, roundtable, or workshop is grounded in specific texts, authors, or research relevant to contemporary women's and gender studies, queer studies, ethnic studies, or other related fields.
- Remember to remove any **IDENTIFYING INFORMATION** (individual or institution names, for example) that would compromise NWSA's commitment to anonymous review.
- Proposal rationales assist proposal reviewers with evaluating the session or paper's appropriateness for inclusion in the conference program.
- Abstracts and proposal rationale may not exceed word limits above.
- **Incomplete proposals will not be considered.**



STEP-BY-STEP GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ALL PROPOSALS

- **Step 1** Note that all proposals must be submitted electronically via www.nwsa.org by **11:59pm EST on February 22, 2017**. Late submissions will not be considered.
All presenters must have a log-in and password in order for the proposal to be submitted. Current and recent members will be able to retrieve their log-ins from the home page of www.nwsa.org using the email address associated with their membership.
- **Step 2** If you are including a potential presenter who has never been a member of NWSA, they must create a Guest login at least 24 hours prior to submission. Please send any questions about log in credentials to nwsaoffice@nwsa.org as early as possible. NWSA office staff will more easily be able to assist those who make early requests.
- **Step 3** Log into www.nwsa.org and click Submit a Proposal. Follow the directions to enter the submission system. Indicate whether you are submitting your proposal for the General Conference Session and identify the appropriate sub-theme (see About the Theme above) or the Program Administration and Development or Women's Centers Pre-Conferences.
- **Step 4** The National Women's Studies Association especially encourages complete panel/session submissions. Note that full panels **must include at least three presenters** with complete contact information and affiliation for ALL panel participants as well as a **non-presenting moderator** who will be charged with introducing speakers, keeping time, and coordinating discussion. Moderators will be listed in the conference program and must register for the conference. NWSA will assist with assigning moderators for individual proposals.

The Proposal Review Committee encourages members to use NWSA electronic resources and social media to network and find colleagues with whom to develop a complete panel.
- **Step 5** Note the option to submit poster session proposals; selecting this option increases the likelihood of acceptance due to limited breakout session space.
- **Step 6** Please note that NWSA will provide LCD projectors and screens for a limited number of General Conference sessions and encourages presenters to consider using alternative formats such as handouts to convey visual information. ***Note that meeting rooms will not have Internet access.***
- **Step 7** Submitters who wish to request audiovisual equipment must complete an audiovisual rationale as part of the submission process. Presenters will know if they have received audiovisual-equipped rooms when the online schedule becomes available in June.
- **Step 7** Identify the appropriate session format for your proposal. Full details on session types are listed above.



Internet/Wifi is not available in any meeting space.



For more information on how to submit quality proposals, to find examples of accepted proposals, and for answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the conference, visit www.nwsa.org

CONFERENCE REVIEW PROCEDURES

All conference proposals are peer-reviewed anonymously (without author identification). Guidelines for reviewers are developed by the Proposal Review Committee and include:

- **Topic:** Is the topic/question/issue relevant to the field of women's/gender studies?
- **Relationship to Sub-Theme:** Are the topics/questions/issues discussed in the proposal clearly connected to one of the conference sub-themes?
- **Frameworks:** Is the proposal grounded in relevant feminist/womanist theoretical/conceptual/applied frameworks?
- **Clarity:** Is the proposal well-organized, coherent, and clear?

PROPOSAL STATUS

NWSA will send accept/decline notifications by email on **April 26, 2017** to all prospective participants.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

All presenters and moderators on the 2017 NWSA program must meet two requirements to present at the annual conference by the presenter deadline of July 18, 2017:

1. Become a 2017 member of NWSA, including the pre-conferences and general conference.
2. Pre-register for the conference and/or pre-conference.

Prospective or lapsed members can renew their membership for 2017 beginning October 1, 2016. The pre-registration period for presenters begins on April 26 and extends through July 18. Accepted presenters who do not meet both requirements by July 18 risk removal from the program schedule.

To inquire about your membership status, log into your membership account, email nwsaoffice@nwsa.org, or call (410) 528-0355. Conference registration fees are separate from membership. Members receive a reduced conference registration rate. **Panel organizers are responsible for conveying information about these requirements to prospective participants.**

REGISTRATION REFUND POLICY

The National Women's Studies Association regrets that it cannot refund conference registration payments.



MEETING LOCATION AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

The National Women's Studies Association 2017 annual meeting will be held at the Hilton Baltimore and the Baltimore Convention Center from November 16-19, 2017.

Three major airports serve Baltimore: [Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport](#) in Maryland, as well as Washington Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Just 15 minutes from downtown, BWI Thurgood Marshall offers more than 650 flights daily.

[Baltimore's Penn Station](#) is one of Amtrak's busiest stations, serving more than 932,800 guests each year. Penn Station is easily accessible by I-95, I-83 and I-70.

HOUSING

The National Women's Studies Association has negotiated a group rate at the Hilton Baltimore (401 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore MD 21201).

Single/double guest rooms are available at the negotiated rate of \$176.00++. Triple occupancy guest rooms are available for \$196.00++. Quad guest rooms are available for \$216++. The cut-off date is October 14, 2017 at 5 p.m. EST or until the block is sold out.

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

The National Women's Studies Association will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations to presenters and attendees with disabilities. Please indicate your need for accommodations using our [online form](#). We must receive requests for accommodations by **September 8, 2017**. Please note that some services may be available for only some portions of the conference.

CHILDCARE

NWSA is committed to providing high-quality, licensed and insured childcare that is partly subsidized by the organization. You must make advance reservations for childcare on the conference registration form no later than **September 8, 2017**.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAVEL GRANTS

NWSA encourages student research and involvement at its annual conferences via scholarship awards. Award amounts typically range from \$250-\$400. For full details on how to apply for the NWSA Graduate Scholarship Award or the Lesbian and Women of Color Caucus awards, please visit: www.nwsa.org

NWSA offers a limited number of registration scholarships and travel grants to accepted presenters. Students, scholars and activists with a demonstrated need for financial assistance are encouraged to apply. Particular consideration will be given to assisting those with need who have not previously received NWSA travel grants. The registration scholarships and grants are also intended to encourage the participation of individuals from under-represented constituencies in the NWSA.

The travel grant application deadline is **May 10, 2017**. Apply online at www.nwsa.org

QUESTIONS ABOUT CALL FOR PROPOSALS OR ANNUAL MEETING

Please direct questions about submitting proposals or questions of a general nature to the national office at (410) 528-0355 or nwsaoffice@nwsa.org



2017 IMPORTANT DEADLINES AT A GLANCE

FEBRUARY 22, 2017 AT 11:59 PM EST

All 2017 proposals must be received via the website www.nwsa.org

MARCH 31, 2017

Women of Color Leadership Project (WoCLP) applications due.

APRIL 26, 2017

- Accept and decline notifications will be sent via email for all submissions.
- Conference registration launches.

MAY 3, 2017

Women of Color Leadership Project (WoCLP) applicants will be notified about their acceptance.

MAY 10, 2017

Registration scholarship and travel grant applications due.

JUNE 14, 2017

Preliminary conference schedule posted online for review.

JUNE 20, 2017

Registration scholarship and travel grant will be notified about their awards.

JULY 18, 2017

All presenters must be 2017 NWSA members and pre-registered by this date in order to appear on the conference program. **Names of participants who have not joined or registered will be removed from the program book.**

SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

Conference attendees and/or presenters with accessibility requests should indicate their needs via our [online form](#) by this date. Make advance reservations for childcare on the conference registration form by this date to guarantee on-site care.