The Institute for Women’s Studies is proud to announce the Centennial Professorship in celebration of the 100th anniversary of women attending the University of Georgia. This Centennial Professorship in Women’s Studies is the first Professorship in the state of Georgia devoted solely to women and gender studies and honors the anniversary of UGA’s inaugural enrollment of women in 1918 into what is now the College of Family and Consumer Science. The Professorship affirms the University’s commitment to coeducation and a century of achievements by women students, faculty, and staff. It is only fitting that the University of Georgia continues to lead the way in gender research and teaching, as the Institute for Women’s Studies at the University of Georgia was the first academic gender studies program among Georgia’s institutions of higher education. The Institute for Women’s Studies (IWS), which was founded in 1977, also holds the distinction of being one of the senior Women’s Studies programs in the United States.

In the past 40+ years, feminist scholars at UGA have contributed to the reinterpretation of existing data and new knowledge about the diversity and complexity of society and women’s lives. Through coursework and outreach, the Institute for Women’s Studies offers students an opportunity to explore lives in global and multicultural contexts. We are justifiably so proud of our students and graduates. Read more about our student and alum accomplishments on pages 4 and 7.

As we begin a new exciting academic year, join us in welcoming a new faculty member, Dr. Rumya Putcha, a joint-hire with the Hugh Hodgson School of Music. Professor Putcha is an ethnomusicologist, whose research areas include: cultural studies, dance studies, film studies, performance studies, gender and sexuality, queer of color critique, de-colonialism and post-colonialism. Learn more about Professor Putcha on page 2.

We’re also excited for our 8th Women and Girls in Georgia Conference coming up this October. This year’s conference theme is Community and will explore the possibilities and potential of communities in organizing social movements and grassroots activism, highlighting how women and girls are pivotal in shaping our communities and are the often-overlooked leaders in social justice movements.

Dr. Ada Cheng (pictured above), professor-turned-storyteller, solo performer, and producer, will present the conference keynote address, entitled “Not Quite: Navigating Citizenship and Belonging” with an interactive audience talkback and discussion. Read more about the conference on page 2 and at http://iws.uga.edu/wagg.

Finally, we are happy to kick off the year with our annual Women Faculty Reception on Friday, September 6th in the Tate Center Reception Hall (1st Floor). This year, IWS is honoring Dr. Libby V. Morris, Zell B. Miller Distinguished Professor and the Director of the Institute of Higher Education, with the Women’s Studies Faculty Award. The award honors faculty and administrators who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to Women’s Studies and whose impact is felt across the UGA campus and Athens community.

Juanita Johnson-Bailey  
Director and Professor, Women’s Studies
**Women & Girls in Georgia Conference preview**

This year marks our 8th biennial Women and Girls in Georgia Conference (WAGG) where we celebrate and highlight the research and advocacy by, for, and about women and girls in our state and region. This year’s conference theme is Community.

The growing social justice movements for civil rights, environmental justice, trans and queer rights, voting rights, migrant and indigenous rights, disability rights, sexual assault survivors, workers’ rights, the expansion of multi-issue women’s marches, and the range of responses to challenges in democratic engagement are indicators of how women and girls are vital actors in struggles for social change, education and all forms of justice. These increasing demands for justice through community organizing in Georgia are a microcosm of justice struggles across the nation and the world.

The Women and Girls in Georgia conference seeks to connect communities and to provide opportunities to create and fortify networks, especially as they involve women and girls in our state, in all their diversity. This year’s conference program will highlight the possibilities for community engagement, sustainable coalition-building, movements for justice, and feminist strategies to address the pressing challenges of our times.

During this unique one-day conference, held on **Saturday, October 26 in Athens, Georgia**, attendees - advocates and activists, researchers and academics, students and community members - will enjoy a keynote performance by Renegade Ada Cheng, a fiercely feminist performer who uses her shows to critically examine issues of race, gender, nationality, community and belonging. Dr. Cheng was a tenured professor in Sociology at DePaul University and resigned after 16 years to pursue theater and performance full-time in 2016.

In addition to the keynote performance and interactive talkback, conference goers will attend a roundtable discussion on community building and grassroots activism in Georgia; sessions and workshops on various topics such as politics and community engagement; trauma and community-building; immigrant rights and community response; mental health; sexual & reproductive health; community response to sexual and partner violence; Black women and girls, new communities, and alternative futures; feminist organizing; local activist movements; ecological organizing; digital feminist diasporas; and much more!

Registration is required for all attendees. Visit [http://iws.uga.edu/wagg](http://iws.uga.edu/wagg) for up-to-date details and information on how to register.

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**Selected recent publications:**


Dr. Putcha is teaching WMST 4230/6230: Women and Music this Fall 2019. You can also learn more about her current research at her upcoming Friday Speaker Series lecture on November 15 (see page 7 for more info).

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**More about Dr. Putcha:**

- She is an avid gardener and loves the outdoors.
- Her parents are both immigrants from India who were recruited to the U.S. to work for NASA during the Space Race.
- She ran cross-country and played tennis in school and recently started learning Olympic weightlifting. Her family calls her an endorphin junkie!
- Dr. Putcha and her husband are committed criminal justice reform activists.
- They have two cats, Pumpking and Moses, and a rescue dog, Harriet AKA Fluffybutt.
- She loves historical fiction and anything Marisa de los Santos has ever written!

**Selected recent publications:**


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**Meet our new faculty Rumya Putcha**

Rumya S. Putcha is an assistant professor in the Institute for Women’s Studies as well as in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music. Her research interests center on post-Enlightenment, colonial, and postcolonial thought, particularly around constructs of citizenship, race, gender, sexuality, the body, and the law. Professor Putcha received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2011 and her first book, *Mythical Courtesan | Modern Wife: Feminist Praxis in Transnational South Asia,* develops a decolonial feminist approach to South Asian performance cultures. She is currently working on a project titled, “Refrains of a Hillbilly Elegy: Country Boys, Social Media, and the Affective Politics of 21st Century White Supremacy,” which examines expressions of race, citizenship, and post-9/11 American cultural politics within country music publics. Her second book project, “Namaste Nation: Commercial Yoga Industries and U.S. Imperialism” extends her work on South Asian performance cultures to critical analyses of capitalist yoga practices within legal and affective discourses of body, race, wellness, and citizenship.

**More about Dr. Putcha:**

- She is an avid gardener and loves the outdoors.
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- She ran cross-country and played tennis in school and recently started learning Olympic weightlifting. Her family calls her an endorphin junkie!
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**Selected recent publications:**


Dr. Putcha is teaching WMST 4230/6230: Women and Music this Fall 2019. You can also learn more about her current research at her upcoming Friday Speaker Series lecture on November 15 (see page 7 for more info).
Chris Cuomo presented the keynote address “Global Environmental Crisis, Rogue Polluters and Sabotage” and served as co-judge with Vrinda Dalmiya at the 20th Annual Southern Appalachian Undergraduate Philosophy Conference at the University of North Carolina-Asheville in February 2019. Dr. Cuomo is currently collaborating with Dr. Jenna Jambeck, College of Engineering, on a research project in Haiti, on women’s works as collectors and small business owners in the plastic recycling economy, which provides crucial economic security and prevents plastic waste from entering the ocean.

Kelly Happe was awarded the 2019 Creative Research Medal in the Humanities and Arts for her work on genetics, race, and gender. In the spring, she taught for University of Georgia’s study abroad program in Oxford, UK. She also gave two invited talks: “Precarity, Performance, and the Utopian Demand” at the 2018 Biennial Public Address Conference at the University of Colorado and “The Utopian Demand: Rhetoric, Desire, and Radical Economic Thought” in the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences at Penn State University.


Juanita Johnson-Bailey received the Career Achievement Award from the American Association of Adult and Continuing Education in 2018. She presented at two international conferences: “A Re-examination of a Feminist Praxis: Do Race and Gender Matter in Feminist Classrooms?” at the Researching Adult Learning and Education Conference in Cape Town, South Africa in November 2018; and “Supporting Second Chances for Education: The Faces of Adult Educators in Georgia” at the Standing Conference on University Teaching and Research on Educating Adults (SCUTREA) at the University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK in July 2019. She also presented “Practicing Culturally Responsive Feminist Pedagogy in Higher Education: An Examination of a Feminist Classroom from the Perspective of Transformative Learning” at the Adult Education Research Conference at Buffalo State University, Buffalo, New York in June 2019. Dr. Johnson-Bailey presented two keynote addresses this year: “A Woman’s Voice and Place in Global Leadership: My Conversations with Winnie Mandela” at Wits University in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2019; and “Holding Up the Sky: Women of Substance and Reckoning” at the Alabama American Association of University Women, State Conference at Troy University, Montgomery, Alabama in March 2019.

Patricia Richards’ book, Harassed: Gender, Bodies, and Ethnographic Research, written with University of Georgia alum, Rebecca Hanson, was published by University of California Press in May 2019.

The Institute for Women’s Studies fosters interdisciplinary study of women and gender, and critical investigations of the complex ways knowledge, experience, and social systems are shaped by gendered norms and assumptions. Our teaching and research emphasize race, ethnicity, nationality, class, age, sexuality, and different abilities as categories of analysis. The Institute for Women’s Studies offers an undergraduate major and minor, and a graduate certificate for M.A. and Ph.D. students in any discipline.
Adrienne Baldwin-White published A multisession evaluation of sexual assault prevention education: The unique effects of program participation in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* in 2018. She presented “The Connection Between Gender Norms, Consent and Perspectives of Sexual Assault Among College Students” at RespectCon in Atlanta, Georgia in 2019, and “Let’s Netflix and Chill: How College Students Communicate about Sex and Navigate Consent” at the Society for Social Work and Research Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California in 2019. Dr. Baldwin-White also completed two research studies: a quantitative pilot study where 136 college students completed a survey to assess how they perceive consent, and the factors that influence their beliefs about consent; and a qualitative study to examine how college students communicate about sex, seeking to understand how college students experience campus culture and how that influences their sexual experiences.

In academic year 2018-2019 Sujata Iyengar combined an international grant from the Partner University Fund/French-American Cultural Exchange Foundation with an award from Georgia Humanities (co-P.I. Sarah Green, Athens-Clarke County Libraries) and another from UGA’s Willson Center to host a series of book discussions and roundtables commemorating the 30th anniversary of Gloria Naylor’s novel *Mama Day* and its relationship both to historically antecedent, traditional texts (such as Shakespeare’s plays) and contemporary literature and concerns (African American women’s writing; heirs’ property and gentrification; health and environmental justice). She was invited to speak at the University of Minnesota (for its “Citizen Shakespeare” initiative) and also at the Theatre Without Borders Collective at the Wesleyan Center for the Humanities, where she discussed the ways in which “glitch theory” enabled viewers to reconsider “glitches” within the innovative, immersive, digitally-mediated “Rosetta Theatre Project” as ways to highlight the dynamics of power and gender in Molière’s *Tartuffe* in the age of #MeToo.

Barbara McCaskill’s reflection “Jo’s Invisible Sisters” has been published in the forum for the 150th anniversary of Louisa May Alcott’s *Little Women* in Legacy: *A Journal of American Women Writers* 36.1 (Spring 2019). In October, she presented an essay, composed with graduate student Sidonia Serafini, at the international Frederick Douglass Conference in Paris, based on research from their forthcoming UGA Press book on the anti-lynching activist Rev. Peter Thomas Stanford and his family. This summer she presented an invited workshop on fugitive slave narratives for the NEH Institute for secondary school teachers on Frederick Douglass and Literary Crossroads. She has been invited by Harvard University’s Hutchins Center for African & African American Research to compose and present the three Alain Leroy Locke Lectures in October 2020. This series of consecutive lectures is named for one of the architects of the Harlem Renaissance. She has been appointed a Non-Resident Fellow of the Hutchins Center for AY 2019-20.


Sarah Shannon was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in the department of Sociology. In spring 2019, she won the Richard B. Russell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

Megan Asadian (Class of 2017) is the Outreach Coordinator for the only stand-alone rape crisis center in the state of Utah, the Rape Recovery Center, in Salt Lake City.

Amanda Baldowski (Class of 2014) is graduating with a Master’s in Library and Information Science from Valdosta State University and will soon begin working at the Aiken County Public Library in South Carolina.


Amy Bonnaffons’ book *The Wrong Heaven* was named one of NPR’s *Best Books of 2018*. Amy is a Ph.D. candidate in English.

Savannah Downing (Class of 2014) has been accepted into the Communication Studies doctoral program at the University of Georgia. She’ll begin her studies in Fall 2019.

Bianca Garcia (Class of 2019) presented a poster titled *An Ecofeminist Analysis of Princess Mononoke* at the UGA Office of Sustainability’s Semester in Review in December 2018.

(continued on page 7)
On January 21, 2017, an estimated 725,000 protesters gathered in the streets of Washington, D.C. for the Women’s March. Cities across the country and around the world echoed the scene, hosting sister marches. In total, an estimated 4.1 million protesters of all genders, ages, races, and cultures assembled the largest single-day demonstration in recorded United States’ history. They came together one day after the presidential inauguration to voice concerns following a divisive campaign season, and the election of Donald Trump as president.

The Lucy Hargrett Draper Center and Archives for the Study of the Rights of Women in History and Law, part of the University of Georgia’s Special Collections Libraries, collected ephemera from these marches and hosted an exhibit from this collection during the Spring 2019 semester.

Georgia’s Special Collections Libraries, collected ephemera from these marches and hosted an exhibit from this collection during the Spring 2019 semester.

The exhibit, entitled “Nevertheless She Resisted: Documenting the Women’s Marches,” was curated by Terri L. Hatfield, program coordinator for the Institute for Women’s Studies. The exhibit studied the Women’s March of 2017 through posters and hand-made signs, photographs, articles and news coverage, t-shirts, buttons and other ephemera documenting these recent events. It acknowledged and explored critiques of the marches, examined both the official and unofficial branding of this new women’s movement, from craftivism and pussyhats to trendy items embellished with feminist themes produced for sale by mass market retailers, and examined the connections shared with historic movements for suffrage and women’s rights in the United States and Great Britain. The display also considered the counter-protesters who appeared at these demonstrations, and the signs, buttons, and other items generated to express their views. And finally, it explored the second Women’s March hosted in 2018 and the ways in which the movement shifted and evolved.

Hatfield believes that documenting the recent women’s marches and other movements that emerged in response to the 2016 election is essential to providing access to the often ignored voices and experiences of women and their impact throughout history. “My hope is that the exhibit provided a greater understanding of the immense scope of these events, a sense of the broader political implications and range of issues that compelled people to protest, and that visitors were able to draw connections to women’s movements of the past,” she said.

All of the items included in the exhibit, both those documenting recent events as well as past protests, are part of the Lucy Hargrett Draper Center and Archives for the Study of the Rights of Women in History and Law. The Draper Center funds research in the area of women’s studies and women’s history and the Archives houses thousands of artifacts documenting the evolution of women’s rights in the United States and Great Britain from the 16th century to present.

To learn more about this library, visit https://www.libs.uga.edu/hargrett/.
1. Franklin College of Arts & Sciences Dean Alan Dorsey with Associate Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, Alice Hunt, Dean Dale Green of the Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources, and Dean Sam Pardue of the College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, at the 2018 Women Faculty Reception; 2. Recipient of the 2018 Women’s Studies Faculty Award, Senior Associate Dean Kecia Thomas, with Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey and Dr. Patricia Richards; 3. Executive Director of the Wellesley Centers for Women, Dr. Layli Maparyan, presenting the 2019 Women’s History Month keynote address in March 2019; 4-5. Dr. Chris Cuomo moderating a panel discussion on CRAFTIVISM for Women’s History Month in March 2019; panelists included Erin McDermott, Denise Domizi, Mama Koku, and Hilda Kurtz; 6. A full house for one of our weekly Friday Speaker Series lectures in Fall 2018; 7. Dr. Fran Teague and Kristen Gragg, presenting a Friday Speaker Series lecture in Spring 2019; 8-10. IWS honoring the 25th anniversary of our Andrea Carson Coley Lecture in LGBTQ Studies in April 2019; the lecture was presented by Dr. Genny Beemyn, Director of The Stonewall Center.
Nga Luna Chung (Class of 2017) is pursuing a Ph.D. in Gender and Women’s Studies at the University of Arizona with a research interest in Vietnamese Refugee Women.

Brigette Herron (Class of 2019) received the David Jones Award for the best paper with an international/comparative perspective from the 2019 Standing Conference on University Teaching and Research on Educating Adults in Nottingham, UK.

Liz Kinnamon (Class of 2009) received a Woodrow Wilson dissertation fellowship. Liz is a doctoral candidate in Gender and Women’s Studies at the University of Arizona.

CJ Komp, Ph.D. candidate in Musicology, received the Franklin College-University of Liverpool Research Fellowship and traveled to Liverpool, UK in April 2019 to research with queer musicologist, Freya Jarman. He also presented “A Parable for Our Time: How to Survive the End of the World as We Know It” at the annual conference for the Society for American Music in New Orleans, LA in March 2019.

Alex McGee (Class of 2011) accepted the position of Project Archivist for Women@MIT in March 2019.

Hannah Raffauf’s essay “Hayley Kiyoko and Positive Media Representations of Queer Women of Color” and Rowan Thompson’s essay “Feminist Thought and Transcending the Gender Binary: A Discussion” were published in The Classic, the Writing Intensive Program’s journal of undergraduate writing and research.


UPCOMING iws programming

**Women Faculty Reception**
*September 6th, 11:30am, Tate Reception Hall*
Dr. Libby Morris will receive the annual Women’s Studies Faculty Award.

**8th Women and Girls in Georgia Conference**
*October 26th, 8:00am - 5:30pm, UGA Athens Campus*
Conference theme is Community; Attendees will enjoy paper sessions, workshops, a roundtable discussion, a keynote performance, and lunch. Registration is required; prices vary. Visit [http://iws.uga.edu/wagg](http://iws.uga.edu/wagg) for more information.

**Friday Speaker Series - Fall 2019**

*September 13th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
Queerness is a Particular Liability: Feeling Rules in LGBTQ+ Centers
Chad Mandala, UGA LGBT Resource Center

*September 20th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
Gender Differences in the Dating Experiences of African American Young Adults: The Challenge of Forming Romantic Relationships Within the Context of Power Imbalance
Leslie Gordon Simons, Sociology

*September 27th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
“A Seat at the Table”: Black Women Administrators’ Narratives of Struggle and Support in the Ivory Tower
Rosemary E. Phelps, Counseling & Human Development Services; Kecia M. Thomas, Franklin College of Arts & Sciences; Nichole Ray, Women’s Studies; and Juanita Johnson-Bailey, Women’s Studies & Adult Education

*October 4th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
Reinvigorating the Library Research Session in Women’s Studies
Amber Prentiss, UGA Libraries

*October 11th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
Knowledge Making in the Anthropocene: Reimagining Possibilities through Conocimiento
Christina Crespo, Anthropology and Women’s Studies

*October 18th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
“(Un)silencing the Archive: Tracing the Intellectual Legacy of Camila Henríquez Ureña”
Sharina Maillo-Pozo, Spanish and Latinx Studies

*November 8th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
The Athena Co-Learning Collective: Radical Feminist Praxis at UGA
Jennifer Rice & Amy Trauger, Geography

*November 15th, 12:20pm, Miller Learning Center 213*
Decoloniality and Queer Time in South Asia
Rumya Putcha, Musicology and Women’s Studies

Stay updated on the Spring 2020 Friday Speaker Series schedule, Women's History Month, the 26th Annual Andrea Carson Coley Lecture in LGBTQ Studies and other programs by visiting [http://iws.uga.edu](http://iws.uga.edu)

Follow us on Twitter @UGAWMST
Support Women’s Studies

Please consider giving to Women’s Studies today. Your gift to the Institute builds on over 40 years of excellence in feminist teaching, research, and outreach in Women’s Studies at the University of Georgia. **We need your support!**

- Enhance scholarship about women and gender
- Fund travel grants so that our students can attend conferences
- Bring feminist thinkers, writers, and researchers to campus to share their work

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