Fall 2017 Past Events

**Male, Female and Intersex in the Image of God**
Sept. 28 | 5:30pm | David Straz 105

Co-sponsored by Departments of Social and Cultural Sciences, Psychology, Philosophy and Theology; LGBTQ+ Resource Center; and the Self, Motivation, and Virtue Project of the Templeton Religion Trust

Many know the scripture, Genesis 1:27 “God created man in His own image.” This talk will unpack sex and gender through the image of God. Megan DeFranza, Ph.D. is the author of *Sex Difference in Christian Theology* in which she challenges traditional views of gender non-conforming individuals within Christian theology. DeFranza focuses on how Scripture and Tradition can surprise us in their ability to help us integrate the science of sex differences with Christian faith. DeFranza will be contextualizing Dawn Mark Bacon-Johnson’s experiences as part of a broader journey for justice. Dawn Mark Bacon-Johnson is a Milwaukee-based Intersex activist who will be sharing their story and experiences as an intersex individual and activist.

**Santería’s Multiply Minoritized: Currents of Change in a U.S. Religious-Cultural Practice,**
**Dr. Salvador Vidal Ortiz**
October 5, 2017 | 5pm | Johnston Hall 107

Co-sponsored by the Offices of Intercultural Engagement and Latin American Studies

*Santería* is an Afro-Cuban religious and cultural practice that, in partnership with its diverse rituals and ceremonies, contains a rich and vibrant history drawing from West Africa, the Caribbean, and the southeast region of the United States. Dr. Salvador Vidal Ortiz will describe his research into the influence of race, gender, and sexuality in *Santería* and how the perceptions of race, gender, and sexuality by Euro-Americans disavows the inherent nuance within the practitioners of *Santería*.

**Love > Hate Project: “A Message from Jessie.” Dr. Buck Blodgett**
October 10, 2017 | 3pm | Raynor BC

After the murder of his daughter, Jessie, Dr. Buck Blodgett created the Love > Hate Project in order to promote love over hate and to move to end violence against women. According to the Partnership Against Domestic Violence, a woman in the United States is beaten every nine seconds. Additionally, 21% of college students experience dating violence (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence 2007). Join us in the initiative to choose love over hate and to end violence towards all women.

**Sex and Labor Trafficking in WI and the Nature of Supply/Demand in the Sex Trade and the Role of Pornography,**
**Lotus Legal Clinic, Rachel Monaco-Wilcox**
October 12, 2017 | 4pm | Lunda Room
In Wisconsin, cases of human trafficking have been identified in all 72 counties. Several factors contribute to trafficking, including drug addiction, gender disparities, age and undocumented labor that make victims more susceptible to being trafficked. LOTUS Legal Clinic serves victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking through trauma-informed legal advocacy, policy initiatives, education, and survivor empowerment. Rachel Monaco-Wilcox, CEO and Founder of LOTUS Legal Clinic, will give a talk on “Sex and Labor Trafficking in Wisconsin & The Nature of Supply/Demand in the Sex Trade and the Role of Pornography.”

*Two Spirits* Film Viewing and Discussion
October 17, 2017 | 7pm | Cudahy 001
Co-sponsored by LGBTQ+ Resource Center
The Navajo have a rich tradition of celebrating individuals who identify as two spirit or being in possession of both masculine and feminine traits. Through the viewing and discussion of Lydia Nibley’s film, *Two Spirits*, we will explore gender identity and gender variance through the lens of the murder of Fred Martinez, a member of the Navajo tribe who identified as two spirit. Nibley examines and juxtaposes the history of the two spirit identity with the hatred and bigotry exemplified by the murder of Fred Martinez. The discussion will center not only around gender variance but also on the racism and colonialism in North America, acknowledging how both issues of gender and race intersect within the identity of two spirit.

*Inspired by my Grandmother: My Fight for Gender Equality, Dr. Micheline Sheehy Skeffington*
October 23, 2017 | 4pm | AMU 227
Co-sponsored by History and English Departments
The granddaughter of suffragette Hanna Skeffington, Dr. Micheline Sheehy Skeffington will lead a presentation on her journey of initiating and later winning a case against her former employer, NUI Galway, on the grounds that it discriminated against her promotion due to her gender. This legal case is illustrative of the underrepresentation of women in senior academic roles in third-level institutions in Ireland, with the number of women recorded holding senior posts in NUI Galway being at just 21 percent. This disproportionate set of figures is also seen in the US, where women receive slightly more than 50 percent of the Ph.D.'s awarded by American universities, yet, as seen in a 2013 report by *The Chronicle for Higher Education*, women account for 30.4 percent of faculty members overall. Dr. Skeffington will discuss her journey for equality within an educational institution and will additionally explore the history of gender inequality over time and where it is commonly portrayed within.

LGBTQ+ Speaker Series pt. 1
Exploring the Influence of Sexual Orientation on Community-Specific Risk and Protective Factors Associated with Well-Being: Lauren Yadlosky, Edi Kuhn, and Manuel Hurtado
October 24, 2017 | 12pm | AMU 227
Co-sponsored by the LGBTQ+ Resource Center
LGBTQ+ Speaker Series pt. 2
Domestic and Sexual Violence and their Impact on the LGBTQ+ Community, Laura Lingle
October 26, 2017 | 12pm | AMU 140
Co-sponsored by the LGBTQ+ Resource Center

Changing the Face of Fashion: Tokenism and Authenticity, Mariah Idrissi
October 30, 2017 | 5:30pm | AMU 157
Co-sponsored by Arab American Studies Association, Muslim Student Association, Students for Justice in Palestine

Mariah Idrissi will present “Changing the Face of Fashion: Tokenism and Authenticity.” Idrissi connects two worlds—the world of fashion and Muslim women—as one of the first Muslim models in an H&M promo. In the presentation, Idrissi explores the changing and evolving role of inclusion in fashion, and the importance of representing in all fields, and especially fashion. She also explores the ways representation in fashion and elsewhere can lead to breaking down barriers of misconceptions and Islamaphobia.

Historicizing the Violence Against Native Women, Dr. Bryan Rindfleisch
November 2, 2017 | 4pm | LL 140
Co-sponsored by Office of Intercultural Engagement and Native American Student Association

The Department of Justice reports that four out of every five Indigenous and Native American women have experienced and will experience sexual, physical, mental, or emotional violence in their lifetime. More often than not, this violence occurs at the hands of a partner. Bryan Rindfleisch, Ph.D. is a professor in the History Department and has authored a number of articles regarding Native American history. He specializes in Native resistance to colonization as well as the role of violence in indigenous communities. He will be discussing the historical features of Native American society and its oppression by colonialist forces that account for such high rates of violence against women.

Community Engagement Symposium
November 6, 2017 | 8am-4pm | AMU Ballrooms
The Community Engagement Symposium provides community organizations, faculty, staff and students the chance to engage in dialogue about, and network related to, mutually beneficial, bidirectional research and learning opportunities, as well as the necessary tools and resources to support and strengthen partnerships.

The symposium will feature keynote speaker Dr. Timothy Eatman, dean of the Honors Living-Learning Community and associate professor of Urban Education at Rutgers University. Dr. Eatman will consider the current moment of community-university engagement in his address, "Publicly Engaged Universities in the 21st Century: Beware the Shrinking Imagination."

The day will include breakout sessions, a poster display and a networking reception. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.
The Office of Community Engagement, along with the Center for Teaching and Learning--Service Learning Program, Office of Public Affairs, and Office of Research Sponsored Programs, is pleased to co-sponsor various awards in recognition of outstanding contributions to the well-being of the community.

**Men’s Health Across Difference Research Panel**  
November 9, 2017 | 4pm | Henke Lounge  
In Milwaukee county, the male population experiences heightened health risks relative to the rest of the population. These disproportionately high health issues include alcohol and drug use, which affects 58 percent of the total population; violence, which affects 55 percent of the population; and chronic diseases such as obesity and heart disease, as according to the Center for Urban Population Health's 2012-2013 Milwaukee County Community Health Needs Assessment. The panel will include experts from the fields of public health, medicine, and social justice who will discuss the health disparities across not only gender but race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, and ability.

**Our Trans Family, For Good Photography**  
November 20, 2017 | 5pm | Henke Lounge  
Co-Sponsored by LGBTQ+ Resource Center  
In the United States, approximately 1 in every 250 adults identifies as transgender. Despite this, individuals and families within the trans community are stigmatized for their identity. In partnership with For Good Photography, Inc. and Cream City Foundation, photographers Jeff Pearcy and Meredith Watts developed the “Our Trans Family” Project. The project captures the essence and identity of twenty to thirty families and individuals within the Trans community through interviews and photographs. Pearcy and Watts aimed to create a better understanding of the trans identity and elevate the voices of those who identify as trans in order to fight the stigma surrounding the trans identity and community.

**De-mythicizing War and the Paradox of Hyper-Masculinity in Narratives on Conflicts: A Case Study of the Nigeria-Biafra War and Sudanese Civil Wars, Sr. Dr. Carol Njoku, Visiting Professor**  
November 29, 2017 | 1pm | AMU Ballroom A  
Co-Sponsored by History Department  
The politics of sexing war, warrior and victim have far-reaching consequences that transcends beyond gender to undermine criminal accountability. Dr. Njoku’s work confronts these complexities drawing precedents from the Nigerian and South Sudanese war narratives. It addresses some of the following questions: Why are the Nigerian and South Sudanese women’s wartime experiences hidden? How do such invisibility affect women’s lives in conflict and post conflict societies? How have African feminists’ writers responded to the situation? The attempt to tackle these questions leads to comparative analysis of mainstream narratives and feminists’ counter-narratives. Dr. Njoku argues that the paradox of warrior and victim is a pretext to framing legal ambiguities that continue to disable the wheel of justice and criminal responsibility in Nigeria and South Sudan. Her goal is to subvert these mythic ideologies and use counter-narratives to reinforce African women’s rights and active participation in peace and security.