The Association for Research on Mothering (ARM)
the International Academy HAGIA
and the Gift Economy Network
are pleased to announce, as part of ARM’s 13th Annual Conference
“Mothering and the Environment: The Natural, The Social, and The Built”,
the embedded conference:

**A (M)otherworld is Possible: Two Feminist Visions**
**Matriarchal Studies**
**The Gift Economy**

October 23-25, 2009, York University, Toronto, Canada

**Schedule**

**Friday, October 23, 2009**

4:45pm-7:20pm BOOK LAUNCH AND RECEPTION
(food and refreshments provided in common space near room 014)

(McLaughlin College Junior Common Room 014)

- Sara Ruddick’s Maternal Thinking (O’Reilly, ed). *new DEMETER PRESS book
- Daughters of Empire (Satterfield) *new DEMETER PRESS book
- Mothering and Blogging (Friedman & Calixte, eds) *new DEMETER PRESS book
- Societies of Peace: Matriarchies Past Present and Future (Goettner- Abendroth- *Inanna* Press

SPECIAL RITUAL PEFORMANCE

A Mother’s Rite: Song and Ritual to Tempt the Birth of New Origin Stories
– Polly Wood (Interdisciplinary Artist)

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(McLaughlin College Junior Common Room 014)

7:20pm-7:30 pm Opening Invocation - Agnes Williams (USA, Seneca)
7:30pm-7:35pm Welcome words of Andrea O’Reilly (Canada)

7:35pm-9:05pm GIFT ECONOMY KEYNOTE SPEAKERS 1

(McLaughlin College Junior Common Room 014)

A Maternal Humanity and the Gift Paradigm - Genevieve Vaughan (USA, Italy)
Feminist thinking in Context of African Experience in the Struggle for Space, Place and Contribution to Human Prosperity - Wahu Kaara (Kenya)

9:05pm-10:35pm Matriarchal Studies Keynote Speakers 1

(McLaughlin College Junior Common Room 014)

Matriarchies as Mother-centered Societies - Heide Goettner-Abendroth (Germany)
Listen to Your Mother - Barbara Mann (USA, Seneca)

**Saturday, October 24, 2009**

8:30am-9:30am REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

A (M)OTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE
EMBEDDED CONFERENCE FULL DAY
SESSION 1: GIVING AND MOTHERS

Legacy of Gift Giving Mothers - Debbie Winegarten (USA)

A Poetics of the Placenta: Placental Cosmology as Gift and Sacred Economy
- Nané Jordan (Canada)

The Future has an Ancient Mother: the African Legacy
- Lucia Chiavola Birnbaum (Italy, USA)

From Destiny to Choices - Paola Melchiori (Italy)

SESSION 2: THE GIFT IN SOCIETY AT LARGE

Restoring the Feminine in Education, Economics and All Our Institutions
- Nina Simons (USA)

Egalitarianism and Nonviolence as Gift of Life – the KhoeSan of Southern Africa and Lang Elsie of the Hessequa in the Overberg - Bernedette Muthien (South Africa)

Giving, Taking, Giving Back, and Eco Centric Gift Economy
- Mechthild Hart (USA, Austria)

Feminism, Gift-Giving, Matriarchy - and Anarchism - Erella Shadmi (Israel)

SESSION 3: ASPECTS OF MATRIARCHAL CULTURES

The Meaning of Motherhood by the Berber of North Africa
- Malika Grasshoff (Germany, Berber-Kabyle)

The Most Sacred Ritual on Palau: Initiation of a Mother after First Childbirth
- Gudrun Frank-Wissmann (Germany)

Andean Spirituality: Maternal Thinking and Inclusive Community
- Mary Louise Stone (USA)

What Can we Learn from Matriarchal Societies? - Mariam Irene Tazi-Preve (Austria)

SESSION 4: ASPECTS OF MATRIARCHAL SPIRITUALITY

Divine Motherhood: The Case of Ancient Greece - Marguerite Rigoglioso (USA)

Peacewalk through the Mother and Daughter Bear Constellations: Bearings of Love and Indomitability for our Maternal Humanity - Kalli Rose Halvorson (USA)

Yoga Ethnochoreology: Bodily Practices/ Matriarchal Collectivizing Memory
- Nadine McNeil (Jamaica)

Priestessing on the Edge of Chaos - Decolonization as revelation to matriarchal spirituality. A brief look at the Babaylan of the Philippines - Past Present and Future
- Letecia Layson (Philippines)

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The Scientific Underpinnings of Matriarchal (Mother-Based) Social Organization & Gift Economy Behaviors – Vicki Noble (USA)

8:00pm-9:30pm        MATRIARCHAL STUDIES KEYNOTE SPEAKERS 2

About the Life of a Juchitecan Mother - Marina Meneses (Mexico, Juchitàn)

Khasi Matriarchal Social Structure: Tradition and Incessancy - Valentina Pakyntein (India, Khasi)

9:30pm-10:00pm        SATURDAY NIGHT CLOSING SPEAKER

World Icons of Mothers and Grandmothers - Lydia Ruyle (USA)

Sunday, October 25, 2009

9:30am-11:00am        A (M)OTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE - SPECIAL GUESTS
   (Vanier Renaissance Room, Vanier College 001)

The Gift of Mothering - Sobonfu Somé (Burkina Faso, Africa)

Original Instructions Practised Today: Law of Peace and Code of Handsome Lake
   - Agnes Williams (USA, Seneca)

Book Presentation – Societies of Peace – Heide Goettner-Abendroth (Germany)

11:00am-11:15am        BREAK

11:15am-12:45pm        SESSION 5 PANEL: POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GIFT PARADIGM FOR FEMINIST TRANSFORMATION
   (Vanier Renaissance Room, Vanier College 001)

Mothering Values as the Source of Sustainable Eco Village Building
   - Angela Dolmetsch (Colombia)

Myths of "Progress": Women, the Gift Paradigm, Gender Relations and the Patriarchal Growth of the Modern World System (1400-2000) - Linda Christiansen-Ruffman (Canada)

The Demise of the Gift Giving Welfare State in Finland – Kaarina Kailo (Finland)

Political Significance of the Gift Paradigm for Feminist Transformation
   – Angela Miles (Canada)

12:45pm-2:00pm        LUNCH BREAK

2:00pm-3:30pm        A (M)OTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE - CLOSING PANEL
   (Vanier Renaissance Room, Vanier College 001)

A (M)otherworld is Possible – Matriarchal Visions of a Future of Peace
General discussion with all keynote speakers, presenters, and public

We acknowledge the generous support of our York University sponsors:
Ontario Women’s Health Council Chair in Women’s Mental Health Research;
Faculty of Graduate Studies; Faculty of Environmental Studies;
ORU-Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS); York University Graduate Students' Association; Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies (LA & PS);
McLaughlin College.

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