Mothers, Mothering, Motherhood in 21st Century: Culture, Society, Literature, and the Arts

October 21-23, 2015

Heaslip House, Ryerson University
(297 Victoria Street, Toronto)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 2015

8:30 am-9:00 am REGISTRATION: CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 am-10:30 am SESSION A: MOTHERHOOD, RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

CHAIR – Florence Pasche Guignard, University of Toronto

• Vanessa Reimer, York University, “Faith Shifters: Exploring Religious Mother-Work in the Post-Evangelical Blogosphere”
• Florence Pasche Guignard, University of Toronto, “You Have to Taste Everything! Negotiating 21st Century French Foodways, Religion, and Parenting from Maternal Perspectives”
• May Friedman, Ryerson University, “Uncovering the Duggars: Motherhood and Family in the Midst of Scandal”

10:45 am-12:15 pm SESSION B: LITERARY MAMAS I

CHAIR –

• Betty Baba, University of Ottawa, “Black Motherhood: The Impact of Slavery on Mother’s and Daughter’s Relationships in Toni Morrison’s Beloved”
• Anissa Wardi, Chatham University, “Home and Garden: An Ecocritical Reading of Mothering in Toni Morrison’s Paradise”
• Emma Lind, Carleton University, “Disruptive Speech: A Discursive Analysis of Single Mother Memoirs and the Challenge to Compulsory Heterosexuality”

12:15 pm-1:30 pm LUNCH: ON YOUR OWN

1:30 pm-3:00 pm SESSION C: MATERNAL LAW, POLICY & ECONOMICS
CHAIR –
• Rebecca Bromwich, University of Ottawa, “Re-Reading the Ashley Smith Case: Governance of Mothers and Girls”
• Sharon Broughton, University of Western Ontario, “Mothering Through Intimate Partner Violence”
• Gillian Demeyere, University of Western Ontario, “Third Wave Mothers at Work: Towards a New Jurisprudence of Equality”
• Sarah Sahagian, York University, “Is It Time To Change The Name of Motherhood Studies?”

3:15 pm-4:45 pm  SESSSION D: OUTLAW & OTHER MOTHERING

CHAIR –
• Paula John, “Childless-By-Choice: Empowered Mothering?”
• Debbie Byrd, “Measuring Outcomes in a Community-Based Learning Course on Single Motherhood”
• Valerie Andrews, York University “Flip the Script on Teen Mothers”
• Kaley Ames, York University, “"From The Court of Law To The Court of Public Opinion: The Role of Mother Blame in Infanticide Cases"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015

8:30 am-9:00 am  REGISTRATION: CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 am-10:30 am  SESSION E: AUTO/BIO/FICTION I

CHAIR – Melissa Milkie, University of Toronto
• Jocelyn Craig, San Diego State University, “Virtual Outlaws: Feminist Motherhood on the Internet”
• Bronwen Valtchanov (*Presenter), Diana Parry, and Troy Glover, University of Waterloo, “Virtual Neighbourhood”: Accessible and Supportive Online Communities as a Contemporary Response to Mothers’ Social Isolation”
• Nicole Willey, Kent University, “Raising Men: Popular Culture, Co-Parenting, and My Two Boys”
• Patty Sotirin, “Deconstructing an Oxymoron: The Feminist Military Mom”

10:45 am-12:15 pm  SESSION F: MATERNAL HEALTH, MEDICINE & WELL-BEING

CHAIR –
• Linda Hunter and Emerson LaCroix, University of Guelph, “Mothers and HIV: Representation, Stigma and Sexual Health Education”
• Linda Hunter, University of Guelph. “Supporting the Mothers: An Exploration of Maternal Health, Well-Being and Support Service Needs for HIV Positive Mothers”
• Melissa Milkie, University of Toronto, “Feeling Time Deficits with Children and Employed Mothers' Mental Health”
• Judy Verseghy, York University, “Medicalizing Mothers’ Misery: How Motherhood and Medicine Create and Discredit Sadness”

12:15 pm-1:30 pm        LUNCH: ON YOUR OWN

1:30 pm-3:00 pm        SESSION G: LITERARY MAMAS II

CHAIR –
• Kate Williams, University of Tulsa, “The One You Will Not Call Mother”: Fleur Pillager and the End of Native American Tradition”
• Karen Bamford, Mount Allison University, “Utopian Maternity in the Plays of Daniel MacIvor”
• Ursula Fanning, University College Dublin, “Writing the Maternal in Italy in the 21st Century”

3:15 pm-5:15 pm        SESSION H: MOTHERHOOD ON FILM & TELEVISION

CHAIR – Bronwen Valtchanov, University of Waterloo
• Aidan Moir, York University, “Intelligence, Terrorism, and Infanticide: Representations of ‘Bad’ Motherhood in Homeland”
• Lauren Davine, Ryerson University, “Cool Dad, Bad Mom: The Immature Parent on Californication and Weeds”
• Diane Shoos, Michigan Technological University, “Adoption and the Performance of Motherhood in Contemporary Popular Film”

5:30 pm-6:30 pm        KEYNOTE ADDRESS

CHAIR –
• Lynn O’Brien Hallstein, Boston University, “Bikini-Ready Moms: Celebrity Profiles, Motherhood, and the Body”

6:30 pm-8:30 pm        RECEPTION & BOOK LAUNCH

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015

8:30 am-9:00 am        REGISTRATION: CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 am-10:30 am        SESSION I: PRECARIOUS REPRODUCTION: VULNERABLE BODIES AND UNRULY DESIRES IN LITERARY TEXTS

CHAIR –
• Modhumita Roy, Tufts University, “Precarious Bodies, Vulnerable Subjects and the Violence of Surrogacy in Michael Robotham’s The Night Ferry”
• Mary Thompson, James Madison University, “Pitbulls, Hurricanes, and Teen Pregnancies: Precarity and Disasters in Jesmyn Ward’s Salvage the Bones”
• Kate Greenway, York University, “A Hierarchy of Women: Adoptive Mothers in Literary Representation”
• Abby Palko, University of Notre Dame, “Nothing Accumulates: Enid Bagnold's The Squire"

10:45 am-12:15 pm    SESSION J: REPRODUCTION & TECHNOLOGY

CHAIR –
• Christin Quirk, Macquarie University, “Single and Lesbian Mother in the IVF Debate in Australia: Redefining Conceptions of Motherhood”
• Melissa Gwyn, UC Santa Cruz, “Precious Eggs”
• Kathy Mantas, Nipissing University, ART-i-facts (Phase VI): An Artful Inquiry On/Into/Through the Experience of Becoming a Mother by Way of ART (Assisted Reproductive Technologies)
• Pamela Courtenay-Hall, University of Prince Edward Island, “Counter-Culture Mothering in the 21st Century: Negotiating Sex Scripts and Internet Freedoms”

12:15 pm-1:30 pm    LUNCH: ON YOUR OWN

1:30 pm-3:00 pm    SESSION K: AUTO/BIO/FICTION II

CHAIR – Karen Bamford, Mount Allison University
• Sheila Rabillard, University of Victoria, ““Memoirs and Maternities: Alison Bechdel's Are You My Mother? and Molly Peacock's The Paper Garden”
• Lorinda Peterson, Queens University, “Demons! Dialogues! Uncanny Doubles?: Performativity and Fictional Mothers in Lynda Barry’s Autobiofictional Comics”
• Lynn Garlick, University of Western Sydney, “Motherhood Memoir as Personal, Political and Creative Narrative”
• Melinda Vandenbeld Giles, University of Toronto, “Mothers of the World Unite! Gender Inequality and Poverty Under the Neoliberal State”

3:15 pm-4:45 pm    SESSION L: INTENSIVE MOTHERHOOD, FATHERHOOD & PARENTING

CHAIR –
• Linda Ennis, York University, “Intensive Motherhood: Why We Bother”
• Liz Podnieks, Ryerson, University, “Nurturing Dads, “Real Men,” and Postfeminism: Locating the Mother in Fatherhood Studies”
• Huma Ahmed-Ghosh, “Conflicting Cultures, Societal Expectations and Mothering in a Foreign Land: Afghan Mothering in the USA”
• Marianne Delaporte, Notre Dame de Namur University, “How About Mysteries of the Flesh: Motherhood and Spirituality”