

**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** –

- Ebony Lumumba, Tougaloo College, “Mommy vs. Mammy: The Maternal Disenfranchisement of Black Women in Southern Literature”
- 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**

**SESSION 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 Versegghy, 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 Autobiographical Comics”
- Lynn Garlick, University of Western Sydney, “Motherhood Memoir as Personal, Political and Creative Narrative”
- Melinda Vandenberg 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”