



November 3-4, 2017

Transgender Spectrum Conference

Rise up, Resist, Reconnect


Washington
University
in St. Louis

Welcome

Welcome to the Transgender Spectrum Conference!

To protect the privacy of all conference participants, No Photography will be allowed during sessions. If you wish to post to your own social media page, make sure you ask permission of anyone included in your photo before posting.

Washington University is a smoke-free campus. If you need to smoke you will need to step off campus to the sidewalk on Forsyth.

Directions:

You will find interactive maps located near the entrance of Hillman Hall. Look for people with ribbons on their nametags for additional help.

Bathrooms:

Gender Inclusive bathrooms are located throughout Hillman Hall.

Lunch:

Use your conference nametag to pick up a sack lunch in Goldfarb Commons.

Registration:	Information Commons behind the Clark-Fox Forum
Exhibits:	Goldfarb Commons
Trans Only Room (a space for self-identified trans people only):	Hillman 310
Safe Space for Queer and Trans Identified People of Color (QTPOC):	Hillman 210
Volunteer Room (for volunteer staff only):	Hillman 100

Research Poster available for viewing: Allison Schelble, MD: "Fertility Preservation in Adolescent Patients"

Exhibitors: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, TransParent, Behavioral Health Response, Washington University Medical Outreach, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Project Moxie-University of Michigan, SafeConnections

FRIDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Kylar W. Broadus, Esq.

Senior Counsel at Transgender Legal Defense + Education Fund Inc.

Broadus is founder and director of the Trans People of Color Coalition, the only national organization dedicated to the civil rights of transgender people of color. He is on the board of Freedom for All Americans. He served on the board of directors of the National Black Justice Coalition for a decade and served as the second board chair of the organization for those years. He has served on the board of directors of PROMO, the statewide LGBT group for Missouri, and is a founding member of the think-tank the Transgender Law and Policy Institute.

Broadus has enjoyed a prolific career as an activist, writer, lawyer, professor and public speaker. He was Director of the Transgender Civil Rights Project and Senior Counsel at the National LGBTQ Task Force. As an attorney, Broadus practiced with a focus on LGBTQ law, particularly transgender rights. He held a full professorship at Lincoln University in Missouri. He has served as counsel at the National LGBTQ Task Force and the Human Rights Campaign. He currently works as senior counsel at Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund, Inc. in New York City. His groundbreaking essay “The Evolution of Employment Discrimination Protections for Transgender People,” published in “Transgender Rights,” by Currah, Juang, and Minter in 2006, has been used on numerous campuses around the country in courses on Gender, Women’s Studies and Law in an anthology that was the first of its’ kind.



SATURDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

C. Riley Snorton, Ph. D.

Cornell University,
Africana Studies
Associate Professor

Snorton earned his doctorate in Communication and Culture, with graduate certificates in Africana Studies and Gender and Sexuality Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 2010. He is a recipient of a predoctoral fellowship at the W.E.B. Dubois Institute at Harvard University (2009), a Mellon postdoctoral fellowship at Pomona College (2010), and a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (2015). Snorton’s research and teaching expertise include cultural theory, queer and transgender theory and history, Africana studies, performance studies, and popular culture.

He has published articles in the Black Scholar, the International Journal of Communication, Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy, Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, and Culture, and Society. Snorton’s first book, *Nobody Is Supposed to Know: Black Sexuality on the Down Low* (University of Minnesota Press, 2014), traces the emergence and circulation of the down low in news and popular culture. His second book, *Black on Both Sides: A Racial History of Trans Identity* is forthcoming with the University of Minnesota Press in the fall of 2017. He has also been listed as one of “Ten Transgender People You Should Know” by BET.



AGENDA FRIDAY 11.3.17

9:00am-9:30am **WELCOME**
Forum Speaker: Amy Eisen Cislo

9:30am-10:00am **PRESENTATION**
Forum **“Opportunities and Provocations Facing the Transgender Community in 2017: A Field Map for Resistance”**
Speaker: Jaimie Hileman
Introduction: Amy E. Cislo

10:15am-11:45am **BREAK-OUT SESSIONS**
Forum **Session 01: “Trans 101”**
Speaker: Metro Trans Umbrella Group

Brown Lounge **Session 02: Papers**
Moderator: Vanessa D. Fabbre

“Providing Legal Services in Historically Conservative Orange County”

With its first clinic in November 2015, the Transgender Legal Assistance Clinic has served approximately 200 trans* individuals to modify their legal name and gender-markers. Recently, we expanded the clinic to include immigration services, and will soon initiate a collaboration to handle discrimination and family-related services. This presentation will discuss the novel way within which we have built a legal service program, and discuss the hurdles, resistance and support along the way. Moreover, this presentation will provide insight into challenges associated with building legal services in a historically conservative location and focus particularly on communities of color (Latinx & Asian American), which may aid others to establish similar services in other conservative regions of the country.

Speaker: Zackory Burns

“Forced into the Gender Binary: Prison Policy and Transgender Inmates”

Since the late 1970s, the United States has experienced a massive growth in jails and prisons, and currently holds the dubious distinction of incarcerating more of its citizens than any other country in the world. As the prison population has grown, so has the number of incarcerated transgendered individuals. The structure of prisons has historically and continues to be based on sex segregation along the gender binary, which raises a number of difficulties for anyone who fails to fit into

that binary. Most prison systems, which are governed by individual state rules, classify incarcerated individuals based on genitalia, and this classification system forces people to conform to the state’s identification of their sex rather than their preferred and chosen gender identity. Policies regarding hormone therapy, sex reassignment surgery, counseling, and housing options vary dramatically. In this presentation, I will review the challenges faced by gender non-conforming people when they are incarcerated and discuss national rules and regulations regarding transgender people in state departments of corrections before focusing on official protocols established by the Missouri Department of Corrections.
Speakers: Barbara Baumgartner & Michelle Adams

“Silent Soldiers: Transgender Military Service and the Impact on Today’s Policy Issues”

When Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced the policy change to allow transgender individuals to serve openly in the military, on June 30th, 2016, it marked a seminal moment for the transgender community. Transgender people serve in the military at twice the rate of the general population, and until removal of the ban, they served largely in secret. This paper presentation reflects a larger research project that seeks to contextualize the Department of Defense’s (DoD) recent policy change, allowing transgender soldiers to serve openly. It draws from archival sources and recently recorded oral histories, spurred by greater visibility in the transgender movement.

Speaker: Elouise Epstein

“An Ethnographic Examination of Transgender Latinas’ Experiences in Sexual Economies of Labor in Chicago”

Last year over 27 transgender women were murdered. Approximately 90% of the victims were women of color. This is the highest recorded number of transgender murders in history, and does not include the many deaths that went undocumented. Studies have found that individuals who participate in sexual commerce are more likely to experience physical, emotional, and sexual violence than participants in other sectors of labor. Research also suggests that transgender women, and especially transgender women of color, are more likely to engage in sex work because employment discrimination, and a number of other forms of structural violence. Thus, it is likely that transgender women of color experience highly disproportionate levels of violence in the sex trade. Yet, the experiences of transgender women of color who do sex work have been underexplored. In this paper I describe ethnographic research—the methodological approach used by anthropologists which seeks to better understand people’s everyday lived

experiences--on trans Latinas' experiences in sexual economies of labor in Chicago, Illinois. I argue that sex work among trans latininas is a particularly crucial place from which to understand current political, economic, social, and racial conditions of the US.

Speaker: Andrea Bolivar

Hillman 52/53

Session 03: Panel - "Reproductive Technologies"

Speakers: Chris Lewis, Kenan Omurtag, Trevor Sangrey

Moderator: Shannon Hall

Studies have shown that 50% of transgender individuals at the time of survey are interested in future reproduction at the time of transition. The concept of how one builds a family is not constrained by biology. The demand for gestational carriers, donor gametes and adoption has proven that there are many avenues an individual or couple can build a family. That being said, the option of having a biological child remains a priority for many patients, including transgender individuals. We approach these patients' reproductive goals with the understanding that their cross hormone therapy *may* impair their ability to use their own gametes in the future. When the patient transitioned is an important question when it comes to reproduction potential, as an adolescent who never went through puberty is different than an adult who transitioned. The goal of the panel is to understand the options that are available for trans individuals as it relates to their future reproductive potential using actual patients who can share their experience.

Goldfarb 132

Session 04: "Trans ~ Queer Flat: A Revolutionary Way to House our Own"

Speakers: Sayer Johnson, Beth Gombos

Introduction: Jaimie Hileman

Housing justice is vital to thriving, Transgender adults especially trans women of color statically face housing discrimination at higher rates than our cis straight counterparts. The trans ~ queer flat is a prosocial intentional affirming way to house transgender adults. We will narrate the birth and development of the TQflat with words and pictures they will explore the barriers and successes of having a familial community style model in housing our own.

11:45am-12:45pm

LUNCH

Goldfarb
Commons

Use your nametag to pick up your lunch.

1:00pm-2:00pm

Forum

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

"The Fight for Civil Rights is Never a Straight Line"

Speaker: Kylar Broadus

Introduction: Adrienne Davis

2:15pm-3:45pm

Brown Lounge

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Session 01: Workshop - "Creating a Transition Procedure for Employers and Organizations"

Speaker: Kurtis Schaper

Introduction: Sayer Johnson

This workshop will be geared towards employers/organizations/HR professionals that are interested in creating a trans inclusive company culture by implementing a procedure for handling transitions in the workplace. The first 30 minutes will be a lecture/presentation of best practices for creating a transition procedure. The final 30 minutes will be open for questions. Templates will be passed out to participants as a foundation for creating an inclusive policy.

Hillman 52/53

Session 02: Papers

Moderator: Kate O'Brien

"Body/Pleasure/Power: Locating Queerness Through Transgressive Self Expression"
When we no longer seek approval from anyone but ourselves/When we claim sexual agency we become powerful and unstoppable. My presentation will engage my queerness, artistic studio practice, and body positivity. Through interdisciplinary research, I aim to deconstruct traditional representations of not only gender but also female nudity. I will begin the presentation by introducing my studio practice and how it is used as a mode of inquiry into gender bending and the sexual body. My work crosses into various fields from painting to digital media. Installation and performance art are also appropriate platforms. This presentation focuses on my photographic work.

Speaker: Trish Nixon

"Using Participatory Photography to Showcase the Links between Apparel, Gender Identity, and Well-Being Among Transmasculine Individuals"

Apparel plays a significant role in gender expression. For transmasculine individuals (TMI), apparel may be especially important to well-being if TMI use clothing to express their preferred gender safely, yet little research on this topic exists. Thus, we used Photovoice --a participatory action research tool in which people use pictures to identify, share, and advocate for their experiences --to explore the relationship

between apparel, identity, and health for TMI; and invite transmasculine people to help design trans-friendly apparel.

Speakers: Michele Teti, Kristin Morris, and Loren Bauerband

Hillman 110

Session 03: Workshop - “Non-Binary 101”

Speaker: Metro Trans Umbrella Group

A basic introduction to non-binary/genderqueer narratives. An engaging opportunity to learn about the ways that humans navigate non-binary identities including personal narratives, does and don'ts, language and a question and answer. Presented by the expression spectrum a support group of MTUG.

Goldfarb 132

Session 04: Workshop - “Good Grief”

Speakers: Nancy Corcoran, Lori Cox-Buday

Introduction: Jaimie Hileman

Those that identify as transgender aren't the only ones that transition. In this workshop we will use the works of Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross and Dr. Michele Angello to guide a shared conversation focusing on the grief, loss and evolution that friends and family experience when a loved one undergoes transitioning. This workshop will be geared towards those that are not transgender, and play a supportive/ally role.

Forum

Session 05: Panel - “Effective Strategies for Advocacy and Achieving Legislative Change”

Panel: Elizabeth Fuchs - PROMO, Jake Lyonfields - West Country Community Action Network, Tracy McCreery - State Representative, Missouri, Malaysia Walker - TEAP-MIS Coordinator/ACLU of Mississippi

Moderator: Julia Williams - West County Community Action Network

AGENDA SATURDAY 11.4.17

9:00am-9:15am

Forum

WELCOME

Speaker: Sayer Johnson

9:15am-10:15am

Forum

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

“A Racial History of Trans Identity”

Speaker: Riley Snorton

Introduction: Sayer Johnson

10:30am-12:00pm

Hillman 50/51

Hillman 110

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Session 01: “Trans 101”

Speaker: Metro Trans Umbrella Group

Session 02: Papers

Moderator: Brenda Bredemeier

“Transfuturism: A Black Queer Futurity Project”

Transfuturism is a photography, oral history, and art activism research project that utilizes Afrofuturistic art to render the lives of black trans and gender non-conforming folk complex and visible. I photograph and record the narratives and lived experiences of trans and gender non-conforming people to illustrate how transgressing gender affords a particular form of liberation, but also leads to new forms of identity challenges. Then, working with trans and gender nonconforming Afrofuturist artists, create a digital artwork that transforms the participant into an Afrofuturistic super hero. As a visual exhibit, the Tranfuturism project aims to engage people in a dialogue about the issues that transgender people face as well as the social construction of gender at the intersections of race.

Speaker: Amber Johnson

“Solution-Focused Strategies to Counteract Gender Suppression in Transgender and Other Gender Non-Conforming People”

Cultural restrictions on gender expression frequently result in frustration, shaming, ostracism, and other negative consequences for transgender and other gender non-conforming people (TgNC). In this paper I examine experiences of TgNC individuals shared with me in lifespan narrative interviews. I discovered that each of the individuals suppressed gender in order to avoid negative consequences. Educators,

social workers, counselors, parents, and allies of TgNC people can offer support through classroom management, clinical and social interventions, and advocacy. As a clinical practitioner for more than thirty years, I suggest solution-focused strategies to support a TgNC individual's movement toward a greater sense of positive belonging and place in community.
Speaker: Kate O'Brien

"Queering the Canon"
My paper looks at contemporary productions of Shakespeare's plays that open up a discussion about nonbinary gender identity. The paper argues that Shakespeare is a shorthand for cultural value, and that the inclusion of nonbinary gender identities in the theatrical canon that surrounds Shakespeare's plays is an attempt to gain cultural capital for the movement. However, while the inclusion of gender queer productions may seem to open up Shakespeare and the Western canon, the cultural weight of Shakespeare, in fact, subsumes any attempt at a queer counter narrative. In the Western world, and often beyond, the work of William Shakespeare is seen as the epitome of cultural and artistic creation and is often used to confer value or legitimacy on those involved.
Speaker: Sonia Desai

Goldfarb 132 **Session 03: Workshop - "Your Transgender Stories and Mine"**
Speakers: Sayer Johnson, Joan Lipkin

This creative expression writing workshop will empower participants to find or strengthen their voice in their community through discussion and writing exercises and is open to transgender and allied participants with all levels of experience. The conference will include a short public reading at the end of the day where participants are welcomed, but not required, to briefly share some of the work they created during the morning's session.

Forum **Session 04: Panel - "Non Binary Struggles for Recognition"**
AJ Robinson, Nat Smith, Aiko Tsuchida
Moderator: Dan Stewart

For non-binary persons, recognition of gender identity is dependably a source of struggle, as recognition of non-binary/gender nonconforming identities is not necessarily built into our contemporary sociocultural infrastructures. Lack of recognition manifests in gate-keeping for identification cards, medical treatment, acceptance in social environments, and antidiscrimination protections. This panel will address complexities related to (lack of) recognition in relation to the State,

LGBT communities, families, and classrooms.

Brown Lounge **Session 05: Presentation - "The Socially Transitioning Family"**
Speaker: Kelly Storck
Introduction: Shannon Hall

This presentation will cover the multi-faceted wonders involved in identifying, understanding and taking care of gender-expansive children and their families, especially those who go through a social transition. Early social transitions are centered around the health and well-being of the child yet is a profound experience for everyone involved.

Hillman 52/53 **Session 06: Panel - "Transgender People: The Law, The Public, and What Works"**
Speakers: Mary Newman, Johna Walsh
Introduction: Kari Greenwood

This workshop will begin a discussion among audience members. The goal of the workshop is to address three pillars that support the issues and solutions surrounding transgender equality and acceptance. The first pillar in the discussion is the law/legal aspect of transgender issues. Federal, state, and local laws are the basis for security and safety issues among the transgender people. We will explore the cogent laws of the land, focusing on laws enacted to protect transgender people's rights. The second pillar in the discussion is the public attitudes and protective programs fostered by our public institutions such as schools, and private support groups such as churches and youth organizations. The third pillar of our discussion includes the successful or potentially successful components of protective programs that have been attempted. We will draw our research data from the 2016 USTS national survey, NCTE survey's, reports, and research findings, and other scholarly and non-scholarly articles to support our discussion.

12:00pm-1:00pm
Goldfarb Commons

LUNCH
Use your nametag to pick up your lunch.

Hillman 52/53 For Those Who Identify as NON-Binary only: Enby Lunch - This is a space for non-binary participants to connect. Bring your lunch and discuss what "Rise Up, Resist, Reconnect" means for people who live between binaries, how we can support each other, and other thoughts about the conference experience.

Hillman 110 For parents and other family members supporting someone who is trans.

1:15pm-2:00pm

PLENARY SESSION

Forum

“Intersex, What’s That?”

Speaker: Leon Braxton

Introduction: Nancy Corcoran

“Intersex: I Exist” is a personal narrative about how I was diagnosed being Intersex, my reaction, my coming out and how I educate others about Intersex. This personal narrative is done in the stand-up comedy format that ultimately runs the spectrum of emotions: Laughter to tears. “Intersex: I Exist” can be defined as an educational theatrical narrative. A Q&A to follow.

2:15pm-3:45pm

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Hillman 52/53

Session 01: Panel - “Aging in Community for Transgender Older Adults”

Speakers: Dan Stewart, Sherrill Wayland

Moderator: Kate O’Brien

This panel will focus on providing information to transgender older adults and providers on rights related to housing, health and related services. We will also discuss self-advocacy strategies and resources including support and filing complaints related to discrimination.

Goldfarb 132

Session 02: Workshop - “One Hour Twine Game Jam. Giving Voices to Diversity Through Interactive Fiction and Games”

Speaker: Melanie Severs

Introduction: Sayer Johnson

Come alone or bring friends to make a game in an hour and flex your creative writing muscles. No coding skills required. Twine is a free, easy-to-use interactive storytelling platform, most commonly utilized for creating text-based adventure games. We’ll begin with a brief 30-minute workshop on how to use the Twine platform, then we’ll announce the jam’s theme so that individuals and small teams can spend the remaining time weaving their text adventure game. At the end, we’ll play through our stories on the big screen.

Hillman 110

Session 03: “Talking About What People Don’t Talk About - A Session for Youth Ages 12-15”

Speaker: Kelly Storck

Introduction: Shannon Hall

For many transgender and gender expansive youth, the things they think or worry about are not being reflected in mainstream spaces. These are unique and amazing young people who need nuanced and affirming care to grow into the best versions of themselves. The personal and often private conversations that support this growth can feel difficult to introduce and finding trust-worthy spaces to have them can be tricky. If you are between the ages of 12-18, come join this group-process workshop as we explore a vast array of issues that can include disclosures/ privacy, dating, medical care, dysphoria, dealing with unsupportive/rejecting people and other topics deemed relevant by the group.

Forum

Session 04: “Navigating College: How to Find Campus Support and Resources for Students and Parents”

Speakers: Brittani Fults, Salama Gallimore, Sean Olmstead

Moderator: Travis Tucker

The purpose of this workshop is to provide insight into the different components of higher education that will have a significant impact on trans and/or gender non-conforming students in addition to their families (or support groups) as they pursue higher education. It is important to consider the various policies and campus culture of an institution to determine if it is a best fit for the said student and support groups. The goal of this workshop is for students and their support networks to feel prepared as they begin the college selection process, and ultimately their transition to a college student.

Brown Lounge

Session 05: Workshop - “ABC’s of Allyship”

Speaker: Lady Ashley Gregory

Introduction: Nancy Corcoran

This workshop explains the levels and types of allyship. It will be engaging using interactive skits as well as explanations of the types of allies there are, the proper way to be an ally to those in the transgender and marginalized communities.

Hillman 50/51

Session 06: Workshop - “Researching Transgender History”

Speaker: Researching Transgender History

Introduction: Trevor Sangrey

While “transgender” is now widely used in contemporary culture, the term is also only a few decades old. From an archival context, the recent emergence of the term means that any historical materials processed before the 1990s would not include the term in descriptive information. This workshop will provide an overview of the

roadblocks to researching trans-specific history, and offer insights into techniques and resources to help uncover lost histories. An interactive component of the workshop will include an on-line research exercise using local and national historical resources.

4:00pm-4:45pm

Forum

STORYTELLING PRESENTATION

4:45pm-5:00pm

Forum

CLOSING REMARKS

Followed by Community Meeting to Discuss Transgender Spectrum 2018.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:

Michelle Sabrina Adams is a second year student in the Washington University Prison Education Project at Missouri Eastern Correctional Center. Michelle has been incarcerated in male prisons for eight years, and she has advocated for prison policy reform for transgender inmates her entire sentence.

Loren Bauerband, Ph. D., is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of Missouri. They have a masters in experimental psychology and a doctorate in behavioral science. Their program of research is focused on understanding the health and healthcare needs of transgender individuals.

Barbara Baumgartner, Ph. D., is senior lecturer and director of undergraduate studies for Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Washington University. She is also the associate director of the Washington University Prison Education Program.

Andrea Bolivar is a Ph. D. candidate in anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis, where she is also earning a graduate certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality studies. Andrea conducts research with the Trans Latina Coalition, a nation-wide organization that fights for the rights of Transgender Latinxs.

Steven Louis Brawley is the Founder of the St. Louis LGBT History Project - an all volunteer effort to preserve and promote the dynamic history of St. Louis' LGBTQIA community. A member of the Organization of American Historians, he is a frequent guest speaker on local history topics at area education, faith-based, and non-for-profit institutions. Steven is the author of *Gay and Lesbian St. Louis*, published by Arcadia Press in 2016.

Leon Braxton has been active in the St. Louis LGBTQIA community for over 35-years, raising countless dollars and serving in many leadership capacities. Leon is excited to be a member of the Board of Pride St. Louis, Inc. as the Director of Diversity and Inclusion and Chair of the Scholarship and Community Outreach and Events Committee. In addition to being on the board of Pride St. Louis, Leon has served on the boards of SAGE Metro St. Louis, St. Louis Effort for AIDS, St. Louis AIDS Foundation, Out, Proud and Healthy, was a master Guardian with Project Ark, is the Vice President of The Official Black Pride St. Louis and is the founder of the I CARE! Campaign and Intersex St. Louis. She brings with her a successful background in finance and is also known in entertainment and fundraising circles for his illusion of the incomparable Dieta Pepsi. Leon is currently owns and operates The Braxton Group, a Recipe Development Consulting Company.

Lori Cox-Buday is a mental health therapist, who started counseling in the public school system through a local, non-profit agency. With over 10 years experience working with youth and the transgender community, she is now focusing on private practice to better serve her young clients and families.

Dr. Zackory T. Burns is the co-chair of the Transgender Legal Assistance Clinic at the University of California, Irvine School of Law where Zackory is a third-year law student. At UCI Law, Zackory chairs the student-sponsored symposium – Trans* Lives & Rights: Contemporary Legal & Policy Battles, serves as a member on the Orange County Lavender Bar Association Board, and is a Senior Research and Center Fellow at the Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy where Zackory leads an LGBT-focused film series. Prior to attending law school, Zackory was the Hellman Fellow in Science and Technology Policy at the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and received a doctorate degree from the University of Oxford.

Nancy Corcoran is a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet who has served as a chaplain in interfaith settings for the past 25 years. She just finished a sabbatical exploring ministry with transgender and gender expansive humans.

Sonia Desai is a Ph.D. candidate in the joint program in Drama and Theatre at the University of California Irvine and the University of California San Diego. Her dissertation project is on the phenomenology of gender during the Early Modern period and uses dramatic texts of that time to explore a theory of phenomenology that is attuned to gender.

Elouise Epstein, Ph. D., is an independent transgender scholar whose work examines the nexus of gender, military, and policy history. She holds a Ph.D. in policy history from Bowling Green State University (2013). She also holds a Masters in Military History from Norwich University (2008) and a Masters in Education from California State University, East Bay (2003). Dr. Epstein works as a Vice President of Data Science for a Management Consulting firm.

Elizabeth J. Fuchs, MSW, is a social justice warrior and light worker. As the Manager of Public Policy for PROMO, Missouri's statewide Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Equality organization, Elizabeth is the link between the daily lives and experiences of LGBT Missourians and our elected officials in the state capitol. Using her Social Work skills and long-time St. Louis native narrative, Elizabeth is making friends on both sides of the aisle to ensure that all Missourians, including LGBT Missourians, have access to equal protections under the law.

Brittani Fults is the Education, Prevention & Outreach Coordinator of the MU Office for Civil Rights & Title IX and ADA where she provides the campus community with programming, education and trainings pertaining to the university's anti-discrimination policies, and diversity & inclusion in the classroom and workplace.

Andrew Fisher, MD, MBE is a fourth-year Ob/Gyn resident at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Andrew will be entering into generalist practice next year with the hope of serving transgender patients. In conjunction with the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Andrew has taken a special research interest in looking at ways of expanding fertility preservation options and counseling in the transgender population.

Salama Gallimore is an Associate at Armstrong Teasdale's Kansas City office and a member of the Employment and Labor and Higher Education practice areas. Prior joining Armstrong Teasdale, Salama served as the Director of Investigations and Deputy Title IX Coordinator at the University of Missouri in the Office for Civil Rights and Title IX.

Beth Gombos is a graduate of SIU Edwardsville, with a BA in Cultural Anthropology and English. Their Trans* related work began in 2013 with academic research into Trans* healthcare issues, and lack of Trans* literature for children in partnership with Metro Trans Umbrella Group. Beth is now the live-in coordinator and “big sibling” at the Trans and Queer Flat.

Lady Ashley Gregory is the lead facilitator for the support group QTPOC: STL (Queer and Trans People of Color St. Louis.) She also is an active board member of the Metro Trans Umbrella Group a local Trans Advocacy group in St. Louis. She is a local St. Louis activist and speaks on behalf of Transgender rights and on issues concerning queer people of color in the St. Louis area.

Jaimie Hileman, after 24 years in the corporate world, felt the need as a Trans woman to advocate and speak out for Trans and LGBTQIA+ issues. She worked with Metro Trans Umbrella Group (MTUG) in St. Louis and eventually became Board President. After her tenure as MTUG board president, Jaimie worked as a Trans Cultural Competency Educator with Diversity Awareness Partnership (DAP). Jaimie founded the Trans Education Service LLC of St. Louis (TES LLC STL). TES is both a Trans and LGBTQIA+ cultural competency educational and training consultancy, and a consulting partner for diversity and inclusion policy, planning and implementation. Jaimie is a member of WPATH, Global Education Initiative (GEI) training, and a professional member of AASECT, the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists.

Amber Johnson, Ph. D., is an award winning Assistant Professor of Communication and Social Justice at Saint Louis University, and founder of The Justice Fleet™ Mobile Museum, a network of experiences that foster healing through art, play, and dialogue. www.thejusticefleet.com

Sayer Johnson is co-founder and Executive Director of the Metro Trans Umbrella group. Sayer is also the founder of the Queer Trans Flat. He is a lifelong organizer and proud out and open queer transgender man. Sayer is a husband, Papi, direct support professional and storyteller. Sayer has dedicated this chapter of his organizing life to building power for transgender adults.

Joan Lipkin divides her time between New York City and St. Louis, where she is the founder and Artistic Director of That Uppity Theatre Company, whose mission is to give a voice to underserved populations. Joan has received the Association for Theatre in Higher Education award for Leadership in Community-Based Theatre and Civic Engagement, a Visionary Award, the Arts Innovator of the Year and the Ethical Humanist of the Year, among many others.

Jake Lyonfields grew up in West County, St. Louis and is a co-founder of the West County Community Action Network (“WE CAN”), a grassroots organization focused on achieving racial justice in West County and the wider St. Louis region. He is also a co-founder and member of The California Cooperative, an intentional living community located in St. Louis that provides affordable, community-centered, and just housing options. He is an engineer by training and a health care professional whose work is focused on the intersection of health care and sustainability. Folks can learn more about WE CAN by visiting its Facebook page or joining its listserv (which can be done by emailing WE CAN at wecanstl@gmail.com).

Tracy McCreery is the state representative for the 88th district (mid-St. Louis County). She served a year as Missouri’s first female Independent in the Missouri House of Representatives in 2012; she was re-elected in 2014 and 2016 as a Democrat. She worked for 8 years as the District Aide to Missouri State Senator Joan Bray. Tracy most recently worked for PROMO, Missouri’s only statewide LGBT rights advocacy organization. She was funded through a grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health to work on reducing LGBTQ health disparities. Tracy volunteered with PROMO PAC (formerly PREP PAC) from 1998-2008 which endorsed and helped elect pro-LGBTQ candidates to public office. Tracy’s background as a businesswoman and in state government gives her a unique perspective. Tracy spent over nine years in the pharmaceutical industry. Tracy’s community service is focused on helping those who do not have a voice or powerful lobbyists. Tracy is a founding member of the St. Louis Rescue & Restore Coalition (now known as CATE) which advocates for victims of human trafficking. Tracy is a founding member of the Consumers Council of Missouri. From 2006-2011 she was on the board of directors for Safe Connections which helps those who are victims of relationship violence, sexual assault, and/or childhood sexual abuse. She regularly volunteers with Olivette in Bloom.

Christopher Lewis, MD, is an Instructor in Division of Pediatric Endocrinology & Diabetes and is the director of Washington University Transgender Center at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. The center offers the only multidisciplinary care available to children and adolescents in the St. Louis region who identify as a gender different from the sex they were assigned at birth. As a member of the LGBTQIA community himself, Chris hopes to continue to raise local and national awareness, contribute to the body of literature for transgender health research, and create much-needed improvements in medical education as it pertains to all of LGBTQIA related healthcare.

Mary Newman, Ph. D., is an associate professor in Psychology and Gerontology at Missouri State.

Her areas of expertise include LGBT+ issues, aging, age-related disorders; dying, death and grieving. Research focuses on Alzheimer’s disease and LGBT+ issues.

Patricia Nixon, MFA, works crosses into various fields from painting to digital media. Patricia explains, “I consider my work to be a symbol of strength and power where I define what it means to be sexual on my own terms.” The artist lives and works in Kansas City, MO.

Kate O’Brien, MSW, LCSW, is an educator, and is licensed as a clinical social worker in Missouri. She looks forward to the conferral of her Ph.D. in Education in December, 2017. Her scholarship focuses on non-binary gender identities in U.S. culture through the lens of critical discourse studies. Kate is thrilled to have been part of the planning committee for the Transgender Spectrum Conference since its inception.

Kenan Omurtag, MD, is an Assistant Professor and Board Certified Reproductive Endocrinologist and Infertility specialist at Washington University who helps couples and individuals build families. Throughout his career as a reproductive health provider, Dr. Omurtag has been an ally for the LGBTQIA community and has assisted many transgender patients build their families. He also works in cooperation with The Transgender Center at St. Louis Children’s Hospital and counsels trans-adolescents on options for fertility preservation including sperm and egg freezing.

Kristen Morris, Ph. D., is an assistant professor in the Department of Textile and Apparel Management at the University of Missouri. Her scholarly interests focus on apparel product development for human health and wellness particularly, employing user-centered design methods to enhance the design process.

Sean Olmstead is the Coordinator of the LGBTQ Resource Center of the University of Missouri where he oversees programming, outreach, and education to the Mizzou community.

AJ Robinson is a support group facilitator with Metro Trans Umbrella Group and librarian at Washington University. Their passion is to bring library and research support to people who wouldn’t usually use libraries.

Trevor Joy Sangrey is a Four-Year Advisor in the College of Arts & Sciences and teaches in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department. In the College, roles also include coordinating the First-Year Programs, serving as a Progress Counselor, and teaching in the Identity Literacy Program. In Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, teaching includes the introductory seminar as well as classes on queer studies, social movements, and social class. Dean Sangrey also serves on the LGBT advisory board.

Kurtis Schaper is the Board Secretary of Metro Trans Umbrella Group. He has a Bachelor’s Degree

in Education and a Master's Degree in Human Resources Management. He currently works as Human Resources Manager for a local, family owned business.

Melanie Severs is a Game Artist and Graphic Designer with pixel stars in her eyes. She volunteers for and helps facilitate support groups with the Metro Trans Umbrella Group in STL. She loves stories and wants everyone to have an outlet to share theirs!

Nat Smith is a Diversity Fellow at Saint Louis University where they are completing their Masters in Women and Gender Studies. Their goal is to one day work with the LGBTQIA+ community within higher education.

Kelly Storck, LCSW, has a private psychotherapy practice in St. Louis and specializes in work related to gender with children and their families, youth and adults. In addition to her practice, Kelly presents on trans issues to groups locally and nationally and volunteers as a co-leader of a gender-diverse kids group. Kelly also has a book due out in 2018 entitled, Gender Identity Workbook for Kids: A Guide To Help You Be Who You Are.

Michelle Teti is an Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Public Health in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of Missouri. She has a masters and a doctorate in community health. Via her research program, she aims to improve the lives of LGBT and other potentially marginalized groups, by ensuring that people's lived experiences of illness and wellness inform public health interventions and policies.

Aiko Tsuchida is a musician and poet whose work often concerns itself with social constructions of gender in contemporary American culture.

Malaysia Walker is a Transgender Education & Advocacy Program Coordinator for Mississippi ACLU. Malaysia was born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi, and is very familiar with many obstacles faced by the transgender communities in the South. In her spare time, Malaysia enjoys make-up artistry, designing, sewing, and empowering others to embrace their truths.

Johna Walsh, M.S, is a transgender woman, freelance writer, and independent researcher. She retired after 28 years in higher education as a teacher and distance education director. Her interest in the LGBT+ issues have focused on the socialization experiences of transgender women facing legal, political, and religious challenges in their communities.

Sherrill Wayland, MSW, has worked with SAGE at both a local and national level for the past eight years. Sherrill's professional background includes work in the fields of disability, aging and LGBT education and advocacy. She currently serves as the Manager of National Projects with SAGE and works closely with the aging network for the inclusion of LGBT older adults.

Julia Williams, MHS, PT is a physical therapist by profession, Julia has become involved in activism and advocacy. Julia is a member of the West County Community Action Network (WE CAN) and the Ferguson Readings on Race Book Club. She is the Jewish co-captain for the 2017 Jewish and Muslim Day of Service on December 25. Julia is also a docent and the Chairperson of the Docent Advisory Committee at the St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center. Julia is the proud mother of a remarkable and courageous twenty-one year old transgender woman.

ORGANIZING TEAM

Conference Director:

Amy Eisen Cislo, Ph. D. , the conference director since 2016, is a senior lecturer in the Department of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Washington University. Dr. Cislo teaches a variety of courses related to embodiment, the History of Medicine and Science, and Feminist and Queer Youth Studies. They are pleased to have participated in this conference since it began at University of Missouri St. Louis in 2014.

Conference Events Planner:

Marcia McIntyre is a professional conference and meeting planner, working in the meetings industry for the past 25+ years. Marcia has had the privilege of working on the Transgender Spectrum Conference for the past two years. Her clientele includes other social justice organizations, medical associations, and educational organizations. e: info@mmandmore.com; t: 314.210.2904

Planning Committee:

Brenda Light Bredemeier, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the College of Education at the University of Missouri St. Louis. Her scholarly interests include identity formation, character development, and lesbian moral exemplars in the context of sport. She appreciates the opportunity to have represented UMSL's College of Education as a member of the Transgender Spectrum Conference planning committee since its inception.

Barbara Baumgartner, Ph.D., is senior lecturer and director of undergraduate studies for Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Washington University. She is also the associate director of the Washington University Prison Education Program.

Nancy Corcoran is a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet who has served as a chaplain in interfaith settings for the past 25 years. She just finished a sabbatical exploring ministry with transgender and gender expansive humans.

Adrienne D. Davis is the Vice Provost and William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law. Adrienne's research and teaching focuses on private law areas such as contracts and trusts & estates, as well as legal theory and history, including slavery, feminist legal theory, and theories of justice and reparations. She presented at the 2015 Transgender Spectrum Conference and facilitated the transfer of the conference to Washington University.

Tonya Edmond, Ph. D., is the Associate Dean for Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity and an Associate Professor at the Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. She is a Faculty Fellow in the Office of the Provost working on women faculty leadership development and other diversity and inclusion initiatives. Prior to coming into academia, she practiced for 15 years in clinical and administrative roles in domestic violence and rape crisis centers.

Shannon Hall is the parent of a trans child, a representative of Transparent, a licensed health insurance agent with the Scheller Insurance Agency and a real estate broker. She has been advising individuals and businesses of all sizes on the health insurance marketplace and employee benefits in Illinois and Missouri for nearly 15 years.

Vanessa Fabbre, Ph. D. LCSW, is an Assistant Professor at the Brown School of Social Work and Affiliate Faculty in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Fabbre studies transgender and queer perspectives on aging and the life course.

Kari Greenwood is a second-career student who gave up the practice of law to return to school and obtain a master's degree in social work at the Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. Kari is working towards becoming a licensed clinical social worker, so that she can work as a therapist and provide direct mental health services to individuals and groups, specifically with a focus on the LGBTQIA+ community. Kari formerly interned at SAGE of PROMO Fund and currently serves as a practicum counselor at a local university counseling services center.

Jaimie Hileman, after 24 years in the corporate world, felt the need as a Trans woman to advocate and speak out for Trans and LGBTQIA+ issues. She worked with Metro Trans Umbrella Group (MTUG) in St. Louis and eventually became Board President. After her tenure as MTUG board president, Jaimie worked as a Trans Cultural Competency Educator with Diversity Awareness Partnership (DAP). Jaimie founded the Trans Education Service LLC of St. Louis (TES LLC STL). TES is both a Trans and LGBTQIA+ cultural competency educational and training consultancy, and a consulting partner for diversity and inclusion policy, planning and implementation. Jaimie is a member of WPATH, Global Education Initiative (GEI) training, and a professional member of AASECT, the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists.

Sayer Johnson is co-founder and Executive Director of the Metro Trans Umbrella group. Sayer is also the founder of the Queer Trans Flat. He is a lifelong organizer and proud out and open queer transgender man. Sayer is a husband, Papi, direct support professional and storyteller. Sayer has dedicated this chapter of his organizing life to building power for transgender adults.

Kate O'Brien, MSW LCSW, is an educator, and is licensed as a clinical social worker in Missouri. She looks forward to the conferral of her Ph.D. in Education in December, 2017. Her scholarship focuses on non-binary gender identities in U.S. culture through the lens of critical discourse studies. Kate is thrilled to have been part of the planning committee for the Transgender Spectrum Conference since its inception.

Trevor Sangrey, Ph. D., is a lecturer in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies and an assistant dean in the college of Arts and Sciences at Washington University.

Travis Tucker is the assistant director of leadership in LGBTQIA programming at Washington University.

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