

11th Annual

Kansas

GENDER & SEXUALITY CONFERENCE

Friday, October 18, 2024



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of Sociology



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Community Donor: Maryalice Birk

2024 Agenda at a Glance

8:30am - 9:00am Registration/Check-in & Coffee

9:00am - 9:30am Welcome & Community Organizations Showcase

9:45am - 10:45am: Session #1

- Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Advocating for Affirming Spaces & Services
- Breakout B (Gridley): Anti-Fat Bias and Survivors of Sexual Assault workshop

11:00am – 12:00pm: Session #2

- Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Gender Expressions & Relationships
- Breakout B (Gridley): Liberation for One Is Liberation for All Workshop

12:00pm – 1:30pm Break for Lunch (on your own)

1:30pm – 2:30pm: Session #3

- Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Experiences of Gender & Sexuality in Music & Art
- Breakout B (Gridley): Navigating Gender and Sexuality-Based Trauma Workshop

2:45pm - 3:45pm: Session #4

- Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Systemic Explorations of Sexual Violence
- Breakout B (Gridley): Representations of Gender & Sexuality in Literature & Music

4:00pm - 5:00pm Keynote (Beggs Ballroom):

- **Dr. Meg Paceley:** *Health, Activism, Community, and Resistance in an Era of Anti-LGBTQ+ Policy, Legislation, and Rhetoric*

5:00pm - 6:00pm Reception (Beggs Ballroom/Aster Lounge)

Conference Locations Quick Guide

Beggs Ballroom

- Refreshment Table
- Welcome Session
- Community Organization Showcase/Tables
- Breakout A Sessions
- Keynote

Gridley Room (RSC 301)

- Breakout B Sessions

Venters Room (RSC 314)

- Quiet Space

Prairie Room (RSC 313)

- Open Space for Continued Conversations and Networking

Restrooms

- Binary and Gender-Neutral Restrooms are available on the 3rd floor

Dining Options

- RSC 1st Floor: Food Court (Starbucks, Chick-Fil-A, Panda Express, Freddy's, FujiSan)
- RSC Basement: Shocker Sports Grill & Lanes
- Nearby: Shocker Dining Hall: Buffet

Session Descriptions with Abstracts

9:45am - 10:45am

Session #1 - Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Advocating for Affirming Spaces & Services

Presider: Dr. Alyssa Lynne-Joseph. WSU Sociology

SOUL Family: Creating Protective Factors for LGBTQAI Youth in Kansas DCF Custody

Presenters: Jamie Wooley, MS¹ & Anna Wray, MS, LMHP²

¹Kansas Department of Children and Families; ²COMCARE

Youth are the demographic of Kansas Children in Need of Care who are most often facing abandonment by their caregivers (Kansas Health Institute, 2024). 40% LGBTQAI youth report facing parental and familial abandonment, nationwide (The Trevor Project, 2023). In July of 2024, the State of Kansas launched its newest Child Welfare Initiative: the SOUL Family program. This new placement option for Kansas youth (ages 16-20) allows them to be placed with non-relative family in DCF custody, as an alternative to the foster care system. Previous studies have shown that created family and community are two protective factors for LGBTAI youth against suicide, homelessness and trafficking. This presentation explores the potential protective factors and supports created by the SOUL Family program for LGBTQAI youth in Kansas DCF custody and the implications for LGBTQAI health outcomes.

Expanding Torres' Rights of the Learner for Trans and Queer in K-12 Classrooms

Presenter: Dr. Aubrey Neihaus

WSU School of Education, College of Applied Studies

This session shares work recently published in the journal "Theory into Practice." Olga Torres' "Rights of the Learner" provides a strong framework for supporting students from non-dominant backgrounds to thrive in the classroom. In this session, I share my work in expanding Torres' rights for trans and queer learners. We will look at important theoretical underpinnings of "Rights of the Learner" and expand the framework for the thriving of trans and queer learners to establishing the "Rights of Trans and Queer Learners": (1) the right to self-identify and be affirmed in that identity, (2) the right to be fluid and changing, (3) the right to an educated teacher, and (4) the right to queer their education.

Addressing Care Needs for LGBTQ+ and Trans Patients in Emergency Medicine

Presenter: Whitney Gutsch, LMSW

The LGBTQ+ community has uniquely specific health management needs that are met across various healthcare settings. Unfortunately, this demographic experiences higher rates of violence and hate crime compared to their heterosexual and cis-gendered peers. Data shows that queer and trans patients are avoiding seeking healthcare in the emergency department setting though, even when they are in need of acute/emergency care. While some of the contributing factors are barriers that all patients face in an emergency department (ED), such as long wait times and limited familiarity/rapport with ED providers, there are queer-specific considerations as well. Studies have

shown that LGBTQ+ patients reported concerns with fears of discrimination in addition to previous negative ED experiences leading to avoidance of emergency care. Furthermore, high percentages of ED providers believe that patients would not disclose information related to their sexual orientation or gender identity in the ED setting. However, the same study identified that only roughly 10% of LGBTQ+ patients would refuse to provide to their sexual orientation, noting that some patients would prefer nonverbal collection methods. Different modalities to increase ED provider competency and comfortability with discussing LGBTQ+ topics will be reviewed during this presentation. This includes trauma-informed care training with appropriate considerations for implementation in the ED, leveraging various allied health professionals (such as social workers, forensic nursing, behavioral health professionals, etc) during course of emergency care, and collaboration with community agencies and minority group leaders.

9:45am - 10:45am

Session #1 - Breakout B (Gridley) Workshop

Presider: Angie Paul, WSU Libraries

Unveiling the Impact: Anti-Fat Bias and Survivors of Sexual Assault

Presenters: Allison Graham & Cammie Goen, M.A.

Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

This workshop will explore the critical and often overlooked intersection of anti-fat bias and its profound impact on survivors of sexual violence. As societal attitudes towards body size continue to be influenced by ever present fatphobia in media, survivors of sexual trauma who exist in larger bodies face unique and compounded challenges. The facilitators will provide participants with an understanding of how anti-fat bias intersects with the experiences of sexual violence survivors, shedding light on the additional barriers these survivors can encounter.

At both individual and institutional levels, anti-fat bias influences the experiences of survivors, affecting their access to support, justice, and recovery resources. This session will examine how stereotypes and stigma around body size contribute to the marginalization and re-traumatization of survivors, often leading to inadequate or harmful responses from service providers and institutions. Participants will gain insights into the mental and physical impacts of this intersection, as well as the systemic obstacles that hinder equitable care and support.

Through a combination of research findings, case studies and interactive discussions, this session will empower attendees to recognize and challenge anti-fat bias within their own belief systems and communities. By understanding these complex dynamics, participants will be better equipped to advocate for inclusive, trauma-informed approaches that respect the dignity and needs of all survivors, regardless of body size.

11:00am – 12:00pm

Session #2 - Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Gender Expressions & Relationships

Presider: Jamie Wooley-Snider, Kansas Department of Children and Families

Intersections of Age & Gender in Mid- and Later-Life Adult's Perceptions of Online Dating

Presenters: Dr. Twyla Hill, Dr. Jodie Hertzog, & Jodie Simon, MA

WSU Department of Sociology, Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

A growing body of gerontological research reveals disparities in technology adoption across generations, while parallel research in family science highlights the increasing use of digital tools in romantic relationships. This study investigates how individuals in mid- and later life (30-49, 50-64, and 65 and older) perceive the impact of technology on relationship development. Utilizing data from the Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel from 2022, we examine variations in perceptions and use of dating sites by age cohort and gender, focusing on effectiveness, safety, and policy issues. Our findings indicate that older individuals perceive dating apps as more effective in finding a partner compared to younger cohorts. However, this perception is influenced by gender and prior use of dating sites, particularly among the oldest age group. Specifically, men aged 65 and older, as well as those who have used dating apps, are more likely to view these platforms as effective compared to their female counterparts. We also explore perceptions of safety and the necessity of background checks for online dating profiles. Among users of dating sites, younger individuals and men tend to perceive these platforms as safer and report more positive experiences compared to older individuals and women.

"Somos Shockers": Beyond the Stereotype

Presenters: Joshua Villa & Valeria Paunetto

WSU's Office of Hispanic Serving Initiatives

"Somos Shockers: Beyond the Stereotype" is a comprehensive series of interactive sessions designed to challenge and transform conventional views of masculinity. This presentation provides an overview of the program that is expected to be piloted in the Spring of 2025. The program seeks to engage participants in a dynamic exploration of traditional gender roles through a blend of reflective exercises, facilitated discussions, and experiential activities. Participants will critically examine the impact of societal expectations on personal identity and behavior, addressing how these norms contribute to stereotypes and limit emotional expression. The sessions aim to create a safe and supportive environment where individuals can openly explore their own experiences and perspectives on masculinity. By fostering dialogue and encouraging self-reflection, "Somos Shockers" seeks to dismantle restrictive gender norms and promote a more inclusive understanding of masculinity. Participants will gain tools for personal growth, improve their emotional well-being, and develop strategies for building supportive and respectful relationships. In addition to individual benefits, the program aims to create a ripple effect within the community by inspiring participants to advocate for and model healthier, more equitable gender norms. "Somos Shockers: Beyond the Stereotype" is committed to contributing to a more empathetic and connected society by redefining what it means to be a man in today's world.

The proclivity to pretend: Exploring gender differences in faking orgasms among college students

Presenters: Lori Lentenbrink, Brooklynn Corral, & Dr. Charlene Muehlenhard

Department of Psychology, University of Kansas

Both women and men fake orgasms. Studies have found that 2 or 3 times as many women as men report having faked. For example, in one sample of college students, 50% of the women and 25% of the men reported having faked orgasms—a 2:1 ratio (Muehlenhard & Shippee, 2010). In another study, 43% of the women and 17% of the men reported having faked with their current partner—a 2.5:1 ratio (Séguin et al., 2015). Such ratios, however, might not reflect how OFTEN women and men fake orgasms.

The Present Study: In a sample of college students, we explored the following research questions:

RQ1. HOW MANY women and men report having faked an orgasm?

RQ2. HOW OFTEN do women and men fake orgasms (i.e., in what proportion of their sexual encounters do women and men fake? In what proportion do they actually orgasm)?

Method: Psychology students filled out an online survey. For these research questions, we used data from 366 cisgender students—174 women and 192 men—who reported having engaged in sexual activity with another person.

Results:

RQ1: 69% of the women and 23% of the men reported having faked orgasms, a 3:1 ratio.

RQ2: On average, women reported faking orgasms in 23% of their sexual encounters, compared with 1.7% for men—a 13:1 ratio. Women reported orgasming in 33% of their sexual encounters; men reported orgasming in 75% of their sexual encounters.

Conclusions: There was a significant difference in how many of the women and men had faked—but an even larger gender difference in how often they faked. Results will be discussed in terms of widely held beliefs which behaviors count as “sex,” stereotypes about women’s and men’s sexuality, and ideas about who is entitled to orgasm.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Session #2 - Breakout B (Gridley): Workshop

Presider: Dr. Jenny Pearson, WSU Sociology

**Liberation for One Is Liberation for All:
Let's Talk about Gender, Sexuality, Race, Queerness, and Mental Health**

Presenter: Drew Thi, M.A.

WSU Community Engagement Institute's Center for Applied Research and Evaluation

This workshop provides a space for collaborative learning about your choice of gender diversity, sexuality, queerness, race, mental health, and/or social inequality, and intersections of the aforementioned. We will frame our learning using critical pedagogy - an educational 'pedagogy of the oppressed' that is non-hierarchical, uses education as a tool for liberation, and positions participants as active agents in their own education and subsequent liberation of all.

The workshop curriculum will be tailored to participants as we decide on discussion topics together and will be responsive as we locate where we are in our learning journeys. Attendees will be discussion leaders and participants during this workshop. Participants will cultivate the educational environment we are in and direct their personal learning.

In this workshop, we will share definitions of the social concepts listed above and contribute to each other's understandings of those concepts. The workshop will provide an understanding of the social construction of identities and power. We will also talk about power, privilege, oppression, and marginalization as it relates to social systems that create, maintain, and uphold social inequality. We may also discuss aspects of gender such as how it's defined and performed, gender diversity, gender fluidity, how gender influences sexuality, and the shift away from binary structures. Discussion topics that are related to mental health may include the gender bias on diagnostics processes or lack thereof and the collective trauma experienced through oppressive systems of racism and genocide.

12:00pm - 1:15pm: Lunch (on your Own)

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Session #3 - Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Experiences of Gender & Sexuality in Music & Art

Presider: Dr. Twyla Hill, WSU Sociology

Life on the Podium and Out of the Closet: LGBTQ+ Collegiate Wind Band Conductor's Experiences of (In)Dignity in the Workplace

Presenter: M. Evan Ricker, Jr.

WSU Recruiting and Communications Specialist, College of Fine Arts

This presentation examines the workplace experiences of dignity and indignity among LGBTQ+ collegiate wind band conductors. Using a narrative study with semi-structured interviews, four conductors shared their stories, revealing the slights and affirmations of dignity they faced in their careers. The research applies a workplace dignity framework to explore how gender, sex, and sexuality shape their experiences and how dignity is negotiated.

Key themes include defining dignity, navigating slights, and fostering an affirming environment. Findings stress the importance of promoting dignity in music education and offer practical insights for preventing threats to dignity. This presentation, relevant to educators, scholars, and practitioners, will cover research questions and findings through a PowerPoint., followed by a discussion on promoting respect in higher education and conducting.

Women Composers: An Interdisciplinary Analytical Approach to Gender In and Out of the Concert Hall

Presenter: Jacy Pedersen, Assistant Professor

WSU School of Music, College of Fine Arts

Understanding of gender and sexuality in the context of classical music research has recently been gaining ground as a topic of analytical inquiry. Because of historical and institutional bias in favor of music composed by men, simply analyzing works composed by women is considered a significant step towards feminist music theory. From this point, questions regarding gender and sexuality as elements of music compositions diverge significantly in terms of methodology and results relevant to the understanding of the composers, their lives, their working conditions, and the works themselves. Often, the question that drives the analysis is: how much context is necessary to incorporate gender- or sexuality-based inquiry, and how is it reflected in the notes themselves? In this presentation, I explore an interdisciplinary approach of listening to, understanding, and analyzing the music of women composers.

My methodology combines the approaches of comparative literature scholar Joanna Kot and music theorist Ellie Hisama to create historically informed readings of musical works which consider personal idioms and the connection between composers' music and their identities. Further, drawing from and building upon methodologies for music, literature, drama, and politics, my approach highlights how compositional processes and their musical results connect to a composer's personal and societal attitudes towards identity, feminism, and gender roles. I will then demonstrate my approach through Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano by Russian composer Zara Levina (1906-1976). Throughout her career in the Soviet Union, she faced value judgements on her work based on her gender and the gendered cultural constructs perpetuated through the

acceptance of the double burden. I argue Levina utilizes deceptively “simple” compositional techniques to subtly reject the cultural myth of gender equality in the Soviet Union.

Find Your Way Home: An Artwork

Presenter: Micala Gingrich-Gaylord

Harvester Arts

Micala Gingrich-Gaylord is a Wichita artist whose work focuses on community practice, responding and engaging with community issues and people to create interactive work that questions who and how we are together. *Find Your Way Home* examines the way art, gender and sexuality intersect by examining the concepts of male dominance and prowess while reimagining and reclaiming the home we all have come from.

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Session #3 - Breakout B (Gridley): workshop

Presider: Amanda Abeywickrama, WSU HOPE Services

Navigating Gender and Sexuality-Based Trauma: An Emotional Ecology Approach

Presenter: Dr. Elizabeth Heilman

WSU School of Education, College of Applied Studies

This presentation offers an in-depth exploration of trauma experienced by individuals across diverse gender and sexuality identities through the framework of Emotional Ecology. This approach highlights how unmet needs for safety, esteem, love, belonging, and justice uniquely shape trauma responses and influence coping strategies, both consciously and unconsciously.

In the context of gender and sexuality-based trauma, understanding fight and flight responses is crucial. Flight responses often manifest as self-isolation, avoidance of unsafe environments, or concealing one's identity to minimize vulnerability. Conversely, fight responses, while appearing assertive, frequently reflect deeper struggles with trauma, resulting in negative behaviors. For instance, when safety needs are unmet, a fight response may manifest as excessive risk-taking or defiance to reclaim autonomy or control. In terms of esteem, it may present as success addiction, perfectionism, or relentless self-critique, revealing a heightened need for validation. For love and belonging, fight responses can lead to poor boundaries or overcompensation in relationships due to fear of rejection or abandonment.

This session provides practical insights for session participants to reflect on their own experiences and for practitioners, educators, and community leaders to recognize these common trauma responses and their underlying unmet needs. Participants will learn to identify trauma triggers, apply supportive strategies, and create environments that reduce traumatic experiences. By applying Emotional Ecology principles, attendees will be equipped to support individuals in navigating trauma, fostering spaces where all identities feel safe, seen, and valued.

2:45pm - 3:45pm

Session 4 - Breakout A (Beggs Ballroom): Systemic Explorations of Sexual Violence

Presider: Cammie Goen, Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

Investigating Campus Stakeholder experiences in Addressing Campus Sexual Violence through the Lens of Institutional Courage

Presenter: Amanda Abeywickrama, M.A.

WSU HOPE Services Staff

In order to combat sexual violence among college students, federal laws such as the Clery Act, Title IX and Violence Against Women Act require federally funded educational institutions to craft procedures and policies to address sexual violence incidents. However, student trust in institutions is affected by factors such as the perceived effectiveness of institutional response and low accountability for perpetrators, which have been found to be associated with overall feelings of institutional betrayal. One promising avenue for mitigating institutional betrayal is to implement a Whole School Approach (WSA) that targets prevention at all levels of the social ecology driven by the involvement of multiple stakeholders that could potentially facilitate institutions to move from betrayal towards courage, such as by implementing sexual assault response teams (SART).

Utilizing a qualitative case-study approach, the current study explored the lived experiences of stakeholders at one university in the Midwest involved in instituting a more holistic approach based on a SART framework with funding from an Office of Violence against Women grant program. Using purposive sampling methods four focus groups with key stakeholders were conducted in Spring 2023 to identify participants' perceptions of current efforts and to assess how the strategies being implemented might contribute to the promotion of the elements of institutional courage. Template analysis was used as the primary analytic technique for the generation of themes and subthemes. Stakeholders' perceptions on how they believe to maintain accountability, provide support to survivors, self-educate and assess to inform best practices and go beyond meeting the minimum requirements to address DVSA on campus along with their perceived barriers to practicing institutional courage are discussed.

Horrendous Intersections: Rape in a Time of Genocide

Presenter: Dr. Deborah Gordon, Associate Professor

Women's, Ethnicity, & Intersectional Studies (WEIS) Program, Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Since Oct 7, many scholars have noted the overwhelming anti-Palestinian racism that undergirds the war by Israel on the Gaza Strip. The geopolitics unable to stop a "plausible" genocide as well as the pro-Israeli slant of legacy media coverage of the war, seems to barter in this racism.

This presentation analyzes anti-Palestinian racism as "intersectional" by clarifying the politics of rape in this war. It reads political and media elites' recognition of rape of Israeli women juxtaposed with their disavowal of rapes by Israeli soldiers of Palestinian men and women. Theoretically, I insist that intersections of gender, race, and sexuality only exist in space and time. Specific cases thus tell us more about the "how" of "gender-based violence" than the often-overgeneralized claims of the most visible kinds of global feminism.

My reading targets the casual way in which US elites circulate discourse of gender-based violence since the beginning of this war. These elites have continually condemned Hamas's "horrific" sexual violence on Oct 7, even after investigative journalists have argued this rape story is a "hoax." Simultaneously, these same elites ignore another type of evidence of rape-Israeli troops creating and uploading videos on Tik Tok that document their symbolic and actual assault of Palestinian women and men.

Unabashed Israeli sexual violence flaunted online and enacted over "there," yet ignored "here" substantiates the anti-Palestinian racism I discuss. In some sense "we" are arming this violence with all the dangers of "genocide creep" into a "wider" war. Intersectionality that is attentive to the contingent, specific politics of rape "there" in Israeli prisons where detainees taken from Gaza suffer and here in the relative comfort of US national politics informs this war, as this preliminary reading of political and media elites suggests.

2:45pm - 3:45pm

Session 4 - Breakout B (Gridley): Representations of Gender & Sexuality in Literature & Music

Presider: Dr. Robin Henry, WSU Department of History & WEIS Program Coordinator

Sarah Orne Jewett: Representing the 19th Century Goddess

Presenter: Delaney Jones

WSU Department of English, Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

In this research, based on the famous novel "The Country of the Pointed Firs" by Sarah Orne Jewett, I argue that the representation of the central female character, Almira Todd, holds clear connections to antiquity, something which Jewett utilizes to her advantage to comment on, and furthermore challenge the commonly held beliefs and expectations surrounding 19th century women. In a combination of pastoral tradition, Greek myth, and personal poetic expression, Jewett's characters subvert the idea of the Victorian woman by illustrating them as thriving autonomously, powerful, and independent. I am happy to provide a visual aid alongside my research in essay format. Here is the intro for the piece:

Sarah Orne Jewett's *The Country of the Pointed Firs* masterfully combines aspects of the mythological and magical into the pastoral, resulting in a uniquely productive yet nonlinear narrative. Jewett's unconventionally structured narrative lends itself in favor of her unique characters, who are capable of modelling both the 19th century person as well as reflecting characters, specifically women, of ancient myth. One of the most notable examples of this combined characterization is in Jewett's illustration of Mrs. Almira Todd. Through their shared associations with feminine independence, herbology, travel, imagery, and their triadic nature with fellow characters, Jewett's empowering illustration of Mrs. Todd mirrors the triple goddess Hecate. Jewett's personal affinity for Greek myth, combined with her striking independence and love for pastoral tradition, draws a clear connection between both powerful and independent female figures, and acts as a social commentary regarding the commonly held views, beliefs, and expectations of the 19th century woman.

Brat Existentialism

Presenter: Amina Soneviseth

WSU Alumni - Department of Psychology, University of Oregon

When does accountability begin and end in comparison to gender? The term, "I'm just a girl," has grown in popularity in recent years on the internet. In some sense, this phrase aims to create a counterpart to the phrase "boys being boys." The phrase attempts to serve as a means to reduce women's accountability in a society that hyper focuses on strictness in girl's level of accountability in comparison to men. In Simone de Beauvoir's work, she creates dialogue surrounding the concept of women as *Other*. In this discussion, I will compare Beauvoir's idea of woman as other to the concept of *Brat*, and the concept of a *Brat girl*. "*The Girl, so confusing ft. Lorde*," addresses the social phenomenon of female social relationships outside of the internet space. Though, in "*The Girl, So Confusing ft. Lorde*," Charli uses the phrase to create space for her lack of direction in girlhood/ womanhood rather than removing accountability from a past action the phrasing of "just a girl," is used for a future application of the phrase. In this song, Charli ponders what is girlhood, and what is womanhood? There is some level of mutual understanding as both Charli and Lorde find that girlhood is confusing and discuss the transition into womanhood.

4:00pm - 5:00pm (Beggs Ballroom): Keynote Presentation

Featuring: Dr. Meg Paceley

School of Social Work, University of Connecticut

Health, Activism, Community, and Resistance in an Era of Anti-LGBTQ+ Policy, Legislation, and Rhetoric

Dr. Paceley is a social worker and scholar engaged in research that examines factors in the social environment (e.g. families, communities) and broader systems (e.g. policies, societal rhetoric) and their relationship to queer and trans (QT) youth's mental and physical health. They aim to identify and evaluate macro strategies (e.g. community organizing & activism, policy advocacy, education) to confront stigma, discrimination, and victimization that contribute to mental and physical health disparities among QT youth.

With the goal of promoting social justice for QT youth, Dr. Paceley embeds their research in principles of anti-oppressive practice and theoretical frameworks such as social-ecological systems theory, minority stress theory, and critical theories. Their scholarship is rooted in more than five years of social work practice experience developing, leading, and evaluating a QT community-based organization; engaging in community organizing and advocacy to promote QT equity; and direct practice experience with QT youth.

5:00pm - 6:00pm (Beggs Ballroom/Aster Lounge): Networking Reception

Special Thanks & Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all of the presenters and session presiders for helping to ensure a successful conference experience. Our deepest appreciation goes out to:

- Our Campus and Community co-sponsors whose contributions allow us to continue to make this conference free and open to Kansas community members. Funding for the conference was made possible due to contributions from the following:

Maryalice Birk (Community Donor/WSU Foundation)
WSU Department of Sociology
WSU Office of Student Engagement & Belonging
WSU School of Education
WSU Sport and Leadership Studies
WSU Department of Anthropology
WSU Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

- LaDawna Hobkirk, Shocker Sociology, for her work behind the scenes to aid in preparing conference materials.
- WSU student assistants from the *Office of Student Engagement and Belonging*, along with contributors from other campus organizations who helped with conference registration/check in and distributing student lunches.
- Our participating Community Organizations, who provide needed services and aid scholars in continuing to think about the real-life implications of our gender and sexuality related research to the lives of people in our communities.

The Center of Wichita
Camp Sunflower, Inc.
GLSEN KS
M-Care Healthcare
Positive Directions
Trust Women
URGE
Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

- To our attendees who believe in the power of lifelong learning by attending sessions, interacting with community organizations, and engaging in conversations with presenters and each other to further the dialog.

Sincerely,

Drs. Jodie Hertzog & Jenny Pearson, Department of Sociology, Wichita State University