

22nd Annual Notable Women of ETSU

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-Nov. 15th, 2023-

The first in-person Notable Women of ETSU ceremony since COVID was held at the Reece Museum. It was a night to remember! With a packed house, our two Honorees, Dr. Fereshteh Gerayli and Dr. Amber Kinser shared their inspiring stories.



Dr. Gerayli began the night by speaking about her experiences in her home country Iran. She credited her mother's and husband's love, sacrifices, and trust as the crux of her dedication to education and medicine. After she finished medical school, she and her husband began their own family medicine practice, which their apartment was directly above. Eventually, Fereshteh made the decision to come to the United States, where she began working in rural family medicine (after a stint in Germany). Not long after, she came to Johnson City, where she has been since the early 2000's. During her time at ETSU Family Medicine, she has created a women's health curriculum and trained many to be caring, compassionate doctors.

Dr. Amber Kinser elegantly weaved together her personal history and accomplishments, inspiring everyone in the room. Kinser's story highlighted her experience with Imposter Syndrome, in the past and present. However, although she has always had to fight a negative inner dialogue, something within her presses on and perseveres. As our founder, she fought for Women's Studies (now WGSS) to exist, continually dedicating herself to gaps in the literature for feminist thought and research, and advocating for a new way of leadership through coaching. Amber's time at ETSU has shifted the culture, leading the way for countless women to accomplish their goals and make their mark on this community.



**Dr. Dottie
Greene**

FILLING A GAP IN THE RECOVERY ECOSYSTEM

Recovery Community Centers (RCC) are the “New Kid on the Block” in the addiction recovery ecosystem. In this presentation, Dr. Greene described the RCC conceptual model put forth by Harvard’s Recovery Research Institute. What makes RCCs unique is they are peer-led and operated. Generally, those who staff RCCs are people who identify as “in recovery” from substance use disorders. The presentation concluded with an introduction to Johnson City Recovery Center, the first RCC in the Tri-Cities founded by Dr. Greene.

BLACK WOMEN CRAFT ARTISTS OF TN

A Filipinx, Appalachian-based art advocate with extensive background in curatorial practice and art management, Karlota I. Contreras-Koterbay is both gallery director and curator for the Slocumb Galleries at ETSU and its satellite venue in Downtown Johnson City, Tipton Gallery. She has organized numerous exhibits both nationally and abroad, juried regional exhibitions and has lectured in the Philippines, Japan and the United States



**Karlota I. Contreras-
Koterbay**



Brittany Butler

FOSTERING SCIENCE IDENTITY: EMPOWERING STUDENTS IN STEM FIELDS

What is the role of science identity in the academic and professional development of students pursuing STEM disciplines? Science identity, defined as an individual's sense of belonging, engagement, and self-concept as a scientist, plays a significant role in influencing students' attitudes, motivations, and aspirations within STEM fields. It is important to consider the many aspects of science identity and its impact on students' academic achievements, retention rates, and career choices. This presentation highlighted best practices that serve to cultivate and strengthen science identity among college students, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds.

LOOKING FOWARD TO...

Partnering with the Reece Museum to bring back WGS on Wednesdays, in person, for Spring 2024

Equity & Inclusion Conference Panels

Rebecca Strasser, Mattie Raza, Yanik Lazarov, Cindi Huss, & Maggie Wood



The WGSS staff, A Step Ahead Tri-Cities, RISE, and Yanik hosted a panel at the Equity & Inclusion conference this year. We held a professional and student panel where we shared our experiences trying to address sexual health disparities for gender minorities, on and off campus. During the professionals panel, the audience and panelists alike brainstormed how to get resources to students in need, coming up with a resource list to provide to staff and students at the beginning of the semester. The next day during the student panel we focused on how to turn passion into action and how to work with community partners to achieve your goals. This was a great opportunity to get feedback and brainstorm next steps into helping make the campus a safer and more accessible place for everyone. We will see you next semester, Fall 2024, at our Know Your Resources: Sexual Health, event.

Undergraduate Spotlight

Leah is a Public Health with Community Health major, minoring in Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, as well as Global Health Development. She is the senator and academic affairs chair for SGA, Co-founder of PEER-iod Education, a Roan Scholar, and a research assistant for the Public Health’s Dean’s office. Leah’s project, PEER-iod education, won 3rd place in ETSU Elevates with a mission to educate and destigmatize menstruation for all genders (they have reached 80 kids so far). Additionally, she partners with SGA & Bucky’s pantry to provide menstrual product to 4 bathrooms on campus. Leah also has a heart for

rural health, volunteering with Remote Area Medical to provide free healthcare to those in need. In the future, she is hoping to intern with reproductive justice agencies to learn more about abortion specific healthcare. During her free time (not sure when), she loves listening to the Binchtopia & Dolly Parton’s America podcast, reading memoir and fantasy books, specifically finding thrifted books to take risks on (such as cowboy romance).



Leah Loveday (She/Her)

Meet A Panelist

The staff here at WGSS has had the pleasure of working with Yanik, who is pursuing their master’s in public health, with a focus on Epidemiology. He works full time at Genova Diagnostics, helping identify diseases. However, her passion is working with RISE: Healthy for Life as a Sexuality and Gender Educator. Currently, their focus on campus is managing the Trans Affirming Care (TAC) charity fund. TAC raises money and collects donations for those in need of gender affirming care. He is also working on a literary piece about systematic violence in preconception to postpartum pregnancy, in aims to prevent maternal mortality.

When Yanik isn’t changing the world and culture for the better, they can be found writing fiction or reading. Currently she is reading the Locked Tomb series, about sci-fi necromancer lesbians. Yanik also attends Ukirk on campus, which is invaluable community for them, identifying as a queer affirming Christian.



Yanik Lazarov (He/She/They)

WGSS STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Devora Daught (She/Her), Executive aid, WGSS

Devorah is a two-time graduate of ETSU with a B.A. in Psychology and M.A. in Mental Health Counseling. She is thrilled to return to her alma mater to work as the new Executive Aide in the WGSS office! Devorah is passionate about promoting a safe and welcoming community for individuals of all identities and backgrounds at the university and beyond. Outside of work, Devorah is usually busy developing her alter-ego of professional dancer and arts producer. She is currently co-producing “Nutcracker After Dark” in partnership with Night Owl Circus Arts in Johnson City, TN, which will premiere in January 2024. This updated version of the classic ballet is for adult audiences and features queer, sex-positive, and body-positive themes told through dance and circus arts. In her free time, Devorah enjoys dabbling in multi-media visual art, going thrifting, reading, and petting cats (although she is tragically cat-less currently).



FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

Publications:

Antonio Buero Vallejo: Tragedy, History, Memory. Peter Lang Iberian and Latin American Studies: The Arts, Literature, and Identity Series. In production, forthcoming March 2024.

"The Exhumation of Memory in NN12, 'Desmemoria,' and '45 cerebros y un corazón'." Co-authored with Isabel Gómez Sobrino. *Hispanic Studies Review*, Vol. 7, No. 2, 2023. https://hispanicstudiesreview.cofc.edu/article/77602-the-exhumation-of-memory-in-nn12-desmemoria-and-45-cerebros-y-1-corazon?auth_token=XiWETwIbCzfdeXbdv2KV

Wilkins, Brittany T., and Frederick A. Mann. "Growing up in a rural area, social support, and internalized transphobia: Understanding Appalachian transgender mental and physical health." *Stigma and Health* (2023) <https://doi.org/10.1037/sah0000425>.

Brown, J.B. "Social justice & policy, equity vs equality, and the impacts of structural barriers on marginalized groups" ETSU Diversity Educator's Workshop

Brown, J.B., "Trauma Informed Workshop for Mentor Artists Engaged in Summer Youth Internships," ARTScapes project funded by the East Tennessee Foundation Youth Endowment.

Rogers,D., Pusateri, C., Brooks-Taylor,T., Brown J.B., Langenbrunner, M., "The Criticla Role of Service Learning in Academia," workshop presentation, Gulf-South Summit on Service Learning & Community Engagement, Athens, GA., April 12-14, 2023

Pusateri, C., Rogers,D., Brooks-Taylor,T., Brown J.B., Langenbrunner, M., "Service Learning through Historical Context: Building on Wisdom and Community Needs," workshop presentation, Gulf-South Summit on Service Learning & Community Engagement, Athens, GA., April 12-14, 2023

Rebecca Tolley, "Trauma-responsive leadership transforms library workplaces into empathetic, relational organizations," forthcoming 2023. In *Critical Management Studies and Librarianship*. Sacramento, Litwin Books.

Rebecca Tolley with Wendy Doucette. "Reframing Occupational Stress to Mitigate Burnout: A Trauma-Informed Care and Constructive Living Approach to Foster Lifelong Resiliency and Self-Directed Life Management within Academic Libraries." In *Academic Librarian Burnout* (Chicago: ACRL), forthcoming 2023.

Judith Slagle,"The Misses Corbett: the Commercial Collaborative Writing of Six Nineteenth-Century Scottish Sisters." *Keats-Shelley Journal*, forthcoming spring 2023.

Phyllis Thompson with Janice Carello, eds. *Trauma-Informed Pedagogies: A Guide for Responding to Crisis and Inequality in Higher Education*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.

Phyllis Thompson with Heidi Marsh. "Centering Equity: Trauma-Informed Principles and Feminist Practice." *Trauma-Informed Pedagogies: A Guide for Responding to Crisis and Inequality in Higher Education*. Eds. Phyllis Thompson and Janice Carello. Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.

Presentations:

Thompson, P., & Marsh, H. (2023, March 31). Fostering hooks' "radical space of possibility" through equity-centered, trauma-informed praxis [conference presentation]. Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies South Annual Conference (online).

Slagle, Judith B. (2023, January 5). "Christmas in Eighteenth-Century British Literature: Homecomings and Reunions." British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies; Oxford, UK.

Phyllis Thompson (ETSU) and Janice Carello (Penn West). "How Centering Student Learning Helps Promote Compassion and Prevent Burnout," SBI Lecture Series, January 9, 2023.

Phyllis Thompson (A&S) and Megan Quinn (CoPH). "The Role of Belongingness in Strategic Planning," ETSU Chairs' Retreat, January 12, 2023.

Megan Quinn (CoPH) and Phyllis Thompson (A&S). "SBI Training Session: Reflective Leadership," ETSU President's Cabinet, February 21, 2023.

Phyllis Thompson. "Teaching the 18th-century through equity-centered, anti-racist, trauma-informed praxis." South Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.College Station, TX. February 25, 2023.

Nicole Prior with M. H. Hughes and N. Snow, "The Effects of Incarceration on Physical Health Outcomes by Sexual Orientation." The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Las Vegas, NV, March 14-19.

Rebecca Tolley, "A trauma-informed approach to library services" [keynote speaker]. (6 May 2022). Come as you are: Maryland Library Association/Delaware Library Associate 2022 Conference. Cambridge, MD.

Rebecca Tolley with W. Doucette. "Reshape your organizational culture with a holistic, action-based framework. Conference on Library Management (CALM), April 2022.

Presentations continued:

Rebecca Tolley, "Who cares about libraries? Peer support, self-care, and collective care for people working in libraries." PCI Webinars [professional development webinar], April 2022.

Rebecca Tolley with T. Watson, K. Gay and W. Doucette. Bringing a University Library's Juvenile Collection Into the 21st Century." Tennessee Library Association Annual Meeting, Knoxville, TN, April 2022.

Rebecca Tolley, "How libraries recognize and address trauma within their service philosophy and everyday practices." PCI Webinars [professional development webinar], March 2022.

Rebecca Tolley, "Safety, Brave Spaces, and Self-Care." Inland Northwest Council of Libraries (INCOL) [professional development workshop], December 2021.

Rebecca Tolley, "Big Trauma, Little Trauma, and the Trauma-Informed Framework." Inland Northwest Council of Libraries (INCOL) [professional development workshop], December 2021.

Chelsea Wessels, "It is the greatest amusement in the world:" styling work as play in Emma (2020). Literature/Film Association, New Orleans, 2022.