

Nevertheless, We Persisted: Living Feminist Politics through Theory and Activism

**2018 Organization for the Study of Communication, Language,
and Gender Annual Conference**

October 3-7, 2018

South Lake Tahoe

In February of 2017, Senator Elizabeth Warren read the words of Coretta Scott King on the Senate floor to oppose the selection of Jeff Sessions as U.S. Attorney General. Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell stopped her from finishing the speech. Ultimately, the senate voted to force Warren to cease her dialogue of opposition to Sessions' appointment. McConnell later remarked of the situation, "She was warned. She was given an explanation. Nevertheless, she persisted."

Warren, like so many social justice advocates before her, was silenced. Nevertheless, she persisted.

The United States is in a period of widespread silencing. In just the last year, protests of unsafe drinking water have been met with tear gas; national park employees, environmentalists, and scientists have been ordered to stop communicating publically. Advocates for gun control are silenced even as mass shootings continue. Expressed dissent to political power is labeled as "fake news." DREAMers, Muslims, Trans military members, women, black bodies, the LGBTQ+ community, Latina/o/x communities, rape survivors, and immigrants have all been systematically silenced.

During this difficult time and despite such restrictions, advocates and allies persist and resist. The Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender calls for scholars and practitioners across a variety of academic disciplines, artistic practices, and research approaches to contribute papers, roundtable discussions, creative presentations, and other

forms of dialogue that take up a calling to resist inequality in its many forms. We seek projects that demonstrate the value of persisting to work for equality and equity and resisting violent, racist, homophobic, transphobic, xenophobic, and sexist language and action during this tension-filled political moment.

As scholars and activists, we also have encountered diverse and systemic silencing. Nevertheless, we persist.

This year we offer three distinct opportunities for participation:

Paper proposals: Several paper panels will be programmed for the conference. Although papers need not be written at the time of submission, we encourage all paper proposals to reflect projects that are in advanced stages of development and that will be finished by the time they are presented. Papers can pertain to the theme, or they can also be of general interest to organization members. These proposals may be submitted as a Word document (.docx) that includes the proposed paper's title, author name(s) and institution(s), a 250-500 word abstract, and 4-6 key words. The conference organizers will arrange these papers into thematic panels to be presented at the conference.

Panel proposals: We also welcome panel proposals, especially those that embrace the conference theme. Although traditional panel formats such as a themed series of papers or discussion about teaching ideas are certainly welcome, given this year's theme we also encourage unique and activist-oriented panels that will offer opportunities not typically available or expected at an academic conference. Panel proposals may be submitted as a Word document (.docx) that includes the panel title, participant name(s) and institution(s), a 250 word description for the conference program, and a brief explanation of each participant's role.

Art or performance proposals: Performances are often a highlight at the annual conference, and this year's theme lends itself well to provocative and/or non-traditional performances. We also welcome visual art including documentary or fictive narrative film; exhibition of paintings, drawings, sculpture, or other visual art; vocal or instrumental performance of song; multimedia or digital artwork; or other artistic endeavors. Art or performance proposals may be submitted as a Word document (.docx) that includes a title for the program, artist name(s) and institution(s), a 250 word description for the conference program, and a brief explanation for what the presentation entails. Those who submit in this category should be prepared for follow-up inquiries from the planners about how to accommodate the work at the conference.

Submissions Accepted: February 1, 2018
Submission Deadline: June 1, 2018
Submit online: <http://osclg.org/conference>

Special Submission Option for 2018

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A Published Collection of Essays Exploring the Conference Theme

This year's conference planners will also organize an edited collection of essays that directly address this year's conference theme. Chapter proposals should explore the idea of living feminist politics, particularly through resistance and/or persistence. Each chapter in the collection will provide a relevant background regarding a particular topic, theme, or area of study as well as new ideas for theory, method, context, or praxis centered around how feminist politics have evolved, emerged, and endured. Those interested in submitting a chapter proposal should pay special attention to this year's theme. We are especially interested in seeing chapter proposals related to the following topics or areas:

- Persistence/resistance in the digital space
- 3rd wave activism
- Bridging the personal and political
- Intersectional activism
- Queer resistance
- Black lives matter
- Collaborative activism
- Latinx feminism
- Immigration
- Scholarship addressing activism related to current issues/crises
- Student activism/Activism on campus
- Sexual assault and everyday activism

Chapter proposals may be submitted as a Word document (.docx) that includes the chapter title, author name(s) and institution(s), a 2-3 page extended abstract with a beginning bibliography for the project, and 4-6 key words.

These proposals will be considered both for conference presentation as well as publication in the edited collection. Even if a chapter is not invited for the edited collection, the submission will still be eligible for presentation at the conference.

The organizers invite those who are considering submitting in this category to contact them in advance about ideas they have for chapters. Please send an email to both Sarah Blithe (sblithe@unr.edu) and Janell Bauer (jcbauer@csuchico.edu) with your ideas.

Lodging, Travel, and Other Details

Location: The 2018 OSCLG conference will be held at the Lake Tahoe Beach Retreat and Lodge in beautiful South Lake Tahoe, CA. Called the “8th Wonder of the World,” Lake Tahoe is an international vacation destination known for its beautiful beaches and world class skiing. Our conference hotel is situated on a private beach, with restaurants and coffee within walking distance. Heavenly village is a couple of minutes away on the free hotel shuttle. The weather in early October is typically beautiful, averaging in the mid 70s. Conference attendees can engage in a variety of activities, including world-class hiking on the Tahoe Rim Trail, dining at award-winning restaurants, visiting Emerald Bay and the famed castle on the island by paddle wheel boat, kayaking, fishing, or taking the Heavenly Gondola to the peak to enjoy a panoramic view of the region.

Transportation for the Airport: South Lake Tahoe is about an hour from the Reno-Tahoe International Airport in Reno, Nevada. Conference attendees have multiple options to get to Tahoe.

1. The Airporter shuttle will transport participants to one of the casinos in Stateline, NV for \$60 roundtrip. The complimentary hotel shuttle will collect visitors from the casinos and will bring them to the Beach Retreat.
2. Participants might choose to rent a car at the airport for more freedom to drive around the lake during down time.

Hotel Room Reservations: The Lake Tahoe Beach Retreat and Lodge is a small hotel with a separate onsite conference center. We have secured a group room rate of \$115 for interior rooms, and \$155 for lakefront rooms. Rooms will sell out early. We will provide information for overflow hotels as needed. <http://www.tahoebeachretreat.com> or (530) 541-6722.

Final Program: Acceptance and rejection notices will be send by the end of July with a preliminary conference schedule. A final program will be posted in August. In order to encourage maximum participation, the conference organizers reserve the right to limit each participant to one presentation at the conference.

Registration: Registration for the conference will begin in July. Please watch the conference website (<http://osclg.org>) and “like” our Facebook page to get the most updated information.

The Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender (OSCLG) provides a forum for professional discussion, presentation of research, and demonstration of creative projects in the areas of communication, language, and gender. OSCLG promotes recognition of those doing work in this area. Members of OSCLG believe that interaction across a wide spectrum of disciplines fosters more insightful discussion of the issues of language, gender, and communication.