

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

7:00-9:00

LOGANS 1: OSCLG Board Meeting

Thursday, October 8, 2026

8:00-10:00

LOGANS 1: OSCLG Board Meeting

8:00-10:00

SEMINAR A: Oracle's Business Meeting

10:15-11:45

SEMINAR A: Women & Language Board Meeting

10:30-11:45

LOGANS 1: Claiming Power with Civic Courage

Nune Grigoryan

Dawn Frances

Cathy Yungmann

This activism-oriented panel aims to revitalize conversation about the role of civil society in the current political moment. It will do so through an illustrative, case-based analysis of the recent Youth Voter Initiative led by the non-partisan League of Women Voters in collaboration with other organizations and citizen groups in Pennsylvania. The goal of the initiative was to promote voting and civic engagement among young voters in Delaware County. The results demonstrate the power of communicative action when it is combined with civic courage.

This panel's participants will first conceptualize the League and its allied coalition as civil society organizations from a normative, strategic and activist perspective. They will then use this voter initiative as an example of communicative action that is founded on the virtue of civic courage, which is necessary to inspire and enable people to claim and reclaim power. This panel is directed at individuals who aspire to create an inclusive public space for civic action in service of democracy and the common good.

LOGANS 2: Leading Wild: Freedom as Feminist Practice

Patricia J Geist-Martin
Alana Nicastro
Janell C. Bauer
Jennifer Morey Hawkins
Kori Elizabeth Reed
Kendra Dyanne Rivera
Sara Stone Watt

This panel asks participants to consider whether reclaiming freedom as a feminist practice may also require reclaiming forms of wisdom, communication, and relationality that allow people to flourish.

The panel offers a simple, structured practice participants can engage in real time—slowing down a lived experience, naming emotional states with greater care, and noticing how meaning shifts when emotional experience isn't flattened or rushed.

As bell hooks writes, "Rarely, if ever, are any of us healed in isolation. Healing is an act of communion" (2000, p. 215). This panel takes up feminism as an act of communion to expand leadership possibility and freedom in everyday life. In this framing, communication becomes a way of showing up more fully present, alive, and responsive, helping us move within the wild without losing one another—the feminine wild.

Questions that will guide the conversation include:

- What allows people to flourish rather than function?
- What forms of communicative intelligence cultivate freedom and contributes to the rewilding of leadership?

- What does freedom feel like when leadership is rooted in authenticity rather than something else?
- What happens when leadership is rooted in emotional wisdom and collective flourishing?

SEMINAR B: Free to Be Named: Trans, Nonbinary, and Queer Practices of Belonging

Transgender Communication as Feminist Practice: Nonverbal Cues Central to Transgender and Nonbinary Identity Expression

Diana K. Ivy

Benjamin M. Oliveira

David Hill

Daniel J. Bartholomay

Who I Am, Who I Will Be: Trans End-of-Life Identity Work

Heidi N. Judd

Queer, Trans, & Disabled Power Dynamics, Labor, and Security Within Relationships

Maeve I. Royer

“It’s important to say that it’s Mexican Catholic”: Cultural, Secular, Practicing and Racialized Religious Category Construction in Trans Talk about Religious Family

M. Hadassah Ward

By Us, For Us, With Us: In-Community Talk as Method among Trans and Gender Nonconforming Researchers and Participants

M. Hadassah Ward

Maeve I. Royer

An Autoethnographic Approach to Intercultural Metaphorical Symbolism: Choosing Your “Home”, Choosing Yourself, Choosing Your Queerness

Melissa Cheng

SEMINAR C: Looking Free: Beauty, Whiteness, Aesthetics, and the Politics of Visibility

Signs, Symbols and Ideology in the Sydney Sweeney American Eagle “Good Jeans” Advertisement

Samantha Fischer

The body as epistemic production: Reimagining Asian/American legibility through autoethnography, performance, and dance

Lauren Mark

Stephanie Young

Stephanie Wang

Specters on my News Feed: The Haunting Aesthetics and Uncanniness of White-Cis-Male Performativity Upon Marginalized Bodies

Zachary Waters

Negotiating Beauty Duty: Feminist Agency, Disagreement, and Minimum Solidarity in Contemporary China

Xiaohui Shi

Gaslighting as a technology of gender: A qualitative content analysis of women's situation within patriarchal family norms in the Iranian films

Nika Khosravi

12:00-1:15

LOGANS 1: VP Spotlight Panel

NAME

SEMINAR B: Feminism Across Borders: Digital, Transnational, and Organizational Freedoms

Convergence of Racist Demagoguery and Feminism: A Case Study of a South Korean Online Forum

Jungyeon Lee

For Every 'Which Accent Today?': My Body Keeps Sore—An Autoethnography of Code-Switching

Deborah Dzifa Makafui

Resilience as feminist practice: Reclaiming agency among women in Russian bureaucratic organizations during crisis

Evgeniya Pyatovskaya

Burned Out and Burned In: New Language for Inquiry into Gendered Knowledge Work

Debjani Chakravarty

Freedom by Definition: Sex and the Struggle for Improved Nuclear Exposure Standards

Sarah Stone Watt

SEMINAR C: Contested Freedoms: Trans Bodies, Sport, Medicine, and Public Life

Jennifer Sey, XX-XY Athletics, and the digital mechanics of communicating discrimination

Travis Bell

Julia R. Richmond

Madeleine Luchsinger

Janelle Applequist

Double fault on freedom: Disclosure, strategic ambiguity, and the case of Naomi Osaka

Kathleen Barry Murphy

Engagement Patterns in Supportive vs. Critical Discourse About Transgender Athletes on Bluesky

Shannon Pappas

Cyrus Diamond

Detransition as a Wishful Signifier

S. Bryce Ross

1:30-2:45

SEMINAR A: Communities of Sisterly Love

Siobhan E. Smith-Jones

In the spirit of Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, I would like to explore the idea of Communities of Sisterly Love. Though we live in a time of socio-political struggle, there is hope in Sisterhood. Indeed, Sisterhood is an essential part of civil progression and resistance. I want to approach this loving possibility from agape, philia, and storge perspectives, rather than that of erotic love. To be loving Sisters, we must also consider philautic love, love of self. This love is also reflective of a Womanist lens (Walker, 1983), in which a Sister is concerned about all members of their community. In addition, I want to discuss the possibilities of Love across identities and intersectionalities (Crenshaw, 1991); in the current Sisterly context, Love is inclusive of all. I am also very interested in Sisterhood across generations.

Some guiding questions:

- How do we define Sisterhood?
- What (types of) knowledge can we gain through Sisterhood? Across various life stages?
- What lessons can we learn from the Sisters who came before us? What lessons do we want to share with the Sisters who are coming after us?
- How does loving ourselves make us better Sisters? What are Sisterly Spaces of Self Care?
- What are some of the challenges that we face as Sisters?
- How might chosen Sisters provide safe haven for us, when blood sisters cannot?
- How can we be better Sisters?
- Where are some unexpected/unexplored Sisterly spaces?
- What are some of the victories of Sisterhood?
- How can we grow our Sisterhood in OSCLG, on our campuses, and in our professions?

LOGANS 1: Freedom Has a Memory: Black Feminist, Womanist, and Racial Rhetorics

Retrospect for a Black Performative: Close Reading Jay-Z's Roots Picnic Freestyle
Johnny Jones

Intersectional Topoi
kim hong nguyen

"We Have Already Fought and Won the First Battle by Ourselves": Vel Phillips' Pragmatic and Vernacular Rhetoric on Milwaukee's "War on Prejudice"
Samantha Schubert

Moving Monuments: Tracing Freedom and Resistance Across Space and Time
Carly S. Woods

"I'm a contraband": Paths to Freedom in Louisa May Alcott's "The Brothers"
Declan Apuzzo Langton

LOGANS 2: Publishing Feminist Futures: A Roundtable with Journal Editors

Desirée Rowe
Nickesia Gordon
Shauna MacDonald
Emily Ryalls
Rachel E. Silverman
Leland Spencer

This roundtable brings past, present, and future journal editors in conversation with the audience and each other. Editors will discuss a range of topics central to the labor of publishing and editing including negotiating the politics of citationality, unpacking editorial decision-making, and the labor to sustain ethical, inclusive, and reflexive publishing practices. We also invite attendees into candid dialogue about a range of topics within academic publishing. This can include anything from selecting the appropriate journal, responding to reviewer feedback, best practices for reviewing, the impacts of AI, to strategically positioning your own feminist scholarship.

After brief opening remarks from each editor, much of the panel will be open to audience conversation. Audience members are encouraged to bring questions about their own publishing trajectories and experiences as well as interests in serving on editorial boards and questions about reviewing. As editors, our hope is that participants leave the panel with a sense of solidarity and understanding about a landscape that historically been gatekept.

SEMINAR B: Continents, countries, classrooms and communities: Cultural border crossings in feminist practices of freedom

Karla D. Scott
Emmanuel Kinda
Dzifa Makafui
Cindy Reed
Kerry Wilson

Identity navigation across cultural borders is a complicated, often chaotic intertwining process of bridging the gaps of belonging and allegiance. As Gloria Anzaldúa reminds us borderlands emerge “whenever two or more cultures edge each other, where people of different races occupy the same territory, where under, lower, middle and upper classes touch, where the space between two individuals shrinks with intimacy.” This “inbetweenness” of identity/ties requires we consider what to bring, what to leave behind, how to show up and how to be heard as we navigate the invisible boundaries of social identities such as race, gender, class, ability and even language. In this panel participants share experiences of crossing physical, emotional, medical and spiritual boundaries enabling them to participate in “the room/s” to be seen, heard and valued with intersectional identities as academics, activists and even allies contributing to resistance in pursuit of freedom.

SEMINAR C: Freedom in the Flesh: Disability, Care, Consent, and Embodied Ethics

Reimagining “normative” sex: Exploring disability and pleasure through relational dialectics

Breck Holtz

Consent in the Age of AI

Kerry L Strayer

Freedom Within Institutional Waiting: Chronic Pain, Opioid Dependency, and Cellular Rhetoricity

Emma Mink

Serena Williams and the Rhetorical Reclaiming of Vulnerable Bodies

Margaret Murphy

Communicative Dissection and Reassembly: Toward a Theory of Rhetorical Residue

Janine Armstrong

3:00-4:15

SEMINAR A: Planning Future OSCLG Conferences

Jessica Rick

Candice Ruh

Chris Jacknick

Natonya Listach

LOGANS 1: From Declaration to Dialogue: Reclaiming Freedom Through Mediated Intergroup Conversation

Kori Elizabeth Reed

In a city historically associated with declarations of freedom, this session asks what it means to practice freedom not only as an ideal, but as a disciplined form of communication. Too often, conversations about gender equity, power, identity, and institutional change are avoided, softened, polarized, or routed around the very people who need to participate in them. Silence becomes a form of protection. Avoidance becomes a form of power. And the “room where it happens” remains inaccessible to those whose voices, experiences, and questions are most needed.

This interactive session introduces an applied communication model that combines principles from mediation and intergroup dialogue to support more honest, accountable, and generative conversations across gender, role, identity, and power difference. Mediation offers structure: listening, reframing, issue identification,

emotional regulation, and movement from positions to underlying needs. Intergroup dialogue offers critical consciousness: attention to identity, social location, power, historical context, and the ways silence is produced and maintained. Together, these practices create a framework for conversations that are not merely civil, but transformational.

Drawing from 30 years of corporate communication, change leadership, and gender equity work, as well as the author's book *Men-In-The-Middle: Conversations to Gain Momentum with Gender Equity's Silent Majority*, this session explores how difficult conversations can move beyond persuasion or debate toward curiosity, accountability, and shared responsibility. The session is designed as feminist praxis: participants will examine a common workplace gender-equity scenario, identify where communication breaks down, and practice a structured dialogue approach that centers both care and courage.

The session contributes to the conference theme by positioning freedom as something enacted through communication. To reclaim independence is not to pretend we are separate from one another, but to build the capacity to speak, listen, question, repair, and act together. Feminist freedom requires rooms where silence can be ruptured, power can be named, and participants can move from avoidance to accountable engagement.

LOGANS 2: Staging Liberation: Memory, Stigma, and Revolutionary Storytelling

Reclaiming Talaq: Divorce as a Feminist Practice

Anum Ahmed

Journey of Truth

Faith Ebiere Eguolo Odele

Me and Bill

Micki Burdick

SEMINAR B: Teaching Toward Freedom: Feminist Pedagogies of Refusal and Reclamation

Beyond Employability in an Age of Extraction: Student Ownership as Educational Freedom

Janine Armstrong

Screaming Alone: A Discursive Act that Recasts the Violence from “Nothing Happened” to “Something Happened”

Sakina Jangbar

Decomposition as Feminist Pedagogy: Resisting the AI Slop Machine

Desirée Rowe

Michaela Frischherz

(Re)Imagining the Communication Classroom Through Abolitionist Praxis

Michael Tristano Jr.

Ana Isabel Terminel Iberri

Reclaiming Epistemic Justice: Material Culture as Feminist Practice

JD Duncan

Domestic Labor as Strategic Resistance: Defining Free Black Women’s Labor in Elizabeth Keckley’s Autobiography

Cassandra D Hightower

SEMINAR C: Reclaiming Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Programs

Kelly Winfrey

Gloria Pindi

Carrie Ann Johnson

Allison Doherty

The purpose of this session is to strategize how we, as scholars in communication and gender, can make the case that programs, degrees, and courses in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) are valuable to their institutions, students, and the public good. Panelists will discuss the political and capitalist rhetoric used to delegitimize and villainize WGSS, the state of programs across the U.S., and

points of resistance. Panelists will then facilitate audience discussion to create a communication plan and network of support.

Audience members are invited to participate in a discussion around such questions as:

What are your experiences and observations with WGSS programs? What communicative tactics are used to attack? How do we accurately and persuasively explain the value of WGSS? What insights can we take from feminist communication research and pedagogy? Who are our advocates and allies, and who could be? What specific actions can we take after leaving this session? What are our talking points? Where do we turn for help and support?

5:00-8:00

LIBERTY D: President's Reception

Friday, October 9, 2026

6:00-7:00

PARLOR B: YOGA

8:00-10:00

HORIZONS: ORACLES ROUNDTABLE

Over the years that OSCLG has hosted annual conferences, the Oracles (formerly known as the Wise Woman's Council) has offered panels, roundtables and information sessions to address the concerns of new and returning OSCLG participants. Indeed, in the past two years, we've offered sessions in which we attempt to anticipate and to address the issues that confront our scholars, including sessions on publishing, getting tenure, managing life-work balance, etc.).

While feedback to these information sessions has been positive, the Oracles deliberated in May and decided to alter the format to a roundtable conversation, where each oracle offers a 2–3-minute response addressing two questions:

1. “Knowing what I now know, what would I tell my younger self?” and
2. “As I look back on my career, what ‘wisdom’ am I grateful for? That is, what experiences / conversations helped me live my academic life in a positive way.

Note that these two ruminations invite us to consider those things we wish we HAD known, and which things we were very grateful to have known.

Admittedly, this invitation to contemplate our careers, wherever on our life / career path we may be, is more broadly conceived than the past two conference workshops. This year the Oracles encourage you to attend this roundtable with your interests, issues and concerns and engage with Oracles and other round-table participants to bring our collective lived experience and research to enhance your OSCLG Conference participation.

10:30-11:45

LOGANS 2: *Feminist Pedagogy Journal* Panel 1 - Original Teaching Activities

Chair: Rachel E. Silverman

Reclaiming Independence Through the Prompted Reflexive Encounter: Teaching Institutional Power Through Bureaucratic Texts

Megan Alyssa Fletcher, PhD. University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

Sportsball & Story Circles: Reclaiming the Relational Stories of Sport

Sarah Jones, PhD. Ohio University

Teaching with a “Feminist Ear:” Reclaiming Substantive Participation in the Classroom

Amanda Qi Ni, PhD. Syracuse University

Teaching Public Relations Writing as Social Justice Practice

Carla Rae Richards, PhD. Rowan University

Reclaiming Independence Through Deliberative Dialogue: A Community-Engaged Issue Guide Project

Jessica Rick, PhD. Illinois State University

Reclaiming Independence as Relational Agency: Sexual Policy Statements, Consent, and Interdependence in the Relational Communication Classroom
Matthew W. Savage, PhD. San Diego State University

SEMINAR B: Mothering Freely: Care, Labor, and the Freedom to Define Family

Navigating between Freedom and Constraint: A Feminist Organizational Communication Research Agenda for Understanding Women's Aging in the Workplace

Patricia E. Gettings
Annis Golden
Jane Jorgenson

"OMG I Would Never" – The Language of Mom-shaming on Social Media
Natasha R. Howard

Modern myths of parenting: Emotional regulation and risk
Margaret Anne Murray

MomTok Economicus: Commodified Motherhood in The Secret Lives of Mormon Wives
Lora Kim Potts

From Anxiety to Subjectivity: Reproductive Attitudes and Body Politics in Chinese Feminist Narratives
Xiaohui Shi

SEMINAR C: Feminism, Freedom, & the Future: An Activist Workshop

Jenn Freitag

This hybrid session is part panel, part workshop. Using some of her experiences as a starting place, Jenn will offer a guided reflection on the conference theme and an opportunity to consider what we have done well—and what we can do better—in feminist movement(s), as a communication discipline, on our college campuses, and in our individual lives. Together, we'll think holistically, celebrate authentically, and discuss honestly. We'll consider starting places for moving forward in new ways

and vocalize actionable intentions. And we'll do it with music, poetry, writing, and time for quiet introspection.

12:00-1:15

LOGANS 1: After the Break: Reclaiming Selfhood, Faith, and Family Freedom

(Un)becoming: Applying Identity-Based Motivation to Post-Divorce Identity (Re)construction. A Conceptual Framework for Coaching Practice
Wambui Gitahi

Beauty from Ashes
Jennifer Morey Hawkins

My Experiences as a Child of Divorce
Ashlee Elizabeth Pfau

“In 20 years, we won’t be like this”: The communicative resilience of emerging adults from divorced single parent households
Danielle C. Romo

Psychology as a Science of the Self and the Influence of Group Identity on the Self-Concept: A Literature Review
Payton M Troupe

LOGANS 2: *Feminist Pedagogy Journal* Panel 2 - Critical Commentary

Chair: Rachel E. Silverman

Communication Accommodation Inside the Ivory Tower: A Critical Commentary on Co-Creating Classroom Cultures for Academic Justice and Learner Independence
Madelaine Coffman, MA. Wayne State University
Muhammad Aminul Islam, MA. Wayne State University
Meagan Winkelseth, MA. Wayne State University

Reclaiming Communicative Freedom: Rhetorical Autonomy and Language Choice in the Classroom
Emma Mink, MA. City College of San Francisco

Reclaiming Communication Education: A Critical Commentary on Specialization and Feminist Exemplars

Margaret Murphy, MA. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Kathleen Murphy, MA. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Anna Wright, MA. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The Black Womxnist Tradition: A Pedagogical Approach to the Video Essay

Aisha Powell, PhD. Morgan State University

Financial Freedom Is Not a Checklist: An Argument for Holistic Financial Education

Aaliyah de Toeni Zhu, Founder of Financial Literacy Diaries

Communicating Genuine Viewpoint Diversity in the Feminist Classroom

Kelly L. Winfrey, PhD. Iowa State University

Maslow Before Bloom: Building Independence through Communicating Care

Cassandra L. Wingert, College of DuPage

Cassandra D. Hightower, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

SEMINAR B: AWARD PANEL

Cheris Kramerae Dissertation Award

Naming Breonna Taylor: Revitalizing Black Women's Memory in Digital Spaces and Urban Landscapes

Alisa Hardy

OSCLG Award for Outstanding Master's Thesis

#Girls Gone Viral: Girlification Trends and the Digital Postfeminist Sensibility

Madison McBride

Outstanding Feminist Book Award: Outstanding Book

Back-Alley Abortion: A Rhetorical History

Emily Winderman

Outstanding Feminist Book Award: Outstanding Edited Volume

Queer, Women of Color, and Critical Approaches to Feminist Mentorship and Pedagogy

Leandra H. Hernandez, Stevie M. Munz, and Jessica Pauly (Eds)

Outstanding Conference Paper Award

News Framing of Family Separation and Reproductive Injustice at the U.S.-Mexico Border: A Feminist Thematic Analysis

Leandra H. Hernández, Raisa Alvarado, and Sarah De Los Santos Upton

SEMINAR C: Freedom Sounds Like Resistance: Feminist Law, Memory, Music, and Activism

“There is Dynamite in Democracy”: The Rhetoric of Feminist Jurisprudence at the 1940 Republican National Convention”

Melody Lehn

“For me, this was never political”: Moms for Liberty Identity Construction and Negotiation

Emily Maly

Trolling for Tradwives: Nostalgia, and White Supremacy

Roseann M. Mandziuk

Patriarchal Power and Authority in the Catholic Church: A Feminist Analysis of 'Wake Up Dead Man'

Hannah Elizabeth Xuan Morawa

Creating an Army of "Little Rebels": The Betsy Ross House and Have-it-All Feminism

Cameron Mae Orefice

Women, Music and Activism: Still Not Ready to Make Nice

Jennifer A. Jackson

1:30-2:45

LOGANS 1: Unmaking Manhood: Masculinity, Desire, Violence, and Liberatory Possibility

Manosphere Propaganda: How Young Men are Influenced in Online Spaces

Eliana Brittian Bentley

Tiffany Dykstra-DeVette

Intimate Entanglements: Exploring the negotiation of masculinity in Heated Rivalry

James Robert Carviou

Black Masculinity, Feelings, and Gun Violence

Leslie J. Harris

Erin Sahlstein Parcell

Rubbed Denim and Swinging Legs: An Autoethnographic Exploration of Liberation through Adelphopoiesis

Dan Strasser

"To Be Embraced at Your Most Vile": Desiring and Caring for the Sick and Abject Body in Melissa Broder's Personal Essays

N. Super

LOGANS 2: Performing Freely: Queer, Sacred, and Embodied Freedoms

My Body for You: A Discussion on Queerness in the Christian South

Sebastian Kearney

Refusing to Get Over It: Rewriting Scripts of Grief, Recovery, and Freedom

Emma Mink

Melissa Cheng

"Lift, Tone, Resist": Embodiment, Discipline, and Resistance in Fitness Culture

Jessica M. Rick

SEMINAR B: Reclaiming Aging: How Women Resist, Transform, and Navigate the Gendered Stigma of Age

Breena Brockmann

Deleasa Randall-Griffiths

Patricia English-Schneider

Kimberly Field-Springer

SEMINAR C: THE METHODOLOGY OF THE CLOSET: An Exploration in Self-Presentation

M Peregrine Balmat
Patricia Sotirin
Christine Jacknick
Kristin Comeforo
Karla Scott
Laura Ellingson

Inspired by packing away the dresses in his closet during gender transition, Balmat describes what he is calling “The Methodology of the Closet”: a targeted autoethnography that invites us to analyze the contents of our closets, combining qualitative data collection and analysis with reflective storytelling. Balmat (2026) makes a case for using closets as qualitative data containers. In so doing, this panel studies our self-presentation, how it has changed over time, and even how some items may be sign-posts of our “becoming.” While Balmat’s autoethnographic exploration of his closet opens a window to his gender transition, this method is necessarily intersectional and personal. Bodies (and closets) reflect connections to various communities, highlighting change as bodies age and shift in ability. Our panel presents his approach and uses it to examine several unique circumstances, including those experienced by: trans and non-binary people, cisgender women, individuals with disabilities, individuals navigating the professional and financial landscape, and individuals connecting to spiritual beliefs and cultural values. Together, we explore the contents of our clothes closets and how they reflect our constant state of becoming. Findings are discussed vis-à-vis literature around closets, LGBTQ studies, Women’s studies and clothing/fashion studies, horror movies and more. Balmat will present the theoretical framework and methodology, and panelists will briefly situate their work (described in more detail below). The lion’s share of the panel time will be devoted to attendees exploring Balmat, Comeforo, Ellingson, Jacknick, Scott, and Sotirin’s findings-as-art and visual representations of their investigative journeys.

3:00-4:15

LOGANS 1: Reproductively Speaking: Storying Treatments of Medicalized Bodies in a Patriarchal World

Shauna M. MacDonald

Jenn Freitag

In this autoethnographic performance, we speak aloud parts of our recent reproductive health journeys—Jenn in the U.S., Shauna in Canada. Through embodied personal narratives that combine and diverge, we investigate what it means to navigate North American medical institutions as cisgender women. While our experiences are not the same—Jenn has experienced pregnancy, miscarriages, childbirth, and postpartum challenges, while Shauna has had a cancer scare, laparotomy to remove her right ovary, and tests related to fertility and a second ovarian cyst—there are moments and experiences where our stories converge. Unexplained or delegitimized symptoms. Painful and uncomfortable tests and procedures. Anticipatory grief. Huge bodily changes. Dehumanizing interactions with providers. Isolation. And: the realization that many women have similar experiences. While we know one performance—or even a lot of performances—cannot solve the many problems associated with women’s medical(ized) treatment, we believe in the power of embodied storytelling. Our performance will demonstrate how personal narrative performance and/or performed autoethnography can be a catalyst for transforming—maybe even revolutionizing—public conversations about women’s healthcare. Through poetry and prose, we aim to demonstrate performance’s power for reclaiming our voices and enacting more fully embodied freedom in a patriarchal world. After our piece, or perhaps as an interactive component at the end, we will provide ample time for the panel’s audience to share their own stories, ask questions, and participate in the world of the performance. Stories beget stories; the goal is for us to be generative together.

LOGANS 2: Reclaiming the Body: Birth, Trauma, Care, and Feminist Survival

Is that how it was supposed to go?: Exploring mothers’ disappointed expectations following a difficult pregnancy, labor, or delivery

Molly Wiant Cummins

Lauren J. Johnsen

Embodied Mistrust: Pain, Perception, and the Politics of Belief in Maternal Healthcare

Megan Alyssa Fletcher

Social Support and Discourse Surrounding Pregnancy Anxiety and Medication Intervention via Reddit Posts

Jessica D. Freeman
Daniel Sipocz

*“It was everything I didn’t think pregnancy would be”: Mother’s Sensemaking of
Difficult Pregnancy, Labor, and/or Delivery*

Lauren J Johnsen
Molly Wiant Cummins

Buy This, Not That: Sponsoring First-Year Foods and Motherhood on TikTok
Alison N Novak

6:00-8:00

HORIZONS: Awards Banquet and Dinner

Saturday, October 10, 2026

6:00-7:00

PARLOR B: Yoga

9:00-11:00

FREEDOM OR HORIZONS: Brunch Meeting