



**Dr. Jafari S. Allen** is a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Miami, who works with the intersections of [queer] sexuality, gender and Blackness. He teaches courses on the cultural politics of race, sexuality and gender in Black diasporas; Black feminist and queer theory; critical cultural studies; ethnographic methodology and writing; subjectivity, consciousness and resistance; Cuba and the Caribbean.

### Dr. Jafari S. Allen

**“Queer Afropolis: There’s a Disco Ball between Us”**

Dr. Allen is the author of the critical ethnography, *¡Venceremos?: The Erotics of Black Self-Making in Cuba* (2011) and editor of *Black/Queer/Diaspora*, a special issue of *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*.

#### Keynote Address 1:00-2:45

His current research project, tentatively entitled *Black Queer Here and There: Movement and Sociality*, traces cultural and political circuits of transnational queer desire in travel, tourism, (im)migration, art and activism. Please visit Professor Allen’s website: [www.jafariallen.com](http://www.jafariallen.com) for more information.



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## Past Symposium Keynote Speakers

- 2015 **Jennifer Lisa Vest**  
Peculiar Requests for Peculiar Bodies: Black Lives Matter, [Trans] Gendered Violence, Disability, and Women in the “Post-Racial,” “Post-Sexist” Present
- 2014 **Susan J. Douglas**  
Enlightened Sexism: The Seductive Message That Feminism’s Work Is Done
- 2013 **Michael Kimmel**  
Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men
- 2012 **Tiya Miles**  
Writing Black Women into U.S. History
- 2011 **Chandra Talpade Mohanty**  
On Wars, Borders, and Empires: Securitized Regimes and Feminist Critique
- 2010 **Rickie Solinger**  
Who Gets to Be a Real Mother in the United States: Race, Class and the Fallacy of “Choice”
- 2009 **Susan Bordo**  
Beyond Eating Disorders: Why We Need to Rethink Everything We Thought We Knew
- 2008 **Holly Hughes**  
Performance and Visual Arts as Activism
- 2007 **Dolores Huerta**  
Feminism and Social Activism: Saving the Future with Gender Balance
- 2006 **Andrea Smith**  
Native American Women, Reproductive Rights, and Genocide
- 2005 **Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe**  
Life during Wartime: Walking, Waiting and Womanhood
- 2004 **Berenice Malka Fisher**  
Feminist Talk and the Problem of Trust: Implications for Education, Activism, and Democracy
- 2003 **Mehrnaz Saeed-Vafa**  
Iranian Cinema: In Search of Women
- 2002 **Dorothy Roberts**  
Race and the Ethics of Reproductive Technologies
- 2001 **Yakin Ertürk**  
The United Nations and Women’s Rights
- 2000 **Sonya Michel**  
Why the U.S. Has No Universal Child Care
- 1999 **Margaret Schuler**  
From Basic Needs to Basic Rights: The International Women’s Human Rights Movement
- 1998 **Ruth Hubbard**  
Biology and the Social Construction of Gender



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# The 21st Annual Women’s and Gender Studies SYMPOSIUM

**Friday, April 15, 2016**

**8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.**

Illinois State University

Bone Student Center

Prairie Rooms

# 21st ANNUAL Women's and Gender Studies Symposium

**8:00-9:00** Registration, Coffee and Pastries (Prairie South)

**8:15-8:50** **Panel 1, Prairie Center**  
**Pushing Boundaries: Creative Works in Women and Gender Studies**  
Moderator: Dr. Liv Stone, Sociology and Anthropology

Michelle Wright-Dottore "Cover Your Dirty Screams: Performing Rape/Escape on the Underground Railroad"

Jacklyn Weier "Dykes Film"

**9:00-9:50** **Panel 2A, Prairie South**  
**Gender and Justice: Workplace and Education**  
Moderator: Dr. Gina Schouten, Philosophy

Kathleen Ratzek "Advocating for the Empowerment of Women in the Workplace"

Sydney Alcaraz "Rethinking Education to Foster Socially Responsible Citizens"

Laurel Perez "How to Be a Working Class Hero in the Creative Writing Classroom: An Exploration of a Feminist Working Class Activist Pedagogy"

**Panel 2B, Prairie Center**  
**Gender and Geography**  
Moderator: Dr. Reecia Orzeck, Geography and Geology

Venise Keys "Seeing Sites and Speaking 'bout Black Hair"

Rachel Hatch "The Myth of Betty Crocker: Pin-Up Girl for the Happy Homemaker Landscape"

**10:00-10:50** **Panel 3A, Prairie South**  
**Sex, Gender, and Modern Art**  
Moderator: Dr. Melissa Johnson, School of Art

Jessica Tackes "Die Neue Frau: Wigman empowering the spiritual in Ausdruckstanz"

Stephen Ramberg "Queer Gender and Sexuality in Modern Art: Western Artists of the Early 20th Century"

**Panel 3B, Prairie Center**  
**Sex, Gender, Sexuality, and Power**  
Moderator: Dr. Liv Stone, Sociology and Anthropology

Karlie Rodriguez "Deconstructing the Body: Representation of Sex, Gender and Sexuality in *Alex as Well*"

Amanda Miller "The Intersection of Empowerment Discourse and Queer Necropolitics in the Prison Industrial Complex"

Nicole Ersland "Keywords in Trans\* Theory: Transphobia"

**11:00-11:50** **Panel 4A, Prairie South**  
**Queerness, Post-Coloniality, and Orientalism**  
Moderator: Dr. Heather Dell, Women's and Gender Studies, University of Illinois - Springfield

Victoria Jones "A Critique of Post-Colonial Feminism"

Danielle Sakach "A Review and Critique of Queer Feminist Thought"

Alexa Leyba "Disney: Degrading Middle Eastern Women, Culture and Land"

**Panel 4B, Prairie Center**  
**Feminist Examinations of Rhetoric and Action**  
Moderator: Dr. Julie Jung, English

David Giovagnoli "On Behalf of the 'Truvada Whores: The Biopolitics' of Pre-Exposure HIV Prophylaxis"

Michelle Grzybowski "Gender Exclusive Language: Women's Perception of Linguistic Ostracism, Voice, and Power in Politics"

Lorenzo Schiavetta "Same-Sex Relationships in Early Christian Sources"

**11:50-1:00** **Buffett Lunch, Prairie North**

**12:45-1:00** **Scholarship Presentations, Prairie South & Center**

**WGS Graduating Students Pinning Ceremony**  
Presented by Dr. Stacia Kock

**Anne M. Semlak Memorial Scholarship**, presented to Fabiola Rosiles by Jay R. Groves, Chief of Staff to the University President

**WGS Achievement Award**, presented to Stephanie Machotka by Dr. Alison Bailey, Director of the WGS Program

**Dr. Dorothy E. Lee Scholarship**, presented to Coretta Jackson by Dr. Alison Bailey, Director of the WGS Program

**Luellen Laurenti Scholarship**, presented to Rachel Mackinnon by Dr. Sandra Harmon, Emeritus, Department of History and former Director of the WGS Program

**1:00-2:45**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Prairie South and Center**

**Dr. Jafari Allen**

**"Queer Afropolis: There's a Disco Ball Between Us."**

**Followed by Q & A**

**3:00-3:50**

**Panel 5A, Prairie South**  
**An Intergenerational and Transnational Dialogue Among Latinas**  
Moderator: Dr. Maura Toro-Morn, Sociology and Anthropology

Ana Roncero-Bellido "Who Are You? Revealing Latinidad/es through Testimonio"

Chloe Kasper "Latina Anonima: Redefining Family Secrets"

**Panel 5B, Prairie Center**  
**Women's Activism in the United States During the 19th and 20th Century**  
Moderator: Dr. Kyle Ciani, History

Telisha Reinhardt "Confinement of Citizenship: Institutionalization of Women's Citizenship in the 19th and 20th Century"

Kerry Garvey "Shaping the Working Class Women's Image"

Kami Walterman "Watch out for Those Hairy Feminists, They are Probably Communists"

**4:00-4:50**

**Panel 6A, Prairie South**  
**Looking Queerly, Queer Looks**  
Moderator: Dr. Erin Durban-Albrecht, Sociology and Anthropology and Women's and Gender Studies

Jamie Leigh Pitts "Seeing Queerly: Queer Theory and Curatorial Practice"

Nicolle Lanuza "How Punk Shook the Fashion Industry: A Rebellion Against Material Gender Norms"

Bryan Jackson "Grappling with Gender and Sexuality: Queer and Trans Characters in Japanese Professional Wrestling"

**Panel 6B, Prairie Center**  
**Sexual Beings, Sex Work**  
Moderator: Dr. Christopher Breu, English

Gina Stinnett "Let's Talk About Sex (Work): Ideologies of Sex Work and the Construction of Identity"

J.D. Rice "Let's Talk About Sex: Nature's Convention"

Nay Petrucelli "Using Data to Understand the Impact of Trafficking Laws on Juveniles"