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ANNUAL

# Women's Week: *Bending the Binary*

## MONDAY, MARCH 2

### Rupturing Gender Taboos

*Noon, Arikara*

Alison Graham-Bertolini, assistant professor;  
Kelly Cameron, visiting assistant professor;  
Emily D. Wicktor, assistant professor,  
Department of English

**Panelists will reconsider gendered cultural taboos at various points in history:**

Graham-Bertolini uses medical rhetoric from the 1940s to examine repressed sexuality in Carson McCullers' "Reflections in a Golden Eye." Wicktor uses a vivid slideshow to demonstrate how Victorian pornography was written and designed not just for and by men. Cameron discusses the work of Victorian feminist Frances Power Cobbe, who took up the cause of animal rights late in her career, eliciting criticism from contemporaries who felt she was neglecting her important feminist agenda.

### Bending/Blending Gender in Comics, Animation and Fandoms

*2 p.m., Hidatsa*

Betsy Birmingham, associate professor of English, with graduate students Amber Fetch, Heather Flute and Phil Bode

The medium is the message, at least in animation and comics. Using Scott McCloud's "Understanding Comics," this session helps frame how gender is drawn, blended and interpreted in animation, and why the processes create a gender fluidity of interest (and concern) to audiences and fans. "My Little Pony," "Friendship is Magic," "Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood" (anime), and webcomic, "Questionable Content" will be examined.

### Open house: NDSU Laurie Loveland Women's Center

*3:30-5:30 p.m., Morrill Hall room 114*

Join us as we open our new Women and Gender Studies office complex on campus. Refreshments will be served.

### Women in Heels with Engineering Ideals

*7 p.m., Meadow Lark*

Mackayla Headlee, mediator/panelist, electrical engineering junior

Engineering student panelists: Michelle Sauvageau, Jordyn Johnson, Emily Neuhardt, Kelsey Adolphson and Vanessa O'Gara

The NDSU Section of Society of Women Engineers hosts a panel discussion about personal experiences among women working and studying in the field of engineering, and what the organization is doing to close the gender gap.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 3

### Community Engagement Forum: "How do women view success?"

*12:30 p.m., Prairie*

Facilitators - Hailey Goplen, assistant director for service-learning and civic engagement, and Nathaniel Bailly, graduate assistant for service learning and civic engagement

At what point are we "successful?" As society encourages women to "lean in," when can we lean back and enjoy our successes? A panel featuring an NDSU faculty member, student and community member responds through their point of view and experience, followed by an audience-centered discussion.

### Afternoon in the Gallery

*2-3:30 p.m., Memorial Union Gallery*

Introduction to exhibits "Trophy Wives" and "Singing Our Rivers Red"

Katherine Burgum: A Champion for NDSU

Ann Braaten, assistant professor of practice and curator of the Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

As you walk through the Katherine Kilbourne Burgum Family Life Center do you wonder who was she? Guided by clothing that Burgum wore during her lifetime, this presentation will highlight Burgum's legacy and her impact on NDSU.

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## Beyond Binaries: Identity and Sexuality 6:30 p.m., *Prairie Rose*

Robyn Ochs, speaker, teacher, writer, activist

This fun and interactive program explores our different experiences of identity; the interplay between gender and sexuality; the complexities of attraction; and more. No two people are alike. Given that, how do we assign labels to our complicated and unique experiences? An anonymous survey of attendees will be taken, and we will look at the data, exploring the landscape of sexuality and how we “map” sexual orientation. [www.robynochs.com](http://www.robynochs.com)

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

### Blurring Women's Bodies, Health Decisions and Bioethics

Noon, *Arikara*

Miriam Mara, associate professor of English; Amy Rupiper Taggart, professor of English and director of General Education; and Natalie Smith Carlson, lecturer in English and Women and Gender Studies

The panel discussion will highlight a range of ethical dilemmas connected to women's health, exploring dimensions of health decision making, support communities connected to health conditions and bioethical considerations relevant to women in teaching and learning contexts. Mara will speak about the development of belief systems around breast cancer that may not lead to productive treatment. Rupiper Taggart will discuss the gendered dilemmas felt by breast cancer survivors and their varied approaches to supporting each other. And Smith Carlson will discuss teaching for bioethics in a health writing course at NDSU.

### An Intergenerational Perspective: Marathon Running Women and Self-Definition

2 p.m., *Rose*

Gina Aalgaard Kelly, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology

Considering the voices of 10 women from the Upper Midwest, this study explores the reasons why women run marathons from an intergenerational perspective. The core and primary category discovered in this study was self-definition, with secondary factors of health, competitiveness, equilibrium and life satisfaction.

### Film: “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1” (2014, PG-13, 123 minutes)

7 p.m., *Century Theater*

Co-sponsored by Campus Attractions

## THURSDAY, MARCH 5

### Parrhesia: A Film and Discussion about Standing Against Oppression

12:30 p.m., *Prairie Rose*

Christi McGeorge, associate professor, of human development and family science

This session involves viewing a segment of and discussing the documentary “Parrhesia,” which explores the struggle for self and other acceptance experienced by, Vicki, a lesbian woman. Information about the negative impact of the gender binary on lesbian women will be discussed as well as strategies to help all women bend the gender binary.

### Employment Empowerment

2 p.m., *Hidatsa*

NDSU Career Center Staff: Sara Van De Streek, Sarah Miller, Jill Wilkey and Kate Nelson

Learn everything you need to know to understand the job search and job offer process, including competitive compensation, evaluating company culture and executing an effective job search.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 6

### Academic Life and Research Within the Gender Dichotomy

Noon, *Arikara*

Kristen Fellows, assistant professor of anthropology; Christina Weber, associate professor of sociology; Sarah Boonstoppel, assistant professor of criminal justice; and Angela Smith, assistant professor of history

This panel will present a discussion on what it means to be an academic living in and researching societies functioning within a gender binary. A sociologist, criminologist, public historian and an archaeologist will reflect on their personal, gendered experiences within their fields of study and their research in the field.

### Living Beyond the Gender Binary

2 p.m., *Meadow Lark*

Chad Pitts, LGBTQ programs, graduate assistant

This session will include first-person accounts of gender construction, exploration and questioning that will provide groundwork for cultural discussion and greater possibilities of autonomous gender choices within our society. The panel also will discuss gender inclusive school policies and ways the NDSU community can raise awareness for transgender and gender fluid faculty, students and staff on campus.



Women's Week 2015 is sponsored by the Equity and Diversity Center and Women and Gender Studies Program

We invite individuals to request disability-related accommodations; call 701-231-5263 or email [ndsuedcenter@ndsuedu](mailto:ndsuedcenter@ndsuedu).

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Events will be in the NDSU Memorial Union, 1401 Administration Ave., Fargo, ND. 58102, unless otherwise noted.