The Fourth Annual Walsh Women’s Empowerment Conference
Gendered Service: Negotiating Cultural Norms for Service-Oriented Leaders in the 21st Century

Date: November 11, 2017
Walsh University Barrette Business & Community Center

8:00-8:30a: Registration
8:30-8:50a: Opening Prayer: Bernadette Strausbaugh
Welcome: Michael Douglas, Chief Diversity Officer
Opening Remarks: Dr. Amanda Gradisek, Associate Professor of English

9:00-9:50a: Round Tables Session I

Masculinity in Contemporary Society – Barrette C
Facilitator: Dr. Terry Echols, Director of Multicultural Affairs
- Scott Barwick, Program Administrator: Fatherhood Coalition of Stark County
- Melvin White, CEO of Legacy Builders Speakers Consulting Group LLC
- Ron Ponder, owner of PonderSystems and nationally syndicated radio talk show host
- Jerome West, Program Manager for the Grace Initiative

Women and Image: Beauty, Aesthetics and Pressures Today – St. Martha’s Room
Facilitator: Bernadette Strausbaugh, Director of Student Activities and Orientation
- Michelle Gullion, Curator and Archivist at the National First Ladies' Library
- John Bowen, University of Akron Student and Founder of the "Beneath the Skin" (empowering young women and men to be thoughtful about romantic relationships that do not objectify them or do not lack partnership and equality)
- Vanessa V. Carlson, DPT, Ladies Super Fitness Gym Owner
- Dr. Margaret Delillo-Storey, Retired Army Officer, State of Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, Co-Founder of Traumatized Child Task Force

Women in an International Frame – Timken 108
Facilitator: Abigail Poeske, Director of Service Learning
- Dr. Miri Chung, Assistant Professor, DeVille School of Business, Walsh University
- Baluki Kgosidialwa, Fulbright scholar, MBA-Finance student at University of Akron
- Dr. Maria A. Zanetta, Distinguished Professor of Spanish Literature and Culture, University of Akron
- Helena Larios, Mambevon Consulting, Immigrant and Refugee Resettlement Project
10:00-10:50a: Round Tables Session II

Women and the Professional Realm – St. Martha’s Room
Facilitator: Dr. Karen Stock, Associate Professor of Business
- Ann Hancock Attorney, Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
- Dana Wobser, Director of Human Resources, Myers Industries
- Kim Klima, Director of Volunteer Support and Services, Girl Scouts of North East Ohio
- Crystal Keefer, Home Mortgage Consultant, Wells Fargo Bank

Education, Equity, and Opportunity – Barrette C
Facilitator: Dr. Amanda Gradisek, Associate Professor of English
- Ruben Lopez, Mexican Mutual Society, Community Activist/Latino Scholarship Coordinator -
- Beverly Owens, Cuyahoga Community College Records Specialist II/ Founder of CHOICES
- Chad Ostrowski, M.S. Ed. CEO / Co-founder - Progressive Mastery Learning, LLC, Educational Consultant, and Homeschool Parent
- Myra Watkins, Principal of the Gibbs Leadership School, Canton City Schools

Women, Gender, and Military Service – Timken 108
Facilitator: Tiffany Kinnard-Payton, Director of Residence Life
- Kimberly Speakman, Assistant Director, Stark County Veterans' Service Commission of Stark County
- Tammi Gainer, Equestrian Director, Pegasus Farm
- Barbara Ross, Director of Bottomline, Stark County Volunteer Diaper Delivery Service, Army
- Ora Strain, Retired Army Captain

11:00-11:45a: Student Presentations

Women Read: Gender Roles in Classic Tales – St. Martha’s Room
Facilitator: Dr. Tiffany Peets
Alexis Colucy, “Unsex me here”: A Feminist Criticism of Shakespeare’s Gender Roles”
Cheyenne Carr, “The Hero's Quest: Examining the Difference between Traditional and Contemporary Fairytale Protagonists”

Women in the Community: Campuses, Communities, and Identities – Barrette 136
Facilitator: Dr. Amanda Gradisek
Kathryn Suvak, “Addressing Sexual Assault on Campus”
Helen Kline, “Mental Health and Identity”

Women in and Out of the West – Barrette 135
Facilitator: Dr. Terry Echols
Treasure Byrge, “Challenging the Perspective of Western Feminism”
Shawaiz Bhatti, "Women in Islam: A Critique of Pakistan's Treatment Towards Women”

Women and Health – Barrette 125
Facilitator: Abigail Poeske
Kaili Kashwaeda, Austin Coulter, Maggie Anderson, and Emily Walsh, “Desert or Desserts: How Malnutrition During Pregnancy Can Affect a Child”
Carly Zalenski, “Socioeconomic Status and Infertility: How Women of Lower-Socioeconomic Status Experience Infertility”
Quinn Schafer, “Gender Bias in the Treatment of Female Pain Patients”

Women’s Work – Barrette 137
Facilitator: Dr. Karen Stock
Morgan Rowan, “Perfect Alignment: Predispositions to Eating Disorders in Female Ballet Dancers”
Evelyn Aaron, “Motherhood or Profession: Can We Choose Both?”
Tiffany Coleman and Asia Frazier, “Beating the Odds: The Reality of a Tech Startup”

11:50a-1:15p Lunch and Keynote Address

“Women in Nontraditional Roles: Different Rules for Gender in the Twenty-First Century”

Dr. Margaret DeLillo-Storey Psy.D, PCC-S, BCET-S
District Clinical Counselor for Perry Local Schools; Dean of Students A-F
Dr. Margaret DeLillo-Storey Psy.D, PCC-S, BCET-S currently serves as District Clinical Counselor and Dean of Students for Perry Local Schools. She is a published author, retired Army officer, and combat veteran, as well as the first woman in Stark County inducted into the Veterans Hall of Fame (Class of 2011). Dr. DeLillo-Storey is also the co-founder of the Traumatized Child Task Force in Stark County, a noted public speaker, and an active leader and volunteer in many community organizations. She is a mother, daughter, sister, aunt, and friend.

What is the WE Initiative?
This committee was formed by Student Affairs through the collective efforts of faculty and staff members who see the need for opportunities for women students to develop themselves as leaders on campus, in the professional world, and in the community. The mission of this group is to facilitate a network of interconnected events on campus presented from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, which will help students think critically about approaching the unique challenges female students and professionals face in contemporary society. By encouraging open dialogue, careful consideration, and direct approaches to problems, WE Initiative events aim to inspire Walsh students to become strong, proactive, and dynamic female leaders of the future.

Walsh Women’s Empowerment Initiative Committee
- Dr. Amanda Gradisek, Associate Professor of English
- Dr. Karen Stock, Associate Professor of Business
- Tiffany Kinnard-Payton, Director of Residence Life
- Dr. Terry Echols, Director of Multicultural Affairs
- Dr. Tiffany Peets, Assistant Professor of Counseling and Human Development
- Bernadette Strausbaugh, Director of Student Activities and Orientation
- Abigail Poeske, Director of Service Learning