



# American Men's Studies Association

*"Advancing the critical study of Men and Masculinities"*

**AMSA 2019**

## **At the Boundaries of Ourselves: Masculinities & Decoloniality**

**Brandon University Brandon, Manitoba, Canada**

**Brandon University is located on Treaty 2 territory, the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Assiniboine, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation.**

**DATES: April 11-13, 2019**

**Keynote Speaker: Kim Anderson (Guelph) and Rob Baldwin (Guelph)**

### **Call for Papers: At the Boundaries of Ourselves: Masculinities & Decoloniality**

Building off of the innovative presentations and lectures given at the American Men's Studies Association (AMSA) conference in March 2018 in Minneapolis, this conference seeks to push forward the field of Critical Studies of Men & Masculinities further. Last year the theme – 'Bodies, Sexualities, Masculinities' – addressed critical gaps in the field related to sex and sexualities and their connection to bodies. Similarly, this year's conference looks to examine the holes in the field related to issues of space, borders, location, the interface of space and ontologies (urban, rural, remote... hipsters, lumbersexuals, farmers, but also masculinity, mental health and space), masculinity and dis-location (spatial and ephemeral: inclusion/exclusion i.e.), borders and migration, nation building colonial invasion, ontological hybridity and buttressing (whiteness, one-drop politics, mestizos...), colonialism, indigeneity, and the ways that these impact on men and masculinities globally. As part of this, AMSA is hosting its annual conference for the second time outside of the US at Brandon University in Canada.

The conference explicitly brings together decoloniality (and colonialism) and critical studies of men and masculinities. We seek to ask some of the following questions: What types of masculinities come to the fore when starting from a decolonial (or postcolonial) lens? How does the incorporation of indigeneity and indigenous masculinities impact our conceptual tools, and what new tools, concepts, theories, and methods does it provide? In what ways has the whiteness of the field further marginalized insights from studies around colonialism and scholars of color and from the 'global south'? How do new forms of colonialism, border-making, and neoliberal forces challenge and change ways of being a man and the shapes of masculinities? In what ways do current paradigms of colonialism, decolonialism, and

neoliberalism change, challenge, and alter the ways that individuals construct themselves, come into contact with one another, and relate with one another and groups?

We encourage participants to think outside of current epistemic frameworks and to build dialogue between various fields and theories. This includes Decolonial Theory, Queer Theory, Critical Race Theory, Biopolitics, Crip Theory, Indigenous Studies Theory, and new theories of power.

Seeking to encourage interdisciplinarity, the conference will particularly bridge the gaps between decolonial studies/theory and men and masculinity studies. This crossover will contribute richly to knowledge on the topic, and provide for unique and interesting dialogue amongst participants. This conference, then, hopes to build productively on a variety of theoretical paradigms and to push the field forward in thinking through decolonialism and the critical study of men and masculinities. The conference is open to a number of different types of sessions. We welcome submissions of individual papers, panels, and posters.

### **Keynote Speaker: Kim Anderson and Robert Baldwin**

**Kim Anderson** is a Metis writer, educator scholar with a focus on identity as it factors into the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Much of her research is community partnered and has involved gender and Indigeneity, Indigenous feminisms and critical Indigenous masculinities. Her single-authored books include *A Recognition of Being: Reconstructing Native Womanhood* (CSPI, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2016) and *Life Stages and Native Women: Memory, Teachings and Story Medicine* (University of Manitoba Press, 2011). Recent co-edited books include *Indigenous Men and Masculinities: Legacies, Identities, Regeneration* (with Robert Alexander Innes, University of Manitoba Press, 2015) and *Keetsahnak: Our Missing and Murdered Indigenous Sisters* (with Maria Campbell and Christi Belcourt, 2018). Dr. Anderson holds a Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Relationships and teaches in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition at the University of Guelph.

**Rob Baldwin** is a registered clinical social worker and counsellor with over twenty years of counselling experience and a longstanding practice and interest in men's mental health and holistic wellness. He recently retired from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada though still maintains a private counselling practice.

Rob is known as an "Uncle" at the University of Guelph's Aboriginal Resource Centre (ARC) because of the role he played as a counsellor there to Indigenous students over many years. From 2015 - 2017, Rob worked directly out of the ARC as part of a partnered research project investigating holistic mental health and wellness supports for Indigenous students in southwestern Ontario.

As a mixed ancestry man (settler and Indigenous) and Uncle at the Centre, Rob has been very involved in helping to develop the kinship model employed by the ARC, involving the creation of an adaptive, multi-generational "family" to support Indigenous students from many different nations and backgrounds.

Rob has facilitated men's support and talking circles for over 20 years and has a keen interest in critical Indigenous masculinities. He is a Firekeeper in the local Indigenous community and is currently the lead facilitator in the "Building the Fire: Enhancing Indigenous Men's Health Through Campus Land Based Activities" research project, which was awarded funding in 2018

through the Canadian Institutes for Health Research. For this project, Rob is part of a research team that is developing a Sacred Fire program for Indigenous men on the University of Guelph campus, which involves Sacred Fire circles as well as teachings from visiting Elders and Knowledge Carriers on the subject of Indigenous masculinities and holistic wellness.”

## **PAPERS, PANELS, POSTERS & ARTWORK**

While we welcome papers, panels and posters on various aspects related to masculinities, decoloniality, and boundaries/borders, we are especially interested in papers, panels and posters that address the following themes:

- Decolonizing Critical Studies of Men and Masculinities
- Canada, Decolonization, and Men and Masculinities
- Men & Development; Men in Development; and Development Aid and Masculinities
- Indigenous, Native, and Aboriginal Masculinities
- Migration, Men, and Masculinities
- Critical Race Studies
- Space and Masculinities
- Borders, Boundaries, and Masculinities
- Imperialism, Settler Colonialism, and Masculinities
- Migration, Men, and Masculinities
- Social Justice Movements and Global Politics
- Decolonizing Theories of Gender and Sexuality
- Therapy, Medicine, and Decolonizing Men and Masculinities

While we strongly encourage submissions on the theme of the conference, there will also be sessions dedicated to broader topics related to the critical study of men and masculinities. Please feel free to submit abstracts that fit the broader remit of AMSA. We welcome contributions from all disciplines and traditions across the globe.

Individual paper and poster abstracts should be 250-300 words, please also include 4-6 keywords. Panel proposals will need to include a 250 word abstract of the panel, and 150 word abstracts of all papers proposed. Abstracts must be submitted by December 1, 2018.

Those who submit paper, poster and panel proposals will be notified of the status of their submission by January 15, 2019. If your paper is not accepted, you may be offered the opportunity to present as a poster instead.

## **PRECONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS**

As in previous years, we welcome productive and engaging workshops that complement this year's theme or the broader themes of AMSA. In particular, we are looking to include workshops that center on professionalization that will assist students and scholars with their future careers in and outside of Academia. Those proposing workshops can either apply for three-hour pre-conference workshops or one and half hour conference workshops.

Workshops might include:

- Publishing in Academia
- Writing in Academia and for other audiences
- Interdisciplinary writing and research
- Academic career development
- Alternative Academic Careers (Alt-Ac)
- Teaching and postgraduate supervision
- Grant writing and project development
- Working with communities, and community and industry partners
- Networking and collaboration
- Working with the media

Workshop abstract summaries will need to be 500 words, with an additional breakdown that outlines what the workshop will cover, and three bullet points that illustrate what participants will learn and takeaway from attending this workshop.

Additionally, we welcome workshops that deal with the themes listed in the call for papers and posters. We ask that workshops be developed to keep in mind the interdisciplinary audience of the field of men and masculinities studies. Workshop abstract summaries and outlines must be submitted by December 1, 2018. Those who submit workshop proposals will be notified of the status of their submission by January 15, 2019.

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Submit your Proposals to [amsa@gmail.com](mailto:amsa@gmail.com). Please see deadlines below. There will be a call for applications for the [Loren Frankel Scholarship](#) to follow. Please consult the AMSA website for further details.

**DEADLINE:** DECEMBER 1, 2018 **NOTIFY DATE:** JANUARY 15, 2019

**All individuals invited to present must register for the conference no later than February 15, 2019. Failure to do so will result in removal from the conference program.**