



Women's Studies in Religion
Student Conference 2023

WSR Chair Lecture ~ Dr. Mahjabeen Dhala

Program

9:30 - 9:50 am - Welcome and coffee

9:50 - 10:00 am - Opening remarks: Dr. Rita Sherma

10:00 - 10:05 am - Centering practice

PANEL ONE

10:05 - 10:08 am - Introduction to Panel 1: Diane Saunders

10:10 - 11:22 am ~ ***Women Practicing Their Faith***

Faculty Presider: Dr. Kirsi Stjerna, PTLIS and Core Doctoral Faculty GTU

- Lisa Calvez, VDMF, "A Textual and Artistic Analysis of Mary in the Bible and the Qur'an"
- Raya M. Hazini, "A Female Martyr within the Bahá'í Faith."
- Yanan Lu, "Exploration and Prospect of Chinese Feminist Theology" .
- Zeinab Vessal, "Fatima's Tasbīh (Chanting Beads) as a Case Study for Understanding Shi'a Material Religion."

PANEL TWO

11:25 - 11:28 am - Introduction to Panel 2: Mamisoa Rakotomalala

11:30 am - 12:25 pm ~ ***Women Empowering Each Other***

Faculty Presider: Dr. Diandra Erickson Associate Dean for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment GTU

- Amanda Kairys, "Plum Blossoms in Snow: Japanese Women Changing the Narrative from Within"
- Mina Yi, "Imagining Feminist Ritualizing as Liberative Action: Drawing on the Midwife Story of Exodus"
- Anne Kallin Zehren, "He Said, She Said: The Case for Catholic Women Deacons"

12:30 - 1:00 pm - Lunch

PANEL THREE

1:00 - 1:03 pm - Introduction to Panel 3: Olivia Tabert

1:05 - 2:00 pm ~ ***Women Making Meaning***

Faculty Presider: Dr. Deidre Green, Assistant Professor of Mormon Studies, Consortal Faculty GTU

- Carey Averbook, “Queering Niddah: Finding Holiness, Meaning, and Health”
- **Katy Dickinson** - “Women of Faith in Jail”
- William Klein, “Traumatic Motherhood: The Holocaust and Its Effects on Jewish Mothering”

PANEL FOUR

2:00 - 2:03 pm - Introduction to Panel 4: Zeinab Vessal

2:05 - 3:00 pm ~ ***Divine Female Power***

Faculty Presider: Dr. Paula Arai - Eshinni & Kakushinni Professor of Women and Buddhist Studies, Institute of Buddhist Studies

- Letesa Isler, “Arya Tara as a Model for Spiritual Care”
- Charissa Jaeger-Sanders “Mother Earth: How the Wisdom of Hindu Śākta Theology of Divine Immanence can Deepen Christian Theology and Impact Ecological Practice”
- Olivia Tabert, “Her Holy Darkness, the Divine Feminine in the Judeo-Christian Tradition”

3:00 - 3:10 pm - Coffee break

3:10 - 3:15 pm - Centering practice: Kristine Bell

3:15 - 3:20 pm - **Introducing Chair Lecture: Dr. Valerie Miles Tribble,**

3:20 - 4:20 pm - **Chair Lecture with *Dr. Mahjabeen Dhala*
Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, GTU
Director of the Madrasa-Midrash Program.**

4:20 - 4:30pm - **Closing remarks & awarding of the WSR Certificates
by Dean Jennifer Davidson**

Recipients: Yanan Lu, Ph.D., Theology and Ethics
Diane Saunders, Ph.D., Historical and Cultural Studies, Art & Religion

4:30 - 5:00 pm - Reception