Charlotte Perkins Gilman
THEN & NOW

The Fourth International Conference
on Charlotte Perkins Gilman and
Maine Women Writers Collection
Academic Conference

University of New England
Westbrook College Campus
Portland, Maine

June 15 - 18, 2006
The Fourth International Conference on
Charlotte Perkins Gilman
&
The Maine Women Writers Collection Academic Conference

Charlotte Perkins Gilman:
Then & Now

Program of Events

ONGOING EVENTS

MWWC Tour
Maine Women Writers Collection, Abplanalp Library

The Maine Women Writers Collection facility will be open for a tour by the Curator, Cally Gurley, on Friday, June 16th, 1:00-1:30, and by appointment during the conference. Please stop in and bring your research questions!

Throughout the conference, the following displays will be available for viewing:

Charlotte Perkins Gilman Materials
Maine Women Writers Collection, Abplanalp Library

While the MWWC's collection of Gilman's works is small, it does include some gems, including the original New England Magazine appearance of "The Yellow Wall-Paper," a first edition of The Crux, and several advertising cards with illustrations by Gilman. In addition, you will find an artist's book edition of "The Yellow Wall-Paper" crafted by Crystal Cawley. Stop in and take a look at this display in the Calvert Room! The Collection will be open during the scheduled tour as well as for the duration of any sessions held there (check the program for times), and by appointment.

Library Displays on Gilman
Abplanalp Library

Throughout the Abplanalp Library you will find the following displays created by UNE’s Librarian Bobby Gray: "By which she earned money when young"; Gilman’s Three Ages of Woman Trade Card Designs; “Lakes and Oceans and the Scent of Pine: Charlotte Perkins Gilman in Maine”; “Largely unknown”: Jo. H. Hatfield's Magazine Illustrations of "The Yellow Wall-Paper”; “Gilman Reads Phelps” (co-created with Carol Farley Kessler); and “Overlooked”: Gilman's First Book: Art Gems for the Home and Fireside.” Take a walk through the Library and enjoy!
THURSDAY, JUNE 15
Registration at the Holiday Inn By The Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, 5-7 p.m.
Opening Reception at the Holiday Inn, Connecticut/Rhode Island Rooms, 5-7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16
Shuttle Bus from Holiday Inn to Campus Departs 8:00 a.m. from Spring St. by main entrance
Registration and continental breakfast 8:00-9:00 a.m. Parker Pavilion

Session I 9:00-10:30 a.m.
(A) Sex and Gender in Gilman's Life and Work
Chair: Catherine Frank, University of New England
Gill Frank, Brown University, "I told you that I loved her that way": Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Same-Sex Sexual Relationships and the Meanings of Sexual Variance in the 19th Century"
Naz Bulaq, University of Wisconsin, "Search for a 'Feminine Identity' in 'The Yellow Wall-Paper'"
Beth Jensen, Georgia Perimeter College, "Self-in-Reverse: Abjection in Gilman's 'The Yellow Wall-Paper'"

(B) Re-inscribing "The Yellow Wall-Paper"
Maine Women Writers Collection, Abplanalp Library
Chair: Dominica Lord-Wood, Bowdoin College
Caroline Brown, Université de Montréal & Sally Boud, The University of Delaware, "The Madwoman's Forgotten Sisters: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Gloria Naylor, and the Re-inscription of Female Loss"
Sydna A. Byrne, Dutchess Community College and Marist College, "From Page to Stage: 'The Yellow Wall-Paper'"
Crystal Cawley, artist, "Transforming 'The Yellow Wall-Paper' into an Artist's Book"
Break 10:30-10:45 a.m. Parker Pavilion

Session II 10:45-12:15 p.m.
(A) Motherhood
Maine Women Writers Collection, Abplanalp Library
Chair: Paula Harrington, University of New England
Megumi Yamauchi, Seisen University, Japan, "Japanese Reception of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's 'New Motherhood'"

Lunch 12:30-1:30 p.m. Parker Pavilion
Tour of the Maine Women Writers Collection 1:00-1:30 MWWC, Abplanalp Library

Session III 1:45-3:15 p.m.
(A) New Approaches to Gilman's Short Fiction: Then and Now
Chair: Stefanie Vischansky, University of Rochester
Catherine Golden, Skidmore College, "Marking in 'The Yellow Wall-Paper': A Feline Point of View"
Nicole Zuckerman, "Silence in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's 'The Yellow Wall-Paper'"
Ganze Sabani, University of Liverpool, "Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Creation of the New Man in 'The Cottagette'"
Gillian Rudd, The University of Liverpool, "Then And Now: Double Voiced Narrative in 'The Unnatural Mother,' 'The Giant Wistaria,' and 'The Yellow Wall-Paper'"

(B) Race and Imperialism
Proctor 200
Chair: Lisa Botshon, University of Maine, Augusta
Keisha Bandealy, DePaul University, "Remodeling the Colonial Mansion"
Deborah Noel, University of Vermont, "No Horrible Ideas": Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Struggle With Homogeneity"
Terry Novak, Johnson & Wales University, "Color Blind or Color Evasive? The Absence of Race in the Works of Charlotte Perkins Gilman"
Caroline M. Woidat, SUNY Genessee, "Cowgirls and Indians: The 'Natives' of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Herland"

Break 3:15-3:30 p.m. Parker Pavilion

Friday, June 16

(B) Journalism, Print Culture, and Popular Fiction
CHP Classroom
Chair: Kay Retzlaff, University of Maine
Aleita F. Cane, Northeastern University, "The Same Revulsion Against Them All: Anti-Suffrage Rhetoric by Ida Tarbell and Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Response To It"
Patricia Walsh Coates, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, "Sexual Autonomy vs. Sex Indulgence: The Conflicting Viewpoints of Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Margaret Sanger Concerning Birth Control Argued in 'The Birth Control Review,' 1921-1922"
Sari Edelstein, Brandeis University, "The Yellow Newspaper: Gilman's 'Yellow Wall-Paper' and Sensational Journalism"
Jennifer S. Tuttle, University of New England, "Stenography, Subversion, and Self-Determination in Unpunished"
**KEYNOTE ADDRESS, 3:30-5:00 p.m.** CHP Classroom

Welcoming Remarks: Conference Director
Welcome to UNE: Dr. Sandra Featherman, UNE President Emerita

Keynote Address: "Feminist Humor and Charlotte Perkins Gilman"
Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Professor of English and Chair of American Studies, Stanford University, and co-founder of the Charlotte Perkins Gilman Society

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**SATURDAY, JUNE 17**

Shuttle Bus from Holiday Inn to Campus
Departs 8:00 a.m. from Spring St. by main entrance

Continental breakfast 8:00-9:00 a.m.
Parker Pavilion

Session IV 9:00-10:30 a.m.

(A) Gilman's Utopias

CHP Classroom

Birte Christ, University of Freiburg, Germany, "Feminist Utopianism versus Popular Feminism: Intertextual Dialogue, Audience Appeal, and Cultural Function in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Herland - With Her in Outland and Inez Haynes Gilmore's Angel Island"

Sharon M. Harris, University of Connecticut, "Dr. Mary E. Walker's 'Colony': Precursor to Herland"

Elizabeth Judd, Independent scholar, "Herland and Hawaii": The Hawaiian Inspiration for Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Matriarchal Novel"

Abigail Mann, Indiana University, "Cats, Dyes and Babies: Creating the Perfect World in Herland"

(B) Gender, Style, Performance, and Power

Proctor 200

Chair: Susan Feiner, University of Southern Maine
Robin L Cadwallader, Saint Francis University, "Gilman and Dress, or Why Women Need Clothing Options"

Allison Fritz, University of Wyoming, "Women and the Burden of Sexual Attraction: An Analysis of the Dress of Women through the Philosophy of Charlotte Perkins Gilman"

Angela Jordan, University of Wyoming, "Cosmo and the Relevance of Gilman's Philosophy"

Sally Boud, University of Delaware, "The Performance of Gender: Work and Family"

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Shuttle Bus to Holiday Inn
Departs 6:45 p.m. from circular drive at library steps

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Book Signing and Reception 5:00-6:30 p.m. Abplanalp Library Mezzanine

Join the keynote and plenary speakers and conference participant authors for wine and cheese in the UNE Library. Books will be available for purchase (a complete list of participating authors and their books follows on page 9). Our thanks go to the Maine Historical Society Bookstore for handling the book sale.

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Break 10:30-10:45 a.m.
Parker Pavilion

Session V 10:45-12:15

(A) Biographical Approaches

Chair: Allison Hepler, University of Maine at Farmington
Denise D. Knight, State University of New York, Cortland, "Gilman in Maine"
Cynthia J. Davis, University of South Carolina, "Gilman in Connecticut: 1922-34"

(B) Screening of "The Yellow Wall-Paper" (dir. John Clive) Maine Women Writers Collection, Abplanalp Library
Saturday, June 17

Lunch 12:30-1:30 p.m.  Parker Pavilion

**Lester Ward: A Life's Journey** 12:45-1:30 p.m.  CHP Classroom
Gale Largey, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, will present an excerpt from his documentary, followed by informal discussion, during the lunch period. The film segment examines Ward's gynandrocentric theory, his notion of the gynandrocentric stage of societal evolution, and the influence of his theory on Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

**Session VI 1:45-3:15 p.m.**

**(A) Gilman’s Relevance Today**  CHP Classroom
Chair: Barbara White, University of New Hampshire
Danielle L. Brodnick, Simmons College, "Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s Women and Economics and its Influence on the Twenty-First Century’s Glass Ceiling"
Patrice DiQuinzio, Muhlenberg College, "Recovering Gilman’s Social Ethics: Archival and Interpretive Dilemmas"
Laura Moschini, University Roma Tre, Italy, "Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Gender Politics in Italy"
Mary M. Moyrihan, University of New Hampshire, "Rape Culture in the Man-Made World"

**(B) Aesthetics and Material Culture**  Maine Women Writers Collection, Abplanalp Library
Chair: Olga Skoropa, University of New England
Jennifer Lunden, Independent scholar, "The Arsenical Wall-Paper: An Alternative Reading of Neurasthenia"
Malina Maminogian, "Under a Plantain Leaf: Empirical Signs in the Design of The Yellow Wall-Paper"

Shuttle Bus to Holiday Inn  Departs 3:45 p.m. from circular drive at library steps

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**Local Tour 4:15-5:15 p.m.**  Meet at Holiday Inn Lobby

**Glimpses of Portland's Women: A Walking Tour**
Developed by Emily Wiederkehr of Greater Portland Landmarks (a historical preservation organization), this walking tour through downtown Portland highlights the roles women have played in the city's earlier days. Stops include the Federal McLellan-Sweat House (home of author and发起人 of Portland Art Society, Margaret Jane Muessey Sweat, 1823-1908), the contemporary Portland Landmark of Art, former Public Library and ecclectic Council Square, the Porteous Mitchell and Braun building (former department store), Colonial/Federal [Henry Wadsworth-Longfellow House (the first Maine house museum established by Henry's sister, Anne Longfellow Pierce, 1810-1901), the Colonial First Parish Church, and the former location of Fanny Fern’s (1811-72) birthplace.

45-50 minutes. Rain or shine.  Cost: $6  Maximum: 10
Please sign up for the tour at the registration table by 3:15 p.m. Friday

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Shuttle Bus from Holiday Inn to Campus  Departs 7:00 p.m. from Spring St. by main entrance

**Dramatization: “The Yellow Wall-Paper” 7:30 p.m.**  Ludcke Auditorium
Performed by Michèle LaRue, as directed by Warren Klewe

As a 19th-century actress performs her dramatic reading of "The Yellow Wall-Paper," she finds the story more insidious than she’d ever imagined.

Q&A and dessert reception to follow

$5 suggested donation at the door for non-conference registrants.

Shuttle Bus to Holiday Inn  Departs 9:30 p.m. from circular drive at library steps

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Aesthetic Colloquium in 2008
SUNDAY, JUNE 18

Coffee 8:00-9:30 a.m.  Holiday Inn, Connecticut/Rhode Island Rooms

Gilman Society Business Meeting 8:30-9:15  Holiday Inn, Connecticut/Rhode Island Rooms

This meeting is open to all members in good standing of the Charlotte Perkins Gilman Society.

Plenary Session and Closing Brunch 9:30-11:30  Holiday Inn, Connecticut/Rhode Island Rooms

Student Paper Award
This award recognizes the best paper delivered at the Conference by a student.

PLENARY SESSION: Gilman Studies Today

Denise D. Knight, SUNY Cortland
"Pieces of the Puzzle: The Enigmatic Gilman"

Catherine J. Golden, Skidmore College
"Her Story and Our Story: Rereading Gilman in the Twenty-First Century"

Respondent: Cynthia J. Davis, University of South Carolina, Columbia

Please join us for the next Maine Women Writers Collection Academic Conference in 2009!

Book Sale and Signing
Hosted by the Maine Historical Society Bookstore

Book List


Davis, Cynthia J. and Denise D. Knight, eds. Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Her Contemporaries: Literary and Intellectual Contexts (University of Alabama Press, 2004).


Kessler, Carol Farley, Charlotte Perkins Gilman: Her Progress Toward Utopia, with Selected Writings (Syracuse University Press, 1995).


Knight, Denise D. and Cynthia J. Davis, eds. Approaches to Teaching Gilman's "The Yellow Wall-Paper" and Herland (Modern Language Association, 2003).

Largey, Gale. Lester Ward: A Life's Journey (documentary film, 2005)


Charlotte Perkins Gilman: Then & Now

Conference Planning Committee
Janice Beal, Library/Public Services, UNE
Alexandra Campbell, Department of Sociology, UNE
Roberta (Sobby) Gay, Library/Public Services, UNE
Cally Gurley, Maine Women Writers Collection, UNE
Carol Farley Kessler, Professor Emerita, Penn State Delaware County Campus
Susan McHugh, Department of English, UNE
Jennifer Tuttle, Department of English and Maine Women Writers Collection, UNE – Conference Director
Kerryleen Vroman, Department of Occupational Therapy, University of New Hampshire

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* Elizabeth De Wolfe, Chair, Department of History and Co-Director, Women’s Studies Program
* Christine Felser, Cathrine Frank, Brady Potter, Lori Power, and Elizabeth De Wolfe, volunteers
* Denise Gendron & Ellen Parsons Kroninger, Dean’s Office, College of Arts & Sciences
* Andrew Golub, Vice President, Information Resources
* The Karen Mason Trio (Karen Mason, John Gurley, and Carlos Cuellar), opening reception musicians
* Denise Knight, SUNY Cortland, for assistance with library display
* David Kuchta, conference website designer
* Michèle LaRue, performing artist, “The Yellow Wall-Paper”
* Joanne Liebrecht, Copy Center
* Anouar Majid, Chair, Department of English
* Reggie Osborn, stage manager for “The Yellow Wall-Paper”
* Kristen Quatrano and Danielle Vayenas, Office of Communications
* All panel chairs
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- Christopher Flaherty, Catherine Frank, Chief of Police, and Elizabeth DeWolfe, undergraduates
- Dennis Blodgett & Ellen Purcell, Chaperone, Dean's Office, College of Arts & Sciences
- Andrew Flick, Vice President for Information Resources
- The Robert Mason Title (Kenneth Mason, John Bailey, and Carol Covarr), covering reception, logistics
- Denise Knight, SUNY Cortland, for assistance with library display
- David Kordik, commercial website designer
- Michelle Laffan, graphic artist, "The Yellow Wall-Paper"
- Sharon Leineweber, Story Centers
- Karen Major, Chair, Department of English
- Joanne Colletto, stage manager for "The Yellow Wall-Paper"
- Jesse D'Agostino and Shantel Subers, Office of Communications
- All panel chairs
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Maine Women Writers Collection
www.une.edu/mwwc

Charlotte Perkins Gilman Society
web.cortland.edu/gilman/

Image: Carrie Chapman Catt Collection,
Bryn Mawr College Library