Interim Report to the American Philosophical Association

Date: September 30, 2019  
Prepared by: Dr. Barbara Lowe, Associate Professor of Philosophy, St. John Fisher College

Summary of the Grant
In May 2019, the American Philosophical Association (APA) awarded a $1,000 grant from the Berry Fund for Public Philosophy to St. John Fisher College in support of the Feminist Pragmatism Traveling Colloquium. The Colloquium, which will focus on the theme Looking Back to Move Forward, will take place November 14-17, 2019. The Colloquium will take the form of a traveling conference with multiple historical venues for attendees to experience. Rochester, NY is an ideal location to host the Colloquium as it was the home for both Anthony and Douglass and is within short driving distance of Seneca Falls where the first Women’s Rights Convention took place. In addition, Rochester and Seneca Falls are also within the traditional Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) territory, which is not only the oldest living participatory democracy, but also a confederacy that was matrilineal and inspired first-wave feminism. The Colloquium emphasizes the value of philosophy, especially but not only pragmatist philosophy, in promoting the understanding of our past for the purpose of addressing our future, especially our future related to contemporary social justice issues. AS expected, the conference is on target to host 30-40 registering participants in addition to students, faculty, and staff from the sponsoring institutions (St. John Fisher College and Rochester Institute of Technology) and attendees from the local community.

Progress Report
To date, the following milestones for organizing the Colloquium were achieved:

- **Website development:** Please see the website for our event here: https://american-philosophy.org/news-events/2019-feminist-pragmatist-philosophy-colloquium/

- **Call for Abstracts:** The “Call for Abstracts” (now closed) can be seen on the conference website listed above. We received 47 abstract submissions. An abstract review committee consisting of three philosophy professors (2 from St. John Fisher and 1 from RIT) reviewed the abstracts and came to the following collaborative decisions:
  - All those who submitted an abstract received an invitation to join us and to be on the program.
  - 21 out of the 47 were offered an opportunity to share their work at the Scholars’ Circle*
  - 26 out of the 47 were invited to be part of a panel (tentatively grouped, based on abstracts, around common themes)
  - An email was sent to each person who submitted with information about their placement in the program, information on how to register for the program, and a deadline of September 30th to register. (Registration will remain open for all who simply want to attend but those “on the program”, presenting in some way, secure this spot by registering by this date.

- **Invited & Accepted Keynote Speakers/Featured Speakers:** We have three separate venues that will feature invited keynote speakers. The chart below provides details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
<th>TITLE OF TALK</th>
<th>LOCATION/VENUE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louise W. Knight</td>
<td>“Before Seneca Falls: Women’s Equality in the Thought of Sarah and Angelina Grimke”</td>
<td>St. John Fisher College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Hughes, President and CEO of Susan B. Anthony House, &amp; Marilyn Fischer, Professor Emeritus, University of Dayton</td>
<td>“Susan B. Anthony and Jane Addams on Suffrage” (Joint/Shared Lecture)</td>
<td>Susan B. Anthony House and Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Registration Information as of 9/26/19: When registering individuals are giving the option to register for all or just some of the events and venues. As of today, 9/26/19, we have 34 total individuals who have registered
  o 34/34 have registered for SJFC events, which include, the SJFC keynote opening speaker, Scholars’ Circle, and panel presentations.
  o 21/34 have registered for the Mt. Hope Cemetery tour
  o 27/34 have registered for the SJFC lunch and AKWAABA Historical Reenactors performance
  o 28/34 registered for Susan B. Anthony House tour, lecture and dinner
  o 23/34 have registered for the Women’s Rights Historical Park (tours, keynote lectures, and panels)

• Colloquium publicity: Publicity for this event has included the following:
  o Email to local colleges and to professors and students at RIT and SJFC with the link to the website webpage included, inviting for submissions and requesting faculty and scholars receiving the information share it widely. (Webpage here: https://american-philosophy.org/news-events/2019-feminist-pragmatist-philosophy-colloquium/)
  o Promotion on the “Upcoming Events” page on the Society for American Philosophy website. See the following: https://american-philosophy.org
  o Posted on conference information and website link on the APA website, as offered as part of the grant.
  o Posting on PHILEVENTS website (https://philevents.org/event/show/72774)
  o Created and disseminated posters and flyers widely on both sponsoring campuses (See separate attachment)

• Communication with sites (Mt. Hope Cemetery, the Susan B. Anthony House, and Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Fall): All point people at each of the conference site locations have been contacted and preliminary arrangements made. (See next steps below)

• Conference Committee Meetings:
  o The committee consists of 3 faculty from SJFC and 1 faculty from RIT. Over the summer and until recently, we met approximately once per month. We are now meeting weekly.
  o Monthly meetings over the summer included work related to planning the events, contacting the venues, creating CFA announcements, reviewing submitted abstracts, creating the program, reviewing and distribution of posters and flyers, and sending out acceptance emails to invited individuals.
  o Weekly meetings this semester and going forward will include detail planning regarding transportation, catering, and communications with attendees and speakers; reworking the program based on registration and invitation acceptances; and pushing out the last set of advertisements.
  o We have had assistance from the Visit Rochester organization, which has provided us with assistance with booking the hotel for the conference, guided us with registration processes and best practices, and will be providing us with assistance with registration,
name tags, information to share with attendees about Rochester, and gifts for featured speakers.

Grant Funds Spent
We have not yet had much occasion to spend funds. Thus far we have only spend funds for paying for the creation of the posters and flyers ($200) and for the printing of these flyers and posters for distribution. We have not yet used any of the designated funds from the Berry Fund.

We are ahead of our targeted amounts for registration. We budgeted for registration income of $2711 and so far have received $3750.

Next Steps
With the Colloquium fast approaching, the following tasks will be completed in October and November 2019:

- Update posters and flyers with more details on presenters and topics
- Distribute posters and flyers as conference date nears
- Catering – for all venues
- Transportation
- Connect with all venues and finalize on numbers
- Connect with all featured speakers and arrange for payment
- Arrange for OIT support for the Conference
- SWAG bag & Name tags for registration
- Creation of check-in list for registration
- Arrange for people to cover registration (students and colleagues and Visit Rochester)
- Final grant report
Feminist pragmatist philosophers aim to illuminate the lived realities of human beings in relation to others. They use women's experiences as a lens through which to test their theories and their proposed solutions to today's challenges. Feminist pragmatists give particular attention to vulnerable people and to those who live on the margins of societies.

2019 FEMINIST-PRAGMATIST COLLOQUIUM

Looking Back to Move Forward
UNESCO World Philosophy Day
November 14-17, 2019
St. John Fisher College, Rochester, NY

With activities at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Susan B. Anthony Museum & House, Frederick Douglass Statue Trail, Women's Rights National Historical Park, and more.

Thursday, November 14
Tour of Mt. Hope Cemetery • Tour of Historical Frederick Douglass Sites • “Wine and Dine” (additional registration required)

Friday, November 15
Book Displays at SJFC • Louise W. Knight, "Before Seneca Falls: Women's Equality in the Thought of Sarah and Angelina Grimke" • Scholars’ Circle • Panel Presentations • Lunch & Performance by the AKWAABA Living History Presenters • Deborah Hughes and Marilyn Fischer, “Susan B. Anthony and Jane Addams on Suffrage”

Saturday, November 16
Seneca Falls Women’s Rights National Historical Park and Museum • Panel Presentations • Seigfried Scholars’ Circle • Dinner & Keynote: Louise Wakerakats:te McDonald and Sally Roesch Wagner, “Indigenous Matrilineal Culture and the Feminist Movement”

Sunday, November 17
Extended Visit Option: Finger Lakes Winery Tour

To register: http://fisherforms.sjfc.edu/feminist-pragmatist-colloquium/
For schedule and more information: http://bit.ly/2P9fnsB

With thanks to our sponsors: Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy | American Philosophical Association (Berry Fund for Public Philosophy) | St. John Fisher College School of Arts and Sciences and Departments of Philosophy, American Studies, English, History, Sociology & Women and Gender Studies | Rochester Institute of Technology College of Liberal Arts, Departments of Philosophy, Women's and Gender Studies, & University Writing Commons
November 14–17, 2019 | St. John Fisher College, Rochester, NY

**Feminist pragmatist philosophers aim to illuminate the lived realities of human beings in relation to others. They use women’s experiences as a lens through which to test their theories and their proposed solutions to today’s challenges. Feminist pragmatists give particular attention to vulnerable people and to those who live on the margins of societies.**

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

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<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Shuttle from Hilton Garden Inn to SJFC (meet in Lobby of Hotel)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Gолосано Gateway All Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch on your own &amp; Performance by the AKWAABA Living History Presenters (separate registration required)</td>
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**Politics, Democracy, and Praxis**

- **“I Don’t Get Offended”: Feminist Theory Students Reflect on Intersectionality and Identity Development**
- **Exposing Interpretive Injustice**
- **History at Work: Race, Gender, and Justice in Rochester, New York**
- **The Legacy of Jane Addams Feminist Pragmatism in Public Space**

To register: [fisherforms.sjfc.edu/feminist-pragmatist-colloquium/](http://fisherforms.sjfc.edu/feminist-pragmatist-colloquium/)


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### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

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<td>8:00am</td>
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- **“I Don’t Get Offended”: Feminist Theory Students Reflect on Intersectionality and Identity Development**
- **Exposing Interpretive Injustice**
- **Experimental Teaching and Sustainable Activism**
- **Feminist Pragmatism in Public Space (OVER → )**

To register: [fisherforms.sjfc.edu/feminist-pragmatist-colloquium/](http://fisherforms.sjfc.edu/feminist-pragmatist-colloquium/)


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For schedule and more information: http://bit.ly/2P9frsB

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