

THE CRITICAL DISABILITY STUDIES  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

# ENACTING DISABILITY JUSTICE

A DIGITAL CONFERENCE

April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2021 @ 2:00 pm

## CO-CHAIR WELCOME

Welcome to the 15th Critical Disability Studies Student Association Conference!

At this year's annual conference, we are excited to bring together critical and creative graduate scholars from across the globe. For perhaps the first time, we are communing together as a group of international disability scholars.

In 2021, we welcome distinguished guests: CreateBeing's Amanda Lederle and David Lederle, Dr. Shelley Tremain, and Dr. La Marr Jurelle Bruce. CreateBeing will provide a workshop on self-care and community care, central tenants to disability justice. Our second keynote, Dr. Shelley Tremain is a disabled feminist philosopher of disability who coordinates the blog Biopolitical Philosophy. She has published more than 25 books and articles on disability, bioethics, feminism, Foucault, and disability activism. Our last keynote, Dr. La Marr Jurelle Bruce is an interdisciplinary scholar whose monography entitled *How to Go Mad without Losing Your Mind: Madness and Black Radical Creativity* was recently published. This study focuses on madness in Black Radical Art and is described not only as a study but an act of critical, ethical, radical madness.

Our theme, Enacting Disability Justice brings highlights the importance of mobilizing scholarly work in Critical Disability Studies within and outside of academia. The theme seeks to demonstrate how Critical Disability Studies contribute to social policy, human rights, and the development of a disability corpus. This theme also showcases how the work of disability scholars is deeply rooted in the liberation of disabled bodies and central to all our efforts.

Finally, this year, we must thank a wide variety of sponsors who made this event possible. Alongside our student association, the Graduate Student Wellness Initiative Fund, Faculty of Graduate Studies, and the School of Health and Policy Management have all made this possible.

Without further ado, we hope you enjoy your time at the 15th Annual Critical Disability Studies Student Association Conference

Sincerely,

[Kira A. Smith and David Dyer Lawson](#)

Co-Chairs of the 15th Annual CDSSA Conference

## 2021 DEDICATION

CDSSA has elected to honour distinguished and remarkable contributions to the field of Critical Disability Studies, the conference will select a person, persons, or organization that has developed and enriched the field. This year, we are pleased to announce that the annual dedicatee will be Dr. Marcia Rioux, who was one of the driving forces behind the establishment of Critical Disability Studies at York University. Her work will be celebrated for her contributions to enacting disability at a Celebration of her work on April 21.

Dr. Marcia Rioux's career embodies disability justice by prioritizing the advance of the rights of persons with disability. She is a legal scholar with a comprehensive understanding of community based participatory research especially with respect to human rights, health and social justice, and particularly international disability rights. Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Rioux is the founder and Director of Disability Rights Promotion International. This is a multi-year series of projects to monitor disability rights nationally and internationally.

She is currently working on Handbook of Disability: Critical Thought, Human Rights and Social Change in a Globalizing World. The Handbook maps the terrain of disability the world over by providing an overview of issues, concerns and developments in the domains of advocacy, education, medicine, law, policy, research, disaster management, development, economics, employment, science, technology, history, culture, and society. She has edited a number of collected volumes and more than 70 book chapters and articles on disability rights. Finally, as a person, Marcia is wonderfully kind, compassionate, and supportive to her colleagues and students. She is a powerful force for good in the world.

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



## CreateBeing

CreateBeing is a Toronto-based company that focuses on mental health and creativity. David (he/him) and Amanda (they/them) are both neurodiverse and have experience with mental illness. They are also business and life partners and members of Workman Arts. You can find resources and community events on their Instagram @CreateBeing or CreateBeing.com.

## Dr. Shelley Tremain

Shelley L. Tremain holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from York University (Canada), has taught in Canada, the U.S., and Australia, and publishes on a range of topics, including (feminist) philosophy of disability, Michel Foucault, ableism in philosophy, social metaphysics and epistemology, and bioethics. Tremain is the author of *Foucault and Feminist Philosophy of Disability*, the manuscript for which was awarded the 2016 Tobin Siebers Prize for Disability Studies in the Humanities, and the editor of two editions of *Foucault and the Government of Disability*.



## Dr. La Marr Jurelle Bruce

La Marr Jurelle Bruce, Ph.D. is an interdisciplinary humanities scholar, cultural and literary critic, black/Black studies devotee, first-generation college graduate, and Associate Professor of American Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park. He studies black expressive cultures spanning literature, film, music, theatre, and the art and aesthetics of quotidian black life. Throughout his work, he is especially attentive to blackness and feeling: the phenomenological, affective, erotic, and sensuous experience of life across the diaspora.



## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**APRIL 7, 2021**

### **WELCOME - 2:00 PM**

Welcome Address  
Land Acknowledgement  
Dedication

### **ENACTING DISABILITY JUSTICE PANEL - 2:15 PM**

Bridget M. Bartlett - Enacting Community Living in Early Modern England with Robert Armin

Alina Poklad - Different images of people with disabilities in Russian cinema

Noah Smith - Zombies as “Disabled” Subjects in George A. Romero’s Day of the Dead: Representations of Valuable Life

Jyoti Singh - Disability Experience on Social Media as ‘Countervisuality’

### **BREAK - 3:15 PM**

### **WORKSHOP - 3:30 PM**

CreateBeing presents Self & Community Care: How to support yourself while supporting others

**[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJCK  
DU-RQZGOETZCKYMSXWLOYLSZUUEYHMNH](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tjckdu-rqzgoetzckymxwloylszuueyhmnh)**

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**APRIL 14, 2021**

### **WELCOME - 2:00 PM**

Welcome Address  
Land Acknowledgement  
Dedication

### **ENACTING DISABILITY JUSTICE PANEL - 2:15 PM**

Sammy Jo Johnson - How an Ontario-based deaf and hard of hearing service provider has separated from the deaf community: A transnational analysis

Madelaine Lekei - The Enabled Environment: Community-Based Approaches to Accessibility in Public Bathrooms in the Okanagan

Kim Fernandes - Knowing (from) the Body: Crippling Fieldwork During and After COVID-19

Annalise Clarkson - Conscious Self-Reflection for Disability Studies Researchers

### **BREAK - 3:15 PM**

### **KEYNOTE - 3:30 PM**

Dr. Shelley Tremain - Philosophy of Disability, Critical Disability Studies, and the Nursing Home-Industrial-Complex

**[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJCK  
DU-RQZGOETZCKYMSXWLOYLSZUUEYHMNH](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tjckdu-rqzgoetzckymxwloylszuueyhmnh)**

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**APRIL 21, 2021**

### **WELCOME - 2:00 PM**

Welcome Address  
Land Acknowledgement  
Dedication

### **ENACTING DISABILITY JUSTICE PANEL - 2:15 PM**

Sidharth Shankar - The Implications of Stigma on the childhood autism experiences of parents/guardians of autistic children in contemporary Kerala, India

Gentrice Petrie - Alone Again Or: Finding the Lost Autistic Girls

Caitlin Manuel - Exploring Ontario's "Health and Physical Education Curriculum" as a Vehicle for the Contemporary Institutionalization of Madness

### **BREAK - 3:15 PM**

### **DEDICATION - 3:30 PM**

A Celebration of the Work of Doctor Marcia Rioux

**[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJCK  
DU-RQZGOETZCKYMSXWLOYLSZUUEYHMNH](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tjckdu-rqzgoetzckymxwloylszuueyhmnh)**

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**APRIL 28, 2021**

### **WELCOME - 2:00 PM**

Welcome Address  
Land Acknowledgement  
Dedication

### **ENACTING DISABILITY JUSTICE PANEL - 2:15 PM**

Danielle Landry - "In the business of changing lives": Activist knowledge-practices and the founding of Ontario's consumer/survivor businesses

Cavar - Theorizing MadCraft: Reflections & Provocations on Folio Curation

Rajeshwari Nandkumar - Collective Indeterminacy, Caring Online: The Formation of Virtual Communities of Care Through Sabrina Benaim's Online Spoken Word Poetry on Depression

### **BREAK - 3:15 PM**

### **KEYNOTE - 3:30 PM**

Dr. La Marr Jurelle Bruce - How to Go Mad: Notes Toward a Mad Methodology

**[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJCK  
DU-RQZGOETZCKYMSXWLOYLSZUUEYHMNH](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tjckdu-rqzgoetzckymxwloylszuueyhmnh)**



# CDSSA 2020-2021

## **Conference Co-Chairs:**

Kira A. Smith and David Dyer Lawson

## **Program Assistant:**

Anne Jackson

## **CDSSA Co-Presidents:**

Cindy Jiang and Kira A. Smith

## **CDSSA Organizers:**

Hannah Dunn and Sammy-Jo Johnson

## **CDSSA Representatives:**

Anne Jackson, Cindy Jiang, Hannah Dunn,  
Kira A. Smith, David Dyer Lawson, Chanelle  
Perrier-Telemaque, and Tuong Kuwabong