

# **RN14 Gender Relations in the Labor Markets and the Welfare State**

## **Biennial Report of Research Networks**

RN14 is a feminist research network engaged in the rethinking of key institutions from the perspective of gender. We are interested in how Gender is embedded in welfare states and labor markets seeking to elaborate existing knowledge on the gendered processes and outcomes in these arenas. Further, we aim to enhance the cross-national and cross-region dialogue to promote a feminism informed sociology of the tension between neo-liberalization and oppositional forces holding on to ideas of democracy, unionization, decent work, quality services, ethics of care, redistribution, equality, inclusion and participation.

## 2. Names and email addresses of:

## a. Outgoing Coordinators and board members (past term)

Ní Léime, Áine [aine.nileime@nuigalway.ie]

Peggy McDonough [peggy.mcdonough@utoronto.ca]

Emma Calvert [e.calvert@qub.ac.uk]

Evelyn Mahon [EMAHON@tcd.ie]

## b. Incoming Coordinators and board members (new term after this year's conference)

Chair: Hazel Conley [Hazel.Conley@uwe.ac.uk]

Vice Chair: Orly Benjamin [orly.benjamin@gmail.com]

**Board Members:** 

Ana Lopes [Ana.Lopes@newcastle.ac.uk]

Clary Krekula [clary.krekula@kau.se]

Nata Duvvury [nata.duvvury@nuigalway.ie] Eve Ewington (PhD Representative) [e.ewington@newcastle.ac.uk]

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Stella Warren [Stella.Warren@uwe.ac.uk>]

Sue Durbin [Sue.Durbin@uwe.ac.uk]

Tessa Wright [t.wright@qmul.ac.uk]

#### 3. Activities:

Since our last biennial report we have organized 2 events: a mid-term conference and a stream at the ESA conference in Athens.

### Mid-term Conference 2016

The mid-term conference was held at the University of the West of England, Bristol UK 31<sup>st</sup> Aug-2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2016. The title of the conference was: Gender, Work and Welfare in the New Europe: Adapting to Change. The Organizers were Professor Hazel Conley and Professor Sue Durbin. The conference had 16 presented papers and a keynote address by Clare Moody, MEP for Bristol, UK and Gibraltar. Twenty people attended the conference. The conference attracted new members, including 3 PhD candidates. The papers stimulated a good level of debate on an important topic and the social events provided good networking opportunities.

#### ESA Conference, Athens 2017

We organized a full programme of 14 sessions with 51 presented papers. All of the sessions were chaired and well attended. One of the sessions was a very well attended keynote presentation with Professor Sylvia Walby titled 'The Future of Gender Equality in the Re-making of Europe'.

#### **Future Developments**

We are planning our next mid-term conference in late August 2018 to be held at University of South Wales, UK. To be organized by Katharina Sarter, Hazel Conley and Orly Benjamin. The title of the conference will be 'The Future of Gender Equality in an Age of Uncertainty'. The draft Call for papers is currently being discussed by the Board.

We are currently discussing the possibility of developing a Newsletter for RN14, which would include inviting RN members to write a profile of themselves and their research. We would also use the Newsletter to facilitate virtual networking and collaboration opportunities and for circulating calls for papers/special issues. We are hoping to develop our ESA website to facilitate this and other communications during the next 2 years.

RN 14 welcomes PhD students and we strive to include a PhD representative on our board. Our current PhD representative is Eve Ewington.

We welcome collaborations with other RNs and we have organized joint sessions in the past.