

Neoliberalism and Its Crises: A Festschrift Symposium in Honour of Janine Brodie

Host: Department of Political Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton Venue: Matrix Hotel, 1040 100 Ave., Treaty 6 Territory, 4-5 May 2017

Symposium Overview

Neoliberalism and its Crises is a two-day symposium honouring and building from the career of Dr. Janine Brodie. Participants will engage the crucial issues animating contemporary political life that centrally inform Dr. Brodie's research. Neoliberalism is an approach to governance that privileges the individual and the market over more collective forms of social organization. It has informed politics and policy making since the 1970's. The questions for us now in the wake of the financial crash of 2008 and the rise of populist movements and governments is whether this is neoliberalism's final crisis? And what might emerge to replace it? These are the very questions that the 18 invited scholars will address in seven themed panels. Dr. Brodie's research has analysed this sea-change in the relationship between citizens and the state. Her insights set the table for a remarkable range of future projects. The capacious and generative quality of Dr. Brodie's work is sure to catalyze the research collaborations that will emerge from this symposium. Specifically, the symposium provides the foundation for a future SSHRC Insight Grant on the fate of neoliberalism and an edited volume derived from the symposium papers.

Hosted by the Department of Political Science in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Alberta on May 4-5, 2017 at the Matrix Hotel, 1040 100 Ave., on Treaty Six Territory in Edmonton, the symposium brings together leading, emerging and established international scholars. The symposium offers an important opportunity both to celebrate Dr. Brodie's path-breaking intellectual contributions and to explore the range of research projects that her work has inspired. It will provide a rich experience for scholarly exchange, contribute to the intellectual networks of emerging scholars, produce a significant edited collection presenting current theoretical and empirical investigations of neoliberalism, and celebrate the career of one of Canada's most important political scientists.

Bios of Symposium Participants

Yasmeen Abu-Laban is Professor of Political Science at the University of Alberta. Her research interests centre on Canadian and comparative politics (with a focus on North America, Europe and the Middle East). Her published research examines: ethnic and gender politics; nationalism, globalization and processes of racialization; immigration policies and politics; surveillance and border control; multiculturalism and antiracism, human rights; and citizenship theory. She is President of the Canadian Political Science Association for 2016-2017.

Isabel Altamirano-Jiménez is Zapotec from the Tehuantepec Isthmus, Oaxaca, Mexico and an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Alberta. Her research interrogates the connections between resource extraction, land, body and consent and explores the contemporary mechanisms and practices through which Indigenous land is accessed. Among her recent publications are: *Living on the Land. Indigenous Women's Understandings of Place*

(co-edited with Nathalie Kermaal), Athabasca University Press, and *Indigenous Encounters with Neoliberalism. Place, Women and the Environment* published by UBC Press.

Abigail B. Bakan is Professor and Chair of the Department of Social Justice in Education (SJE) at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto. Her publications include: *Theorizing Anti-Racism: Linkages in Marxism and Critical Race Theories* (co-edited, with Enakshi Dua); *Negotiating Citizenship: Migrant Women in Canada and the Global System* (with Daiva Stasiulis); *Critical Political Studies: Debates and Dialogues from the Left* (co-editor with Eleanor MacDonald); and *Employment Equity Policy in Canada: an Interprovincial Comparison* (with Audrey Kobayashi). With Yasmeen Abu-Laban, she is conducting research on the United Nations World Conferences Against Racism and processes of racialization in the context of Israel/Palestine. Her articles have appeared in *Race and Class*, *Social Identities*, *Rethinking Marxism*, *Politikon*, *Socialist Studies*, *Atlantis*, *Signs*, *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*, and *Studies in Political Economy*.

Isabella Bakker is Distinguished Research Professor of Political Science at York University and a York Research Chair on Global Economic Governance, Gender and Human Rights. She is a leading authority in the fields of political economy, public finance, gender and development. She has held visiting professorships at a number of institutions including the European University Institute, New York University and the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has also held consultancies with the United Nations, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Canadian government as well as with numerous advocacy groups dedicated to advancing economic and social justice. Her most recent book (with Brigitte Young and Diane Elson) is *Questioning Financial Governance from a Feminist Perspective* (Routledge).

Shannon Bell is a Professor of Political Science at York University, Toronto, Canada <http://www.yorku.ca/shanbell/> Her books include: *Fast Feminism* (2010), *Reading, Writing and Rewriting the Prostitute Body* (1994), *Whore Carnival* (1995), *Bad Attitude/s on Trial* co-authored (1997); *The Book of Radical General Semantics* co-edited (2016), *Subversive Itinerary: The Thought of Gad Horowitz*, co-edited (2013) and *New Socialisms* co-edited (2004). Bell is currently working on *shooting theory*—video-imaging philosophical concept such as Heidegger's 'stillness', Husserl's 'epoché', Bataille's 'waste' and 'expenditure', Weil's 'attention', Deleuze's 'deterritorialization', Virilio's 'vision machine' and 'accident', Levinas' 'elemental' and Mallin's 'sinuosity'. Her vimeo.com name is FastBodies.

John Clarke is an Emeritus Professor of Social Policy at the UK's Open University, where he worked for over 35 years before retiring in 2014. He is also a Recurrent Visiting Professor in the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at Central European University in Budapest. He undertook postgraduate work at the Birmingham Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies in the 1970s before teaching and researching around a range of topics including welfare states, citizenship, public service reform and the impacts of managerialism and consumerism. In recent years he has been part of research projects examining systems of school inspection in England, Scotland and Sweden, and the practices of advice work in the midst of Austerity. He has also been working on the politics and policies of Austerity and the strange political moment of

'Brexit', with articles on the former in *Critical Social Policy* (2012 with Janet Newman) and on the latter in *Critical Policy Studies* (2017, with Janet Newman). His most recent publications include *Making Policy Move: Towards a politics of translation and assemblage* (with Dave Bainton, Noémi Lendvai and Paul Stubbs; Policy Press, 2015) and *Disputing Citizenship* (with Kathy Coll, Evelina Dagnino and Catherine Neveu, Policy Press, 2014).

Alexandra Dobrowolsky is a Professor in the Political Science Department at Saint Mary's University, and an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Graduate Studies at Dalhousie University. She teaches in the areas of Canadian, Comparative, and Women, Gender and Politics, as well as in Public Policy. Her research interests span from representational forms (states, political parties, and social movements) and feminist mobilization, to security, immigration, and citizenship. Her work appears in an array of national and international journals and edited volumes, and she has published five books. Her last two collections are: *The Warmth of the Welcome, Is Atlantic Canada a Home Away from Home for Immigrants?* (2015); and, *Women and Public Policy in Canada: Neo-liberalism and After?* (2009). Most recently, she has been working with a team of guest editors on a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, entitled "Finding Feminisms." Last but not least, she volunteers on several boards, and acts as the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives-Nova Scotia's Research Advisory Committee Chair.

Alexa DeGagne is an Assistant Professor in Women's and Gender Studies at Athabasca University. Alexa completed her PhD in Political Science at the University of Alberta. Her research and teaching are focused on LGBTQ social justice movements and activism in Canada and the United States. Her latest research project examines the changing relationships between LGBTQ communities and police organizations across Canada. She has published works on LGBTQ politics, specifically on the following topics: same-sex marriage activism in California; the history of LGBTQ politics in Alberta; LGBTQ refugees in the Canadian refugee system; homonationalism and the Canadian criminal justice system; and, the uses of anger as a tool in LGBTQ activism. Alexa's activism is based in her Edmonton queer community where she has worked with several social justice projects as a community organizer and agitator, public educator, columnist, queer arts festival co-chair, and radio producer and host.

Brent Epperson is a PhD candidate in the Department of Political Science, specializing in comparative politics and Canadian politics. Brent's dissertation examines media representations of state-level health care reform efforts in the United States. His research elucidates the coalescence between neoliberal media narratives during the recent health reforms of Democratic-leaning Massachusetts (2002-2006) and Republican-leaning Utah (2004-2011), offering valuable insights into media convergence in the framing of health care as a market. Brent simultaneously serves as the Graduate Ombudsperson at the University of Alberta, where he works primarily with graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. His research in macro-level issue framing in the health sphere informs his ombudsman practice, combining issue reframing techniques with mediation and restorative practices to resolve professional conflicts in higher education.

Christina Gabriel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Institute of Political Economy. Her specific research interests focus on citizenship and migration, gender and politics, regional integration and globalization. She is the co-author of *Selling Diversity: Immigration, Multiculturalism, Employment Equity and Globalization* (2002) and is a co-editor of *Governing International Labour Migration: Current Issues, Challenges and Dilemmas* (2008). She has contributed chapters and articles on issues such as migration, border control, transnational care labour and North American regional integration.

Suzan Ilcan is a Professor in the Department of Sociology and Legal Studies at the University of Waterloo, and the Balsillie School of International Affairs, Canada. Her research focuses on neoliberal governance, humanitarian aid, migration and refugee studies, and social justice and citizenship rights. She is the author of *Longing in Belonging: The Cultural Politics of Settlement* (Praeger), co-author of *Governing the Poor: Exercises of Poverty Reduction, Practices of Aid* (with A. Lacey, McGill-Queen's UP) and *Issues in Social Justice: Citizenship and Transnational Struggles* (with T. Basok, Oxford UP), and editor of *Mobilities, Knowledge and Social Justice* (McGill-Queen's UP). She has published in book collections and in journals, including *Antipode*, *Citizenship Studies*, *Current Sociology*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Globalizations*, *Global Social Policy*, and *International Political Sociology*. Her most recent SSHRC-funded, collaborative project (2015-2019) examines aid and emergency responses to forced migrant populations, with a focus on precarity, differential inclusion, and citizenship politics involving Syrian refugees in Turkey and other European countries.

Catherine Kingfisher is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alberta. Her areas of interest include policy, governance, power and inequality, and agency and personhood. She has published widely on gender, poverty, and welfare reform in the U.S., Aotearoa/New Zealand, and Canada. Her current research focuses on discourses and practices of happiness and wellbeing, with particular emphasis on relations of governance and desire as they unfold in popular, scholarly, and policy arenas. She is currently conducting fieldwork in urban collective housing communities in Tokyo and Vancouver.

Wendy Larner, is the Provost at Victoria University of Wellington. As the Provost, Professor Larner is responsible for driving the highest standards of academic excellence across Victoria and overseeing the achievement of key goals in Victoria's Strategic Plan. These include adopting a distinctive academic emphasis, enhancing research quality, quantity and impact, providing a student experience that is second to none and increasing enrolments of talented students from disadvantaged groups in society. Prior to Victoria, Professor Larner was at the University of Bristol where she was the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, and Professor of Human Geography and Sociology. Professor Larner is an internationally respected social scientist whose research sits in the interdisciplinary fields of globalization, governance, and gender. She completed her BSocSci at Waikato, MA (First Class Hons.) at Canterbury, and her PhD as a Canadian Commonwealth Scholar at Carleton University, Ottawa. She has held academic positions at the University of Waikato and the University of Auckland, and Visiting Fellowships at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (US), Queen Mary University (UK), and the University of Frankfurt (Germany). Her research has been recognized with a range of

