

WINTER 2023

“2023 is a year of redrawing the boundaries of possibility to prepare for transformations to come”

– Jenna Hanchey, ORWAC President

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Photo credit: Nate Hovee. Image description: A faded image of the Sonoran Desert under redish clouds.

Message from the President

Dear ORWAC Members,

For me, 2022 was a year of probing the limits of possibility. It was the year that I came face-to-face with the ways my own potential had been constrained by expectations and structures in my life. I knew I wasn't quite happy, but it took sustained labor to figure out why. It can be difficult to face your own limitations—to examine their texture and depth, how strongly they've been moored, what patterns of behavior are maintaining them—but this process is necessary to cultivating action. Enabling transformation. Once faced, once examined, you get to decide whether or not you want to keep those limitations in place.

As I emerge from this personal process, I wonder if it is only my own. I think of academic burnout, and how so many of us have experienced exhaustion that makes working at the same pace as we might once have thought we could sustain untenable. Of the "quiet quitting" that responds to this limit of possibility, redrawing the boundaries around labor. I think of political struggle, and the limits of liberalism so starkly revealed by the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. Of how it catalyzes the need for imagining coalition and revolt in ways that do not wait for systemic recognition but redraw the systems themselves. I think of people like adrienne maree brown, who have so clearly seen these limits of possibility already, already mapped them, and given us tools to move away from them—to imagine differently.

Now we arrive in 2023 with a better understanding of the terrain in which we struggle, and with opened possibilities for what we might build in the future. With frustrations, hopes, and desires that provide the groundwork for something new. How do we take the limitations of the possible and push beyond them? How do we enable potentials beyond our imagining to flourish and grow? How do we plant the seeds today for the transformations we need tomorrow?

For ORWAC, 2023 is a year of redrawing the boundaries of possibility to prepare for transformations to come. For some time we've been examining our own limits of possibility, analyzing what they enable and what they constrict, and deciding whether or not they still serve the organization. And now we're ready to put different structures in place, ones that will open up potential for our collective futures. One of the ways we're doing so is through rethinking our bylaws. Please join us at our business meeting

at WSCA, Sunday Feb. 19, 2023 from 4:15-5:30pm in the Gilbert Room to discuss the changes we've proposed and how they will prepare the organization for building more equitable spaces in the future, enabling our potential to be an organization of intersectional feminist liberation.

I hope that for you, as well, 2023 becomes a year of enabling your potentials. Of taking the knowledge that you have earned through running into structural walls, struggling against destructive expectations, rethinking your own desires away from institutional obligations and putting it into action.

May 2023 be a year where we look back to see the seeds of transformation taking root.

In imagination,
Jenna N. Hanchey



Photo credit: Akil Mazumder. Image description: A green plant sprouts from a mound of dirt held in the palm of a Brown hand. Faded green trees color the background of the image.

Call for 2023 ORWAC Research Development Grants

The Organization for Research on Women and Communication invites submissions for the 12th annual Research Development Grant. Members are eligible to apply in one of five grant categories that support scholars at different levels of their career: **Category 1 for undergraduate students, Category 2 for master's students, Category 3 for doctoral students, Category 4 for contingent faculty, and Category 5 for tenure/track faculty.** Each grant offers a maximum of \$2,500.00.

Grants are designed to assist feminist scholars completing research or creative projects that privilege and advance understandings about the intersectionality and complexity defining women's lives. Broadly speaking, submitted projects are those that chart new ground in disciplinary knowledge about women and gender; offer insights about the challenges and negotiations confronted by women in light of intersecting identities; and/or favor the diverse voices, experiences, discourses, performances and lives of women. Applicants' research projects may be at any stage at time of submission. Grant funds may be used, for example, to pay for: conducting interviews, data transcription, archival research whether for copying costs or travel to archives, clerical support, transportation and/or registration fees for a conference to present the submitted project, among other needs.

Applications are available on our website: <http://www.orwac.org>

Application Requirements

- Be a current member of ORWAC (ORWAC membership is independent of WSCA).
 - Applicants are responsible for becoming members or ensuring their membership is current before submitting the grant application. You can join or renew your membership online: <http://www.orwac.org>
 - Executive officers of ORWAC are ineligible for the grants.
- Submit a single PDF document containing the completed application form, budget, and current curriculum vita. Grant applications retrievable from <http://www.orwac.org>.
- Forward application materials electronically (PDF or Word document) to: Diane Keeling at keeling@sandiego.edu
- Within one year of receipt of a grant, awardees agree to submit a one-page report detailing the results of the submitted project and use of funds to keeling@sandiego.edu

Deadlines

Applications are due **April 1, 2023 by noon (PST)**. Late proposals will not be reviewed. Applicants will be notified by June, with funds being distributed shortly thereafter.

Review Process

All applications are reviewed by the grant committee (i.e., composed of ORWAC officers, member volunteers, and/or past recipients). Grant applicants will receive notification about receipt of their materials, and again later when final decisions are made. Review criteria and decision making are based upon: 1) a project that most strongly fits and supports ORWAC's mission statement, 2) a project that examines the intersectionality of gendered experiences, 3) the overall quality of a submitted proposal, 4) the potential and/or likelihood for intellectual contribution to feminist scholarship in the field of Communication, and 5) the potential and/or likelihood for scholarly dissemination such as a conference paper, thesis, dissertation or book chapter, journal article, or creative project.



Photo credit: Element Digital. Image description: multicolored book spines line a series of book shelves.

Finalists for the Feminist Scholar of the Year Award

The top four essays competing as finalists for the Feminist Scholar of the Year award have been selected by our outgoing editor of *Women's Studies in Communication* - Claire Sisco King, Associate Professor of Communication Studies and Chair of the Cinema and Media Arts program. ORWAC members can access these essays through ORWAC website members only section by clicking on the "ONLINE ACCESS to WSIC." The four finalists are:

- **Skye de Saint Felix and Lisa Corrigan**, "[The Rhetorical Style of Predatory White Masculinity in Judge Brett Kavanaugh's 2018 Testimony Before the Senate Judiciary Committee](#)" (doi: 10.1080/07491409.2021.2020195)
- **Majia Nadesan and Linda Kim**, "[The Geopolitics of Public Memory: The Challenge and Promise of Transnational Comfort Women Activism](#)" (doi: 10.1080/07491409.2021.1954119)
- **Theresa A. Kulbaga and Leland G. Spencer**, "[Outrage Epistemology: Affective Excess as a Way of Knowing in Feminist Scholarship](#)" (doi: 10.1080/07491409.2021.1926032)
- **Wenxue Zou and Cara Wallis**, "[Why do They Want Others to Suffer the Same Pain They Have Endured? Weibo Debates about Pain Relief during Childbirth in Neo/Non-Liberal China](#)" (doi: 10.1080/07491409.2021.1947925)

The Feminist Scholar of the Year award will be announced at the 2023 WSCA Business Meeting, scheduled Sunday Feb. 19, 2023 from 4:15-5:30pm in the Gilbert Room.

Our 2022 Feminist Scholar of the Year Awards Selection Committee

Dr. Paromita Pain

Assistant Professor,
Reynolds School of
Journalism
The University of Nevada,
Reno

Dr. Maha Bashri

Associate Professor of
Communication
Dept. of Media &
Creative Industries
United Arab Emirates
University

Dr. Stephanie L. Hartzell

Assistant Professor
Department of
Communication Studies
California State
University, Long Beach

ORWAC Leadership and Service Opportunities

Nominations are now open for ORWAC leadership and service opportunities!

Treasurer (4-year term). The ORWAC Treasurer receives membership dues, manages payments on behalf of ORWAC, keeps a financial journal of all income and expenses, prepares semi-annual financial reports for the board, balances the accounts monthly, files taxes annually, and maintains the organizations' investments. This is an important role for the stability and longevity of our organization, so you will be trained thoroughly by our current treasurer, Alyssa Samek. If you have questions, you can email her at alyssa.samek@gmail.com

Membership Officer (4-year term). The Membership Officer maintains our website (www.orwac.org), processes new members and membership renewals through the website, sends mailing lists to Taylor & Francis for distributing *Women's Studies in Communication*, and creates semi-annual reports on our membership and website use for the board and membership. This position usually requires no more than a few hours of work a month. Our current membership officer, Tiffany Lewis, will train you on all of these tasks. If you have questions about this role, you can email her at: tiffany.lewis@baruch.cuny.edu

Student Representative (2-year term). The Student Representatives are charged with representing student interests in addition to maintaining ORWACs social media presence and outreach. We are looking to elect no more than 2 Student Representatives. If you have questions about this role, you can email the ORWAC vice president, Loretta LeMaster, who is charged with mentoring the Student Representatives. You can email her at: loretta.lemaster@asu.edu

Elections scheduled for Sunday Feb. 19, 2023 from 4:15-5:30pm in the Gilbert Room

Please Join Us...

ORWAC Business Meeting

**Sunday Feb. 19, 2023
4:15-5:30pm
Gilbert Room**

ORWAC Reception

**Sunday Feb. 19, 2023
6:30-8:00pm
Gilbert Room**



Photo credit: Markus Spiske. Image description: the words "FIGHT SEXISM!" are spray painted across the exterior of a marble building wall.

Newsletter produced by Lore/tta LeMaster, ORWAC Vice President
Join [ORWAC](#)