



Call for papers

International Conference
« Women in the Academic World »

Paris, March 25-27, 2015

The conference is an action of the TRIGGER project (Transforming Institutions by Gendering Contents and Gaining Equality in Research) and will take place within the following universities of the higher education and research alliance known as Sorbonne Paris Cité: Université de Paris Sorbonne Nouvelle, Université Paris Descartes, Université Paris Diderot, Université Paris 13 Villetaneuse



Recent changes in the French higher education system are at the origins of this conference, notably the nomination of persons responsible for promoting equality between women and men within institutions of higher education and the creation in Paris of the higher education and research alliance, Sorbonne Paris Cité.

The academic context:

In the past ten years scholarship on women in the academic world has grown considerably in France. From an initial presentation of the situation in *Les enseignantes-chercheuses à l'université* [Women scholars and teachers at the university] (2002) to the publication of the book *Le plafond de fer de l'université* [The iron ceiling in the university] (2010), scores of articles and journal issues have explored the ambiguous relationship between the sciences, research, and gender. Most recently, an official report by the Association nationale des études féministes, *Le genre dans l'enseignement supérieur et la recherche* [Gender in higher education and in academic research] (2014) highlights the unequal gender relations that continue to structure higher education. These studies draw on quantitative data to illustrate two longstanding tendencies: the decreasing number of women present as one climbs the academic ladder and the gendered nature of university specializations even if the "sex" of specializations has evolved historically. Qualitative studies have revealed a number of factors contributing to both horizontal and vertical workplace segregation: 1/ gendered patterns of socialization from infancy onward produce differing expectations and career strategies for men and women; 2/ the sexual division of work and the difficult conciliation of family life with professional careers for women who bear the brunt of activities in the domestic sphere; 3/ and increasingly scholarship highlights institutional resistance itself, which produces gendered norms that contribute to discrimination between the sexes. In addition, numerous gender stereotypes continue to affect representation of work and those who do it. This has consequences in the evaluation of dossiers, in the perception of what constitutes of "excellence", in the nature of men's and women's careers and in the perpetuation of a "glass ceiling".

Intellectual and political stakes:

This interdisciplinary conference seeks to map out a comparative international approach to the place of women in different academic disciplines, but also within the administrative staff drawing on existing quantitative data; it also seeks to identify the enduring obstacles in women's careers, while bringing to light and evaluating the variety of programs that promote gender equality within the university.

We invite contributions on the following series of questions or themes. We are interested in papers that approach the topic through a variety of perspectives from the humanities and social sciences (history, sociology, economics, psychology, political science, moral philosophy...), as well as papers that explore the effects of political and public policies with respect to the place of women in academia.

Scientific questions and themes

- Historical approaches: what are the historical processes that explain the feminization of universities (studies on women "pioneers" and their followers)?
- Social-historical analyses of women's careers in higher education.
- Social-demographic approaches to the glass ceiling in higher education.
- Feminization = devalorization? Women students' gendered disciplinary and professional orientations.
- Women in the sciences and medicine: articulation of professional and private life; the gender of specializations; the effects of gender in scientific and medical research.
- Psycho-social approaches: the gendered dimensions of workplace stress.

Public policy and political orientations

- What political measures have been enacted and with what result? Evaluation of national initiatives to promote women within the higher education system as well the political and ethical underpinnings necessary for the development of new measures.
- Comparison of national and international scholarship on women in the academic world highlighting the obstacles that remain and the measures that have been effective.

Organizing Committee:

- Anne Kupiec, Vice-Présidente des relations humaines, Directrice du Pôle Égalité Femmes-Hommes (PEFH), Université Paris Diderot
- Rachida Lemmaghti, chargée de mission égalité, Université Paris Diderot
- Sophie Lhenry, sociologue, chargée d'études au PEFH, Université Paris Diderot
- Pascale Molinier, chargée de mission égalité, Université Paris 13 Villetaneuse
- Rebecca Rogers, chargée de mission parité hommes-femmes, Université Paris Descartes
- Marie Soledad Rodriguez, chargée de mission égalité, Université Paris Sorbonne Nouvelle
- Gabrielle Costa de Beauregard, chargée de mission, Sorbonne Paris Cité

Submitting a Paper Proposal
Deadline: May 26, 2014

The conference languages will be both French and English with simultaneous translation for the plenary sessions and some of the workshops (depending on the financing obtained).

The organizers welcome three types of proposals:

- 1) A paper proposal
- 2) A symposium with 3 related papers
- 3) A poster

Please send a 500 word abstract that indicates the subject of your talk, the main questions and the sources it will use. Include a brief bibliography of five appropriate references. Indicate which theme or themes your talk explores.

For a symposium, please include an overall argument (between 300 and 500 words).

Include in your submission a brief curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages).

Paper proposals should be sent to: lesfemmesdanslemondeacademique@uspc.fr

The committee will send out their response by early July 2014.

Scientific Committee

Leora Auslander, University of Chicago
Elisabeth Belmas, Vice-Présidente du Conseil d'administration, Université Paris 13
Nicole Fouché, Association Réussir l'égalité femmes-hommes, EHESS
Delphine Gardey, Etudes genre, Université de Genève
Claudine Hermann, Association Femmes et Sciences
Jacqueline Laufer, MAGE, HEC
Anne Larue, Université Paris 13
Emmanuelle Latour, Ministère des droits des femmes
Hélène Lee-Gosselin, Chaire Claire-Bonenfant « Femmes, savoirs et sociétés », Univ. de Laval
Nicky Lefeuve, Centre d'études genre, Université de Lausanne
Anne Le Friant, Institut Physique du Globe de Paris
Claire Le Jeune, Université Paris Descartes
Catherine Marry, Centre Maurice Halbwachs, CNRS
Margaret Maruani, MAGE, Paris Descartes
Olivier Martin, Cerlis, Université Paris Descartes
Matamoros, Isabelle, Association EfiGies
Nicolas Mignan, Directeur Général des Services, Paris Descartes
Françoise Milewski, Presage, Sciences Po
Annie Montaut, Institut Nationale des Langues et des Civilisations Orientales
Anne Pépin, Mission pour les femmes au CNRS
Hélène Périvier, Presage, Sciences Po
Emmanuelle Picard, LAHRHA, ENS LSH Lyon
Frédérique Pigeyre, Institut de recherche en gestion, Université de Paris Est-Créteil
Fabrice Virgili, Mnemosyne, IRICE, Université Paris I