

The Massachusetts Historical Society's 2020 Conrad E. Wright Research Conference

"Shall Not Be Denied":

The 15th and 19th Amendments at the Sesquicentennial and Centennial of Their Ratifications

(As a result of ongoing public health concerns, the Massachusetts Historical Society has altered its original plan for an in-person conference in October 2020. Rather than meeting for two days of sessions, we have decided to host the conference panels online between Monday, 12 October and Friday, 16 October 2020. The originally scheduled keynote panel will be postponed until it is safe to hold the event in person at the MHS.)

Monday, 12 October 2020

2:00-2:30 p.m.: Introduction and opening remarks

- Catherine Allgor, Massachusetts Historical Society

2:30-4:00 p.m.: Biographies of Suffrage Champions

Presenters:

- Ellen DuBois, University of California Los Angeles, "Frederick Douglass & Elizabeth Cady Stanton"
- Thomas Dublin, SUNY Binghamton, "The Changing Shape of the Black Women Suffrage Movement, 1870-1920"
- N. Lynn Eckhert, Partners Healthcare International, "The Role of African American and Women Physicians in Voting Rights in America"

Commenter:

Manisha Sinha, University of Connecticut

TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2020:

12:00-1:40 p.m.: Marriage and the Amendments

Presenters:

- Helene Quanquin, University of Lille, "Troubling Marriage: Abby Kelley and Stephen S. Foster and the Fifteenth Amendment"
- Carol Faulkner, Syracuse University, "Suffrage and the Specter of Interracial Marriage"
- Jessica Derleth, SUNY Binghamton, "Marital Unity Through the Franchise: Suffragists' Manipulation of Gender and Marriage Norms"

Commenter:

Kathi Kern, University of Kentucky

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2020:

2:00-3:40 p.m.: *The Federal Government and Voting Rights in States and Across the Empire*

Presenters:

- **Silvana R. Siddali**, Saint Louis University, “African American Suffrage, Western State Constitutions, and the Fifteenth Amendment”
- **Sunu Kodumthara**, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, “Oklahoma, the 19th Amendment, and the ‘Threat’ of Racial Equality”
- **Laura R. Prieto**, Simmons University, “Still Subjects, Not Sovereigns: The Nineteenth Amendment and American Empire in the Philippines.”

Commenter:

Paul Finkelman, Gratz College

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2020:

1:30-3:40 p.m.: *Is She Disqualified From Voting?*

Presenters:

- **Corinne T. Field**, University of Virginia, “Turning Ridicule into Respect: Old Women and Leadership in the Long Women’s Suffrage Movement, 1850-1920”
- **Nicole Etcheson**, Ball State University, “‘When Women Do Military Duty’: Women Suffrage and the Civil War Era”
- **Kara W. Swanson**, Northeastern University School of Law, “Inventing Voters: Ability, Patents, and Civil Rights, 1870-1920”
- **Rabia S. Belt**, Stanford Law School, “Disability and the Struggle for Voting Rights”

Commenter:

Paula Austin, Boston University

FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2020:

1:30-3:00 p.m.: *What did the Amendments Not Cover?*

Presenters:

- **Adam H. Domby**, College of Charleston, “The Lost Cause and the 15th Amendment: Disenfranchisement and the Passage of the 19th Amendment”
- **Elizabeth Katz**, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, “Women’s Suffrage and the Right to Hold Public Office”

Commenter:

Akhil Reed Amar, Yale Law School

3:00-3:30 p.m.: Concluding Remarks

- **Allison Lange**, Wentworth Institute of Technology
- **Christian Samito**, Boston University School of Law