



Doing Gender in The Netherlands: TRANS* approaches, methods & concepts

***National Research Day for Faculty and PhD students in the fields of
Gender, Ethnicity, Sexuality and Diversity***

Friday June 10, 2016 – Leiden University

The Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies (NOG) hosts the annual National Research Day, held this year at the Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society. The NOG Research Day is a dedicated platform for sharing the work of junior and senior researchers of Dutch universities in the fields of Gender, Ethnicity, Sexuality and Diversity. Faculty, Postdoctorate fellows, PhD candidates and Research Master students are cordially invited to participate in this event.

Call for Papers:

The 2016 edition of this NOG Research Day focuses in particular on *trans** approaches, methods and concepts. Some immediate associations may arise in relation to transgender experience, transgenre cultural productions, transcultural interactions and transnational/translational politics. The asterisk (*) is a wildcard for the many possibilities for affixing *trans* to other terms. *Trans*, *inter* and *multi* show up very often in the fields of gender and sexuality, transnational/translational and transcultural theories, as well as in diversity and inclusivity studies. What are the semantic differences in the ways that they are used and/or function as concepts, approaches and methods? This year's conference aims to examine underlying assumptions and support reflection on the various layers of meaning in our professional jargon and analytical language. It provides the space and opportunity for deliberating the multiple workings of *trans** as a prefix, as well as for discussing case studies that demonstrate its (un)productivity.

Hyper-connectivity defines local and global societies: how would a transversal approach to culture, capital, and their circulation frame our understanding of these processes? In what ways does Gender Studies in The Netherlands contribute to the multiculturalism debate? How might the concept of a non-binary 'two-spirit' gender identity elucidate the ways in which colonial settler dynamics silence polyvocality? These and other questions raised by the decolonial option, transgender studies, critical whiteness, queer theory, translation & comparison studies and other perspectives can be addressed under the plurality of *trans**.

We welcome scholars from all disciplines who are invested in analyzing difference and difference marking practices, such as gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, class, religion, age, ability, and citizenship. We are excited to showcase research conducted into these social

categories through methods including but not limited to empirical, historical, ethnographic, experimental, artistic, hermeneutic, and affective approaches.

The *Doing Gender in the Netherlands Day* is open for presentations by PhD students and Research Master students registered at Dutch universities as well as Postdocs and Faculty who would like to share some of their current research with other gender scholars.

There are several options to participate:

- As a presenter of a 15 min. paper
- As a session moderator
- As a participant without paper presentation

Through the presentation of work-in-progress of the current generation of gender scholars, the NOG research days seek to both monitor and critique national developments and contemporary discussions within the field. It is not required to be a member of NOG in order to participate, but we do encourage new members to join by emailing their local representative and the NOG office. Membership is free, possible to combine with other research schools, and includes a monthly newsletter and access to all NOG events (including earning graduate training credit).

Deadline for abstracts:

Abstracts for papers (300 words maximum) can be sent to NOG@uu.nl until **Friday March 18, 2016**. Please mention the following details: your name, university and if applicable supervisor(s). By **Friday April 1**, we'll let you know whether your abstract has been accepted.

Accepted papers are due **Friday May 20, 2016** and should be submitted to NOG@uu.nl. The final paper should be no more than 2,500-3,500 words (excluding footnotes and references), and will be sent to the moderator and co-presenters of the session in advance.

Format of the day:

The day will start with a welcome speech by the Vice-Rector of Leiden University, Professor Simone Buitendijk, who leads the Diversity Steering Group, followed by a brief opening address by NOG director Professor Rosemarie Buikema, Dr. Liesbeth Minnaard (NOG board member) and Dr. Eliza Steinbock (NOG curriculum committee member). Dr. Trish Salah (Queen's University, Canada) will then give an agenda-setting keynote speech, which outlines *trans** many productive possibilities.

The second part of the morning as well as the afternoon will be dedicated to discussions of work-in-progress by means of paper presentations. Thematic parallel sessions on "doing gender research" and also "doing diversity work" will run in 90-minute slots. Presenters should prepare a 15 minute presentation based on their full paper, and 5 minutes of feedback for fellow presenters, for instance linking to their research approach(es), method(s) and concept(s). Full papers will be distributed in advance among the panel participants and the moderator. Each session will be moderated by a NOG staff member, who will respond to the panel presentations and facilitate discussion.

The academic program of the day will be concluded with a round table discussion on the (un)foreseeable future of doing gender and diversity from a *trans** (however interpreted) perspective, featuring position papers by Netherlands-based scholars, artists and activists. We invite you to continue the discussion over drinks.

Language:

The language of the day is English.

Registration:

Please reply to this email if you wish to attend the National Research Day *Doing Gender in the Netherlands* as a paper presenter, participant or moderator **before Friday March 18, 2016**.

To organize this National Research Day we ask for a contribution of €15,- from every attendee, (presenter or participant) for tea, coffee, lunch and drinks, to be paid in cash at the registration desk on the day.

Publications:

Members of the board of the Dutch Journal of Genderstudies (*Tijdschrift voor Genderstudies*) will be present to select some of the best papers to be further developed for publication.

Workshop:

On **Thursday June 9, 2016** Dr. Salah, scholar and poet, will conduct a workshop on the politics of cultural translation and the aesthetics of minority and diasporic literature, that will include a creative writing exercise. This event takes place from 14-17 hrs at Leiden University and is organized in partnership with LeidenGlobal, LIAS, and LUCAS. NOG students can receive 1 EC for their active participation and by writing an essay; please note if you wish to receive credit with your registration. Maximum capacity is 25 people, open from Research Master to faculty level. Register by email to NOG@uu.nl, with a 200-word motivation for participating in the workshop before **Thursday May 26**. More information to follow.

More information:

The Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies (NOG) hosted at Utrecht University (The Netherlands) provides a platform for gender sensitive and postcolonial research. Since 1995, the NOG has offered a highly successful training programme and research environment for postgraduate students, PhD students and senior researchers. The NOG teaching and research staff consists of an international team of professors and senior lecturers from various universities. The NOG is a top European programme and plays a central role in European cooperation on research and training in the area of Gender and Postcolonial studies. It has an excellent, long-standing international reputation for its pioneering work in the field of literary, cultural, philosophical, anthropological and epistemological feminist studies. It offers one of Europe's most advanced interdisciplinary teaching and research programmes in the humanities and social sciences, with a core curriculum on feminist theory, issues of difference and diversity, gender and postcolonialism. In addition, the NOG is involved in European and international projects such as the InterGender network (coordinated by Linköping University, with other Swedish partner universities and international universities such as Humboldt University and Helsinki University) RINGS, GRACE and ATGENDER, to establish an European joint PhD curriculum in Gender Studies. See more at: <http://www.graduategenderstudies.nl/>

The NOG Board consists of Prof. Rosemarie Buikema (Utrecht University, Graduate Gender Programme and scientific chair of the NOG), Prof. Lies Wesseling (Maastricht University, Centre for Gender and Diversity), Dr. Stefan Dudink (Radboud University Nijmegen, Institute for Gender Studies), Dr. Rachel Spronk (University of Amsterdam, Research Center for Gender and Sexuality) and Dr. Liesbeth Minnaard (Leiden University).

We look forward to an inspiring day, and hope to see you all on the 10th of June!

On behalf of the board,
Leiden conference organizers, Liesbeth Minnaard, Eliza Steinbock, and Looi van Kessel