

**Announcing Resourceful Women Conference 2020
Virtual Keynote and Herbruck Prize Winners**

While the Fourteenth Aquinas College RESOURCEFUL WOMEN CONFERENCE did not happen in person on Saturday, March 28, the Planning Committee is pleased to announce some key conference components that have been preserved virtually:

I. Virtual Conference Keynote Lecture:

**“Women’s Political Representation:
Where We Are, Where We are Going, and Why It Matters,”
by Aquinas Alumna Kelly Dittmar, Ph.D.,**

Scholar at the Center for American Women & Politics
at Rutgers University’s Eagleton Institute of Politics
and Author of *A Seat at the Table*:

Congresswomen’s Perspectives on Why Their Presence Matters (Oxford UP, 2018)

Click here for Dr. Dittmar’s analysis of recent trends in women’s political representation—and why women’s political representation matters in 2020 and beyond:

LINK: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZSz8I_a1CeB3qZfNhVeA_KoIVG1MmFG8/view?usp=sharing

II. Congratulations to Diane Herbruck Prize Winners for Outstanding Student Submissions:

Erin Dwan, “A Case for the Inclusion of Transgender Athletes
in High School and College Sports”

Alyssa Noch, “On the Ballot: Uncovering Grand Rapids Women’s Electoral History in the 1920s”

The conference keynote and Herbruck Prize presentations will soon be available in a new Library Archive for the Resourceful Women Conference, thanks to the resources of Library Co-Director Shellie Jeffries.

For more information on the history of the RWC, see:

<https://www.aquinas.edu/womens-center/resourceful-women-conference>

III. Congratulations to all RWC 2020 Accepted Student Submissions:

Please also congratulate the following students for their acceptance to the Conference – and look for some of their presentations in poster form at the online 2020 Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Symposium, thanks to the direction of Dr. Elizabeth Jensen.

Madeline Anderson, “Unholy Girls”
Mentor: Amy Dunham Strand

Breanne Blackwell, "Sorry Mom"
Mentor: Amy Dunham Strand

Julia Cooke, "Marital Status, Parenthood, and Alcoholism: Examining the Effects of the Single Motherhood Penalty on Socio-Cognitive Judgments"
Mentors: Joyce Oates and Molly Wilson

Amy Cutlip, "Freedom To': Reconstructing Feminism in *The Handmaid's Tale*"
Mentor: Rebecca Coogan

Laney DeBrabander, "*Beloved* and *Jazz*: A Comparative Analysis"
Mentor: Michelle DeRose

Ethno-Poetry Panel

Dominique Foley, "Ethno-Poetry and 'My Identity'"
Darla Romero, "The Barrio Along Grandville Avenue"
Aubrey Ruiz, "I'm Made of All These Parts"
Mentor: Shelli Rottschafer

Kaela Frailing, "Eating Disorder Diagnosis and Gender-Relative Energy Deficiency in Endurance Athletics"
Mentor: Amy Dunham Strand

Esperanza Garcia, "The Invisible Women of the Mexican-American War"
Mentor: Elizabeth Chamberlain

Bridget Gibley, "Love and Friendship: Relationships Among Women in Jane Austen's Novels"
Mentor: Rebecca Coogan

Anna Klocke, "My Name"
Mentor: Michelle DeRose

Lana LaFramboise, "Dancing Against the Social Construct of Frailty"
Mentor: Jen Lendrum

Juliette Rickel, "The Feminine Experience in the Judicial System of the Ottoman Empire"
Mentor: Bethany Kilcrease

Meg Thornton, "How Women Carry the Cross: The Re-Traumatization of Female Survivors"
Mentor: Jen Lendrum

IV. And Special Thanks to Planning Committee Members, Judges, Mentors, Participants, and Supporters of the RWC 2020:

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE AND JUDGES

Penny Avery (Communication), Rebecca Coogan (English), Jennifer Dawson (English), Rebecca Penny Humphrey (Biology), Shari McCarty (Mathematics), Shelli Rottschafer (World Languages), Carmen Ruiz-Sanchez (World Languages), and Amy Dunham Strand (Women's Studies)

ADDITIONAL JUDGES

Elizabeth Chamberlain (History), Michelle DeRose (English), Bethany Kilcrease (History), Jen Lendrum (Sociology), Julie Schatz-Stevens (Psychology), and Molly Wilson (Psychology)

SPECIAL THANKS to Diane Herbruck, '79, President of The Wordsmiths, Inc., whose generosity funds the conference's Outstanding Student Awards and who has spent her career creating environments of clear and effective communication in which others can thrive. Some may know Diane as poet, essayist, and screenplay and short story writer Emma Bonta;

and to the following departments, offices, and programs for their support of this event: Advantage Center, Alumni Office, Aquinas College Women's Chorus, Center for Diversity, Inclusion & Equity, Communication, Community Leadership, Contemporary Writers Series, First Lady of Aquinas College Terry Quinn, Inquiry & Expression Program, Insignis Honors Program, Grace Hauenstein Library, Political Science, Sociology, and the Writing Center.