



## CAROLINA WOMEN'S CENTER ANNOUNCES 2017-2018 FACULTY SCHOLARS

**Chapel Hill, N.C. (April 17, 2017)** – The Carolina Women's Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is proud to announce its Faculty Scholars for the 2017–2018 academic year. Dr. Barbara Friedman, Dr. Melissa Geil, Dr. Liana Richardson will use their funding to undertake projects that reflect the Center's mission to further gender equity. Dr. Michelle T. King will take up her postponed 2016-2017 scholarship.



**Dr. Melissa Geil's** project, **“The Monstrous Shape of Books: Authorship, Disability, and the Rise of Print Culture in Early Modern England,”** explores the intersection of three distinct yet entangled cultural threads: authorship, in the trope of (male) authors giving birth; reproduction, in form of midwifery texts preoccupied with “monstrous births”; and disability, the fearsome spawn of both authorship and reproduction in the context of the print revolution. Geil's “project is interested in the way in which a text like [Nicoloas] Culpeper's [*A Directory for Midwives*] reconfigures the reproductive process through language and representation, and what the impact of

this reconfiguration is for childbirth, women's bodies, and authorship in the early modern period.” Geil is a teaching assistant professor in the English and Comparative Literature department.

Dr. Barbara Friedman's project, **“It's on Us, Too: The Role and Responsibility of Student Media in Covering Campus Sexual Assault,”** will explore the ways in which student media outlets frame campus sexual assault; that is, how the media closest to the issue define problems, diagnose causes, make moral judgements, and/or suggest remedies. Building on prior research and engaged scholarship around media depictions of sex trafficking, Friedman will use the results to develop a specialized training for student journalists about how to cover campus sexual assault accurately and responsibly. She is an associate professor in the School of Media and Journalism and an adjunct faculty member of Women's and Gender Studies.



For **“The Pei Mei Project: History, Gender and Memory Through the Pages of a Chinese Cookbook,”** **Dr. Michelle T. King** investigates “Fu Pei-mei's life and career as the doyenne of Chinese cooking as a window into three key issues in postwar society in Taiwan, including the development of foodways as a critical national political project, shifting gender roles, and transnational constructions of Chinese/Taiwanese identity through successive generations.” Exploring the ways in which Fu's culinary lessons and food memories mediate “inter-generational,

transnational connections” between the middle-class women who remained in Taiwan and who emigrated for their education, the project envisions a bilingual English-Chinese website that will also “build an international, intergenerational, virtual community of interested Pei-mei fans, foodies and Chinese diasporas.” King is an associate professor of history.

**Dr. Liana J. Richardson’s** project, “**Understanding the Accelerated Physiological Aging of African American Women: The Embodiment and Expression of Intersectional Inequality,**” brings an intersectional analytic lens to bear on the disparate health outcomes of African American women, many of whom experience “premature or accelerated physiological (versus chronological) aging. Using qualitative and quantitative longitudinal data, Richardson will “conduct a more comprehensive test of the intersectional effects of race and gender on the health and aging of African American women relative to their same race male counterparts and males and females of other races,” with attention to the specific stress factors which may impact aging. Dr. Richardson is an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology.

Please join the Women’s Center in congratulating all the recipients of next year’s Faculty Scholars grant!