An Intergenerational Conversation on Leadership for Feminist Movement Building

Thursday, February 2, 2012 • 7–9 pm
Stanford University, Tressider Oak West

Participate in an intimate evening with a panel of academic leaders, practitioners and students who will address the challenges of leadership in the next phase of the feminist movement, considering questions about how we define the movement, how it operates and how we fund it. Panelists include:

- Miranda Mammen — Women’s Glib
- Vanessa Daniels — Groundswell Fund
- Shannon Farley — Spark
- Helen Kim — Building Movement Project
- Linda Burnham — Women of Color Resource Center
- Kim Meredith — Stanford PACS

Moderated by Casey Nichols, Stanford University, PhD Candidate, Department of History

RSVP: programs@sparksf.org
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Panelists

Casey Nichols, Moderator (PhD Candidate, Stanford University, Department of History) is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of History at Stanford University. She also holds a position as Graduate Program Coordinator at the Women’s Community Center. She earned a BA in History from California State University, Long Beach in 2007 and a MA in History from the University of Washington, Seattle in 2009. Casey is currently conducting research for her dissertation. Her primary fields of interest are in 20th Century U.S. Urban History and her dissertation seeks to examine the relationship between civil rights, social policy, and racial identity politics.

Miranda Mammen (Founder & Editor, Women’s Glib) is a sophomore at Stanford University majoring in American Studies. She is the founder and editor of Women’s Glib, a group blog devoted to young feminist issues that she created in high school. She has developed a passion for women’s leadership and policy issues through her work with the Stanford Women’s Community Center; Women & Youth Supporting Each Other, a mentoring program at Stanford; NARAL Pro-Choice New York; and Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children.

Vanessa Daniel (Executive Director, Groundswell Fund) has over 15 years of experience working in social justice movements as a union and community organizer, researcher, freelance journalist, and social justice grantmaker. She is the founding Director of Groundswell Fund, which supports a stronger U.S. movement for reproductive justice by mobilizing new funding and capacity-building resources to grassroots organizing and policy change efforts led by low-income women, women of color, and transgendered people. Prior to leading Groundswell, Vanessa worked for Tides Foundation, where she supported grantmaking for LGBT youth organizing, economic justice, and reproductive justice. Under her leadership, reproductive justice grantmaking increased from $500,000 to $3 million annually and expanded its scope to include technical assistance, evaluation, and funder organizing. Before joining Tides, Vanessa worked in multiple capacities for different sectors of the U.S. social justice movement. As a union organizer with Service Employees International Union Local 715, she built the leadership of homecare and other healthcare workers to successfully fight layoffs, increase wages and improve health benefits and working conditions. As a community organizer she worked with S.I.R.E.N. (Service, Immigrant Rights, & Education Network) on welfare rights in immigrant communities and with EBASE (East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy), on the campaign that won a landmark living wage law at the Port of Oakland. Her research at the Applied Research Center, a racial justice think tank, supported the grassroots organizing work of welfare mothers involved in GROWL, a national network of community-based welfare rights organizations. Vanessa currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health and Rights, and East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy, and on the steering committee for Bay Area Justice Funders Network. Vanessa has a B.A. in American Ethnic Studies from Smith College and is a graduate of the Center for Third World Organization’s Movement Activist Apprenticeship Program.

Shannon Farley (Executive Director, Spark) is the Executive Director of Spark. Since its founding in 2004, Spark has engaged over 5,000 young professionals in the Bay Area in education, volunteerism, and activism as well as raised over $350,000 for grassroots women’s organizations in the Bay Area and around the world. As its first Executive Director, Shannon is tasked with taking Spark to the next level. She is increasing programming and fundraising goals to strengthen Spark’s local and global positioning. Prior to joining Spark, Shannon helped start the W. Hayward Burns Institute, which works to protect and improve the lives of youth of color, poor children and their communities by ensuring fairness and equity throughout all public and private youth serving systems. She previously worked for the Youth Law Center where she provided legal services for youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Shannon has eleven years of experience working in the fields of health and justice for women and girls. She has worked at domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and health education forums. In 2004, she was chosen to be a Women’s Policy Institute Fellow for the Women’s Foundation of California and in 2009, she was received the New Leader’s Council “Top 40 under 40 Award. Shannon holds a BA in American Studies from Georgetown University and an MS in Gender and Social Policy from the London School of Economics.

Helen Kim (Building Movement Project) is an organizational development consultant, leadership trainer and coach with over twenty years of experience in working with social change organizations in the US and internationally. She is a co-author of Working Across Generations: Defining the Future of Nonprofit Leadership (Jossey-Bass, 2008) and has facilitated many regional, national, and international convenings on social justice movement building strategies and supporting the next generation of social sector leaders. She is also a team member of Building Movement Project and trainer for Rockwood Leadership Institute. Prior to her consultant work, Helen worked as a community organizer for Asian Immigrant Women Advocates, where she focused on immigrant and worker rights and environmental justice issues. She emigrated from Korea when she was twelve years old and attended Carleton College and the University of Minnesota Law School. A 2009 Gerbode Fellow, Helen aspires to live and work with generosity of spirit and passion for justice.

Kim Meredith (Executive Director, Stanford PACS) is the first Executive Director of the Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society (PACS). Ms. Meredith joined in July 2009 and one year later she led the team to acquire the Stanford Social Innovation Review (SSIR). Ms. Meredith brings dynamic and innovative leadership as a savvy non-profit leader to implement the mission of PACS and SSIR. Ms. Meredith engages faculty, students and practitioners in multidisciplinary research and exploration then serves as the catalyst for PACS and SSIR in knowledge sharing and community building. As the voice of the center, Ms. Meredith is a serving unique role by bridging research to practice to inform philanthropy, nonprofit practice, policy and social innovation. Ms. Meredith most recently served at the Chief Development Officer for Planned Parenthood Federation of America in New York City. Before joining PPFA, Ms. Meredith served for nine years as the Chief Operating Officer at Planned Parenthood Golden Gate in San Francisco. Meredith launched her business career in corporate America at AT&T for 10 years. Meredith currently serves on the Board of Directors of the George Lucas Education Foundation and the Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund known as SV2. Ms. Meredith graduated from Stanford University with a B.A. in Economics and Broadcast Communications. In 2005, she received a fellowship to attend the Stanford Graduate School of Business Executive Program for Nonprofit Leaders.

Linda Burnham (Founder, Women of Color Resource Center) is a co-founder and former executive director of the Women of Color Resource Center, a community-based organization that links activists with scholars and provides information and analysis on the social, political and economic issues that most affect women of color. Burnham founded the center to provide a strong institutional base for an agenda that recognizes the crucial interconnections between anti-racist, anti-sexist and anti-homophobic organizing. Burnham has worked for decades as an activist and writer focused on women’s rights and racial equality. She was a leader in the Third World Women’s Alliance, an organization that grew out of a women’s caucus in the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and that, early on, challenged the women’s movement to incorporate issues of race and class into the feminist agenda. Burnham has participated in conferences and meetings with women in Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, and Cuba, returning with insights about the global factors that affect women’s status and the unique ways in which women organize to create change in their communities. Burnham has written extensively on topics of Black politics and women’s rights. She was the first editor of Race File, a publication that compiles and analyzes articles highlighting key trends in communities of color. Currently Burnham is an editor of Crossroads, a magazine that promotes dialogue and debate on the left side of the political spectrum.

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