

INDIGENOUS FEMINIST MEANING-MAKING FROM PALESTINE TO TURTLE ISLAND

Bios

Abdallah Altamimi (UIC): Abdallah is an undergraduate History major and a Global Asian Studies/Biology minor. A second-generation Palestinian immigrant, he was born in Chicago and grew up in the heart of the local Palestinian community. His interests lay mainly in human social-ecological systems and environmental justice, heavily informed by his transnational perspective.

Mark Canuel (UIC): Mark Canuel is Director of the Institute for the Humanities, Professor of English, and a scholar of British Romantic literature. His most recent book is *The Fate of Progress in British Romanticism*, published with Oxford University Press in 2022.

Tol Foster (UIC): Dr. Tol Foster, Citizen of the Mvskoke Creek Tribe of Oklahoma, is the director of the Native American Support Program at UIC.

Kekulalani Keauli'i (UIC): Kekulalani Keauli'i (she/her) is a Native Hawaiian and Japanese feminist from the island O'ahu. She's a second year undergraduate student double majoring in Global Asian Studies and English with concentrations in Professional Writing and Fictional Creative Writing. She's the Pacific Islander Student Outreach Coordinator under the AANAPISI Initiative and a member of the UIC Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Asian Americans since September 2022. Beginning Spring 2023, she became the President of the Native American and Indigenous Student Organization and is active in the Hawaiian and Indigenous community in Chicago.

Dima Khalidi (Palestine Legal): Dima is a Chicago-based Palestinian American lawyer and advocate. She founded and directs Palestine Legal, a legal advocacy organization that protects the constitutional and civil rights of people speaking out for Palestinian freedom. Dima has a JD from DePaul University College of Law, an MA in International and Comparative Legal Studies from the University of London – SOAS, and a BA in History and Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan. Prior to law school, she headed a research project at Birzeit University in occupied Palestine on informal justice mechanisms in the Palestinian legal system.

Lena Meari (Birzeit University): Lena Meari was born in Haifa to a refugee family from Al-Birweh village. She is Assistant Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Institute of Women's Studies at Birzeit University, Palestine. She has special interest in the geopolitics of knowledge production; critical feminist theory; revolutionary movements; and decolonizing methodologies. Her research focuses on the formation of revolutionary subjectivity in colonial contexts and the practices of sumud among Palestinian political prisoners. Her publications include "Sumud: A Palestinian Philosophy of Confrontation in Colonial Prisons," "Re-signifying 'Sexual' Colonial Power Techniques: The Experiences of Palestinian Women Political Prisoners," and the co-edited books "Rethinking Gender in Revolutions and Resistance: Lessons from the Arab World" and "The Politics of Engaged Gender Research in the Arab Region: Feminist Fieldwork and the Production of Knowledge."

Nadine Suleiman Naber (UIC): Dr. Nadine Naber is a Professor in the Gender and Women's Studies Program and the Global Asian Studies Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is author/co-editor of five books including *Arab America: Gender, Cultural Politics and Activism* (NYU Press, 2012). She is lead author of the policy reports, "Beyond Profiling and Erasure: Cultivating Strong and Vibrant Arab American Communities in Chicagoland." (IRRPP/UIC, 2022) and "The Paradox of Social Development in the Arab Region" (United Nations, 2015), and recipient of the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Prize from the American Studies Association and the 2002 YWCA's Y-Women's Leadership Award. She is co-founder of the Arab and Muslim American Studies Program at the University of Michigan and the Arab American Cultural Center at UIC. She is an editorial board member of the *Journal of Palestine Studies* and serves on the boards of organizations such as the Arab American Action Network, Al-Shabakah, the National Council for Arab Americans, and the Feminist Peace Initiative.

Hayley Negrin (UIC): Hayley Negrin is an assistant professor of history at the University of Illinois Chicago specializing in Indigenous feminism and early American history. She has served as a researcher on federal Indian law cases and has published several pieces in the *Washington Post* on Indigenous childhood, racial representations of Native people, and federal Indian law. Her recent *William and Mary Quarterly* Article “Cockacoeske’s Rebellion: Nathaniel Bacon, Indigenous Sovereignty and Slavery in Early Virginia” reinterprets the rise of racial slavery in the American South through the lens of Indigenous women and is based off her work with the Pamunkey tribe in Virginia.

Rania Salem (US Palestinian Community Network): Born and raised in Chicago, Rania Salem is a Palestinian woman from Dheisheh refugee camp in Palestine. Her family is originally from a village called Jrash that was ethnically cleansed in 1948 then her family was internally displaced to Dheisheh rcamp in Bethlehem. Rania is an active poet, a program coordinator with the IL Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and a community based organizer with the U.S Palestinian Community Network.

Razan Samara (University of Toronto): Razan Samara (she/her) is a Palestinian community worker, graduate researcher, and arts educator currently living on Dish With One Spoon Territory. She is pursuing her graduate studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, and is a member of the Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab, a collaborative research lab based in Indigenous feminist ethics. Razan works from Indigenous epistemologies to consider the relationships, joint resistance, and youth activism between Palestinian and Indigenous communities living on Turtle Island.

Melodi Serna (American Indian Center): Melodi Serna is from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and the Oneida Nation. Her passion for seeing Native American organizations succeed inspires her in her role as the current Executive Director of the American Indian Center of Chicago. Melodi, raised in the Native community in Chicago, which she now serves, continues with a long-standing familial community service tradition.

Cindy Tekobbe (UIC): Cindy Tekobbe is Assistant Professor of Critical Feminist Science & Technology at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC). She is dual appointed in Gender; Women’s Studies (GWS) and Communication. Her work investigates the digital lives, identities, and activism practices of traditionally underserved and erased peoples and communities. She serves on the Executive Committee for the Association of Internet Research (AoIR) and is a co-chair of the American Indian Caucus of the Conference on College Composition and Communication (4Cs). She is an ICQCM Scholar, and a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Eve Tuck (University of Toronto): Eve Tuck is Associate Professor of Critical Race and Indigenous Studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto. She is Canada Research Chair of Indigenous Methodologies with Youth and Communities. Tuck is the founding director of the Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab. Tuck is Unanga’ and is an enrolled member of the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, Alaska.

Angela Walden (UIC): Dr. Angela L. Walden (citizen, Cherokee Nation) is the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Diversity Initiatives in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Engagement (OVCDEE) and faculty in the Department of Psychology at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC). Angela created and leads OVCDEE’s Native American and Indigenous Inclusion and Belonging Initiative, which recently launched an education campaign, “Acknowledge’ is a Verb.” This campaign leverages interest in land acknowledgement practices as an entry point for increasing campus-wide knowledge about and interest in policies that support Native American and Indigenous people. She has a Ph.D. in clinical and community psychology and is a licensed clinical psychologist.

Zeina Zaatari (UIC): For over 25 years Zeina Zaatari, a feminist from South Lebanon, has worked on gender and racial justice in Arab and Arab American communities both within academic and non-profit spaces in programming and producing knowledge. Previously, she taught courses in Anthropology and Gender and Sexuality at several universities and worked as the Regional Director for the MENA Program at Global Fund for Women (2004-12) where she managed a diverse grantmaking program to support women’s and trans movements in the Middle East and North Africa. Zeina joined the UIC Arab American Cultural Center in January 2019 and is also adjunct Faculty in the department of Anthropology and Faculty Fellow in the Honors College.