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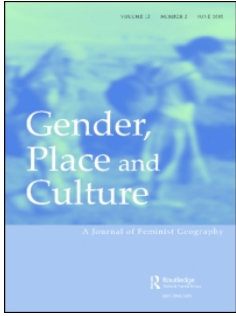
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## Gender, Place & Culture

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# Happy anniversary gender, place and culture!

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## INTRODUCTION



# Happy anniversary gender, place and culture!

It is with pleasure that we open this issue of *Gender, Place and Culture* with a short commentary as it enters its 25th year of publication! For a quarter of a century, feminist geographers have been locating their work vis-à-vis the arguments, discussions and debates that have spread across the pages of a journal devoted specifically to feminist analyses of geographical phenomena. At its founding, a primary tension shaping the journal had been a debate over transforming the discipline from within or carving out a dedicated space for taking up feminist issues, concerns and politics in geography (Bondi and Domosh 1994). As feminist geographers gained ground in positioning feminism within the wider discipline of geography, feminist geography as a specialised field of study spilled over into academic sites where feminism was also gaining ground – anthropology, sociology, history and women's studies programs and departments. These connections have only grown stronger and spread further over the years. The effects of these connections both informing and informed by the strength of feminist analysis across the various organizational schemes that define geography have shaped what issues, questions and topics are salient to research. The political goal identified by feminist geographers in the 1980s of mainstreaming or normalising feminism within geography has at least partially been achieved: there is now an entire generation of feminist scholars who have never known the academic landscape without *Gender, Place and Culture*.

Some reflections on the journal have put into context the ways in which the politics of the time mattered (Bondi and Domosh 2003, 2014). Yet as political projects are wont to go, there were serendipitous moments, such as the choice of 'culture' in the title coinciding with the 'cultural turn' in the discipline, that enhanced the journal being '*the place for feminist geography*' (Bondi and Domosh 2003, 4). Indeed it was the place. Feminist geographers as well as feminists from far afield submitted manuscripts for consideration. Some authors were established scholars, some were pre-tenure seeking job security, and some were students finding their way into academia. The journal grew in both the number of issues and in reputation. In both of the first two years of publication, there were two issues. In the mid-nought years, the number of issues expanded to six. As of 2016, the journal publishes 12 issues per year. The founding editors and the publisher brought with them an unwavering commitment to publish the highest quality of scholarship. Over the years, the reputation of the journal grew to one of publishing

high quality, cutting-edge and innovative pieces. With all this growth, the journal never stepped away from its naissance – it is still a political project to foreground *feminist* work in geography.

The momentum to sustain the journal's presence comprises the dedication of all the people whose work – both visible and invisible – supports the journal. The authors, who write up the research that already holds within it a complex set of networks and connections. The editorial team, who for many years have directed the intellectual focus of the journal by setting up peer review, making decisions about scholarly content, soliciting book reviews and promoting the content through social media. The reviewers, who engage deeply with the written work and offer insightful comments to enhance and strengthen the material in a supportive, constructive manner. The editorial board members, who set the direction of and provide guidance to the journal. The publisher, who provides the resources so that the objectives of the journal can be met. The editorial support team, who facilitate preparation of the manuscripts for peer review. The production team, who ensure that the journal has its recognizable, professional face that the feminist geography community has come to know. Although the people have changed over the years, the commitment to outstanding scholarship has not. Indeed, the success of the journal is entwined in the work of all the people who have succeeded in sustaining and developing feminist geographies and geographies of gender.

As a fitting tribute to the past 25 years of all this work feminist geographers and those supportive of them have collectively undertaken, members of the Editorial Board with the Editors chose *Feminist Ethos of Care* and, its associated practice, *Mentoring*, as the coordinated theme of the celebrations. Over the next year (and into 2019) there will be an assortment of publications and activities that have been organized in honour of this achievement. In each of the twelve issues for volume 25 in 2018, there will be lead article, or set of articles, addressing pertinent issues facing feminist geographers today. Some of the articles take stock of what sorts of analytical and political tools are available for feminist scholars to work with. Others provide insight into the current state of affairs with regard to some of the political terrain feminists occupy in the struggle for transformation. While still others point toward the future and propose ways of thinking about how to deal with the trying political times we live in. In addition, there will be book reviews of some of the well-worn, dog-eared classics that have contributed to shaping how feminist geography is what it is and what it might become. The journal's website ([genderplaceandculture.wordpress.com](http://genderplaceandculture.wordpress.com)) will be hosting a series of blogs to be posted over the year on a wide range of topics, ranging from how you came to be a feminist geographer, through key interventions that have shaped thinking in feminist geography, to what is at stake in doing feminist work as a scholar. *Gender, Place and Culture* is also sponsoring a series of lectures and a set of sessions at multiple venues throughout 2018. These presentations will find their way into peer review and publication in 2019 as a series of lectures and set of themed sections on the ethics of caring and mentoring as a political practice.

For all the preparations going into these 25th anniversary celebrations, we send special thanks to: Anna Scully, Anna Tarrant, Annie Bartos, Lisa Dam, Lynda Johnston, Jan Monk, Janani Chithan, Jon Manley, Kaaviya Prabakaran, Karen Falconer Al-Hindi, Maral Sotoudehnia, Marcia England, Marianne Blidon, Marizon Calapano, Nathaniel Lewis, Patrice Carbonneau, Raksha Pande, Sarah Bird, and Sofia Zaragocin. We also extend a heartfelt thanks to the authors, who have brought their best work to the journal, and to the reviewers, who have provided reflective, perceptive and constructive comments in a short turnaround time. And, to the Editorial Board, we thank you for all your ideas, support and guidance that have brought this volume to publication.

– Pamela Moss, Katherine Brickell, Kanchana N. Ruwanpura and Margaret Walton-Roberts

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