

# The Sixties at 50

THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BOSTON UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENT AMERICAN POLITICAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

## FRIDAY, MARCH 22

PHOTONICS BUILDING, ROOM 901, 8 ST MARY'S ST.,  
BOSTON, MA

9:30 AM

Registration, coffee, & breakfast

10:15–11:45 AM

### PANEL 1: GENDER AND POLITICS IN 1960S-ERA AMERICA

Commentator: Anne Blaschke (Bridgewater State University)

Megan Monahan (Fordham University):

*Hawaii's Twentieth-Century Working Women: Labor Feminists In  
Their Own Right*

Kelly O'Donnell (Yale University):

*"Pelvic Autonomy": Barbara Seaman and the Emergence of a  
Feminist Health Politics, 1965-1975*

Casey Bohlen (Harvard University):

*Crusading for Abortion Reform: Clerical Activists and Religious  
Politics Before Roe*

11:45 AM–1:00 PM

Lunch

Attendees are invited for lunch at 226 Bay State Road.

1:00–2:15 PM

### PANEL 2: FIGHTING FOR EDUCATION REFORM IN BOSTON

Commentator: Christopher Loss (Vanderbilt University)

Tess Bundy (University of Maryland):

*"The Schools Are Killing our Kids!" Black Bostonians' Quest for  
Political Liberation and Educational Justice in the Boston Public  
Schools, 1949-55*

Shaunna Harrington (Northeastern University):

*Beyond Busing: The Black Community's Visions of Community  
Control in Boston's Educational Equality Movement, 1963-1974*

2:30–3:45 PM

### PANEL 3: PROJECTIONS OF AMERICAN POWER

Commentator: David Engerman (Brandeis University)

William Schultz (Princeton University):

*God and Man at NASA: Religion and the State in the Space Age*

Brian Sirman (Boston University):

*Concrete in Camelot: Brutalist Government Architecture, 1960-1976*

4:00–5:00 PM

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DOUG ROSSINOW (METROPOLITAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY):

*THE CONTINUING ALLURE OF THE 1960S*

## SATURDAY, MARCH 23

PHOTONICS BUILDING, ROOM 901, 8 ST MARY'S ST.,  
BOSTON, MA

9:30 AM

Coffee & breakfast

10:00 AM–NOON

### PANEL 4: COLD WAR LIBERALS IN RETROSPECT

Commentator: Doug Rossinow (Metropolitan State University)

Aaron Hiltner (Boston University):

*Quiet Americans in Saigon's Sectarian Civil War:*

*The Urban Origins of America's Commitment to Diem*

Scott Kamen (Trinity College, Dublin):

*Old Liberals, New Politics: The Americans for Democratic Action,  
the Congress for Cultural Freedom and the Vietnam War, 1965-1972*

Stacie Brensilver Berman (New York University):

*A Defining Time: How Early Sixties Activism Impacted the Authors  
of the Port Huron Statement*

Ari Cushner (University of California Santa Cruz):

*The "Fighting Faith" of American Power: Rethinking the History  
of Cold War Liberalism from Truman to Obama*

NOON–1:15 PM

Lunch

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1:15–2:45 PM

### PANEL 5: THE EVOLUTION OF BLACK ACTIVISM

Commentator: Leah Wright (Wesleyan University)

Hettie Williams (Drew University):

*Land of Promise and Peril: A Survey of the Civil Rights Activities of  
the Black Professional Class in New Jersey, 1909-1956*

Mary Potorti (Boston University):

*"Our Children Shall Be Fed": Black Capitalism and the Black Panther  
Party Food Programs*

Danielle St. Julien (Binghamton University):

*The "Silent Black Majority"? New Voices on Race and Public Policy  
in the 1970s*

3:00–4:30 PM:

### PANEL 6: AMERICAN CULTURE AT HOME AND ABROAD

Commentator: Kathryn Brownell (Purdue University)

Sarah Borgatti (Tufts University):

*The Birth of a Cultural Diplomat: Van Cliburn and the Cold War*

Tessa Croker (Boston University):

*Letters to Alistair: BBC Listeners and Postwar Anglo-American  
Relations*

Marina Araujo (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul):

*The Avant-Garde in the 1960s: The Downtown Poets and Punks in  
New York City and the Invention of the Self As Artistic Statement*