

DISABILITY

in the Vast Early Americas

Schedule

There will be a quiet rest space for conference participants for the duration of the event in 204 McKenna Hall.

Friday, October 20

7-8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** **Outside of 215/216 McKenna**

8:30-9 a.m. **Introductory Remarks** **215 McKenna**

Stefanie Hunt-Kennedy, University of New Brunswick
Laurel Daen, University of Notre Dame

9-10:30 a.m. **Panel 1 Settler Colonialism and Theories of the Mind** **215 McKenna**

Chair: Stefanie Hunt-Kennedy, University of New Brunswick

The Good Mind and the Bad Mind: Haudenosaunee Origin Stories as Anti-ableist Cognitive Science

Ittai Orr, University of Michigan

Mad White Exile: Policing and Contesting French Atlantic Manhood

Ashley M. Williard, University of South Carolina

"Doe as Thou Wouldest be Done By": Relief Responses to Mental Illness in Puritan New England

Rebecca Rose Farias, Independent Scholar

Panel 2 Gender and Disability in Early America **216 McKenna**

Chair: Sari Altschuler, Northeastern University

"For Want of Good Nurses": Gendered Care Labor and Disability in the American Continental Army, 1776-1779

Meg E. Roberts, University of Cambridge

The Lane Less Traveled: Disability and Intergenerational Conflict at the Turn of the 19th Century

Casey Green, Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts

"For Her Protection": Disability and Gender in Early Modern Anglo-American Law

Jennifer W. Reiss, University of Pennsylvania

10:30-11:15 a.m. **Refreshments** **Outside of 215/216 McKenna**

11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. **Panel 3 Slavery and Antislavery in the Atlantic World** **215 McKenna**

Chair: Jenifer L. Barclay, University of Buffalo

Sullen, Alarmed, Vexed: Reading the Psyche and Mental Health in British and British North American Fugitive Slave Advertisements

Chris J. Gismondi, University of New Brunswick

FRONT COVER IMAGE DESCRIPTION:

A Black man in a sailor's uniform leans on a crutch and a cane. On top of his head is a hat featuring a large model ship.



DISABILITY

in the Vast Early Americas

October 20-21, 2023

McKenna Hall | **University of Notre Dame**



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INSTITUTE



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isla.nd.edu/disabilityhistory

"I Could Not Move Without the Greatest Pain": Ableism, Chronic Pain, and Negotiation in the History of Mary Prince

Dea Boster, Columbus State Community College

Living, Promoting and Opposing Enslavement: Six Disabled People in Britain and the Caribbean, c. 1750-1840

Esme Cleall, University of Sheffield

Panel 4 Biography and Representation

216 McKenna

Chair: Kim E. Nielsen, University of Toledo

Nicholas Saunderson and the Elements of Algebra: Spreading Newtonian Mathematics across the World

Chris Mounsey, University of Winchester

Art, Disability, and Enslavement: The World of Edward Caledon Bruce (1825–1900)

A. Nicholas Powers, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley

The Re-education of the Left: The Hand of Cándido López

Natasha Tiniacos, City University of New York

12:45-2:30 p.m.

Working Lunch

205/206/207 McKenna

Lunch will be provided for all participants. We invite you to join a working group to connect with other scholars in your field or with shared interests. (Details will be announced.)

2:30-4 p.m.

Panel 5 Abolition, Emancipation, and Power

215 McKenna

Chair: Cristobal Silva, University of California, Los Angeles

"Her frame bending under the oppression of years": Disability, Emancipation, and Power in Early America

Jerrad Preston Pacatte, Rutgers University–New Brunswick

Representations of Masculinity, Physicality, and Physical Disability within Abolitionist Texts and Materials

Mia Edwards, University of Warwick

"The Strange Career of Benjamin Lay": The Nineteenth-Century Afterlife of a Disabled Abolitionist Icon

Nate Kogan, Rowland Hall

Panel 6 Military Histories of Disability

216 McKenna

Chair: Geoffrey L. Hudson, Northern Ontario School of Medicine

Alberto Bertodano and the Experience of Disabled Spanish Men in the Atlantic World between the 17th and 18th Centuries

Francisco A. Eissa-Barroso, University of Manchester

"Only a Toe or a Finger": Impaired Veterans and the Valuation of Disability after the Revolutionary War

Benjamin H. Irvin, Indiana University

The Establishment of a Welfare Equilibrium in the Early Republic

Jeffrey A. Brune, Gallaudet University

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Dinner

Rohr's, Morris Inn

Dinner at Rohr's, a modern tavern located on the ground level of the Morris Inn, will be provided for all participants.

Saturday, October 21

7-9 a.m.

Breakfast with Access-ABLE Notre Dame students Outside of 215/216 McKenna

A continental breakfast will be provided for all participants. Students from Access-ABLE, Notre Dame's disability student advocacy group, will join.

9-10:30 a.m.

Panel 7 Disability, Labor, and Productivity

215 McKenna

Chair: Laurel Daen, University of Notre Dame

Disability, Public Health, and Labor Power in Colonial America

Meghan Self, Texas Tech University

"A power perfectly unknown to ye laws of England": Disability and Conservatorship in the Anglo-Atlantic, 1660 – 1820

Wulfstan Scouller, Yale University

Mary Heath's Last Dance: An Invalid Woman and the Problem of Improvement in Early 19th-Century New England

Ben Mutschler, Oregon State University

Panel 8 Disability and Transatlantic Exchange

216 McKenna

Chair: James Moran, University of Prince Edward Island

James Wilson's *Biography of the Blind* (1821) and the Transatlantic Origins of Disability History

David M. Turner, Swansea University

Seeking Health: Illness, Movement, and Medical Networks in the Anglo-Atlantic

Molly Nebiolo, Butler University

By Land or Sea: Disability in Maritime Communities

Megan Whirley, University of Illinois at Chicago

10:30-11:15 a.m.

Refreshments

Outside of 215/216 McKenna

11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Panel 9 Madness and Institutionalization in the 19th Century US

215 McKenna

Chair: Michael Rembis, University of Buffalo

Pathological Piety: Lay and Medical Perceptions of Religious Madness in Early 19th-Century America

Mark Lee, Crandall University

Resistance in a Mental Institution: The South Carolina Lunatic Asylum as a Site of Patient Agency

Chayyim Holtkamp, College of Charleston and The Citadel

The Hidden History of the American M'Naghten

Rabia Belt, Stanford University

Panel 10 Age and Disability Histories

216 McKenna

Chair: Cornelia H. Dayton, University of Connecticut

Elderly Resilience in the Atlantic Slave Trade

Daniel Livesay, Claremont McKenna College

Recovering the Sensorium of Marginal Disability in Vine Utley's *Manuscript Observations* (1809-1827)

Maggie (Happe) Vanderford, William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan

Is Old Age Inextricable from Disability? A View from the 18th Century and Today

Rebecca Brannon, James Madison University

12:45-2:30 p.m.

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2:30-4 p.m.

Panel 11 Disability, Material, and Visual Cultures in Early America

215 McKenna

Chair: Nicole Belolan, Independent Public Historian

Cutting In/Through Disability: A Silhouette of Laura Bridgman

Kristen Nassif, The Walters Art Museum

Disability and Creativity: David Drake's Vessels and the Art of Collaborative Craft

Natalie Wright, University of Wisconsin–Madison, and Jennifer Van Horn, University of Delaware

Wounds of War: Medicalizing the Body and Mid-19th-Century Notions of Corporeal Ability

Julia B. Rosenbaum, Bard College

Panel 12 Disability Politics, Past and Present

216 McKenna

Chair: Susan Burch, Middlebury College

Blind, Bald, and Crippled: The Rhetoric of Disability in the Election of 1800

James Gray, University of Edinburgh

Blind Authors Writing the Democratic Institution

Andrew Erlandson, Pennsylvania State University

Disability History for Liberation: Graduate Training, Ethics, and Emancipatory Research

Nicole Lee Schroeder, Kean University

4-5:30 p.m.

Reception

Outside of 215/216 McKenna

Participants are invited to a social gathering with small plates and non-alcoholic drinks.