

Notes taken by students
International Symposium
Education and Gender Equality
Wellesley College, October 20 & 21, 2017

Panel Discussion – Friday, 4:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. – Informal Education at the Service of Gender Equality

Speakers:

- **Andrea Bastiani Archibald**, Chief Girl & Parent Expert at Girls Scouts of the USA (GSUSA)
- **Colin Stokes**, Writer, public speaker, facilitator, and communications consultant
- **Alice Coffin**, Journalist, French feminist and lesbian activist
- **Myrlande DesRosiers**, Director of the Everett Haitian Community Center, Fellow at Tufts School of Medicine Health Literacy Institute
- **Claire Saddy**, Deputy Mayor of the 7th arrondissement of Lyon, in charge of the economy, entrepreneurship, and gender equality
- **Analièse Barnes-Classen**, Program Manager for the Boston Women's Workforce

Moderator:

- **Marie-Paule Tranvouez**, Director of the Wellesley College French House, Senior Lecturer in French

Main points:

- Inclusion does not mean equity unless there is thoughtful language and actual investment.
- There is a role and responsibility for all people in this discussion, at every level of society.
- Gender equity in the workplace isn't just about salaries; it is also about who is making the decisions, who has a voice, or "la parole," and who is creating workplace culture.
- Jezebel syndrome: when a woman wants to be like a man and copies him instead of developing her own talents.
- Women move very fast in public spaces because if they stop they are targets for discrimination: we need to rethink public spaces.

Best practices evoked regarding public policies, corporate actions, civil society or academic initiatives:

- Spaces for girls need to be collaborative, not competitive: leads to true empowerment.
- Practices to empower girls (specifically being carried out by Girl Scouts) – offer leadership skills, outdoor skills, entrepreneurship opportunities.
- Adapt public spaces to the needs of women and instead of the other way around:
 - Public transportation - try to understand how these spaces affect women
 - Create more lighting to prevent sexual harassment