

Editor's Introduction
Interview Forum: Feminist and Postcolonial Feminist Theorists

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This issue of *Journal of Narrative Politics* features a set of interviews with seven feminist and postcolonial feminist scholars: Richa Nagar (Minnesota), Cynthia Enloe (Clark), Chandra Talpade Mohanty (Syracuse), Christine Sylvester (Connecticut), Marysia Zalewski (Cardiff), Laura J. Shepherd (New South Wales), and Shiera S. el-Malik (DePaul). We presented these scholars with a set of questions aimed at illuminating for the reader how they see their lives and work. We asked them to narrate the specific ways in which they see their personal experiences as both political and scholarly. We asked them to explore their commitments as feminist and feminist postcolonial thinkers, as well as how their commitments to their work have evolved over time. They have responded with reflections on their childhoods, their graduate training, their perceptions and experiences around ethics and justice, teaching, mentoring, travel and fieldwork, intellectual transition, and what it means to live and work as feminists and postcolonial theorists in the Euro-American academy today.

Our goal in presenting these seven interviews is to illuminate various aspects of the lives of these scholars, how they see themselves in the profession, their challenges and transitions, joys and disappointments. In each interview, these thinkers show how authors are situated in their scholarship and what this means for the ways we think about global political life and its study – what this means for our perception of what is important in scholarly life – of what is worthy of examination. The feminist tradition has undeniably laid the foundation for narrative scholarship in the political science academy today. From Patricia Hill Collins'¹ call to read the novels of Black women as a body of scholarly literature to Cynthia Enloe's everyday stories of the militarization of the lives of women and girls, feminists have been at the forefront of narrative methods for decades. Indeed, they have pioneered these methods, laying the groundwork for all of our contemporary narrative endeavors.

Toronto
March 2016

¹ Patricia Hill Collins, *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment*, (New York and London: Routledge, 1990).