

Following on from the decision made by previous women and non-binary reps, we have kept the invitation to Women's Dinner open to all self-identifying women and non-binary members of the college. We believe that women's dinner has always been an important event in providing a safe space for students who face gender based oppression to meet in solidarity and celebration. This is as true now as it was when the first women's dinner was held. What we believe has changed is our understanding of who experiences gender based oppression and how oppression is experienced.

We are continuing to invite self-identified women as we believe, inspired by the Gender Theory school of thought, that gender-identity is not defined on the basis of biology. In other words, we see neither sex nor gender as binary categories. We recognise that some gender based oppression is based on biology. But even within oppression based on the physical body, not all violence is enacted on people assigned female at birth. We seek to not reduce 'womanhood' to a mere matter of biology – as indeed women's struggles for gender equality around the world take place beyond this biological limit.

We are also leaving invitations open to non-binary members of college. We believe that it is essential that non-binary identities are welcome in feminist spaces. We envision the practice of feminism as one which seeks to dismantle the gender binary and makes space for those who do not sit within the categories of 'men' and 'women'. We hope to recognise the way in which patriarchy does not simply disadvantage women but also erases the experiences of those outside the gender binary.

This is of course only a brief explanation of a complex and well-established discourse. For this reason we have included some content that expands on these topics in more detail. We hope that you will take the time to read them.

<http://rewriting-the-rules.com/conflict-break-up/non-binary-feminism-the-personal-is-still-political/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2a_ivyBt0M

All the best,

KCSU & KCGS Women's Officers