

PFT Diversity Committee Celebrates Women's History Month

Dancing Backwards in High Heels

Dialogue and Reception

Laney Faculty Lounge

Room T-450

900 Fallon St. Oakland, CA

Wed. 3/28

4:30 - 6:30

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In support of female faculty who face gendered challenges in our work, the PFT Diversity Committee co-hosts this time of discussion and fellowship. Panel includes Mallory Barkdull, Engineering Instructor/Chair and Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson, President of Laney College.

Dancer Ginger Rogers received far less recognition than her acclaimed partner, Fred Astaire, despite doing everything he did, but while dancing “backwards and in high heels.” This theme of holding women to higher standards still affects women today. Recent research by El-Alayli, Hansen-Brown, & Ceynar (2018) found that although the number of U.S. female professors has risen, female professors are still subject to different student expectations and treatment. In academia, female professors are hindered by stereotype-driven gender expectations held by students, creating extra burdens beyond what their male peers experience. Negative impressions are formed of those who violate these gender expectations. Female leaders face a particularly challenging dilemma in that stereotypes of leaders clash with communal trait expectations for women. Scan the code above or check your peralta e-mail for a .pdf of the article to read before this event!

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