

Tales from the Trail: Making Herstory

The “pink wave” is not just an idea, it’s a reality. What is it like to run for local or state office as a woman in 2018-2019? What are the expected and unexpected challenges, pitfalls, rewards, and lessons learned, in doing so? What is the future of women political leaders in the US today? Five women of diverse backgrounds who ran for office or managed campaigns in MA during 2018-2019 will participate in a panel to address these questions and others. They will share their personal stories of the campaign trail, why they ran for office (and what happened), and their aspirations and projections for the future. They will respond to questions developed by faculty in political science and Women’s and Gender Studies, in collaboration with students (e.g., about how their gender and other intersectional identities impacted their experiences on the campaign trail) and will also engage in an interactive discussion and Q&A with the audience. Several of the panelists are graduates of EMERGE Massachusetts and will describe the program—which trains and supports Democratic women to run for office—and provide information about how to get involved.

March 20th, 2019 | 2:00 - 4:00p.m. | Jefferson 218



Jessica Lieberman is a lawyer and political consultant based in Somerville, MA. Most recently, she served as campaign manager for Quentin Palfrey, the 2018 Democratic Nominee for Massachusetts Lt. Governor.

Tahirah Amatul-Wadud is a civil rights attorney who was a 2018 candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives from Massachusetts’s 1st Congressional District, challenging a 29 year incumbent. Her challenge made national news and she secured nearly 30% of the vote.

Alexandra Chandler is a political activist who was a 2018 candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives from Massachusetts’s 3rd Congressional District. In that campaign, she made history as the first openly transgender candidate ever to appear on the ballot for Congress in Massachusetts.

Chelsea Sunday Kline is a higher ed leader and progressive organizer who recently challenged the deeply entrenched political status quo in a rigorous campaign for Massachusetts State Senate (the Hampshire-Franklin-Worcester District seat).

Lindsay Sabadosa is the first woman to ever hold the 1st Hampshire District seat in MA. In 2017, Sabadosa created the Pioneer Valley Women’s March, which organizes community events on a variety of social justice issues.



Heather Silber Mohamed
Assistant Professor of Political Science at Clark University.

The panel will be co-facilitated by...

Jessica Preece
Associate Professor of Political Science and co-director of the Gender and Civic Engagement Lab at Brigham Young University.



Co-Sponsored by the Departments of Women’s and Gender Studies, Political Science, and Peace Studies at Clark University