The Institute for Women’s Studies is happy to ring in the 2012-2013 academic year, and to begin what will be our 35th year of operation. We celebrated the start of another academic year by honoring the presence and contributions of the women faculty at the University of Georgia on September 7th in the Tate Center Grand Hall. To lead us in a commemoration of this landmark occasion was the Institute’s first director, Patricia Del Rey, who shared the history and accomplishments of Women’s Studies.

There is a lot to celebrate, as the current faculty have continued the excellent tradition of scholarship, teaching, and service initiated by our foremothers who founded Women’s Studies at UGA against the odds and in the face of resistance. Although our place on this campus did not happen without struggle, it has been a joyous union that has established IWS as an integral part of the University community, which has an undergraduate major and a minor in Women’s Studies, as well as a graduate certificate. In 2011, the unit offered nearly 50 undergraduate and graduate courses, serving over 1,300 students at the University of Georgia.

So much credit and gratitude is owed to our incredibly brilliant faculty. Please read the inside pages and note their many accomplishments. In the last two years, two have completed fellowships at Harvard. Dr. Bethany Moreton completed a fellowship in Women’s Studies and Religion in the Divinity School in 2010-2011, and Dr. Susan Thomas completed a fellowship in Music at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies in 2011-2012. Both were nationally recognized as well. Susan Thomas received the Stevenson Award for outstanding scholarship in Iberian music for her most recent book, and Bethany Moreton was selected to the Speaker’s Bureau of the Organization of American Historians.

We are proud to offer our signature programs to the campus again this year. Our Friday Speaker Series continues our longstanding tradition of featuring faculty and graduate student research on women and gender. Featured speakers this Fall include Dawn Bennett-Alexander, Stephanie Jones, George Contini, Susan Quinlan, Maria Bermudez, and many more. As always, the topics are wide-ranging and engaging.

Our month long celebration of Women’s History Month will continue in March 2013, celebrating women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

So I look forward to seeing you this year and invite you to consider joining our impressive body of Affiliated Faculty and IWS Associates because ours is an exciting and joyous collective of scholars who are making change and making our disciplines and our community better spaces.

Congratulations to our Women’s Studies Graduates
Fall 2011 and Spring 2012

Amanda Adams
Paula Bryant
Kathleen Dailey
Amy Johnson
Brian Ray
Cindy Romero
Meagan Shinn
Caroline Singletary
Chris Cuomo, Philosophy & Women's Studies

Kelly Happe, Communication Studies & Women's Studies

Cecilia Herles, Assistant Director, Women's Studies

Juanita Johnson-Bailey, Director, Adult Education & Women's Studies

Bethany Moreton, History & Women's Studies

Patricia Richards, Sociology & Women's Studies

Susan Thomas, Music & Women's Studies

Beth Tobin, English & Women's Studies

Chris Cuomo co-authored a national study on improving childcare policy, “Childcare as an Investment in the Future: The Impact of the Stimulus Dollars in Georgia and Tennessee,” and presented the research at an event on Capitol Hill hosted by Representatives Stephen Cohen (D-TN) and Carolyn Maloney (D-NY). For an executive summary of this report, visit http://www.ncrw.org/sites/ncrw.org/files/ncrw-childcareoverview-final_1.pdf. She attended the UNFCCC Conference on Climate Change in Durban, South Africa and presented lectures at Spelman College, the University of Dayton, the University of Buffalo, Monash University, and as part of the Willson Center’s lecture series on Science for the Humanities. She also received a grant from Ideas for Creative Exploration to create an exhibition and installation, “Picturing Climate Change: From the local to the global and everything in-between” to be held in Athens in Spring 2013.

Kelly Happe received a First Book Subvention Grant to help cover publication costs of her book, The Material Gene. She presented at the invitation-only Biennial University of South Carolina Conference on Rhetorical Theory in October 2011. She presented a guest lecture on bioethics to the second year medical students at the Georgia Health Sciences University-University of Georgia Medical Partnership in Spring 2012. She received funds to present a series of bioethics lectures to undergraduate researchers as part of the National Science Foundation Research Experience in Summer 2012.

Cecilia Herles presented “The Politics of Justice: Addressing Systems of Injustice and Viewing Difference as Opportunity in a Women’s Studies Service-Learning Class” with Sarah Himmelheber at the Southeastern Women’s Studies Association Conference in March 2012. She will be participating in an Asian Feminisms Roundtable at the National Women’s Studies Association conference in November 2012. She received a Teaching Sustainability Across Curriculum grant this year.

Juanita Johnson-Bailey, the IWS Director, traveled to Dakar, Senegal and to Banjul, Gambia in July 2012 and met with officials from the UNESCO Regional Office for Education in Africa (BREDA) to discuss the establishment of a Women’s Cooperative and Center in Dakar. As part of her visit, she also delivered a lecture, “Cultural Scripts and Stories: From Slavery to Freedom.” During the 2011-2012 academic year, she gave two keynote addresses: the 41st annual Boyer lecture at Empire State College, SUNY, Re-Centering and De-Centering the Ivory Tower and the Inaugural Presidential Lecture at The College of New Rochelle. In addition, she presented at six conferences: two international and four in the United States, and provided two guest lectures at Teachers College.

Bethany Moreton was one of 25 professors nationwide selected this year to join the speaker’s bureau of the Organization of American Historians, the largest professional society dedicated to the teaching and study of American history. As an OAH Distinguished Lecturer, she will bring her expertise to college campuses and conferences as well as to historical societies, libraries, museums and teacher workshops.

Patricia Richards’ book, Race and the Chilean Miracle: Neoliberalism, Democray and Indigenous Rights is forthcoming with the University of Pittsburgh Press. She will be teaching Women’s Studies courses for the University of Georgia’s Costa Rica study abroad program in Spring 2013 (see page 3 for more information).

Susan Thomas completed a fellowship in Music at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University in 2011-2012. She received the Stevenson Award from the American Musicological Society for outstanding scholarship in Iberian music for her most recent book, Cuban Zarzuela: Performing Race and Gender on Havana’s Lyric Stage, University of Illinois Press, 2008.

Professor Patricia Richards will be teaching Women's Studies courses for UGA's Study Abroad program in Costa Rica in Spring 2013.

She will be teaching WMST 2010: Introduction to Women’s Studies (which can also be taken as Sociology of Gender) and Global Perspectives on Gender (cross-listed in IWS/ Sociology). Both courses will have a strong experiential focus, encouraging students to actively seek out knowledge about gender and its intersections in Costa Rica, and apply course concepts on the ground.

Students will also be encouraged to conduct mini-research projects in conjunction with the courses, which will incorporate field visits and guest speakers as well. Depending on the level of student proficiency, some readings in the Global Perspectives Course will be in Spanish.

Professor Richards has conducted research in the past in Ecuador, Bolivia, and Chile. This will be her first trip to Costa Rica, but it is hoped that IWS can establish a strong presence in this program.

Students who are interested can find more information about the program at: http://www.externalaffairs.uga.edu/costa_rica/index.php/site/program_detail/franklin_spring_semester/students

In Costa Rica with Patricia Richards

Daleah Goodwin was honored with the 2012 Diversity Research Scholarship for Graduate Students. This award is to promote research related to the experiences, realities, and/or contributions of underrepresented populations. She presented “Scholarship, Activism, Leadership & Faith: A Roundtable on Experiencing Higher Education,” at the Christian Scholars’ Conference at Lipscomb University in June 2012. She also presented “This Centripetal Force: The Educational Pedagogy of Miss Hallie Quinn Brown” at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference in October 2011.

Stephanie Jones was awarded a Study in a Second Discipline Fellowship for 2012-2013 and will be studying in Geography, hosted by Dr. Andy Herod. She was an invited co-editor of a themed issue of English Teaching: Practice and Critique in 2011. In 2012 she published Negotiating mother identities: Ethnographic and intergenerational insights to social class and gender in a high-poverty U.S. context in Gender and Education, Trauma narratives and nomos in teacher education in Teaching Education, Critical literacies in the making: Social class and identities in the early reading classroom in the Journal of Early Childhood Literacy, Speaking of bodies in justice-oriented, feminist teacher education in the Journal of Teacher Education, and Making Sense of injustices in a classed world: Working-poor girls’ discursive practices and critical literacies in Pedagogies: An International Journal.

Barbara McCaskill gave a keynote address at the 11th Annual Underground Railroad Public History Conference this Spring 2012, titled “William and Ellen Craft: A New Take on an Old Story.” She has an essay on the novel PUSH accepted for publication in Sapphire’s Literary Breakthrough: Feminist Pedagogies, Erotic Literacies, Environmental Justice Perspectives (Palgrave 2012), and she wrote two blogs on African American women in literature and history for Ms. Magazine Online. She is spending the Fall 2012 semester at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. She will be serving as the Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Society and Culture and a visiting professor in the English Department.

Pamela Orpinas published Dating norms and dating violence among ninth graders in Northeast Georgia: Reports from student surveys and focus groups in the Journal of Interpersonal Violence in 2012. She will present “Dating violence as a predictor of suicidal thoughts and plans among adolescents” at the 140th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association in October 2012 and “Psychological dating violence in adolescents from middle to high school” at the 120th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in August 2012. She presented “Physical dating violence trajectories from middle to high school: The Healthy Teens Longitudinal Study” at the 14th Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence in March 2012 and “Dating

The Institute for Women’s Studies fosters interdisciplinary study of women and gender, and critical investigations of the complex ways knowledge, experience, and social systems are shaped by gendered norms and assumptions. Our teaching and research emphasize race, ethnicity, nationality, class, age, sexuality, and different abilities as categories of analysis. The Institute for Women’s Studies offers an undergraduate major and minor, and a graduate certificate for M.A. and Ph.D. students in any discipline.
(Top, left) (1) Dean Hugh Ruppersburg addresses the attendees of the Fall 2011 Women Faculty Reception; (2) Betty Jean Craige accepts the Annual Women’s Studies Faculty Award at the Fall 2011 Women Faculty Reception

(Below, left) (1) Kim Bobo presents the keynote address at the 4th Annual Women and Girls in Georgia Conference; (2) Kim Bobo, Clothilda Barnette, Sarah Jackson, Julie Knowlton, Linda Lloyd, Penny Mills, Joan Prittie and Ovita Thornton participate in a panel discussion at the 4th Annual Women and Girls in Georgia Conference; (3) Camille Gregory presents “The U.S. Sex Market: How Demand Reduces Visibility and Research” at the 19th Annual Women’s Studies Student Symposium

(Below, right) (1) Sue Lawrence, LaTrena Stokes, and Michele Pearson participate in the Jeannette Rankin Foundation’s panel discussion for Women’s History Month 2012; (2) Elisabeth Tisdell, Penn State University, presents the keynote lecture for Women’s History Month 2012

To stay updated on IWS events, visit http://iws.uga.edu/events
Elizabeth Whittenburg Ozment was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society: Beta Tau Chapter. She was named an Emerging Leader in the University of Georgia Graduate School. She was honored with the Dean’s Award in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. She was awarded the Student Research and Performance Grant from the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts. Her book review, Some Like It Hot: Jazz Women in Film and Television 1928-1959 was published in The Music Educators Journal in 2012. She presented “Feminist Theory and Deconstructing Neo-confederate Music Videos” at the 11th Feminist Theory and Music Conference in September 2011 and will present “Stone Mountain, Elvis Presley, and Civil War Heritage Music” at the Society for Ethnomusicology National Conference in November 2012.


Channette Romero’s book Activism and the American Novel: Religion and Resistance in Fiction By Women of Color will be published in September 2012 by the University of Virginia Press.


Leland Spencer will present two papers, Toward a feminist progressive civility: The case of Katharine Jefferts Schori and Queering the Christian family and sacred space (with John A. Lynch, University of Cincinnati), at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Orlando, Florida in November 2012.

Stephanie Tingler was inducted as the first woman honorary member of the Dean William Tate Society, University of Georgia in April 2012. She presented, The Woman’s Club Movement in Northeast Georgia: Promoting Inclusion Through Music, Athens Woman’s Club (1896-1920) at the Southeastern Women’s Studies Association Conference at George Mason University in March 2012.

**Graduate Student Spotlight: Lauren Chambers**

Lauren Chambers is a Ph.D. candidate in English at the University of Georgia. She received her Bachelor’s and Master of Arts degrees in English from Radford University in Virginia. She earned a Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies at The University of Georgia in 2008.

She has also served several years as a Teaching Assistant for the Institute for Women’s Studies, teaching WMST 1110: Multicultural Perspectives on Women in the United States. During the 2011-2012 academic year, she was nominated by the Institute for Women’s Students for the Graduate School’s Excellence in Teaching Award. Lauren will participate in the Center for Teaching and Learning’s Future Faculty Program during the 2012-2013 academic year, which helps to prepare doctoral students for teaching positions in higher education.

Her research focuses on African Diasporic women’s literature. Using literature from Nigeria, South Africa, Haiti, and the United States, her dissertation project examines the construction and function of community as a key component of women’s identity formation. She seeks to expand the boundaries of community to encompass communal expressions that manifest organically, within familial groups, and within nations. This research will contribute to ongoing discussions of African Diasporic literature by investigating the methods female characters employ to renegotiate and define their identities.

In addition to her literary passions of African American and Postcolonial Literature, she also loves to engage students in the classroom. She enjoys teaching the introductory Women’s Studies course as it provides an opportunity to engage and inform students about issues of race, class, and gender that influence their daily lives. The lively classroom discussions and moments of clarity that arise for students make teaching Women’s Studies a joy. What she finds most important about her teaching is the potential for individual growth and empowerment that students develop when they begin to question the multiple realities of their lives.

“Lauren is a skilled and dynamic teacher. I have been very impressed with her classroom mastery and her quest to keep improving on her already impressive knowledge base and skill set.” - Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey, Director of the Institute for Women’s Studies
The Women’s Studies Student Organization (WSSO) hosted the annual event Take Back the Night in April 2012. In an attempt to better engage the Athens community at large, this year’s Take Back the Night was held in downtown Athens’ College Square.

The event featured Athens’ own Betsey Kingston & the Crowns and singer/songwriter, Drew Davis. This year’s speakers included Joan Prittie of Project Safe, Sally Sheppard of The Cottage, Angela Williams of Voice Today, Tara Misra of the UGA Office of Violence Prevention, and Rachel Kaplan from the UGA LGBT Resource Center.

At sundown, a march was held through downtown, ending at the arch. Following the march, participants met in North Campus for a candlelight vigil survivor speak out. The speak out was a testament to the success of engaging the larger Athens community, as many local Athenians were in attendance.

It was the best attended Take Back the Night in years, and we hope to make downtown Athens the new home of the event in the future.

For more information on the Women’s Studies Student Organization and upcoming Take Back the Night events, please visit http://wsso.uga.edu

Women’s Studies Alumnae Updates

**Tiffany Ball** (class of ‘08) received her master’s degree in Women’s Studies and English and is now a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Michigan. Her dissertation is on queer female femininity, focusing on 20th century British and U.S. fiction, queer and sexuality studies, and feminist theory.

**Tobi Collins** (class of ‘10) is currently working on a graduate degree in Instructional Design at the University of Wisconsin-Stout and will be starting an MBA at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in Fall 2012. Tobi also works at a local credit union and runs their cooperative high school program assisting 14 high school students meeting their work-study requirements for the state of Wisconsin.

**April Greene** (class of ‘09) is the Program Coordinator at Jeannette Rankin Women’s Scholarship Fund and a founding member of the Georgia Reproductive Justice Access Network (GRJAN).

**Alex McGee** (class of ‘11) will begin working on a graduate degree in History at Georgia State University this Fall. She plans to focus on women’s history.

**Andy McGee** (class of ‘11) was accepted into graduate programs at DePaul University and Savannah College of Art and Design for Fall 2012.

**Christian Poth** (class of ‘09) is currently in law school at Rutgers-Camden and plans to practice family law.

**Alicia Queen** (class of ‘11) was accepted into the Florida State University Applied Economics Master’s Program for 2012-2013. Additionally, Alicia will be serving as a Legislative Intern with the Florida Legislature while in school.

**Brie Stanley** (class of ‘09) graduated from Samford University Law School in May 2012 and is currently working at Phelps Dunbar defense firm in Mobile, Alabama.

**Arielle Star Thomas** (class of ‘12) will be attending Washington University School of Medicine in Fall 2012.

**Avery White** (class of ‘10) lives in La Paz, Bolivia, where she works in different areas of art and visual anthropology, including photography and documentary filmmaking. Avery is currently co-publishing a book on pre-Columbian food culture in Bolivia.

**Jennifer Yoo** (class of ‘07) finished teaching at Buk Incheon Girls’ Middle School in Incheon, South Korea in August 2011. She accepted a new position in Austin, Texas with an AmeriCorps program, College Forward, which she will begin this Fall. She will be assisting high school juniors and seniors apply to college.
Women’s Studies Alum, Katie Orlemanski, awarded National Science Foundation Grant

Katie Orlemanski of Lilburn, Georgia received her undergraduate degree at UGA in 2007 in Women’s Studies and International Affairs. Since then she has worked for Family Health International in Africa and now plans to pursue a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at Rutgers University. Katie was recently awarded a National Science Foundation Grant to pursue her research, which focuses on understanding violence against women in sub-Saharan Africa.

Tell us about the work you did at Family Health International in Africa?

By the time I begin pursuing my Ph.D. in cultural anthropology, I will have worked on issues of international development and gender for five years in four African countries: Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, and South Sudan. In my work, I have spearheaded a new girls’ education initiative in rural areas which has seen over 1,000 girls overcome obstacles like forced marriage, child labor, and inhumane poverty in order to complete their education. On a daily basis, I am engaged in helping the schoolgirls of rural Kenya face some of the practical problems of everyday life: how to care for brothers and sisters, how to succeed on national achievement tests, how to avoid pregnancy and AIDS, how to gain knowledge of our globalized world, and how to escape gender-based violence.

After graduation I moved to Washington D.C. to work for an environmental non-profit and subsequently with the Genocide Intervention Network. After a couple of months behind a desk, however, I realized that I still needed to see for myself the global problems that many DC-based non-profits were working to solve. Soon enough I had moved to Ghana, where learning about local culture became the necessary business of everyday life. Being immersed in the physical and social environment of West Africa, volunteering at local NGOs, job-hunting in internet cafes in Accra, bartering in the market, trying to untangle the network of international donors and government moneys supporting a local orphanage – these were some of the learning experiences I had before I took the position I now have, as a “gender specialist” with the “Four Pillars Project,” a girl-child education initiative in Western Kenya.

My non-traditional path to graduate school has enabled me to gain new skills and perspectives as well as keeping me constantly aware of how tightly woven together are many issues that are separated out in scholastic analysis – violence, food, families, schools, local government, national government, tribes, and gender.

How did your degree in Women’s Studies shape your work and research interests?

Gender oppression has been a major theme in both my activist and intellectual experience. Majoring in Women’s Studies and International Affairs, I came to understand how gender and sexuality are entangled with global politics, economics, violence, food security, and even my own education.

As an intern for Women’s Studies credit with an inner-city mentoring program, I designed resource guides to help female role-models talk to high-school girls. These resource guides aided mentors in addressing the profound, but often taboo, problems affecting girls’ lives – like contraception, STIs, home life, intimacy, sexual abuse, gangs, and drugs. The mentoring program offered young women the chance to talk about the issues that shaped their lives in a supportive, all-female setting. These conversations fulfilled the feminist mantra that “the personal is political” by empowering at-risk high schoolers to connect their biographies to larger narratives of gender oppression.

In addition to my internship, I volunteered at a domestic violence center and helped organize a campus campaign against sexual violence. Insight into the diverse lived experiences of gender enriched my understanding of the strengths and the shortcomings of feminist theory studied in my classes.

My work today as a gender specialist with international NGOs stems directly from the inspiration and knowledge that I gained from my professors, peers, and readings in Women’s Studies at UGA.

What did you love about your experience in Women’s Studies at UGA?

I loved my experience in Women’s Studies at UGA because of the professors and the students. Thanks Dr. Richards, Dr. Cuomo, Dr. Parker, and the graduate teaching assistants who took the time to inspire and challenge a new generation of feminists, me included!
Join Our Listserv and be the first to know about IWS events and announcements! Send an email to Cecilia Herles at cherles@uga.edu including your name and email address with the subject line “add me to the listserv.”

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(706) 542-0049 (fax)

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Your gift to the Institute builds on thirty years of excellence in feminist teaching, research, and outreach in Women’s Studies at the University of Georgia. Our conferences, lectures, and events would not be possible without our supporters, so please consider giving to Women’s Studies today, via credit card or check!

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