

IWS News

A publication of the Institute for Women's Studies



Getting to know our new Interim Director: Juanita Johnson-Bailey



Fall semester 2009 is almost over and it has certainly been a semester full of excitement and change. The Institute for Women's Studies moved into a new space in June. We have found our new home in the basement of Gilbert Hall (or the Terrace Level of Gilbert – as we like to call it), a wondrous change. The Institute is in a colorful and well lit space that features:

four faculty offices, three staff offices, seminar room, conference room, library, and two student work areas. It is a prime location on North Campus and we continue to be so excited with our new digs that even after five months, we are still smiling and offering tours to visitors.

There were insufficient women faculty hires during the last academic year and so we did not hold our New Women Faculty Reception this year. Instead we decided to have an Open House celebration on September 18th, in an effort to accentuate the positive. IWS is grateful to former Director, Chris Cuomo, for persistently lobbying for a room we would be proud to call our own.

The National Women's Studies Association held its annual conference in Atlanta November 12th – 15th. The conference focus was Difficult Dialogues, examining the intersectionality of gender, race, sexuality, social class, nationality, and disability. The featured keynote speaker was feminist activist, Angela Y. Davis and other noted speakers were Pearl Cleage, Bonnie Thornton Dill, and Kimberlé Crenshaw. Having the conference so close to home was a great opportunity for our faculty and students, since a limited travel budget has restricted travel.

Currently, we are busy finalizing plans for Women's History Month in March 2010. IWS will again offer a full calendar of activities, featuring lectures, films, and open forums. The theme is Writing Women Back into History. In cooperation with the Jeannette Rankin Foundation, the Department of History, and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, our keynote speaker

will be Joan Hoff, Distinguished Research Professor of History at Montana State University, and author of *Nixon Reconsidered*; *Law, Gender, and Injustice: A Legal History of U.S. Women*; and *Rights of Passage: The Past and Future of the ERA*. Dr. Hoff is also the former editor of the *Journal of Women's History*.

Our next Women and Girls in Georgia Conference will be held in October 2010. The conference program committee is currently discussing possible themes. If you would like to learn more about the conference or get involved, visit www.uga.edu/iws/WAGG, or email waggconf@gmail.com. A wealth of research on women and girls in Georgia and links to relevant organizations and projects are also available on the website, so it is a perfect place to connect to local activism, or to get started on research that is connected to local needs.



www.uga.edu/iws/WAGG

As the Interim Director of the Institute for Women's Studies, I am encouraged by the energy and dedication that I see in the faculty and staff. I am even more delighted by our strong connections across the campus. I've been a core Women's Studies faculty member for fifteen years and so I speak from personal knowledge when I say, it really is a good time to be a student or faculty member connected to the Institute for Women's Studies at the University of Georgia. We are adding new courses and new initiatives, and remaining steadfast in our commitment to research and service.

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.

IWS FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

CORE FACULTY

Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey, Interim Director, Women's Studies
Dr. Cecilia Herles, Assistant Director of Women's Studies
Dr. Kelly Happe, Speech Communications & Women's Studies
Dr. Patricia Richards, Sociology & Women's Studies

Dr. Doris Kadish, Romance Languages & Women's Studies
Dr. Susan Thomas, Music & Women's Studies
Dr. Bethany Moreton, History & Women's Studies
Dr. Chris Cuomo, Philosophy & Women's Studies



Bethany Moreton

Since coming to UGA from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2007, Bethany Moreton has published five articles and a book, *To Serve God and Wal-Mart: The Making of Christian Free Enterprise* (Harvard University Press, 2009).

In an earlier form, as her 2006 Yale dissertation, this work won five scholarly awards. The book has been positively reviewed in the U.S., the U.K., and France, and she has contributed author interviews to Air America, C-SPAN 2, and NPR. She has represented UGA through invited talks at Harvard, Yale, Cornell, New York University, and UCLA. She was chosen as the 2009 Emerging Scholar by the University of Michigan's Institute for the Humanities, in an international competition across disciplines.



Nichole Ray

Nichole Ray is a Lecturer in the Institute for Women's Studies at the University of Georgia. She holds a B.A. in English, and earned a Ph.D. in Adult Education at UGA. Since serving as a graduate teaching assistant in 2004, Dr. Ray has taught a variety of

courses, including Multicultural Women in the U.S., Introduction to Women's Studies, and Black Feminism. Her general research interests include race and gender in adult and higher education, black feminist theory and activism, feminist teaching and qualitative research methods. Dr. Ray has presented her research at numerous conferences and remains an active member in the National Women's Studies Association and the Southeastern Women's Studies Association.

IWS UPDATES

Daleah Goodwin is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of History. Her research focuses on 20th century Black women and identity. Daleah serves as president of the Women's Studies Graduate Student Association and coordinator of the 17th Annual Women's Studies Student Research Symposium. As a testament to her teaching skills, Daleah received the 2008-2009 "Excellence in Teaching Award" from the Graduate School. This university-wide award is presented annually to five graduate teaching or laboratory assistants in recognition of their contributions to classroom teaching and to the scholarship of teaching at the University of Georgia.

Nicole Hurt is a fourth-year Ph.D. student in Speech Communication and is currently writing her dissertation, which focuses on how the breasted body comes to matter in popular discourse. In addition, this year she is also honing her pedagogical strategies and techniques by participating in the University's Future Faculty Program.

Shannon Miller is an instructor for the Institute for Women's Studies. She earned her Ph.D. in Child & Family Development in December 2008. She has recently co-founded the All My Children Project, an organization that promotes the health and well-being of African American

LGBTQQ persons, their families and communities through social justice research and programs.

Miriam Brown-Spiers is a Ph.D. student in the English department, where she studies Ethnic American Literature. In addition to teaching in Women's Studies, she teaches intro level classes in the English Department. She also completed her MA at UGA, where she wrote a thesis about the role of women in Maxine Hong Kingston's *The Fifth Book of Peace*.

Karen Sichler is a Ph.D. student in Mass Communication. Karen has worked as a Graduate Teaching Assistant in Women's Studies since 2008. She teaches WMST 1110: Multicultural Women in the U.S. and has also taught courses in the Grady College of Journalism.

Blaise Parker is an instructor for the Institute for Women's Studies. She earned her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from UGA in 2004. Her area of research is sexual identity development. She has also published book reviews in the NWSA Journal, the International Women's Studies Forum, and the Journal of Sex Research.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Juanita Johnson-Bailey has been named to the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame's Class of 2009 and will be inducted on Nov. 17. Her research explores the continuum of how power and privilege affect the culture of the educational process. Her third book, *The Handbook of Race and Adult Education*, which she co-edited with Stephen Brookfield, will be released in January 2010.

Chris Cuomo presented the keynote lecture "Climate Change, Ethics, and Local Knowledge," at the Southeastern Women's Studies Association annual conference in 2009. She published "Environmental Change, Indigenous Knowledge, and Subsistence on Alaska's North Slope," (co-authored with Wendy Eisner and Kenneth Hinkel) in *The Scholar and Feminist Online*, and "Advancing Landscape Process Research through the Incorporation of Iñupiaq Knowledge," (also co-authored) will appear in *ARCTIC* in the Fall. For the 2009-2010 academic year she will be a

Copeland Fellow at Amherst College, where she will be working on a project on feminist questions regarding sustainability.

Doris Kadish has been actively engaged in recent years with bringing out editions of forgotten abolitionist works by women writers. Her project dates back to the publication in 1994 of *Translating Slavery: Gender and Race in French Women's Writing, 1783-1823*. That book will be re-published this year in a two volume, expanded edition by Kent State University Press. In 2008, she wrote the introduction and annotations for a translation of a play about the Haitian revolution, "*Charles de Rémusat's Saint-Domingue Plantation*" (Louisiana State UP). With her collaborator Deborah Jenson at Duke University, she also published with the Modern Language Association (MLA) an edition and translation of the slave story "*Sarah*" by Marceline Desbordes-Valmore in 2008. According to the format of the "*MLA Texts and Translations Series*," "*Sarah*" appears in two volumes, one in French and one in translation.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Katie Orlmanski graduated with a degree in Women's Studies and International Affairs in 2007 and is currently based in Kenya working as a Gender Specialist for an international NGO called the Academy for Educational Development (AED), an education program that concentrates on keeping girls in school.

Audrey Turner graduated with a degree in Women's Studies in 2008 and is now in her second year of Teach For America in Texas.

April Greene graduated with a degree in Women's Studies in August 2009 and is currently working at the Jeannette Rankin Foundation.

Tiffany Ball graduated with a degree in English and a Certificate in Women's Studies in 2008. She is currently enrolled at the University of Michigan working on a joint Women's Studies/Ph.D. degree.



The 2009-2010 Service-Learning Fellows are (top row, from left): Joseph Goets, Roger Harrison; (middle row, from left): Elizabeth Davis, Cecilia Herles, Tina Harris; (bottom row, from left): Hyangsoon Yi, and Megan Lee

Dr. Cecilia Herles has been named a Service-Learning Fellow by the Office of Service-Learning at the University of Georgia for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Dr. Herles honored as a Service-Learning Fellow

This award recognizes Dr. Herles for significant contributions to advancing civic engagement at the University of Georgia through her scholarship of engagement and by providing service-learning opportunities for students.

Dr. Herles has designed a new service-learning and outreach course WMST 4170/6170: Environment, Gender and Class, which will be offered this upcoming spring. The course is designed to allow students to apply issues of race, gender, and

class through service work at nonprofit organizations dedicated to associated issues.

The Service-Learning Fellows program provides an opportunity for faculty members from a range of disciplines to develop, implement and integrate service-learning into their professional practice.

Dr. Herles was among seven other faculty members that were awarded this year.

NEW SPACE OPEN HOUSE

This past September, the Institute for Women's Studies held a new space ceremony in recognition of their move from the Benson Building to Gilbert Hall. Many people from the Women's Studies community came out to the event to recognize all of the accomplishments that the institute had achieved. Dr. Pat Del Rey, along with other prominent figures within the Women's Studies community, attended.



Guests at the Institute for Women's Studies open house socialize at the event.



Guests enjoyed light refreshments during the open house.



From left to right: Juanita Johnson-Bailey, Pat Del Rey, Cecilla Herles, Marjanne Gooze, and Heather Kleiner

What Can you Do With a WMST Major?



On October 13th, the UGA Career Center and Institute for Women's Studies hosted the second annual panel discussion on "What Can I Do with a Major in Women's Studies?".

The panel featured from right: Rachel Allen (Rachel Allen Media Service), Nancy Vandergrift (Mentor program at Athens Clarke County), Kirsten Rambo, Ph.D. (Georgia Commission on Family Violence), Jodi Rhoden (Short Street Cakes), and moderated by Dr. Cecilia Herles.



During the panel discussion, these professionals described how they transitioned into their various professions, including owning a small business, running a feminist public relations firm, serving as an Executive Director of a non-profit organization, and working with mentoring programs. The panelists shared useful career advice with audience members, and they discussed how their Women's Studies education provided them with the necessary skills and experience for their rewarding occupations. There are currently over 50 majors and 50 minors.

• • • • • TRIOTA Honor Society • • • • •

Iota Iota Iota (TRIOTA) is the undergraduate academic honor society for Women's Studies. The purpose of this organization is to encourage and support scholarship and excellence in women studies. TRIOTA is named for the ancient goddesses Inanna, Ishtar, and Isis and strives to maintain feminist values central to women studies: egalitarianism, inclusiveness, and celebration of the diversity of women's experiences. This semester, TRIOTA members invited April Greene to discuss her work at the Jeannette Rankin Foundation. Over the course of the event, students asked questions and facilitated discussions. The Jeannette Rankin Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for, and awarding scholarships and grants to, low-income women, ages 35 and older who wish to continue their education.



TRIOTA students at a round table discussion with April Greene, discussing her work with the Jeannette Rankin Foundation.



Back Row Left : Savannah Mesco, Imann Gad, Cynthia Kim, Brynn McDermott, Amanda Trader. Front Row Left: Leslie Dunsmore, Alexandra Palmour, April Greene, Jenny Aszman, Diane Hernandez.

• • • • • Women's Studies Student Association • • • • •



The 2009-2010 officers from left: Cathryne Keller, Naila Ansari, Elizabeth Barnard, and Allayna Pinkston

WSSO is a group dedicated to progressive activism surrounding social justice issues like discrimination and abuse. We aim to create change through partnering with other organizations, creating an inclusive atmosphere for open dialogue on social issues, petitioning, and hosting fundraising and educational events. Some topics we hope to discuss this year include: reproductive justice, domestic violence, men organizing to end violence against women, the intersection of race and gender, standards of beauty and women of color, and sexual violence. Please feel free to contact us at ugawssso@gmail.com if you are interested learning more about what we do.

In 2008, WSSO's leadership team organized bi-monthly meetings, rallied to get the Institute for Women's Studies out of the Benson Building and into Gilbert Hall, hosted Mia Mingus from SPARK Reproductive Justice Now!; planned the annual Domestic Violence Awareness demonstration; and held a forum on intersectionality with Ph.D. candidate Daleah Goodwin. Two WSSO members also represented UGA at Choice USA's Southern Reproductive Justice Leadership Institute in October.

The action didn't end there, though. In spring 2009, WSSO held a demonstration to convince the administration to create a campus Women's Center; hosted noted eco-feminist activist Carol Adams, organized a "What is Feminism?" Forum; and planned the annual Take Back the Night rally, march, and candlelight vigil. Co-Facilitators' Joanna Randazzo and April Greene, as well as Treasurer Erin George, worked throughout the year to not only highlight important feminist issues, but to create a more politically engaged and progressive campus environment.



Above: WSSO's 2008-2009 president, April Greene

Women's Studies

Graduate Student Association

Women's Studies Graduate Student Association WMST GSA was organized in the Spring of 2007 to facilitate interaction and continued growth among graduate students associated with the Institute for Women's Studies. Composed primarily of current and former WMST graduate certificate students, WMST GSA unites graduate students across the university who study and research all areas of women's studies. WMST GSA intends to promote and encourage feminist and womanist research through student/faculty paper workshops, professional development seminars, and attending local, state and national conferences that relate to the advancement of feminist and womanist research.

Our mission is to confer distinction for high achievement in scholarship and activism in conjunction with the

program of Women's Studies, to promote support for and enhance community among Women's Studies graduate students, to provide a forum for the interchange of ideas among those students and scholars who are seriously pursuing knowledge in these areas, and to promote the study of women, gender and society, both locally and globally.

The current officers of WMST GSA are Daleah Goodwin as president, Christina Davis as treasurer, and Beth Turner as secretary. As WMST GSA moves forward they plan to develop and maintain long term collaborative relationships with other progressive campus organizations and provide camaraderie and support to WMST colleagues.

2010 SPRING EVENTS

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Writing Women Back Into History
March 2010

COLEY LECTURE

Lecture brings to campus scholars doing cutting-edge research in the area of lesbian and gay studies
April 2010

2010 FRIDAY SPEAKER SERIES

Will be held in the Miller Learning Center each Friday in room 214 from 12:20pm-1:10pm
(see website for details)

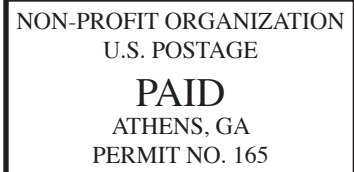
SPRING STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

On Friday, March 19, 2010, WMST GSA will host the Institute for Women's Studies 17th Annual Women's Studies Student Symposium: "Feminist Research Across the Disciplines" as part of the annual Women's History Month Celebration. Undergraduate and graduate students from University of Georgia, Georgia State University, Emory University and other Georgia colleges and universities have been invited to attend and present their work.



Gilbert Hall, 210 Herty Drive
Athens, GA 30602-1802

Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey, Interim Director
Dr. Cecilia Herles, Assistant Director
Cicely Robinson-Jones, Business Manager



Join Our Listserv! Be the first to know about IWS events and announcements. Send an email to Cecilia Herles at cherles@uga.edu with your name and the email address you want to use and the subject line "add me to the listserv."

Institute for Women's Studies
(706) 542-2846 (phone)
(706) 542-0049 (fax)
www.uga.edu/iws

BECOME A FRIEND OF WOMEN'S STUDIES

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!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ other _____

AFASWS10

Gifts by Check

Gifts by check can be made out to The Arch Foundation (write Women's Studies in the "for" line) and mailed to:
The Institute for Women's Studies
University of Georgia
Gilbert Hall, 210 Herty Dr.
Athens, GA 30602-1802

Gifts by Credit Card

Gifts by credit card can be made through the secure on-line gift site for the Georgia Fund annual giving campaign. This site gives you many options for making a contribution. If you want to make a donation by credit card, choose the link "on-line gift by credit." From there you must select "Franklin College of Arts & Sciences" as the department and then "Women's Studies" as the fund.