

the colgate center for
**women's
studies**

News

From the Director

This Fall has been a time of welcoming newcomers to Women's Studies, both the academic program and also programming coming from the Center for Women's Studies. Diane Williams, our new Program Assistant, introduces herself below. She brings experience and, even more importantly, energy, creativity, perspective, and humor to the Center. Diane is joined by a committed, diverse Student Staff.

This year's reception to welcome new colleagues honored Colgate's 15th President, Rebecca Chopp, whose career has included launching Religion courses in Women's Studies as well as scholarship in areas of feminist theology. President Chopp follows the

Interim Presidency of Jane Pinchin, a "founding mother" of WMST at Colgate and the keynote speaker at our annual dinner last Spring.

Several new faculty, men and women, are interested in issues of women, gender, and sexuality in their teaching and/or research. One of these, Dr. Meika Loe, holds one of Colgate's innovative positions, a joint appointment in both WMST and SOAN.

The WMST Advisory Board usually meets twice monthly, addressing aspects of the WMST curriculum and also broader campus concerns. I'm grateful to them, and to the WMST faculty more generally, for their ongoing commitment to our program. Priorities

for both the curriculum and programming include ways race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and class intersect with gender and other women's concerns. Each semester, WMST offers a panel of thirteen to seventeen courses, most cross-listed with a variety of departments and other Interdisciplinary Programs.

Our Women's Studies web page is again undergoing revision, but we invite you to visit that. The Center continues to be a lively place, peopled by students from classes held here, student staff, those attending "Brown Bag" presentations, and some just seeking a place to read and have some hot chocolate or coffee. When you

are on campus, do stop in. Having my office here means I see many more folks, sometimes those just passing through. You will be welcome as well.

by Marilyn Thie

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So, Who's the New Kid?

Hi! I'm the Women's Studies Program Assistant this year and I'm pretty much responsible most of the events in this newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading about what we've been up to here in the basement of East Hall!

I graduated from Williams College in June with a major in American Studies, concentration in Women's Studies and a new found love for photography (taken in my last semester). I played volleyball and threw

(shot, disc, and hammer) for the Track and Field team while also being very involved with the Williams College Rape and Sexual Assault Hotline. Between my sophomore and junior years I interned in New York City at the *Third Wave Foundation*, the only national organization that is solely devoted to supporting young women.

In my experience and education I realized that through studying the constructions of race, gender,

sexuality, etc. I can better understand my "place" in the world and begin to formulate strategies for change.

I am so excited to have found this job! I'm lucky to have a staff of really great students and a boss who supports me on my crazy ideas.

If you are on campus, or in town, stop in and say Hi! We always have coffee and all are welcome in this space. Enjoy the newsletter!

by Diane Williams

Inside!

- ♦ *Intimate details about our excellent Student Staff*
- ♦ *Find out who Amy and Jennifer are and why we like them*
- ♦ *Appreciate the efforts of SORT women*
- ♦ *Be amazed at how much money we raised for Breast Cancer Research on October 4th, 2002*
- ♦ *Learn about the F-word*
- ♦ *Check out WMST classes '02-'03*
- ♦ *Experience a Brown Bag Lunch (kind of)*

Meet the Staff

We wanted you to know a little about the staff at the Center for Women's Studies these days, so we asked them a few questions — name, year, hometown, major (Jr./Sr. only), and favorite footwear.

Mary Acoymo, '06
Redondo Beach, CA
Old Navy sandals or...Nike's

Jennifer Colon, '03
Boondocks, NC
Psychology / Women's Studies
shit-kickers

Princess Dunn, '03
Kingston, Jamaica
Africana Studies, Pre-Med
sneakers

Sarah Fryc, '06
Fonda, NY
addidas sandals...super comfy

Caren King, '06
Cresskill, NJ
thick socks

Victor Matos, '04
Manhattan (where the fashionably adept roam)
Geology
whatever goes with my outfit



Back row: Marilyn, Jennifer, Jamie, Tamara, Sarah F., Sarah S., Diane, Joyce, Victor
Front row: Anne, Caren, Mary, Snow (not pictured: Princess, Kara)

Joyce Pisarello, '04
Copaigue, Long Island, NY
Philosophy
my gray and white running shoes take me everywhere I need to go

Snow Peterson, '03
Lawrence, MA
Sociology, Pre-Med
reefs

Kara Repich, '06
Fairport, NY
sketchers sneakers

Tamara Serrano, '03
Coamo, Puerto Rico
Psychology / Women's Studies
flip flops

Sarah Sillin, '05
New Paltz, NY
my mouse slippers to keep my tootsies warm

Jamie Warsavage, '03
Bucks County, PA
Art History / Women's Studies
flip-flops

Anne Workman, '03
Old Lyme, CT
Spanish Literature / Women's Studies
reefs

Diane Williams
San Mateo, CA
Amer. Studies / Women's Studies
my new shoes (they look like bowling shoes)

Check Out The New SORT Resort

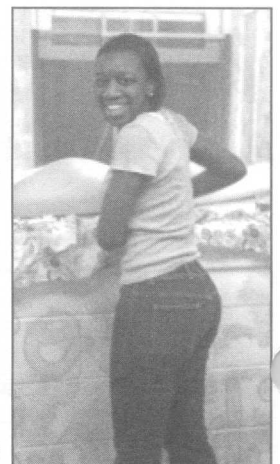
by Princess Dunn '03



Princess Dunn, '03

On Saturday, October 5th, the women of Sisters of the Round Table (SORT) gathered to decorate their office, located in the Women's Studies Center. The morning started out with a light breakfast, followed by sponge painting the walls blue. Thanks to the many creative minds the office looks great. We plan to purchase a fish for the office to give the final touch of a home away from home. Upcoming events include a self-defense class and a sleep-over!

SORT was established as an outlet for ALANA women to express their culture and community on the Colgate University campus. SORT was developed by concerned women of color on this campus to establish a community amongst themselves where women who share similar interests can come together and feel comfortable discussing issues that concern them while simultaneously increasing campus awareness of these issues.



Malissa Carter, '06

Amy and Jennifer Discuss Activism

by Sarah Sillin, '05

Walking into The Center for Women's Studies on Friday for my Intro to WMST class, I recognized the two women seated on one of the cushy purple couches from their lecture on activism and feminism the night before. Their intimate discussion with a couple of students who had shown up before class to talk with them gradually included the entire class as we drifted in, maintaining the same personal conversation rather than switching into lecture mode. Amy and Jennifer's Thursday evening presentation, "What is Activism?" and Friday morning class discussion both centered around reflections on the meaning of activism and the status

of feminism today. Both events left me feeling as though my mind was working a little bit differently.



Jennifer Baumgardner (front, center) and Amy Richards (front, right), authors of *Manifesta: Young Women, Feminism, and the Future*, spoke on campus on October 10th. They are shown here, in the Center, meeting with the Intro to Women's Studies class.

Thursday's lecture was something of an ego-booster -- as in *Manifesta*, they asserted that we do not have to save the world to contribute. Jennifer and Amy stressed the significance of our daily acts. Friday morning's discussion of body comfort left me with new questions. Why do women and men so often treat and speak of their bodies in vastly different manners? I was thinking about ideas, but not berating myself for my feelings. Through the course of their visit, Jen and Amy's humor, openness, and thoughtfulness left me feeling that older third wave feminists welcome and value my voice and potential, along with those of my peers.

10.4.02 — Colgate Community Denim Day

The Center and the Breast Cancer Awareness Coalition sponsored Colgate Community Denim Day, in conjunction with a nationwide fundraiser founded by Lee Jeans and the Komen Foundation.

We started with our goal at \$1000. Two years ago we raised \$482. We advertised for people to wear jeans and pink shirts on that Friday and donate \$5 to breast cancer research at any of our five information / donation stations around campus. At the end of the day, the Center hosted a Participants' Party with food donated

from local businesses. ...*And when the money was counted and the total was posted, we not only met our goal as a community, we exceeded it: \$1560 collected with over 300 people participating!*

The success of this day was a team effort: from making the posters to decorating jeans for hanging around campus, to setting up information / donation stations, and more. Thanks to all who showed they care!

Snow Pena Peterson, '03, was in charge of collecting and counting money at the party, where over \$250 dollars was collected and over 50 people mingled.



(re)Defining the F-Word for Everyday Use

by Joyce Pisarello, '04

A diverse group of students, professors, staff, and Hamilton residents alike gathered in the Women's Studies Center on Monday, September 30th, to discuss a word that appears to be slipping from the American vocabulary. The discussion, titled "(Re)-defining the 'F-word for Everyday Use," sparked interesting debate over the occasionally troublesome

word "feminist." Participants discussed what the word meant to them and their reasons for labeling themselves as feminists or discarding the word all together. Women and men shared personal experiences involving their use of the controversial word, ranging from teaching to parenting to everyday conversation on the Colgate campus. Those participating in

the discussion agreed that although some may see the term "feminist" as outdated, the spirit of the word is alive and well in the struggle for equality.

Have ideas for an event or discussion? Tell diane!

ph: 315.228.7156

email: dwilliams@mail.colgate.edu

the colgate center for
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13 Oak Drive
Hamilton, NY 13346
Phone: 315.228.7156
Fax: 315.228.7098
Email: dwilliams@mail.colgate.edu

Marilyn Thie, Director
Mary Keys, Administrative Assistant
Diane Williams, Program Assistant

We're working on our website...come see!
http://departments.colgate.edu/womens_studies/

The rejuvenation of the newsletter is due to the hard work of the staff at the Center for Women's Studies. Coming soon: the Winter Edition... Please send all feedback/ideas to Diane.



FALL

Courses Offered, 2002-2003

SPRING

- | | |
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| <p>WMST 202 Introduction to Women's Studies, Wider
ALST/HIST 305 African American Women's History, Powell
CORE 315 Gender and Film, Harsin and Pagano
ECON 479 AX Seminar in Economics of the Family, Tiefenthaler
EDUC 412 AX Women and Education, Pagano
EDUC 416 AX Seminar in Moral Development and Education
ENGL 305 AX The Female Protagonist, Wider
ENGL 408 AX, Medieval Identities, Staley
RELG 232 AX Mythography: Ritual, Gender, and Ethnicity in Sacred Literature, Martin
SOAN 315 AX Gender and Culture, Peletz
SOAN 367 AX Sociology of Gender, Loe</p> | <p>WMST 202 (with Loe), HIST 305, ENGL 305 (see Fall)
WMST 324 ES Scandinavian Welfare State and Gender, Grapard
WMST 490 Senior Seminar: Feminist Classics, Thie
ECON 234 Gender in the Economy, Grapard
ENGL 306 Writing and Society, American Renaissance, Johnson
ENGL 412 Jane Austen and Women Novelist, Knuth
GEOG 304 Gender and Environment, Hays-Mitchell
RELG 235 Gender and Judaism, Cushing
RELG 406 Sacred Texts: Pauline Traditions, Martin
SOAN 369 Women, Health and Medicine, Loe
SOAN 306 Gender/Sexuality in South East Asia, Peletz
SOAN 371 Gender and Society in Africa, Moran
SOAN 366 Gender, Race, Ethnicity in Islamic Society, Fleuhr-Lobban</p> |
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Brown Bag Lunches or I Learn Something New Every Tuesday!

Brown Bags have been a tradition at the Center for eight years and are now practically an institution. Never been to one? Here's what happens:

Every Tuesday, 11:10 am — Students start trickling into the Center: setting down their backpacks, glancing towards the library, waiting...

11:15 am — Let the buffet begin! We unveil the delicious Curtain Call spread. Students and staff alike fill their plates full of turkey sandwiches, fruit salad, hummus, egg salad, and/or a bowl full of rice and beans or soup. And, get a brownie before they're all gone...

11:30 am — We make announcements of upcoming events for WMST and other programs and student organizations.

11:37 am — Without further ado, our speaker takes the floor, presenting her/his research.

12:15 pm — The floor opens for Q&A, providing a half hour of great discussion.

Brown Bag Schedule, Fall 2002

(Note: Professors are from Colgate unless indicated)

- 9/10** — "Imagining Technology Based on Women's Values" Paul Pinet, ENST
- 9/17** — "Vaginal: Feminist Art of the 1970s" Jamie Warsavage, '03, Art History and Women's Studies major
- 9/24** — "Women Survivors of Peru's Civil War: The Struggle to Build a Sustainable Peace" Maureen Hays-Mitchell, Geography
- 9/26** — "Shaking the Faith: Shakers, Anti-Shakers, and the 'Just Rights' of Women, 1815-1867" Elizabeth DeWolfe '83, American Studies, University of New England
- 10/1** — "The Originality of Quotation: Reading Women in the Adirondacks" Ellen Kraly, Geography and Sarah Wider, English
- 10/8** — "Empowering Advocacy" Grace Poore, in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Week
- 10/22** — "Gender Politics in Technological Design" Langdon Winner, UNST visiting professor

10/24 — "Gendered Laws of Robotics" Anne Foerst, Theology and Computer Science, St. Bonaventure University

10/29 — "Let's Talk About Breasts" Dr. Merrill Miller, Linda Dovidio, Colgate Health Services, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month

11/5 — "Whither the Civil Rights Movement?" Nina Moore, Political Science

11/7 — "Changing Narratives, Changing Practices: Women in 'Higher Education'" President Rebecca Chopp

11/12 — "Title IX Through the Ages" A panel discussion with women coaches and athletes at Colgate

11/19 — "Vision Machines: Women on the Verge of...? in Almodovar's 'All About My Mother'" Anita Johnson, Romance Languages and Literatures

12/3 — "Community Action: Everyone's Call" Maureen Fox, Diane Ryan, Community Action Program for Madison County

12/10 — "Women and Gossip in Latin America" Anne Ashbaugh, Philosophy, and Lourdes Rojas, Romance Language and Literature