

the colgate center for women's studies

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1

FALL 2010

Director's Note

WMST 324 ES: My Experience with an Extended Study in Women's Studies

By: Ulla Grapard (Director of Women's Studies and Associate Professor of Economics & WMST)

Brian Gitau '11 said that since his FSEM days he had wanted to go to Denmark. While his professor in *Current Economic Issues* (me!) was drawing supply and demand diagrams on the whiteboard, Brian was watching the images from my laptop's screensaver showing faces and places from the 2006 extended study *The Scandinavian Welfare State: A Gendered Perspective*. Almost three years later, Brian and 12 other juniors and sophomores joined me for the extended study to Denmark.



Part of the group enjoys time at Skagen Beach.

Having studied work-life balance, childrearing practices, family policies, immigration, and gender issues on campus in the spring semester of 2010, we spent four weeks in Copenhagen and in other parts of the country studying and seeing for ourselves how it all worked out in real life. We saw many dads with baby-strollers, a preschool with children bearing names like Aisha, Fatima, and Hassan, a Kindergarten where children were allowed to shape wooden sticks with sharp knives, and an

elementary school where third-graders practiced their English in conversation with us. And, of course, we visited the birthplace of world-famous author of children's literature, Hans Christian Andersen, where we heard the original story of *The Little Mermaid*. Her likeness, a small statue that is usually sitting in Copenhagen's harbor, was on a temporary visit in Shanghai for the World Expo.

In between lectures about women in the Danish labor market, the history of women's shelters, and the encounter between Islam and Christianity, we visited art museums and practiced our bicycling skills on the way to the beach. Our very multicultural group of people learned as much about ourselves as about the Danes, I think, and I am looking forward to the spring of 2012, when I will offer the extended study for the seventh time. I doubt that it will be possible for the experiences of the next group to top the ones from 2010, but then I am always surprised by our extraordinary students!



Professor Grapard takes 13 students on an extended study trip to Denmark.

Center for Women's Studies

Monday—Thursday

8:30am—9:30pm

Friday

8:30am—3:30pm

Sunday

4:30pm—9:30pm

13 Oak Drive
Hamilton, NY 13346
(315) 228-7156

The Brown Bag Series

By: *Xavia Publius '13*

For the “regulars,” the first Tuesday of the semester was a return to a beloved tradition that had been on hiatus for the summer: the Women’s Studies brown bag series. For new students and students new to Women’s Studies or feminist thought, it marked the beginning of discussion on campus about diverse topics affecting people across the sex and gender spectrums as gendered and sexed beings. As people throughout the Colgate community sat (or stood, depending on the popularity of the brown bag) to eat their Curtain Call food, discussion blossomed around issues of sexualization, transnationalism, diversity, intimacy, and many others. Collaboration with other departments and services provided interesting intersections worth being brought to people’s attention. As the semester closes, the promise of a continuing conversation around these topics ensures the series’ place in Colgate tradition.



Students gather at one of the weekly brown bags.

Brown Bags: Fall 2010

The F Word	8/31/10
Katie Downey '11, Teal Kratky '11, & David Tucciarone '11	
NCBI at Colgate: Celebrating Diversity & Reducing Prejudice	9/07/10
Scott Brown, Tennille Haynes, Dawn LaFrance, Brian Gitau '11, & Dirichi Arungwa '12	
Co-sponsored with ALST & ALANA	
Coaching, Athletics, & Gender	9/14/10
Coaches Ryan Baker, Kathy Brawn, Cathy Foto, & Laura Nardelli	
Teaching to Transgress: Queer Cameras in the Classroom	9/21/10
Members of EDUC 303: Gender & Development	
Transnationalizing LGBT/Queer Studies	9/28/10
Andrew London, Co-director of LGBT Studies at Syracuse University	
Co-sponsored with LGBTQ Studies	
Peculiar Intimacies: Reading Antebellum Atrocities from Behind the Veil	10/05/10
Lynn Makau, Assistant Professor of English at Willamette University	
Co-sponsored with ALST	
In Honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month	10/19/10
Members of Breast Cancer Awareness Coalition (BCAC)	
Yes Means Yes: A Seminar about Positive Sexuality & Healthy Relationships	10/26/10
Members of the YMY Seminar	
Old Women, the “Lesbian Continuum,” & Late Life Intimacies	11/02/10
Meika Loe, Sociology & WMST	
The Disturbing “Science” of Female Pleasure	11/09/10
Liz Canner, independent filmmaker	
Chocolate-Loving, Pampered Nuns of Viceregal, Mexico	11/16/10
Electa Arenal, NEH Professor of the Humanities in Romance Languages & Literatures	
Co-sponsored with ALST	
The Status of Women in Higher Education in South Africa	11/30/10
Joanne Schneider, University Libraries	
Co-sponsored with ALST	
So Sexy So Soon: What Difference Does it Make	12/07/10
Members of EDUC 204: Child & Adolescent Development	

Hispanic Heritage Month

By: Ana Almeyda-Cohen '11

Hispanic Heritage Month is a time for individuals and communities to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Latinos in America. As president of the Latin American Student Organization (LASO), I was filled with joy and excitement to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with Colgate students, faculty, staff, and the greater Hamilton community.

From September 15 to October 15 events, discussions, meals, and gatherings were held on campus and in Hamilton to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. LASO opened the celebration with its first meeting at La Casa Pan-Latina Americana. Educational officer/historian Ady Montilla '13 gave an insightful presentation on the history of Hispanic Heritage Month in the United States. Through trivia questions and fun facts, LASO members engaged in activities and learned about the origins of this national celebration.

On September 24 the Palace Theater hosted the Off-Broadway theater group Latino Flavored Productions, Inc. as they performed *Yo Soy Latina!* An intimate crowd gathered at the community theater house and watched as three actresses depicted the stories of six Latina women as they try to make sense of what it means to be Latina in America. Audience members roared with laughter and sighed with emotion as the actresses portrayed the riveting tales and ordeals of real Latina women. Latino Flavored Productions, Inc. provided audience members with a unique opportunity to ask questions about the performance after the show. The actresses were relaxed and open in sharing their perspective on the passion and creation of the theatrical performance.

The stage was then set for a political discussion on women in politics. On October 13 LASO members gave a brown bag presentation in the Center for Women's Studies. The presentation was on topics and issues surrounding female leaders in Latin America. Marilyn Hernández-Stopp '14 gave an overview of the common misconceptions and stereotypes of female leaders. Students in attendance offered their perspective and discussed how the media skews the images of female leaders. Jessica Ospina '14 explained the role that *machismo* plays in the Latino culture and its effect on female leaders. Gabby Cortes '13 provided facts on female presidents in Latin America and the effectiveness of their leadership. The brown bag

served as a platform for the following day's Hispanic Heritage Month keynote speaker Patti Solis Doyle.

As the first Hispanic woman to lead a major U.S. presidential campaign, Patti Solis Doyle exemplifies the strength of the Latino community. On October 14 Solis Doyle spoke of her personal journey growing up in Chicago and her path to politics. First as a White House assistant in the Clinton Administration and then as campaign manager for Hillary Rodham Clinton in 2008, Solis Doyle shared her experiences of working in politics. Throughout her political career, Solis Doyle has stressed the importance of self-worth. She proves that persistence and strong values are key components to professional and personal success. Students in attendance pressed Solis Doyle for her opinions on the Obama Administration and the forthcoming midterm elections. With



Members of LASO pose with Patti Solis Doyle after a dynamic keynote lecture in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

poise, confidence, and thoughtful responses, Patti Solis Doyle provided a unique insight to the world of politics and its impact on people in America.

The month-long celebration was concluded with a delicious dinner at the ALANA Cultural Center. Students, staff, and faculty savored the juices and flavors of the Latino culture through the Spanish cuisine. Culture and tradition resonated in the hearts and minds of everyone at dinner as they reflected on the events of Hispanic Heritage Month and connected with community members.

Seneca Falls

By: *Caden Polk '12*

Have you ever had a trip that, before it's over, you know that you'll never view "x" the same? The Women's Studies Seneca Falls trip did that to me. Never before had women's rights issues been so present in my mind.

During the trip, we saw so many historical places: the Seward House, Harriet Tubman's estate, and the Women's Rights National Historical Park. Had someone told me that central New York had such rich history, I wouldn't have believed them. Here it is, such monumental figures and places integrated within the heart of the country - right in our own backyard!



The group listens to the story of the Seneca Falls Convention.

Standing amongst the park's exhibits, a wave of compassion fell over me. The strength, the persistence, and the ability to see a better, brighter future which our esteemed ancestors possessed could not be expressed in words. We owe our present and future to them - to carry out what so many have spent their lives dedicated to fighting for - freedom and equality for all.

To stand in the homes of Harriet Tubman, the Searwards, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton was an experience in itself. To know that I have stood exactly where amazing individuals, who have been instrumental in the liberation of so many and who are in every (great) history book, really was an experience never to be forgotten. So often, we learn about all these phenomenal people, but we aren't given the opportunity to personally relate to them. To stand on Stanton's front porch and think that the view I am seeing today is (in many ways) similar to what she saw when she was living brings everything home.

Overall, the trip was fantastic. To see our group, full of young, fresh individuals and to see how people do have the ability to change our lives was so empowering. I know everyone left with a sense of encouragement and the confirmed belief that we can do anything.



Another group of 13 gathers for a photo outside of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's home.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By: *Natalie George '13*

During the beautiful month of October, one of the most important causes was promoted and this was Breast Cancer Awareness. Colgate University students were eager to spread the message of awareness. The Breast Cancer Awareness Coalition headed a brown bag discussion in the Center for Women's Studies. The brown bag focused on giving students current and detailed information about the causes as well as prevention of breast cancer. An interesting focal point of their presentation was centered on making sure that people are aware of pinkwashing, which is the use of the breast cancer ribbon in order to help sell products and profit big corporations. The presenters urged people to visit the web-site

www.thinkbeforeyoupink.com in order to research what they will be investing their money into and how much of it actually goes to help fund breast cancer awareness and research. Overall, this event was essential to the cause because it helped educate people on breast cancer and made them realize that it is not just an individual issue, it's everyone's concern and that we all must help. SUPPORT!



National Coming Out Week

By: *Andrea Finley '13*

National Coming Out Day was October 11; and in light of the annual event, LGBTQ Initiatives, in partnership with the Center for Women's Studies, Advocates, and Lambda, hosted an assortment of events for the week. National Coming Out Day is an internationally observed awareness day for members of the LGBTQ community and its allies. Allies are those persons who support the LGBTQ community and help others to understand the importance of equality for LGBTQ individuals. NCOD (National Coming Out Day) was founded in 1988 by Robert Eichberg, a psychologist from New Mexico, and Jean O'Leary, an openly-gay political leader from Los Angeles, on behalf of the personal growth workshop "The Experience and National Gay Rights Advocates."

We celebrate NCOD because it provides members of the LGBTQ community a chance to reflect and to speak proudly about being out and show support for those who remain closeted. The week was amazing as Colgate's queer and straight communities came together in support of one another to acknowledge the LGBTQ community here on campus. Inclusivity of the many different sexual orientations, gender expressions, and identities represented at Colgate is essential to developing a clear concept of campus diversity. By acknowledging the LGBTQ community we are one step closer to achieving our goals of reducing homophobia and heterosexism.

Advocates hosted a t-shirt making event in which students spray painted awareness raising messages and identities onto t-shirts to wear throughout the week. At the Center for Women's Studies brown bag, a panel of LGBTQ identified students and staff shared their coming out stories to highlight the many ways the coming out experience shapes our individual lives and our relationships. The panel discussion was extremely popular, and we look forward to a similar event annually. The Coming Out door displays were a series of four doors placed in the O'Connor Campus Center, Frank Dining Hall, Reid Athletic Center, and Case-Geyer Library. The doors symbolically encouraged closeted individuals to join the community and share wonderful, positive messages from LGBTQ identifying students and allies within the community. Some of the amazing messages that were displayed included, "Be bold and be proud, I love my gay dads, and I love my queer self." The doors were burned in a bonfire on Whitnall Field the following week, as an act of solidarity in breaking down the closet doors of homophobia, oppression, and prejudice. The week ended with the annual BBQ Queer barbeque at the home of Neal Rosenberg '74.

Thank you to all who participated in celebrating National Coming Out Day!



The Coming Out door is on display in the Coop for people to sign.

Fall 2010 WMST Courses

ECON 234	Gender in the Economy	PHIL 360	Philosophy and Feminisms
EDUC 204	Child and Adolescent Development	RELG 234	Women and Religious Traditions: Islam
EDUC 312	Women and Education	RELG 328	Experiencing Islam
EDUC 416	Seminar on Moral Development and Education	SOAN 220	Sexuality, Gender, and Society
ENGL 204	American Literature: Native American Writers	SOAN 333	Sociology of the Life Course
ENGL 305	The Female Protagonist	SPAN 474	Contemporary Spanish Theater
ENGL 333	African/Diaspora Women's Narratives	WMST 202	Women's Lives: An Introduction to Women's Studies
FREN 445	20th Century French Autobiography	WRIT 347	Language and Gender

Guyland

By: *Liz Grover '11*

The Women Studies program sponsored a field trip to Hamilton College on Tuesday, October 19, to see Michael Kimmel speak about his book *Guyland: The Perilous World where Boys Become Men*. After enjoying a delicious meal at Indian Café, we crammed our way into the overflowing lecture hall. Sociologist Michael Kimmel argued boys do not go directly from adolescence to adulthood, but, rather, in today's society there is about a ten-year period, which he refers to as "guyland," where guys shore up one another's masculinity. While women have gone through dramatic changes in the past 100 years, the ideology of masculinity has not changed. Women have made gender visible, yet for men it still remains invisible. As a middle-class, white male, Kimmel sarcastically told the audience pointing to himself, "This is what objectivity looks like!" The "other" is always labeled as so, yet he is considered "neutral." In order to keep things this way, guys come to college and feel the immense pressure to prove their masculinity.

The lecture complimented our study of masculinity in Professor Loe's class Gender, Sexuality, and Society. We read C.J. Pascoe's *Dude, You're a Fag* which describes the multiple masculinities found in high school. Pascoe argues that in high school white middle class boys take part in this "fag discourse," which is used to demean one's masculinity, and Kimmel further discussed this idea. Guys are constantly policing one another to make sure they are following the assigned "rules" of masculinity. The consequences of this behavior are gender inequality and unhealthy relationships between men and women. Women are told to protect themselves and watch out for one another when they go out at night because they are vulnerable to sexual assault and rape. However, men have the power to stop these actions. The typical "guyland" ideology: "bros before hoes" can be dismantled with gender equality and cross-gender friendships. Ultimately, Kimmel argued gender equality is a win-win for both men and women. It was valuable to hear gender issues discussed in a way that was directed towards both genders. Gender does not only refer to women, but oftentimes this misconception gets in the way of men actually seeing gender and recognizing the need for change.



The group enjoys their visit to Hamilton College for the well-attended Guyland lecture.

Clothesline Project

By: *Casey Schmidt '11*

This fall the Center for Women's Studies once again participated in the Clothesline Project. The Clothesline Project aims to break the silence surrounding the issues of intimate partner violence and other violations by literally bringing personal experience into the foreground of communities. The Center for Women's Studies provided materials for students and staff to make t-shirts with messages that speak out against the violence or that share personal experiences, and for a week these t-shirts were hung on clotheslines in the Center, as well as across outdoor spaces on campus. It is a striking project that clearly gets its message across: we will not be silent until the violence stops.



The t-shirts serve as a haunting display of violence and violation.

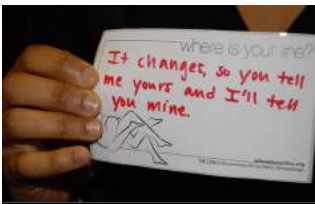


The wind catches the t-shirts on a crisp autumn day.

The Line

By: Casey Schmidt '11

On Thursday, October 21, Colgate screened the autobiographical documentary *The Line* in an effort to continue the conversation about consent, sexual violence, and responsibility. The filmmaker Nancy Schwartzman gave a brief introduction to her documentary and also led a discussion following its screening. The film follows Schwartzman's life as a recent college graduate, starting with her troubled life in New York City and, then, covering her move to Jerusalem, subsequent rape, and her process of coming to terms with her experience. In the documentary Schwartzman reveals the difficulty she had in dealing with her rape: feeling dirty and ashamed, questioning whether it really was rape, and being dismissed by friends she



Answers to "Where is your line?" vary dramatically.

thought would be there for her. She explores society's tendency to "blame the victim" and touches on problems survivors face when dealing with the legal system in the US and abroad. She is now the founder and director of the Line Campaign, which encourages young people to start defining their own "lines" of consent and to talk to partners about what those are. Following the screening, there was a question and answer session with Schwartzman, and the audience was encouraged to fill out their own "Where is your line?" stickers. One student asked Schwartzman if she purposefully included the section that touched on her recklessness as a young woman in college. She confidently answered that she was who she was, that she found casual sex to be a positive part of her life before and after her rape, and that she absolutely did not regret her brash behavior in college. Overall, the film and the talk brought up a lot of important questions concerning sex, power, and consent for students and administrators on this campus to consider.

Yes Means Yes

By: Hilary Hursh '11 & Molly Binenfeld '11

This fall marked Colgate's third *Yes Means Yes* series, a non-credit seminar for anyone interested in discussing sexuality and gender in the context of a college campus. For six weeks, a group of students and faculty shared personal stories and posed challenging questions about what it means to be a college student in our hyper-sexualized world. Participants had the opportunity to exchange ideas in a safe space, where differences in life experience and perspective were valued.

While the seminar covered topics like consent, gray rape, and positive sexuality, it did so in relation to real-life at Colgate. Thus, not only were students and faculty spurring meaningful discussions, but they were also identifying concrete ways to change our very own sexual climate. Think, for example, how different Colgate students might be if they had not grown up in a culture that discusses sex in terms of STDs and pregnancy but, rather, in pleasure and experimentation. What would it mean to live on a campus where sex is not stigmatized but portrayed as positive and healthy? This, of course, is the vision of *Yes Means Yes*.

In order to honestly and critically address issues of sexuality and gender on this campus – or our infamous hookup culture – Colgate students need to start somewhere. Whether they knew a little or a lot, were experienced or neophytes, loved or hated the hookup...everyone had something to contribute to *Yes Means Yes*, which enriched the quality of the series. For most, this seminar was the first collegiate venue where it was acceptable for students to speak freely about sexual pressures or ask questions of gender identity; however, if *Yes Means Yes* taught them anything, it hopefully will not be the last discussion of positive sexuality at Colgate.



Students share their ideas through an interactive exercise during the last session of the seminar.

SuChin Pak

By: Marilyn Hernández-Stopp '14



A delighted group of students pose with SuChin Pak after her lecture.

SuChin Pak, a former MTV correspondent, visited Colgate on November 3 to discuss her experience as a Korean-American minority working in the media. She is known not only as a representative of MTV but, also, for her advocacy and community work. She has become an example for not only Korean-Americans but for any minority; her experience is all encompassing in that she's faced struggles because of her race, struggles that all minorities seem to encounter. She spoke about the issues that affect minorities in the media, and she incorporated her own personal struggle with identity, something with which she has finally come to terms and something which truly revealed her candid nature. The event was sponsored by a myriad of departments and organizations, including ALANA, the Korean American Student Association, WMST, SOAN, Dean Grenell, and Dean Johnson.

On the day of the lecture, ALANA hosted a brown bag with three professors. Professor Simonson, Professor Stob, and Professor Lopes spoke about the portrayal of minorities in the media. The panel focused on the ways in which minorities are depicted on-screen and on the influence that minorities have behind-the-scenes. The brown bag was widely attended and turned out to be a great success. Later that evening SuChin Pak gave an eloquent, yet humbled, speech about her experience working for MTV. Besides giving her biography, Pak touched upon greater issues such as those of beauty and how beauty is perceived in different cultures as well as how beauty is influenced by the messages spread on TV. Many of the audience members were eager to ask questions during the question and answer portion, and Pak was generous with her time, making sure that she thoroughly answered all the questions.

Embracing Real Beauty

By: Kerry McGrath '12

On December 2 Stacy Nadeau discussed her role in Dove's "Real Beauty" campaign, which showcased "real" women, sizes 2 through 12. She told heartrending stories of girls who found the strength to overcome eating disorders after being inspired by the "Dove girls" and had many audience members in tears at several particularly poignant points in her presentation. She discussed the dangers of being too critical of oneself and offered ways to overcome this harsh criticism: eliminating "fat talk" with friends, accepting that everyone's healthy body is different, and recognizing that media portrayals of women's bodies are often false, misleading, and potentially damaging to all who internalize them.

This type of discussion is especially important on a campus like Colgate's, where "everyone" is thin, "everyone" works out for hours a day, and "everyone" is beautiful. While that last generalization may be true, it isn't according to the myth of beauty perpetuated in our society, which is that to be beautiful, you must look like a supermodel. Nadeau points out that not even supermodels look like supermodels—at least, not without serious photo shopping. But the more Colgate students make assumptions, jokingly or otherwise, about the prevalence of stereotypical beauty on our campus, the more we hold ourselves to standards which are likely to be unhealthy for us. Only a small percentage of the world's population has the build of a supermodel; why should all Colgate students feel the compulsion to be one of those few? Nadeau asks us to remember that we are all built differently and that our differences ought to be celebrated as beautiful and exciting, not as reasons to be disappointed or ashamed.



After her talk many students approach Stacy Nadeau with questions and stories.

Orgasm Inc.

By: Rachel Hatter '13

Liz Canner is an award-winning documentary filmmaker whose work has been screened in several film festivals and has received numerous awards. After her showing of *Orgasm Inc. – The Strange Science of Female Pleasure* on our campus in October, it is easy to see why.

This film follows the search for “the female Viagra.” After the market success of the little blue pill that reunited men with their masculinity (and increased the demand that they perform said masculinity), several companies began the race to find an FDA-approved drug that would award women the gift of engaging in sexual encounters whether or not they were necessarily “in the mood.”

But these companies had to address a few questions in order to generate an effective (and marketable) product that would deliver that necessary kick. First, were women even having trouble engaging in and enjoying sex? If so, how do companies let these women know that they have an issue that can be treated by their product? Well, it was up to the companies to produce a name for the illness that plagues these potential consumers – “female sexual dysfunction” – and spend a bit of money on doctors and media outlets to let the public know how serious this illness is and that there’s a product in development to relieve women of their non-orgasmic sex lives. What’s that, you say? Companies creating and promoting an illness to the public in order to sell a product? Well, that seems fishy.

Orgasm Inc. tackles this marketing ploy and many other entanglements surrounding these issues. The film addresses the implications of direct-to-consumer advertising, pharmaceutical research on illnesses, societal expectations of sexuality (especially, female sexuality), and the physical price many women pay to reach those societal expectations. So, this film isn’t only a look at what goes on behind the closed doors of pharmaceutical companies, but it examines the state of American sex culture.

Canner certainly left Colgate a lot to consider following this film. The brown bag after the viewing was a discussion focused on portrayals of sex, how we perceive them, and how notions of “normal sexuality” are formed. *Orgasm Inc.* opens the pathway to necessary conversations about these issues and the ways we might address them. It is an informational piece that leaves the viewer curious for more.



Spring 2011 WMST Courses

CLAS 232	Sexuality and Gender— Classical	POSC 217	Identity Politics
CORE 144	The Psychology of Oppression	RELG 253	Sex, Love, and God: Religion and Queer Studies
ECON 234	Gender in the Economy	SOAN 369	Women, Health, and Medicine
EDUC 303	Gender & Development	SPAN 226	Latin American Women Writers
ENGL 208	Introduction to Literary Study: Sex and the Global City	WMST 202	Women's Lives: An Introduction to Women's Studies
ENGL 433	West Indian Literature	WMST 302	Women's Lives in Biography and Autobiography
ENGL 442	Virginia Woolf & E.M. Forster	WMST 490	Feminisms: Personal, Local, and Global Perspectives
GEOG 321	Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change	WRIT 242	Stand and Speak: Feminist Rhetorics and Social Change
LGBT 303	Speaking Its Name: Gay and Lesbian Identities since the 19th Century (CORE 303)		

Semester Number 3

By: Heather D. Dockstader (WMST Program Assistant)

It has been another fantastic semester. Women's Studies sponsored a wide range of speakers and programs. Our annual trip to Seneca Falls provided students with an opportunity to explore the rich history of social justice activism in central New York while our trip to Hamilton College gave students an opportunity to bond beyond the classroom while attending a lecture at a neighboring academic institution. Attendance at our weekly brown bags was exceptionally high. Thank you all for coming and offering your voice to the collective experience.

As for the Center, it continued to be a fabulously dynamic and welcoming space on campus where students, faculty, and staff gathered quite frequently to socialize and work. Not to mention, it was painted blue this summer. But, enough about the Center – I want to acknowledge the specialness that is the Women's Studies faculty. Attend an event on campus; attend any event that has anything to do with diversity, social justice, positive change, or hotbed issues and look around. You'll be sure to see a WMST professor or two (or twelve). Now, we do have a number advantage of 46, but, nonetheless, our faculty members are some of the most challenging, supportive, and engaged professors in and out of the classroom. So, if you, as a student, came to Colgate with the desire to have a life-altering, mind-expanding, undergraduate experience, take a course with a Women's Studies' professor. You will not regret it.

See you in the spring.

WMST Teaching Faculty

Rebecca Ammerman

Classics

Antonio Barrera

History

Timothy (Tim) Byrnes

Political Science

Gloria Bien

East Asian Languages & Literatures

Mary Ann Calo

Art & Art History

Ayesha Chaudhry

Religion

Maudemarie (Maude) Clark

Philosophy

Lesleigh Cushing

Religion

Margaret Darby

Writing & Rhetoric

Faye Dudden

History

Georgia Frank

Religion

Ulla Grapard*

Economics, Director of Women's Studies

Constance (Connie) Harsh

English

Jill Harsin

History

Maureen Hays-Mitchell

Geography

Anita Johnson

Romance Languages & Literatures

Linck Johnson

English

D. Kay Johnston*

Educational Studies

Hélène Julien*

Romance Languages & Literatures

Padma Kaimal

Art & Art History

Eliza Kent

Religion

Deborah Knuth Klénck

English

Ellen Kraly

Geography

Meika Loe*

Sociology & Anthropology

Clarice Martin

Religion

Mary Moran

Sociology & Anthropology

Judith (Judy) Oliver

Art & Art History

Kezia Page

English

Jo Anne Pagano

Educational Studies

Jane Pinchin

English

Landon Reid

Psychology

Nancy Ries

Sociology & Anthropology

Lourdes Rojas-Paiewonsky

Romance Languages & Literatures

Marilyn Rugg

Romance Languages & Literatures

Lynn Schwarzer

Art & Art History

Mary Simonson

University Studies

Suzanne B. Spring

Writing & Rhetoric

Lynn Staley

English

Michelle Stephens

English

Carol (Kira) Stevens

History

Nisha Thapliyal

Educational Studies

Marilyn Thie*

Philosophy & Religion

Linn Underhill

Art & Art History

Ken Valente

Mathematics, Director of LGBTQ Studies

Jing Wang

East Asian

Margaret Wehrer

Sociology & Anthropology

Sarah Wider*

English

*Faculty with joint appointments

Faculty Spotlight: Professor Marilyn Thie

By: Gwynne Gallagher '12

Since 1974 Professor Thie has impacted the lives of students at Colgate through her inspirational and passionate teaching. One of the reasons she was originally attracted to teach at Colgate was her positive impression of the student body. And, after 36 years of teaching, the students continue to impress her. Thie currently teaches senior seminars, Philosophy and Faith, as well as Philosophy and Feminisms. Speaking about what makes a class successful, she said, "It's the students that make the difference." In her classes Thie stresses the importance of the students knowing each other and working together in order to have successful class discussions. Some of her interactive teaching style can be attributed to feminist pedagogy. Thie prefers to run her classes in a seminar style, with students sitting either at a table or in a circle so they can face each other when they speak. When speaking with her, she emphasized the importance of discussion in the learning experience for students, recognizing that when students can articulate their own thoughts on the reading, they are better able to understand the material.



Students in Professor Thie's course never want to miss a class.



Professor Thie (back left) frequently attends the brown bag series in addition to other WMST events.

Her effective teaching was recently recognized when she was named the inaugural recipient of the Balmuth Award. The award was created by Colgate Alumnus Mark Siegel '73 and recognizes transformative teaching by a professor at Colgate. Thie said that receiving the award was a "tremendous honor," especially because it was named for her colleague Jerry Balmuth in the Philosophy and Religion Department. Colgate students continue to appreciate Thie's inspirational teaching and the discussion-based classroom environment which she strives to obtain. Truly an exemplary professor at Colgate, we congratulate Professor Thie on receiving the Balmuth Award!

Alumna Spotlight: Nina Merrill '09

By: Casey Schmidt '11

Nina Merrill, a WMST major who graduated in December of 2009, is currently pursuing her masters in social work at Columbia University. Nina originally planned on pursuing a career in the organic food industry and had even been offered a job for company in California, but she ended up turning it down. During her job search in New York City, she realized that she wasn't interested in working in a corporate environment with little personal connection to the people whose lives she hoped to improve through healthy food. At that point she concluded that she wanted to work one-on-one with people and, subsequently, made the decision to apply to a number of MSW programs in NYC. Nina is now in her first semester at the Columbia University School of Social Work and is considering specializing in clinical practice. She is very happy to be able to bring her background in Women's Studies to this new stage in her studies and future career.



Nina Merrill '09

Announcements

Allegorical Athena

Submissions are being collected for the *Allegorical Athena*, a gender-oriented magazine edited and produced by the Center for Women's Studies at Colgate. Submit anything related to gender issues: drawings, articles, poetry, photography, and more. Suggested topics include (but are not limited to): beauty perceptions, the media, sexuality, sexism, and relationships.

For more information or to submit works, please contact the program assistant, Heather Dockstader, at hdockstader@colgate.edu or Xavia Publius at pweaver@colgate.edu.

Vagina Monologues

({}) 2011 ({})

Are you interested in being a part of the Core group that brings the Vagina Monologues to Colgate University every spring?!

Are you interested in being a part of the cast and shouting, moaning, crying, or even orgasming on stage?!

Us too!

Email Casey Schmidt or Xavia Publius for more information:

cschmidt@colgate.edu

pweaver@colgate.edu

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