

## From the Director...

Although the Presidential inauguration is over, an important period of transition in American politics is just beginning. New issues will be on the political agenda including health care, employment and educational training, family leave policy, and women's reproductive rights. There will be hundreds of different groups seeking to influence the President, the newly elected members of Congress, and the state legislators responsible for creating policies concerning these and other issues.

Those of us concerned about women's position in society must act to ensure that we are an important part of that dialogue. This is precisely the time when we must most strongly articulate what we believe, and urge elected officials to respond to our needs. However, it is often difficult to figure out exactly what to do to be most effective.

To answer that question, the Center for Women's Studies will focus our programming this Spring on the theme, "**Standing Up For Your Beliefs.**" We have three goals. First, we will work to inform

ourselves on the issues through legislative updates, lectures, reading, and discussions. Second, we will attempt to learn better how to communicate our beliefs to others, both on campus and in the wider community. And third, we will examine and learn how to engage in activism which most effectively exerts direct pressure on decision-makers. Details of this program are provided on this page of the newsletter.

Standing up for your beliefs is important right now. Because of the media attention given to women's role in politics during the recent campaign, there is new interest in women's impact on important national issues. But that interest can dissipate quickly.

We must make sure women are not ignored. By informing ourselves, communicating our concerns, and acting to press decision-makers to implement responsive programs, we can make a difference. Join with us at the Center for Women's Studies as we explore and create ways to empower ourselves to help shape our society.

Joan D. Mandle,  
 Women's Studies Program

## Standing Up For Your Beliefs

In order to help Colgate students make a difference, the Center for Women's Studies will conduct a three-part program: informing ourselves on political and social issues; learning how to communicate with others; and directly influencing decision-makers.

**I. To inform ourselves on the issues.** the Center is sponsoring a "Legislation for Equality" lecture series. Programs on women's legal rights, on RU486, and on women's grassroots movements are planned. To keep current, Student Assistants will compile monthly updates on key issues being debated in Congress, the New York State legislature, and other government agencies. These "Issue Updates" will be posted at the Center for Women's Studies and in other areas around campus (see p 2). Finally, the Center will be sending student representatives to Women's Studies conferences in the local area (see p 2).

**II. To better learn how to communicate our beliefs to others,** the Center will be continuing its Gender Issues Outreach Program. This Program brings Center volunteers into residence halls and other segments of the community to facilitate discussions about sex roles. In addition, Dr. Bernice Sandler will be

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## Friday Nights!

If you and your friends are looking for good entertainment on Friday nights, come to the Center for Women's Studies in Dodge House. This semester, we are again sponsoring a free film series that highlights issues of importance to women's lives. All movies will begin at 7:00 pm, in the Center Lounge. Refreshments will be available. Invite a friend and come enjoy a film and food. This semester, the following movies will be featured:

January 29:....."Fried Green Tomatoes"  
 February 19:....."The Color Purple"  
 March 12:....."The Stepford Wives"  
 April 2:....."Shirley Valentine"  
 April 23:....."This is My Life"

## Center for Women's Studies Hours:

Monday-Friday,  
 9am-5pm and  
 Sunday-Thursday  
 8:00-10:00 pm

## What's Happening in Washington?

Elected officials are making decisions that affect you! The following legislative information discusses issues currently being addressed in Congress and other government agencies.

**The Women's Health Equity Act** is a series of bills designed to improve women's health. It includes bills that would give more money to breast cancer research, would allow women with HIV/AIDS to get the same government benefits as men, and would protect abortion rights. Groups that are engaged in lobbying to support this package include Planned Parenthood and the National Women's Health Network.

**The Family Leave and Medical Act** would require employers with more than 50 workers to provide employees with up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave each year for family or medical reasons. This would provide women and men with leave to care for newborn, sick or elderly family members, and would give greater job flexibility to single mothers. The National Organization for Women is working to ensure this bill's passage.

**The Economic Equity Act** is a package of legislation to improve the economic well-being of women and their families. It includes bills such as the Advancement of Women in Science and Engineering Work Force Act (HR 3476) and the Women's Business Procurement Act (HR 3517). These will allow women and other minorities the

opportunity to compete in areas of employment and business that have been closed to them. Among the groups active in lobbying for these bills is the National Organization for Women.

**The Freedom of Choice Act** will protect a woman's reproductive rights by prohibiting states from restricting abortion under certain circumstances. The bill will allow states to include "parental involvement" in decisions regarding women under the age of 18. Planned Parenthood is actively involved in lobbying legislators to approve this measure.

This is the time for you to write or call your Congressperson to express your opinion about these issues. If you would like more information about how to become involved, stop by the Center for Women's Studies in Dodge House or call x7156.

## Contacting Our Elected Officials

US Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

US House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

House/Senate Switchboard  
202-224-3121

White House Switchboard  
202-456-1111

The Center for Women's Studies has a list of House Representatives and Senators for the 103rd Congress.

## Conference Opportunities for Students

The Center for Women's Studies will be sending Colgate student representatives to area Women's Studies conferences. If you are interested in representing Colgate at any of these conferences, please fill out the form below or stop by the Center to talk with Gretchen Kinder. All Colgate students are eligible.

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH ON WOMEN AND GENDER SUNY Binghamton Friday, March 12, 1993

The Women's Studies Program at SUNY Binghamton is sponsoring an undergraduate conference in Women's Studies to highlight

student work related to women and gender issues. Students will present work and research that focuses on women and gender issues.

### DIALOGUES ON WOMEN, PEACE, AND JUSTICE Syracuse University, Maxwell School of Citizenship March 20-21, 1993

This conference will entail a series of presentations and discussions to facilitate new thinking, networking, and action.

### CAMPUS RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT Annual Central New York Conference; Syracuse University March 25, 1993

Students, staff, faculty, and other professionals will come together to discuss grassroots efforts aimed at dealing with the issues of campus rape and sexual assault.

Yes! I would like to represent Colgate at the following:

\_\_\_\_ **SUNY BINGHAMTON UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE**

\_\_\_\_ **DIALOGUES ON WOMEN, PEACE AND JUSTICE**

\_\_\_\_ **CNY CONFERENCE ON CAMPUS RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Name #: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Box #: \_\_\_\_\_

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Women's Studies Program, Colgate  
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Program Assistant:  
Gretchen Kinder  
Secretary:  
Mary L. Keys

# Spring 1993 Calendar

## January

**29 Friday**  
Free Film Series  
*"Fried Green Tomatoes"*  
7:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.  
Refreshments

## February

**2 Tuesday**  
African Film Series  
*"A World Apart"*  
8:00 pm; 217 Lathrop Hall

**3 Wednesday**  
Brown Bag Lunch Series  
*"Mainstreaming Women's Issues in Development: A Case Study From Nigeria"*  
Felicia Ekejiuba, Visiting Professor of Sociology and Anthropology  
12:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.

**4 Thursday**  
Legislation for Equality Lecture I  
*"What Can We Expect From the New Congress?"*  
7:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.  
Reception to follow

**10 Wednesday**  
*"Poetry Reading and Writing Workshop"*  
Marge Piercy, poet and author  
4:00 - 9:00 pm; place: to be announced.

**15 Monday**  
Busisiwe Eunice Ndebele,  
South African Women's National  
Coalition  
time & place: to be announced

**16 Tuesday**  
African Film Series  
*"Mapant Zula"*  
8:00 pm; 217 Lathrop Hall

**18 Thursday**  
*"Gender and Science"*  
Tamara Horowitz, Professor of Philosophy,  
University of Pittsburgh.  
7:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.  
Reception to follow

**19 Friday**  
Free Film Series  
*"The Color Purple"*  
7:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.  
Refreshments

**24 Wednesday**  
Brown Bag Lunch Series  
*"Psychology of Women"*  
Cindy Miller, Professor of Psychology,  
University of Houston  
12:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.

**25 Thursday**  
*"Who's in Control Here: Campus Rape and Sexual Assault"*  
Dr. Bernice Sandler, Center for Women  
Policy Studies  
7:00 pm; Clark Room  
Co-sponsor: Panhellenic Council, Sexual  
Crisis Resource Center, Women's Coalition,  
Office of Residential Life and Housing

## March

**2 Tuesday**  
African Film Series  
*"Faces of Women"*  
8:00 pm; 217 Lathrop Hall

**3 Wednesday**  
*"Tracking Manet's Olympia: an Art Historian's Trip Out of Art History"*  
Eunice Lipton  
time & place to be announced

**4 Thursday**  
Legislation for Equality Lecture II  
*"The Politics of RU486"*  
Amy Bartell, Planned Parenthood of  
Syracuse  
8:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.  
Reception to follow

**9 Tuesday**  
Coalition for a Better World  
International Women's Day Observance  
*"Celebrating Women"*  
4:30 pm; Cultural Center  
Potluck & Entertainment.

**12 Friday**  
Free Film Series  
*"The Stepford Wives"*  
7:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.  
Refreshments

**16 Tuesday**  
Legislation for Equality Lecture III  
*"Women and the Law"*  
Dr. Louise Miller  
7:00 pm; Center for Women's Studies.  
Reception to follow

African Film Series  
*"Waiting for the Caribou"*  
8:00 pm; 217 Lathrop Hall

**17 Wednesday**  
Brown Bag Lunch Series  
*"Women's History and Identity"*  
Professor Kira Stevens, History  
Department  
12:00 am; Center for Women's Studies.

**\*Disclaimer:** events included on this calendar, not sponsored by the Center for Women's Studies and the Women's Studies Program, are not necessarily endorsed by the Program.

## Chilly Colgate?

Dr. Bernice Sandler, Founding Director of the Project on the Status and Education of Women, will visit Hamilton this semester to help the Colgate community assess whether there is a "Chilly Climate" for women at Colgate. The "Chilly Climate" was defined in 1984 as an academic atmosphere (a) which promotes or tolerates sex discrimination or sexual harassment or (b) in which women, women's scholarship, and education about women's issues are not taken seriously.

Dr. Sandler has over 20 years of

experience working as an advocate of educational equity for women. She helped to develop Title IX legislation which guarantees women equality of educational resources, and she was part of the effort which succeeded in obtaining enforcement of the first Presidential Executive orders to protect the rights of women and minorities on college campuses.

During her day at Colgate, Dr. Sandler will meet with administrators, faculty, staff, and students to help them evaluate University policies on sexual assault, sexual discrimination, and sexual harassment. Her visit is being sponsored by the following groups: the Dean's Staff,

the Office of the President, Sexual Harassment Panel, Dean of Faculty, Campus Safety, Office of Residential Life and Housing, Women's Coalition, Sexual Crisis Resource Center, Panhellenic Council, and the Women's Studies Program.

Dr. Sandler will offer a public lecture on the evening of February 25. In keeping with the activist nature of her work, she will discuss strategies for encouraging people to speak out against rape and sexual assault. The talk, *"Who's in Control Here: Campus Rape and Sexual Assault,"* will begin at 7:00 pm in the Clark Room. For more information, contact the Center for Women's Studies at x7156.

The Center for Women's Studies

presents

LEGISLATION FOR EQUALITY LECTURE SERIES

"What Can We  
Expect of the  
New Congress?"

Thursday,  
February 4th  
7:00 pm

Center for  
Women's Studies

"The Politics of  
RU486"

Amy Bartell,  
Planned Parenthood  
of Syracuse

Tuesday,  
March 4th  
7:00 pm

Center for  
Women's Studies

"Women  
and the Law"

Dr. Louise Miller  
Professor of Political  
Science, SUNY Albany

Tuesday,  
March 16th  
7:00 pm

Center for  
Women's Studies

A reception will follow each lecture in the Center for Women's Studies Lounge.

"Gender and Science"

Tamara Horowitz,  
Professor of Philosophy,  
University of Pittsburgh

Thursday, February 18th  
7:00 pm

Center for Women's Studies

Reception to follow.  
FREE!

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**Stand Up for Your Rights**

visiting with us in February to discuss how students can involve others in working against sexual harassment and assault on campus. Finally, later in the Spring, we will sponsor a Leadership Training Workshop where students can learn techniques to effectively educate and influence others.

**III. To influence legislators**, the Center will be sponsoring petition drives and letter-writing parties to encourage students, faculty, and staff to lobby their elected representatives at the national, state, and local levels. The Center's Student Assistants will post information about national organizations which are engaged in lobbying to promote and protect women's rights. Joining such organizations allows you to become a part of these efforts. Finally, the Center will organize a "Legislative Day" at the state legislature in Albany where students will have the opportunity to speak directly with officials about issues of concern to them.