

From the Director...

As the seasons change here at Colgate, replacing autumn's brilliant colors with the restful browns of winter, it is easy to forget that our country is engaged in a serious debate concerning our poorest citizens. A battle is being fought in the Congress over deep cuts in support for people living in poverty. I believe we should all be paying close attention to this issue, for the outcome will affect us all. It will deeply shape the moral and ethical foundations of our society in the future.

I hope that this column will help to stimulate a wide ranging discussion on poverty policy at the Center for Women's Studies and elsewhere on campus during coming months. In the interest of providing a starting point, I want briefly to summarize the views of one group, of which I myself am a member.

The **Women's Committee of One Hundred** is a recently organized group of professional scholars, activists, elected officials, and artists. These women have joined together to protest the current attempts to cut welfare, Head Start, Medicaid, and other supports for the poor. Although poverty affects both women and men, the Women's Committee is alarmed that much of the poverty debate has centered on one particular group of women: single mothers. The Committee argues that these women are an easy target for prejudice and hostility precisely because they are doubly disadvantaged: as women and as poor.

In claiming that poor women have been used as scapegoats for our society's complicated social problems, the Women's Committee of One Hun-

dred offers an alternative view of poor women's problems. We point out that many single mothers do not have the skills and education to be employable; that day care is too expensive or unavailable for poor women to be able to go to work; that many young single



Lively exchange among panelist at Center Program, "Demystifying Feminism"

mothers are ill-informed about or unable to afford various methods of birth control; and that these women are often solely responsible for their children only because the children's fathers have abandoned or abused them. Arguing that poor single women are among the least powerful and most vulnerable members of our society, the Committee rejects the rush to blame these same women for creating society's ills.

The Committee of One Hundred Women has joined other feminists, in coalition with a diverse group of women and men, to fight against the proposed cuts. We do so to prevent the worsening of the deep poverty which already is the lot of too many Americans, and especially of women and their children.

Whether you agree or disagree with the position of the Committee of One Hundred Women, I urge you to educate yourself on these issues. The problems of poverty in American society are not someone else's problem.

Whatever you believe, make your voice heard! For this debate will surely help to determine the kind of future society we will share.

Joan D. Mandle

Spring 1996

Women's Studies Courses:

COMP 347, **LANGUAGE & GENDER.** Darby.
 MW 3:00-4:20

EDU 416, **SEMINAR IN MORAL DEVELOPMENT.** Johnston.
 TuTh 1:30-2:50

ECON 334, **GENDER IN THE ECONOMY.** Grapard.
 TuTh 1:30-2:50.

ENGL 306, **WRITING AND SOCIETY IN THE AMERICAN RENAISSANCE.** Johnson.
 TuTh 1:30-2:50.

ENGL 412, **JANE AUSTEN AND THE RISE OF THE WOMAN NOVELIST.** Knuth.
 MW 1:30-2:50.

GNED 312, **WOMEN IN POPULAR CULTURE.** Harsin.
 MW 3:00-4:20.

GNED 326, **WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES.** Cleeton.
 MWF 1:30-2:20.

(continued on page 3)

**Center for Women's Studies
 Hours:**

**Monday-Thursday
 8:30am-7:30pm**

Friday: 8:30am-5:30pm

Fall Calendar 1995

OCTOBER

10 Tuesday

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Panel Discussion
"Students and Faculty on Coming Out"
11:30-12:20
Center for Women's Studies

18 Wednesday

Catarina Castro and Justina Tzoc
"Mayan Women Leaders Speak on
Guatemalan Human Rights"
7:30 pm
Cultural Center

19 Thursday

Arlene Kantor, Syracuse University
"Sex Discrimination: Does It Exist?"
7:30 pm
Center for Women's Studies

20-21 Friday-Saturday

Women's Studies Conference
SUNY, New Paltz

24 Tuesday

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Alisa DelTufo '78, Director Family
Violence Center
"Making A Difference In Social
Service"
11:30-12:20
Center for Women's Studies

26 Thursday

Joni Seager, University of Vermont
"Environmental Analysis: What's
Gender Got To Do With It?"
5:30 pm
Persson Auditorium

27 Friday

Free Film Series
The Long Walk Home
8:00 pm
Center for Women's Studies

31 Tuesday

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Lydia Woodward '73, Screen Writer &
Producer of *ER*
"Women in the Film Industry"
11:30-12:20
Center for Women's Studies

NOVEMBER

1 Monday

Women's Studies Concentrators
4:00 pm
Women's Studies Prospective
Concentrators
4:30 pm
Center for Women's Studies

2 Tuesday

"Affirmative Action in U.S. Social
Policy: An Interdisciplinary
Discussion"
Cultural Center
4:00 pm

3 Friday

Free Film Series
Boys on the Side
8:00 pm
Center for Women's Studies

4 Saturday

Women's Coalition Conference
Centennial Celebration of Elizabeth
Cady Stanton's *Women's Bible*
9:00am-4:00pm
Women's Rights National Park,
Seneca Falls, NY

7 Tuesday

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Jennifer Leigh and Ruth Beach
"Report From Beijing:
Two Participants Perspectives"
11:30-12:20

8 Wednesday

Toinette Eugene
"What is Written on the Body:
A Womanist Embodied Ethics"
7:30 pm
Cultural Center

10 Friday

Free Film Series
8:00 pm
Center for Women's Studies

15 Wednesday

Career Workshop in Women's Studies
7:00 pm
Center for Career Services

14 Tuesday

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Jeff Gilbert, Planned Parenthood
"Managed Care: Good or
Bad for Reproductive Freedom?"
11:30-12:20
Center for Women's Studies

14 Tuesday

"Four Feminists of Faith"
Joan Friedman, Nan De Vries, Gazala
Anwar, Marilyn Thie
7:30 pm
Center for Women's Studies

17 Friday

Free Film Series
8:00 pm
Center for Women's Studies

28 Tuesday

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Delores Walters
"Common Grounds: Domestic
and International Perspectives
on Women's Work and Survival"
11:30-12:20
Center for Women's Studies

DECEMBER

1 Friday

Free Film Series
8:00 pm
Center for Women's Studies

8 Friday

Holiday Party!
Everyone is Welcome!
7:00 pm

Colgate Center for Women's Studies Newsletter
Fall 1995 Vol.5 No.2

Published by the Colgate University
Women's Studies Program
Colgate University, Hamilton, NY 13346
(315) 824-7156

Program Director: Joan D. Mandle
Program Assistant: Laura Leith
Secretary: Mary Keys

Why Concentrate in Women's Studies?

One of the most frequently asked questions concerning Women's Studies is: "What can I do with a Women's Studies degree?"

The simple answer is: "Anything and Everything!"

Colgate's commitment to a liberal arts curriculum rests on the belief that the undergraduate experience should be interdisciplinary, with emphasis on building competence in critical thinking and communication skills.

Like other liberal arts concentrations, Women's Studies doesn't train students for a particular job. Rather, Women's Studies equips students with the basic skills successfully to engage in a wide variety of occupations.

As an interdisciplinary field, Women's Studies offers students a broad choice of courses in almost all disciplines. The theme of gender informs these examinations of literature, philosophy, psychology, religion, art, history, and many other fields.

What have Women's Studies concentrators done after graduating from Colgate? Many concentrators continue their education. In the last five years alone, Women's Studies graduates have enrolled in law school and theological school, and in graduate schools of social work, film, sociology, history, public administration, and public health.

Other Women's Studies concentrators have gone into jobs in advertising, communications, politics, and public relations. One recent graduate is working in admissions at a nearby university, another is doing community outreach and education for a city government, while a third is teaching high school social studies.

There is no end to the list of possible occupations for which a Women's Studies concentration can help to prepare you! To learn more about Women's Studies at Colgate, you are invited to a prospective major and minor concentrators' meeting on **Wednesday, November 1 at 4:30 pm**

in the Center for Women's Studies (see page four of the Newsletter).

Men's Issues Group

This semester two students have formed a new men's organization on campus which will focus on gender issues. **Al Rehm** and **Mathew Roth** formed this group as a way of spreading awareness about gender issues on campus through dialogue.

They will start off by holding discussions on a few specific issues and then will broaden their focus to include more areas. The initial topics will include sexual assault, relationship abuse, and eating disorders. As Al pointed out, "Issues such as sexual assault have been seen as women's issues, but in actuality they are not men's issues or women's issues, but rather human rights issues."

The two students want to form a core group of various male leaders on campus, including athletes, student governance members, RAs and artists to lead the discussions. This will help show the campus that gender issues are important to everyone and we should all be involved in stopping injustice. Look for future programs that this group will sponsor and support their efforts to enlighten the Colgate community about gender issues.

Expanding Horizons

This year a group of student assistants in the Center for Women's Studies is creating an educational program for local high school students. The group is led by **Cory Frederick** and also includes **Tonya Gsheidel**, **Meaghan McElroy**, **Jennifer Tierney**, and **Alysson Pisculli**.

The title of the educational program, "Expanding Horizons" reflects the goal for the program: to address important issues in girls' lives in addition to exposing them to a variety of options for dealing with these issues. The first program will center

around relationships, honest communication, and self respect. Other topics that the student leaders hope to address in the future are body image problems, careers, and assertiveness training.

They will start the program at Brookfield High School, visiting once a month for an hour to work with high school girls grades 9-12. The students hope to include other high schools in the future.

Women's Studies Courses

(continued from page 1)

HIST 207, TOPICS IN SCIENCE AND SOCIETY: Gender, Science, and Medicine. Harkness
TuTh 9:30-10:50.

HIST 480, SEMINAR ON PROBLEMS IN LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY: Gender and the State. Townsend.
Wed 3:00-6:00.

PEAC 260, WOMEN AND RESISTANCE: Peace, War and Justice. Meeker.
MW 3:00-4:20.

POSC 318, THE LAW AND POLITICS OF ABORTION IN THE U.S. Byrnes.
TuTh 8:00-9:20.

RELG 334, FEMINIST AND WOMANIST RELIGIOUS THOUGHT. Berry.
MWF 10:30-11:20.

SOAN 215, WOMEN, WORK AND FAMILY. Moran,
MWF 9:30-10:20.

SOAN 301, KINSHIP AND MARRIAGE. Peletz.
TuTh 1:30-2:50.

WST 201, PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN. Fontana.
MWF 10:30-11:20.

WST 202, INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES. Mandel.
MWF 10:30-11:20.

WST 490, SENIOR SEMINAR. Mandel.
M 2:00-4:30.

Political Outreach Program

Wondering what is happening in the real world that could be having an effect on you, your future, and others around you? In order to keep you informed, **Mindy Marranta** a student in the Center for Women's Studies is launching an informational outreach program on political events.

By signing up for this program, you will receive a mailing over the Internet (e-mail system) twice a month. The mailing will brief you on important events locally, nationally, and on the international level that concern women's rights and gender issues.

Each update will include information on recently proposed or passed legislation regarding these topics. It will also provide you with addresses and numbers for you to become more involved. To sign up please complete the registration form.

Registration Form for the Political Outreach Program Mailing

Name: _____

Class Year: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please sign me up for the mailing.

If you have any questions, please contact Mindy Marranta at 7156.*

Please cut and return this form to:

Presenting

TOINETTE EUGENE

*“What Is Written On The Body:
A Womanist Embodied Ethics”*

Wednesday, November 8

7:30 pm

Cultural Center

Please Join Us!

*Meeting for
Prospective Concentrators
in
Women's Studies*

Monday, November 1 at 4:30 pm

The Center for Women's Studies