

women's studies

Colgate University Women's Studies Program

News

Spring 1997 Vol. 7 No. 1

From the Director...

The New Year is always a time for reflection and celebration, and, in this context, I have been thinking about the past thirty years of feminist activism. For it was thirty years ago that the Second Wave of the Women's Movement, dedicated to achieving equality for women, originated with the founding of organizations like the National Organization for Women. Has this goal of equality been achieved? During the Spring semester, four important lectures sponsored by the Women's Studies Program will address this question.

Mariah Burton Nelson, a former member of Stanford University's basketball team, will speak on the significant role that the expansion of women's athletics has played in women's changing position in our society. Nelson points to the enormous increase in sport participation of girls and women facilitated by Title IX, and argues that such opportunities have contributed to better health and higher self-esteem for women. However, Nelson is critical of the segregation and continuing secondclass status of women's sports on all levels, and calls for an increase in coeducational sports as a partial remedy.

In celebration of International Women's Day, **Professor Uma Narayan** of Vassar College will discuss global feminism. I heard Professor Narayan speak at this year's National Women's Studies Association meetings. She eloquently summarized the gains that the women's movement has made in India: the growing numbers

of young girls who are now permitted to attend school; and the increasing prevention of domestic violence against women long associated with the practice of dowry-giving in arranged marriages. Despite this progress, Professor Narayan emphasizes the growth of religious fundamentalism in India and elsewhere which is becoming a serious threat to women's advancement and equality. In the guise of cultural traditionalism, she argues, conservatives are mounting a vigorous effort to reverse the gains women have made.

Wendy Kaminer will be the keynote speaker at Colgate's Annual Women's Studies Leadership Conference. As a free-lance writer and National Public Radio commentator, Kaminer takes a critical but ultimately supportive view of today's feminist movement. In assessing feminism's last thirty years, she criticizes what she sees as a change from the women's movement's early emphasis on fighting for equality in the labor force, in politics, and in the law. Today she argues, feminists are increasingly focused on more personal issues, and too often feel that the changes they need to make can be accomplished individually. Kaminer disagrees, arguing that only in collective activism can the many problems women face - poverty, sexual violence, protection of reproductive choice, and political representation - be successfully addressed.

Finally, **Professor Hester Eisenstein** of Queens College will offer her assessment of contemporary feminist thought. As the author of one of the first books bringing together the

disparate strands of feminist theory, Eisenstein explores the question of what "liberation" means. She argues that feminist goals have not been achieved. Women are not yet liberated as the feminist movement first promised, but the significant changes in women's lives over the last thirty years have paved the way for the ultimate attainment of that goal. Eisenstein calls for coalitions between feminists and other socially and economically disadvantaged groups in a broad movement for justice and equity. With such coalitions, she believes, the promise of early feminism for a more equitable society can indeed be realized.

I hope you will join us and participate in the discussions following each of these speakers' presentations. Please check our calendar on page 2 for dates and times. Women's Studies Programs, as always, are open to the entire Colgate community.

Joan D. Mandel

CENTER FOR
WOMEN'S STUDIES
SPRING '97 HOURS

Open:

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

Friday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Closed:

Saturday & Sunday

We're on the Web!

www2.colgate.edu/departments/womens-studies/index.html

Spring 1997 Calendar

January

14 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series
Amy Bartell, artist - "Art with Heart:
Resistance Through Art"

Center for Women's Studies

7:00 pm - Alternative Cinema

Visiting Curator and Video

Historian, Chris Hill - "Surveying the
First Decade: Video Art and
Alternative Media in the U.S. 1968-
1980"

Love Auditorium

21 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series
Mariah Burton Nelson - "The
Challenge of Being a Gay Athlete"

Center for Women's Studies

7:30 pm - Mariah Burton Nelson -
"Women, Men and College Athletics"

The ALANA Cultural Center

22 Wednesday - 4:30 pm

Visiting Artist Series

The Guerrilla Girls

Brehmer Theater

23 Thursday - 10:30 am

In Conversation with the Guerrilla
Girls - Informal Discussion

Center for Women's Studies

24 Friday - 7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

28 Tuesday - 11:00 am

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Professor Regina Conti - "Influence
of Gender on Children's Responses
to Competition"

Center for Women's Studies

31 Friday-7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

February

4 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series
Marietta Cheng - "Women in
Conducting"

Center for Women's Studies

7:00 pm - Alternative Cinema

Videos by Phyllis Balidino -

"Unknown Series", and the "Grey
Area" tapes

Love Auditorium

7 Friday - 7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

10 - 14: Body Acceptance Week

11 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series
Jan Fisher will present the film

"Slim Hopes"

Center for Women's Studies

7:00 pm - Alternative Cinema

Carolee Shneeman, Fuses, and

Plumb Line and Peggy Ahwesh, The

Scary Movie and The Color of Love

Love Auditorium

14 Friday - 7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

18 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series
(TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

7:00 pm - Alternative Cinema

Emily Breer, Superhero

Love Auditorium

21 Friday - 7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

22 Saturday - 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Women's Studies

Fifth Annual Women's Leadership

Conference

Persson Hall

25 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series

Professor Emilye Crosby of SUNY

Geneseo - "Ella Baker, Rosa Parks

and Women in Civil Rights History"

Center for Women's Studies

7:00 pm - Alternative Cinema

Works of Diane Nerwen, Sadie

Benning, and Rachel Schrieber

Love Auditorium

28 Friday - 7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

March - Women's History Month, International Women's Month

4 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series

(March 4 continued)

Professor Natasha Levinson -
"Hannah Arendt"

Center for Women's Studies

7:00 pm - Visiting Filmmaker,
Abigail Child - Is This What You
Were Born For?

Love Auditorium

5 Wednesday - 7:00 pm

Film: "Beyond Beijing"

Center for Women's Studies

6 Thursday - 7:00 pm

Uma Narayan

"Feminism and Religious
Fundamentalism in India"

ALANA Cultural Center

7 Friday - 7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

7-8 Friday and Saturday

SUNY Morrisville Conference

"Women and Work"

SUNY Morrisville

8 Saturday

International Women's Day

11 Tuesday

11:00 am - Brown Bag Lunch Series

Invitation to Inspiration

Carol Naughton '82, Housing

Authority of Atlanta

Center for Women's Studies

4:30 pm - Coalition for a

Better World

Open House for International

Women's Month

ALANA Cultural Center

7:00 pm - Alternative Cinema

Yvonne Rainer, Murder and Murder

Love Auditorium

21-22, Friday and Saturday

SUNY Oneonta Student Conference

"Women Making Meaning"

SUNY Oneonta

24-28: BIGLAD week

25 Tuesday - 11:00 am

Brown Bag Lunch Series

(BIGLAD Week)

Center for Women's Studies

28 Friday - 7:30 pm

Free Film Series (TBA)

Center for Women's Studies

Present Your Work!

SUNY Oneonta announces a call for **Student** papers for their **4th Annual Women's Conference** entitled **Women Making Meaning**. The Conference will take place on March 21-22, 1997 at the SUNY college at Oneonta. Papers, panels, workshops and exhibitions will be accepted for consideration. Hurry! You must submit a 250 word abstract or completed paper and brief bio by January 17th, 1997. Submissions should be sent to: Women's Center, IRC B-21, SUNY College at Oneonta, Oneonta, NY 13820-4015.

Colgate's own Center for Women's Studies will organize a trip to the conference for both participants and those who wish to attend. For more information about the conference or trip, call Leah at x7156.

You'll Go Bananas for Those Guerrilla Girls

Meet several of the famous Guerrilla Girls as they engage in conversation with Colgate students on Thursday, January 23rd from 10:30 am until 11:30 am at the Center for Women's Studies. The Guerrilla Girls are a feminist activist group which was established in 1985 to act against racism and sexism in the art world. The conversation on Thursday follows a performance by the Guerrilla Girls on Wednesday at 4:30 pm in Brehmer. Come with questions, come with concerns, or come with issues you want to discuss - but make sure you come to this unique opportunity to meet with members of the famous Guerrilla Girls.

//Check.Out.Our.Web.Page!//

Sisterhood is Powerful! Sisterhood is Global! And now, Sisterhood is Networked! Thanks to the hard work of **Arshi Gyani '97** and **Kristen Luke '98**, the Center for Women's Studies' home page is up and running. The page contains information about the Center and links to other women's organizations. It is still under construction, so any suggestions or input are welcome! Visit us on the Web at: www2.colgate.edu/departments/womens-studies/index.html.

Colgate's Fifth Annual Women's Leadership Conference

The Center for Women's Studies will hold its fifth Annual Women's Leadership Conference, "**Women Making Change**" on Saturday, February 22nd. The day will be filled with opportunities to meet and converse with featured speakers. Keynote speaker Wendy Kaminer will discuss where the feminist movement is heading. Panel representatives from NOW (the National Organization for Women) and MANA (A National Latina Organization) will discuss their organizations. Lunch will feature round-tables on life at Colgate. Workshops held in the afternoon will give students a chance to interact with the morning's speakers, along with others discussing reproductive choice, campaigning against violence against women, and organizing around gay, lesbian and bisexual issues. This conference will truly be extraordinary! To find out more about the Fifth Annual

Leadership Conference, call Leah at x7156. You can recommend someone for the conference by returning the clip-out on the back page.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day is March 8. In celebration, events are being planned throughout the month of March. **Tania Connaughton '97** is working hard to plan a spectacular celebration. Both Tania and the Coalition for a Better World have planned events so far. If you have suggestions, contact Tania at x7156, or stop by the Center for Women's Studies.

Literally Allegorical!

Submissions are being collected for *Allegorical Athena*, a literary magazine edited and produced by Student Assistants at the Center for Women's Studies. Submit anything related to gender issues: drawings, articles, poetry, photography and more. Suggested topics include (but are not limited to): Gender, Beauty Perceptions, the Media, Sexuality, Sexism and Relationships. Pieces may be submitted to the Center for Women's Studies, or call **Joanna Najarian** at x7156.

Student Nominations

The Women's Studies Program is accepting nominations for its annual Elizabeth Cady Stanton Award. The award is given to a senior who has actively contributed to improving the status of women on campus and in the community. Send nominations to Professor Joan Mandle in the Women's Studies Program.

TOP 10 REASONS TO VISIT THE CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

10. To attend one of the many classes held in the Center.
9. To catch up on the news of the world through our collection of magazines, newsletters and the *New York Times*.
8. To catch up on sleep...those couches and chairs are comfy!
7. To prevent yourself from falling asleep - the free coffee, tea, and hot cocoa are always flowing!
6. To rouse yourself by participating in or generating discussions on the latest issues affecting campus.
5. To eat! (We provide an excellent lunch at our Brown Bag Lunch Series - Tuesdays at 11 am)
4. To read and study in the Women's Studies Library (We've got books, journals and information files on a number of different topics)
3. To find out how to Take Action on issues of importance to you! We're stacked with ideas for petitions letter-writing campaigns and advocacy through e-mail.
2. To share your suggestions and get involved with events, speakers, or programs.
1. To learn more about Women's Studies at Colgate and what the Center for Women's Studies has planned for the spring!

The Women's Studies Program Presents...

Tuesday, January 21 at 7:30 pm

Mariah Burton Nelson
acclaimed athlete and author
"Women, Men and College Athletics"
The ALANA Cultural Center

Thursday, January 23 at 10:30 am

In Conversation With...
The Guerrilla Girls
The Center for Women's Studies

Thursday, March 6 at 7:00 pm

In Celebration of International Women's Day
Professor Uma Narayan of Vassar College
"Feminism and Religious Fundamentalism in India"
The ALANA Cultural Center

Colgate's Fifth Annual Women's Leadership Conference **"Women Making Change"**

Saturday, February 22

Recommend Someone Who You Think Should Not Miss This Conference!

Name: _____ Class: _____

Please cut and return this form to:

The Center for Women's Studies by January 25