National Women’s Studies Association Conference

“Women and the Environment: Globalizing and Mobilizing”

The annual conference of the National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) will be held in Orlando, Florida, June 9-12, 2005, a hotbed for environmental concerns, from the ecological fragility of the Everglades, to the exploration of space, and from the child-friendly environments of Fantasy and Adventure Lands to the deadly failure of state foster care programs. The theme is “Women and the Environment: Globalizing and Mobilizing,” with internationally-known Keynote Speaker, Dr. Vandana Shiva. The conference will be co-hosted by: the University of Central Florida’s Women’s Research Center, the University of Florida’s Center for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, the University of South Florida’s Women’s Studies Department, and the University of Central Florida’s Women’s Studies Program.

NWSA’s annual conference provides an opportunity for teachers, students, scholars, activists, and community and cultural workers to share research findings, strategies, and programmatic concerns for effecting social change. Events include pre-conferences for the Program Administration and Development Committee, and the Women’s Center Committee; a film series; a writers series; and a large book exhibit featuring publishers, artists, videographers and other vendors. As Women’s Studies programs and departments and women’s centers across the United States have multiplied, grown and strengthened, NWSA continues to provide services critical to the practice of Women’s Studies.

CWGSR looks forward to co-hosting this event as NWSA provides a forum for an exchange of ideas and a showcase for creative activities of women engaged in the theory and practice of Women’s Studies, feminist education and lifestyles. (Conference Description from NWSA Conference Brochure)

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Vandana Shiva

Dr. Vandana Shiva received her Ph.D. in particle physics and quantum theory from the University of Western Ontario. In her twenties, she shifted her focus to interdisciplinary research in science, social science, technology and environmental policy. Her scholarly writings and organizational activism have brought into focus the adverse impact on third world women of international environmental policies, intellectual property rights and financing of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

More recently she has formed other feminist activist organizations such as Diverse Women for Diversity and Bija Vidyapeeth. She has been honored worldwide, including being named one of the “top five most powerful persons in Asia” (2001) by ASIA WEEK Magazine. Dr. Shiva’s motto is “Think globally. Act globally”. (Dr. Shiva’s biographical information taken from NWSA Conference Brochure)
From the Director
Dr. Angel Kwolek-Folland

As the semester began this fall, I was very aware that my time as director of the Center is coming to an end this year. When I began in 2000, I could hardly have imagined this moment, or that the Center would have made the strides it has. We have retained all of our excellent faculty, and added five new colleagues to our core. In January we will welcome our first endowed chair of Women’s Studies, still a rarity among programs in the United States. We added the Dr. Madelyn M. Lockhart Faculty Fellowship in Women’s Studies, to support both faculty research and graduate student teaching development. In 2001 we became the only Florida member of the National Council for Research on Women. We have enjoyed the presence of international visiting scholars from Russia, Uganda, and Tanzania. We added an undergraduate major, three MA options (including a joint degree with the Levin College of Law), and welcomed our first cadre of graduate students. As of fall 2004, we have 17 undergraduate majors, 5 additional double majors, and 41 minors in our new Women’s Studies BA program—a robust beginning!

Architectural plans for the restoration of Kathryn C. Ustler Hall will be approved this month and selective interior demolition will begin soon. We hope to be moving into our new quarters by August 2005.

We have gone from a small but ambitious program to a large and vigorous campus presence poised to develop one of the best Ph.D. programs in the country, thanks to the support, contributions, and commitment of many individuals and the College. But there is still more to be done.

As we move into our next phase, the nature of our challenges will change. Sustaining a nurturing and stable program for our undergraduate and graduate students will require devising career development assistance, new courses, intellectual and artistic forums, and ways for students and faculty to connect outside the classroom. We will be reaching out to our alumni and encouraging them to remain involved with the program through the revitalization of our Friends group. We will need to add staff that will enable us to continue to display art exhibits, organize colloquia, and offer conferences to further the scholarly and outreach goals of the Center and the program. We will need to enhance our funding base so that we can provide scholarships, fellowships, and assistantships to our students, and continue to hire, develop, and retain the best faculty. Finally, we need to continue to encourage and promote interest in stewardship among our faculty and students so that the program and Center will benefit from the vision and energy of new leadership. The new director will inherit a stable and thriving program, with many exciting opportunities for change!

-Angel Kwolek-Folland
Congratulations to Danaya Wright and Kendal Broad-Wright, the proud new mothers of Aidan Sophia!

Aida Bamia, African and Asian Languages and Literatures, is the new Fulbright campus representative for both graduate and undergraduate students.


Sylvie Blum-Reid, Romance Languages and Film, presented a talk titled, “Khmer Memories or Filming from the Franco-Cambodian Diasporic Perspective,” at the Diversity and Difference Conference in France and the Francophone World Conference in Tallahassee in April. She will also present a paper on *Linda Le’s Les Trois Parques* at a session organized by Women in French at the PAMLA Conference in November. She is currently on sabbatical.

Kendal Broad, CWSGR/Sociology, published two articles, one with Sara Crawley and Lara Foley in *Sociological Quarterly* and the other titled, “Institutional Selves in Social Movements: The Interpretive Production of FTM/Transmen,” in *Research in Political Sociology*.

Marsha Bryant, English, and Mary Ann Eaverly, Classics, published a co-authored article titled, “Classical Tourism in Debora Gregor’s Poetry,” in *Mosaic*.


S. Yumiko Hulvey, African and Asian Languages and Literature, presented a talk, “Folk Tales as Conduits of Culture in Texts by Tawada Yoko,” at a working papers symposium on *Tawada Yoko: Voices from Everywhere* at the University of Kentucky. Papers presented at the symposium will result in an edited volume focusing on Tawada.

Angel Kwolek-Folland, CWSGR/History, attended two international conferences in June, one in Le Creusot, France and the other in Nottingham, England. She chaired a session in France, and in England presented a paper titled, “The Personal is International: Gender Rights, Globalization, and Sexual Harassment.” The trip was partially funded by awards from CLAS and the Center for European Studies.

Bonnie Moradi, Psychology, received the CWSGR Dr. Madelyn M. Lockhart Faculty Fellowship for examining “The Role of Reported Sexist Events in the Psychological Distress of Women Seeking Mental Health Services.” She also published several articles.

Carol Murphy, Romance Languages and Literatures, presented a paper titled, “Black and White in Color: Jean Paulhan’s Essay on Jean Fautrier,” at the annual meeting of the UK Society for French Studies at Cambridge University in July. She delivered a keynote speech, “Marguerite Duras: affect, écriture, lecture en mouvement,” at the Colloque Marguerite Duras at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in England in September. Her essay, “Re-presenting the real: Jean Paulhan and Jean Fautrier,” appeared in the Fall 2004 issue of *Yale French Studies*.

Vasudha Narayanan, Religion, published “Gurus and Goddesses, Deities and Devotees” in *When the Goddess Comes to Life: Encountering Hindu Female Gurus in India and the West*. She was an invited speaker at the National Press Club, Washington DC, in a forum on “Religion and Politics 2004: Women’s Voices, Women’s Votes” in September.

Geraldine Nichols, Romance Languages and Literatures, delivered two papers last spring. She presented “Reproduction, familia y futuro” at a conference at UC Berkeley on Twentieth-Century Spanish women authors, and “No parirán: Resisting Orders in Postwar Spain” at a conference at Harvard University in honor of Robert Spires.


Faculty News Continued on Page 5
WOMEN’S STUDIES WELCOMES NEW FACULTY MEMBER
FLORENCE BABB IN SPRING 2005

Florence E. Babb will join us in January as the Vada Allen Yeomans Professor of Women's Studies. She comes to Gainesville from the University of Iowa, where she has had a career for over two decades. Her work appears in many journals and anthologies and she is the author of two books based on longitudinal research in Peru and Nicaragua. Between Field and Cooking Pot: The Political Economy of Marketwomen in Peru (1989) and After Revolution: Mapping Gender and Cultural Politics in Neoliberal Nicaragua (2001), both published by the University of Texas Press. She is an active member of several editorial boards and national associations and she is President-Elect of the Association for Feminist Anthropology.

I'm eagerly looking forward to my arrival in Gainesville in January when I'll join the faculty of the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research. What a wonderful time to be leaving the chilly north and heading south--when Florida should be enjoying excellent weather without the threat of the tumultuous season you've just experienced.

I've been invited to say a little something about myself and what I hope to accomplish at the University of Florida. I hail from upstate New York and attended universities in the Northeast, but after teaching for three years at Colgate University, I made the Midwest my home and taught at the University of Iowa for 22 good years. My joint appointment in Anthropology and Women's Studies and my affiliation with Latin American Studies gave me many opportunities for professional development and personal satisfactions. I have enjoyed teaching and ongoing research in the Latin American region. I recently began a new project concerned with gender, sexuality, and the politics of tourism in several sites, now including Cuba. I have served two terms as Chair of Women's Studies, one as Chair of Anthropology, and stints heading up Latin American studies and other programs in international studies. I have taken special pride in helping to launch a Ph.D. program in Women's Studies at Iowa, where the first doctoral students are now completing their dissertations.

This experience led me to consider the challenge of coming to the University of Florida, where Women's Studies is well established with talented faculty and students--and is poised to develop a brand new doctoral program that should become one of the finest in the eastern United States. I confess that I was impressed not only by the outstanding colleagues and students I will work with at Florida, but by the prospect of the fabulous new facility we will move into during the coming year. The renovation of the historic Women's Gymnasium, now Kathryn Chicone Uster Hall, is a landmark achievement and adds luster to the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research. If Virginia Woolf wrote passionately of "a room of one's own," we will have a great deal to celebrate in having a building of our own.

The future holds wonderful opportunities for Women's Studies at UF. The promised addition of new faculty to complement current strengths will be most welcome as we attract new students to the program. Through hard work we'll be able to stretch ourselves and generate innovative research and teaching, supported by a visionary institution that is offering the needed resources so that feminist teaching and scholarship may flourish on this campus. I'm ready to become a Gator!-Florence Babb

The Center Asks Alumna: Kristin E. Joos

I have been involved with the Center for Women’s Studies and Gender Research at UF for almost a decade now. In 1995, during my undergraduate studies at UF I took WST 3015. I chose the course because I was interested in studying gender, and I found the sophisticated title Interdisciplinary Perspectives of Women intriguing. The class opened my eyes to many issues I had not considered: the intersections of gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, and class. I earned my bachelors degree in 1998, majoring in Psychology and minoring in Women's Studies, Sociology, and Religion. The positive influence of a professor (who became a mentor and friend) convinced me to stay at UF for both my Masters and Ph.D.

Throughout my graduate studies I took courses and conducted research related to issues of gender and sexuality. In May 2003, I earned a Ph.D. from the Department of Sociology and a graduate certificate from the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, specializing in social psychology and gender and families. After teaching as an adjunct for CWSGR and Sociology for a semester, I was hired as the Coordinator for Admissions, Preview, and Student Activities in the Honors Program. I am able to continue teaching and research, and I am privileged to have the opportunity to interact with bright, motivated students. My research interests center around youth, issues of identity, gender and the media, and social change. I am particularly interested in the future goals of young women.

I have presented at national conferences on issues related to images of women in the media, sexuality and college students, LGBTQ families, and how students define success. Some of my most fulfilling work involves working with students and helping them to explore their life goals, values, future plans and sense of purpose. In addition to Interdisciplinary Perspectives of Women, I have taught Principles of Sociology, Sociology and the Individual, Marriage and Family, and Social Theory. Next Fall, I hope to teach a new course that I developed titled American Girlhood, Kristin E.
Undergraduate Students Present Research at the National Black Graduate Student Association Conference

Seven undergraduate students from Dr. Stephanie Evans’ Fall 2003 Research Methods in African American History course presented their research papers at the National Black Graduate Student Association (NBGSA) Conference in Ohio held in March 2004. The students were Dalvin Devine, Vanessa Fabien, Sanaa Hamilton, Antrameca Mathis, Russell Nealy, Kanitra Ponder, and Amaris White, including Penny McNatt, a graduate student in psychology. The undergraduate student presentations were well received, and the conference was attended by over 500 African American graduate students. The students met with Dr. Dobra Austin, keynote speaker and chancellor of Florida State University. Abstracts of the papers can be seen at http://plaza.ufl.edu/dlevacs/ at the "Student Symposium" link.

The students and Dr. Evans (CWSGR and AAAS) secured funding for travel and lodging for the students from the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, Black Political Science Association, Office of Minority Recruitment, African American Studies, Association of Black Faculty and Staff, African Studies, CLAS, and the Office of the Provost. The National Black Graduate Student Association is a professional organization based at Howard University. Dr. Evans was a regional representative for the organization while a graduate student at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. More information on NBGSA is available at http://www.nbgsa.org.- Stephanie Evans

Diana Boxer Receives Rockefeller Fellowship

Diana Boxer, Linguistics, was a Rockefeller Foundation Fellow during the summer at the Bellagio Study Center, Bellagio, Italy. The collaborative research residency was with Russian linguist Dr. Elena Gritsenko, Professor at the Linguistic University of Nishny Novgorod. Boxer and Gritsenko completed a jointly-authored manuscript titled, What’s in a (Sur)name? Women, Marriage, Identity and Power Across Cultures. They began their collaboration during Gritsenko’s 2001 Fulbright at UF’s CWSGR. - Diana Boxer

UF Students Study Gender and Disorder in Seville

Gender and Disorder in Early Modern Seville is an upper division Spanish literature course addressing women’s changing position within Spanish society at the height of Spain’s imperial power (1500-1700) taught on-site by Shifra Armon (Romance Languages and Literature) in Seville in the summer of 2001 and again in 2004.

Gender and Disorder traces the contradictions between gender expectations and economic practices, between ideology and lived reality in a city which boasted both the infamous Inquisitorial prison of La Triana, and Bartolomé Murillo’s exquisite canvases of the Immaculate Conception. It is exciting and instructive to relive early modern women’s “gender trouble” on the very site where that struggle was waged.

At UF, Dr. Armon also teaches SPW 4400, Medieval Spanish literature as an inquiry into gender boundaries and crossings. For further information, please contact Shifra Armon at: sarmon@ill.ufl.edu or 392-2018 x 242.- Shifra Armon

Angel Kwolek-Folland Selected as Florida Blue Key Distinguished Faculty Award Recipient

Dr. Kwolek-Folland was chosen as a Florida Blue Key Distinguished Faculty Award recipient by Florida Blue Key. Awardees are chosen on their demonstration of exceptional achievements in teaching and in research. They are honored for their commitment to students and to the University of Florida. Dr. Kwolek-Folland will be honored at the Florida Blue Key Homecoming Banquet on November 12 and will also ride down University Avenue in the Homecoming Parade. Congratulations.
Fall 2004 Opening Reception

The CWSGR opening reception was held at the Keene Faculty Center in Dauer Hall on August 30, 2004. Angel Kwolek-Folland introduced the Center’s newest faculty member, Trysh Travis. Dr. Travis brings her expertise on masculinities to the Center. She will be organizing the Gender Conversations series for the fall and spring (please see more on Dr. Travis in the Spring 2004 News and Views). Dr. Kwolek-Folland also announced the recent hire of Florence Babb for the Vada Allen Yecmans Professor position. Dr. Babb will be joining the Center in January (please see pg. 4). Dr. Kwolek-Folland and Dean Neil Sullivan both discussed the future move to the Women’s Gym and the possibility of having the Center’s opening reception in the newly renovated building next year!

Dr. Kwolek-Folland presented Dr. Jacquelyn Resnick, Director of the Counseling Center, with an 2004 Uppity Woman Award. This award honors outstanding supporters of Women’s Studies at the University of Florida. Professor Faye Gary also received the award, but was unable to attend the reception. This year’s women’s studies scholarship awardees included Erika Gubrium who received the Alice Charlott Hogsett Award and Erin Persley who received the Irene Thompson Scholarship Award. Laura Minor was awarded the Tybil Spivack Scholarship. Shannon Houvouras received the Women’s Studies Graduate Certificate. Yumiko Hulvey presented the Ruth McQuown Scholarships to the awardees below. Congratulations to all!

Visiting Professor Ruth Meena to Co-teach Gender, Race, and the Media

Dr. Ruth Meena, Professor of Political Science at the University of Dar Es Salaam, will be a visiting professor at UF through the Gender and Development faculty exchange program. Dr. Meena will co-teach Gender, Race, and the Media with Dr. Helena Särkiö Spring 2005. Dr. Meena will be a speaker in the Gender Conversations series next semester.

Local Representation from Gainesville for Washington D.C. March for Women’s Lives, April 2004

The CWSGR Spring 2005 art exhibit will feature the work of Lissa Friedman. Dr. Friedman has shown her work throughout the country. She teaches oil painting in the style of the old masters at her studio on Newmans Lake in Gainesville. Her classes include landscapes and live models. Dr. Friedman’s work will be displayed in 3324 Turlington Hall from January 4 to April 29. The exhibit is free and open to the public.
Undergraduate Student News

Shelby Saboy received a travel grant from CWSGR to attend the Omega’s Women and Power Mega Conference in New York in September. She was able to meet and work with national feminist activists and to create networks that will aid in her career aspirations. Shelby will graduate with a bachelor’s in Women’s Studies in December.

“We Are But Grains of Sand…”

“Look for the good stuff…” This is all the advice our mentor, Dr. M.J. Hardman, Linguistics and affiliate faculty in CWSGR, told us before we left for the Philippines to do our study on the effects of marginalization, colonization, and assimilation on Filipina American women. We took off with our University Scholars proposal in mind and a list of objectives on what we were “supposed to find” out about the oppressions inflicted on the women in the Philippines. But we realized when we returned and reread our proposal that what we were searching for and what we found did not equate.

We originally thought that by searching for an answer to why these oppressions occur in the Philippines we could explain what happens in the crossover from Filipino culture to Filipino American culture in terms of sexism and racism. What we didn’t take into account is that perhaps these oppressions did not exist to begin with. Instead, our findings showed a society of women where the sexism and racism were different than how they occur in the United States. By observing cultural patterns, we found a culture where the women are not treated as second class citizens and are given agency. It could have been because of our location and class privilege, but that leaves room for a future study.

We have been taught that reoccurring observations are valid. We are not saying that oppression does not exist in the Filipino culture, but it is important for us to be aware that our cultural perception may cloud our ability to see difference. We are very thankful to the University Scholars Program at UF for giving us a scholarship to perform our study in order to add to the body of knowledge of cultures where the women are not second class citizens and are given agency. It would be very easy for us to seek out the “bad” and assume that all women are oppressed. Once we know that these cultures exist we have a hopeful reason to work towards our own liberation. In the words of Dr. Hardman, “Alone, we are but grains of sand…hopefully there are more of us, one day, and together we’ll make up a beach.” -Lovy Chan and Jennifer Paelmo [Lovy Chan is a 4th year dual major in women's studies and psychology and Jennifer Paelmo is a 4th year sociology major]

CWSGR Welcomes New Graduate Students

Kendra Vincent comes to UF from West Virginia University. She states that she is excited to help shape a new and developing graduate program. She seeks to broadly examine issues surrounding feminism and youth. Kendra’s goal is to either continue her studies in a Ph.D. program or return to her activist roots.

Stacey Moyer comes to UF from the University of Illinois. Her research interests focus on transgender and feminist identity and the work of transactivists who organize against the gender binary within feminism. Stacey intends to continue her studies in a Ph.D. program after completing her M.A.

Feminist Groups on UF Campus

Feminist Activists Creating Equality (FACE) is a progressive group dedicated to creating a supportive environment where feminists, those who believe in the equality of all people, can act collectively to create change. Dedicated to making the personal political, FACE sees the upcoming presidential election as a unique opportunity to voice personal concerns about the nation’s political future. As part of this campaign, FACE sponsored a number of activities designed to motivate students to vote. They hope to demonstrate to UF students the importance of action in promoting change. FACE is committed to progressive goals for the future, and this fall will be helping students focus on their future as well. For more information contact Taylor at: eyesofthegypsys@netzero.net.

The Feminist Knitting and Crocheting Circle is a collective of people who seek to use the craft of knitting and crocheting as a means of social activism. Knitting and crocheting have experienced an enormous comeback recently because individuals are realizing the benefits of crafting. The rhythmic pace of knitting and crocheting is a calming change from the stresses of normal life, and can be done while watching TV or even while studying. Gathering together in a crafting circle provides an opportunity to learn new techniques, and talk about issues that are troubling, from national events involving women’s rights to day-to-day lives. Best of all, when a project is finished, there is a sense of accomplishment, as well as a unique item that represents talent and creativity. We hope in the future to tap into a little activism, by making items and donating them to women’s shelters. Our meetings are at 7:15 PM on Tuesdays in Turinol 2305.
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Friends of Women's Studies and Goerings Book Store present the
13th ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOOK SALE
Goerings Book Store at Westgate
3433 West University Avenue
Sunday, December 5, 2004
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Goerings will donate 20% of all sales that evening to the Friends of Women's Studies

Bring your Holiday Shopping List! Refreshments will be served

Women's Studies T-Shirts
Available in a variety of styles in 3324 Turlington Hall for $10.00 each

We would like to thank recent supporters of the CWSGR

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Additional donations are needed for the following categories: conferences, symposia, travel funds for graduate students to attend conferences, scholarship funds, speaker honoraria, exhibit support, etc.

For more information on upcoming events, please visit our web site at: http://www.wst.ufl.edu or stop by 3324 Turlington Hall.

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