

From the Director's Desk



DR. BONNIE MORADI
DIRECTOR, CWSGR

Welcome to the new academic year! I'm proud to report that we're launching another exciting year of initiatives in our academic program.

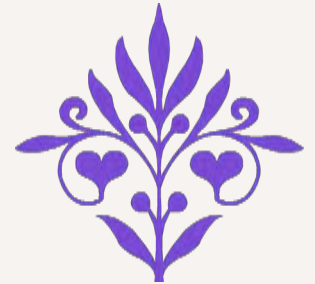
As many of you know, our women's studies academic program is home to the undergraduate women's studies major, women's studies minor, theories

and politics of sexuality minor, and the health disparities in society minor. Our women's studies academic program also houses the masters in women's studies, graduate certificates in women's studies and in gender and development, and accelerated and joint degrees such as the BA/MA and the MA/JD. We are adding a rich array of courses to our permanent course catalog this year that not only will serve students in our program, but will also reach students across the College and UF. These include courses on the gendered history of American medicine, discrimination and health, gender and food politics,

women and therapy, women and gender analysis through film, and feminist methods just to name a few. A strong theme across these courses is the thread of feminist intersectional perspectives, engaging students to understand and analyze *the inextricable links and mutual influences of gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, and other dimensions in people's lives and in sociopolitical structures*. The thread of intersectionality across our course offerings is particularly exciting and important because the term intersectionality is becoming increasingly popular across disciplines.

With this growing popularity, there are also concerns that intersectionality may become

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Fall Lecture Series:

Celebrating Women in Architecture

Architecture major Sarah Rutland became a Women's Studies minor after taking a class to fill her General Education requirement. This summer, she completed an Independent Study on "Gender and the Built Environment" that led her to propose a lecture series on the issues she saw facing her generation of women architects and designers.

What does it mean when women are equally

represented in the classroom but not on the job?

Architecture is experiencing this phenomenon. Somewhere between getting their degrees and getting their licenses, nearly 32% of women graduates leave the architecture field. According to the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), in 2014 nearly 50% of students seeking degrees in

By Sarah Rutland

architecture were women, but women accounted for only 18% of licensed American Institute of Architecture members. This gender imbalance affects not only women, but the profession as a whole and the global community that is impacted by human design, construction, and planning.

To address this issue, the University of Florida College

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From the Director's Desk, continued from page 1



“AS A COMMUNITY OF
WOMEN’S STUDIES
SCHOLARS, STUDENTS,
AND ADVOCATES, WE
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-BONNIE MORADI,
DIRECTOR



a buzzword straying from its full promise as a tool to guide analyses of sociopolitical systems/ structures and to inspire coalition building to advocate for change. As a community of women’s studies scholars, students, and advocates we have a remarkable opportunity to influence the discourse on intersectionality. For example, we can teach about the rich origins of intersectional analysis in Black feminist thought, challenging feminist scholars and advocates to fully recognize Black women’s experiences of slavery, racism, and poverty as central to women’s rights. We also have the responsibility to communicate the full scope and power of intersectional perspectives as a

central tool in feminist scholarship. Indeed, the intersectionality perspective is described as “the most important theoretical contribution that women’s studies, in conjunction with other related fields, has made so far” (McCall, 2005; p. 1771). Blogger and activist Courtney Martin captures the centrality of intersectionality in feminist movements as follows: “...[M]y feminism is very indebted to my mom’s, but it looks very different. My mom says, ‘patriarchy.’ I say, ‘intersectionality.’ So race, class, gender, ability, all of these things go into our experiences of what it means

to be a woman. Pay equity? Yes. Absolutely a feminist issue. But for me, so is immigration.”

Intersectional analysis is a vital tool for understanding and addressing critical national and global concerns such as poverty, health disparities and justice, climate change, migration, racism, and human trafficking. We are uniquely positioned to inspire UF students with an intersectionality lens and to integrate this perspective into scholarship and advocacy. We are thrilled to launch our new academic year by enriching the curriculum with courses that engage UF students in intersectional analysis. Keep an eye out for the theme of intersectionality in future Center initiatives and events!

Celebrating Women in Architecture

(Continued from page 1)

of Design, Construction and Planning will host its first ever “Celebrating Women in Architecture” lecture series, highlighting achievements by renowned women architects and exploring gender disparities in the field. The series aims to raise awareness about gender issues in architectural practice, to give students ways to positively address issues of gender and discrimination inside and outside of the classroom, to introduce students to women role models, and to celebrate the incredible work created by female architects. Featured speakers will include Kathryn Dean, Principle of Dean/Wolf Architects of New

York City; Jamie Maslyn Larson, Principle of West 8 in New York City; and Sanda Iliescu, artist and Associate Professor of Studio Design at the University of Virginia.

UF Professors Sherry Ahrentzen (DCP) and Trysh Travis (CLAS) kicked off the lecture series with an opening talk and reception on September 10. The series continued with talks by Kathryn Dean on Sept. 21st, by Jamie Maslyn Larson on Oct. 12th, and by Sanda Iliescu on Oct. 19th. Professors Ahrentzen and Travis will host a “bookend” talk looking back at the series and the issues it raised on November 13th.

The series is sponsored by the Architecture Department; the College of Design, Construction, and Planning; the Center for Women’s Studies and Gender Research; and the following UF student organizations: the American Institute of Architecture Students, the National Organization of Minority Students, and the National Association of Women in Construction. All events will take place at the UF School of Architecture Gallery, 1480 Inner Road. The series is free and open to the public. For more information on the series, visit dcp.ufl.edu/architecture.

Welcome New Graduate Students

We are delighted to welcome three new graduate students to the CWSGR's MA program: **Peggy Dellinger**, **Devan Johnson**, and **Alexandra Weis**. These students bring a rich range of experiences and interests in gender, sexuality, history, popular culture, education, and health.

Peggy Dellinger earned a BA in History from the University of South Carolina – Upstate. Her research interests are centered on United State's women's history from the late 19th through the mid-20th centuries – including the history of feminism, women's education, and the role popular culture played in the cultivation and dissemination of "proper" gender roles.

Devan Johnson graduated from Brandeis University in 2013, where she studied English, Creative Writing, and Medieval and Renaissance Studies. She is interested in studying the ways we teach children and young adults about sex, gender, and their bodies.

Alexandra Weis graduated from the Honors College at Indiana University of Pennsylvania with her BA in Psychology. Her research interests include LGBT and women's health issues, discrimination, and media representation. Last year, she conducted an experiment on advertisements for breast cancer charities, and how sexualization of the disease affects attitudes for the viewer. She presented this work at the 2015 Association for Women in Psychology conference.



M.A. STUDENTS (L TO R) (STANDING)
DAYTON J. KING, YUKAI CHEN, ROBERT BAEZ
(SEATED) DEVAN JOHNSON, PEGGY DELLINGER,
ALEXANDRA WEIS (AMBER WARD, NOT PICTURED).

News from Current MA Candidates

Our new students join our current MA candidates, who have been hard at work on their exciting and diverse research projects, and have news and updates to share:

Robert Baez spent the summer doing research for his MA thesis where he expects to learn about the experiences of non-heterosexual and/or gender non-conforming youth in rural communities. He will begin to analyze data from interviews that were conducted and spend the next few months drafting his thesis. Robert plans on graduating in May of 2016 and then hopes to start his own non-profit organization while pursuing a PhD.

Yukai Chen's thesis is about representations of Asian American men and masculinity in U.S. television. His summer research entailed a study of popular culture: one American program, *Selfie*, and one Chinese program, *Go La La Go!*, both of which focus on workplace romance. He is finding that in American television, Asian

American men constantly fall into the asexual gender stereotype but, in Chinese television, such desexualizing is rare to see. It is his argument that through such a comparative study, the differences between Asian and American masculinities becomes much clearer.

Dayton King is a non-traditional joint degree student, JD and MA in Women's Studies, scheduled to graduate in May 2016. He is currently working as an extern in the IPVAC Clinic at the law school. His field of study encompasses a Domestic Violence/Family Law concentration. He is planning to primarily represent victims of domestic violence and their children in family law matters. This past summer, Dayton's research involved historical aspects of feminist legal theory and family law: coverture, fault based divorce, and no-fault based divorce.

Amber Ward is working on her MA thesis in which she examines feminist responses to rape-revenge cinema. Over the summer she worked on a feminist reading of David Fincher's 2011 film *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. She is currently preparing to conduct focus groups and in-depth interviews with self-identified feminist women to learn more about their rational and emotional responses to the violence performed on the body of the film's female protagonist, Lisbeth, as well as the revenge she enacts on her rapist's body. Amber plans on graduating in May 2016 and hopes to go on to pursue her PhD.



Alum Spotlight: Working with Women's Words



SHANE POLONYI
UF CLASS OF 2011
HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH
TEACHER, ABU DHABI

Miami, FL native Shane Polonyi (BA Women's Studies and English, 2011), just became a truly transnational feminist.

After graduating from UF in 2011 with a degree in English and Women's Studies, I began an internship at the Feminist Press, a small publishing house in New York. I thought, what better way to apply my love of reading and passion for social analysis than to work at a feminist publishing house. During the internship I carried out administrative tasks, helped edit and evaluate manuscripts, and wrote the book club questions for the novel *Zippermouth* by Laurie Weeks. While my time at the press was a great opportunity to learn and apply a great deal of the knowledge that I gained in school, I got a firsthand look at exactly how competitive the industry could be, especially in New York during the height of the recession.

After my internship, I decided to pursue a different path and moved back to Miami to become certified in education. While some states require teachers to have a bachelor's or master's degree in education, many states provide alternate pathways to certification as long as you hold a four year degree. I spent the year I came back getting certified and by the following school year, I had found a job at a high school in North Miami. My first year teaching could be described as a sort of trial by fire. Unbeknownst to me, I had been hired at one of the more notorious schools in Miami's inner city Haitian community. I found, however, that while there were no easy days, the challenge was what kept me there. I was constantly being forced to push myself, push my students, and find new and creative ways to achieve our goals. As a mixed race woman of African American descent, I found that working with these students and their families pushed me to be a better teacher and brought me closer to the very real struggles that communities of color face all over the U.S. Ultimately, my experience with my students was one of growth and learning.

Three years with Miami-Dade County Public Schools and hundreds of students, stories, and

bugs later, I decided it was time for a change. Traveling has always been something I've wanted to do with my life, but the idea of a two week vacation around Europe just never appealed to me. I began looking for teaching jobs abroad. I finally found a reputable website looking for certified teachers and applied to the first open position I saw for the new school year, high school English in Abu Dhabi. Two interviews later, I had the job.

As of penning this article, I have been in Abu Dhabi for a little over two weeks. Starting next week I will be working with Arab girls from all walks of life to prepare them for University and the demands of the modern world. I am positive that they will have as much to teach me about the world from their perspectives as I will have to teach them. Each day has brought something brand new with it, something exciting, and something challenging. I may not have always had a clear plan for where I'm going, but I can't complain about where my post-UF journey has brought me. It has been an absolutely wild ride getting here and I'm sure there will be many more to come.



Dinner and a Movie!

Now that we have your attention,
please join us for a critical, feminist take on the breast cancer industry.

The first CWSGR **Feminist Movie Night** will be held on **Thursday, October 15th in the Ustler Hall Atrium (2nd floor)**. We will be screening the documentary *Pink Ribbons, Inc.*, which offers a critical perspective on the pervasive "pink" marketing culture associated with Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Directed by award-winning filmmaker Léa Pool, the film features interviews with medical experts as well as women living with breast cancer, and it encourages the viewer to "Think before you pink."

Watch a trailer for the film here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QPZfcYTUaA>

JOIN US AT 6 P.M. FOR A FREE LIGHT DINNER. THE SCREENING WILL BE FROM 6:30-8:10PM.

DISCUSSION UNTIL 8:30PM FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO STAY.

The event is free and open to the public. Ample free parking is available in the O'Connell Center lot just on the other side of the stadium from Ustler Hall. Need accessible parking closer by? Please let us know. We hope to see you there! RSVP via our Doodle poll (accessible at <http://doodle.com/poll/zc235i9zbx52p5ki> or on the CWSGR website) by 10/12 to help us plan the food order. If you have any additional questions, please contact tuckey@ufl.edu. Feminist Movie Night is made possible by the generous Vada A. Yeomans endowment.

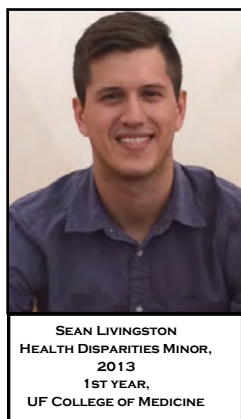
With an Attitude of Gratitude

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Donations to the Center are used to fund conferences, symposia, educational travel for graduate students, scholarship funds, speaker honoraria, and exhibit support.

Alum Spotlight: From Small Town to Big Picture



Sean Livingston (Health Disparities in Society Minor, BS Biochemistry, 2013) from Crystal River was in the first cohort of students to complete the Center's Health Disparities in Society minor. Following graduation he enrolled in the

Master of Public Health program at UF and today is a first year student in UF's College of Medicine.

I was attracted to the minor because the course topics reminded me of my happy, formative years in Crystal River, FL. I remember the many relationships established in my small, rural town. Life in Crystal River is characterized by the nuclear power plant, nuclear economy and nuclear family structures. I was raised with friendly neighbors, Sunday fish fries, and backyard

barbeques, and the important aspects of my life were family and community. Growing up in Crystal River, I never had big dreams and thought I would follow in my father's footsteps as an engineer at the power plant.

At UF, my life changed when I was thrown into a world full of new ideas and diverse experiences. I missed the support of my close-knit community and felt lost and alone while wandering during those first two years.

While reflecting about my career path and personal goals, I decided to change my major from engineering to pre-health. To help me learn more about my new major, I attended a meeting of the Community Health Service Corps (CHSC), a pre-health campus organization where I found that the faculty and students were as passionate and friendly as my neighbors at home. In the CHSC, I heard the phrase "health disparities" for the first time and I

learned about the need to provide health care to underserved populations such as those in my rural town. For the first time, I realized that people in my community lived with health disparities.

With the recent decommission of the nuclear power plant in Crystal River, many families have lost their jobs, benefits and health insurance. The sight of many unemployed families now causes me to wonder about the health consequences facing my small town and its underserved residents.

The intimate and personal relationships in Crystal River shaped me and created a desire to serve others. In medical school, I plan to learn more about health disparities and pursue my passion to improve health in rural and urban communities. I hope that the insight and experience with health disparities will help me become an empathetic and humble physician who serves his patients with compassion.

Visiting Professor Evan Hart Teaches the Gainesville Roots of the Black Women's Health Movement



DR. EVAN HART
AFRICAN AMERICAN
STUDIES,
CWSGR AFFILIATE

Visiting Assistant Professor of African American Studies, Evan Hart, is an Affiliate faculty member in the CWSGR. She earned a PhD in History with concentrations in Women's and African American history from the University of Cincinnati, and is in her second year of teaching a hugely popular class on the History of Black Women's Health. Here, she talks about the Gainesville roots of her research and teaching interests.

In 1974, after working together to figure out how to bring woman-centered health care to the women of Gainesville, four feminist activists opened one of the few feminist health centers in the southern US, the Gainesville Feminist Women's Health Center. At feminist health centers across the country, workers and volunteers sought to aid women in taking control of their own health care, wresting it from the hands of traditional physicians. What was unusual about the

Gainesville Center was that one of its founders, Byllye Avery, was an African American woman.

Unfortunately, Black women were not often represented in predominantly white feminist health groups. Indeed, Avery worked consistently to expand the mission of the Gainesville Feminist Women's Health Center to meet the needs of Gainesville's African American community by providing various screenings (e.g. sickle cell anemia testing) and low-cost care despite the fact that her fellow white activists wanted to focus more on gynecological care. What Avery found, however, was that one small center could not do enough to care for those grappling with issues of racism, sexism, and class discrimination. Thus, building in part on her Gainesville network, Avery helped found the first organization devoted solely to the health concerns of women of color: The National Black Women's Health Project (NBWHP).

As a scholar and teacher, my work focuses on understanding the health activism of women of color, especially Avery and the NBWHP. While here at UF I've been able to teach a course on Black Women's Health which examines Black women's experiences as patients, providers, and health advocates/activists. In this course we start by exploring the development of race as a concept and the impact conceptions of race and gender have had on the health and wellbeing of Black women. Of particular interest is how Black women have consistently redefined health for themselves, pushing back against slave holders, public health officials, and physicians who all sought to control Black women's bodies and define their health and wellbeing based on their own needs and concerns. Teaching this course in Gainesville, the home to one of the most important health activists of the 20th century, has proven to be particularly exciting.



WE MUST NOT, IN TRYING TO THINK ABOUT HOW WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE, IGNORE THE SMALL DAILY DIFFERENCES WE CAN MAKE WHICH, OVER TIME, ADD UP TO BIG DIFFERENCES THAT WE OFTEN CANNOT FORESEE. - MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

Robin Lewy named "Uppity Woman" at Fall Reception



ROBIN LEWY
SPEAKS AT FALL RECEPTION
ON SEPTEMBER 17TH

The Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research held its Annual Fall Reception on September 17th in the Atrium at Ustler Hall. Director Bonnie Moradi welcomed over 60 guests including core and affiliate faculty, students, and community supporters of the Center. Student awards included the O. Ruth McQuown Student Awards, the Madeyn Lockhart Dissertation Fellowship and Emerging Scholar Awards, the Target Copy Educational Grant, and the Cindy Colangelo Award for Breast Cancer Awareness.

After an inspiring talk to reception attendees, Robin Lewy, Director of Education for the Rural Women's Health Project was honored with the Uppity Woman Award for her long-standing devotion to social justice and advocacy, and for providing transformative training to CWSGR Health Disparities Practicum students.

Gender, Power and Privilege:

Dean Laura Rosenbury Brings Women's Studies perspective to UF Law

By Kelsey Harclerode

Kelsey Harclerode, a native of Cape Coral, graduated with a double major in Women's Studies and Political Science in 2013. She will complete her JD at UF's Levin College of Law this spring, with an eye to practicing cyber-privacy law.

As a 2013 graduate of the CWSGR and a current UF law student, I immediately celebrated the announcement of Laura Rosenbury as the new dean of the Levin College of Law. Not only is Rosenbury a 1992 graduate of the Harvard-Radcliffe College Women's Studies program, but she is also a proven advocate for an intersectional approach to gender equality. I recently sat down with Dean Rosenbury to discuss the impact of her Women's Studies degree on her legal career.

While Rosenbury credits much of her legal success to the analytical skills that she learned as a Women's Studies student, her introduction to gender issues began long before she sat in a Harvard classroom. Born in rural Indiana, Rosenbury grew up in an incredibly religious household. While her grandmother commanded the family farm as the natural matriarch, Rosenbury's church fiercely debated the appropriateness of hiring a female minister. They eventually hired a woman, but the dispute has remained with Rosenbury as one of the first times she realized that gender equality did not come naturally to her community the way it did to her family. She learned early that gender inequality was not just a debatable or controversial issue, but also one that could prompt violence: after she voiced her support for the Equal Rights Amendment at summer church camp in sixth grade, a boy punched Rosenbury in the stomach.

These incidents, along with the allure of a small classroom environment, prompted Rosenbury to enroll in

"History of the American Woman" as an undergraduate. She credits this class with formally expanding her approach to gender issues to include class, race, and religion, an intersectional approach that she still embraces to this day. After declaring the Women's Studies major, Rosenbury sought out additional opportunities on campus to engage in feminist activism. She joined organizations that fought against campus sexual assault, founded a feminist magazine, and became a reproductive health peer counselor. However, it took a course on pornography and the politics of representation to prompt her to explore the nexus of law and gender inequality. After that, she went on to write her senior thesis on whether the presence of pin-up calendars in the workplace constituted sexual harassment.



DEAN LAURA ROSENbury,
LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

This foray into law and gender did not immediately persuade Rosenbury to attend law school. Instead, she sought a job more directly related to gender and culture and worked at Planned Parenthood after her graduation. While there, she admired the confidence of the employees with JDs and quickly learned how the degree could be used for more than just traditional legal work. Watching these employees craft policy and negotiate agreements convinced her to apply to law school.

At Harvard Law, Rosenbury felt lost in her large first-year class. The first-year curriculum did little to improve her experience – professors hardly discussed gender and coursework failed to address the many ways in which law perpetuated antiquated notions of power and privilege. Yet she found solace in the advice of some of Harvard's feminist professors – Martha Minow, Lani Guinier, and Elizabeth Warren. Minow convinced Rosenbury to enroll in feminist upper-level courses and join the law review so she could select feminist articles. Guinier recommended that Rosenbury try out for moot court to gain more confidence when speaking. Warren advised her entire class to do more than just research and write memos – she explained that the best advocacy opportunities arise when lawyers take a seat at the table and speak up even when uncomfortable. Rosenbury believes that Warren particularly spoke to the female students that day.

At Harvard, Rosenbury went on to serve as primary editor of the law review, win Best Oralist at a moot court competition, and find the confidence to openly assert her opinions about the intersection of the law with traditional structures of gender, power, and privilege. After graduating, Rosenbury continued to follow her feminist mentors' advice while teaching feminist legal theory courses, presenting at feminist law conferences, and co-writing a textbook on feminist jurisprudence.

Rosenbury intends to draw on both her positive and negative experiences as a student during her tenure as Dean. When I jokingly asked if she had a feminist agenda for the law school, she explained that her only agenda was to foster a diversity of perspectives through a pluralistic approach: she would like all UF law students to feel comfortable expressing their own views as well as respecting the views of others. She hopes that this approach will enable students to graduate with a clear understanding of

(Continued on page 11)

*Award Winning Research on Gender, Sexuality and Health:
CWSGR Welcomes Dr. Alyssa Zucker, Yeomans' Chair*

By Alexandra Weis



**DR. ALYSSA N. ZUCKER,
VADA ALLEN
YEOMANS' CHAIR OF
WOMEN'S STUDIES**

Alexandra Weis is new to Florida, having just completed her undergraduate degree in Psychology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She is beginning her MA in Women's Studies and Gender Research with a focus on gendered health, discrimination, and media.

The CWGSR is excited to welcome the new Vada Allen Yeomans Chair in Women's Studies, Dr. Alyssa Zucker. This position recognizes Dr. Zucker's outstanding accomplishments as a researcher, professor, and mentor.

The roots of Dr. Zucker's research began with being born and raised in Berkeley, CA – a hub for second wave feminism. Her surroundings, combined with parents who cared about gender equality, meant that Zucker's childhood and adolescence imbued her with feminist values. She graduated with her BA in psychology from Vassar College in 1991. It wasn't until her graduate studies that she began to formally examine feminism and activism. After graduating from University of Michigan (UM) in 1998 with her PhD in Personality Psychology and a graduate certificate in Women's Studies, she spent three years as a Postdoctoral Fellow at UM's Institute for Research on Women and Gender. She joins us now from George Washington University, where she developed two lines of research.

Dr. Zucker's first line of research focuses on feminist identification. We all know people who have uttered the words, "I'm not a feminist, but..." and then go on to articulate their feminist values and beliefs. Dr. Zucker has been particularly interested in people who endorse feminist values but reject the label and resist identification as a feminist. Her research has explored what it means to be a "non-labeler" and what identification means for engaging in collective action on behalf of

women's rights. Dr. Zucker's other line of research, which she is excited to expand here at UF, investigates the ways in which exposure to discrimination (e.g., sexism, racism) might affect health behaviors and health outcomes. Her past studies have examined the implications of exposure to discrimination for behaviors like smoking, binge drinking, and sexual well-being. A recent article on this topic examined whether critical consciousness and feminist identity could serve as a buffer against negative health behaviors. "Feminist with Benefits: College Women's Feminist Beliefs Buffer Sexual Well-Being Amid Hostile (Not Benevolent) Sexism", co-authored by Caroline C. Fitz, one of Dr. Zucker's graduate students, won the 2014 Babladelis Award for best publication in *Psychology of Women Quarterly*. Dr. Zucker is looking forward to conducting new research at UF examining the connection between discrimination and health behaviors.

Beyond these research goals, Dr. Zucker has exciting ideas for the CWGSR. Her generous funding from the Yeomans family will allow her to help build what she calls "a rich community of scholarship and activism" not only here in the Center, but for all of UF and the surrounding public. Look forward to Feminist Movie Night, where we will be screening documentaries to be followed by lively discussion with filmmakers and speakers. If you're interested in Dr. Zucker's research, keep an eye out for the classes she is teaching: this fall, she has an undergraduate course called Gender, Bodies, and Health, and in the spring she will be teaching a mixed graduate/undergraduate course, Discrimination and Health, as well as the graduate class Feminist Research Methods.

We are delighted to welcome Dr. Alyssa Zucker to our community of feminist scholars and look forward to having her enrich the Center, our College, and UF for many years to come.

*"WE ARE DELIGHTED
TO WELCOME DR.
ZUCKER TO OUR
COMMUNITY OF
FEMINIST SCHOLARS
AND LOOK FORWARD
TO HAVING HER
ENRICH THE CENTER,
OUR COLLEGE, AND
UF FOR MANY YEARS
TO COME."*

-ALEXANDRA WEIS



Book Nook: Recently Published Books by Center Faculty and Affiliates

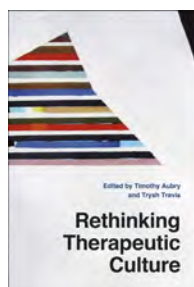
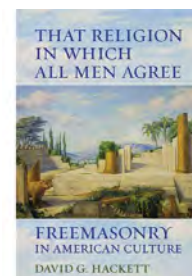
Tace Hedrick, *Chica Lit: Popular Latina Fiction and Americanization in the Twenty-First Century*, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2015.

Dr. Tace Hedrick is an Associate Professor in Women's Studies and English.



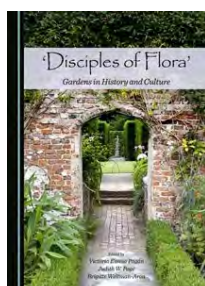
David G. Hackett, *That Religion in Which All Men Agree: Freemasonry in American Culture*, University of California Press, 2014

Dr. Hackett is an Associate Professor in the Department of Religion and an Affiliate of the Center.



Tim Aubrey and **Trysh Travis**, *Rethinking Therapeutic Culture*, University of Chicago Press, 2015.

Dr. Travis, Waldo W. Neikirk Term Professor, is an Associate Professor and Associate Director in the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research



Victoria Emma Pagán, Judith W. Page, Brigitte Weltman-Aron, *'Disciples of Flora': Gardens in History and Culture*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015.

Dr. Pagán is a Professor in the Department of Classics, Judith Page, Distinguished Teaching Scholar, is a Professor of English and Former Director of CWSGR, and Dr. Weltman-Aron, Gibson Term Professor, is an Associate

Professor in the Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures. All are Affiliates of the Center.

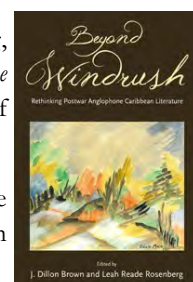
Shifra Armon, *Masculine Virtue in Modern Spain*, Ashgate, 2015

Dr. Armon is an Associate Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies and an Affiliate of the Center.



J. Dillon Brown and **Leah Reade Rosenberg**, *Beyond Windrush: Rethinking Postwar Anglophone Caribbean Literature*, University Press of Mississippi, 2015

Dr. Leah Reade Rosenberg is an Associate Professor in the Department of English and an Affiliate in the Center.



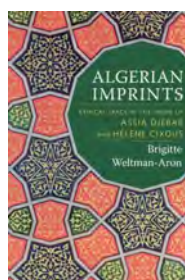
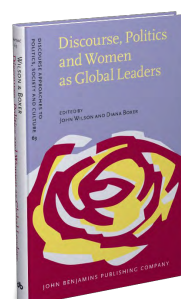
Sylvie Blum-Reid, *Traveling in French Cinema*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2015

Dr. Sylvie Blum-Reid is an Associate Professor in the Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures and a Affiliate of the Center.



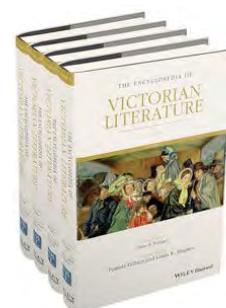
John Wilson and **Diana Boxer**, *Discourse, Politics and Women as Global Leaders*, John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2015.

Dr. Boxer is a Distinguished Teaching Scholar and Professor in the Department of Linguistics and an Affiliate of the Center.



Brigitte Weltman-Aron, *Algerian Imprints: Ethical Space in the Work of Assia Djebar and Hélène Cixous*, Columbia University Press, 2015.

Dr. Weltman-Aron, Gibson Term Professor, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures and an Affiliate of the Center.



Edited by Dino Franco Felluga with Associate Editors **Pamela K. Gilbert** and Linda K. Hughes, *The Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.

Dr. Gilbert, Albert Brick Professor, is a Professor in the Department of English and an Affiliate of the Center.

Luise White, *Unpopular Sovereignty: Rhodesian Independence and African Decolonization*, University of Chicago Press, 2015

Dr. White, is a Professor in the Department of History and an Affiliate of the Center.



Alum Spotlight: Thinking Globally, Acting Regionally



HANNAH WILLARD
UF CLASS OF 2013
POLICY AND OUTREACH
COORDINATOR,
EQUALITY FLORIDA ACTION

"I'M SO THANKFUL FOR
THE WAYS IN WHICH THE
CENTER HAS WOVEN
ITSELF INTO MY LIFE.
THESE THREADS ARE
INTELLECTUAL, AND
PROFESSIONAL, BUT
THEY ARE ALSO
PROFOUNDLY
PERSONAL"

-HANNAH WILLARD

Orlando native Hannah Willard (BA Women's Studies and Economics, 2013) talks about finding social justice work close to home.

I didn't always know what I wanted to do when I grew up, but I always knew who I wanted to become. My childhood ambition was to help people, to be the type of person who strove to make the world a better place. I didn't fully understand what that meant at the time, but I was fortunate that the non-profit industry was about to boom and that my parents belonged to the type of new-fangled Evangelical church that valued service and charity. I started volunteering with non-profits at a young age; what was to most an endearing hobby for an 8-year-old would become my career.

As I grew older, my particular passion became the economic empowerment of women and girls. After coming to University of Florida, I quickly decided to double major in Economics and Women's Studies. I was the only student with such a double major at UF, and got the unique opportunity to combine two seemingly separate courses of study into a single curriculum. I examined gender inequality in the global arena grounded in economic principles so I could learn to bridge the gaps between disparities in social inequality and economic inequality and enact real, tangible change—all in preparation for my dream career in international development.

My undergraduate advisors supported my desire to fit as much into my four years at UF as possible through courses, projects, and service learning tailored to my interests. I traveled to Rwanda with a microfinance institution that extends small business loans to a particularly vulnerable demographic of mostly female and HIV-positive borrowers. I spent two summers interning with different organizations in Southeast Asia, combating human trafficking through empowerment workshops and psychological aftercare. I dreamed of the day I would graduate with my degree and move overseas full-time, dedicating my life to the betterment of disadvantaged women.

But, as many stories go, I met a girl and fell in love. As it became increasingly clear that I wanted to stay in the United States after graduation, I began looking for jobs with domestic non-profits. Working within the

LGBTQ movement proved a perfect fit. I had just finished a course with Dr. Kendal Broad about social movements, which focused my attention on the history and strategy of the LGBTQ movement. I realized that I could use my background in gender studies and economics to work in an American civil rights movement. An added (and incredibly meaningful) benefit of my work was its advocacy on behalf of my own relationship and the family I hope to have someday.

In my year as a field organizer at Equality Florida, the state's largest LGBT civil rights organization, I've worn a lot of different hats. I now manage our Marriage and Family campaign, lead volunteer teams at local Pride festivals, run canvassing operations, represent Equality Florida at local government meetings and with the press, and help strategize statewide policy initiatives. My degree in Women's Studies prepared me for this career in more ways than I can count. I learned communication skills, including how to boil complex issues down into accessible ideas and create cogent arguments—it turns out the student's topic sentences are the professional's talking points! I use queer theory on a daily basis, examining our mission through an intersectional lens and challenging myself to defy the heteronormativity, cissexism, ableism, and racism that exist in the LGBTQ movement. And I still have to write – a lot of emails, a lot of proposals, and a lot of press releases.

I'm so thankful for the ways in which the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research has woven itself into my life. These threads are intellectual and professional, but they are also profoundly personal. Though I never imagined I would be where I am, I know I'm exactly where I'm supposed to be.



Preceptor Profile: Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani



NAOMI ARDJOMAND-KERMANI
HIGH IMPACT PREVENTION PROGRAM (HIP),

Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani, MPH graduated with honors from New College of Florida in Sarasota, FL with a B.S. in Biology and from UF with a Master of Public Health degree in the

Social and Behavioral Sciences concentration. As an Associate Planner and HIV Prevention Specialist at WellFlorida Council of North Florida in Gainesville, Ardjomand-Kermani oversees the High Impact Prevention (HIP) Program. WellFlorida, our regional planning council, serves a 16 county area that includes: Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lake, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee and Union Counties. Ardjomand-Kermani is a preceptor for the Practicum course in the Health Disparities in Society Minor, housed in the Center.

I have known that I wanted to be in healthcare since the age of three. My family took away my dolls and replaced them with a doctor's bag when I was young because, instead of playing with them, I would open them up and perform surgery on them. I wanted to be a physician with a busy ob-gyn practice. To help prepare me for this career, I attended high school at the Center for Wellness and Medical Professions Medical Magnet at Palm Harbor University.

Toward the end of my undergraduate experience, I decided to pursue a combined MD-MPH program and I started with the MPH part of the degree following graduation. To the surprise of my family and friends, my lifelong plan to attend medical school changed once I started to learn about public health. The focus of medicine is treatment but the focus of public health is prevention and this realization resonated with me at a very deep level.

Due to my identities, I am a part of several different populations with distinct health disparities. My interests have focused on the intersection of racism and Queer and Trans health outcomes. When given the privilege of providing education to individuals and groups, I have taught acceptance, rather than

tolerance.

In my career, health disparities have been the focus since day one. Although mentoring students adds time and uncompensated responsibility to my day, working with students who share my goals and interests is incredibly rewarding. The ability to touch students' lives as a mentor is inspirational and as a preceptor, I guide them into understanding that people want to be spoken to in a way that mirrors how they speak about themselves. This means teaching students to do their due diligence, by independently educating themselves in order to be as culturally competent as possible about the populations that they are coming in contact with.

In the fall of 2016, I plan to begin the doctoral program in Health Outcomes and Policy in the College of Medicine. It is my goal to ultimately change policy through health outcome data as we will only see improved health outcomes, in the most burdened populations, when policy seeks to eliminate health disparities.



OF ALL THE FORMS OF INEQUALITY, INJUSTICE IN HEALTH CARE IS THE MOST SHOCKING AND INHUMANE"

—DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

Dean Rosenbury, *continued from page 7*

(Continued from page 7)

how the law is just one of many systems that allow some to lose and others to win.

Rosenbury encourages current Women's Studies students to seek out exposure to

legal analysis – whether through a research paper or enrolling in a class at the law school. But she also acknowledges that a Women's Studies degree prepares students to enter all aspects of society, including many professions and grassroots

organizations. She believes that the law is but one path to make feminist change.

I, for one, am excited to see how Dean Rosenbury uses her law degree to enact feminist change on our campus.



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**VISIT US IN
BEAUTIFUL
USTLER
HALL, IN
THE HEART
OF THE UF
CAMPUS.**



The Center Congratulates Graduate Certificate Students

The Center for Women's Studies and Gender congratulates Women's Studies graduate teaching assistant **Lorna N. Bracewell**, who has earned her Ph.D. in Political Science and a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies. She will graduate at the conclusion of the Fall semester, 2015.

Ph.D. Candidate **Sarah M. Kniesler**, who's home department is English, has earned her Women's Studies Graduate Certificate and is planning to graduate in the Fall.

Latin American Studies student **Lara W. Lookabaugh**, who has earned her Master's Degree in Latin American Studies with a Graduate Certificate in Gender and

Development from the Center, will also graduate this Fall semester.

There are currently 29 graduate certificate students in the Center working toward one of two certificates: The Women's Studies Graduate Certificate or the Gender and Development Certificate.

The Women's Studies Certificate (WST) is designed for graduate students from any discipline who wish to focus on interdisciplinary issues related to feminist theory and practice. The certificate in Gender and Development (GAD) is designed for graduate students from any discipline who wish to focus on issues related to gender and development.

Graduate students from all colleges at UF are eligible to enroll in these certificate programs.

Applications for the certificate must be submitted to the CWSGR Graduate Coordinator. For more information visit the Center's graduate page at www.wst.ufl.edu/wst/graduate

