



Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research

University of Florida
<http://www.wst.ufl.edu>

News and Views

Fall 2006

Volume 17, Issue 1



UF President Bernie Machen and Kathryn Chicone Ustler

“Today we dedicate what was once the University's Women's Gym as a Campus Gem”

This is how Neil Sullivan summed up the amazing transformation of Ustler Hall, which was previously the Women's Gym.

On Friday, September 29, 2006, a dedication ceremony was held for the first UF academic building named after a woman, the Kathryn Chicone Ustler Hall. Built in 1919, the historic building was recently renovated by a generous gift from Kathryn Chicone Ustler. The event was held in the grand atrium on the second floor of the building where future events for students and faculty will be assembled.

The dedication began with welcoming remarks by Neil S. Sullivan, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and opening remarks by J. Bernard Machen, President of the University of Florida.

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From the Director: Milagros Peña



It is official! We are in the newly renovated Ustler Hall. The dedication of the building took place the morning of Friday, September 29th; photographs of the exciting event appear in this newsletter. Standing at the podium officially accepting the building was especially exciting because I was very aware that I was standing at one end of a basketball court. As a former high school and college varsity basketball player I really felt the history of the building. In 1948 the building became the Women's Gymnasium when UF officially became coeducational. Now with the generous support of UF alumna Kathryn Chicone Ustler, the building is alive again. Along with students in classes taking place on the first floor, the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research occupies the second and third floors. There are faculty offices and study areas for students. The building is open to all students and faculty to use, though it is symbolically striking given the history of the building to see women students coming regularly to use the space to study or use the internet. Yes! We have wireless internet access available to UF students! We are working quickly to settling in and are planning hosting events at the center starting in the spring.

These are very exciting times for our program. Our new colleague Anita Anantharam has arrived and has already become an invaluable member of the program by working to connect our Center with a planned conference on women, religion, and culture together with ChiTra (the Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions). We are also pursuing the possibility of establishing a student exchange program with Dar Es Salaam University in Tanzania for students interested in our women and development specialty. At the invitation of Leo Villalón, Director of the Center for African Studies, in May of this year, I traveled with Stacey Langwick who headed our faculty exchange program together with the Center for African Studies to explore interest in developing a six-week student curriculum at Dar Es Salaam University that focuses on women and development topics. I joined Stacey Langwick and Stephanie Evans, who had co-taught a women's Studies course with Rose Mwaipopo, a sociologist and scholar in the study of women and development in Tanzania, whom we hosted as part of the faculty exchange in spring 2006. As part of the same faculty exchange, Stephanie Evans traveled to Dar Es Salaam to pursue research. We all learned tremendously from the visit and came back committed to pursuing a student exchange program for women's studies majors and minors. I do regret to report that we lost Stacey Langwick to Cornell University. However, I am happy to say that despite Stacey's departure we remain connected and do hope to meet again in Dar and see the groundwork Stacey laid for us blossom!

I end by saying that Ustler Hall is a major symbol for women and gender studies at UF and in the U.S. We have a building dedicated to the discipline. In remembering those at UF who have passed and those who are still here that were founders of our program, we only marvel at how far our program has come. If you are in Gainesville, or plan a trip near by, please stop by and see us. Ustler Hall is a celebration for its history as well as for what it symbolizes for our discipline. -Milagros Peña

Fall 2006 Courses

WST 3015 Interdisciplinary Perspectives of Women
 WST 3349 Ecofeminism
 WST 3415 Transnational Feminisms
 WST 3930 Women and Poverty
 WST 3930 Women in Modern Hebrew Fiction
 WST 3930 Gender & Development
 WST 4905 Independent Study
 WST 4930 Gender and Language
 WST 4930 Gender Migration in Europe
 WST 4940 Internship
 WST 6508 Advanced Feminist Theory
 WST 6905 Independent Study
 WST 6348 Ecofeminism
 WST 6935 Gender and Language
 WST 6935 Masculinity in Suburbia
 WST 6935 Gender, Sexuality and Social Movements
 WST 6935 Race, Class, and Media
 WST 6935 Gender and Cultural Politics in Latin America
 WST 6946 Internship
 WST 6971 Research for Master's Thesis

Spring 2007 Courses

WST 3015 Interdisciplinary Perspectives of Women
 WST 3415 Transnational Feminisms
 WST 3930 Sex Rights
 WST 3930 Women of Color in the U.S.
 WST 3930 Women & Development
 WST 3930 Gender Representation in Visual Art
 WST 3930 20th Century Women's Poetry
 WST 3930 Women's Autobiographies
 WST 3930 Modern Brazilian Literature
 WST 3930 Women & Film
 WST 4905 Independent Study
 WST 4930 Women & Islam
 WST 4930 Women in German Literature
 WST 4930 U.S. Empire & Gender
 WST 4930 African Women Writers
 WST 4930 Women, Work, and Pop Culture
 WST 4931 Women/Gender Thesis
 WST 4935 Capstone Seminar in Women's Studies
 WST 4940 Internship
 WST 5933 Feminist Ethnography
 WST 6905 Independent Study
 WST 6935 Women & Islam
 WST 6936 Race Perspectives
 WST 6946 Internship
 WST 6971 Research for Master's Thesis

15th ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOOK SALE
Sunday, December 3, 2006, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

at
Goerings Book Store at Westgate
3433 West University Avenue

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

Gender Conversations

Fall 2006 Schedule

219 Dauer Hall (Ruth McQuown Room)

Why I'm Talking About Motherhood in Modern Hebrew Fiction

Avraham Balaban, African and Asian Languages and Literatures
 Thursday, October 12, 2006, 12:50pm

Why I'm Talking About the Culture Wars and Religion in My Sociology Classes

Wendy Young, CWSGR
 Thursday, November 2, 2006, 11:45am

Why I'm Talking About Gloria Anzaldúa's Alien Possession

Tace Hedrick, CWSGR and English
 Wednesday, November 29, 2006, 11:45am

Spring 2007 Schedule

Third Floor Reading Area in Ustler Hall

Why I'm Talking About Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Sexual Harassment

Angel Kwolek-Folland, CWSGR and History
 Thursday, February 1, 2007, 11:45am

Why I'm Talking About Black Women in the Ivory Tower

Stephanie Evans, CWSGR and African American Studies
 Wednesday, February 28, 2007, 11:45am

Why I'm Talking About Modern South Asian Poetry

Anita Anantharam, CWSGR
 Thursday, April 5, 2007, 11:45am

News and Views

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Milagros Peña, Ph.D., Director

Paula Ambroso, Editor

Amanda Culp, Co-Editor/Graphic Designer

Joanna Neville, Co-Editor/Graphic Designer

News and Views is published each semester to inform faculty, staff, students and Women's Studies supporters of activities at the CWSGR at the University of Florida. For further information about upcoming events, please visit our web site at:

<http://www.wst.ufl.edu>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & ORGANIZING

Shifra Armon, Romance Languages and Literatures, presented "Changing Densities of Masculinity in Early Modern Spain" at U. of Miami's conference on "When There Was no Sex or Gender."

Florence Babb, CWSGR/Latin American Studies, participated in the Latin American Studies associations and Congress of Americanists' conferences. She spoke at Cornell University on gender and tourism in Vicos, Peru, and co-organized two panels: "Tourism Revisited" with Victoria Rovine for the American Anthropological Association Conference, and "The Traffic in Feminist Anthropology" with Ellen Lewin.

Sylvie Blum-Reid, Romance Languages and Literatures/French and Film, presented "Travail de déchiffrement de deux films français-vietnamiens et roms" at the 20th & 21st Century Francophone Studies associations annual meeting, and presented "Dreaming the Riots in French Cinema" at the MLA's conference.

Marsha Bryant, English, presented "H.D. in CinemaScope: Helen in Egypt, Historical Epic, Hollywood" at the Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, and presented "Sounding Sitwell, Sounding Modernism."

Pamela Gilbert, English, presented "Paul, Eschatological Time, and Victorian Liberalism" at the North American Victorian Studies Association Conference, and organized four panels "Interdisciplinarity and the Body."

Faye V. Harrison, African American Studies/Anthropology, presented "Building Solidarities for Human Rights: African Diasporic Women as Agents of Transformation" at Alvan Ikoku College of Education's Conference on "Gendering Transformations: Gender, Globalization, and Transformation in Africa and the African Diaspora," and presented "Negotiating Postcolonial Conditions as Gendered Praxis: Ethnographic and Theoretical Perspectives" at the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences's conference (U. of Cape Town) on "Transcending Postcolonial Conditions: Toward Alternative Modernities."

Tace Hedrick, CWSGR/English, presented "Queering the Cosmic Race: Esotericism, Mestizaje, and Sexuality in Gabriela Mistral and Gloria Anzaldúa" at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference on "Race and the Americas."

Melissa Hyde, Art History, presented "Indexing Herself: Suzanne Giroust-Roslin's Self Portrait of Quentin de la Tour à l'index (1770)" for the Riggins Lecture at UNC Chapel Hill.

Carol Ritzen Kem, Smathers Libraries Collections, spoke at American Library Association Annual Conference on "I'm Dancing as Fast as I can: Building a Career when Personal Responsibilities Demand More of You."

Bonnie Moradi, Psychology, with her students, had six presentations at the American Psychological Association Conference.

Carol Murphy, Romance Languages and Literatures, presented "Sylvie Germain: Sculpteur des Lieux de Mémoire" at Contemporary French Culture's Conference on "Space, Place and Landscape: Women and Environments."

Louise Newman, History, presented the keynote address at the U. of Melbourne's conference on "'Historicizing Whiteness.'"

Milagros Peña, CWSGR/Sociology, co-presented the presidential address "On Being a Community of Scholars: Practicing the Study of Religion" at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion's conference with Nancy T. Ammerman, Wendy Cadge, Robert D. Woodberry, and Omar M. McRoberts.

Anita Spring, Anthropology, presented "Empowering Women in the African Entrepreneurial Landscape: Microentrepreneurs to Business Globalists in the Informal and Formal Sectors" at Cornell University's Conference on "Gender and Empowerment in Africa."

Trysh Travis, CWSGR, organized a roundtable on the past, present, and future of "Feminist Print Cultures" at the National Women's Studies Associations Conference.

AWARDS

Shifra Armon, Romance Languages and Literatures, voted "Professor of the Year" by graduate students in Spanish.

Kim Tanzer, Architecture, "Woman of Distinction, 2006" by the UF Association for Academic Women, and Morton Wolfson Faculty Award for Outstanding Service to UF Students, 2006, by the Division of Student Affairs .

Luise White, History, has been awarded a fellowship for spring 2007 at the Shelby Cullom Davis Center at Princeton University.

MISCELLANEOUS

Diana Boxer, Linguistics, aired her commentary on Hillary Rodham Clinton on an edition of National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" on the topic of "American Women: Changing Their Names"

Kendal Broad, CWSGR/Sociology, collaborated with **Milagros Peña** (CWSGR/Sociology) as Co-PIs, along with PI **Marta Wayne** (Zoology), to submit a NSF IGERT program proposal "IGERT: Genetics Literacy Project." William Allen (Medical School) and Connie Mulligan (Anthropology/Genetics Institute) are also Co-PIs.

Debra Walker King, Associate Provost for Faculty Development/English, submitted a plan on behalf of UF which will be implemented with a grant in support of innovative faculty career flexibility and development accelerator plans.

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Kathryn Chicone Ustler Hall Dedication Ceremony

(Right) Carter Boydston and Kim Tanzer



(Below) Classroom in Ustler Hall



UF President Bernie Machen



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Dr. Sullivan thanked key players in the renovation process including Willard Harrison, Jennifer Denault, Carter Boydston, Kim Tanzer, Angel Kwolek-Folland, Jim Mueller, Chris Eastman, J.T. McCaffrey, Bahar Armaghani, Mary Thompson, Ajax Construction, Rick Barnett at Barnett, Fronczak, and Barlowe Architects. He also honored Ms. Ustler for making all of this possible, saying she “has helped save this charming old building and transform it into a state-of-the-art facility to be used by generations of University of Florida students and faculty.”

Milagros Peña, Director of the Center for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, and Virginia Hamner, recent graduate of the joint degree in Women’s Studies and JD program, accepted the building on behalf of Women’s Studies.

Willard Harrison, Emeritus Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, gave a historical overview of the process of obtaining the needed funding for the renovations of Kathryn Chicone Ustler Hall. Kathryn Chicone Ustler, 1961 Alumna and benefactor of the building spoke about how the event was “a day of celebration for women.” Her son Craig T. Ustler, 1991 & 1995 Alumnus, also made comments in congratulations to his mother.

The event was attended by faculty, students, friends of Women’s Studies, and members of the community.

A reception following the dedication was held on the third floor reading room/study area.



Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan and Kim Tanzer



Dean Neil Sullivan

Kathryn Chicone Ustler Hall Dedication Ceremony

(Below) The Grand Atrium



(Above) The Grand Atrium



(Left) Kathryn Chicone Ustler



(Left) 2006 Women's Studies Alumna Virginia Hamner accepts the building on behalf of the students.

(Below) Craig Ustler



(Right) Ajax Construction representatives Bill Byrne, Todd Miller, and Mary Thompson



Congratulations to our Women's Studies Students

Congratulations to **Denise Guidry** and **Jaimy Mann** for completing the requirements and earning the Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies.

The UF chapter of Phi Beta Kappa has elected two students majoring in Women's Studies to the Society in its Fall 2006 evaluation. Congratulations to **Erin Quinn** (Women's Studies) and **Preeti Sharma** (English/Women's Studies).

Faculty News continued from page 3

PUBLICATIONS & EDITS

Nora Alter, Germanic and Slavic Studies, *Chris Marker*, U. of Illinois Press.

Patricia Woods, Political Science, *Judicial Power and National Politics: Courts and Gender in the Religious-Secular Conflict in Israel*, SUNY Press.

Florence Babb, CWSGR/Latin American Studies, *Queering Love and Globalization*, GLQ: A Journal of Gay and Lesbian Studies.

Avraham Balaban, African & Asian Studies, *A Gender Reading of Agnon's Metamorphosis*, (in a literary anthology dedicated to Professor Dan Miron of Columbia University, Jerusalem: Mosad Bialik), and *The Rabbinical Court as a Slaughterhouse: Dvora Baron's Bill of Divorcement*, Gender and Modernity: Critical Response to Dvora Baron, U. of Maryland Press.

Sylvie Blum-Reid, Romance Languages and Literatures/French and Film, *La Reine Margot*, H-France Review.

Kendal Broad, CWSGR/Sociology, with co-author Sara Crawley (Assistant Prof at USF in Women's Studies), *Sex and Sexualities: Social Construction at the Intersection of Sociology, Feminism, and Queer Theory*, as a chapter in *The Handbook in Constructionist Research*, Guilford Press.

Carmen Diana Deere, Latin American Studies/Food and Resource Economics, guest co-edited Feminist Economics's special issue "Women and Wealth," and co-authored *The Gender Asset Gap: What Do We Know and Why Does It Matter?*

Stephanie Evans, CWSGR/African American Studies, *I Was One of the First to See Daylight: Black Women at Predominantly White Colleges and Universities in Florida since 1959*, Florida Historical Quarterly; *This Right to Grow: African American Women's Intellectual Legacy*, International Journal of the Humanities; *The State and Future of the Ph.D. in Black Studies: Assessing the Role of the Comprehensive Examination*, Griot: Journal of African American Studies; and *Recent Research Rewrites Society's History with Identity of First Black Woman Member*, Phi Beta Kappa Key Reporter.

Melissa Hyde, Art History, *Making Up the Rococo: Francois Boucher and his Critics*, Getty Research Institute, and *Rethinking Boucher*.

Bonnie Moradi, Psychology, *Roles of perceived sexist events and perceived social support in mental health of women seeking counseling*, Journal of Counseling Psychology, with co-author J. Funderburk; *Perceived discrimination experiences and mental health of Latina/o American persons*, Journal of Counseling Psychology, with co-author C. Risco; *Perceived sexual orientation-based harassment in milit-*

CWSGR Welcomes New Graduate Students



Mallory Szymanski graduated from the University of Florida in May 2006 with bachelor's degrees in English and History. Late in her undergraduate career she developed an interest in Women's Studies and decided to pursue an M.A. in the field. As a graduate student, her research interests include transgender, identity politics, and queer theory.



Amy Long graduated from the University of Florida with her bachelor of arts degree in English and Women's Studies. As a graduate student her research interests primarily lie in literature and popular culture.

ary and civilian contexts, Military Psychology; Intrapersonal and interpersonal manifestations of anti lesbian/gay prejudice: An application of personal construct theory, Journal of Counseling Psychology, with co-authors J. van den Berg & F. Epting; and *Raising students' awareness of women in psychology*, Teaching of Psychology, with co-author D. Vergara.

Carol Murphy, Romance Languages and Literatures, *Preface* to Volume 2 of the Marguerite Duras series, Editions Minard in Paris, and guest co-edited Contemporary French and Francophone Studies on "Verbal, Visual, Virtual."

Milagros Peña, CWSGR/Sociology, *Latina Activists across Borders: Grassroots Women's Organizing in Mexico and Texas*, Duke University Press.

Zoharah Simmons, Religion, "African American Islam as an Expression of Converts' Religious Faith and Nationalist Dreams and Ambitions" in *Women Embracing Islam: Gender and Conversion In the West*, U. of Texas Press, and "Muslim Women's Experience as a Basis for Theological Interpretation in Islam" in *Muslims in the United States: Identity, Influence, Innovation*, Woodrow Wilson Center.

Award and Scholarship Presentation at our annual Fall Opening Reception



Madelyn Lockhart scholarship recipients: Sharon DiFino, Andrea Wood, and award presenter, Dr. Madelyn Lockhart

Dr. Sharon DiFino was awarded the Dr. Madelyn Lockhart Faculty Fellowship which gives release time for a competitive research project. Andrea Wood was presented with the Dr. Madelyn Lockhart Graduate Student Fellowship.

Congratulations to the recipients of the Ruth O. McQuown Scholarship Awards.



Ruth O. McQuown Scholarship Award recipients.

In addition, Vera Brown received the Multicultural and Diversity Student Award for Women's Studies, a university scholars program scholarship, and is entering her second year of the McNair Scholars program.



Uppity Woman Award recipients: Helen Safa and M. J. Hardman

Congratulations to Helen Safa and M.J. Hardman on receiving Uppity Woman Awards and to Katherine Walters on receiving the Judith Brown Endowment in recognition of committed feminist activists.



Candi Churchill with the recipient of Judith Brown Scholarship, Katherine Walters.

CWSGR Students Intern at New Local Non-Profit Agency



This fall, three CWSGR seniors worked as interns at Friends of Wild Iris, the newly established non-profit arm of Wild Iris Bookstore. Vera Brown has worked to develop a directory of women's social services in the area and Sheila LaMarre is working on a directory of women-owned and -operated businesses. Their surveys will gather basic information for all of the businesses/organizations as well as ascertaining things like handicap accessibility, multi-cultural support, whether or not the business/organization is LGBTQ friendly, and/or women, minority, or LGBTQ owned or operated. This information will then be compiled into a directory which will be published on the internet and hopefully printed in a directory format.

At the same time, Erin Quinn has done research on fundraising and social events for the new non-profit, as well as managing the production of a calendar featuring the work of local women artists, including senior Melanie Brewster's black and white photo "The Weight of Time and Experience." Titled "Celebrate Women 2007," the calendar will be sold through the bookstore to raise funds for the Friends of Wild Iris's outreach and education programs. In addition, ten volunteers from affiliate faculty member Kristin Joos' class participated in service learning activities at Wild Iris, developing a volunteer recognition system, updating a directory of feminist bookstores in the US and Canada, researching recommended book lists. Speaking about the experience, Wild Iris proprietor Cheryl Krauth observes that they "have accomplished a lot for us that we could not have done alone. In addition we have absolutely loved the vibrant, alive atmosphere they have created in Wild Iris. It is really great to see volunteers working on projects, communicating, getting to know each other, and members of the local community working with them." -Trysh Travis

Please visit our site at: www.wst.ufl.edu for more information on courses, news, program information, faculty, and other resources.

Thank You Jeff Stevens
for all your help with our newly updated website!

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Available in a variety of
styles
in 200 Ustler Hall
for a \$10.00 donation.

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