

Connections

Department of Women's Studies



A Publication of the Department of Women's Studies Fall 2011



(above) Amanda Longacre, Nicole Herman, Jessica Eicholz, Deanna Quinn, Jennifer Naccarelli, and (left) Kat Gearhart attended the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence annual retreat.



Women's Studies Exemplifies Scholar-Activism in Groundbreaking New Program

We are pleased to announce that Women's Studies at UD has developed the first undergraduate training program in Domestic Violence Prevention and Services. Funded from the generous assistance of a \$187,000 three-year grant from the Verizon Foundation, we developed a concentration and a minor open to all undergraduates at UD. These initiatives team our students with community organizations, where students spend hundreds of hours in internships and practicums, allowing hands-on learning as well as providing needed resources to community agencies and much-needed help to domestic violence clients. Students who complete the concentration will have finalized all the required coursework and most of the training hours needed for certification as Domestic Violence Advocates by the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence, our partners in this project.

UD has a rich heritage of teaching in the area of gender violence. One of the earliest courses, developed in the 1970s, was taught by Jerry

Trabant (wife of Dr. E.A. Trabant who was UD President at that time). It addressed the psychological effects of domestic violence. We have continued to sponsor a broad range of courses on various aspects of the subject from criminological, sociological, human services, literary, historical and interdisciplinary perspectives.

We are thrilled to have our first group of concentration students participating in ten-week summer practicums. Under the direction of Dr. Jennifer Naccarelli,

who was hired to coordinate the new program, we currently have five students serving community agencies. Our initial placements host students in the Victim Services Unit of the Wilmington Police Department, the Domestic Violence Advocacy Program at Family Court and the Family Visitation Center. These diverse practicums grant our students the opportunity to assist in all levels of domestic violence advocacy including intervention, protection, prosecution and healing. By next summer we will place as many as ten students in police departments, shelters, court advocacy programs and government agencies throughout the state.

In addition to quality students and challenging practicum placements, our program benefits greatly from the dedicated faculty committed to its growth. Our core faculty come from the departments of Women's Studies, Criminal Justice, Sociology, and Human Development and Family Studies. Professors Fleury-Steiner, Laberge, Leon, Miller, and Schiffman have developed robust courses that more than fulfill the diverse training requirements necessary to become a certified domestic violence specialist. The combination of academic training and practicum service illustrates how theory informs practice and our department's commitment to cultivating student activists.

In June, our students were welcomed into Delaware's community of advocates during the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence's annual conference and retreat. The Coalition highlighted our program and offered an introduction to the state's domestic violence service

Greetings from the Chair



Dear Alumni and Friends:

It is a pleasure to greet you and share with you some of the many activities of the Department of Women's Studies. 2010 marked a milestone for Women's Studies, as it became a Department. I am certain that neither our faculty nor our students get tired of hearing these delightful words, the *Department of Women's Studies*. I had the honor to lead the Department during its first year, and it has been one of the most enriching experiences of my professional and personal life.

This has been a year of exhilarating growth and development, but also contemplation and reflection about our common vision. We worked toward solidifying our status as Department, and toward maintaining the long history of transnational research and activism that has characterized the Department since its formation. Below are a few of our accomplishments:

Last year the Department received a large grant from Verizon. This is the largest grant in the history of WOMS. **Dr. Jessica Schiffman**, our Associate Chair extraordinaire, wrote the grant. Thanks to this funding, Dr. Schiffman and **Dr. Jennifer Naccarelli** put together a major concentration on Domestic Violence Prevention and Services, the only program of its kind in the United States. This concentration will provide students with the opportunity to receive scholarly and practical training in domestic violence prevention, while gaining certification as Domestic Violence Advocates. Five students are already working on the major! For more details, please refer to Drs. Schiffman and Naccarelli's article in this newsletter.

The members of the Department, and particularly the Curriculum Committee, led by **Dr. Kathy Turkel**, put together an innovative graduate certificate on Women and Gender Studies, which will be offered to UD graduate students who are interested in developing feminist interdisciplinary training. We expect to offer the graduate certificate in fall 2012.

Another excellent project developed this year is "Women at the Center." This project, spearheaded by generous donations from **Ms. Mae Carter** and **Dr. Margaret Stetz** and with the support of **Associate Dean Joseph Pika**, is led by **Dr. Marie Laberge**. Dr. Laberge is conducting archival and oral research to document the early history of the creation of the Women's Studies Program and Department. This project will provide essential documentation for the importance of UD leadership in the feminist movement in the United States. The Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Program was one of the first programs of its kind in the United States, formalized in 1973, only three years after the first programs in the nation were created. Dr.

providers. At the conference students attended a number of valuable workshops focusing on a range of topics including economic justice, trauma-informed counseling services, digital safety and confidentiality techniques. Our students have already applied this newly acquired knowledge to their practicum work. Additionally, this conference provided students with opportunity to reflect on their practicum experiences while drawing support and insight from one another. We are eager to integrate this conference into our program's annual offerings.

Student interest in the program continues to grow. We already have a number of competitive applicants for next summer's practicums. Students from a range of departments will be adding the minor in the fall. Our incoming students for both the concentration and the minor possess a strong academic background and a commitment to service. This will no doubt be the first of many successful years serving university students, community agencies and survivors of domestic violence.



Photo of Evelyn Wilson by Nancy Rica Schiff

A Gift of Art

In the summer of 2008 Women's Studies received a wonderful surprise. Joanne Jaffe, the daughter of sculptor **Evelyn Wilson**, phoned our office out of the blue to offer us our pick of her mother's art. Monika Shafi and Jessica Schiffman jumped at the chance to travel to rural New Jersey where Ms. Jaffe provided a delicious lunch and a tour of her parents' studios (Ben Wilson, her father, was also a noted painter). She allowed us to choose from among her mother's many sculptures to display in our office. It was difficult to make final choices, but ultimately a wonderful dilemma! We returned with 5 beautiful selections of statues of women from Ms. Wilson's series, "Community of Women."

Evelyn Wilson (1915–2006) had a successful life as a cosmetics industry executive. She was executive vice president of Fabergé, president

*Sculpting enables me to live creatively...
It fulfills a need. I continue to do what pleases
me and accords with my views."*

—Evelyn Wilson, from a short biographical
statement provided by Joanne Jaffe

of Fabergé France, and a designer for Revlon, among other accomplishments. However, Ms. Wilson was also an accomplished artist, exhibiting frequently and continuing to develop her methods and her subjects, until her 90th birthday. "Community of Women," is her largest series and is represented in the gift to Women's Studies. Examples of this series are housed permanently in museums and university collections.

The gift coincided with budget woes and the economic downturn. Women's Studies did not have a sufficient method to display the sculptures and no means to purchase a suitable platform for them. Our lovely gift was kept safely in storage until this year, when we were able to purchase exactly what we needed – a lockable, lighted display case.

Please stop by the office to admire Evelyn Wilson's wonderful work and Joanne Jaffe's meaningful gift. The sculptures beautify our office and inspire us. We feel very lucky to have received that surprise phone call three summers ago – and are pleased to present our lovely gift to you now.

Marissa Kinsey Receives Carter Award

Marissa Kinsey is the 2011 recipient of the Mae Carter Scholarship, awarded by the Office of Equity and Inclusion. Named in honor of former Assistant Provost for Women's Affairs and Executive Director of the Commission on the Status of Women, the scholarship honors an undergraduate woman student who carries the values that Mae Carter has represented to the University community. Marissa graduated this year with honors in Women's Studies, Anthropology, Material Culture Studies and Gender Studies. She hopes to pursue research that links together all of these fields of study, and to eventually find work as a museum specialist and archaeologist. In the immediate future, she plans to begin work on a book about her female ancestors, who (as she was surprised to find

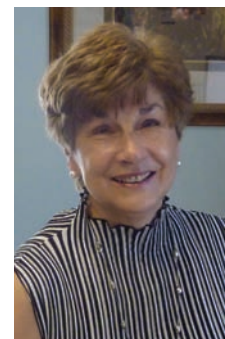


Marissa Kinsey and Mae Carter

out) paved the way for her in terms of breaking down gender and sexual norms. We can all look forward to a great read!

Emily Hayworth – An Integral Member of Women's Studies

It is no secret that **Emily Hayworth** is the backbone of Women's Studies. This past year she celebrated twenty-five years of employment at UD, fifteen of them in Women's Studies as our only office staff person.



During that time she has mentored about a dozen student employees, offering a model of commitment to a job well done with a cheerful demeanor. She has helped us maneuver through financial thickets that would daunt most people - and has squeezed every penny we have spent, always believing that UD deserves to get the most from its resources. Emily has coached faculty on policies, provided insights on course offerings, arranged the office space to make it look comfortable and attractive, and kept our many alumni, students, and friends informed of our activities. She has attended most of our events with the keen interest that we would love to see all our students share. She is an extraordinary woman.

While we fete all her accomplishments over the years, we are mindful that it is coming to a close. Fall 2011 will be Emily's last semester. As she retires to spend precious hours with her children and grandchildren in Florida and California, we know you will join us in wishing her well. If you are on campus, please stop in to say hello – and good-bye. You will get the warm, genuine, reception that is Emily's habit and that we will all miss.

Karen Barad to Speak at UD

If you are interested in hearing what a theoretical physicist is doing teaching feminist studies in the History of Consciousness and Philosophy Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz, this is your chance! **Dr. Barad** will present a lecture on **Tuesday, November 8, 2011** at UD on Science, Justice and Feminism. 130 Smith Hall, 2:00 - 3:15p.m..

Monika Shafi Honored for Equity Initiatives

Monika Shafi, Elias Ahuja Professor of German, past Director of Women's Studies and incoming Chair, was awarded the E. Arthur Trabant Award for Women's Equity in May, 2011. Created in honor of former President Trabant's support for women's equity, the award is given annually to an individual, department, unit, or committee that has contributed to the equality of women at UD.

Under Monika's leadership, Women's Studies moved from program to departmental status and received the first ever tenure track position at the Assistant Professor level — both moves that significantly increase our ability to define who we are as a unit. Monika was nominated by several colleagues for her outstanding work in bringing us to a new level.



2011 Graduation Class

Josefina Ayllon **
Daniel Cole
Caitlin Del Collo *, **
Jackie Denbow **
Alexandra Gawel
Victoria Gomba-Netta
Alysia Gonska
Emily Jonas
Caley Kammermann
Hilary Karpoff

Wendy Khoutsavanh
Marissa Kinsey **
Bryce Komaroff **
Amanda Larraga- Faller
Heidi Lieberman
Tyshi Maith
Catherine Mulhall
Meghan Wallace
Malora Winship **

* Recipient of the Nellie Thompson Rudd Award for scholarship, leadership, and service in Women's Studies.

**Recipients of the Women's Studies Awards of Special Merit for academic excellence.



Art/Feminism/Paris!

For the second time, the Women's Studies Department sponsored a study abroad program in Paris over Winter Session 2011. A group of twenty eager and enthusiastic students spent five weeks in Paris studying "Woman As Image and Imagemaker" under the guidance of Parisian professor and art historian, Christophe Boïcos and studying "French Feminisms" with Dr. Jessica Schiffman. A visit to Versailles, a walking tour of Paris, a special shopping expedition to buy chocolate and cheese, sightseeing, meeting groups of French women working on social issues, and living with French families provided a well-rounded and full experience for all.

The program is scheduled to take place again this coming Winter Session 2012. Interested students may apply before September 23 at <http://international.udel.edu/studyabroad/default.asp>.



(Above) Students at Sacré Coeur;
(Below) Study Abroad students with Prof. Christophe Boïcos at the farewell dinner, Paris, February 2011.

• Thank You Donors

We are grateful to the students, alumni, alumni families, faculty and friends who have generously donated to support our department. Your generosity helps fund events and activities in Women's Studies and Sexualities and Gender Studies. Thank you!

Margaret Andersen
Stacey Callaway
Mae Riedy Carter
Jacqueline Cater
Suzanne Cherrin
Daniel Cole
Roni Grill
Emily Jonas
Caroline Kohl
Bryce Komaroff

Heidi Lieberman
Donette Mayrack
John Mayrack
Crystal Michielli
Jason Nadell
Margaret Stetz
Lloyd Thoms, Jr.
Mary Williams
Crystal Woodford

UDconnection

Don't forget to register for an exclusive UD alumni online community at www.UDconnection.com. The online community allows you to search the alumni directory, post class notes, update your contact information, find upcoming alumni events in your area and take advantage of networking opportunities.

Laberge is interviewing the founding members of Women's Studies and reviewing documents housed at the Morris Library. In spring 2012, she will teach "Feminist Oral History," a graduate/undergraduate course, where students will assist Dr. Laberge in reconstructing this history. The results of this project will be published online and in a book.

In October 2010, the Department had the honor to host **Dr. Audrey Kobayashi** for a successful master class, the second in the history of our department. Dr. Kobayashi is a feminist geographer and activist at Queen's University where she was previously the Director of the Institute of Women's Studies. She is a leading scholar at the intersection of critical race and feminist theory, globalization, and cultural and social geography.

Our faculty agreed unanimously to change the name of the Department to "Department of Women and Gender Studies." The decision was based on the fact that this name represents more accurately the work that our faculty and students do, while recognizing national and international trends. The Department will change its name for the academic year 2012–2013.

This was my first experience as Department Chair. Leading a department is not an easy task, but I was blessed with the team that any chair could wish for, **Dr. Jessica Schiffman** and **Ms. Emily Hayworth**. The daily tasks of running a department as well as the transformative intense experiences that we created this year were only possible because of their stellar capabilities, work ethic, and dedication. The same goes for all my colleagues in the Department. I will be forever grateful to them for making this year one of the highlights of my career. I am certain **Dr. Monika Shafi**, the upcoming Chair, will lead the Department to great growth and development.

My warmest regards and wishes for an outstanding academic year.

– Carla Guerrón Montero
Associate Professor of Anthropology

Staying Connected

1995

Jennifer Chapman is a research project manager at the University of Pennsylvania conducting clinical research on adherence to HIV medications. She is also pursuing a master's degree in organizational dynamics from Penn where she is hoping to examine issues of gender and power in the workplace, both in a conventional sense and among medical providers and patients. This is her 2nd graduate degree; she completed a master's of public health at Emory University in 2000.

1998

Beth Uzwiak received her doctorate in cultural anthropology at Temple University. The topic of her dissertation was gender violence and women's human rights. She is an editor for an academic press based out of Syracuse, an artist, and a writer. She has accepted a 1 year appointment in the anthropology department at American University.

2000

Stephanie Ferrell is director of communications and development for the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

2004

Emerald Christopher presented two papers in January at the Schomburg Center for Black Culture's conference. She is now at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County in the language, literacy and culture PhD program.

2005

Alondra Pacheco met her husband while studying abroad as a UD student in Mexico. She is in the Spanish literature PhD program at Ohio State University where her research focus is about the lives of nuns in the first Carmelite convent in New Spain. She says: "Although I went into literature, Women's Studies has been a source of inspiration."

2007

Carly (Kathryn) King is studying for her master's degree in higher education at Drexel University.

Tya Pope is now working for the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence as a Training & Prevention Specialist.

2008

Joseph Dewson III (minor) writes from his tour of duty in Afghanistan that he hopes to continue with a graduate degree in women's studies when he has finished his service.

Lauren Gibson (minor) is working at Child Inc. in Wilmington, DE, providing dating violence prevention education in high schools. She is working with teachers and the Department of Education to implement a healthy relationships curriculum.

Elizabeth Kowell attended Brooklyn Law School where she attained her JD in 2009. She is now a legal intern at Mintz & Oppenheim LLP.

2009

Grace (Chou) Hoover received a master's degree in counseling from UD. She is taking some well-deserved time off and contemplating work for a nonprofit organization that addresses women's issues. Meanwhile she is preparing to be a volunteer for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and ROX, the Asian American Christian fellowship on the UD campus to help student leaders develop not only their leadership and relational skills but also cultural identity and spiritual awareness. She teaches piano and freelances as a wedding musician and consultant. She practices her pastry-chef skills on her grateful husband.

Rachael Juhls is living in Kansas and planning her wedding for summer 2012. After completing one year as a Vista volunteer, she is now working at a large clinical research organization, PRA.

Amy McGovern (minor) is living in Denver, Colorado, where she works for an educational travel company.

2010

Samantha Brix (minor) is working as a reporter for the North Shore Sun, a weekly newspaper on Long Island, New York. She says that, "Class discussions made me think about topics for the very first time, in ways I had never been taught to think before." She also credits an article that she wrote for the Review in which she interviewed Dr. Margaret Stetz, for helping to boost her resumé. The piece won the award for best feature article from the Delaware Press Association when she was at UD.

Camille Moncrieffe is attending New York University graduate school of social work.

Jennifer Scalia is in graduate school at Wilmington University working on a master of science in administration of human services.

2011

Josefina Ayllon is attending Boston College to obtain her master's degree in Hispanic literature and culture.

Jackie Denbow is in the MA program in teaching English as a second language at UD.

Bryce Komaroff is attending graduate school at Widener University in the human sexuality education master's program and is also working as a part-time sexuality educator assistant at Planned Parenthood of Delaware.

Cathy Mulhall is working as a volunteer for World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms at a blueberry farm in Oregon.

Megan Richards (minor) has a part-time job with WJZ-TV as a news-story writer where she writes broadcast stories that are read live on-air by the anchors.

Meghan Wallace is in the master of education program at George Mason University while teaching special education in Washington D.C., as a Teach for America corps member.