

connections

Mae Carter: Feminist Champion

By Margaret D. Stetz, Mae and Robert Carter Professor of Women's Studies

"You need to look in the mirror and know that what you're doing is what you should be doing," says Mae Riedy Carter. That might seem a simple philosophy, but it was a challenging one to live by, especially for someone whose career was in university administration—a job that required negotiation and compromise. But while working for E. Arthur Trabant, UD's president from 1968-1987, Mae Carter never compromised on her feminist principles. As founder of UD's Commission on the Status of Women and as Assistant Provost for Women's Affairs, Mae Carter always made sure that she was putting women's interests first. That we have today a vibrant and thriving department of Women and Gender Studies at UD was largely due to her efforts more than 40 years ago. She recruited faculty to offer the first courses in Women's Studies before there was any formal program (let alone a separate department with minors and majors), doing so at a time when it was risky for any professor to teach in a field that was considered "political." She also put in place such initiatives as the Office of Women's Affairs and established a fund to bring greater numbers of women scholars to UD, as well as to support the travel of women faculty and graduate students to conferences throughout the U. S. and



abroad. Almost singlehandedly, she raised the profile of UD as a place for cutting-edge scholarship and teaching about women's issues, while also encouraging student research through the creation of the annual Geis Conference, featuring presentations of both undergraduate and graduate work on gender.

How did she manage to accomplish so much? She says now that she did it by refusing ever to take no for an answer, all the while retaining a veneer of quiet reasonableness. "I never raised my voice," she insists. Her strategy was to build networks of supporters through collaboration and cooperation. She worked closely, for instance, with Professor Florence Lindauer ("Lindy") Geis (1933-1993), the first woman faculty member in Psychology at UD and the author of a groundbreaking study on perceptual bias against women, in planning small-group meetings with all department chairs and administrators designed to overcome resistance by demonstrating how initiatives that benefited women were also "win-win" opportunities for everyone. At the same time, Mae Carter refused to participate in the Old Boys' culture that prevailed throughout academia: "I stopped laughing at sexist jokes at staff meetings." It took, as she admits now, "a lot of courage" to go against the grain.

Continued on page 4

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

I love my job could well serve as a motto for all WOMS faculty and staff. There is such excitement about our work, and this enthusiasm infuses not only teaching and scholarship but also the atmosphere in our house on 34 West Delaware Avenue. This passion was recognized manifold this past year.



Two WOMS faculty members received awards for teaching, leadership, and advising. Dr. Margaret Stetz, Mae and Robert Carter Professor of Women's Studies and Professor of Humanities, received a much coveted University of Delaware Teaching Award, which recognizes excellence in teaching and is largely based on nominations from current and former students. Dr. Stetz's portrait will hang in the Morris Library for the next five years and a brick inscribed with her name will be installed in the Mentor's Circle in front of the Library. Dr. Stetz was also recognized by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* for her outstanding leadership and contributions to higher education. *Diverse* selected her as one of the "Top 25 Women in Higher Education," a well-deserved honor, which acknowledges Dr. Stetz's indefatigable commitment to teaching, scholarship, and the future of higher education.

Continued on page 4

Spotlight: Margaret Stetz

By Deborah Arnold

Don't mistake the rabbit-ears-on-a-headband sometimes worn by Margaret Stetz while lecturing, especially on children's books by Beatrix Potter, for a mere joke. As the Mae and Robert Carter Professor of Women's Studies and Professor of Humanities explains in her essay for *Worn Stories* (2014), a collection of sartorial memoirs published by *Princeton Architectural Press*, the ears are "a way of suggesting that women don't have to be wholly serious to be feminists." They are also a subversive feminist nod to the iconic "Bunny" ears donned by *Ms.* magazine founder Gloria Steinem during her 1963 undercover exposure of the working conditions at Hugh Hefner's Playboy Clubs.

Recently named by the magazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* to its annual list of the top 25 women in higher education and the recipient of University of Delaware's 2015 Excellence in Teaching award, Stetz has a passion for fusing feminism and fashion, as well as comedy and serious scholarship.

"My goal is always to encourage students to see the interconnectedness of ideas and action and to develop critical thinking that will enable them to accomplish whatever goals they identify as worth pursuing," she says. "Life does not divide neatly into disciplinary packages, and neither do the ideas and materials that I bring to the undergraduate classroom. I live to hear students say, 'I never thought about that before.' Only by crossing intellectual divides can we both prepare students to understand the world that they will be entering and equip them to shape it in positive ways."

Stetz has been busily engaging with the world in a variety of ways. In just 2015 alone, she was co-curator of an exhibition at the Rosenbach Museum and Library (about Oscar Wilde's relationship to the city of Philadelphia) and author of seven essays published in scholarly journals and edited volumes. This year, she has also given invited lectures at UCLA; Birkbeck College of the University of London (UK); Trinity College,



Oxford (UK); and Winterthur Museum in Delaware. Meanwhile, she is developing a new undergraduate course, "Girls in War Zones," for Spring 2016.

And what, you may ask, is her favorite project?

"I love whatever I am doing at the moment," she says. "At every moment, I am having the most fun ever."

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

29th Annual Women's History Month Film Series featured the following films: "Anita: Speaking Truth to Power", "Highway of Tears", "Tales of the Waria", "Service: When Women Come Marching Home" and "Saving Face". These films varied as much in their setting as in their overall content: female icons daring to speak about their experience with sexual harassment, indigenous women gone missing for years along a Canadian highway, a large transgender community located in Indonesia, female veterans transitioning to civilian life and inactive duty, and survivors of acid attacks in the fight for justice in Pakistan.

Dr. Elaine Salo, Associate Professor in the departments of Political Science & International Relations and Women & Gender Studies, as well as an African feminist and scholar of the rights of women and LGBT communities on the African continent, presented "Thirsty for Access: Women in African Water Policies," on

February 25, 2015, examining how women's and girls' equal representation in water governance in Africa ensures their access to water and their gendered needs for safe, secure sanitation and hygiene.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

In April 2015, events took place at various locations on the UD campus to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence.

2015 Gender in International Films Series (WOMS 290) explored how sex and gender shape lives and experiences outside the cultural mainstream. The series, which featured "Girlhood" (France), "Osama" (Afghanistan), "Tomboy" (France) and "Yesterday" (South Africa), and "Ida" (Poland), winner of the 2015 Academy Award's Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, sought to enrich our understanding of the diversity of gendered cultural norms and the ways filmmakers chose to illustrate them.

Dr. Amy E. Ritterbusch, Associate Professor at Alberto Lleras Camargo School of Government, University of Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia presented "Mobilities at Gun Point: The Geographies of (Im)mobility of Transgender Youth in Colombia" on September 22, 2015. She discussed how transgender youth were forced by paramilitary to leave their birth cities and communities in Colombia and the discrimination they experienced upon their arrival in Bogota.

Dr. Pascha Bueno-Hansen, Assistant Professor in WOMS and Director of the Sexualities and Gender Studies Minor, presented the WOMS Fall Lecture, "Feminist and Human Rights Struggles in Peru: Decolonizing Transitional Justice" on November 4, 2015. She discussed the atrocities of gender-based violence during the Peruvian internal armed conflict from 1980 to 2000, and how the workings of race, language, and culture in relation to gender expose the deeply rooted challenges of addressing gender-based violence.

Faculty News

Monika Shafi, Elias Ahuja Professor of German and Chair of the Department of Women and Gender Studies, published two articles and two others are forthcoming. They deal with topics ranging from aging to caregiving and the representation of work in contemporary German literature. She presented talks at the the Modern Language Association Convention in Vancouver, Canada, and at an international conference in Mannheim, Germany. She also gave the keynote address at the German Graduate Student Conference at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Margaret Stetz, Mae and Robert Carter Professor of Women's Studies, received the University of Delaware's Excellence in Teaching Award in 2015. She was named by the magazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* to its annual list of the top 25 women in higher education. She co-curated an exhibition about Oscar Wilde, held at the Rosenbach of the Free Library of Philadelphia from January through May 2015. In conjunction with it, she delivered

two lectures about Wilde for Opera Philadelphia in January 2015. During the spring and summer, she gave invited lectures at UCLA; Birkbeck College, University of London; and Trinity College, Oxford. She also had five essays published in Spring 2015: two appeared in edited volumes: in *Neo-Victorian Cities* (Brill/Rodopi) and *Crossings in Text and Textile* (University Press of New England), and three were published in scholarly journals: *Victorian Periodicals Review*; *Studies in American Humor*; and *Victoriographies*. She is currently at work on a new exhibition that will be held in Summer 2016 in Liverpool, UK.

Barbara Ley, Associate Professor in the departments of Communication and Women and Gender Studies, had her essay "Mothers, Fathers, and the Pregnancy App Experience: Designing with Expectant Users in Mind," published in the anthology, *Cupcakes, Pinterest and Ladyporn: Feminized Popular Culture in the Early 21st Century*, edited by Elana H. Levine, University of Illinois Press (Feminist Media Studies Series), 2015.

Jennifer Naccarelli, Assistant Professor and Associate Chair of Women and Gender Studies, was a principle scholar for *Urban Trinity: The Story of Catholic Philadelphia*. This documentary aired on ABC in September of 2015 and premiered at the 2015 World Meeting of Families in conjunction with Pope Francis's visit to Philadelphia. Dr. Naccarelli was also the recipient of the 2015 College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Academic Advisement Award.

Pascha Bueno-Hansen, Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies and Director of the Sexualities and Gender Studies Minor, celebrated the publication of her book, *Feminist and Human Rights Struggles in Peru: Decolonizing Transitional Justice* (University of Illinois Press, 2015) at the WOMS Fall Lecture Series on November 4, 2015, in Bayard Sharp Hall.

Staff News

Deborah Arnold, WOMS Administrative Coordinator as well as a poet and visual artist, celebrated the publication of *The Interview with the Willow Girls*, a finalist for the New Women's Voices Chapbook Award, by Finishing Line Press, and her essay on poet Sonia Sanchez, published by *Mezzo Cammin* for the journal's Women Poets Timeline Project. Her poem "Hieroglyphs" was selected for a 2015 Random Acts of Poetry Award at the University of Delaware.

Gabby Lanzetta, WOMS Student Intern with a WOMS and Sociology double major, received the 2015 Julie Mapes Wilgen Award in Human Sexuality & Gender Studies, presented for outstanding achievement by an undergraduate or graduate student who has demonstrated a commitment to the field of human sexuality and gender studies and an appreciation for diversity and for the betterment of society. Gabby was recognized for her campus leadership for gender equality and sexual health through her work with several registered student organizations on campus, including SAGE, V-DAY and VOX. She was also the recipient of a Summer 2015 DVPS Practicum, funded through the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Shawnee Sloop, WOMS Student Intern with an English major and WOMS minor, was selected to study abroad at John Cabot University for the Spring 2016 semester in Rome, Italy, where she will have the chance to experience the unique and rich history that Rome has to offer by studying drawing, film, and the history of Roman architectural monuments. Shawnee eagerly anticipates the opportunity to live in an entirely new culture and immerse herself in a new way of life.

Mae Carter, continued from page 1

Courage has been the hallmark of her long life, along with determination. Born in 1921 in Berkeley, California, Mae Carter was a graduate of UC Berkeley. Although she followed the expected path for women of her generation of marriage and motherhood (raising two daughters who went on to distinguished careers in teaching and research), she has never stopped looking for ways to put her intellectual abilities and political savvy to work on behalf of social justice. In all of her many projects at UD—including generously providing additional funding for the Mae Carter Award (originally started by Women’s Studies faculty in her honor at the time of her retirement) to help women undergraduates with outstanding records afford graduate

school, and instituting UD’s first named professorship in Women’s Studies—she has had the support of her husband of 71 years, Robert (“Bob”) Carter, who is proud to be a feminist and ally. Another collaborative project is the establishment of the Women’s Studies Faculty Research Award to support research on women. The 2015 award recipient, Dr. Amanda Bullough, Assistant Professor of Management in UD’s Lerner College of Business and Economics, is researching how women’s perceptions of adversity—such as war, danger, poverty, and inequality—are impacted as a result of their engagement in entrepreneurial activities. In Fall 2016, Bullough will share her results in a public presentation, in keeping with the Carters’ wish to educate and inspire all UD communities.

Despite the enormous positive impact that Mae Carter has had at UD, she knows that their work is not over, and that the gains women have achieved are by no means secure. Women undergraduates today, she believes, are less politically active and assertive than some of their predecessors were. Women in general, too, don’t always fight for their own interests, but remain instead too willing to put others first: “You need your fair share. You don’t need to give others your fair share. I’ve seen women do that so much.” After decades of activism, her dream is still the same: she wants everyone to work “to continue moving women forward. Political, social, and financial equality—that’s what it means to be a feminist.”

Greetings from the Chair, continued from page 1

Dr. Jennifer Naccarelli, Assistant Professor of Women and Gender studies and Associate Chair of the Department, received the College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Advisement Award. Given that Dr. Naccarelli joined the UD only in Fall 2012, this recognition is all the more impressive and so richly deserved. Dr. Naccarelli is the advisement coordinator for all incoming WOMS majors and minors and she supervises the students in the summer DVPS (Domestic Violence Prevention and Services) practica.

Passion for teaching has also been the hallmark of Dr. Suzanne Cherrin’s long career in Women’s Studies, and she helped shape our progression from Program to Department every step of the way. In May 2015, Dr. Cherrin retired from teaching, and one cannot overestimate the number of lives she has touched and transformed by teaching more inclusive ways to be and think about the world. Dr. Cherrin will be missed greatly even as we wish her a most rewarding retirement.

Congratulations are also due to Deborah Arnold, the WOMS office coordinator and a published poet. Her poem “Hieroglyphs” was selected as a winner in UD’s 2015 “Random Acts of Poetry” series. The official

presentation and reading took place on February 16, a bitter cold day, but many braved the weather to hear beautiful poetry written by members of the UD community.

In 2015, the University celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Women’s College and we were invited to coordinate a roundtable discussion, which we called *Honoring Our Past, Anticipating Our Future*. Starting with the lead question whether the history of the Women’s College should be “celebrated” or “commemorated,” the discussion among the panelists, WOMS faculty and students, and audience was lively, focusing on counter-narratives, empowerment, and leadership.

Outreach to the community is an integral part of our work and, in addition to the Spring roundtable, we offered our annual “Women’s History Film Series” and evening lectures by Dr. Elaine Salo, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations and Dr. Ruth Gilmore, the 2015 Greater Philadelphia Women’s Studies Consortium’s Scholar in Residence. Dr. Salo is an expert on Africa’s national water policies, and in her lecture “Thirsty for Access: Women in African Water Policies,” she spoke about the link between access to safe water and support for women’s rights. Dr. Gilmore’s talk, entitled “Fatal Couplings: Racial Capitalism and the Black Radical Tradition,” explored the historical and current goals of the Black

Radical Tradition and its intersections with capitalism. We also held a LGBTQ Campus Climate Keynote and Workshop.

And then there is graduation: a festive and exhilarating celebration of our students’ achievements and the culmination of the academic year. Those of you familiar with WOMS Convocation exercises will know that each student writes a short paragraph summarizing their experiences in WOMS and naming family, friends, and faculty they wish to thank. These are beautiful, emotionally intense narratives, and we are extremely proud of our students and all that they have accomplished. In this context, I would like to thank Dr. Kathy Turkel for designing a most rewarding and thorough capstone experience and for all of her efforts preparing our seniors for graduation.

I wish to conclude by giving my most sincere thanks to the WOMS faculty and staff and their infectious energy and dedication. A special note of thanks goes to Dr. Jennifer Naccarelli and Deborah Arnold, both of whom I work with very closely. Their support, kindness, and terrific work are priceless, and it is a joy to interact with them.

With very best wishes,

Monika Shafi

Chair of the Department of Women and Gender Studies and Elias Abuja Professor of German

Dr. Suzanne Cherrin: A Career of Dedication and Commitment

By Monika Shafi

Dr. Suzanne Cherrin, beloved teacher, mentor, and colleague, retired from teaching at the end of the spring term 2015, and we celebrated her retirement at the WOMS party held in May. It was a bitter-sweet moment, since WOMS without Sue is really hard to imagine. Together with Dr. Kathy Turkel, Sue was the first faculty to be hired in the 1980s, and she witnessed and helped shape most of Women's Studies 40-year history. Over the past decades, Sue has taught more than 10,000 students in almost 200 courses and independent studies, in addition to mentoring, advising, and working in committees, too many to count. An enthusiastic, dedicated, and passionate teacher, Sue cares deeply about her students and her life-long mission of educating undergraduates how to make "gendered sense of our lives and the world we live in." Since her graduate school days at the University of Delaware and the research for her PhD dissertation, *Exploring the Gender Gap on Nuclear Disarmament*, Sue's feminism has been coupled with pacifism in order to understand how gender inequality perpetuates injustice, violence, and war.

Sue joined the "Women's Studies Program" early on and she remembers how the struggle for respect and inclusion led to powerful coalitions with colleagues, both women and men, who believed in equality at all levels. These were the heady days of conscious-raising sessions, experimentation and improvisation guided by a core belief in race, class and gender equality. This early recognition of intersectionality is now vital to all WOMS classes. Sue rejoiced when she and others obtained full-time status and when WOMS achieved departmental status.

In the early 1990s, supported by then-Director, Dr. Sandra Harding, Sue taught the first "international" women's studies course and went on to develop WOMS 202, the gateway to the WOMS global concentration. While teaching, learning, and co-authoring the book *Women, Families and Feminist*

Politics: a Global Exploration Sue became passionate about issues of globalization and gender. In 1998, under the auspices of People-to-People's Ambassador Program, the All-China Women's Federation, and with the support of the Mid-Atlantic Women's Studies Association, she led "A Women's Studies Mission to China." A few years later, Sue was a Salzburg Fellow, attending a program on the Social and Economic Dimensions of Human Rights. Particularly



Sue Cherrin (left) with long-time friend and colleague Kathy Turkel.

interested in Latin America, Sue also co- led two Study Abroad trips to Argentina, became core faculty in the Latin American Studies Program and developed a section of WOMS 250, International Women's Studies: Latin America. Sue attended conferences, conducted interviews and participated in tours in Mexico, Venezuela and Nicaragua to gather information on how gendered norms and the political economy affect women's rights. Another favorite course was WOMS 290 "Gender in Global Perspective through Film," which Sue taught regularly.

Throughout her long career, Sue, like so many women, had to juggle the dual demands of family and work, and she knows the responsibilities of caregiving, be it for young children or aging parents, all too well. Also, in 1998, following her own medical journey, she wrote an article titled "Breast Cancer: A Critical Evaluation of Advice to Women," an example of how her research interests evolved from her own life experiences. Similarly, Sue, who is an avid ballroom dancer, undertook a

study of the gendered dynamics in the world of social dancing. In 2007, under a WURA grant, she and her student, Stephanie Patterson, collected data and subsequently both presented several talks. In recent years, Sue has delved into popular culture, and worked on a gendered analysis of "Mad Men," one of her favorite TV shows.

Imparting knowledge has been Sue's life's calling and she fondly remembers students she has taught and mentored. "I can't say enough good things about my students. Every semester I had the opportunity to meet and know exceptional and endearing students. How lucky! They helped me in the classroom, sent me e-mails and even hand-written notes. I enjoyed tremendously working with the scholars in the McNair Program. Their projects were all so interesting, but the one I especially loved was Josephina Ayllon's exploration of gendered lyrics in popular Spanish language music."

Sue also has the highest regard for her wonderful colleagues, both in WOMS and other departments. She says that there are too many names to mention, but she would like to recognize three women, who made the wheels turn in the Department: Barbara Hebner, Emily Hayworth, and Deborah Arnold.

Over the past decades, Sue has created an exceptional legacy of commitment to education, tolerance and diversity. She has been instrumental to the success of WOMS and an inspiration to all in her dedication, compassion, and kindness. We still can't quite fathom how WOMS will fare without her but we wish her a long and happy retirement filled with travel, family time, and hobbies. Fortunately for us, Sue plans to come back: "Although I do look forward to have the time to do more fun things, I also want to keep connected to Women and Gender Studies, to my friends there and to the wonderful, continually evolving world of feminist theories. I also hope that in the future I can come back and teach."

Congratulations, 2015 Graduates!

Women and Gender Studies Majors

Erica Adkins
Katherine Chirnside
Jackie Close
Mariam Dukuray
Brian Eiermann**
Rebecca Guarino**
Amy Hopkins
Shannon Jeffries
Megan Lamotte
Shayne Larkin
Madeline Lydon
Christina Mavrikis**
Alanna Mozeik
Pauline Pantuliano
Elizabeth Peck
Nicolette Pellegrino**,**
Amanda Perfit
Stephanie Prigal
Lauren Reddington
Chelsea Rozanski
Isaiah Thompson
Ela Velazquez
Abigail Wilson
Julianne Zuech

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

***Recipients of the Women and Gender Studies Award of Special Merit for Academic Excellence*

SGST Minors

Melanie Bourgeault
Samuel Donovan
Darnee Lawrence
Stephanie Prigal
Isaiah Thompson



Women and Gender Studies Minors

Chandler Bryant
Bonnie Carvajal
Sarah D'Onofrio
Molly Daddono
Nikki DeShane
Joshua Edwards
Devon Esparza
Abaigeal Foley
Emily Kinslow
Erica Meier
Sara Morris
Morgan Muller
Annie Posner-Glassman
Ashely Resh
Niccole Rosa
Maryanna Santin
Emily Skaug
Allison Vicciardo
Bridget Wallace
Kaitlin Weaver

Women and Gender Studies Majors with DVPS Minors and Concentrations

Brian Eiermann
Nicolette Pellegrino
Christina Mavrikis
Shayne Larkin
Elizabeth Velazquez
Erica Adkins
Amy Hopkins
Madeline Lydon
Lauren Reddington
Katherine Chirnside
Elizabeth Peck
Shannon Jeffries

Graduating Class of 2015 Awards



Awards of Special Merit were conferred upon four outstanding graduates in Women and Gender Studies. The 2015 recipients were Brian Eiermann, Rebecca Guarino, Christina Mavrikis, and Nicolette Pellegrino.

The Mae Carter Scholarship

is awarded to an undergraduate woman student who carries the values of Mae Carter to advance the status of women at the University. The 2015 scholarship was awarded to Rebecca Guarino and Anne Corbett Wright.

The Nellie Thompson Rudd Award

, endowed by University of Delaware's past president E. Arthur Trabant in honor of his mother to acknowledge excellence in scholarship, leadership and service to the University, was presented to Nicolette Pellegrino for her commitment to furthering the status of women at the University of Delaware as an undergraduate. "I am grateful and privileged to have been

presented the Nellie Thompson Rudd Award," Pellegrino said upon receiving the scholarship award. "The Women and Gender Studies Department provided me with the confidence and intellect to advocate for marginalized groups within my community. I became inspired to become a member of Sexual Offense Support as a Victim Advocate, and to construct a program for the University of Delaware Police Department to educate and train law enforcement personnel of the importance of a victim-centered and trauma-informed first response to victims of sexual violence. I am eager to continue utilizing the knowledge gained as a Women and Gender Studies major while engaging my passions for victim advocacy as a criminal prosecutor."

Nicolette Pellegrino: Winner of the Nellie Thompson Rudd Award

Kathy Turkel

Nicolette Pellegrino is the 2015 recipient of the Nellie Thompson Rudd Award. This award honors a student who excels in scholarship, leadership, and service to the Department of Women and Gender Studies. Nicolette is a truly outstanding student who embodies all of the characteristics and accomplishments that this award recognizes.

Nicolette graduated in May 2015 with a double major in Criminal Justice and Women and Gender Studies as well as a concentration in Domestic Violence Services and Prevention. She was on the Dean's List throughout her undergraduate career at UD. Nicolette is a member of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society and Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity, and she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in the spring of 2015.

Much of Nicolette's work both in and out of the classroom focused on issues relating to gender-based violence, including intimate partner violence and sexual assault. She served as the student representative to the University's Coordinated Campus Response to Gender-Based Violence and was a member of SOS, the Sexual Offense Support program



at the University of Delaware. Nicolette also served as a Victim Advocate Intern for the Wilmington Police Department's Victim Services Unit. "As a Victim Advocate," she said, "a client thanked me for my services stating, 'it is nice to know that someone cares.' Her words articulate the significance of victim advocacy and motivate me to continue my passion for advocacy as I pursue a career in criminal prosecution."

During the course of her work as a Public Safety Aide Supervisor for the University of Delaware's Department of Public Safety, Nicolette created and delivered a training program for police officers at the University to educate them on the causes of sexual assault and how to respond to these crimes in ways that are trauma-informed and victim-centered.

Nicolette frequently served as an ambassador for Women and Gender Studies' majors, minors, and concentrations, representing our undergraduate students at recruitment events, and as a panelist on the department's Centennial Roundtable discussion. With students Brian Eiermann and Shayne Larkin, Nicolette also represented the Domestic Violence Services and Prevention Program (DVPS) at UD's Celebration of Community Engagement, after UD received the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's Community Engagement Classification.

Nicolette is currently a student at the Law School of Pace University and hopes to work as a criminal prosecutor.

Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Program Update

By Jennifer Naccarelli

The Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Concentration and Minor expanded in scope and recognition through the 2014-15 academic year, and in Summer 2015, we conducted our fifth class of summer practicums. Thanks to the generous support of the Mae and Robert Carter Endowment in Women's Studies and the match funding provided by the College of Arts and Sciences, we grew our program and placed eight students with domestic violence service providers throughout the state of Delaware. We remain grateful to our practicum partners—the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV), Department of Justice, Department of Corrections, Wilmington Police Department, Domestic Violence Advocacy Program of Child Inc., and the SAFE Program at People's Place—who provide superior mentoring to our students while offering them the opportunity to gain direct service and prevention work experience.

Last year the DVPS Program was featured in the University of Delaware's successful application to earn the Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation. Our program was cited for providing evidence of "practices that support dynamic and noteworthy community engagement." Only 361 institutions nationwide have received this distinction, and we were thrilled to be a part of this process.

The DVPS Program was also recognized at the 2015 national meeting of the Centers for Disease Control, because our partner DCADV was invited to speak about the THRIVE (Toward Healthy Relationships, Individuals, and Violence-free Environments) Delaware program. DCADV explained how "the THRIVE Delaware initiative is made up of several strategies to ensure that healthy relationships, and the conditions that support them, are

embedded across all of our efforts, whether we are working in healthcare, public health, domestic violence programs, schools, neighborhoods, or state systems." Here they identified the crucial role the DVPS program plays in educating the next generation advocates and initiating systems change.

Overall, the regional and national contributions of our program continue as our graduates enter higher education and organizations working against gender-based violence. Congratulations to the 2015 DVPS Concentration Graduates—we wish you all the best in your future endeavors. With an active and engaged faculty, committed community partners, and dynamic incoming students, the DVPS program is primed for growth and continued activism.



2015 DVPS Concentration Graduates, with Dr. Jennifer Naccarelli (center), from left to right: Erica Adkins, Nicolette Pellegrino, Shayne Larkin, Brian Eiermann, Elizabeth Velazquez, and Christina Mavrikis

UD Student Activities



"Take Back the Night"

Students Acting for Gender Equality (SAGE) hosted the annual "Take Back the Night" event in April 2015, featuring spoken word artist Kelly Tsai, pictured below with SAGE Executive Board members (left to right, Kelly Scanlan, Naomi Major, Kelly Tsai, Molly Daddono, Gabby Lanzetta, Sarah Stump). This event aims to shatter the silence around sexual assault, bringing students and survivors together for a march around campus and speak out. In October, SAGE partnered with POW (Promoters of Wellness) for the annual "Love Your Body Day" event at the Little Bob. SAGE meetings provide a safe space for students to share their experiences with gender issues on and off campus.

V-Day at UD joins efforts with members of SAGE to bring a voice to feminist issues on the University of Delaware's campus. In March, V-Day hosted the annual Vagina Monologues in March, co-sponsored by Haven, SAGE, VOX, E-25, C.A.L.M and the Longboard Crafting club. Written by V-Day's founder Even Ensler, the play brings together female identified students to perform women's monologues on sexuality, love, strength and social justice. During the Fall semester, V-day held one of their most popular sex-positivity events, Big-O-Bingo, the proceeds going to support Natasha's Justice Project.



Celebration of Community Engagement

Men's Action Network (MAN) strives "to educate our community by bringing various programs to the UD campus, from reaching out to Greek life, to just having discussions as a group about the various ways we see and feel gender roles and violence." In September 2015, President Harry Lewis and Advisor Jo Sampson attended the conference, "Sports Culture: Advancing Its Role in Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention," in Charlotte, North Carolina, where they met Jennifer Seibel Newsom, the director of the documentary *The Mask You Live In*, which focused on

the struggle of boys and young men to stay true to themselves while negotiating America's narrow definition of masculinity. In October, MAN hosted a screening of the film in the Trabant University Center.

Celebration of Community Engagement: In March 2015 Nicolette Pellegrino, Brian Eiermann, and Shayne Larkin (pictured above, left to right) represented the Domestic Violence Prevention Services program at UD's Celebration of Community Engagement event at UD's Clayton Hall Conference Center.



Queer Speculations Conference



Voices of Planned Parenthood

Sexual Offense Support (SOS) is an on-campus group that offers support and resources to survivors of sexual assault. In

October, SOS hosted their second annual 5K, Glow for Hope, at the University of Delaware Green. Volunteers and community

members came out for a fun night, raising money and awareness for the issues of sexual assault and intimate partner violence.

Sexualities and Gender Studies Minor students, with SGST Coordinator Dr. Pascha Bueno-Hansen, attended the Queer Speculations Conference at the University of Maryland in April 2015.

VOX (Voices of Planned Parenthood): VOX members volunteered their time in September at the Planned Parenthood 11th Annual Chocolate and Champagne Festival and Silent Auction in Wilmington, DE. VOX advisor and WOMS faculty member Dr. Marie Laberge (fourth from left, back row) attended the event with student members. VOX also has regular kiosks at the UD Trabant University Student Center, where they give out information about healthy sexuality. VOX co-sponsored V-Day's event Big-O-Bingo this past November.

Staying Connected

Karen Chonofsky (WOMS2014) accepted a position with the National Abortion Federation in August and will be moving to Washington DC. She will be working as a hotline operator, which she says "will give me the opportunity to not only do meaningful work in counseling women, but continue my job search."

Emerald Christopher-Byrd (WOMS 2004) has very recently gone through the process of defending her doctoral dissertation entitled "The Love and Marriage Playbook: Contemporary Guidelines for Black Women in Relationship Advice Literature" at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. This soon-to-be doctor has even managed to return to UD's campus to give guest lectures!

Jaimie Ermak (WOMS 2014) has accepted a position with the National Abortion

Federation in Washington, DC, and began her work there in January! "I met with the CEO and President for my interview and she offered me the job on the spot. I can't thank you enough for pushing me to make the most of myself!"

Katie Feiner (WOMS 2013) began working in May as a Research Associate at

CASAColumbia, the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse.

Alexandra Gawel, Cathy Mulhall and **Caitlin Delcollo** (WOMS 2011), who have remained friends through the years, met in Denver, Colorado in August 2014, wearing their infamous "Feminist" UD senior-year bar crawl t-shirts, "Reclaiming the F-Word."

Laura Reddington (WOMS 2015) has accepted a new position as a Case Manager and Advocate at the Domestic Violence Shelter in Hillsborough, New Jersey.

Yessenia Tolentino (WOMS 2013) is working at the education organization "City Year" in Philadelphia as a teacher and mentor to sixth graders. Yessenia will return to the University of Delaware to begin the Masters Program in Urban Affairs and Public Policy.



Alexandra Gawel, Cathy Mulhall and Caitlin Delcollo

Thank You, Donors!

We are grateful to the students, alumni, alumni families, faculty, and friends who have generously donated to support our department in 2015. Your generosity helps to fund events and activities in Women and Gender Studies, and we thank you.

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Thank you



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