Letter from the Director – Suzanne Scott

Dear Women and Gender Studies Community:

As I approach the one-year mark as Director of Women and Gender Studies, I feel an enormous sense of pride in our program and gratitude for the faculty, staff and students who are passionate about the important academic and co-curricular work we do here. During an economic crisis where women’s centers and women and gender studies programs are being dismantled, I am thankful for a thriving program. As I communicate with my counterparts in universities around the country, I appreciate even more the unique qualities of our program that integrates a flourishing Center’s outreach and co-curricular activities with a rigorous academic program.

The success of Women and Gender Studies lies squarely in the hard work of the people involved! They smoothed out the rough edges of my transition from an active affiliate faculty member to the director of this small but complex program! I am indebted to the core and part-time faculty, affiliate faculty, graduate lecturers, GTAs, associate director, program coordinator, student staffers, and members of the executive committee, all of whom made significant contributions to the program. In this issue of the Matrix, you will read about some of our initiatives and successes. I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks to Vicki Kirsch, Associate Director, and Susan Miller, Program Coordinator, for the roles they played during my transition year.

Vicki expressed her creativity through curriculum development and teaching as well as through innovative programming. Three of her popular courses — “Women, Sex and Psycho,” “Gender, Trauma and Recovery” and “Lesbian Literature” — were all approved by the CHSS Curriculum Committee last fall. In addition, her launching of the “Goat Project” and its various iterations gained the attention of many who would not otherwise have known about Women and Gender Studies. I wish her well in her new role as Assistant Professor of Faculty Practice for the Social Work Department. It is a perfect fit for her, and we will continue to benefit from the creativity she will bring to the program as an active affiliate faculty member.

Susan Miller’s absence from the Women and Gender Studies program created a tremendous hole because she was literally the focal point of the program. She worked here for three years, part of that time without an Associate Director, and she understood every aspect of the program. I often said she was as near perfect as anyone could be in that job. Although we all probably relied on her much more than we should have last year, I am profoundly grateful for her generosity, knowledge, work ethic and speed! Susan is now an advisor in the School of Art, where she has a beautiful office and only one job!

Despite these two significant losses, I am buoyed by the enthusiastic support of students and faculty for the work ahead. I have great confidence in the new team that will be in place this year. Tracy McLoone will serve as Interim Associate Director during the fall semester, and I look forward to working with her in this new role. Christine Hernandez will replace Susan as Program Coordinator, and I am eager to see what new skills and passions she brings to the Center. I enter this second year as Director of Women and Gender Studies with renewed energy and passion for working with students, staff and faculty for the common good!
Welcome Letter from Tracy McLoone

Women & Gender Studies Community,

I’m excited about my new role as Interim Associate Director in Women and Gender Studies: I’m able to combine my loves for interacting with students, making things happen, teaching and scholarship, and in the vibrant George Mason Women and Gender Studies community.

I hope to continue Vicki Kirsch’s excellent work for the program and center and to carry through this transition her positive attitude and enthusiasm for new ideas. I plan to follow her lead in fostering communication within the program and center, and with others in and around Mason, the greater DC-metropolitan area and the world.

Some of you may know me from Women and Gender Studies classes or other programs at Mason, and I look forward to continuing our relationship in this new capacity. With a degree in Cultural Studies, my recent research is based in gender and other aspects of identity, media, girlhood and youth cultures, and consumer spaces and places. I am always excited by intersections of everyday life and theories of gender and identity, and there are few better places to think about this and make things happen than Women and Gender Studies.

I look forward to learning from students, faculty, staff and others, and to working more closely with Suzanne Scott, the amazing student staff and our new Program Coordinator. My door will be open so please come in with questions, thoughts or just to say hello.

Best wishes for a great fall semester,
Tracy McLoone

Farewell Letter from Vicki Kirsch

Dear Women and Gender Studies Community,

It is difficult for me to say goodbye as Associate Director to this thriving and diverse nexus of feminist living as I step forward to my new position as Assistant Professor of Faculty Practice in Social Work. The past three years embodied great opportunity for me personally as the Women’s Studies Program spread her wings becoming Women and Gender Studies and the creation of the new LGBTQ Minor Focus.

While there was a great deal of work involved always done by a passionate team of staffers and faculty, I think we always remember the fun, satisfaction, and amazement at the process and the outcomes of valiant programming. Certainly launching the first Feminist Art Show with Gallery Talk and Feminist Art Panel several months after arriving on this campus from Boston provided a swift transformational initiation. Highlights include bringing our Fall for the Book authors to campus and into our community: Joy Harjo and Stacey Ann Chin. The colossal efforts which combined for the performance of for colored girls who considered suicide/ when the rainbow is enuf and playwright poet Ntozake Shange’s Sojourner Truth Lecture continue to combust and bring forth riches with increased diversity in the Center and Program and the creation of the student org Love Her Fiercely. Launching the Goat Project from our fundraising efforts to our wider relationships with Dorothy Tuma and others including Melanie Thatcher and David Keller and their goats to the Women Entrepreneurs as Peacemakers Conference and our increasing involvement with the Women’s Center for Job Creation in
Uganda – the project has become a nexus for education, feminist praxis and activism and a source of great pride and connection on campus and beyond.

Being Associate Director combines often separate roles of teacher, administrator, university life leader, fundraiser, and the list could go on and on. I want to take a moment to honor the students who took risks in the classroom and their lives especially in my “Women, Sex and Psyche,” “Gender, Trauma and Recovery” and “Lesbian Literature” courses. Thank you for trusting me and each other as we traversed sometimes difficult ground in the classroom and in our personal lives. I also want to honor all of the student staffers with whom I worked side-by-side – their passion and shared belief that what we do is important and matters kept me going.

I have a great deal of gratitude to all the students, staffers and faculty that I had the honor to work with during these years. I will always be indebted to Susan Miller for supporting me in my leadership role and to Nancy Hanrahan for her presence, absolute trust and confidence, and care. Thank you to Suzanne Scott for allowing me to help with her transition as Director during this past year and for assuring me that I will continue to have a role in WGST beyond my move to Social Work.

I am thrilled to see the Center thriving in 2010. I have absolute confidence that Tracy McLoone will be successful as Acting Associate Director this Fall and I look forward to working with her and the community as a Faculty Affiliate. Thank you so much for all that was given to me during my tenure as Associate Director – I hope my efforts and presence made a difference.
Warmly,
Vicki

Fall for the Book 2009: Staceyann Chin

This past Fall, Women and Gender Studies invited Staceyann Chin to join George Mason University at Fall For the Book, an on-campus festival in which writers and artists are celebrated. Born and raised in Jamaica, this out poet and activist has performed Off Broadway, holds poetry workshops around the world, and co-wrote the Tony nominated Russell Simmons Def Poetry Jam on Broadway. Chin performed in a one-woman show called “Hands Afire” in 2000, which ran for 10 weeks at Bleecker Theater. She placed first at the 1999 Chicago People of Color Slam, the 1998 Lamma Poetry Slam, the 1998 and 2000 Slam This!, and WORD: The First Slam for Television. Numerous publications have featured Chin, including magazines A, Everybody, Mosaic, Curve, Venus, The New York Foundation for the Arts’ (NYFA’s) FYI, and Jane, in addition to

“Every day I get better at knowing that it is not a choice to be an activist; rather, it is the only way to hold on to the better parts of my human self. It is the only way I can live and laugh without guilt.”

Staceyann Chin

(continued on the next page)
(Continued from page 3)

newspapers, the New York Newsday, The Village Voice, and Drum Voices. Her individual work has been featured in the Washington Post, the New York Times, the Pittsburgh Daily, Oprah, and even on “60 Minutes.”

Some of Chin’s poetry can be read in Wildcat Woman, the one she now carries on her back, Stories Surrounding My Coming, and various other writings, including Skyscrapers, Taxis and Tampons, Poetry Slam, Role Call, and Cultural Studies: Critical Methodologies.

As Chin read from her memoir, The Other Side of Paradise, members of the Mason community and beyond gathered outdoors to witness this passionate woman tell stories from childhood. The overflowing tent was filled with laughter as she described in explicit detail the confusion she faced when she started her menstrual cycle. She told stories that described a difficult and abusive childhood as well as stories of love, intimacy and healing.

After the reading, Chin signed copies of her book while many gathered up in the Women and Gender Studies Center to await her arrival for a reception and conversation. The reception began with a riveting, brave and heartfelt performance of some of Chin’s poetry by members of the student org Love Her Fiercely. This was a wonderful opportunity to dialogue with this poet, author, activist, and performance artist about issues, concerns and challenges that we all face on this planet as well as specific suggestions concerning life journeys, career challenges, and paths towards healing from sexual and emotional abuse. The tone was direct, humorous, and honest but always with a strong gentleness, passion and compassion.

Rejoice, Remember, and Recycle: Feminist T-shirts from the Past

Everyone loves free and meaningful t-shirts – especially college students. Women and Gender Studies started a new project last fall in which students could receive a vintage feminist t-shirt for free simply by participating in our Feminist T-shirt Drive. It was a way for members of the community to share pieces of their own history with each other in a multi-generational, ethnic, geographical, and politically diverse way. The Women and Gender Studies Center collected t-shirts that were donated by generous feminists who wanted to share their loved shirts with a younger generation of proud females. These shirts could be from feminist events, groups, or contain feminist messages regarding women or men’s health, reproductive rights, gay rights, violence against women, or any other feminist issues. Overall, 26 shirts were donated and displayed around the Women and Gender Studies Center, attracting students and friends from across campus. The shirts were raffled off to students the week of September 7.

Wednesday, November 4
Dinner at 6:00PM
Lecture at 7:15PM

The role of the consumer market in young people’s lives has sparked much public and scholarly debate. Debates over the perils of excess consumption by young people, for example, has been the subject of much concern by educators, parents, policy-makers, and scholars, reflecting anxieties about the shifting place of young people in a rapidly changing cultural landscape.

Markets play an ever-expanding role in the lives of youth, organizing their social spaces and social activities, as they attach themselves to signs that already register as repositories for youth culture and style, yet top-down approaches to understanding youth consumption have often overlooked the agentic possibilities in the consumer realm and the expressive promise of consumer choice seized by youth as they move in and around the market. Hardly unidirectional, youths’ consumer lives have proven to be anything but simple.

This project, focused on youth and food consumption, investigates how food as an artifact of consumer culture is used in context to build and perform group identity, generate and determine category membership among high schooled-aged youth, with attention to explicating how the socio-spatial dynamics of food settings organized by the consumer markets shape these processes. I draw upon observations of several different commercial food settings during the one hour “rush” directly following the close of school each day. Food consumption is central to the leisure and consumer lives of youth, as well as their school and family lives, an important means through which youth draw symbolic boundaries, (along various axes of identity), construct meaning of self and place and use the body as cultural resource to communicate their relationship to each other and spaces they occupy. Food consumption is also a principal means though which American youth gain access to a quasi-public commercial realm since food as commodity is relatively inexpensive. Studying food consumption can tell us much about how young adults negotiate everyday life within and outside commercial markets, the repertoires of meaning upon which they draw, and the relations of constraint that frame their strategies of action.

Dr. Amy L. Best is Associate Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University.

SAVE THE DATE:
Dr. Eden King, Asst. Professor of Psychology, will deliver this year’s Scholar’s Lecture on Thursday, November 4, 2010. Title of Paper: “Diversity at Work: Understanding and Improving the Experiences of Stigmatized Workers.”
Women Entrepreneurs as Peacemakers

On Tuesday, October 20, students, faculty and staff in Women and Gender Studies gathered for a day of discussion entitled “Women Entrepreneurs as Peacemakers.” As part of an ongoing collaboration between the Women and Gender Studies Center and the Women’s Center for Job Creation (WCFJC) through the Bulondo Goat Project, we invited Dorothy Tuma, president of WCFJC, to give a presentation. During her presentation which included slides, Tuma described her journey with WCFJC as well as the impact of the Goat Project, and the other projects that WCFJC facilitates in Uganda.

Finally, to close off the event, Dorothy Tuma, along with Marga Fripp, president of the Entrepreneurship Academy for Artists and Empowered Women International, and Barbara Moller, President of Voices for Global Change and founder of Paper to Pearls, gathered for the Women Entrepreneurs as Peacemakers Panel. Each panelist discussed their journey into the non-profit sector, why their projects are specifically geared toward women, and the effectiveness of self-sustaining development projects for women in contributing to peaceful communities.

The day’s activities also included a catered lunch in the Women and Gender Studies Center, and a market place of women’s arts and crafts courtesy of Empowered Women International and Paper to Pearls.


Following Tuma’s presentation was a panel discussion organized and moderated by two Mason undergraduate students, Alex Gudich-Yulle and Lauren Peery. This panel, entitled Empowering our Future Peacemakers in the Classroom and Beyond brought together local community leaders, Mason faculty, graduate students, and alumnae to discuss strategies of empowering students. Discussants included: Patricia Morris, Executive Director of Peace X Peace, Maneshka Eliatamby-de Silva, PhD Candidate in Conflict Analysis, Samantha Gavagan, GMU alumni, Paul Rogers, Assistant Professor of English, and Julie Owen, Assistant Professor in New Century College.
Celebrations in the Center

Our annual Welcome Week party was a success, celebrating the beginning of the semester with new students and some familiar faces. Friends and Buffy fans gathered in the Women and Gender Studies Center to watch episodes of Buffy the Vampire Slayer while munching on snacks and pizza. Attendees of the Buffy Halloween Party also answered fun trivia questions in between episodes.

The Women and Gender Studies Center's annual Holiday Party was a big hit this year as the Fall 2009 semester came to a close. Mason students, faculty, and staff gathered in the WMST Center on December 9 to celebrate the holidays and the end to a successful semester. In between enjoying delicious holiday treats, many students participated in our "Pin the Tail on the Goat" game, in which generous donations went towards our Goat Project. Fun prizes were distributed to those who participated in the game.

"If all the good people were clever
And all clever people were good
The world would be nicer than ever
We thought that it possibly could!"
Elizabeth Wordsworth
Goats at Mason during Earth Week

On April 28, Women and Gender Studies hosted four Nokesville goats from Arcadia Meadows Farm and their local farmer family, Melanie Thatcher, Dave Keller and their daughter Marjorie. The goats came to Mason’s North Plaza (outside the Johnson Centre) to forge a local connection to the Center’s Goat Project, which benefits women in Uganda, and to raise awareness for the ongoing endeavor. Students enjoyed petting and playing with the goats and were clearly very excited to have them at school.

The main objectives of the goats’ visit were to embody the local-global connection and raise awareness of self-sustainability locally and abroad. The local chapter of Amnesty International also circulated a petition and flyers regarding the current humanitarian issues in Uganda. Visitors who donated any amount received a sticker announcing their contribution and those who donated $50 for an individual goat received a tote bag, a certificate to commemorate their gift as well as a packet containing more information about how the project works and how it is sustained. The day’s total goat financing was incredible. In total, contributions collected at the event sponsored eight more goats for the project; the current total is 56 goats overall since November 2008.

Melanie and David brought four of their goats with them: Quigley, Dusty, Mocha and Jack. One of the highlights of the day was when Dusty insisted on sitting on Melanie’s lap! Everyone who spent time with the friendly adored them, especially the children from the on-campus daycare facility, who were especially enthralled with the animals.

Feminism 10.0

The center began to officially take submissions for the second edition of the feminist zine, entitled Feminism 10.0 (with reference to the year 2010), in the Spring semester. Although the official deadline was the 30th of April, we will continue to take submissions as long as others have them to contribute. The theme we wanted to explore in this edition of the zine was the interaction/s between feminism/s and the body.

Although we have not yet compiled the zine, it is in progress. As of June 2010 we are still accepting submissions, which can be any kind of writing ranging from personal accounts, essays, fiction or poetry. We are also interested in procuring any kind of visual art that is relevant to the subject at hand.

Many of the works that have been submitted for the zine at this point are poems, and several of them deal with eating disorders. Student staffer Rachel Bruns composed a poem about negotiating traditional gender roles alongside personal goals and expectations. There is also an anonymous inclusion of a collection of statistics pertaining to eating disorders, a popular theme in the submissions we have received so far.

Some other themes that staffers and our friends have discussed including in the zine are some of the issues surrounding the trans body and fat acceptance, both of which would be valuable and interesting contributions to the endeavor.
"Of course there's no such thing as a totally objective person, except Almighty God, if She exists." Antonia Fraser (from Paul Gorski)

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**Women and Gender Studies Gender Research Project and Conference**

Third Annual George Mason University Women and Gender Studies Gender Research Conference
Thursday, May 6, 2010, Johnson Center, Meeting Room D

For the past three years, WGST hosted the Gender Research Conference as a vehicle for student researchers in the Gender Research Project and graduate students in the MAIS in Women and Gender Studies to share their work. As always, there was a large and appreciative attendance by students, faculty and staff which cultivated interesting and important discussions. All of the papers from the Gender Research Project are available (for use within the Center) as part of the WGST Library.

**The Program:**


"Where Are Women Going Once They Are Ph.inally D.one? Transitional Experiences of Mason's Female Doctoral Students," Marisa Allison

"The Recognition of Self and Other: Women Returning to School," Andrea Rutan

"Brains, Bodies, and Babies: Experiencing Pregnancy on a University Campus," Sara Moore

"The Politics of Style," Caroline Pendry

"More Than Saving the Trees: Gender Consciousness in the Context of Environmental Activism," Dionne Foster

"Consuming on the George Mason Campus: A Look into the Lives of Female Undergraduate Students and How They Separate Their Material Consumption and School," Lindsay Gutekunst

"Gender, Bodies, and Diversity at the Gym," Youssouf Ouedraogo

**Recent Graduate Student Research in Women and Gender Studies:**

"From Cradle to Pride: How Straight Parents Forge Relationships with Their Gay Sons," Jeff Johnson, Sociology

"Beauty, Dance, and the Aesthetic Ideal," Susan Miller, Women and Gender Studies

"Overlooking Difference: Reagan Era Immigration Reform and the Commodification of Latina Identity," Leah Perry, Cultural Studies

"Emergent Adulthood and the Role of Hooking Up," Jade Perez, Sociology

"Our Bodies, Our (Virtual) Selves," Karen Wolf, Women and Gender Studies.
Leadership Tea

On April 14, 2010, Women and Gender Studies held its Leadership Tea in order to honor students who are heroines/heroes in their own lives as they negotiate challenges - whether familial, financial, academic or work-related - and to support their achievements. Various faculty and staff were invited to submit the name of one student who, by example, embodies the ability to thrive in the context of challenge and contribute to the Mason community. The Tea is also a time for Women and Gender Studies to honor their own student staff, who embody WGST in the Center through their hard work and out in the Mason community. Women and Gender Studies was proud to honor 18 amazing women at the Leadership Tea.

During the award ceremony Rose Pascarell, Associate Vice President, University Life said a few words about leadership, the students, their journeys and their accomplishments before Dr. Vicki Kirsch and Director Suzanne Scott handed out the awards. As awards were presented many of the women present shed tears over their achievements during extremely touching moments. Photographs of both the recipients and their sponsors (photos of the sponsors were often of the sponsors when they were college age) were displayed in a computer presentation while people chatted and ate food. The Tea was successful and a powerful reminder of the truly extraordinary women that are a part of George Mason University.

Marianna Andrade-Bejarano
Karen Bontrager
Tresa Brown
Rachel Bruns
Megan Cipperly
Mollie Connell
Andrea Gooden
Logan Greenwood
Lauren Heath
Yenifer Hernandez
Krisina Lese
Mabinty Quarshie
Danielle Rogers
Juanita Turner
Gwynneth VanLaven
Bessie Vaughn
Lynne Constantine*
Peggy Feeck*  
Paula Gilbert*
Heather Hare*
Vicki Kirsch*
Susan Miller*
Lisa Photos*
Suzanne Scott*

* denotes mentor

Vagina Monologues

For two days during February 5 and 6 women from George Mason University came together and put on a staged performance of the Vagina Monologues by Eve Ensler. The Vagina Monologue performance was a way to celebrate V-Day, a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. The event was sponsored by GMU Sexual Assault Services, GMU Women and Gender Studies, and GMU Office of Alcohol, Drug and Health Education. The cast of the Vagina Monologues were: Chelsea Ashby, Desire’ Bounds, Catie Brusseau, Carina Czipoth, Jamison Giuliani, Anna Jung, Rebecca King, Elizabeth McDougal, Jessica Pipes, Khadijatu Rahim, Miranda Rawson, Gabrielle Rimmaudo, Cristina Schonathaler, Kerry Sheats, Fatima M. Smith, Beth Wherry, Chelsea Withington, and Brittney Wooley.

We were particularly excited this year because several of the performers were WGST Minors and/or members of Love Her Fiercely and/or the Feminist Student Organization. The money raised over the two days of the event were given to Women for Women International, an organization that helps traumatized women rebuild their lives, and Victims of Violence Fund, an organization that helps Mason students who are victims of sexual and domestic violence. Before the performances began there was a ten minute presentation on the women in Congo who turned pain into power. Women in Congo who had been sexually victimized were working together to educate and bring awareness about the troubles by organizing marches and demonstrations in Congo. The performances ranged from hilarious stories like “My Angry Vagina” performed by Chelsea Ashby to serious and heartbreaking like “Say it” performed by Anna Jung. Overall, the event was a night of laughter and tears where people were all together, all talking about vaginas, all night long.

Six Billion Paths to Peace

During the Spring 2010 semester, Women and Gender Studies hosted a Meditation and Creative Transformation Series led by Samantha Doak, a MAIS graduate student with an individualized study track in Creative Consciousness and Healing. Each Monday from noon until 1:30, people from around the university gathered in the Robeson Room for meditation, mindful movement, creative activities and dialogue. Samantha’s project was part of an internship for her program of study, and it was open to faculty staff and students. Her focus in leading the group was on generating kindness toward self and others as well as on developing skills for reducing stress and for personal empowerment. For those who attended, the weekly space became a restorative space for reflection, processing, de-stressing, and laughter.
Reve(a)ling Feminist Art

The Reve(a)ling Feminist Art show took place during Women’s History Month in 123 Gallery in the Johnson Center. Since its inception two years ago, the juried art exhibit only accepted submissions from the Mason community. This year, however, we welcomed art from a local group of women entrepreneurs. Based in Alexandria, VA, Empowered Women International (http://ewint.org/) is an organization geared towards helping refugee and immigrant women learn skills and trades in order to become self-sufficient. In addition, the association encourages its beneficiaries to create and market their own works of art, many of which showcase their cultural backgrounds and life experiences. The jurors for 2010 were Vicki Kirsch (Assoc. Director, WGST), Suzanne Scott (Director, WGST) and Sue Wrbcian (Asst. Prof., School of Art.)

From 3:00pm to 5:00pm on Wednesday, 3 March 2010, the Department hosted an opening event for the Reve(a)ling Feminist Art Show. Both the art show and the ceremony were available to both Mason students and the public. Photographer and Asst. Professor Sue Wirbican gave the Gallery talk about the importance of art in her own life as well as in academia. Most of the artists who submitted pieces for the Feminist Art Show were present to discuss their works, which included paintings, prints, photographs and sculptures. The grand prize winner, Marissa Mack, received a gift certificate to Fairfax’s Plaza Art Supply store. Her impressive series of photographs were of rearranged toy parts meant to comment on and reconstruct queer images and representations of bodies.

The opening event comfortably filled the gallery to capacity with at least 50 people from both within and outside the Mason community, and we estimate that at least 150 guests came to view the art during the course of its display. The next day, the exhibition opened for regular viewing. On the whole, the event showcased the diversity of perspective that contributes to a feminist understanding of both art and the world at large.
Sojourner Truth Lecture: “The Kitchen Table: Recipes for Resistance”

“At the kitchen table, we talk, we argue, we debate, we love, we laugh, we cry! We learn the essentials of critical thought and resistance,” said Toby Jenkins, PhD, assistant professor in the Higher Education Program at Mason and guest speaker for the Women and Gender Studies 2010 Sojourner Truth Lecture.

The event included a song by fellow performer, Alyssa Frances, who sang a moving acapella rendition of Grace Potter’s “Nothing but the Water,” followed by Dr. Jenkins’ lecture and spoken word poem. Her artistic performance blended intellectual concepts from scholars such as bell hooks with a critique of popular culture’s representation of black women to amplify Sojourner Truth’s famous phrase by adding, “Even if I choose to look and behave and believe differently, ‘Ain’t I a Woman?’”

Using her own lived experience as a survivor of breast cancer, Dr. Jenkins spoke of the lessons she learned from her own parents around the kitchen table and the way that training prepared her for coping with the cancer that has invaded her body. Refusing to use metaphors of battle, she spoke about “...loving cancer out of her body.” That does not mean that she doesn’t “resist,” however. She explained that she uses the kitchen table as a metaphor frequently because it is an inclusive place, where everyone belongs. “It is a place of great creativity,” she said. It is a place where we can be empowered. We come together at the kitchen table, and we move into the world. “Through our art—whether it’s my poetry, Grace Potter’s song or the art of Mason students, faculty and staff—we speak, we stand, we resist.”

“The Kitchen Table: Stirring the Pot”

On March 21, 2010 in Mason Hall, The Kitchen Table one day retreat was conducted. Various women from the George Mason community gathered to deconstruct identity, sexuality, and queerness. Professor Toby Jenkins along with her graduate students conducted this event during Women’s History Month. In the retreat the women who participated were asked to make a collage from different magazines based on what womanhood meant to them. Then they were given paper plates and an art set so that they could also paint what their values were. All the artwork was displayed in Gallery 123 to look like a kitchen table where the collages were the mats and the paper plates were placed on top of the collages. Along with doing the artwork, the participants were asked to write a letter to any women who had impacted their life and explain why they were important. The event allowed the women to talk about various stereotypes that they had to deal with and how it made them feel. Through group discussions and personal reflection the participants were on the road to their own self-discovery.
Haiti/Chili Fundraiser

In 2010 two catastrophic earthquakes struck both Haiti and Chile. Haiti was hit with an earthquake in January while Chile suffered in February. The effects the natural disasters left were devastating for the people in both these countries. Many people were without food and water. In response to these earthquakes, the Women and Gender Studies Center decided to host a benefit party for the survivors of these disasters in Haiti and Chile during Women's History month. All proceeds were to be donated to the American Red Cross and Beyond Borders.

The fundraiser party took place on Wednesday, March 31st in the Women and Gender Studies Center. Students and faculty from the Mason community gathered together and generously donated goods and services that were raffled off during the benefit. Various local businesses and other members of the community also donated prizes and services to the raffle. Some of the prizes included artwork (donated by Suzanne Scott), quilts (made by Heather Hare's mom), breads of the month (donated by Vicki Kirsch), cookies of the month (donated by Heather Hare), tarot card readings (donated by Alissa Karton). The biggest prize of them all was an iPod.

The raffling for the iPod and other goods helped to generate donations from people in the Mason community. The Women and Gender Studies Center raised one hundred and ten dollars. The benefit was a success and enabled the Women and Gender Studies Center to help Haiti and Chile overcome their setbacks, and fun was had by all!!

For Colored Girls Performance

For Colored Girls Performance: On May 7th, Love Her Fiercely produced, directed, and performed the second annual performance of Ntozake Shange's choreopoem For colored girls who considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf. WGST student-staffer Mabinty Quarshie wrote about her experience:

As a member of Love Her Fiercely I was extremely excited and nervous that I was a participant of the second annual For Colored Girls Performance. As we picked our parts I chose Lady in Brown and I did one poem as Lady in Blue. During rehearsal and practice it was truly motivating to see my friends and I connect with the characters in the book. At times it was hard because there are parts where we had to be sensual and then switch to being vulnerable and then being outraged. It was especially hard for me because I had to do a part where I was like a child discovering her first hero. I hated it at first because I just didn't know how to connect to my character. As I continued to rehearse and with the coaching of Nanak Boateng, Kadijah Rahim, Karima Scott, and Elizabeth McDougal I really think that I embraced the child within me and connected with my character. Practicing for the performance was a both a time of so much laughter and fun as we discovered the beauty in each story but it was also a time of tears as we discovered the sorrows of some of the stories. The For Colored Girls Performance really connected me with the other members of Love Her Fiercely who also performed because it was a journey to womanhood that we went through together.
Take Back the Night

George Mason students gathered at the clock tower on October 6 for the annual Take Back the Night rally. This event is hosted each year during Turn Off the Violence Week, uniting students, faculty, staff, family, and friends of all races, genders, ethnicities, ages, and backgrounds together for one significant cause: ending to sexual assault and abuse.

This year’s Take Back the Night was hosted by seniors Jess Moore and Brittany Carter. There were many speakers, consisting of Indira Hernand from DC Rape Crisis Center, Dr. Bon, a professor of Women’s Studies at Georgetown and George Washington University, and Elizabeth Prescott, a Mothertongue poet. Representatives from Mason’s Sexual Assault Services and Counseling Center also made their presence known. Members of George Mason’s student group “Love Her Fiercely” also showed their support at the rally, awing everyone with their passion and grace.

One of the most moving parts of this event was the “Speak Out” portion. This was a chance for people to come forward and tell about their experience and have stories heard. Dozens of courageous people came forward, breaking the silence with their spirited voices for over an hour that night. Hearing these stories was powerful and evoked many emotions for everyone present. Therapy dogs were present as a way of soothing those who may have felt overwhelmed by this emotional cause. After the speak out session of the night came to a close, everyone came together for a candlelight march through the dormitories on campus, shouting chants, including “Inform, Express, Unite – Take Back the Night!” Once the march concluded, people moved to the Women and Gender Studies Center for a catered reception.

Take Back the Night was cosponsored by the Feminist Student Organization, Women and Gender Studies, Sexual Assault Services, with additional help from Mothertongue (a D.C. feminist poetry collective), the DC rape crisis center, GMU fraternity Chi Psi, Love Her Fiercely, and Amnesty International.

Myths of Post-Feminism

Around fifteen or so students gathered for a panel discussion entitled “Myths of Post-Feminism” to discuss what post-feminism is, and how it affects current feminist activism. The panelists were Mason’s own, Dr. Leah Perry, Dr. Tracy McLoone, and Jennifer Miller. To begin we discussed the definition of post-feminism: the idea that equality already exists between men and women. This view often dismisses current feminist activism. The panelists as well as members of the FSO pinpointed several examples of how post-feminism shapes perceptions of us as feminists. From there we discussed what it means to identify as a feminist today. Virtually everyone identifies as a different type of feminist. Qualifiers like first, second, third wave, post-wave, queer, Latina, Marxist, anarcha, anti-racist etc. are perfect examples of how feminism has become individualized. Have we outgrown the word? What holds us together? The panel was a great opportunity for members of the FSO to discuss current obstacles facing feminists today to help us brainstorm strategies for the future.
Rough Roots: The Origins and Separation of Black Hair

February 16, 2010
2-4pm Patriot’s Lounge
Keynote Speaker: Ms. Chris-Tia Donaldson, author of Thank God I’m Natural.

Love Her Fiercely hosted a discussion and history lesson of African American hair as a part of our miniseries. We explored the historical context of black hair, a timeline of hair progression in the black community, struggles minority women go through to achieve "Good Hair" (also exploring the definition of "Good hair") and explored Chris Rock’s movie "Good Hair" and how it not only exposed what minority women go through for their hair, but changed the view of minority women in other communities.

From the Kitchen to the Roots: Hair Care Workshop

February 16, 2010
6-8pm in the Patriot’s Lounge

LHF hosted a mini workshop on hair that not only explored how to take care of different textures of hair (from fine to natural) but taught you how to do what you pay the stylists to do for you!!! People came and learned what is good for their hair and what is not (and made their own products!). There were mini makeovers! There was an end-of-event free basket giveaway full of good hair products!!

The State of Black Marriage: From “I do” to “Shacking up”

February 23, 2010
6-7:30pm in Johnson Center Room F

Love Her Fiercely hosted a panel discussion on the present state of black marriage in America. We explored the benefits of getting married, emotional benefits, "shacking up", the meaning of marriage, the image of the new black couple and the historical context of getting married in the African American community. We had multiple professionals and representatives from George Mason University on the panel.
Graduation

Women and Gender Studies hosted a graduation reception on May 14 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm to honor the newly accomplished Minors in Women and Gender Studies. Out of the 21 Minors graduating, five received their Minor with the brand new LGBTQ Focus. Karen Wolf graduated with her MAIS in Women and Gender Studies, and Zayna Bizri received her WGST Graduate Certificate. The Center with overflowing with our graduating students present with their families, friends and lovers.

Dr. Vicki Kirsch and Director Suzanne Scott called the name of each new graduate along with their major program of study to individually honor their accomplishments. Kate Myers received the Award for Academic Excellence in Women and Gender Studies which goes to the student with the highest GPA. Dionne Foster and Megan Cipperly received the Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Women and Gender Studies 2010. This Award is given annually to students who have achieved academic excellence in their program of studies and have also made substantive contributions to WMST through their work on campus and in the community. Each student received a certificate and some gifts from WGST. Among those gifts was a pewter acorn which represents the student carrying their experiences within WGST with them as they embark into the world where the seeds from our program will blossom.

Gifts and certificates were distributed. Each graduate put a candle into the celebratory cake. We lit the candles and blew them out soon afterwards, carrying wishes into the future, and the chocolate covered strawberries went very quickly as usual.

Minors (*LGBTQ Focus)

| Lmya Ahmed | Shizrae Mallick* |
| BC Brittany Carter * | Juan Carlo Martinez |
| Megan Cipperly | Kate Myers |
| Chanel Dority | “Nicky” Nkeiruka Ononiwu |
| Dionne Foster | Kate Ponnozzo |
| Jennifer Geyer | Mandy Shaver |
| Lauren Heath* | Kendall Snyder |
| Yenifer Hernandez | Bessie Vaughn |
| Mary Houlihan | Genevieve Wilson* |
| Carlita James | Andrew Zemlan* |
| Lauren Linton |

MAIS in Women and Gender Studies

Karen Wolf

Certificate in Women and Gender Studies

Zayna Bizri
"To be fully alive, fully human, and completely awake is to be continually thrown out of the nest."
— Pema Chödrön
Lavender Graduation

Women and Gender Studies had a presence at this year’s second Lavender Graduation held on the evening of Tuesday, May 11. The purpose of this graduation ceremony is to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of graduating LGBTQ and Ally students and alumni. Graduates were given a personalized certificate awarding them for their hard work, along with a rainbow tassel and a bag of treats. This year Women and Gender Studies Director Suzanne Scott gave a powerful speech at the ceremony, moving everyone who attended.

One change that was made to this year’s graduation was the addition of the first-ever Brian Picone Award for Leadership and Advocacy Excellence. This award was created in honor of our beloved friend, Brian Picone, who passed away at the beginning of the Fall 2009-Spring 2010 school year. Brian was known for being an activist both on and off campus, advocating against injustice and oppression. Grading undergraduate and graduate students who were outstanding leaders and advocates for LGBTQ equality were nominated for this award. Nominees included Women and Gender Studies student staff Lauren Heath. Recipients of the Brian Picone Award for Leadership and Advocacy Excellence were Shizrae Mallick, graduating senior and WMST minor, and Rebecca Walter, a Doctor of Arts graduate.

Lavender Graduation is co-sponsored by University Life’s Office of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Questioning Resources Office and George Mason University’s Lambda Alumni Association.

"Don’t let positive thinking get in the way of critique, of protest, of anger. Leave it in the bathroom sink, darling”
Brian Picone, on Twitter
Dr. Gilbert Wins Prestigious King Teaching Award

Paula Gilbert, PhD, a core faculty member in Women and Gender Studies and one of the program’s founding mothers, won the prestigious David J. King Teaching Award in spring 2010. The award is presented each year to a “faculty member who has made significant, Longstanding contributions to enhancing educational excellence and building capacity at George Mason University.”

The selection committee based their decision on the following criteria:

- Quality of the student learning experience
- Extent and consistency of contributions throughout the candidate’s Mason career
- Excellent classroom teaching and mentorship, peer mentoring, and innovative work
- Program and curricular development activities
- Impact of teaching, scholarship and creative activities on Mason’s reputation
- Dedication and commitment to the Mason community.

According to Kimberly Eby, PhD, Director, Center for Teaching Excellence and Associate Provost for Faculty Development, “Dr. Gilbert’s contributions are both evident and impressive when examined in light of each of these criteria.”

Congratulations, Paula Gilbert, for this extraordinary honor.
Membership Committee Update

During the last academic year, Women and Gender Studies welcomed 11 new affiliates to our membership roles, and the membership committee worked hard to streamline the membership process and to update our records. The committee is still in the process of sending re-affiliation letters to affiliates asking if they want to commit to renewal for a three-year period.

Many have re-affiliated; a few have made a decision not to renew. Many thanks to Lauren Cattaneo, chair, and Shannon Davis and Eden King who worked hard to last year to streamline the membership process and to update the records. Women and Gender Studies sends a special thank-you to Megan Cipperly, the student staff member who managed the letter-mailing process and maintained accurate membership records on Google.docs. The remaining re-affiliation letters will be sent out during this academic year.

Global, Indigenous and Multicultural Partnership Group

Women and Gender Studies is launching an initiative to link our WGST Program with our Global counterparts; academic institutions and varied organizations. Members of the Global, Indigenous and Multicultural Partnership Working Group including Elizabeth Bernard, Vicki Kirsch and Paula Gilbert met once during the Spring semester to brainstorm ideas and assemble a need and resource survey to be distributed to students, staff and faculty in the very early Fall. The Working Group continues to look for new members – if you are interested, please contact Vicki Kirsch at vkirsch@gmu.edu.

Curriculum Committee Moves New Courses through CHSS

The ad hoc Women and Gender Studies Curriculum Committee approved five new courses and a generic study abroad course number and all were approved by the CHSS Curriculum Committee in time for the 2010 catalog. Thanks to Yevette Richards Jordan, chair, Vicki Kirsch, Rose Cherubin (Philosophy) and Tamara Harvey (English) for their hard work on the committee.

The following courses now have permanent numbers:

- WMST 309 Early 20th Century Black Social Movements
- WMST 310 Women, Sex, and psyche
- WMST 311 The Erotic and the Sacred
- WMST 312 Gender, Trauma, and Recovery
- WMST 390 Study Abroad

In addition, we changed the names (but not the course content) of two courses of the required courses.

Feminist Theory across the Disciplines, WMST 330, was changed to Theoretical Perspectives in Women and Gender Studies; and WMST 308, Introduction to Queer Studies, was changed to Introduction to LGBTQ Studies.
**New LGBTQ Focus**

Women and Gender Studies minors now have an additional option for their academic studies. The program offers a new focus in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Studies. The development of this emphasis grew out of students' interests and requests following Queer Studies and Queer Theory courses offered through Women and Gender Studies.

Students can take a general minor in Women and Gender Studies or one organized with an LGBTQ focus. Both the general Women and Gender Studies Minor and the LGBTQ focus are interdisciplinary and require an introductory course and a theory course. The general emphasis is particularly useful to students whose major interests are in feminist and gender issues. The LGBTQ focus includes courses that incorporate more specifically LGBTQ perspectives into academic study. The minor is a particularly useful complement to a major in any of the humanities, social sciences, health and human services or natural sciences for the student with an interest in gender, sexuality, and/or feminist perspectives. During the 2008-2009 academic year, the Executive Committee established a committee of representatives from several disciplines and programs to discuss the feasibility of an LGBTQ focus and to establish the academic criteria. A smaller sub-committee, which included Vicki Kirsch, Women and Gender Studies; Ric Chollar, LGBTQ Services; Jon Mohr, Psychology; Tracy McLoone, Cultural Studies; and Suzanne Scott, New Century College, finalized the requirements and presented a proposal to the Executive Committee. That proposal was unanimously accepted, and it has been reviewed by the Dean’s office in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS).

Five of our twenty-one 2010 graduates comprised the first graduating class with this focus and 10 current students have declared the focus with many more expected.

**WGST Continues to Forge Relationship with NVCC**

At the end of the spring semester, Suzanne Scott and Vicki Kirsch visited the newly created Women’s Center at Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) in Alexandria for a meeting with several of the faculty who teach courses in Women’s Studies. They visited our Center in 2009 and were inspired then to create a similar space and library.

The goal of the meeting was to discover ways to interest students who graduate from NVCC to consider a minor in Women and Gender Studies at Mason. After examining course syllabi and discussing course content, we left with a plan to establish a pathway for students who have taken one to three specific courses at NVCC to enter our program with 3 to 9 of the 18 credits for a minor in Women and Gender Studies. We have since established those equivalencies.

Our next steps are to forge stronger relationships between the two programs. During the fall semester, we will return to NVCC to speak to the students in the relevant classes and to meet with their advisors to ensure that they know about our program. This re-energized relationship between the two programs complements the existing ties between Mason and NVCC and can potentially strengthen our growing Women and Gender Studies minor.
The Director's Student Advisory Committee

The Director’s Student Advisory Committee (D-SAC) includes undergraduate and graduate students in Women and Gender Studies who meet with the program director once each semester. The informal meetings are designed to provide insight from a student perspective on programs, activism, and academics. Members of the D-SAC, who committed to two years, are Caroline Pendry (WGST certificate program), Marisa Allison (WGST certificate program), Megan Cipperly (MAIS program; WGST concentration), Maryam Sodefi (WGST minor; LGBTQ focus) and Khulan Nyamsaren (WGST minor).

Library Update

The WGST Library is experiencing a makeover – the student staffers spent the summer researching, labeling, ordering, and finally admiring their good work. The Library is now established utilizing the Library of Congress Dewey Decimal System and each book is professionally labeled and classified. Come by and check it out. We are always looking for donations - especially of films and music. With the advent of our new LGBTQ Focus, this is especially true and if you would like to give us a present please check out Women Make Movies (www.wmm.com), frameline.org, ask us for suggestions, or surprise us – we love surprises!

Welcome to Programming Coordinator Christine Hernandez!

We want to welcome Christine Hernandez to Women and Gender Studies as the new Programming Coordinator. Christine comes to us this fall from the University of Pennsylvania where she completed her M.S. Ed. in Higher Education. Her Research Projects included research on Race and the Academy, The Status of Latinos at Elite Graduate Institutions, and The DREAM Act. While at UPenn, she worked as a Graduate Assistant for Upward Bound and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs. Christine earned her BA in English from California State University, Fullerton. Please stop by and introduce yourself to Christine – she is looking forward to meeting you and hearing any programming or Center ideas you have. Welcome, Christine!

WGST Achievements

Prof. Chris Clark-Talley co-chaired a District conference for the Council and Support of Education (CASE) - a professional association for Advancement Professionals. Prof. Clark-Talley serves on the Executive Board of the Virginia Network (a network of women in higher education in Virginia, under the ACE Office for Women in Higher Education) and co-chaired the Senior Leadership Seminar for Va Net.

Prof. Paula Gilbert received the 2010 David J. King award for having had the greatest impact on educational excellence at Mason. She is also nominated by the University for the State Council for Higher Education in Virgina (SCHEV) Outstanding Faculty Award.

Prof. Toby Jenkins was selected as an alternate for the American Association of University Women Publication Grant Fellowship and published the following articles: The name assigned to the document by the author. This field may also contain sub-titles, series names, and report numbers. A Seat at the Table that I Set: Beyond Social Justice Allies, About Campus, v14 n5 p27-29 Nov-Dec 2009 and The name assigned to the document by the author. This field may also contain sub-titles, series names, and report numbers. A Portrait of Culture in a Contemporary America, NASPA Journal, v46 n2 p131-162 2009.

Connie Kirkland, Director of Sexual Assault Services, has become a Senior Trainer with Security on Campus, Inc., providing training to campus administrators on the topic of The Clery Act, the federal law that requires campuses to keep crime statistics with many special considerations for sexual assault cases, including programming and prevention efforts. In April, she was chosen by VA Department of Criminal Justice Services to represent victim advocates as a faculty member at a statewide sexual violence training in Lynchburg. She has also collaborated with a local playwright who has written a new play titled "The Goddess Diaries" and will bring this production to the Harris Theatre on October 9, 2010. This production is a series of monologues about the stages of a woman's life and will include both community members and students as actors, production assistants and directors.


Prof. Janete Muir received the Donald Eckroyd and Caroline Drummond Eckroyd Distinguished Teaching Award, presented by the Eastern Communication Association, in April 2010. This is the highest teaching honor presented by the association.

Prof. Linda Seligman received a grant from the Ruth Landes Memorial Research Fund of the Reed Foundation to update research on women working in the informal market economy of Cusco, Peru, entitled Challenges from the Margins: The Struggles and Calculations of Andean Market Women in Conditions of Neoliberalism, Touristic Ventures, and Populism. She also published the article: Maternal Politics and Religious Fervor: Exchanges between an Andean Market Woman and an Ethnographer. Ethos 37(3): 334-361. 2009.

"Our struggle today is not to have a female Einstein get appointed as an assistant professor. It is for a woman shtreimel to get as quickly promoted as a male shtreimel." Bella Abzug (from Anita Taylor)
Prof. Anita Taylor, co-author M. J. Hardman of the University of Florida, and web designer Cathy Wright have completed and been testing the web publication, *Gender & Language: Making the Invisible Visible*. This collection of 9 chapters leads students through the theoretical bases, application exercises and illustrative case studies that show how gender pervades language rules and use. The materials demonstrate how the deeply buried nature of gender rules result in gender invisibility throughout patterns of communication, and how the very invisibility reinforces hierarchically structured ideas and practices of gender. The web page, currently being used in classes, is available for any WMST faculty members who might be interested in sampling the materials. Contact Anita Taylor at ataylor@gmu.edu. Dr. Taylor is also the author of 3 of the chapters—and one of the women written about—in Our Stories: *Twentieth-century Women Presidents of NCA*, edited by Patti Gillespie, Ed. This is a collection of stories of the eleven women who became president of the National Communication Association during its first 85 years, when it was not ordinary for women to do so.

Nancy Weiss Hanrahan has been selected as a Fulbright scholar to Brazil. She will be teaching a graduate course in “feminist theory for the social sciences” and developing a women studies curriculum for the Department of Sociology and Politics at the Pontificia Universidade Catolica in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The award is for the spring semester, 2011.

Karen Wolf received the MAIS Outstanding Thesis Award for her work *Our Bodies, Our (Virtual) Selves*. Karen’s thesis, an ethnography of Second Life, asks what happens to gender, body, and identity in a seemingly infinitely mutable world where “all elements are defined by the user.” She argues that Second Life allows individuals to explore and perform their gender and sexuality in new ways, while simultaneously relying dominant notions of gendered bodies. Karen also presented her work at the Gender Research Conference, George Mason University, May 2010.

Women and Gender Studies Faculty Affiliates

Amal Amireh
Ann Baker
Sheryl Luzzadder Beach
Debra Bergoffen
Elizabeth Bernard
Robert Bernard
Amy Best
Beth Bullard
Zofia Burr
Suzanne Carbonneau
Lauren Cattaneo
Jane Turner Censer
Sandra Cheidelin
Rose Cherubin
Ric Chollar*
Julie Christensen
Lyneé Constantine
Dina Copelman
Michele Davidson
Shannon Davis
Marion Deshmukh
Pascale De Souza*
Kelly Dunne
Kim Eby
Peggy Feerick
Sheila Flekliott
Pam Garner
Paula Gilbert
Paul C. Gorski*
Sumantha Hamdani
Nancy Hanrahan
Tamara Harvey
Susan Hirsch*
Devon Hodges
Saída Hodžič
Lois Horton
Alma Jadallah
Toby Jenkins*
Yvette Jordan
Deborah Kaplan
Maria Karametou
Alissa Karton
Eden King
Connie Kirkland
Vicki Kirsch
Lisa Koch
David Kravitz*
Samaine Lockwood
Cindy Lont
Laura Mann
Patricia Masters
Jonathan May*
Tracy McLoone
Teresa Michals
Connie McNeely
Karen Misencik
Deirdre Moloney
Janette Muir
Kristen Johnsen Neshati
Ann Palkovich
Ricardo Vivancos Perez
Erin Peters*
Lisa Photos*
Portillo, Shannon
Lisa Rabin
Priscilla Regan
Janine Ricouart
Karen Rosenblum
Renee Sandell*
Ingrid Sandole-Staroste
Linda Schwartzstein
Suzanne Scott
Linda Sellmann
R. Claire Snyder
Peter Stearns
Susan Tichy
Ellen Wiley Todd
Toni-Michelle Travis
Wendy Wagner*
Margaret Yocom
Terry Myers Zawacki

* (new affiliates)

“Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.”
Dalai Lama
Feminist Word Search

Gender  Feminism  Lips
Sex  Breast  Labia
Vagina  Penis  Buffy
Bisexual  Radical  Glee
Lesbian  Theory  Love
Sappho  Body  Global
Gay  Hair  Economics
Queer  Berdache  Spirit
Trans  Desire  Ecology
Intersex  Tongue  Health
Looking Forward to 2010-2011

September 8  Noon-2pm  Welcome Week Party

September 20  4:30  Fall for the Book—Allison Bechdel (reading and reception)

September 24  1:30pm  Fall for the Book—Jennifer Finney Boylen (reading and reception)

October 5  7pm  Take Back the Night

November 4  7:15pm  Scholar’s Lecture by Dr. Eden King, Psychology
                      6pm  Dinner

Spring Semester
Watch for Marjorie Agosin’s visit, lecture and Arpillera Exhibit: book Tapestries of Hope, Threads of Love: The Arpillera Movement in Chile, 1974-1994

Women and Gender Studies Program and Center
4400 University Drive
Johnson Center 240K
MSN 5B6
Fairfax, VA 22030

Phone: 703-993-2896
Fax: 703-993-1808
Email: wmst@gmu.edu
Website: wmst.gmu.edu