

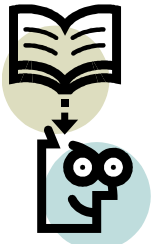


# WSU Women's Studies

October, 2008  
Volume XIV, no. 2



**Becky Johns**



### Women's Studies Reading Group...

We will meet at Priti Kumar's home on Wednesday, November 5 at 3:00 p.m. We will be discussing **"Writing to Change the World" by Mary Pipher**. If anyone needs a ride or address, please e-mail Sandra Powell at [spowell@weber.edu](mailto:spowell@weber.edu) or phone 626-6103.

Please join us to share your thoughts, even if you've been unable to finish reading the book!

If you have questions or comments about our meetings, please let us know (626-7632.)



*"We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some are bright, some have weird names, and all are different colors. But they all have to learn to live in the same box."*

-unknown

*"Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature...life is either a daring adventure or nothing."*

-Helen Keller

*"Being defeated is often a temporary condition. Giving up is what makes it permanent."*

-Marilyn vos Savant

It's hard to believe it is October already—the school year is in full swing, the economic markets are in meltdown and a new president almost in office. We face great challenges and great opportunities.

I am excited about this year's Women's Studies activities and plans. We have a very important retreat on Saturday, Oct. 4 which may decide the future of our program for some time. If nothing else, we will be making some final decisions about curriculum changes and course name changes. I hope to have many faculty and students there.

Our Fall Social is also on Oct. 4 and by the time you get this newsletter I hope I have seen you all there and we have enjoyed one another's company and the gorgeous fall weather we are having.

I am happy to report that our Women's Studies classes are going well this semester and we are on track to graduate about five minors this year, perhaps 6 and 1 BIS student. We graduated 5 minors last year so we are definitely on the upswing on graduations. Our WS 1500 Introduction to Women's Studies classes are doing particularly well. We were able to offer one this last summer semester and have two going this semester with healthy enrollments. Next semester we may run as many as three. If you are interested in team-teaching these courses or want more information about them, please let me know. We would like to involve more of our faculty pool in teaching them.

Please know you can check out our yearly assessment reports by going to Weber State's homepage and clicking on Academic Programs, then Assessment, then Women's Studies. These reports are quite detailed and tell a lot about our program, aims and yearly successes. Thanks to our assessment committee for their fine work on these reports.

I also want to report that one of our BIS students from 2 years ago, Chelsea Wheeler-Whitby, has made application to Texas Tech University for graduate school in Women's Studies. We try to keep track of all of our alums so if you stay in contact with previous students, let us know so we can keep them connected to Weber State and our program.

I want to thank our great instructors this year: Eva Szalay, Kathryn Mackay, Thom Khuels, Adrienne Gillespie and others yet to be identified. We are a great program because of our great faculty. Lisa, our secretary, is a gem and the glue that holds us together. Let's make sure we let her know how much we appreciate her when we see her.

Please be a part of Love Your Body Day October 15 and start planning for a great Women's History Month in March. We would like to have all major plans for this event in place before the semester is over so if you have a speaker or activity in mind for WHM, please pass it on to us and we will start constructing the calendar.

Again, thanks to all of you. Don't forget to vote in this absolutely history-making election and let's make sure our representatives at all levels know how we feel about important issues.



*Three suffragists voting in New York City (circa 1917). The original caption read, Calm about it...the women voters showed no ignorance or trepidation, but cast thier ballots in a businesslike way that bespoke study of suffrage.*

*"No longer should women be denied the right to vote, no longer should women be treated as second class citizens, no longer should women not be allowed to be a citizen at all." Ginny B. Waite*

## Faculty and Executive Council Spotlights

### Faculty Accomplishments

#### **Becky Johns, Women's Studies Coordinator**

Dr. Johns recently had an article published in *The Journal of Communication and Religion*, "Hidden Strategies of Resistance in Female Mormon Missionary Narratives: Two Case Studies," JCR 31 (April 2008) 34-81.

#### **María Parrilla de Kokal, Psychology & Women's Studies Faculty and Executive Council Member**

María Parrilla de Kokal has been selected to deliver the 5th Annual Last Lecture at Weber State University on Tuesday, October 21 in Ballroom A in the Shepherd Union Building. The topic will be "Education: The Key to Freedom".

María will be co-teaching Intro to Women's Studies in the spring with Forrest Crawford. She also regularly teaches several Women's Studies co-listed courses (i.e., Psychology of Women and Psychology of Diversity) which are now web-enhanced. She also continues to serve on the Women's Studies Executive Council, OWCAP, Weber Human Services, WSU Diversity Committee, Annual WSU Diversity Conference, and various department committees.

#### **Judith P. Pratt, Associate Professor, Nursing and Executive Council Member**

Dr. Pratt presented a paper at the Oxford Roundtable in August. The paper was on oppression that limits women's opportunities, focusing on nurses as enablers. Dr. Pratt will be heading to Russia in October where she will be working with other nurses from the United States teaching quality assurance (a process to assure the public that quality care is being provided) and quality improvement methods (a process to assure the new methods of care are always being monitored and introduced into practice) practices to Russian nurses.

### Executive Council Accomplishments

#### **Lisa Araujo, Alumni Representative**

Lisa Araujo, on behalf of the YWCA of SLC, will be presenting on "The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children" at the 6th Annual Child Care Professional Development Conference in Salt Lake City on October 11. For more information visit: <http://www.slcc.edu/ccpdi/profdevconference.asp>.

## October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

One of the earliest signs of breast cancer can be an abnormality that shows up on a mammogram before it can be felt. The most common signs of breast cancer are a lump in the breast; abnormal thickening of the breast; or a change in the shape or color of the breast. Finding a lump or change in your breast does not necessarily mean you have breast cancer. Additional changes that may also be signs of breast cancer include:

- Any new, hard lump or thickening in any part of the breast
- Change in breast size or shape
- Dimpling or puckering of the skin
- Swelling, redness or warmth that does not go away
- Pain in one spot that does not vary with your monthly cycle
- Pulling in of the nipple
- Nipple discharge that starts suddenly and appears only in one breast
- An itchy, sore or scaling area on one nipple

#### **Male breast cancer Symptoms**

- It is important to see a doctor if any of the following changes to the breasts is noticed:
  - A lump or swelling in the chest area
  - Dimpled or puckered skin
  - A nipple that is inverted (facing inward)
  - Redness or scaling of the nipple or breast skin
  - Discharge from the nipple

For more information visit: <http://nbcam.org/index.cfm>

## Upcoming Activities

### **Women's Studies Retreat**

**October 4: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Hoetzel-Hollein Room in the WSU Stewart Library \*\*BREAKFAST PROVIDED\*\***

Faculty and Executive Council Members will meet for the **Women's Studies Retreat** to discuss the future of the program.

### **Women's Studies Fall Social**

**October 4: 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Hoetzel-Hollein Room in the WSU Stewart Library \*\*POTLUCK LUNCH\*\***

Please join Women's Studies for our annual **Fall Social!** This social is for Women's Studies Executive Council members and spouses or guests (or not, your choice), for faculty and for students and partners, children are welcome! This is a potluck, so please bring your favorite goodie to share. Drinks, eating utensils, etc. will all be provided.

### **Love Your Body Day**

**October 15: Noon – 1:00 p.m. Shepherd Union Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room 312 \*\* LUNCH PROVIDED\*\***

In celebration of **Love Your Body Day**, Women's Studies will show a film "The Size of It" (four young women of considerable weight proudly proclaim that they can feel attractive and find love despite the disapproval of society). The film will be followed by a discussion led by Women's Studies faculty.

### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual WSU Diversity Conference**

**October 23: Reception at 6:00 p.m. and Program beginning at 6:30 p.m. - Davis Campus, Room 110**

**October 24: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Union Building**

The 10th annual **WSU Diversity Conference** begins at 6:00 p.m. Thursday evening, October 23 in Room 110 at the Davis Center, and continues on Friday, October 24 at the Union Building from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This year is a celebration of diversity in music. We will be talking about how music tells stories, communicates culture and ties us together. There should be some stirring music as part of the event. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

### **Social Science Emphasis Week – Film: "Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick? When the Bough Breaks"**

**October 29: 1:00 p.m. Wildcat Theater**

In sickness and in wealth: "What connections exist between healthy bodies, healthy bank accounts and skin color? Follow four individuals from different walks of life to see how their position in society, shaped by social policies and public priorities, affects their health. " When the bough breaks: "African American infant mortality rates remain twice as high as for white Americans. African American mothers with college degrees or higher face the same risk of having low birth-weight babies as white women who haven't finished high school. How might the chronic stress of racism over the life course become embedded in our bodies and increase risks?"

### **Congo Awareness Event – Film: "The Greatest Silence"**

**November 5: Noon – 1:00 p.m. Kimball Arts Building, Lindquist Hall, Room 120 \*\* LUNCH PROVIDED\*\***

**7:00 p.m. Two Speakers from "Friends of the Congo" followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> showing of film (same location)**

In collaboration with **STAND**, Women's Studies and Feminist United Network will show a film "The Greatest Silence" (Since 1998 a brutal war has been raging in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Over 4 million people have died. And there are the uncountable casualties: the many tens of thousands of women and girls who have been systematically kidnapped, raped, mutilated and tortured by soldiers from both foreign militias and the Congolese army. The world knows nothing of these women. Their stories have never been told. They suffer and die in silence. In *The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo* these brave women finally speak.) The film will be followed by a discussion led by Women's Studies faculty.

## Women's Studies Scholarship Recipients 08/09

We are pleased to report that scholarships were awarded to six Women's Studies minor students for the 2008/09 academic year! Two full-tuition scholarships and two partial-tuition scholarships were awarded from the Phoenix Achievement Scholarship fund for both fall and spring. In addition, two textbook scholarships were awarded from the Traditional Scholarship fund for both fall and spring.

During the 2008/2009 academic year, we hope to acquire additional funding for scholarships; this would enable us to make additional awards in the 2009/2010 academic year.

Scholarship applications are available in the Women's Studies office in SS381 for both the Phoenix Achievement Award (for non-traditional students) and the Women's Studies Traditional (for recent high school students) Scholarships. Applications are due February 6, 2009 to be considered for the 2009/2010 academic year.

**Faculty members, please help us by encouraging students who qualify to apply for aid.** We look forward to having many applicants this year!

### **Scholarship Donations:**

If you are interested, or if you know someone else who might be interested, in making a contribution to our Women's Studies Traditional Scholarship or other funds, or if you would like to set up an additional scholarship, please contact the Women's Studies office at 626-7632 or 626-8049.





**Find out more about Women's Studies, take a Women's Studies course this Spring:**

**CORE:**

Intro to WS  
 WS 1500 CRN32018 (Ogden-Day)  
 WS 1500 CRN32019 (Ogden-Night)  
 WS 1500 (Davis)

Feminist Theories  
 WS 3050 CRN32011

Research Methodology  
 WS 4050 CRN32013

Research Project  
 WS 4060 CRN32014

Directed Readings  
 1 credit – CRN 32015  
 2 credit – CRN 32016  
 3 credit – CRN 32017

**CROSS-LISTED:**

ENGL 2710 Perspectives in  
 Women's Literature

ENGL 3730 Middle Eastern  
 Women

PSY 3100 Psych of Diversity

*More classes may be added,  
 please see Class Schedule for  
 full course details and  
 offerings.*

**Upcoming Events:**

Major Fest 2008  
*(details to follow)*

## Free Legal Advice!

**Women's Studies** is proud to offer FREE legal advice to all WSU students from a long-time practicing and licensed Utah attorney.

Beginning October 6, appointments will be available twice a month, on the first and third Monday of the month, from 3:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Please call the Women's Studies office at 626-7632 (or stop by SS381) for an appointment and location.

## Suggestions/Comments Are Welcome

We value your input!

If you have any suggestions for activities you would like to see sponsored by Women's Studies, including films, panel discussions, etc., and/or to offer comments and/or suggestions regarding the newsletter, please contact the Women's Studies office (626-7632.)



**We're on the Web!**

See us at:  
[www.weber.edu/womenstudies](http://www.weber.edu/womenstudies)

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**Affiliations:**

National Women's Studies Association (NWSA)  
 The Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW)