



Weber State University

# Women's Studies

NEWSLETTER

December 2009  
Volume XV, Number 1

## Coordinator's Corner

Dear Women's Studies Supporters,

This is a time of change in Women's Studies. Dean Richard Sadler, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, is officially retiring. He has been our Dean, since our inception, 19 years ago. We are grateful for his support and wish him well as he returns to the classroom. Women's Studies will serve on the search committee for the new Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Current economic challenges force us to take a hard look at our programs. While Women's Studies celebrates its past, we keep a watchful eye on the future—where we are and where we want to be. Eric Ashby helped us with our WS retreat **SWOT process**, allowing us to begin a dialogue about the strengths and weaknesses in Women's Studies. We need your help to continue this dialogue. To this end, please send your answers to the following questions to [CaraAngell@weber.edu](mailto:CaraAngell@weber.edu):

First, list 3-5 aspects of the Women's Studies program that you feel are our greatest strengths. Feel free to be open and honest with your critique.

Second, list 3-5 of our greatest weaknesses. Again, please feel free to be open and honest with your critique.



Please also look at your schedules and your desire to **teach for Women's Studies**. We are always in need of some teachers for Fall/Spring/Summer semesters and are happy to talk with your Chairs to see if we can pay for an adjunct to cover a class for you. This could allow you to teach "in load." If you cannot teach, please check with us for projects you can help with.

March is **Women's History Month**. Please help us make this month visible i.e., by showcasing women's contributions in your discipline. Check with your college

representative on the WS Executive Council. The 2010 theme is: Writing Women Back into History.

Another task we are working on for 2010-2011 school year is our **20<sup>th</sup> year celebration**. It is hard to believe that the WSU Women's Studies Minor was founded 20 years ago! We are working with the Diversity Conference Planning Committee to have a conference as part of our celebration—a conference that will include a multi-discipline poster session for WSU students.

This semester has been awe-inspiring. In this season of gratitude, I am grateful for a couple of things in Women's Studies. Firstly, although various departments have experienced budgetary cuts, our budget remains unchanged. For this I am grateful. Secondly, I am grateful for you. I want to thank you, the backbone of this program, for all the support you provide. It is because our program depends on your reliable support that I can ask for assistance and direction and know that you will all be there.

—Maria Parrilla de Kokal

### *In this issue...*

- 2 New Employee Spotlight
- 2 Curriculum Committee
- 3 Scholarships
- 3 Women's History Month
- 3 Women's History Month
- 5 In Their Own Words



### Help us go green!

If you'd like to receive this newsletter in electronic rather than paper form, please send an email to [CaraAngell@weber.edu](mailto:CaraAngell@weber.edu).

*Spring 2010  
Courses Offered*

**Core:**

WS 1500 - Intro to WS  
CRN 31222 (TR 12—1:15 PM)  
CRN 31227 (R 5:30—8:15 PM)

WS 2900 - Topics in WS  
CRN 24923 (Time TBA)

WS 3050 - Feminist Theories  
CRN 31231 (MWF 10:30—11:20 AM)  
CRN 34541 (T 5:30—8:10 PM, Davis)

WS 4060 - Research Project  
CRN 24922 (Time TBA)

WS 4830 Directed Reading  
CRN 34698 (1 credit, Time TBA)  
CRN 34699 (2 credits, Time TBA)  
CRN 34701 (3 credits, Time TBA)

WS 4860 - Internship in WS  
CRN 34696 (1 credit, Time TBA)  
CRN 34697 (2 credits, Time TBA)

**Cross-Listed:**

SOC 3130 - Sociology of Gender  
CRN 32006 (TR 12:00—1:15 PM)

COMM 3090 - Gender & Communication  
CRN 31690 (TR 9:00—10:15 AM)

ENGL 2710 - Perspectives in Women's Lit.  
CRN 32960 (TR 9:00—10:15 AM)

ENGL 3730 - Middle Eastern Women Writers  
CRN 33079 (TR 10:30—11:45 AM)

PSY 3100 - Psychology of Diversity  
CRN 31538 (M 5:30—8:20 PM)

*Please see Class Schedule for full course details.*



## New Employee Spotlight

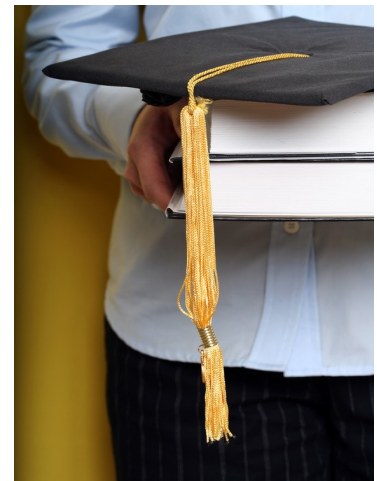
If you've been by the Women's Studies office lately, you may have noticed a new face. Cara Angell joined the program in October as secretary. A recent transplant from Spokane, Washington, she brings a wealth of administrative experience gained from her years of working in the fund-raising offices of Habitat for Humanity-Spokane, Hospice of Spokane, and Whitworth College, where she earned her bachelor's in music education. Her skills have already been put to good use, helping to plan for both Major Fest and the Women's Studies Retreat at the Davis Campus. She is excited to jump in and embrace the challenge of learning the ropes in her new position.

Just married this past summer, Cara enjoys spending time with her husband, Dan, and dog Ginger. Her hobbies include volunteering, cooking, recording music, and exploring the local hiking trails.



## Curriculum Committee Update

The curriculum committee, Adrienne Gillespie, Becky Johns, Michelle More (chair), Judith Pratt, and Eva Szalay, is working on creating template syllabi for WSU's Women's Studies courses. The purpose of template syllabi is to assure consistency in WS courses regardless of who teaches them. The standardization of syllabi will greatly aid in the assessment of WS courses for departmental and external reviewers. The template syllabi prompt instructors for all required information for the class such as instructor contact info., schedule of topics, and assignments. Additionally, each template includes what the learning outcomes are for each class and it prompts the instructor to tag her assignments with the learning outcomes that are assessed for each assignment. Another item, that the curriculum committee is discussing what texts should be used for each course. The curriculum committee welcomes all sug-



gestions. If you have any ideas, please contact Michelle More at [mmore@weber.edu](mailto:mmore@weber.edu) or 801-626-7810.

—Michelle More

# Scholarships for 2010/2011

We are now accepting scholarship applications for the 2010/2011 academic year. **Please note that the deadline has changed, and is earlier than in previous years.** In addition to the online Weber State University Scholarship Application, students will need to submit a paper application to our office no later than Monday, January 11, 2010.

Two Women's Studies scholarships are offered for students participating in the program. The Phoenix Achievement Award is for non-traditional women students 25 years of age or older. The Traditional Scholarship is usually awarded as a textbook scholarship for students age 26 and under. If you know of any students who might qualify for these scholarships, please encourage them to apply! Applications are available outside the Women's Studies office, SS303, or by calling (801) 626-7632.

## *Women's History Month*



March is Women's History Month, and the theme for 2010 is "Writing Women Back Into History." We are currently in the process of planning our calendar of events, including those sponsored by the Women's Studies program as well as others from all over campus. **We would like to be as visible as possible, but in order to do so, we need your help.** Please notify us if you have any ideas or if you know of any films, speakers, displays, activities, etc. held during March that pertain to women's issues and concerns. Also, showcase women's contributions in your discipline (ideas can be as simple as a poster or bulletin board in your area).

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## Be a Part of the Future of Women's Studies

Your feedback can help us direct our course. Please list what you feel to be our three to five greatest strengths and three to five greatest weaknesses. You may use the form below (send via campus mail, Attn: Women's Studies, MC 1217), or email your response to [CaraAngell@weber.edu](mailto:CaraAngell@weber.edu). Thanks for your help with this important project!

### STRENGTHS

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### WEAKNESSES

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Call For Faculty

**We are always in need of some teachers for Fall/Spring/Summer semesters and are happy to talk with your Chairs to see if we can pay for an adjunct to cover a class for you. This could allow you to teach "in load." Please notify the Women's Studies office (ext. 7632) if you are interested or know of a faculty member who might be.**

### Women's History December Highlights

(from nwhp.org)

- Dec 10, 1869** - Wyoming is the first territory to give women the vote.
- Dec 5, 1935** - Mary McLeod Bethune creates National Council of Negro Women in Washington, D.C.
- Dec 10, 1938** - Pearl S. Buck is the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature.
- Dec 7, 1941** - Capt. Annie Fox receives the first Purple Heart awarded to a nurse for her service under attack at Pearl Harbor.
- Dec 14, 1961** - President's Commission on the Status of Women established to examine discrimination against women and ways to eliminate it.
- Dec 28, 1967** - Muriel Siebert becomes the first woman to own a seat on the NY Stock Exchange.
- Dec 19, 1974** - The National Assn. of Women Business Owners is incorporated in Washington, D.C.
- Dec 14, 1985** - Wilma Mankiller is sworn in as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma - the first woman in modern history to lead a major Native American tribe.
- Dec 13, 1993** - Susan A. Maxman becomes first woman president of the American Institute of Architects in its 135 year history.
- Dec 17, 1993** - Judith Rodin is named president of Univ. of Pennsylvania, the first woman to head an Ivy League institution.



### *Executive Council*

#### Members:

**Melina Alexander**  
(Education)

**Erik Ashby**  
(Davis Campus)

**Vel Casler**  
(Applied Science & Technology)

**Forrest Crawford**  
(Asst. to Pres. For D.V.)

**Adrienne Gillespie**  
(Diversity/Unity Center)

**Becky Johns**  
(Former WS Coordinator)

**Ranee Johnson**  
(Community Representative)

**Summerhaze Lee**  
(Alumni)

**Ruby Licon**  
(Library)

**Carol Merrill**  
(Women's Center)

**Michelle More**  
(Science)

**María Parrilla de Kokal**  
(Social Science/WS Coordinator)

**Sandra Powell**  
(Business)

**Judith Pratt**  
(Health Science)

**Richard Sadler**  
(Dean Soc/Behavioral Sci.)

**Carrissa Sinnott**  
(Student FUN President)

**Eva Szalay**  
(Arts & Humanities)

#### Alternates:

**Sumiko Anderson**  
(Community Representative)

**Julie Buck**  
(Diveristy)

**Paul Eberle**  
(Health Science)

**Alicia Giralt**  
(Arts & Humanities)

**Hanalee Hawkins**  
(Student Affairs)

**Francis Mcconaughy**  
(Health Science)

**Leah Murray**  
(Social Science)

**Julie Rich**  
(Social Science)

**Louise Salmond**  
(Health Science)

**Sarah Stanton**  
(Women's Center)

**Michael Stevens**  
(Business)

**Carla Koons Trentelman**  
(Social Science)

**Amanda Manchester**  
(Student FUN VP)



*In Their Own Words...*

Because the heart of any program is its students, we're introducing a section focusing on WS Minors that we hope to make a regular feature. This issue we are highlighting one of our graduating seniors, Amanda Manchester. Congratulations, Amanda, and we wish you the best with all that you do!

## My Time With Women's Studies

When I was asked to jot down my thoughts on my time spent here at Weber State, it took me a moment to realize that yes, and unfortunately, it truly is over. I cannot even believe how fast it has gone by and here I am, about to graduate with my bachelors in history and women's studies and I feel at a loss for words. So here goes. I'm supposed to reflect and impart worldly advice, or something like that, so bear with me...

Essentially I came to Weber with the full intention of studying history. For many semesters I had put off even thinking about a minor, until one day I realized that my major credits were finished and without a chosen minor, there would be no degree rewarded.

After perusing a number of promising minors in the Weber State catalog, I was still having difficulty committing to one. I chose instead to take a risk and to go with my gut; I signed up for the feminist theories course as it fit my schedule and seemed fascinating to say the least. It also counted as a political science elective in case I

decided to go in a different direction, so I did have ulterior motives in case it didn't work out. It was taught by the remarkable Dr. Sandra Powell, from the business department, and while it was indeed challenging, it was also highly rewarding. I decided that perhaps women's studies was the place for me.

During the course of my studies here at Weber, I have been ever fortunate to have worked with some of the best and brightest professors. I'm taking something from each of them and while the history department is truly fantastic, it's such a largely populated department and it sometimes feels impersonal. The women's studies department is so

opposite in that it's a much smaller, intimate setting and each professor knows you personally. It's comforting to know that you can ask as many mundane questions or send as many obnoxiously inquisitive emails and receive a respectful and supportive response.

Perhaps the best thing about the women's studies program is that it has interdisciplinary cross-listed courses which makes it highly complimentary to a broad range of ma-



jors. It has allowed me to dabble in courses that I would not have even perused had I not been in the program. It offers history courses as well as psychology, sociology, anthropology, nursing, health, social work, business, law, political science and communications.

Where to go from here? Well I'm not exactly sure to be honest. I hope to one day attend grad school pursuing a master's in women's studies or library science. I don't see post-graduate school happening in the very near future, but who knows? Ultimately I will be thrilled that I have my degree in hand and had not only a blast earning it, but that I acquired it here at Weber. No, really.

—Amanda Manchester

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*“... I have been ever fortunate to have worked with some of the best and brightest professors.”*

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**Weber State University**  
**Women's Studies Program**  
1217 University Circle  
Ogden, UT 84408-1217

## Calendar

**Wed. Jan. 13, 12:30 pm, SS137**  
Executive Council Meeting (open meeting)

**Wed. Feb. 3, 12:30 pm, SS137**  
Executive Council Meeting (open meeting)

**March**  
Women's History Month—Various Events TBA

**Wed. Mar. 3, 12:30 pm, SS137**  
Executive Council Meeting (open meeting)

**Mon. Mar. 8**  
International Women's Day

### *Your Input is Welcome!*

Have an idea for an activity you'd like to see sponsored by Women's Studies (films, panel discussions, speakers, etc)? Have a comment or suggestion for the newsletter? We'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at the Women's Studies office at (801) 626-7632.

### *Our Mission*

Women's Studies is devoted to the academic study of the roles, contributions, and scholarship of women. Women's Studies explores issues of ethnicity (including what has been historically termed race), class, sexual preference and gender as they impact women's lives in a variety of cultural contexts. It promotes new areas of research, discovers lost contents of human history, identifies women's place in contemporary life, and encourages a sense of empowerment among students through analysis of their commonality of experience. The women's studies minor prepares students to pursue graduate work or employment in professional and community organizations, with emphasis on critical self-reflection and responsible decision-making.

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### **Weber State University** **Women's Studies Program**

1217 University Circle  
Ogden, UT 84408-1217  
Phone: (801)626-7632 - Fax: (801) 626-7130

**Email/Website:**  
womenstudies@weber.edu  
www.weber.edu/womenstudies

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