

WMS Newsletter

University of
Massachusetts
Dartmouth

women's studies program

Fall 2006

Faculty News

Each fall, the Women's Studies Program newsletter highlights the work of Women's Studies affiliated and jointly appointed faculty at UMass Dartmouth.

Michael Baum's, Associate Professor in Political Science, and Ana Espírito Santo's article "As Desigualdades de Género na Participação Política em Portugal: Uma Perspectiva Longitudinal" ["The gender gap in political participation in Portugal: a longitudinal perspective,"] will be published in the edited volume (André Freire, Marina Costa Lobo and Pedro Magalhães, Eds.) Eleições e Cultura Política: Portugal no Contexto Europeu [Elections and Political Culture: Portugal in the European Context], Lisbon, ICS Press in 2006. Baum also served as MA thesis advisor to Ms. Ana Espírito-Santo (ISCTE, Lisbon) who successfully defended her thesis with distinction in July 2006. The title of her thesis (translated from the Portuguese) is "Beyond the

Cherries on Top: Political Parties, Quota Debates, and Gender Equality in Portugal."

Shari Evans, Assistant Professor in English, presented her work on Toni Morrison, titled "'Endless Work' and Wide-Open Spaces: The Ethics of Home in Toni Morrison's *Paradise*," at the Northeast Modern Language Association conference in March 2006, as well as her work "The Space of Memory in the Poetry of Joy Harjo" at the South Central Modern Language Association conference in October 2005.

Catherine Villanueva Gardner, Associate Professor in Philosophy, has been invited to speak at a conference on Gender and Genre at the University of Sydney in December 2006.

Catherine Houser, Professor and Chair of the English Department, is a contributing writer to a new anthology on creative nonfiction, *Now, Write!* edited by Sherry Ellis. Her essay, "To Quote, or Not to

Quote" will be part of the collection, scheduled for publication by Tarcher/Penguin in 2007.

Shannon Jenkins, Assistant Professor in Political Science, published "10 Years After the Revolution: 1994 and Partisan Control of Government." (with Douglas D. Roscoe, John Frendreis, and Alan R. Gitelson) in *State of the Parties*, edited by John C. Green and Daniel Coffey. Prof. Jenkins presented her work at the Midwest Political Science Association. In addition, Prof. Jenkins developed her focus in service learning, presenting at the American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference in February 2006 and receiving a Chancellor's Public Service grant for a pilot service learning project where political science students worked as tutors in New Bedford public schools.

Susan Krumholz, Associate Professor in

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Faculty News (cont.)

Sociology and Director of Crime and Justice Studies, is teaching a class at the Bristol County House of Corrections that is part of the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, bringing together in a classroom UMass Dartmouth students and residents of the House of Corrections. Prof. Krumholz is currently teaching male residents, and she hopes to teach a future class on the women's side of the jail. In addition, Prof. Krumholz was elected president of the Justice Studies Association, a not-for-profit membership association established to foster progressive writing, research, practice, and activism in all areas of criminal, social, and restorative justice.

Cristina Mehrtens, Assistant Professor in History, attended "Fazendo Gênero 7 – Gênero e Preconceitos," ("Making Gender 7 -- Gender and Prejudice") an international conference at the Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC) in the city of Florianópolis in August 2006. There, she presented her work "Illegal Dreams: The Trajectory of Brazilian Immigrant Working Women in the New Bedford Region, Massachusetts, United States," which examines the formation of immigrant social practices, identities, transnational exchanges, and their coping with the pressing urban issues of transportation and housing.

Juli Parker, Director of the Women's Resource Center and WMS Affiliated faculty, defended her dissertation entitled "Liberating Women, A Play in Three Acts and Contextual Essay: Is Feminist Theatre a Method of Social Change?" in June 2006. Prof. Parker will officially receive her Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences in late October 2006.

Jeannette E. Riley, Associate Professor in English and Women's Studies, presented her most recent work on Adrienne Rich at the Northeast Modern Language

Association conference in March 2006. Once completed, the article length version will be published in '*Catch if you can your country's moment: Recovery and Regeneration in the Poetry of Adrienne Rich*', (edited by William Waddell, Cambridge Scholars Press, 2008.)

In January 2007, Assistant Professor in Sociology/Crime and Justice Studies **Robin Robinson**'s article "It's not easy to know who I am." Gender salience and cultural place in the treatment of a "delinquent" adolescent mother will be published in the journal Feminist Criminology. In addition, Prof. Robinson organized the Girls and Society Symposium and the Second Annual Girls in the Social Margins, Girls in Conflict with the Law Regional Conference in May 2006 at UMass Dartmouth's Advanced Technology & Manufacturing Center.

Marie Sauro, Assistant Professor in Psychology, co-authored "The role of stress and personality factors on health and high risk behaviors in young women" with Prof. Teal Pedlow, Assistant Professor, Psychology, which was published in *Women and Girls Criminal Justice News* in 2006. Prof. Sauro received a Healey Foundation grant for her project Brief Motivational Enhancement Intervention to Promote Cardiac Rehabilitation Enrollment in Minority Women, as well as an Ora M. De Jesus Gerontology Center Grant for her project, Use of Motivational Interviewing to Promote Cardiac Rehabilitation Attendance in Elderly Women. In addition, Prof. Sauro was recently named National Institutes of Health Center for Minority Health & Health Disparities Scholar (for research on health disparities in minority women).

Sarah Teasley, Assistant Professor in Art History, presented a paper at the International Committee on Design History and Studies 5th Conference in Finland this August, and was elected

Vice-President of the Design Studies Forum, a College Art Association affiliated society. She also organized a session on "Architecture and Graphic Design" for the Society of Architectural Historians annual conference in Savannah in April 2006, and co-led a textile history summer course in Japan in June.

Bridget Teboh, Assistant Professor in History, is the co-author of "Dialoguing Women: Challenges of Being African and Conducting Research on African Women and Gender," which is forthcoming in 2006 in *Africa After Gender: An Interdisciplinary Reader* (Eds. S. Meischer and C. Cole; Indiana University Press). Prof. Teboh also presented her work "Biography of a Healthcare Practitioner and Woman Politician: Herstory: The Life and Times of Esther Dassi, a.k.a 'Madame Maternity'" at the 48th African Studies Association Annual Meeting in November 2005, as well as her "Of Books and Representation: African Women Researchers in the Grips of a Publishing Dilemma," at the Institute for English Studies London Conference on Reaching the Margins: the Colonial and Postcolonial Lives of the Book, 1775-2005 in December 2005.

SIREN 2007

POETRY FICTION NON-FICTION
ARTWORK

Siren is a literary journal dedicated to the awareness of women's issues.

- ◆ Type and double space all submissions (except poetry)
 - ◆ Include name, address, phone number and email.
- Submit pieces to Prof. Catherine Houser (Gr. I-340) AND e-mail to siren@umassd.edu

Accepting Submissions from STUDENTS, FACULTY & STAFF

THEME TO BE ANNOUNCED

Congratulations 2006 Graduates!



Nicole DiFabio, Jen Riley, Brooke Syvertsen

Nicole DiFabio and Brooke Syvertsen, Multidisciplinary majors in Sociology and Women's Studies graduated along with Shelby Chapman, Multidisciplinary major in Sociology/Crime and Justice Studies and Women's Studies in May 2006.



Nicole DiFabio

Alumni News

Nicole DiFabio (B.A. WMS/ANT) is currently working for the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology (CPST) in Washington, D.C. as a research assistant (www.cpst.org). "If I hadn't changed my major to Women's Studies and Anthropology, my time at UMass Dartmouth would not have been nearly as valuable. I don't think I completely understood what sort

of knowledge and development I had been fortunate enough to experience through great Women's Studies and Anthropology professors."

Sarah J. Briggs, a 2005 multidisciplinary major in Women's Studies and Sociology graduate, is currently attending UMass Boston's Women in Politics and Public Policy Graduate Program. This year long program requires 250 hours of

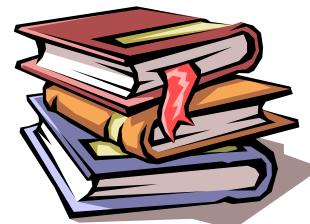
internship work in the Boston area, as well as seminar courses.

Dawna Cosme, a 2006 WMS minor graduate, worked as an intern this past summer at the National Women's Studies Association. Her article "Representations of Feminism" can be found in the Fall 2006 *NWSAction* publication.

Book Scholarship for WMS Minors

The Women's Studies Program has an annual scholarship available to all Women's Studies minors: The Dr. Janet Freedman Women's Studies Book Scholarship award for \$250 to offset the cost of books for one semester. Dr. Freedman, the previous director of Women's Studies, firmly believed in the need for a WMS Program at UMass Dartmouth. Her work established a foundation for the program, and in her name we are continuing to ensure the commitment

of the WMS Program to students pursuing the minor. If you are a Women's Studies minor and a returning student for the Spring 2007 semester, you may apply for this award. Please contact Claire Travers in Group I-321 (c1travers@umassd.edu) or Jen Riley in Group I-339 (j1riley@massd.edu) for the scholarship application and more information. The deadline for all scholarship applications is December 8, 2006. **APPLY TODAY!**



**Become a Friend of
Women's Studies and
make a contribution to
one of our two program
funds**

Fundraising

Checks can be made payable to the UMass Dartmouth WMS Freedman Scholarship Fund **OR** the UMass Dartmouth WMS Program Fund. Please fill out this form and return with check.

**Women's Studies Program, UMass Dartmouth,
285 Old Westport Road, Group 1, Room 321,
N. Dartmouth, MA 02747**

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Email _____

Women, Writing and Media Going on Online and On the Air

Students in Women, Writing, and Media (ENL/WMS 370, a cross-listed writing course in English and Women's Studies) study and write about issues related to gender representation in various media. They explore a wide range of writing situations including journalism, commentary, and the argumentative essay and they are encouraged to publish their work in campus publications. This fall, Professor Houser is moving students into applying those writing skills in electronic media, including radio and the Internet. With help from a University

of Massachusetts Professional Development Grant, this project will include providing students with MP3 players for the semester and access to the cutting-edge technology for creating podcasts. Students will turn their research into radio essays, then record them for podcasts and regular broadcast on the UMass radio station WUMD. With RSS feeds of each podcast online, students in the Women Writing, and Media course will literally be broadcasting their writing to the world.



Upcoming Course Profiles for Spring 2007

WMS/HST 316: Gender in Medieval and Renaissance Europe

Professor Matthew Sneider's course will focus on the history of women in the late Roman Empire, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Reformation/Counter-Reformation. This class will also focus on how these periods understood and enforced gender difference. Last semester his students were particularly excited about the wide variety of primary sources they were exposed to such as saints' lives, marriage contracts, sermons, law codes, guides for witch hunters, aristocratic portraits, medical treatises, and much more. Prof. Sneider recommends students have a history background before entering the course, but it is not absolutely necessary.

WMS/ARH 390: Gender in Design History

This course, taught by Professor Sarah Teasley, examines the influence of gender on the production, reception, representation and use of design through a series of case studies in the history of design, including graphic, product, interior, fashion and architectural design, since 1850. Topics will include: the effect of gender on designers' professional experience, both for male and female designers; gender and taste; gender and product marketing; gendered depictions in advertising; feminism and design; sexuality; and the possibility of "gender-free" access raised by universal design. The majority of examples will come from twentieth century North America and Europe, however Prof. Teasley will also look at historical moments and conditions in Asia and possibly other sites depending on student interest and knowledge.

HST/WMS 368: History of Feminist Thought

Professor Catherine Gardner plans to teach this course to examine some misconceptions and new ideas about feminist thought. Many people think that feminist thought began in the 1960's. This is not the case! What can be called proto-feminist thought can be found in the writings of some of the women philosophers of ancient Greece. This course will begin with their work and trace the history of feminist thought up to the early 1900's. The class will also explore the ways in which some early feminist thought and activism intersected with other political movements, such as the anti-slavery movement of the 1800's.

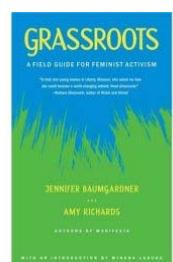
Speakers Who Speak Out!



From left to right: Jen Riley, Amy Richards, Jennifer Baumgardner, Juli Parker

On October 18th, the authors of *ManifestA* and *Grassroots: A Field Guide For Feminist Activism* were here to share their knowledge, life stories, and personal views of feminism. Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards were experts in telling it like it is. "Feminism is a lens in which you view the world" Baumgardner commented. Both women have worked for *Ms.* Magazine and continue to spread

their word through books and other publications. For more information visit www.soapboxinc.com



Fabulous Feminist Unite! By Anna Lisa Vust

As the 2006-2007 school year gets underway, the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance is once again up and running. As part of the National Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, the UMass Dartmouth campus Feminist Majority chapter works in pursuit of feminist ideals: social, political, and economic equality for all people. We work with professors on campus and feminist students to enhance the feminist community by studying, taking action, and educating the UMass Dartmouth community about women's issues and rights. A year ago we started FMLA, and since then we have had numerous events such as pay equity bake sales, faces of feminism, tabling for Human Rights Awareness Week, and most importantly talking to different women's studies classes about our organization. With help from our advisor Juli Parker, who is director of the Women's Resource Center and a part of the Women's Studies facility, we continue to grow and learn about ourselves, and about other women. For this semester, we are focusing on the upcoming election with the get out the vote '06 campaign, taking part in the Women's

“...we continue to grow and learn about ourselves, and about other women.”

Resource Center events (which we encourage everyone to take part in), and having different discussions at our meetings. We encourage anyone to get involved and see why feminists are the majority. Our mission is to get people to learn and open up their eyes about issues surrounding women which a lot of the time goes unnoticed. I feel as though we are a group of people that come together once a week to enjoy each other's company. What I sincerely want for this chapter is more people to open their eyes and embrace feminism and I encourage anyone to join our organization because the truth of the matter is women's rights are human rights. We always welcome new members! Our meetings are Wednesday Nights, Group 1, Room 111.



FMLA Tabling



FMLA's Vice President Anna Lisa Vust and President Elizabeth Early



Left to right: FMLA's President Elizabeth Early; Secretary, Allison Pringle; Anna Lisa Vust, Vice President

WMS Minor Course Offerings for Spring 2007: Jan. 29th–May 23rd

Course	Title & Description	Instructor	Time
WMS 101	Intro to Women's Studies -Basic concepts and perspectives in Women's Studies, placing women's experience at the center of interpretation.	Prof. E. Lehr	MWF 10-10:50
WMS 101	Intro to Women's Studies	Prof. E. Lehr	MWF 12-12:50
WMS 101	Intro to Women's Studies	Prof. H. Berggren	TR 12:30-1:45
WMS 101	Intro to Women's Studies	Prof. H. Berggren	TR 2-3:15
WMS/HST 207	U.S. Women's History -Survey of the history of women—black, and white, native and immigrant, rich and poor—in the U.S. from colonial times to the present.	Prof. B. Mitchell	TR 8-9:15
WMS/ENL 246	Women Writers -Examination of the relationship between the woman writer and her work through a study of literature by and about women.	Prof. B. Jacobskind	TR 11-12:15
WMS 309	Third Wave Feminism -Course examines the First and Second Waves of the women's movement in the U.S. Then, attention turns to the Third Wave, the term given to the feminist movement from 1990 forward.	Prof. J. Parker	T 4:00-6:30
WMS/HST 316	Gender in Medieval and Renaissance Europe -How pre-modern European societies understood, represented, and enforced gender difference.	Prof. M. Sneider	MWF 1-2:15
WMS/HST 318	Women's Autobiography -Examines the lives of various women in the U.S., Great Britain, and elsewhere both from a literary and historical perspective.	Prof. B. Mitchell	W 1-3:30
WMS/ENL 347 Honors	Freedom in Women's Eyes -Advanced study of a specialized topic chosen by the instructor.	Prof. L. Kamm	T 3:30-6:00

WMS Minor Course Offerings for Spring 2007: Jan. 29th—May 23rd

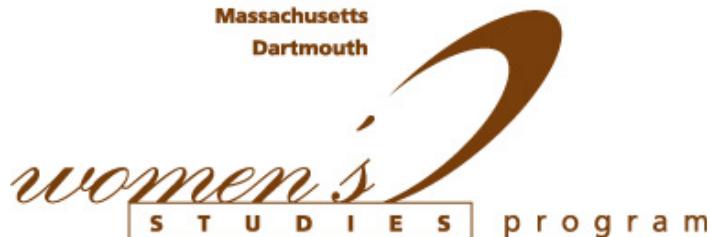
Course No.	Title & Description	Instructor	Time
WMS/ANT 351.01 Honors	Anthropology of Women: Sexuality, Religion, and Health in the Luso-African Atlantic - Focus on cross-cultural construction of gender through the lens of women with a specific geographic focus on the Luso-African-Atlantic (West Africa, Atlantic Islands, and Brazil).	Prof. I Rodrigues	TR 9:30-10:45
WMS/ANT 351.02	Anthropology of Women: Sexuality, Religion, and Health in the Luso-African Atlantic	Prof. I Rodrigues	TR 2-3:15
WMS/ANT/SOC 359	Men and Masculinity - The social construction of male identity and culture. Male sexualities, relationships, sports, health, work, violence, warfare, and changing male culture are explored.	Prof. P Reeve	M 3-5:30
WMS/HST 368	History of Feminist Thought —Examination of proto-feminist thought from ancient Greece to the early 1900's. This course will also examine the ways in which some early feminist thought and activism intersected with other political goals and movements, such as the anti-slavery movement or the pacifist movement. The goals of activists movements and an analysis of their different methods will be examined.	Prof. C Gardner	TR 11-12:15
WMS/ARH 390	Gender in Design -Examination of the influence of gender on the use of design.	Prof. S. Teasley	TR 9:30-10:45

Nothing To Do During Intersession?

WMS 101: Introduction to Women's Studies will be offered during the intersession online. In other words, the course will take place completely via a WebCT Vista course site. There will be three required meetings, but you can "attend" the class virtually from any computer from wherever you are located. This course examines women's lives, experiences, and issues in the United States. Through the class readings and discussions, we will explore a number of different perspectives about women and men ranging from gender roles to economics and workplace issues to sexual politics and reproductive rights. Our goals in the course are to gain an understanding of how the field of Women's Studies has evolved; learn feminist approaches to academics and world issues; analyze the intersections of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, class, religion, and age on women's identities and issues; recognize the value of personal experience and activism; and develop our own informed perspectives on the course materials. Join us!

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The WMS Director's Report



Dear all,

It's that time of year in the Fall semester as the Women's Studies Program publishes its bi-annual newsletter that highlights faculty accomplishments.

Once again, our faculty demonstrate that they are active in their disciplines and contributing through presentations, publications, and other projects that show their investment in the academic community and beyond. Moreover, our year is off to a successful start with over 100 people attending the talk by

Manifesta and *Grassroots* authors Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards. Drawing on the energy from this turnout, we're busy planning a speaker's series for the spring semester that I hope you'll keep an eye out for and attend some events. These types of events result from the fact that the Women's Studies Program at UMass Dartmouth continues to grow in visibility and numbers, all of which I attribute to our great faculty and students. Also, on my end, I'm pleased to report that we've been busy developing the curriculum and proposal for a major in Women's

Studies. At this time next fall, I hope to be writing with news that the WMS major has started at UMass Dartmouth!

Best wishes,

Jen Riley
Director, Women's Studies
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J1Riley@umassd.edu

We're on the Web!
<http://www.umassd.edu/wms/>