Welcome to the Third Wave

by Megan Gauthier

We who were born in the late 1970’s and early 1980’s have caught the third wave. We are surfing the tides of a feminist revolution: we are redefining what the word “feminism” means. We are a product of the first and second waves that came before us, which are marked by activist movements.

The first wave, which began in the 1830s and ended in 1920, culminated around the campaign for women’s suffrage. The second wave, which began to ripple in the 1960s and ended in the early 1980s, was more concerned with the reconstruction and elimination of sex roles and the struggle for equal rights.

While these issues still affect us today, the third wave is taking a small break from radical activism and using this time to reflect and regroup. We are using the freedom we have gained through the first and second wave to make the personal political and to make the internal external.

“We are using the freedom we have gained through the first and second waves to make the personal political and the internal external.”

The third wave gives a new face to feminism. A genderless face. A colorless face. A face that expresses every discrimination we have suffered. We want to cater to people of all genders, races, sexualities, classes and backgrounds. We want to eliminate the idea of “women’s issues” and turn them into “human issues,” by speaking up and giving all issues a voice. We want people to know that we have been oppressed in some way, shape or form, and that we’re not ashamed to talk about it.

Our leaders have created grassroots movements to inform the public and give us voice. Our leaders have focused on issues of sexuality, reproductive rights, reclaiming derogatory terms, involving ourselves in global politics and examining and criticizing the way we are perceived and treated in society.

We are giving a new face to feminism. A genderless face. A colorless face. A face that expresses every discrimination we have suffered.

For more information on third wave feminism, visit: www.3rdwwwave.com, or sign up for Professor Riley’s Spring ’08 class WMS 306: “Third Wave Feminism.”
WMS Changed My Life
By Emily Mears

When anyone asks me how I feel about the Women’s Studies program at UMass Dartmouth, I always reply by saying “I changed my life.” As a freshman, I took “Intro to Women's Studies” with Professor Jen Riley. Initially, I signed up for the course because I needed to take a class over winter break to avoid a situation where I might be caught up in a class and a class that would also satisfy my social sciences requirement. Over the course of those three and half short weeks, I had learned more about women's studies than I had in the three and half short weeks before. I had learned more about life in a single-mothered household than I had lived a very unsheltered life in a single-mothered household that was filled with domestic violence and alcohol abuse. As a way of coping with the problems, I turned to food. In the eighth grade, I had joined 4-H and we raised almost 250 pounds. I have lived through experiences that many other American women have suffered and survived.

Women in the Fishing Industry
The focus of the 2007 New Bedford Working Waterfront
By Kim Wilson

This September, New Bedford presented the fourth annual Working Waterfront Festival. The focus this year was on the often hidden but creative contributions of women in the commercial fishing industry. New Bedford is ringed in on the coast and is filled with new dollars earned from fishing, with what $850 million dollars that is invested into our community and employing over 3,500 workers from New Bedford, Fairhaven, Dartmouth and surrounding towns.

However, many do not know the role women play in many key areas — from skipping vessels to manufacturing gear, from running settlement houses to processing fish, and from advocating for the industry to working in fisheries science; and from owning boats to running shore side business. The UMass Dartmouth Labor Extension Program participated again this year by facilitating a panel on women in shore side industries. This panel was to create new opportunities for women who are responsible for dividing up the proceeds of the catch and making sure that they are not overfishing. As a type of gender bias, women were forced to take care of the workers. The panel included those who spoke lines and others who create nets. Organizer Laura Orleans, a local fisherwoman, is the heart and soul of the festival and shows us another way to bring women together. She created new opportunities for women in our community and our economy.

For more information about the Labor Extension Program, contact Kim Wilson, Labor Extension Coordinator at the Labor Extension Program, contact Kim Wilson, Labor Extension Coordinator at 508-997-8878, or e-mail her at kwilson@umassd.edu.

Ellen Bravo

Ellen Bravo, a nationally acclaimed and long-time activist for working women, visited UMass Dartmouth on October 17 to discuss pay inequity. Ellen Bravo, a nationally acclaimed and long-time activist for working women, visited UMass Dartmouth on October 17 to discuss pay inequity. The presentation was hosted by the Women’s Resource Center, the Women’s Studies Department and the Labor Extension Center, and drew in over 70 audience members to listen to Ellen speak.

In promotion of her most recent publication, a book entitled Taking on the Big Boys: Why Feminism is Good for Families, Business and the Nation, Bravo educated listens on the wage gap between men and women. Bravo educated listens on the wage gap between men and women. She dropped many shocking statistics about wage disparities, noting that the “Big Boys” claim the wage gap is disappearing, but women still earn only seventy-six cents for every dollar that men are paid, and noted that “the gap is greater for those with the best education and longest work time.” Bravo offered many needs to be “redesigned from the floor up.” Bravo advises women to collaborate with one another and to stand up for what they believe is right, which may be achieved through the five R’s: reach out, research, rehearse, rogue and regroup.

Evelyn Murphy

On Thursday, October 25, the second annual Women’s Leadership Breakfast took place in the Woodland Commons at UMass Dartmouth, and was co-sponsored by the University, the Women’s Fund and the New BedfordYWCA (women’s physical well-being association). The breakfast, which drew over eighty community and campus community patrons, revolved around the topic “women as wage earners” and posed the question “How much are you worth?”

The breakfast honored keynote speaker Evelyn Murphy, author of Getting Even: Why Women Don’t Get Paid Like Men – and What to do about it, and-founder of the Women’s Project. The breakfast was filled with students and faculty at a reception dinner at UMass Dartmouth’s campus. The DOSA Programming Committee, Frederic Douglass Unity House, Women’s Resource Center, Health Education, SAIL, Student Affairs and Campus Services to share her emotionally three and half short weeks, I had learned more about life in a single-mothered household than I had lived a very unsheltered life in a single-mothered household that was filled with domestic violence and alcohol abuse. As a way of coping with the problems, I turned to food. In the eighth grade, I had joined 4-H and we raised almost 250 pounds. I have lived through experiences that many other American women have suffered and survived.

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WMS Faculty and Affiliate News

Michael Baum, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Computer Science, published an article in Portugal at the Pólis in 2002 (Lanham, MD) along with Ana Espírito Santo entitled “Exploring the Gender Gap in Portugal: Women’s Political Participation,” in Freire, Andre and Marina Costa in 2007.

Professors Memory Holloway and Lisa Maya Knauer, presented papers at the fourth Biennial Association for the Study of the Worldwide Africa Diaspora, held October 9-12 in Barbados. Their session, “Consuming Slavery: The African Atlantic Diaspora and Tourism,” examined the ways in which objects, festivals and museums ‘sell’ the idea of slavery. Dr. Knauer’s paper was on Cuban festivals and items made for the tourist trade. Dr. Holloway read a paper on “Slave with Iron Muzzle,” that analyzed control and veneretion of the slave Anastacia.

Catherine Houser, Professor and Chair of the English Department, wrote a creative nonfiction essay entitled “Enduring Images,” which will be published in the 2008 anthology of My Life at the Gym: Female Experience of Participating on Community Through the Body (SUNY Press), edited by Jo Malin. Anna Kloebucka, Associate Professor of the Portuguese Department, published a Portuguese translation of her book The Portuguese version of a National Myth (Bucknell UP) in 2006 in Lisbon. In 2007, she helped produce two books, Ponte de Encontro: Portuguese as a World Language, a beginning language textbook from Prentice Hall (as lead author) and Play in the Construction of Corporate, Gender, Sexuality, a collection of critical essays on the poet Fernando Pessoa, published by the University Press of America (as contributing co-editor). She also read a paper at the conference of the American Portuguese Studies Association in Minneapolis entitled “The Lopes” and another one at the annual convention of the Modern Language Association in Philadelphia.

Lisa Maya Knauer, Assistant Professor Sociology/Anthropology, contributed a chapter on “Audiovisual Reminiscences and Transnational Subjectivities” to an edited volume, Cuban Culture of the Special Period, forthcoming from Palgrave Press (2008). Her article “Afro Cuban Religion, Museums and the Cuban Nation” will appear in a volume she co-edited entitled Race, Nation and Empire in Public Space (Duke University Press). She also has an article on “The Politics of Afro Cuban Cultural Expression in New York City” that will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies.

Susan T. Krumholz, Associate Professor and Director of the Criminal Justice program, published an article in the 2006 SNESL law review along with Dennis Roderick, entitled “Much Ado about Nothing? A Critical Examination of Therapeutic Jurisprudence” (L.J.).

Yoon Soo Lee, Associate Professor of Art and Design, was featured in the exhibit “Two Person Show,” at the MPG Contemporary Gallery in Boston, in 2006. The following year, she was accepted to the Worcester Artist Group Show, curated by MassMoCa’s Nato Thompson, who awarded her with the second place Junor’s Prize. In 2007, Lee was featured in “Access: A Feminist Perspective, National Juried Exhibition” at the Rhode Island Schaller Studio in New York City.

Robin Robinson, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, has been granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Her paper, “Fighting to Survive: Understanding Girls’ Violence the Attachment and Object Relations Theories,” was presented in Italy at the Annual Conference of the Justice Studies Association in Newport.


Catherine Gardner, Associate Professor in Philosophy and Women’s Studies, and Jeannette E. Riley, Associate Professor in English and Women’s Studies, co-authored “Breaking Boundaries: Ecofeminism in the Classroom,” which was published in the Radical Teacher in 2007. In addition, Riley’s “The words are maps: Locating Citizenship in the Poetry of Adrienne Rich” appeared in The Interdisciplinary Reader” (Indiana University Press).

Odessa Carbonell graduated in 2004, and has since enrolled at Roger Williams University, School of Law. She is currently finishing her third and final year of law school with an anticipated graduation date of May 16, 2008, which she is very excited about. Along with law school, she has been working to raise three children, who are 15, 7 and 4. She has also continued her involvement with public service work and temporarily volunteered as a rape crisis/ domestic violence advocate at a local women’s shelter. Since starting law school, she has been involved in immigrant rights through agencies such as the International Institute of Rhode Island and Catholic Social Services of Fall River. She credits the WMS program for having had a great impact on her life, influencing her to commit her time and energy to serving those in our community who are often voiceless and powerless. After law school, she plans on opening a private law firm, dedicating a portion of her practice to immigration law and family law and also plans to continue pro bono activities.

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Wendy Andre graduated in 2004 and has since enrolled at Roger Williams University, School of Law. She is currently finishing her third and final year of law school with an anticipated graduation date of May 16, 2008, which she is very excited about. Along with law school, she has been working to raise three children, who are 15, 7 and 4. She has also continued her involvement with public service work and temporarily volunteered as a rape crisis/ domestic violence advocate at a local women’s shelter. Since starting law school, she has been involved in immigrant rights through agencies such as the International Institute of Rhode Island and Catholic Social Services of Fall River. She credits the WMS program for having had a great impact on her life, influencing her to commit her time and energy to serving those in our community who are often voiceless and powerless. After law school, she plans on opening a private law firm, dedicating a portion of her practice to immigration law and family law and also plans to continue pro bono activities.

Jamie Dale graduated with a major in Sociology and a minor in Women’s Studies. She has been working for Blue Cross Blue Shield since October 2006 and deals with the public every day. She is a member of the “Blue Crew,” which contributes to a nurturing atmosphere including participating in the Walk for Breast Cancer. She has not yet begun her graduate degree, but plans to in the near future. She asserts that being part of the Women’s Studies Program at UMass Dartmouth taught her many skills and tools that she uses in the “real world.” She loves her job, and notes that within the company, women are really given equal opportunity and also showcases how much work can contribute to the profession and how they make the BCBS such a successful company.

Nicole DiFabio graduated with a degree in Women’s Studies/Anthropology in May 2006. After graduation, she actively searched for jobs that would complement her education, unwilling to simply settle somewhere that did not require the use of both of her concentrations. Since graduating in 2006, Carbonell has been very involved in reproductive rights and voting. She married last Halloween and immediately went on a year of service with Women’s Ventures, co-authored “Breaking Boundaries: Ecofeminism in the Classroom,” which was published in the Radical Teacher in 2007. In addition, Riley’s “The words are maps: Locating Citizenship in the Poetry of Adrienne Rich” appeared in The Interdisciplinary Reader” (Indiana University Press).

Kathe Howe graduated in 2004 with a degree in English and a minor in Women’s Studies. After graduating, she immediately began to complete her Masters in English literature at Rhode Island College, where she produced her thesis “Isolation and Community in Short Story Collections by Z.Z. Packer, Jhumpa Lahiri and Mary Gaitskill.” She acknowledges her interest and involvement with the newly evolving WMS program and claims that the WMS classes she took nurtured her desire to study gender issues, which is reflected in both her thesis and three other publications which focus on different issues pertaining to female literary characters.
Amanda LeBlanc graduated in 2005 with a minor in Women’s Studies. During her time at UMD, she served as a student representative on the Women’s Studies Executive committee and worked at the Women’s Resource Center. She is currently working toward a Master’s degree in Women’s Studies at the University of South Florida. She plans to eventually get her Ph.D. in the communications field and become a feminist scholar. She would like to thank the faculty and staff of the WMS Department for inspiring her and being such an important part of her education.

Katelyn Lincon-Besse currently works as a Branch Administrator for Nestle Waters N.A., and plans to go back to school to receive a masters in education. Since graduating from UMass Dartmouth, she has married and resides with her family in Pembroke Pines, Florida. She asserts that the WMS program changed her life, admitting that before becoming involved in the program, she was unaware of the pedestal that men are placed on in our society merely because of their gender. She now constantly challenges the patriarchy in her every day life, and hopes to pass on her feminist values and education to her daughters.

Melissa Plunkett graduated in 2004 with a minor in Psychology, and a Women’s Studies minor. She is currently attending Simmons College and working towards a Master’s degree in psychology and education to her daughters. While she is not currently working in a WMS-focused occupation, she has been actively searching for a position in that field. She also attends meetings and films on the areas of activism and feminism at the Lucy Parsons Center in Boston. She loves Women’s Studies and all that it encompasses, and strongly believes that the personal is political, which she incorporates into her art and her speech. When her business takes off, she hopes to organize events that involve the arts and feminism that raise social awareness.

Anna Lisa Vust graduated in 2007 with a major in psychology and a minor in Women’s Studies. She moved to Minnesota in June to live with her aunt and uncle and look for a job. She decided to go to a temp agency, and was hired for a position as a support associate for Capella University in downtown Minneapolis, which she hopes will become a full-time job. She would like to thank Women’s Studies for changing her life. It was such a great experience being a WMS minor and taking the really worthwhile classes. A lot of her thinking when it comes to certain social, political or cultural issues stem from her feminist view, and she cares about women’s issues very much. She loves learning more about women’s causes, and currently holds Breast Cancer and Violence Against Women as two of her biggest concerns. She hopes to volunteer for a women’s organization while in Minnesota. Ultimately, however, she plans to get her Master’s in psychology.

Spring ‘08 WMS Course Highlights

**Men and Masculinities** SOC/ANT/WMS 359
Prof. Penn Reeve

In this course, we will examine the social construction of male identity and male culture in U.S. society. What behaviors and attitudes do men share? What are the variations in male behavior and attitudes defined by race, class and sexual orientation? How do these attitudes and behaviors affect women and other men? Topics include growing up male, sexualities, relationships, male bonding, sports, male violence, warfare, men’s health, work and changing male culture.

**Women’s Studies Internship WMS 399**
Prof. Heidi Berggren

Women’s studies’ students put feminist theory into practice. Over the course of one semester, students earn academic credit by working in area public, private or non-profit organizations that provide services for women. Students work under supervision of a women’s studies faculty member and a sponsor at the selected organization. Requires students to keep a journal of daily experiences and to write a final reflection paper. Students must work a total of 140 hours in their internship. For more information, contact hebergren@umassd.edu

**Third Wave Feminism WMS 306**
Prof. Jeannette Riley

This course examines the First and Second Waves of the women’s movement in the United States. Then, our attention turns to the Third Wave, the term given to feminist movement from 1990 forward.

Through readings, research, and a community service learning project, we will analyze the contributions and future of women’s rights and issues in the United States, with a particular focus on women of color in the Third Wave, a group often excluded from the First and Second Waves of the women’s movement.

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**Sex Roles and Politics PSC/WMS 332**
Prof. Heidi Berggren

In this class, we will examine how and how much gender matters in politics, how it should matter, and other debates primarily by applying Lynne Ford's concept of the "paradox of gender equality" to the various facets of women's and men's involvement in politics, including participation at the movement and mass levels, political leadership and public policy. The primary methods of instruction consist of lectures and structured discussions of the required readings. There will be films and group research projects and presentations.
Greetings from the Women’s Studies Program! I’m happy to report that the WMS Program continues to grow at UMass Dartmouth as we enter our 30th year. Not only do we continue to have an active group of WMS minors, I am also very pleased to announce that on October 19th, the Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Women’s Studies Major. This major is now available for any student seeking to major in WMS or to add a double major to their current degree program. The approval of the WMS major involved a two year process, and my thanks go out to the WMS faculty and affiliates who contributed their time, energy and ideas.

In other news, as you see here, our newsletter has been redesigned by this year’s WMS intern, senior WMS minor Megan Gauthier. In addition, a newly designed WMS website will be unveiled in late November 2007 that includes information about the new major, as well as a section for alumni to send in information about their work and experiences after graduation.

Finally, here’s the most exciting news...on February 7, 2008, the Women’s Studies Program and Women’s Resource Center is thrilled to announce that Gloria Steinem will spend the day at UMass Dartmouth in celebration of the new WMS major. After visiting with students and joining in on a few WMS classes, Ms. Steinem will deliver a talk at a fundraising dinner that will establish a WMS scholarship endowment fund. Please save the date. I hope you will attend the event and contribute to the endowment fund as we work to establish a resource for current and future WMS students.

Best,
Jen Riley,
Director, Women’s Studies