

11-2011

## Women's Studies Newsletter 11-2011

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# Women's Studies Newsletter

November 2011

## News from the Director:

It's official! After years of hard work, the Women's Studies Program is part of the new School of Cultural and Critical Studies. On May 6, 2011, the BGSU Board of Trustees voted in support of our proposal to create the School. This semester the four units that make up the School (American Culture Studies, Ethnic Studies, Popular Culture, and Women's Studies) have started to build the scaffolding that will house our intellectual community. The process of selecting the first School Director is underway, as is the search for a tenure track Assistant Professor who will be jointly appointed in the School and the Department of Popular Culture.

We are also in the final stages of proposing the new undergraduate curriculum for all majors in the School of Cultural and Critical Studies.



If approved, all Women's Studies (and ACS, ETHN, and POPC majors) will take a set of four core classes that will introduce them to service-learning, research methods, and interdisciplinary theory. This semester, I have the pleasure of teaching WS 3710, the beta-version of the School-level service-learning course, CCS 3710 Gender, Race, & Culture in Community-Based Practice. The students in this class are organizing a Girl Power! Empowerment Conference that seeks to promote college access for 7th – 10th grade girls from Northwest Ohio. We are working with organizations that primarily serve populations of color in Northwest Ohio including the Toledo-based Adelante Latino Resource Center and the Perrysburg Heights Community Center. I hope you will agree that this is an exciting initiative that really speaks to the importance of Women's Studies to undergraduate education at Bowling Green State University.



**Enjoying our Women's Studies community with Dr. Mazey at this year's fall reception for newly hired and newly promoted women faculty.**

Last, but certainly not least, Women's Studies looks forward to working with President Mary Ellen Mazey, BGSU's eleventh President. We were very happy that she could join us at the reception welcoming new women faculty and honoring recently tenured and promoted women faculty in September. For more on that event, please see page seven.

Susana Peña

# Letter from the Undergraduate Coordinator

## News from the Undergraduate Coordinator:

Greetings!

This fall semester is full of wonderful additions to our undergraduate program. First, roll out the red carpet: our new Sexuality Studies minor is here! Undergraduate students can now officially enroll in Sexuality Studies at BGSU. As previously announced, the minor consists of 21 credit hours. The only required course is WS 2610: Introduction to LGBT Studies. Students select the remaining credit hours from a list of courses housed across the University.



**Adeya Pinnix and Sarah Smith-Rainey, McNair Award Winners!**

We are also unveiling a few new courses. Dr. Jamie Stuart will be teaching our first Sexuality Studies Special Topics course (WS 3510) this Spring semester on the topic “Gender and Sexuality in Visual Culture.” We are also rolling out two new Inquiry courses that will be part of the new general education curriculum. WS 1920Q is called “Gendering Arts and Humanities” and it introduces students to various humanities methods of inquiry in Women’s Studies; WS 1930Q is called “Women, Culture, and Society” and it introduces social science methods of inquiry in Women’s Studies.

Finally, Shayna Noonan (double major in Women’s Studies/Ethnic Studies) has been interning in Women’s Studies this semester. She has been a wonderful “addition” (albeit temporary) to our program, and she is currently working on a wiki that will provide information to undergraduates who want to pursue a graduate degree in Women’s Studies.

I hope your fall semester is brimming with good classes, friends, and activities too!

Sarah Smith-Rainey

## **CRITICAL PEDAGOGY FOR FEMINIST & ANTI-RACIST LEADERSHIP** 3 CREDIT HOURS

THE SUMMER WORKSHOP IS DESIGNED TO EXPOSE STUDENTS TO CRITICAL PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES THAT SEEK TO EMPOWER STUDENTS, ELIMINATE SEXISM AND RACISM, AND CULTIVATE STUDENT LEADERSHIP SKILLS.

**JULY 9TH THROUGH THE 20TH (8-5, M-F)**

**CO-TAUGHT BY DR. ANNE MITCHELL (ETHN) AND DR. SARAH RAINEY (WS)**

# Student and Faculty Accomplishments

## Student Awards

### WEAL awards

First prize to **Amanda K. Hull** for her submission "Human-Time Lord Relations: Sexuality in *Doctor Who*."

Second prize to **Sarah E. Worman** for her submission "Scott Pilgrim vs Geekiness."

**Adeya Pinnix** was awarded the Outstanding Scholar award by the BGSU McNair Program for her research: "The Truth Behind Closed Doors: A Quantitative and Qualitative Study of Young Black Women's Romantic Relationships."

## Student Presentations

**Tinola Mayfield-Guerrero**. "Feminist Theory as Ethical Leadership." Presented at the 16th annual Values and Leadership conference in Victoria, British Columbia, September 2011.

**Elisabeth Woronzoff-Dashkoff**. "Mary and the Simpsons: *The Simpsons* as a Contemporary Adaptation of *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*," and "Empowering the Silence: The *Queer as Folk* Soundtrack as an Instrument for Social and Political Activism." Presented at Midwest PCA conference, 2010.

## Student Publications

**Elisabeth Woronzoff-Dashkoff**. "Pretty Girls Make Graves: The Conceptualization of Sexuality Through the Image, Lyrics, and Music of Morrissey." In *Morrissey: Fandom, Representations and Identities*, August, 2011.

**Elisabeth Woronzoff-Dashkoff** has published book reviews in *Popular Music and Society* and *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge*. She has also been appointed to the book review team at the website "PopMatters".

## Faculty Publications

Steven Cornelius and **Mary Natvig** have published a new music textbook: *Music: A Social Experience*. Prentice Hall, 2011.

**Sandra Faulkner**. (in press). "That Baby will Cost You: An Intended Ambivalent Pregnancy." *Qualitative Inquiry*, 18(3).

**Sandra Faulkner** & Hecht, M. L. (2011). "The Negotiation of Closetable Identities: A Narrative Analysis of LGBTQ Jewish Identity." *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 28(6), 829-847.



**Amanda K. Hull, presenting at WEAL**

**Sandra Faulkner**. (2011). "Hello Kitty does Gender in Four Scenes." *Women and Language. Visual and Performance*. Available at <http://www.womenandlanguage.org/category/alternative-scholarship/>

## Faculty Awards

**Dr. Sarah Smith Rainey** was awarded the "Outstanding Mentor Award," McNair Summer Research Institute 2011.

## Faculty Presentations

**Sarah Smith Rainey**. "Integration and Justice in *They Came Back*." Paper presented at the Society for Disability Studies annual conference, San Jose, CA, June 2011.

**Sandra Faulkner, Davis, A. M., Hicks, M. V., & Lannutti, P. J.** (2011, November). "A Content Analysis of Sexual and Relational Health Messages for Women Who Have Sex with Women." Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA. TOP PAPERS PANEL in the GLBTQ Communication Studies Division 2011.

**Sandra Faulkner**. (2011, November). "That Baby will Cost You: An Intended Ambivalent Pregnancy." Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA. Top Papers Panel in the Ethnography Division 2011.

**Sandra Faulkner**. (2011, October). "Embodied Poetics: Mothering as Social Critique." Paper presentation at the 3rd International Symposium on Poetic Inquiry (Poetry: Seeing, Understanding, Caring) held at Bournemouth University, Dorset, UK.



# Student Organizations



**VOX: Voices of Planned Parenthood** is Planned Parenthood's advocacy group. The purpose of the organization is to educate the university community about reproductive health and rights, to translate awareness into pro-choice activism on campus, and to serve as a coalition

partner to state, national, and international reproductive rights efforts. We are beginning our efforts by raising money through our "Wrap that Sucker..." fundraiser selling Blow Pops with condoms in the Student Union. Our meetings are at 8:00 p.m. on every other Wednesday. Anyone may join, just show up at a meeting! Look for us on Facebook!

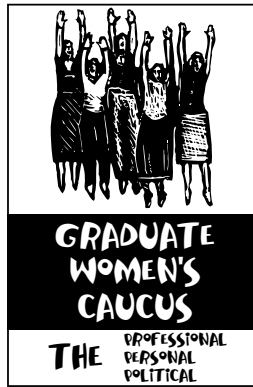
**Vision** is a student organization that started at BGSU in the late 1970s and has continued, in various forms, as the



largest organization at BGSU for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Asexual, Intersex, Questioning, and Ally individuals. Meetings are typically filled with discussion and provide a safe environment for members to talk openly and comfortably. Vision is a great place to learn more about the LGBTQAIQA community and culture, as well as a great way to get involved with advocacy around campus. Becoming a member is as easy as attending a meeting or participating in our week long celebrations such as Coming Out Week and Rainbow Days, where there are several events and fundraisers held throughout each day. Weekly meetings are at 9:00 p.m. in 107 Hanna Hall; everyone is welcome.

## **The Culture Club: Cultural Studies Scholars' Association**

is an interdisciplinary organization founded in 2006 in order to bring together graduate students from various disciplines with an interest in Cultural Studies. Working collaboratively, we have dedicated ourselves to developing the national graduate student conference "Battleground States." See page 8 for this year's call for papers. On November 18th, please join us for the Matt Karasek Service Auction @ Black Swamp Pub beginning at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend Culture Club events. For any details or questions, please feel free to email the Culture Club at [battlegroundstates@gmail.com](mailto:battlegroundstates@gmail.com).



## **The Graduate Women's Caucus**

works to sustain a community of graduate students committed to women's issues and to provide opportunities for them to channel their energy and resources into promoting the awareness of women's issues including but not limited to: academic equality and opportunities, anti-discrimination and equality for all people, reproductive freedom, affirmative action, non-

violence, environmentalism, sexual health, domestic violence, third world issues, and fair trade and labor practices. Find information on meetings and events on our Facebook page.

## **The Association for Women in Communications**

is to champion the advancement of women across all communication disciplines by recognizing excellence, promoting leadership, and positioning its members at the forefront of the evolving communication era. The organization intends to schedule the following events and programs during the upcoming months: leadership and career building training, volunteering for the local community, and engaging in communication campaigns on health and social issues. All of our events are open to the public. Meetings are held bi-weekly on Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. Contact Courtney Seel at [cseel@bgsu.edu](mailto:cseel@bgsu.edu) for more information.



**Women Who Love Women** (aka WWLW) is a student organization that meets to discuss topics and issues in the LGBT community and women's issues. We also talk, hang out, and watch LGBT movies or TV shows. We have been

planning group outings such as bowling, ice cream socials, and movie nights. WWLW also participates in events throughout Coming Out Week and Rainbow Days. Finally, we have some fundraisers that are going to be happening soon. Our group is open to any students and faculty that would like to attend. We meet every Thursday night at 8:30 p.m. in 363 Education. Contact Erin Durante for information at [edurant@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:edurant@falcon.bgsu.edu), or find us on Facebook.

# New Affiliated Faculty

## Women's Studies Welcomes Dr. Tabassum F. Ruby!

### What are your research/teaching interests?

I am interested in Islam and gender discourse and in the question of Muslim women's rights. Over the years, I have come to this realization that Western/non-Western discourses often employ, implicitly or not so implicitly, liberal-secular normative values when articulating Muslim women's rights. Because of this realization, I am interested in examining the manner in which liberal-secular normative values have become a dominant frame of reference for our daily conduct. This aspect of my research is closely linked to my teaching. In my classrooms, I support students in understanding different axes of power, including race, class, gender, sexuality, ability, and religion and the complex interrelationships between them. In other words, I am interested, both in my research and teaching, the ways in which dominations and hegemonies are constituted locally and globally.

### What aspects of the Women's Studies program are you most looking forward to participating in?

I am looking forward to participating in the Women's Studies program's activities and to learning from feminist scholars, pedagogically and intellectually. I am also eager to share my experiences and work with them.

### What are three interesting facts about yourself?

One interesting fact about myself is that I can stay quiet for 1-2 days, including staying away from my electronic devices. I have done this many times and found it a remarkable experience. Distraction is all around us, and I think there is a need to find some quiet time to reflect on our lives.

Another interesting fact about myself is that I have lived in three different countries, and this experience has enriched my life, spiritually, intellectually, and morally. The last interesting fact about myself is that I like hand-made things, as opposed to machine-made plastic things.

### Is there anything else you would like to share with the students, faculty and alumni of Women's Studies at BGSU?

I often find it a challenge, both in my research and teaching, to disrupt the dominant liberal-secular frameworks when addressing "the woman question," particularly, "the Muslim woman question." To that end, I would like to say, please let me know if you have any suggestions about how to go beyond hegemonic liberal-secular conceptions to articulate the question of Muslim women's rights.

### BGSU FEMINIST ALUMNI NETWORK OR BGSU FAN

WANT TO KNOW WHAT THAT AWESOME FEMINIST YOU SAT NEXT TO IN WOMEN'S SEXUALITY CLASS IS UP TO THESE DAYS? SEARCHING FOR A JOB OR NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES? ALUMS WANT TO DEVELOP A BGSU FEMINIST ALUMNI NETWORK THAT WILL REUNITE CLASSMATES, CONNECT CURRENT AND FORMER STUDENTS THROUGH NETWORKING AND MENTORING, AND MORE!

BGSU FAN IS LOOKING FOR ALUMNAE (OR SOON-TO-BE ALUMNAE) TO VOLUNTEER AND GET THE ORGANIZATION UP AND RUNNING!

DO YOU HAVE A TALENT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE - OUTREACH, WEB DESIGN/SOCIAL NETWORKING, EXPERIENCE STARTING NEW ORGANIZATIONS? IF SO, CONTACT EMILY RESNIK AT  
BGSU.FEMINISTS@GMAIL.COM

# New Affiliated Faculty

## Women's Studies Welcomes Dr. Sidra M. Lawrence!

### What are your research/teaching interests?

My research interests involve the intersections of performance studies, postcolonial feminism and African studies. I work with Dagara female musicians in northwestern Ghana, West Africa. Specifically I discuss how the African female body is both a site of regulation and resistance. The women I work with use the performing body as a space of social critique and of re-writing gendered narratives. One of the most rewarding aspects of my research has been learning how feminism can take on meanings that I did not initially anticipate. For example, among Dagara women, the pleasure of musical performance that only takes place around other women is a primary site of empowerment. In these female-centric spaces, women build connections with each other, share resources, and work strategically towards group goals. I am honored to have been able to share music making experiences with a group of extraordinary women, who taught me the values of female-female social connections and a reconfiguration of resistance. I try and bring these perspectives to my teaching: we always have to look for new ways of seeing and speaking that might lie outside of what we expect, and be open to those challenging dominant narratives. When my students challenge what they have always taken for granted, and when they actively look for multiple perspectives to one version of the truth, I believe I am doing my job.



### How does your work intersect with gender, sexuality and/or Women's Studies?

I am especially interested in women's studies scholarship that challenges legitimized forms of writing and representation. I have been very inspired by female writers such as Pat Parker, Audre Lorde, Adrienne Rich, Trinh T. Minh-Ha, and Chimamanda Adiche, to name a few, who have not only drawn attention to evocative, sensual scholarship, but who really push the boundaries of representational politics. In my own work I try to weave in as many female voices from seemingly disparate traditions as possible, in order to consider female dialogues that happen across time and space. This is something I respect and admire about women's studies scholars: the ability to recognize difference, and yet embrace similarity.

### What aspects of the Women's Studies Program are you most looking forward to participating in?

I'm excited to belong to a group of scholars engaged in stimulating dialogue. I look forward to meeting and working with both the faculty and students!

### Is there anything else you would like to share with the students, faculty and alumni of Women's Studies at BGSU?

I'm really enthusiastic about being included the Women's Studies community at BGSU. I hope that I have many opportunities to interact with all of you across campus in a variety of contexts. Thank you for welcoming me into your community!



# Women's Studies Events



This year's reception to honor newly hired and newly promoted and tenured women faculty was a grand success. We had a diverse group of faculty, administrators, graduate students and undergraduate students in attendance, as well as a special guest, Bowling Green State University's new president, Dr. Mary Ellen Mazey. She spoke about the great strides women have made in the academy, but also encouraged us to continue to work hard and achieve even bigger and better things. We thank her for joining us and for supporting Women's Studies and women academics on Bowling Green's campus. As is the case at all Women's Studies events, we had compelling conversations and a great time. We hope you join us at future events!





# Upcoming Conferences

## The Women's Research Symposium - March 30, 2012

Undergraduate or graduate students doing research on women or topics related to gender, sexuality, or sexual orientation are invited to submit abstracts and present their work at the Women's Studies Research Symposium. Students from all campus programs are invited to participate. Presentations can include analytical and review papers, data-based studies, and creative works. Students interested in presenting during the symposium may do so individually or as a group.

**Deadline:** Abstracts must be received by 5:00 p.m. on March 2nd.

Submission procedures:

- 1) Complete a Submission Cover Page (Dr. Sarah Rainey can email this to you. Contact her at [sasarah@bgsu.edu](mailto:sasarah@bgsu.edu))
- 2) Submit a One Page Abstract consistent with the following guidelines:
  - a. Place the title on the top line followed by a double space and then the authors' first and last name, their academic department/program, and the name of their advisor for the project (if applicable) followed by another double line space.
  - b. The text of the abstract should be single spaced, left-justified, and abstracts should not exceed one page.
- 3) Email abstract and cover page to Dr. Sarah Rainey at [sasarah@bgsu.edu](mailto:sasarah@bgsu.edu)



## The 11th Ohio Latin Americanist Conference (OLAC)

### February 17-18, 2012 - Call For Papers

We invite all Latin Americanist and Latina/o Studies Scholars, educators, and students from institutions of higher education in Ohio and surrounding areas to participate in this annual meeting on the state of Latin American and Latina/o Studies. Research areas may include (but are not limited to) literatures & linguistics, history, education, geography, political science, economics, anthropology, sociology, art, cultural studies, international studies, gender studies and ethnic studies. We especially invite proposals related to the natural sciences, environmental sciences, bioethics, and other fields that have been underrepresented in past OLAC meetings. For more information contact Dr. Pedro Pablo Porbén at: [lalsc@bgsu.edu](mailto:lalsc@bgsu.edu). Visit <http://blogs.bgsu.edu/olac> for application forms.

## The 7th Annual Battleground States Conference - February 23rd – 26th 2012

### 3R: Response, Re/Action, Revolt - Call For Papers

Response, Re/Action and Revolt can be spontaneous, systematic, militant, peaceful, theoretical, practical, historical, contemporary, passionate or ambitious. We welcome research, education, activism, and artistic production that investigates, complicates or expands the existing dimensions of economic, cultural, and political systems, and provides a unique insight into the reshaping of societies. Abstracts of 300 words should be sent to [battlegroundstates@gmail.com](mailto:battlegroundstates@gmail.com) and must be submitted no later than December 15, 2011. Submissions should include media equipment requests and any special presentation requests. Panel, performance, and artistic display proposals are welcome and should include a 300-word abstract and contact information for all participants. For more information, find us on Facebook or go to [www.battlegroundstates.org](http://www.battlegroundstates.org).

**CULTURE CLUB**

**Battlegrounds 2012**

3R: Response, Re/Actions, and Revolt

**February 23-26**

[www.battlegroundstates.org](http://www.battlegroundstates.org)

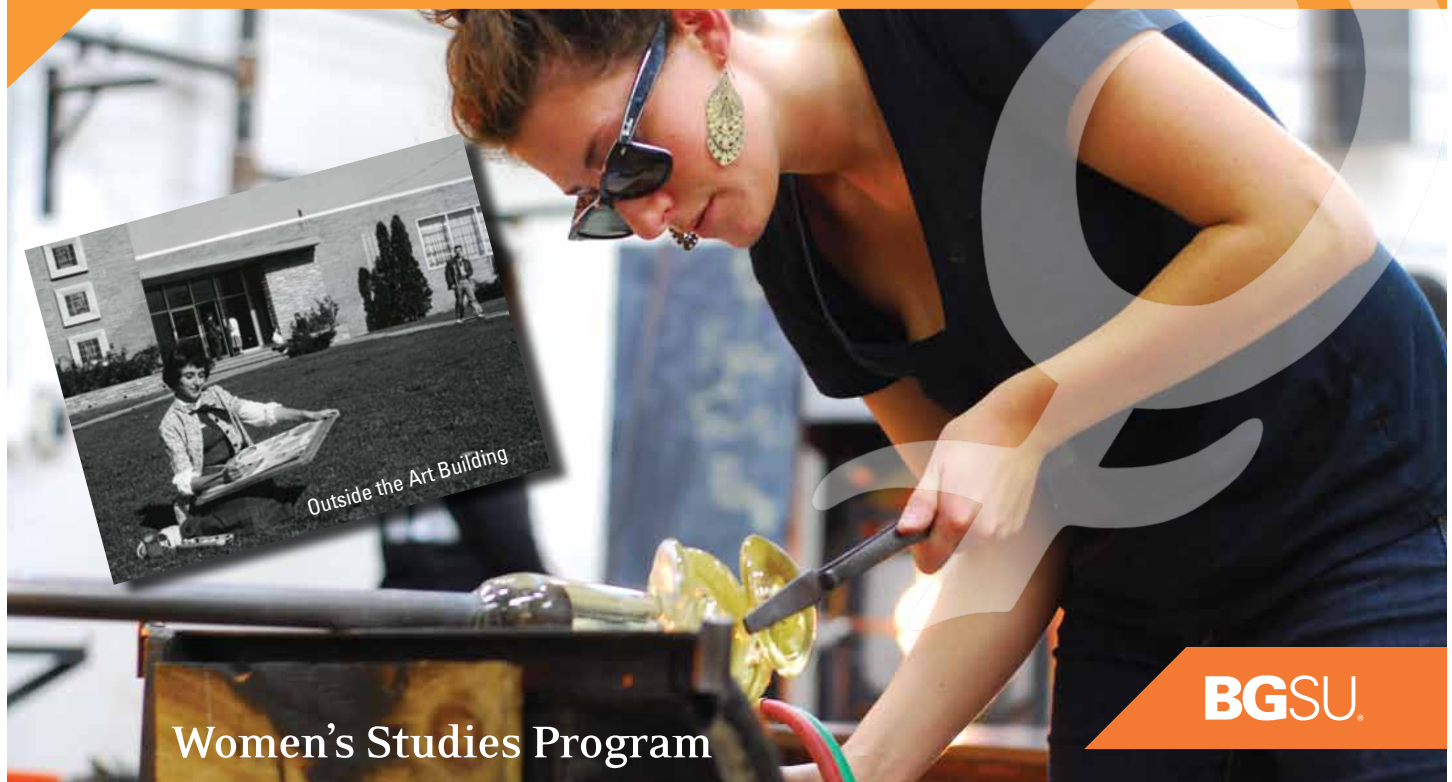
# Support Women's Studies!

**2012 Calendars are available to order!**

B O W L I N G   G R E E N   S T A T E   U N I V E R S I T Y

## Bowling Green Women

T H E N   &   N O W



Women's Studies Program

**BGSU**

2 0 1 2   C A L E N D A R

The 2012 Women's Studies Program calendar features Bowling Green Women, Then and Now. Pairing classic photos from as far back as the 1940s with photos of current students, this calendar has something for everyone and is sure to look great on the wall in your office! To order a calendar for only \$13.00, contact Megan Thomassen at [megthom@bgsu.edu](mailto:megthom@bgsu.edu), or leave her a message on Facebook. We will also have calendars available in the Student Union by the tables on the following dates: November 7-9 and November 14-16 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Look for us so you can pick one up. One of our calendars would make a great holiday gift! We'll also have feminist buttons, raffle tickets, and information about Women's Studies at Bowling Green. Our raffle prizes include CDs from Finder's, and Cookie Jar and More gift certificates! Follow us on Facebook to get more great information and updates on what is happening with Women's Studies! Thank you in advance for your support!



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meant something to you?



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Newsletter created by Women's Studies Research Assistant Megan Thomassen



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