

DEPARTMENT OF

WOMEN'S, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

2015 Newsletter



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



CONTENTS

3 / Message from the Chair

Professor Guisela Latorre Serves as Interim Chair

4 / Graduate Student News

5 / Additions

New Graduate Students and Program Coordinator

6 & 7 / Faculty Abroad

Notes from Sabbatical by Jennifer Suchland

8 & 9 / Faculty Awards & Accomplishments

10 & 11 / Campus Community

Community of Appalachian Student Leaders and Undergraduate Activism

12 & 13 / Special Events

14 / Undergraduate Awards

15 / Support

Message From The Chair

Finding myself in the position of interim chair of my department has been an exciting and humbling experience. Following in the footsteps of Professor Jill Bystydzienski, who chaired WGSS with great poise and distinction for nine years, has been a great challenge. The learning curve for the position is indeed steep, but I have gained great insights into departmental governance and university administration during my first semester on the job. Perhaps the greatest challenge has been to represent the feminist and decolonial vision of our department to the larger university administration. As many chairs of progressively interdisciplinary departments can attest, running a department that is deeply committed to social justice within the halls of the ivory tower requires refined diplomacy and meticulous negotiating skills, abilities that I am far from mastering. However, I am fortunate in that I have entered into what has been a stable, highly collegial and well oiled machine, thanks in large part to the efforts of Professor Bystydzienski as well as to the WGSS staff and faculty who have worked tirelessly over the years to make this a great department. I am particularly grateful to our staff—Lynaya Elliott, Jackie Stotlar and Tess Pugsley—for their incredible support of my chairship this year.

In the short time I've been chairing WGSS at OSU, I've had amazing experiences reaching out to communities in and outside of my department and university. I attended the NWSA meeting for chairs and directors of graduate studies at UCLA where I had the distinct pleasure of meeting my counterparts in other Ph.D.-granting WGSS departments. I was also invited to a staff luncheon with OSU president, Michael Drake, where I got the unique chance to ask him pointed questions about budget cuts in the humanities. I participated in an NWSA panel discussion on race, racism and intersectionality in WGSS at OSU together with

Professor Treva Lindsey, Dr. Taneem Husein and Angela Tu. In addition, I attended and participated in a few town hall meetings where our students raised serious concerns about sexual assault on our campus highlighting the particular vulnerability of LGBTQ

populations to such attacks.

But perhaps the most poignant experience so far happened when our department formed the Anti-Rape Culture Sub-Committee in reaction to sexually intimidating banners that were hung from a student residence during move-in week. This sub-committee—composed of Professors Linda Mizejewski, Cathy Rakowski and myself—drafted an open letter to The Lantern, the undergraduate student newspaper, where we outlined the important connections between rape culture and actual sexual assault. Almost concurrently, our Program Assistant, Tess Pugsley, organized a Take Back the Night event which provided a safe space for victims of sexual assault to speak out. It was a proud moment for our department where we came together to denounce the epidemic of sexual assault on university campuses.

It has been quite a semester, indeed! But I wouldn't have it any other way. I look forward with immense optimism and excitement my second semester as interim chair of WGSS at OSU.



Professor Guisela Latorre



INTERSECTIONS

Graduate Student News & Updates

As always, the graduate students of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies have been busy with various Ohio State community projects this year in addition to contributing their scholarship to various conferences and publications. **Jonathan Branfman**, WGSS Ph.D. student won the Graduate Associate Teaching Award, the university's highest recognition of the exceptional teaching provided by graduate students at Ohio State. Outside of the classroom, Jon along with **Courtney Hammond**, **Jackie Serpico**, and **Becca Alexander** have begun teaching feminist, queer-friendly, and sex-positive sex-education lessons in dorms and WGSS classes this semester. They have presented to over 900 students so far and hope to continue providing this invaluable service to undergraduate Ohio State students. Similarly, first-year graduate students **Sai Isoke** and **Becca Alexander** have been collaborating with Academic Advisor and Ph.D. candidate **Lauren Strand** on dorm presentations for OSU freshman on body politics and beauty standards as they relate to race and gender representation.

Meanwhile, **Debanuj Dasgupta** holds a Graduate Administrative Associate position with the Morrill Scholars Program at the Office of Diversity Inclusion creating social justice related academic enrichment programs. This year he coordinated the first annual Morrill Scholars Program talks modeled after Ted Talks which highlighted four second year Morrill Scholars who are dedicated to diversity and social justice advocacy.

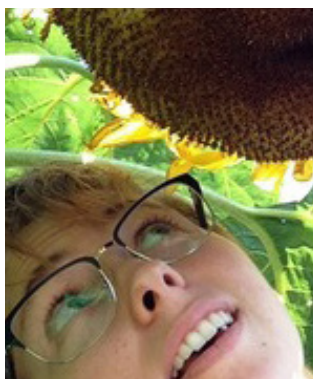
Sonnet Gabbard has been abroad conducting field research for her dissertation in Serbia which examines social, political, cultural and economic links between anti-war activism in the 1990s and early 2000s and contemporary LGBTQ politics in the Former-Yugoslavia. Sonnet was hosted in Belgrade by Labris, a Lesbian Human Rights Organization to present about current activist movements in the U.S. such as Occupy Wall Street, the movement for environmental protection, women's reproductive rights, and the Black Lives Matter and Say Her Name campaigns.

In addition to participating in three panel presentations at this year's NWSA Conference, **Krista Benson** was elected one of the co-chairs of the NWSA Graduate Caucus.

Haley Swenson, fifth-year Ph.D. student became the first ever WGSS graduate student to receive a Presidential Fellowship this 2015-2016 academic year. Haley also published an article in *Feminist Formations* titled "Anti-Immigration as Austerity Policy: The Rejection of Maternalist Governance in Arizona's SB 1070 Immigration Law" while continuing to stay extremely active in Columbus activism projects.

Finally, **Nicole Nieto** not only completed her Ph.D. in WGSS this year but she is now the new Program Manager for the ADVANCE program here at OSU, where she will be in charge of the Gender Initiatives in STEMM programming.

ADDITIONS



From left to right: Swati Palanivelu Vijaya, Jaclyn Serpico and Becca Alexander.

From left to right: Deja Beamon, Tatiana Faria, and Sai Isoke



This year the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies welcomed six new graduate students into the program. **Swati Palanivelu Vijaya** from New Delhi, India studied at the University of Mumbai and is pursuing her Ph.D. studying transgender migration in South India. **Jaclyn Serpico**, who received her B.A. from The Ohio State University will be pursuing a joint M.A. in WGSS and Public Health on the topic of reproductive health and education. **Becca Alexander** received a B.A. from Smith College and plans to study feminist legal issues in her M.A. program. **Deja Beamon** from Durham, North Carolina received her B.A. degree from Duke University and will be pursuing an M.A. degree studying biracial identity and psychoanalytic theory. **Tatiana Faria** will be studying film and sexuality studies on her direct to Ph.D. track; she received a B.S. from the University of Florida. Finally, **Sai Isoke**, from Los Angeles California earned a B.A. degree from California State University, DH; she is pursuing her M.A. degree investigating black queer studies.



PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Jackie returned to WGSS in 2015 after receiving her M.A. from the Department in 2013. Her areas of interest during her study were LGBTQ identity formation in the Christian right, Ex-gay movements, and the intersections of feminism and business. Jackie brings experience in instructional design, project management, and videography from her experience as a custom corporate training developer.

Quick to smile and tell a joke, Jackie strives to be open and friendly to everyone. As Program Coordinator, Jackie serves as the liaison between WGSS graduate students and the Graduate School, coordinates course scheduling, and happily shares information about WGSS programs to anyone who asks.

FACU



Professor Bystydzienski at the University of Warsaw

This year the department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies missed some of their core faculty who were researching abroad.

Former chair and professor Jill Bystydzienski was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholar Grant to conduct research for her project titled "Organized response to status of women in STEM in Poland" at the Robert B. Zajonc Institute for Social Studies and Center of Interdisciplinary Gender Studies University of Warsaw in Poland this Autumn. Professor Bystydzienski research focused on the role of women's organizations and movements in raising awareness and shaping policy regarding gender equality in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. She examined how gender inequality is addressed by these organizations and activists in specific countries. Her findings in Poland contributed to an understudied issue in the country and allow for comparison among women's representation in STEM fields in other countries.

Professor Cynthia Burack received a Coca Cola Critical Difference for Women Faculty Research Grant for "LGBT Human Rights and the US Government Abroad." In 2014 that funded travel to Africa in the summer of 2015 where she attended an LGBTQ human rights activist conference. The travel was related to her upcoming book project, "Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Human Rights, and the US Government Abroad."



Professors Shannon Winnubst and Jennifer Suchland have been affiliated with the University of Utrecht for the 2015 academic year. Over the summer they taught for the NOISE program at the University of Utrecht, a summer school in WGS that is co-organized by Utrecht University and ATHENA, the European Network of Women's Studies.

NOTES FROM SABBATICAL

Professor Jennifer Suchland

I have the great privilege to be on sabbatical for the 2015-2016 academic year. This is a time for restoration as well as engaging new creative projects. Nested in the marshy terrain of the Netherlands, I am working and living in Utrecht --

LTY ABROAD

a city with a stellar university, medieval buildings, and bikes galore. From this locale, and with the support from an Arts & Humanities large grant and a Coca Cola Critical Difference grant, I am currently developing two new projects.

One project focuses on political homophobia and nationalism in postsocialist Europe. This is a topic of great public discussion these days with Russian laws becoming more virulently anti-LGBTQ, as well as with right-wing parties gaining political traction across the region. My research seeks to better understand the interconnections between political homophobia and nationalist discourse. In the United States and Europe, scholars and activists have showed that there can be a link between homonormativity (that is, public and political acceptance of LGBTQ people when they conform to gender and racial norms) and problematic national projects. In Europe, for example, LGBTQ issues have moved from the margins to the center of cultural imaginations as an optic in the production of and disciplining of Muslim others. From refugee and asylum law to citizenship rights, homonormativity is wielded in processes of inclusion and exclusion in Europe (the Netherlands is a great example of this.) Yet, in Russia and other postsocialist countries in Europe, the opposite is at work. National projects of inclusion/exclusion are intertwined with homophobia and transphobia (and I would add repression of women's rights.) My research investigates the connections between nationalism and sexuality, looking directly at how sexuality is wielded for nationalist purposes. For example, the recent passage of an anti-discrimination bill in Ukraine is a prime example of the sexual politics of nationalist discourse. As a gesture of European affiliation, authorities in Ukraine are distancing themselves from Russia by invoking gay rights. However, I would not suggest that this move is purely cynical. There is a lot more at stake.

In the second project, I will take-up human trafficking in the United States. This research is a multi-method investigation of processes of domestication. Specifically, I aim to understand how the problem of human trafficking has circulated through concerns for transnational violence and criminality to produce national (i.e. domestic) categories of recognition in law and social advocacy. The naming of U.S. domestic victims of trafficking has generated a powerful lens that is used to re-classify experiences and life positions previously silenced or pathologized. For example, state legislatures, judges and social advocacy organizations have created programs to advocate on behalf of sex workers, homeless and runaway youth in the name of anti-trafficking. It is significant that people once deemed social problems are now being identified as potential victims. My research will analyze the opportunities and foreclosures of "domesticating" human trafficking in the United States. While a powerful resignification of violence, the language of "modern day slavery" also silences structural violence and longstanding injustices in the U.S.

Professor Jennifer Suchland



FACULTY AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Professors Jill Bystydzeinski and Mytheli Sreenivas at the 2015 NWSA Conference

Cynthia Burack published “From Heterosexuality to Holiness: Psychoanalysis and Ex-Gay Ministries,” *Psychoanalysis, Culture, and Society*. 20 (2015): 220-227.

“The Politics of a Praying Nation: The Presidential Prayer Team and Christian Right Sexual Morality,” *Religion and Popular Culture*. 26, 2 (2014): 215-229.

and delivered an invited lecture on “LGBTQ Human Rights and the US Government Abroad” at Bloomsburg University in March.

Lynn Itagaki was cited in 2015 TIME article, “How Elizabeth Warren Turns Boilerplate Viral”, Professor Itagaki recently published, “The Autobiographical IOU: Elizabeth Warren’s Debtor-Citizen and the Reliably Liable Life Narrative” in the journal *Biography* and is quoted on what makes Warren such a great communicator and how it affects the American public.

Guisela Latorre Guisela Latorre presented her research on Chilean graffiti and muralism titled, “Museos a Cielo Abierto en Santiago: Murales, Graffiti y Democratización Urbana,” at The University of Chile. This distinguished

lecture addressed the ways current street art in Chile is making city streets into more egalitarian spaces for historically marginalized communities. Professor Latorre also hosted iconic Chilean muralist and printmaker Alejandro “Mono” González who taught a social justice printmaking workshop for the Ohio State Community.

In addition she published, “Public Interventions and Social Disruptions”, in the book *Cara a Cara Encounters with Chicana/o Visual Culture* on University of Arizona Press.

Treva Lindsey was published on cosmopolitan.com for her article “The Rape Trial Everyone in American Should Be Watching” that discusses the Daniel Holtzclaw trial in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Professor Lindsey also published “Introduction: A Love Letter to Black Feminism,” *The Black Scholar*, October 2015

“Post-Ferguson: A “Herstorical” Approach to Black Violability,” *Feminist Studies*, (Vol. 41. No. 1), April 2015, 232-237.

and “Let Me Blow Your Mind: Hip Hop Feminist Futures in Theory and Praxis,” *Urban Education*, Special Issue: Theories, Concepts, and Methods in Hip Hop Education, (Vol. 50, 1) January 2015, 52-77.

In addition to domestic lecture presentations, Lindsey presented internationally, “Beyond ‘Women Were There’: New Perspectives on Black Women’s History,” in Athens, Greece and “The Sweetest Taboo: Theorizing Black Female Pleasure, Agency, and Desire Within Black Feminism,” *Black Portraiture(s) II: Imaging the Black Body and Re-staging Histories in Firenze, Italy*.

Katherine Marino received the 2015 Judith Lee Ridge Prize at the Western Association of Women Historians conference in Sacramento, California for her

article “Marta Vergara, Popular Front Pan-American Feminism, and the Transnational Struggle for Working Women’s Rights in the 1930s” published in *Gender & History*. The Judith Lee Ridge Prize is an annual award for the best article in the field of history published by a WAWH member.

Linda Mizejewski’s 2014 book *Pretty/Funny: Women Comedians and Body Politics* received Honorable Mention in two national competitions, one for Best Single Work in Women’s Studies from the Popular Cultural Association and one for best media and cultural studies from the Association of American Publishers.

Professor Mizejewski also presented papers at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies conference and the Console-ing Passions (Women and Television) conference in Dublin, Ireland. She was elected to the executive board of Society for Cinema and Media Studies and at OSU, is serving on the advisory board for the Collegiate Recovery Community and on the Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award Committee. She is also chairing a committee proposing a new M.A. Degree in Film Studies at OSU. For the Ohio Humanities Council, she presented four programs this year at Ohio public libraries.

Juno Parreñas gave a public lecture at Cornell University as part of their Ronald and Janette Gatty Lecture Series. The talk was, “Arrested Autonomy: Posthuman Futures in Sarawak, Malaysia.” Professor Parreñas also organized a session on “Methods Beyond Humanity: Incorporating Multiple Bodies in Transdisciplinary Feminist Inquiry” at the Society for Social Studies of Science where she presented her paper “Interspecific Interdependencies: Orangutan Rehabilitation and Mutual but Unequal Vulnerability.” At the American Anthropological Association meeting, she presented her paper “Between Bodies: Sensing Affect at the Surface of Skin and Earth” on a panel titled “Affecting Ethnography.”

Wendy Smooth joined notable black feminist scholars and activists Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Barbara Ransby and Michelle Duster, great granddaughter of Ida B. Wells Barnett for a day long symposium at DePaul University reflecting on the intellectual and activist legacies of Ida B. Wells-Barnett. Smooth’s talk entitled, “Good Ol’ Boys Meet the New Black Woman: African American Women in Electoral Politics Leading the Progressive Coalition” is taken from her new research on the presence of black women as voters and elected officials and the way it matters for progressive racial based social

movements and more conservative agendas arising in state and local political institutions.

Professor Smooth was also invited and attended a day-long symposium at the White House focused on advancing research on women and girls of color. The convening, “Advancing Equity for Women and Girls of Color” was hosted by the White House Council on Women and Girls, in collaboration with the Anna Julia Cooper Center at Wake Forest University and brought together scholars, activists, and the philanthropic sector to discuss the new knowledges necessary to advance policies positively impacting the lives of women and girls of color.

Jennifer Suchland published *Economies of Violence: Transnational Feminism, Postsocialism, and the Politics of Sex Trafficking* on Duke University Press.

Mary Thomas represented the Ohio Juvenile Justice Alliance in a press conference with the Columbus Dispatch calling for more effective community-based programs that meet the needs of youth and reduce youth imprisonment.

Shannon Winnubst served as the director of the Sexuality Studies program at Ohio State this year.

Professor Winnubst published *Way Too Cool: Selling Out Race and Ethics* on Columbia University Press.



Winnubst’s other publications include “The Leftist Ritual is Sterile,” *Active Intolerance: Critical Essays on Foucault and the Prisons Information Group*, eds. Andrew Dilts and Perry Zurn (Palgrave: 2015).

and “Sacrifice as Ethics: The Strange Religiosity of Neo-liberalism,” in *Negative Ecstasies: Georges Bataille and the Study of Religion*, eds. Kent L. Brinrnall and Jeremy Biles (Fordham University Press: 2015).

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Appalachian Community at Ohio State

Lynaya Elliott,
WGSS Administrative Manager

"I have no fear here, in this world of trees, weeds and growing things." –bell hooks, Appalachian Elegy: Poetry and Place

Sociologists, historians, geographers and feminist scholars among others have long found the greater Appalachian region one of rich cultural, political and economic significance while at the same time being a site of colonialization presenting unique challenges and struggles. While Ohio State does not currently have an Appalachian Studies program, there is no shortage of scholars and students passionate about the region. Coming from one of these rural areas in Ohio, it was through women's studies that I reconnected with my own Appalachian roots and fostered a new found appreciation for my home.

For the past two years, the department has proudly supported an interdisciplinary team of researchers, students and staff dedicated to understanding the pathways of Appalachian students at OSU. This collaboration is a partnership between the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, the Center for Folklore Studies and the Office of Social Change. The group was recently highlighted at Vice President Carol Whitacre's State of Research address for its student impact and interdisciplinarity.



While the State of Ohio comprises thirty-two Appalachian counties and seventeen percent of Ohio's population, only seven percent of OSU undergraduate students are from this region. This semester, we created a peer mentorship group focused on serving the needs of these students to increase their involvement, develop their leadership skills and to strengthen the larger network of Appalachian scholars on campus. Community of Appalachian Student Leaders (CASL) represents students from fourteen counties including two from West Virginia and Kentucky.

WGSS is proud to continue to support and elevate the voices of underrepresented students on campus through this community-centered organization.

Read more about the project at go.osu.edu/appalachia or contact Lynaya at elliott.255@osu.edu.



Undergraduate Activism

This year the OSU campus saw especial flourish in undergraduate activist activity. Students worked tirelessly to push for changes to be made in the University campus climate regarding gender, race and workers' rights issues. From pushing Administration for a Women's Center on campus under the #wheredowomengoosu campaign to organizing for more responsible food sources and rallying for better learning environments for students of color, WGSS students agitated for a more egalitarian campus climate for all students who experience social and educational discrimination.

Name: Lainie Rini, WGSS and Geography double-major

What activist projects did you work on this year at OSU? I worked with United Students Against Sweatshops on our campaign to Stop the Sell Out, a coalitional effort with the CWA Local 4501 workers on campus to stop the administration from selling off our power plants and energy systems to a fossil fuel corporation.

What changes do you see so far? Thus far, crucial relationships have been built between people and groups that wouldn't otherwise have happened. USAS is primarily a labor organization, we united with racial justice groups and environmental organizations throughout this semester, culminating in a joint demonstration at the end of autumn semester. I want to see this network of activists continue to grow and form into a solid structure, so that we may see a united student front come into fruition. We are working on creating a truly democratic university, one that respects the voices and decisions of all stakeholders, one that ensures a representative seat at the table for workers, students, adjuncts, faculty, and community members. A united, democratic university is our goal.

What other groups did you work with across campus to accomplish these goals? We have joined with the workers of CWA Local 4501, but also with OSUDivest, International Socialist Organization, Sierra Club Student Coalition, Real Food OSU, and OSU Coalition for Black Lives. Stopping the sell off of our power systems is an intersectional issue that cuts across multiple interest levels. In terms of sustainability, if we sell off our energy then we lose control of our energy sources, and won't be able to hold the corporation accountability to source from clean energy such as wind or solar. Furthermore, while we have seen that the administration fails to ensure a diverse representation of students of color on campus, we can connect that issue to the way that they fail to incorporate the livelihood of the working class on campus. To be a OSU worker is to be one of the unprotected, one of the invisible, one of the silenced. We must use our power as students to leverage and break that silence.

How did your WGSS coursework inform your activist work? It informed it in every way. How can we learn about social injustice and systemic racism and not do anything about it? We are in the midst of a global movement, and global linkages are important to foment. WGSS gave me so much of the tools I need for this work, our readings were not just explorations in theoretical thought. They are a guidebook that teaches us how to change the world. We just have to apply it.

Name: Justice Harley, African American and African Studies, WGSS minor

What activist projects did you work on this year at OSU? I helped to organize the OSU2MIZZOU rally in November. I also attended a sit-in at the USG Sexual Violence Town Hall, the "Stop the Sellout" rally organized by USAS, and the "SpeakOUT Rally" organized by Adrienne Michaelson.

What changes have you seen come of it so far? Some of the organizers of the town hall sit in have met with administration to change the way sexual assault is handled on campus, and the OSU2MIZZOU rally got administration to release a letter in solidarity with Concerned Student 1950 at Mizzou. I plan to continue this organizing work in hopes of creating a safer space for women and people of color on OSU's campus.

What other groups did you work with across campus to accomplish these goals? I worked with OSU Coalition for Black Lives, FemUNITY, SHADES, and USAS.

What was the process like for these interventions/rallies/protests/ organizations? The process differed for each action. The only commonality was that a group of people shared the same anger over a problem in their community and worked together to do something about it. Whether that meant meeting at 6pm in a Starbucks to discuss strategy, meeting in the Resource Room to paint posters for the action, or creating a Facebook event to gather more people for support was dependent on the nature of the action.

What are your future career plans/goals? How are they informed by your organizing efforts and WGSS coursework? I am considering a career in Social Work, possibly counseling female and gender non-conforming victims of physical abuse and sexual assault. The activist work I've done has lead me to the realization that women, especially women of color, are subject to a very specific kind of victimization and erasure that allows violence perpetrated against them to go unheard and unpunished. This realization motivated me to dedicate my life to giving women who've been victimized and silenced a voice and the strength to use it.

CELEBRATES 40 YEARS



2015 marks 40 years of feminist studies on OSU campus. On May 1st, the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies celebrated it's past, present, and future by inviting past chairs, alumni, donors, and current members to an anniversary celebration. Former Chairs Susan Hartmann, Sally Kitch, Valerie Lee and Linda Mizejewski spoke on the necessary milestone achievements, struggles and political maneuverings necessary on the road to establishing a department with a graduate program that is now one of the largest in the country. Spring 2015 graduates and award winners were honored and the WGSS community also took a look at where the field is moving today, hoping to make connections with community members working on similar feminist projects. The department also took this opportunity to honor and commemorate Professor and Chair Jill Bystydzienski's remarkable leadership over the past 9 years who stepped down from the chair position in 2015.

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies was honored to receive a visit from a very special guest: the first ever student to graduate with a Women's Studies degree in 1976. After receiving a self-created B.A. in Women's Studies, Lisa Lopez went on to achieve a J.D. from Yale Law School and eventually became the Vice President of Corporate Affairs at the Haemonetics Blood Management Corporation.

During her OSU visit in April, Lisa Lopez toured the ever-evolving campus, met with undergraduate students, attended a WGSS class and allowed us to record a speech about how Women's Studies impacted her life and career that was shown at the 40th anniversary celebration. Her visit gave us all a fresh perspective on how far the discipline has come and how the major equips students with pivotal tools for personal and career development.



Lisa Lopez with WGSS students. From left to right: Dominique Gale-McClean, Lisa Lopez, Deb Beight, and Casey Ward.

UPCOMING

ELIZABETH D. GEE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE IN ETHICS: AMY GOODMAN

Friday, April 8, 2016 - 4:30pm to 6:30pm
Independence Hall 100 | 1923 Neil Ave Mall

Amy Goodman is an American broadcast journalist, syndicated columnist, investigative reporter and author. Goodman's journalism career includes coverage of the East Timor independence movement and Chevron Corporation's role in Nigeria. Since 1996, Goodman has hosted Democracy Now!, an independent global news program broadcast daily on radio, television and the Internet. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Thomas Merton Award in 2004, a Right Livelihood Award in 2008, and an Izzy Award in 2009 for "special achievement in independent media." In 2012, Goodman received the Gandhi Peace Award for a "significant contribution to the promotion of an enduring international peace."

The Elizabeth D. Gee Distinguished Lecture in Ethics was established in honor of the late Dr. Elizabeth Dutson Gee, a senior research associate in the Center for Women's Studies, in the early 1990s. The Distinguished Lecture in Ethics celebrates Dr. Gee's enduring legacy as a scholar and an educator and fosters dialogue within the academic and local communities.



HIPHOP LITERACIES CONFERENCE: BLACK WOMEN AND GIRLS MATTER

Wednesday, March 30, 2016 - Thursday, March 31, 2016
Frank B. Hale Jr. Black Cultural Center, Main OSU Campus | 154 West 12th Avenue, Columbus OH

The Hip-hop Literacies Conference brings together scholars, educators, activists, students, artists, and community members to dialogue on pressing social problems. This year our working conference theme is Black Women and Girls' Lives Matter. Participants of the Hip-hop Literacies Conference join a community of those concerned with African American/Black, Brown and urban literacies, who are interested in challenging the sociopolitical arrangement of the relations between institutions, languages, identities, and power through engagement with local narratives of inequality and lived experience in order to critique a global system of oppression. Literacies scholars who foreground the lives of Hip-hop generation youth see Hip-hop as providing a framework to ground work in classrooms and communities in democratic ideals. This year's conference is a collaborative effort between the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the College of Education and Human Ecology.

please visit wgss.osu.edu/events for more information



Left to right: WGSS undergraduate students and award winners: Maria McGrath, Lainie Rini, Jenn Eidemiller, and Dominique Gale-McClean



Left to Right: Office of Student Life Civic Engagement Award winners: Dakota Saul, Gabrielle Simmons and Logan Sherman

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

In addition to our annual departmental awards and scholarships, this year Women's, Gender and Sexuality Undergraduate students received University-wide recognition for their excellence. The Office of Student Life Civic Engagement Awards which emphasize "education for citizenship" and highlight empowering community engagement and leadership awarded three WGSS students for their contributions to the OSU community. Dakota Saul and Logan Sherman won the Alice Paul Award for Social Justice and Consciousness Raising. Dakota, a sophomore pursuing a WGSS and Neuroscience double major was recognized for his work connecting the trans* community with other social justice initiatives campus-wide. Logan, a junior pursuing a WGSS and Social Work double major received their award for their student advocacy and mentorship work and their hard work in various LGBTQ focused initiatives on campus. And Gabrielle Simmons, WGSS and Psychology double majoring senior won the Ida B. Wells Award for her hard work empowering African-American youth via the arts through various community initiatives.

Lainie Rini, WGSS 4th-year student won the Undergraduate Student Award for Excellence in Community Service. Lainie Rini has been involved with community organizing since her first year at Ohio State, working on matters related to labor rights, equal educational

opportunity, environmental justice, and more. She has engaged in this work through student organizations as well as with community groups, such as local churches. This service inspired her to major in Geography and Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies, two disciplines that focus on alleviating the suffering of people locally and world-wide. In the past year, she connected her studies from the WGSS department with community outreach, and organized an on-campus event with fellow students and Columbus residents that brought to light the reality of police brutality against women of color. She plans to continue to pursue community justice and work with the networks that she has formed during her time as an undergraduate.

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Annual Award Winners:

Robin Wiehm Award: Victoria Allen

Common Differences Award: Cara Caudill, Dominique Gale-McClean

Joellen Thomas Award: Debra Beight

Virginia Reynolds Book Award: Marisa McGrath

Mildred Munday Scholarship Award: Lainie Rini, Dominique Gale-McClean

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Please consider making a gift or donation to the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. Each and every gift makes a tangible difference in the lives of our students and faculty and for the future of feminist studies.

For the department to realize its opportunities for excellence, it must build upon the base established with state and tuition funding by drawing support from its alumni and friends. The following are a few ways you can invest in the department and its programs.

These are just some of the funds that support the department. For more information please visit wgss.osu.edu/give



Program Support

This departmental fund is used to support a variety of departmental initiatives such as speakers, technical support, service learning and outreach, study abroad and other programming! Currently we are working to use these funds to expand our outreach and engagement initiatives and seeking to pursue engaging scholars in order to enhance our pedagogy.

Graduate Student Development

For activities that contribute to the professional development of graduate students in the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

The Max Rice Jr. & Sarah Smith Women's Studies Fund

This fund provides student and faculty support to create opportunities for Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies to advance the study of disability and/or sexuality.

