

University of Connecticut



Women's Studies Program

Marita McComiskey Interim Director, Lecturer and
Internship Program Director
Anne D'Alleva Chair, Women's Studies
Conference Committee
Helen Morales Secretary
Kate Hurley Program Assistant

Staff and Conference Assistants: Shyanna Hicks,
Becky Navarro, Delphine Njike and Alison Schoolcraft.

Special thanks to Suzanne Staubach, UConn Co-Op,
for the book display in Room 378; Kim Leung, Student
Union, for her invaluable assistance in setting up the
accommodations for today; Denise Letendre for many of
the graphics used in this program; and Kathleen
Holgerson, Women's Center, for lending her student
staff to us to complete this program.

Please note: Your comments and observations about
the conference are important to us in planning future
conferences. Please direct all correspondence to Anne
D'Alleva, Women's Studies Program, 354 Mansfield
Road, Unit 2181, Storrs, CT 06269-2181 or via e-mail,
adalleva@finearts.sfa.uconn.edu.



**The Women's Studies Program
Celebrates 2001 - 2002
14th Annual Women & Gender Conference**

Feminism, Activism and the Third Wave

In recent years, young feminists have brought renewed energy to the women's movement and a renewed commitment to social activism. What is distinctive about the strategies and goals of young feminist activists today? What are the conflicts and synergies between this generation of feminists and their forebears? How do young feminist activists negotiate the complex interconnections between race, class, gender and sexual orientation? These are just a few of the issues we will address during today's conference.

The Women's Studies CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND GENDER at the University of Connecticut is an interdisciplinary conference of scholarly work on women or gender presented by people affiliated with the academic community as well as those from institutions with a non-academic focus. Those not affiliated with the University of Connecticut are welcome to participate. Faculty, students, staff, administrators and community members from all disciplines and fields are invited to submit proposals for individual papers, complete sessions, panels or round tables. Performance pieces, video recordings or other visual works are also encouraged.

Women's Studies Conference Committee -
Anne D'Alleva, Margaret Breen, Kristin Kelly

**Women's Studies
Internship Program**

"Integrating academic knowledge with professional experience"

GETS YOU OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND INTO LIFE!

An undergraduate program that helps prepare students to compete in a difficult job market while providing an opportunity to integrate academic knowledge with professional experience. Interns work 9 – 18 hours per week while receiving supervised experience in a field they hope to enter. In addition, students participate in a weekly three hour seminar to discuss issues relating to specific internships, preparation for future careers, and personal growth.

WOMEN'S STUDIES INTERNSHIPS OFFER:

- Placements for major in any department
- Crucial work experience before graduation
- Contacts with potential future employers
- Exciting work in a supportive environment
- A chance to learn occupational survival skills

Courses Involved in the Internship:

- WS 261, 3 – 9 Credits, Field Placement
- WS 262, 3 Credits, Seminar

Prerequisite: One Women's Studies Course
Requirement: Consent of Instructor

For further information contact:

Marita McComiskey, Internship Coordinator
Women's Studies Program
354 Mansfield Road, Unit 2181
Storrs, CT 06269-2181
(860) 486-1133

Check out our internship web-site:

<http://www.sp.uconn.edu/~womstu4/Internship/Internship.html>



An Invitation to Become A Women's Studies Major

Welcome Letter

WHO: Anyone interested in the critical analysis of gender and the pursuit of knowledge about women.

WHAT: A major offers:

- Interdisciplinary breadth
- Flexibility
- Helpful and individualized advising
- One of the liveliest intellectual communities at UConn
- An ideal double major complements other majors

WHY: For your college career, you will have a major that:

- Gives a woman and gender-conscious perspective
- Encourages you to develop habits of critical thinking
- Offers an analysis that crosses gender, race and class lines
- Combats stereotypes
- Fosters an understanding of social change
- Builds diversity into your academic program

For your life you will have the background to:

- Keep you intellectually alive
- Help you to adapt to change
- Prepare you for those changing fields where women are having an impact
- Enhance your ability to cope with a world where gender dynamics are increasingly discussed on and off the job
- Provide a sound foundation for graduate work
- Equip you for a career in social services agencies, business, law, education, journalism – all fields in which Women's Studies students are flourishing. Employers in many fields appreciate the broad interdisciplinary perspective of a Women's Studies education

WHEN: THE TIME IS NOW!!!

WHERE: The Women's Studies Program
Beach Hall, Unit 2181
354 Mansfield Road, Storrs, CT 06269
(860)486-3970

HOW: Stop by or call for further information

Check out our web-site:
<http://www.sp.uconn.edu/~womstu4/home.html>

Dear Conference Participants,

Welcome to the 14th Annual Women's Studies Research Conference on Women & Gender! Over the past year, the Women's Studies Program has continued to grow and change. Our increasing number of majors and minors demonstrates that undergraduates continue to see Women's Studies as a stimulating and relevant intellectual tradition. Our General Education classes are filled to capacity and waiting lists are long. Our faculty continue to produce important work at the forefront of feminist scholarship.

The conference theme this year is *Feminism, Activism, and the Third Wave*. We have seen a remarkable renewal of feminist activism on this campus over the past few years - our students are active not only here, but in communities, the state and the nation. We hope that this conference will provide an opportunity not only to explore this renewed sense of activism, but also to engage enduring issues for women in health, education, the arts and politics.

We would like to thank Kate Hurley, Program Assistant, for her hard work, good cheer, and many contributions to the development of this conference. We are also grateful to Program Secretary Helen Morales and student workers Shyanna Hicks, Becky Navarro, Delphine Njike and Alison Schoolcraft for their many contributions to this event. Three members of the advisory board, Margaret Breen (Assistant Professor of English), Kristin Kelly (Assistant Professor of Political Science), and Kathleen Holgerson (Director of the Women's Center) provided essential help in shaping this conference program. Finally, we extend our thanks to the conference presenters who generously share their work with us.

We hope you will enjoy and learn from the feminist voices you will hear today.

Anne D'Alleva -
Assistant Professor
Art & Art History/

Marita McComiskey
Interim Director
Women's Studies

Schedule of Events

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Registration and Coffee, Room 208
9:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Book Sale and Exhibit, Room 378 University of Connecticut Co-Op
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Session I
10:15 AM – 11:15 AM	Session II
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Session III
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Beverly Brakeman, Keynote Speaker Director, Connecticut NOW Room 382
3:15 PM – 4:15 PM	Session IV
4:15 PM – 5:30 PM	Reception, Room 378 Entertainment: The Chordials

NOTE: Room 208 will be available as a lounge throughout the day. Feel free to drop in and relax between sessions. Coffee and tea will be provided.



The University of Connecticut Women's Studies Program

The Women's Studies Program at the University of Connecticut began in 1974. At that time, it was the only formal program of its kind in Connecticut. The Program provides students with academic experiences related to their personal lives, and it explores the possibilities of a society which is unhindered by sex-role stereotypes. In addition to its own courses, the Program cross-references more than 50 courses from 13 disciplines.

Students may major in Women's Studies at UConn by completing four core courses in theory, research methods, the internship program and the senior seminar plus fifteen hours of electives. Undergraduates may earn a minor in Women's Studies by completing fifteen hours of courses, of which twelve must be at the 200's level.

Graduate students, both UConn degree candidates and non-degree students, may earn a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies.

For information about any of our programs, please contact Marita McComiskey at 860-486-1133 or via e-mail at marita.mccomiskey@uconn.edu.

The Women's Studies Program offices are located at:
Beach Hall, Room 421
354 Mansfield Road, Unit 2181
Storrs, CT 06269
860-486-3970

Information about the Women's Studies program is also available at: <http://www.sp.uconn.edu/~womstu4/home.html>



The Women's Studies Program Mission Statement

Women's Studies is an innovative interdisciplinary program devoted to the critical analysis of gender and the pursuit of knowledge about women. The chief analytic category of Women's Studies is gender: the socially constructed meanings given to women and men. Among the questions that Women's Studies scholars ask are the following: How have societies demarcated social roles and definitions according to gender: What are and historically have been the practical and cultural consequences changed? What is the significance of gender in social institutions, systems of thought and representation, and everyday life for women and men?

Women's Studies as a field began with the observation that traditional disciplines described themselves without reference to the experience or contributions of women on social and cultural life, new analytical categories and methods of inquiry emerged. Women's Studies offers more than just important information about women; it raises fundamental theoretical questions about paradigms in traditional disciplines and encourages interdisciplinary advances.

The Program encourages and facilitates research about gender which contributes to a more balanced, inclusive and accurate picture of human experience. In this way, the Program complements the University's commitment to excellence, diversity, and responsiveness to the needs of the State. The Program fulfills its triad of responsibilities – research, teaching and service – with a unique focus on women which distinguishes it from all other departments or programs at the University.

Get Active, Create Change: Lobbying, Public Policy, and the College Women's Leadership Project

Beverley Brakeman is Executive Director of the Connecticut chapter of NOW, the National Organization for Women.

A 1985 graduate from Smith College, her feminist roots run deep, although it wasn't until 1990, that Beverley realized the depth of her commitment to addressing and challenging violence and other injustices against women. Beverley began her work in the violence against women movement as a volunteer training coordinator with the Hartford Region YWCA Sexual Assault Crisis Center. Within two years, Beverley had taken the position of Program Director, working to diversify its services, programs and staffing. Beverley then spent two years as the Assistant Director of Operations for the Hartford Region YWCA, where she managed the YWCA's Teen Program, Latina Women's Center, and the sexual assault program. In 1998, Beverley became Associate Director of Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc. (CONNSACS), the statewide sexual assault coalition. At CONNSACS, Beverley was responsible for overseeing all of the agency's operations and was the main public policy liaison and lobbyist on a statewide level.

In 2001, Beverly became Executive Director of Connecticut NOW. Beverley has coordinated CT NOW's activist and lobbying efforts to win pay equity for women and same-sex civil rights, to enhance women's leadership opportunities, and to oppose welfare-reform laws and free-trade agreements that hurt women and all workers in Connecticut.

CT NOW Mission: Through advocacy, action, and lobbying, CT NOW strives to challenge the root causes of public policies and practices that thwart a woman's right to self-determination and promote proactive and effective strategies for effecting change.

About Our Logo



The Women's Studies Program at the University of Connecticut, established in 1974, was the first formal program of its kind in the state. The patchwork quilt provides a metaphor for the Women's Studies Program's perspective: With its combination of regularity and variety, its symmetry and asymmetry, the quilt suggests the common themes in women's lives, as well as the diversity among women according to class, race, ethnicity, age, place, and many other factors. Like the quilt, the Program is greater than the sum of its parts, gaining strength and originality from its combination of intellectual, social, and cultural perspectives.

Presenter/Moderator List

Name	Session Number
Aguilar, Delia	2/3
Batog, Erin	3
Black Oak Collective	3
Breen, Margaret	1
Carlson, Jessica	1
Carlson, Sarah	4
Currier, Danielle	2/4
D'Alleva, Anne	1/2/3
Darling, Erin	2/3
DeLuca, Christine	2/3
Doshi, Monika	4
Driscoll, Michelle	1
Dussart, Françoise	3
Fox, Ashley	4
Goode, Dawn	1
Holgerson, Kathleen	1
Jordan-Zachary, Julia	2
Kading, Liz	2
Kelly, Kristin	4
Khan, Zara	2/3
Klish, Liz	2
Koladis, Rachel	2/3
Kryzkowski, Deanna	4
Lazur, Kirstyn	1
LeBel, Lea	4
LeBlanc, Amber	2/3
Levy, Michele	1
McCarthy, Devon	2/3
McDougall, Carey	3
Montini, Macaire	2/3
Nelson, Meredith	2/3
Noehren, Michelle	2/4
O'Toole, Kristen	2
Peel, Katie	3
Powers, Shanté	1
Purkayastha, Bandana	4
Radchowsky, Sage	3
Rose, Geoff	1
Simien, Evelyn M.	2
Smith, Natasha	1
Spellman, Donna-Jean	2
Szeweul, Amanda	4
Trautman, Linda	2
Valone, Alison	2/3
Vidwans, Malabika	4
West Steck, Laura	2
Williams, Meredith S.	4

Session IV

3:15 - 4:15

- **CAUGHT WITHIN THE WEB OF HIJAB AND CIVILIZATIONAL CONFLICT DISCOURSE: SOUTH ASIAN ACTIVISTS REFLECT ON GENDERED RACISM**
– Room # 216
Bandana Purkayastha, Monika Doshi & Malabika Vidwans
- **HIV RISK AND THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES AND SOUTH AFRICA** – Room # 380
“Prevalence of Risk Behavior in HIV-Positive Women”
Amanda Szeweul
“Rape and the Spread of HIV/AIDS in South Africa”
Ashley Fox
Moderator: Kristin Kelly
- **WOMEN AND VIOLENCE: MOVING FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE** – Room # 302
Major Panel Presenter: Danielle Currier
Discussants: Sarah Carlson, Lea LeBel, Deanna Kryzkowski, Michelle Noehren, Meredith S. Williams



Session I

9:00 - 10:00

- **DISCUSSION FORUM: WOMEN'S CENTERS AS SITES OF ACTIVISM**
– Room # 382

Michele Levy, Shanté Powers, Natasha Smith
Moderator: Kathleen Holgerson
- **GENDER RELATIONS IN OFFICE AND CLASSROOM**
– Room # 218

“Thinking About Men in Women's Studies Classes”
Anne D'Alleva & Kirstyn Lazur
“The Dynamics of Workplace Romance: Implications for Women”
Jessica Carlson
Moderator: Anne D'Alleva
- **RADCLYFFE HALL'S *WELL OF LONELINESS*: REPRESENTATIONS OF SEXUAL INVERSION**
– Room # 216

Michelle Driscoll, Dawn Goode, Geoff Rose
Moderator: Margaret Breen



Session II

10:15 - 11:15

- **POSTER SESSION** – Room # 358
Delia Aguilar and members of WS 289W Sr. Seminar -
Erin Darling, Christie DeLuca, Zara Khan, Rachel Koladis, Amber
LeBlanc, Devon McCarthy, Macaire Montini, Meredith Nelson,
Alison Valone
- **AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN AND PUBLIC POLICY**
– Room # 380
“Black Feminist Consciousness As It Differs Across Gender and
Public Policy”
Evelyn M. Simien
“For Us, By Us: Influencing Public Policies from a Black Woman’s
Perspective”
Julia Jordan-Zachary
“A Theoretical Perspective About the Policymaking Behavior of
Black Women in State Legislatures”
Linda Trautman
Moderator: Evelyn Simien
- **EATING DISORDERS, COMMUNITY AND IDENTITY**
– Room # 216
“Shattered: The Objectification of Women and It’s Effect on Young
Girls”
Michelle Noehren
“Feminist Perspectives on Eating Disorders and Eating
Disorder Activism”
Liz Klish & Kristen O’Toole
Moderator: Danielle Currier
- **MOTHERS AND RETURNING STUDENTS**
– Room # 302
“The Institutional Organization of Motherhood in the University
System”
Laura West Steck
“Challenges and Opportunities for Non-Traditional Students”
Donna-Jean Spellman, Liz Kading
Moderator: Anne D’Alleva

Session III

11:30 - 12:30

- **POSTER SESSION** – Room # 358
Delia Aguilar and members of WS 289W Sr. Seminar -
Erin Darling, Christie DeLuca, Zara Khan, Rachel
Koladis, Amber LeBlanc, Devon McCarthy, Macaire
Montini, Meredith Nelson, Alison Valone
- **DISCUSSION GROUP: “HOW I BECAME A TEENAGE
ANARCHIC FEMINIST”** - Room # 218
Members of the Black Oak Collective
- **GENDERED ECONOMIES OF KNOWLEDGE AND
POWER** – Room # 216
“Segregated Worlds Revisited: Exchange of Gendered
Ritual Knowledge in the Central Australian Desert”
Françoise Dussart
“Gender and Development in Nepal”
Sage Radchowsky
Moderator: Anne D’Alleva
- **THE POETICS AND POLITICS OF DISORDER**
– Room # 380
“Dirty Little Secrets: An Academic Approach to the
Demonization and Empowerment of Anorexia Nervosa,
Bipolar in Women and Lesbianism”
Erin Batog
Moderator: Katie Peel
- **RAPUNZEL’S REVENGE: RETURNING TO OUR
HAIRDO’S** – Room # 208
Carey McDougall