Feminism in Action

The 22nd Annual Conference on Women & Gender
at the University of Connecticut, Storrs

Friday, March 26, 2010
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Konover Auditorium and the Student Union

This Conference will focus on the diverse, intersecting and even contradictory ways that we practice (and at times fail to practice) feminism through pedagogy, activism, art, scholarship and daily life.

Morning Keynote Presentation by Diane Wilson, the author of An Unreasonable Woman: A True Story of Shrimpers, Politicos, Polluters and the Fight for Seadrift, Texas (Chelsea Green, 2005). She has fought Dow Chemical for their failure to act on behalf of the people of Bopal, India and she has traveled to Iraq to protest the US invasion. Most recently, she participated in the world climate talks in Copenhagen. She will also lead an activism workshop on “A Feminist's Guide to Monkeywrenching.”

Afternoon Keynote Presentation by Theodora Skipitares, a visual artist and theatre director who has been creating her works for more than 30 years. Skipitares has performed and exhibited her art in the U.S., Europe, Asia and South America, and collaborated with puppeteers, composers and choreographers in Vietnam, India and Cambodia. She has been awarded Guggenheim, Fulbright and Rockefeller Fellowships, and a UNIMA Citation for Excellence in Puppetry. Her works include “Under the Knife,” on the history of medicine; “Body of Crime,” on women in prison; and “Trilogy,” three plays about the long and bloody Trojan War created in response to the war in Iraq. She will also lead an afternoon workshop on activist art.

Special Feature: Open Space Technology allows people to create their own agenda for collective discussion. If you have a question/topic/issue you would like to get to talk about collectively join one of these session to engage in self-organizing, provocative face-to-face dialogues. Feminist activism means being actively engaged in defining what feminist activism means!

Panel Presentations and Workshops:
- Arts Education and Arts Activism
- Activism After University Work: Think AAUW!
- Organizing Against Child Sexual Abuse
- Feminist Pedagogy
- Gender & Sports
- Gender in the Workplace
- Generating Monsters or Queering Birth? Sex & Gender Transgression from Mary Shelly to Ursula LeGuin
- Homebirth as a Feminist Act
- Organizing for Reproductive Freedom
- Our Bawdies, Our Selves: Feminist and Queer Concerns in the Arts
- Prostitution and Sex Trafficking
- Representations of Gender in Today’s Media
- Transnational Feminist Organizing
- Violence Against Women, Human Rights and Health Effects

For more detailed information regarding the schedule and venue locations, please see our website: www.womens.studies.uconn.edu or contact the Women’s Studies Office at 860-486-3970.

Sponsored by the Women’s Studies Program
Thank you to our co-sponsors: Art/Art History, Asian American Studies, English, International Affairs, Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Puerto Rican & Latino Studies, Rainbow Center, Sociology, UConn Research Foundation and Women’s Center