

Spotlight on Faculty Series Spring 2012

Engendering the Movement for Democracy in Iran

Mahboubeh Abbasgholizadeh Scholar, Human Rights & Women's Studies

> Monday, March 26, 2012 12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM Beach Hall, Room 425

Over the past three decades, the Women's Movement has played a critical role in the struggle for equal rights in Iran. Women were a forceful presence during the 2009 Green Movement demonstrations, in which millions of Iranians poured onto the streets to demand democratic accountability. The Women's Movement's social networks facilitated the rapid spread of information amongst protesters, and the Movement's leadership provided organizational guidance.

Despite the strong support the Green Movement has received from women, gender marginalization within the Movement remains a persist issue. Strategic decisions within Iran's pro-democracy community continue to be made by men, and patriarchal attitudes remain prevalent.

In her presentation, Ms. Abbasgholizadeh will explore how women activists can draw attention to gender perspectives and promote a culture of equality within the Green Movement. By identifying shared values in a number of key areas, She will seek to locate common ground and present a strategy for further promotion and integration of gender equality.

This event sponsored by the Women's Studies Program.

For more information, please contact the Women's Studies Program at 860-486-3970 or wsinfo@uconn.edu