Ah, fall. Cool evenings, warm afternoons, changing colors, new students, and the resumption of classes combine to give us that freshly-sharpened pencil feeling that means that it’s “back to school” time. For the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, this fall is especially exciting because it marks the first semester that we have offered our own Global Leadership Initiative seminar for first-semester students, WGSS 191X, “Women’s Rights and Women’s Roles Around the World.”

Now in its third year, the GLI program seeks to prepare students to become leaders in their own fields and to work collaboratively with experts in other disciplines to address the complicated challenges of what President Engstrom has termed “the global century,” including population growth, sustainable development, and human rights. This program’s goals and structure—which includes out-of-classroom learning, leadership training, and a senior capstone project—mesh well with the WGSS Program’s emphasis on multidisciplinary scholarship, service learning, and our mission, which “encourages students to think critically and envision justice for all peoples.”

We are therefore delighted to have a group of twenty enthusiastic future leaders in WGSS 191X (the X indicates that the course fulfills the Global General Education Perspective). Created in consultation with the Women’s and Gender Studies Executive Committee and taught by the Co-Directors, this course takes a thematic approach, addressing such issues as paid and unpaid work, health and the environment, and political leadership and community activism. Like the Senior Capstone required of all WGSS Minors, the GLI seminar concludes with a group project with both a research and a service-learning component.

In the spirit of multidisciplinary collaboration, we have drawn on the expertise of many other campus and community resources. We are especially grateful to the members of the WGSS Executive Committee who have generously shared their time and knowledge with our students in guest lectures, including Celia Winkler and Teresa Sobieszczyk from Sociology. We also are happy to have partnered with the School of Music and the Montana Museum of Art and Culture (MMAC) to enrich our students’ perspective on women and the arts. The picture included in the newsletter is from the GLI class visit to MMAC, where the students explored an exhibit of women art collectors. We also exposed our students to the work of such local organizations as SARC, Women’s Voices for the Earth, the Missoula Human Rights Network, Planned Parenthood, the Missoula Police Department, and many others who agreed to participate in panel discussions. For the last third of the semester the students completed group projects they designed themselves. These include a short video about bystander intervention; an every body fashion show; a website about positive self esteem (morethanaface.weebly.com); and a ‘zine featuring all of these issues and more, found at: issuu.com/womenrule/docs/1_merged.

The Women’s and Gender Studies Program is proud to be part of the Global Leadership Initiative. In addition to WGSS 195X, the Program also is associated with the Initiative through courses taught by affiliated faculty members Clary Loisel (Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures), Kathy Kuipers (Sociology), and Andrea Olsen (Women’s and Gender Studies). Tobin Miller Shearer (History and African American Studies), who served on the GLI Taskforce that designed the Initiative, has passed on the baton to Anya Jabour (History and Women’s and Gender Studies), who also serves on the GLI Capstone Committee charged with designing the first-ever GLI Capstone. (Continued on page 7)
Day of Dialogue

The WGS Program continued its commitment to UM’s Day of Dialogue, the day-long diversity symposium now in its 9th year. African-American Studies Director and WGS-affiliated faculty, Professor Tobin Miller-Shearar, presented “Ice Cubed: Understanding Racism.” Spanish Professor Clary Loisel presented “Lesbianism is Alive and Well in Mexico” with Rosamaria Roffiel, the author of the book he is translating, Amora. Professors Chris Fiore and Beth Hubble conducted a workshop “Stand Up, Don’t Stand By” to further the bystander intervention approach to ending sexual violence on our campus. Professor Hubble also participated in the Emmaus Campus Ministry panel “Let’s Party: Honest Conversation about Parties, Drinking, Hook-Ups and More.” “Stand Up, Don’t Stand By” is part of UM’s collaboration with the New Hampshire-Based “Bringing in the Bystander” Program. This collaboration began last winter when Professor Victoria Banyard visited UM and presented her research into bystander intervention as part of UM’s Presidential Lecture Series. Part of Banyard’s team will be visiting Missoula in March for the full-day workshop to further our community and campus training in bystander intervention training. The March training is a “train the trainer” workshop, and members of the UM and Missoula violence prevention community will be available in the future to provide more bystander intervention trainings.

Contact Beth Hubble (elizabeth.hubble@umontana.edu, 243-4100) for more information.

Judy Smith

Judy Smith, a longtime Missoula activist, died at age 69 on November 6 after a long battle with cancer. Judy had been a fixture in Missoula feminism since her arrival in 1974 from Texas, where she had been involved in the landmark Supreme Court case on abortion rights, Roe v. Wade. In the mid-1970s, she helped reinvigorate the UM Women’s Resource Center and taught some of the first women’s studies courses on campus, as well as organizing a series of conferences on women’s issues. She helped found Women’s Place, which offered services to survivors of sexual assault, and the Women’s Economic Development Group Organization. She also was instrumental in establishing the Blue Mountain Clinic and Women’s Opportunity and Resource Development (WORD). Her legacy lives on in the continuing work of these organizations.

In Memoriam

 Nichole Mikko-Causby

In July we lost Nichole Mikko-Causby Sgarlato, a graduate certificate seeker under the advisement of WGSS Co-Director Anya Jabour. Nichole, a roller derby girl, retro fashion lover, AmeriCorps volunteer and History student, died at the age of 27 from a secondary infection in her fight against glioblastoma, a type of brain tumor that can cause progressive memory, personality or neurological deficits.

Nichole’s untimely death cut short her pathbreaking research on pioneering feminist-lesbian civil rights lawyer Pearl Hart (1889-1975). Of this project, Nichole wrote: “Pearl Hart’s study will bolster our understanding of lesbian history before Stonewall by serving as a microhistory of midcentury American and a window into the world of LGBTIQ activism.” After graduation, Nichole had planned to teach at the high school level. As she put it, “I am invested in integrating cutting edge feminist scholarship into the entire fabric of American history curriculum.” While we mourn Nichole’s death, we are determined to advance her goals.
Alumni Spotlight
Dawn Walsh, Class of 2000

I am happy to report I have been able to apply, in a variety of capacities, the skills and knowledge I acquired as a student in the Women’s and Gender Studies program at the University of Montana. Upon graduating in 2000, I worked as Program Coordinator for the Women’s and Gender Studies program at UM. I also worked for the Montana Feminist History Project, conducting oral histories with women from around the state who were instrumental in advancing the rights and improving the lives of other Montana women.

In 2002, I left Missoula for New York to pursue an MA in Women’s History at Sarah Lawrence College, where I wrote an oral history-based thesis on the Lesbian Avengers. While at SLC, I worked in the College Archives, processing women-focused collections, such as papers related to the founding of Women’s History Month. Also while at SLC, I served as Programming Coordinator for the LGBTQ Studies program and in that capacity established an annual Queer Film Festival.

Since 2006, I have been living in Philadelphia, where I worked for several years as Program Manager for Soroptimist International, an international women’s rights organization. As Program Manager, I helped administer and develop programs in pursuit of the organization’s mission to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.

While earning my MFA at Rutgers University-Camden, I put my Women’s and Gender Studies degrees to work by teaching Women’s and Gender Studies courses at the Community College of Philadelphia and at Rutgers University-Camden. Now that I have completed my degree, I am especially excited about teaching a new course at Rutgers University-Camden, Introduction to LGBTQ History, with thirty students who are all very excited about learning the material.

-Dawn Walsh, Class of 2000

Dr. Teresa Sobieszczyk, Fulbright Scholar

I’m Dr. Teresa Sobieszczyk. I teach a WGS content course, Gender and Global Development (SOCI 371). In August, I returned from a 10-month long Fulbright scholarship in Can Tho University (CTU), in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. My fellowship focused on Teaching and Curriculum Development on Sustainable Development, though more of my time was spent teaching research methods and English than sustainable development. I did, however, complete a review of the curriculum at the Mekong Delta Research Institute, which hosted me, and developed nine new syllabi for a proposed Sociology Department at CTU. I also gave a series of pro-seminars on teaching and research for the broader CTU community, which I shared with faculty at three smaller colleges in the Mekong Delta. One of my presentations at the US Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) focused on Gender and US Society. While working in a Communist country was challenging in terms of censorship, controlled movement, and very patriarchal working environment, I made several close friends and am collaborating on an on-going basis with one of my colleagues. One outcome of this experience is that I am developing new modules on Vietnam for three of my UM courses. If faculty or students are interested in applying for Fulbright Awards, I am more than happy to be a resource. – Dr. Teresa Sobieszczyk
Kelly Loftus

Kelly heard about the WGSS program when she was a freshmen taking an intro to WGSS course with Beth Hubble. She LOVED the class and it got her really excited about feminism. At the time she was majoring in a subject that was of little interest to her and after a year she switched over to Liberal Arts with the WGSS emphasis. “The faculty in the Liberal Arts department are absolutely phenomenal” says Kelly, “they have been the most enjoyable aspect of this course of study so far.”

Kelly’s career goals are not what one might expect from a feminist liberal arts student. She is currently serving in the 639th Chemical Company in Missoula as a supply specialist in the Montana Army National Guard. Her ultimate goal is to secure a full-time Active Guard Reserve position within the Montana National Guard, but after graduation she intends on going active duty Army and attending Officer Candidate School. Loftus adds, “The WGSS course of study will provide a solid foundation for me to become a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate within the Army, or work for the Army Women’s Foundation or related organizations. The military, though a keystone patriarchal institution, is rapidly changing, and it will need people with different perspectives to help facilitate these changes. My WGSS courses have provided me with some of that perspective.”

Kelly says the most enjoyable activist work as an undergraduate has been her work with the Hypsy Gypsies, a local bellydance troupe that strives to be involved with feminist/LGBT events and organizations. Kelly has been introduced to so many incredible female role models within the belly dance community here in Missoula. When Kelly is not working hard, studying hard and belly dancing, she enjoys power-lifting, riding motorcycles, reading, and chipping away at the patriarchy whenever the opportunity presents itself. Congratulations Kelly – we are so happy you joined us in WGSS!

Kayla Blackman

Kayla Blackman, originally from Billings, Montana, enrolled in Anya Jabour’s American Women’s History class the spring of her freshman year...and the rest is history! At the time her plan was to minor in history while working towards an archaeology degree. By the end of a semester in Anya’s course, Kayla declared a second major in history with a minor in WGSS. Five years later, she is finishing her Master's Degree under Anya's inspirational guidance, and couldn't be happier.

“I love the interdisciplinary nature of the classes,” says Blackman of the program, “getting out of my comfort zone and interacting with students in other majors has been extremely beneficial. I've learned to articulate myself in clearer ways, and I think the value of cooperation is something a lot of other majors lack. It’s really neat to have such a dynamic learning experience while still in college.”

Kayla hopes to pursue a PhD in History and WGSS. Blackman says, “I would love to be a college professor. There's something really unique about the intellectual environment of college campuses and college towns. I'm committed to being an active, engaged learner for the rest of my life. I'd like to inspire others to do the same.” If being a professor doesn't work out, she would like to work for a state historical society. Kayla spent the summer working with the Montana Historical Society on their centennial celebration of Women’s Suffrage in Montana. Blackman recounts, “We built a website (montanawomenshistory.org) which stresses open access education, another type of learning I am very passionate about.” When Kayla isn’t teaching her freshman history course, studying or volunteering, she enjoys visits to historic sites, museums and travel in general. Congratulations Kayla – we are sad to see you go next spring, but can’t wait to see what you do!
The Gender Expansion Project’s mission is to promote gender inclusive education and awareness surrounding transgender, transsexual, intersex and gender diverse people through evidence based care, education, research, advocacy, public and private policy and respect for transgender health and wellbeing. GEP focuses on bringing together diverse professionals dedicated to developing best practices and supportive policies and programs throughout Montana to promote health, research, education, respect, dignity and equality for transgender, transsexual, intersex and gender diverse people of Montana and beyond. In October GEP held the Trans Health Conference at the University of Montana, followed by GenderSpectrUM in November. For more information or to get involved, visit the website at genderexpansionproject.org.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Hiltrud Arens presented “Stories from the Capital: Carmen-Francesca Banciu’s Berlin ist mein Paris” at the Berlin Special Topics Session at the Annual Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference, October 10-12, 2013, in Vancouver, Washington. She also taught as a faculty exchange at the University of Potsdam, Germany, in the German Department spring semester 2013.


Chris Fiore and Elizabeth Hubble were named Educators of the Year at the Missoula Family Violence Council Awards.

Anya Jabour, Professor of History and Co-Director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, presented a paper, “The Education of an Activist: Sophonisba Breckinridge's Kentucky Childhood,” at the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association in St. Louis, Missouri, on November 1, 2013; published “Prostitution Politics and Feminist Activism in Modern America: Sophonisba Breckinridge and the Morals Court in Prohibition-Era Chicago,” Journal of Women’s History, Vol. 25, No. 3 (Fall 2013), 141-164; reviewed Martha Jefferson Randolph, Daughter of Monticello: Her Life and Times, by Cynthia Kierner, for the Journal of Southern History, Vol. 79, No. 3 (August 2013), 693-694; and reviewed Families in Crisis in the Old South: Divorce, Slavery, and the Law, by Loren Schweninger, for Reviews in American History, Vol. 41 (September 2013), 458-461. She was also one of twenty-five participants in a Summer Institute sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities at the Newberry Library in Chicago in June and July 2013. The Institute, "Making Modernism: Literature and Culture in Twentieth-Century Chicago, 1893-1955," provided useful background for her current project on Chicago-based educator and activist Sophonisba Preston Breckinridge (1866-1948). Anya also served as the first Faculty Advocate for the Student Advocacy Resource Center (SARC) in 2012-2013 and presented a session on "Feminism, Empowerment, Efficacy, and Advocacy" for the Fall 2013 SARC training of new advocates on September 3, 2013.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS


Robyn Hegland (Class of 2011) was hired as Development Coordinator at Bitterroot Youth Home this fall.

If you are an alum of our program we would love to hear from you! Email us at jamie.boschee@umontana.edu with updates, photos and post-graduation highlights.
This year I had the pleasure of attending the National Women’s Studies Association Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. The experience was overwhelming in the best way. I attended panels regarding social media, fundraising for WGS programs, marketing and recruitment. In this trying time for higher education, collaboration is key. This winter, armed with brilliant ideas shared at the conference, I will create an internship catalog to market our service learning opportunities, build a social media internship with WGSS minor Cassidy Belus, create a program that encourages local high schools to host talks by affiliated faculty and begin work on recruitment in new and innovative ways. I am set to begin a graduate degree in Public Health next year, and was able to attend a few health themed panels. Three inspiring women, Whitney A. Peoples (Emory University), Rachel Dudley (Emory University), and Sheri Davis-Faulkner (Georgia IT), hosted a panel titled “Screening the Body: New Directions for Feminist Health Scholarship and Activism Through Engaging Popular Media”. Their engrossing and powerful presentation was the highlight of my conference experience, and I encourage you to seek out their work on the history of gynecology, and the representation of black female bodies and health in media. I am eternally grateful to the WGSS Executive Committee for allowing me this invaluable opportunity, and hope that all the amazing ideas and inspiration I returned with will help our program thrive!

-Jamie Boschee, WGSS Program Coordinator

Please Welcome...

Dr. Kim Brown Campbell, Campus Assault Prevention Coordinator

Kim Brown Campbell, EdD, LCPC, ATR, has been hired as the Campus Assault Prevention Coordinator. This newly created position is funded through UM’s Cooperative Agreement with the Department of Justice Office of Violence against Women’s Campus Grant Program. Dr. Brown Campbell has been part of the ongoing efforts to address sexual violence on our campus for the past year and a half within the Department of Counselor Education. She brings years of expertise to UM in the field of violence prevention. Prior to accepting this new position, she worked to develop and co-lead Missoula’s Justice System Team Response to Intimate Partner Violence (JUST Response). JUST Response is the coordinated community and criminal justice system response to relationship violence in Missoula County. Her experience working with the multiple stakeholders in the community and on campus will serve her well in this new position. Dr. Brown Campbell received Bachelor of Arts degrees in Psychology and Studio Art from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a Master of Arts in Art Therapy from The George Washington University, and received her Education Specialist and Doctorate of Education in Counselor Education degrees from the University of Montana in 2007 and 2012 respectively. Dr. Brown Campbell can be reached at Kimberly.Campbell@umontana.edu. We welcome Kim to this important position at the University of Montana.
Sixth Annual Faculty Writing Retreat 2013

For the sixth consecutive year, members of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program gathered on beautiful Flathead Lake for three days of concentrated writing. For many of us, the annual writing retreat offers an opportunity to transition from teaching to scholarship as well as a launching pad for that summer’s research. This year, faculty worked on projects ranging from School of Music adjunct instructor Nancy Cooper’s project on pioneering musician Anna Maud Van Hoose to History Assistant Professor and African Americans Studies Director Tobin Miller Shearer’s examination of religion and race, “Buttcheek to Buttcheek in the Pew.” The WGS Writing Retreat boasts an impressive publication record. This fall, two publications resulted from work completed on previous retreats: Anya Jabour’s article in the Journal of Women’s History and Beth Hubble’s “Par fiançe bien tenir: Medieval Same-Sex Kinship and Sworn Brotherhood in Le Roman de Thèbes” in Medieval Feminist Forum.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS CONTINUED

Clary Loisel published Out of the Closet and onto the Stage: Anthology of Contemporary Mexican Gay and Lesbian Theater” San Francisco: Floricanto Press, 2013 (319 pages); arranged visit and met with Mexican Consul Guillermo Ordonez R and Deputy Consul Diego A. Simancas Gutiérrez to UM to discuss Intercultural exchanges (Oct., 2013); introduced and moderated the discussion of the Mozambican film Garden of the Other Man at the UC Theater as part of International Programs Film Committee’s series “The Portuguese Connection” (Oct. 16, 2013); presented “Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality in Contemporary Latin American Film and Literature” and “The Importance of Learning a Foreign Language” as part of the Global Leadership Initiative, (Oct., 2013); invited Mexican novelist, short story writer, poet, and former journalist Rosamaría Roffiel to campus as part of the Global Leadership Initiative Speakers’ Bureau (Nov., 2013); presented “Lesbianism is Alive and Well in the Contemporary Mexican Novel: Amora, a Case Study” as part of Day of Dialogue (Nov. 6, 2013); and is currently teaching a GLI course titled MCLG 191 "Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality in Contemporary Latin American Literature and Film”.


Co-Director's Greeting Continued

Fall 2013 also witnessed the second year of UM’s mandatory online sexual assault prevention tutorial for students, PETSA (Personal Empowerment Through Self-Awareness). Co-Director Beth Hubble is the instructor of record for PETSA 2013-2014, and has overseen the more than 4000 students who were required to take the 20-minute online tutorial this fall. Whereas in the first year, the instructors of PETSA faced intense scrutiny and criticism, this year the tutorial has become an accepted part of UM culture. As part of UM’s agreement with the federal Department of Justice, WGSS-affiliated faculty member Psychology Professor Chris Fiore is overseeing a campus climate survey to ascertain if, in fact, we are witnessing a shift in campus culture towards a safer campus and culture for women and others who experience gender-based violence as a result of PETSA and our other violence prevention efforts. (see p. 6 for an article about Kim Brown Campbell, UM’s new Campus Assault Prevention Coordinator; and p 2 for information about our bystander intervention trainings.) UM receives almost weekly requests from other universities about using PETSA on their campuses. Check out Vanderbilt PETSA on the Vanderbilt University website here vanderbilt.edu/personalempowerment.

We are eager to keep our supporters, alumni, and other interested parties informed about the WGSS Program’s work. Please share this newsletter with others, and if you are interested in getting more regular updates, e-mail our Program Coordinator, Jamie Boschee, to be added to the WGSS Weekly, our e-newsletter, at jamie.boschee@mso.umt.edu. We also encourage our alumni to provide us with current contact information so that we can keep them informed and feature them in our “Alumni Spotlight” (see p. 3 on alumna Dawn Walsh!).

-Anyababour & Beth Hubble
Women’s and Gender Studies, an interdisciplinary program founded in 1971, encourages the production, discussion, and dissemination of knowledge about women’s experiences, oppressions, and achievements, in Montana, the U.S., and the world. In the last decade, this focus has broadened to include study of the social and cultural construction of gender, sex, and sexualities. By fostering awareness of cultural and international diversity, as well as of the circulation of power mediated by race, class, age, and sexual orientation, Women’s and Gender Studies encourages students to think critically and to envision justice for all peoples.

Would you like to donate to the Women’s and Gender Studies Program? Send a check to The University of Montana Foundation, PO Box 7159 Missoula, MT 59807-7159 with a note on the memo line indicating that the donation is for the Women’s and Gender Studies Program.

Donate securely on our website: www.cas.umt.edu/wsprog

For more information on gift giving, contact the UM Foundation at (800) 442-2593, (406) 243-2593 or UMFoundation@mso.umt.edu.

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