

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Marian Lief Palley

We have had another wonderful year in Women's Studies. Our academic program is thriving, our service commitments have been very well received and many of our faculty members have been recognized both in the university and in the broader professional and Delaware communities.

Women's Studies is clearly thriving at the University of Delaware. At the end of the 2003-2004 academic year we had more than 70 majors and 140 minors. In addition, our enrollments remained high with over 3,500 students in our courses. Teaching has certainly been feted in our program. For example, Dr. Marie Laberge was awarded one of the University of Delaware's coveted *Excellence in Teaching Awards*.

Our programming has continued to be very well received. This past year we celebrated our 30th anniversary and held several programs to highlight this milestone. We began the year with a panel presentation as part of our annual Research on Women Lecture Series, entitled, *Women's Activism: Three Centuries of Change*. The presenters focused attention on the past, the present and the future of the women's movement. Dr. Anne Boylan addressed the history of the U.S. women's movement, Dr. Kathleen Turkel spoke about the issues of concern to the second wave of women's rights activists, and Rachel Dash and Leigh Snyder, both Women's Studies students, discussed their vision of the future of the women's movement. In October, we invited Amy Richards and Jennifer Baumgardner, authors of *Manifesta: Young Women, Feminism, and the Future*, to UD to present the annual Carter Lecture and to help us celebrate our 30th anniversary. They spoke to an overflow crowd of students and community members about the current status of the women's movement and the role of young women in the movement.

The spring semester is always a busy season in Women's Studies. In March,

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WOMEN'S STUDIES

CONNECTIONS

A PUBLICATION OF THE WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE • FALL 2004

PROFESSOR EMPHASIZES ACTIVISM AND CHANGE

DR. SUSAN MILLER'S focus is the interplay of gender and the criminal justice system. She is a very well-liked teacher and a prolific writer. Students of Women's Studies, Sociology, and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware have benefited from her enthusiasm in the classroom and her unflinching support and mentorship. More than a few have received encouragement from her to enroll as interns, write theses, or consider graduate school.

She teaches several very popular classes including "Gender and the Criminal Justice System," "Crime Victims and Victim's Rights," "Criminal Justice Policy," "Problems of Law Enforcement," and "Gender, Crime and Deviance," which is a graduate course. Her courses emphasize positive activism and policy changes — actions that can transform. Her newest course, "Social Justice in Film and Literature," was developed in response to feeling overwhelmed by victimization and a concern that the material she was teaching was unrelentingly sad. "Students are sometimes overwhelmed with their own experiences of victimization," says Dr. Miller. "Sometimes this inspires them to take initiative to do something in response to their experiences." She finds that film and literature provide a new lens for



Dr. Susan Miller

looking at social problems.

"What happens so often with criminal justice is a focus on male workers and laws that have not included women and people who are more marginalized. I wanted films [and stories] to look at justice issues and how people's lives are complicated and controlled by institutions. People get most of their crime information from movies and television. The class provides a

powerful way to use that medium." She uses classic films like "Twelve Angry Men" and "To Kill a Mockingbird." In addition she found movies that expand how to define justice and include race, class, gender and sexuality such as "Boys Don't Cry," "A Question of Silence," "Unforgiven," and "Set It Off," which deal with themes of crime and victimization. "A Simple Plan," "Bowling for Columbine," "Dolores Claiborne," and "Shawshank Redemption" address issues of justice. She finds that short stories like Stephen King's "Quitters Incorporated" is a great study of deterrence, along with standards like "The Lottery," and "A Jury of Her Peers."

Dr. Miller sees students come to the study of gender and criminal justice with preconceived notions and firm stereotypes. "What I try to do in all my classes is challenge students' rigidity. In criminal justice thinking [students] assume guilt instead of a presumption of innocence. They think people must have done something if they were arrested. They support the death penalty without knowing the research. I try to inter-

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SELECTED UPCOMING EVENTS

♦ **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS WEEK** will begin early fall and continue throughout the year. Please check our Web site at www.udel.edu/WomensStudies/index.html for more information. Events are open to the public.

♦ **LAURA FLANDERS** Author of *Bushwomen: Tales of a Cynical Species*, will give a lecture on **Tuesday, October 5**, at 7:00 p.m. 206 Kirkbride Hall. Open to the public. ■



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

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we presented our annual Women's History Month Film Series. In addition, in March and April, we ran a program on *Women in War and Conflict* consisting of two films and two public lectures to focus campus-wide attention on the effects of war and conflict on women. Cynthia Enloe, Professor of Political Science at Clark University presented a lecture entitled, "Militarism and Empire: Some Feminist Clues." Enloe discussed the role of women in the military world and the role of women as wives, daughters, and service providers in relation to the military. Anne Brodsky, Assistant Professor of Psychology at University of Maryland-Baltimore County, presented a slide-lecture on women of Afghanistan. Brodsky has spent time in Afghanistan with members of the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA).

We coordinated two international academic conferences this past year. At the start of the fall semester, I ran a conference that was co-sponsored by the American Political Science Association and funded by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission that was attended by Japanese and American Scholars of women and politics. Later in the academic year, Dr. Margaret Stetz coordinated a conference on "'Michael Field' and Their World" that attracted over 70 scholars from countries around the world to UD.

An additional piece of information: Women's Studies will be reviewed this year by an invited group of scholars from other universities as well as by scholars from UD. This is part of a review that is conducted on a regular basis to help maintain and shape future developments in departments and programs We would like to hear from you if you have anything that you would like to share with us about your experiences as a Women's Studies student or the influence of Women's Studies courses in your life.

*Marian Lief Palley, Director
Women's Studies*

21ST GEIS CONFERENCE

The twenty-first **Geis Student Research on Women Conference** was held on Saturday, April 3, in Alfred Lerner Hall. Students who attend school in the twelve institutions that comprise the membership of the Greater Philadelphia Women's Studies Consortium were invited to submit papers. This year twenty-eight papers from six institutions were accepted for presentation. A special feature, that we hope to continue, was the screening of eight short films by graduate student filmmakers from Temple University. Judith Gibson, Assistant Vice-President for Affirmative Action and Multi-cultural Programs at the University of Delaware, offered a warm welcome to participants. Closing remarks and announcements of awards were presented by Rickie Sanders, Coordinator of the Consortium and Professor of Geography and Women's Studies at

Temple University.

A panel of faculty members drawn from the member institutions of the Consortium selected two undergraduate and two graduate papers for awards. **Dale Jennings**, Swarthmore College, won the first place award for "Is he not a man?: Masculinity and Sexual Deviancy in Memphis During Reconstruction." **Alice Cartwright**, Haverford College, received the second place undergraduate award for " 'We also have to find our own identity:' Traditions and Change among Young Hindu Women in Nepal." Winners in the graduate category were **Christine Bayles Kortsch**, first place, University of Delaware, for "Mourning the House: The Sentimental Politics of Grief in Harriet E. Wilson's *Our Nig*" and **Wei Qiu**, second place, University of Delaware, for "Asian American Women in Interracial Marriages." ■

THANK YOU DONORS

The following donors' generous support this year has helped our program thrive.

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FACULTY NOTES

Margaret Andersen, Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies, presented the keynote address for Women's History Month on "Thinking About Women in a Multiracial Society" at Berry College, March 2004.

Erica Armstrong, Assistant Professor of History and Women's Studies, received a Mellon Junior Faculty Career Enhancement Fellowship for 2003-2004.

Sally Bould, Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies, presented "Tamara Hareven's Contribution to the Concept of Carework" at an international conference on "The History of the Family, Past, Present and Future In Memoriam Tamara Hareven" in October 2003.

Anne Boylan, Professor of History and Women's Studies, received the Roselle Award from the Middle States Conference for the Social Studies, 2004. She is also Chair of the J. Franklin Jameson Fellowship Committee of the American Historical Association.

Margie Kiter Edwards, Instructor in Women's Studies, received the 2003 Outstanding Contribution to Feminist Scholarship Award given in Vancouver, BC, by the Feminism and Family Studies section of the National Council on Family Relations.

Peter Feng, Associate Professor of English and Women's Studies, received a University of Delaware General University Research Grant for 2003-2004. He also gave the keynote address on "Television, Misrecognition, and Ventriloquism: Who Speaks for Asian Americans?" at the Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, University of California at Santa Barbara in May 2004. He is chair of the Nominating Committee of the Society for Cinema Studies.

Elizabeth Higginbotham, Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies, was named the Eastern Sociological Society Robin M. Williams Jr. Distinguished Lecturer.

Saul Hoffman, Professor and Chair of the Department of Economics and Professor of Women's Studies, published

Women and the Economy: Family, Work, and Pay (with Susan Averett). His earlier book, *Helping Working Families: The Earned Income Tax Credit* (with Laurence Seidman) was selected as a Noteworthy Book in Industrial Relations and Labor Economics by the Industrial Relations Section of Princeton University.

Marie Laberge, Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, was awarded an Excellence in Teaching Award by the University of Delaware.

Wunyabari Maloba, Associate Professor of History and Women's Studies, serves on the editorial board of the *Encyclopedia of Twentieth-Century African History*.

Lawrence Marceau, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures and Women's Studies, was invited to present "Labor-related Issues for College and University Faculty in the United States" at Kanazawa University in Japan in July 2003. He was also panel organizer of "Continental Asian Crosscurrents in Early Modern Japan" at the Third International Convention of Asia Scholars in Singapore, August 2003.

Rudi Matthee, Professor of History and Women's Studies, organized the second biennial conference of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies in Yerevan, Armenia, in April 2004 and delivered the presidential address at the convention. He also spoke at the Institut fuer Iranistik der Oesterreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Vienna in June 2004.

Marian Lief Palley, Director of Women's Studies and Professor of Political Science and International Relations, was Symposium Editor of PS Political Science and Politics (January 2004), "Women, Politics and Public Policy: A Comparative Perspective." She was invited to present at the June 2004 National Women's Studies Association roundtable on "Beyond 1 in 100"; also the Midwest Political Science Association on "The Second Wave Women's Movement and Social Movements" in April 2004; Hankuk University for Foreign Studies (Korea) on "Gender and Public Policy Decision Making in State and Local Jurisdictions" in March 2004; and the Southern Political Science Association on "Mentoring in the Profession" in

January 2004. She was also appointed to the American Association of University Women's (AAUW) American Fellowships Awards Committee.

Lucia Palmer, Professor of Philosophy and Women's Studies, was Chair of "Philosophy and Alienation" at the I.M.I.S.E. International Conference in Klagenfurt, Austria, in August 2003.

Karen Rosenberg, Chair and Associate Professor of Anthropology and Associate Professor of Women's Studies, was invited to present "A Time To Be Born: Why Does Human Pregnancy Last Nine Months?" with Wenda Trevathan, and "Human Evolution in the Far Northeast: The Significance of the Jinniushan Fossil for Models of Modern Human Origins" with Lü Zuné at the meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

Margaret D. Stetz, Mae and Robert Carter Professor of Women's Studies, was co-organizer, with Mark Samuels Lasner, of "Michael Field and Their World," an international conference held at the University of Delaware in February 2004. She has published *Gender and the London Theatre 1880-1920*, and co-curated an exhibition of the same title, with Mark Samuels Lasner, at Bryn Mawr College from September to November 2003. In addition, she was invited to present "The Wilde Trials and the Bodley Head" at Wolfson College, Oxford University, in June 2004. ■

NEW COURSES APPROVED

Topics in Constitutional Law (WOMS 402/POSC 401).

Critical topics of constitutional law.

Family Life Education (WOMS/IFST 430 — formerly Teaching Family Life).

Investigates curriculum and instructional strategies for use in support, prevention, and empowerment-based programs across the lifespan. ■

SUSAN MILLER *continued from page 1*

rupt the stereotypes using the course material to connect with their own lives so they realize they're not so different from victims and offenders."

For the past several years Dr. Miller has been working on a book with Michelle Meloy, *Vindicating Victims: Exploring the Policies and Politics of Violence Against Women*, to be published by Oxford University Press. The book took much longer than expected to complete. The contract was signed before Dr. Miller's son, Connor, was born and she "didn't fully anticipate how much more challenging time management would become" with the arrival of a baby. The combined experiences of parenting and writing have offered her new empathy and insight into issues of gender and work. The goal of the book is to look at the controversies and contradictions that are inherent in policy. Dr. Miller believes that the unintended consequences of policies for welfare, public housing, and mandatory arrest have actually increased the harm to victims of crime in recent years. The book also looks at how victims of violence are discussed, ignored, blamed, and used to titillate consumers of the media.

With her characteristic energy and drive, Dr. Miller is now working on a book for Rutgers University Press. It represents a culmination of work on the paradox of women victims of abuse who are getting arrested on domestic violence charges and court mandated to attend batterer treatment groups, a nationwide phenomenon. Collection of data involved interviews with police,

prosecutors, probation personnel, public defenders, shelter workers, and service providers. Dr. Miller also sat in on three different twelve-week treatment programs for women who were arrested as batterers. The book, to be completed during the summer of 2004, analyzes data and raises larger legal questions about the disparity in treatment and policy issues.

Dr. Miller has just finished three articles and a book chapter on criminal justice and gender issues. One article, written with graduate student Shana Maier, uses interview data from two states on female judges. The central question is whether gender affects case outcomes and addresses the question of whether women bring a different voice to the justice process. A second article returns to issues Dr. Miller explored in a previous book on gender and community policing. She invited Jessica Hodge, a graduate student, to work with her on how gender impacts community policing given that it's such a macho profession. The authors ask how gender and job issues collide in a traditionally male profession that has adopted aspects of social work, a traditionally more female profession.

As she continues to extend knowledge about victims of crime and the systems that intersect with them her courses will continue to evolve. The benefit to her students is enormous, and she makes clear how her students encourage her in her work. "I love having Women's Studies students in my classes — they're not apologetic about gender." We in Women's Studies know that the sentiment is mutual.



2003 Katherine Ebert is a Residential Counselor for Child Inc. at Sarah's House, battered women's shelter, in Bear, DE.

Missa Goehring is working for the Landstone Group, executive recruiters in Manhattan, as a Marketing Associate.

Ariel Hegedus spent the past year working for Emily's List, a political action committee that works to get women elected to public office. She is living in Philadelphia, PA.

2002 Marisa Thompson lives in Providence, RI, where she is Case Manager for Phoenix House of New England, working with incarcerated women serving time in a substance abuse facility.

2001 Danielle Comarow has been accepted into the Master of Social Work program at the University of Pennsylvania beginning in fall 2004.

Jennifer Morgan has just completed her first year in the Master of Social Work program at Delaware State University, Dover, DE.

1998 Beth Uzwiak is enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Anthropology at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA.

1996 Christine Cariello graduated from Yeshiva University in June 2003 with a Doctorate in Psychology in school-clinical child psychology. She is now working in Washington, DC, as a Psychology Associate for the Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents.

1995 Pamela Denney-Griffiths has achieved certification as a Domestic Violence Specialist for the State of Delaware. She is Coordinator of Family Visitation Centers for Child, Inc.

Morissa Sher is Clinical Coordinator for The MENTOR Network in Philadelphia, PA, a where she provides therapy to children in out-of-home placements. She has also been exploring her artistic side.

Jessica Tagliaferro is enrolled in the graduate program in Library Science at the Palmer School of Long Island University, Manhattan Campus, NY.

1991 Tara (Gropp) Pellet received her Masters in Education from Cabrini College and a Master of Arts in Human Science from Hood College. She is working as a College Counselor for a private girl's high school in Kensington, MD. Her second child was born in February 2004.

1980 Lisa Marcus lives in Ontario, Canada, where she has a pottery business, Mermaid Springs Pottery, producing goddess goblets, pendants, and goddess and mermaid objects.



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LET US HEAR FROM YOU! The program is very interested in knowing about personal and career achievements of our alumni. Please fill out the section below and return it to Women's Studies, 109 Ewing Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE. 19716 or e-mail Jesss@udel.edu.

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Major or minor in Women Studies at UD

Year of graduation _____

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of Special Merit

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leadership, and service in
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