



New Tenure Hire!

Women Studies is proud to present Amy Brandzel as our new joint appointment hire with American Studies. She recently received her doctorate from the Feminist Studies program at the University of Minnesota with an emphasis on queer, feminist, critical race and postcolonial theories of history, law and citizenship. She has published an article on normativities and citizenship as deployed in same-sex marriage law, titled "Queering Citizenship? Same-Sex Marriage and the



State," GLQ 11.2 (March 2005): 171-204. We look forward to working with her.

WS Blog!

The new Women Studies Blog is up and running! Find interesting articles, comment on others' posts, write your own feminist perspective for posting to the community! Topics have included:
 Witch Hunts
 Women Soldiers
 Media reaction to Britney Spears
 Definition of Rape
 The UNM presidential search
 And many, many more!

Check it out!
<http://unmwomen.blogspot.com/>

Logo Design by Whitney Potter—Women Studies undergrad who now works for an women's issues NGO in Washington, DC

April 3, 2007

Special points of interest:

- Graduates should plan to see Gail before April 15, 2007
- Send an email to ghouston@unm.edu to be added to the Student, Graduate Student, or Faculty List Serve
- Watch for information on new Director of Women Studies
- Watch for news about our study abroad programs currently in development
- Check out Summer and Fall Classes on the Web www.unm.edu/~womenst

Letter from the Director

Gail Houston



When Cecelia Fire Thunder spoke at the UNM International Women's Day luncheon and conference recently, she stated that many people ask her where she gets the courage to speak out the way she does. She laughed and remarked, "I always tell them, I'm not alone; I have the grandmothers beside me." That really touched me. My grandmother passed away 32 years ago, but I still feel her strength in my life: reading her letters from 1913 (when she was barely 20), I see what a feminist she was.

There are so many "grandmothers" around us. When I teach 19th-century British women writers and discuss the suffragists and "New Woman," it is astonishing to me how hard they fought for the vote, for the right to go to college, for the right to enter fields of work only open to men. They did it day after day, not knowing it would take the

women's movement in England another 60-80 years to get the vote for women. Those who started the movement never saw their efforts come to fruition in their lifetimes. And I, a "granddaughter," have all the rights they fought for because of their unshakeable commitment. I honor them.

I also honor the second and third waves of feminism and the fierce, brilliant "grandmothers" who made and are making extraordinary kinds of activism and theory occur; they revitalize, critique, and sustain the women's movement. Teaching feminist theory or research methods truly makes me humble as I see the bravery, honesty, and dedication of these "grandmothers"; and I watch how their writings so strongly affect and change the lives of the "granddaughters" in my classroom.

It has been a privilege to serve as Director of Women Studies, a program established in 1972 by formidable UNM "grandmothers," who did not take "no" for an answer. Literally willing this program into existence, they started out in a faculty office with no funding and no staffing. Look at WS today: the major was established in 1999; a graduate certificate was established this year, and every semester we have at least 500 students taking our Women Studies courses and cross-listed courses (this semester there are 664 taking said courses). The previous directors of WS made all this possible. I hope that they will accept the metaphorical label of "grandmother" as an honorific (Continued on page 2)

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McNair Scholarship by Mary Bourne

For more information please contact Carolina at caguirre@unm.edu. Mary is also happy to answer questions about her experience. Contact her at zorbita@comcast.net

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is designed to increase the number of undergraduate first-generation, low-income, and/or underrepresented individuals in doctoral study in all fields. The federally funded program is competitively based on academic background and the desire to pursue a Ph.D. My experiences in the McNair program have propelled me to seek out the best possible opportunities available to me; I hope to attend law school in the future. As a single mom, graduate and McNair scholar, it is my job to encourage others to apply to this program. Students gain immeasurable skill-sets as McNair scholars. Academia desperately needs and wants minority graduate/Ph.D. McNair students with fresh vi-

sion and the willingness to give back to their communities via service leadership. The rigorous two-year program is a full-time (paying) job during the first summer. This component is geared toward conducting your own original research under a mentor of your choosing. I was intellectually rewarded because my research project attempted to answer questions that had plagued me for six years in my two undergraduate majors. Along with gaining invaluable experience in rigorous research, I was able to increase my GRE scores immensely with the skills gained via graduate-school preparation seminars. I was selected to attend the National McNair Conference and was able to make

a campus visit with the help of McNair funding. You will gain from the McNair program the amount of dedication you are willing to give it. The hard work pays off when one realizes that many graduate programs across the country vie for McNair undergraduates. Oftentimes, these students are awarded fully-funded rides in graduate and/or Ph.D. programs and receive graduate fellowships. Also, universities who participate in McNair usually waive hefty application fees. Most importantly, remember that social climates do change when talented individuals are willing to work very hard, aim for the stars and not settle for anything less within themselves.

Goodbyes

Ime Kerlee, Post-doc in Women Studies 2005-2007.

Gail Houston, Director of Women Studies, 2003-2007.

Thanks for all your hard work!

Faculty Joint Appointments:

Deborah McFarlane, Political Science
Linda Hall, History
Kirsten Buick, Art History

Study Abroad

Programs are currently in development for the following locales:

Denmark
England/Ireland
Palestine/Israel
South America

Watch for more information next year!

Congratulations!

Lena McQuade won a UNM Regent's Fellowship and the Office of the State Historian's Scholars Program.

Andrea Mays won a UNM Regent's Fellowship.

Melina Vizcaino won a UNM Regent's Fellowship.

Robertha Richardson won a scholarship from the WRC.

Women Studies is grateful to have such wonderful teachers!

International Women's Day

Women Studies is excited by the success of the first International Women's Day conference. The title of the conference, held March 8, 2007 was Women Braving Violence. Special events included:

- Cecelia Fire Thunder
- Margaret Randall
- Panels
- Luncheon

We look forward to even more speakers, events, and excitement next year!

Letter from Director from page 1:

after their name, much as we love to put Ph.D. after our names or "the right and honorable" before them.

My thanks go to all the WS students, community, faculty, dean's office, and staff (I couldn't do it without Emmett Vicenti and Lupe Gutierrez) who make the program possible. I love working in this program and watching what amazing students come our way in Women Studies. I know the next director will be excellent and lead us to more successes and gains for women, and I look forward to helping the new director make the visions of the "grandmothers" come true.

Graduation

Anyone planning to graduate this semester needs to see Gail by April 15, 2007.

Triota

Iota Iota is the academic honor society for the field of Women Studies, organized to encourage and support scholarship and excellence. Named for the ancient goddesses Inanna, Ishtar and Isis, Triota strives to maintain feminist values of egalitarianism, inclusiveness and celebration of diversity of experience central to Women Studies. If you are at least a second semester sophomore with a GPA of 3.0 or above and have taken at least six credit hours in Women Studies, you are invited to join Iota Iota Iota

Women's Resource Center: Community Resources

Women's Community Assoc. (Shelter)	247-4219
Rape Crisis Center	266-7711
Domestic Violence Legal Hotline	(800)773-3645
Domestic Assault Response Team	761-8800
Nat'l Coalition Against Domestic Violence	(800)333-7233
Barrett House (Shelter, Women & Children)	243-4887
Women's Housing Coalition	884-8856
Human Services (Child Abuse)	841-7960
Child Abuse Report	761-4060

Other information is available on the WRC website, www.unm.edu/~women including a video library, list of support groups, and special events. Also look for more phone numbers and community resources.

Court Watch by Andrea Botero-Tompkins

On August of 2006 Tammi Lambert Director at the Governor's office of Victim Advocacy approached the Women's Studies Department to find an extern for the Gov. Office Of Victim Advocacy, Dr. Gail Houston passed this interest through her departmental mailing list and encouraged all students interested to approach her in order to schedule an interview, in the purpose of choosing an applicant.

As an extern at the Governor's office I was trained in Victim Rights Law and Policy, Victim Sensitivity and Basic Criminal Law procedure. I developed a database program for tracking research data and organized court watch volunteers such as

UNM fellow student and most amazing court-watcher Claire Smith. I also provided helpful program development and research. In addition to outlined procedures I translated Victim Rights brochure from English to my native language Spanish. After the conclusion of my externship I continued my work as court watcher and in data entry development to this day. I was very lucky to be chosen to work under such passionate, talented and smart individuals, both Tammi Lambert- (director), and deputy director Margie Lang. through my experience at the Governor's Office of Victim Advocacy I have learned a great deal and have acquired great and immeasurable work experience.

Feminism Now!

Feminism Now! is an on-line publication produced by the UNM Feminism in Print Collective, a group comprised of undergraduate students, graduate students, staff, and faculty. Our second edition will be an anthology of the papers delivered at the UNM Women Braving Violence Conference in March 2007.



Feminism Now! 2006—Check out the Feminism Now! Website: <http://www.unm.edu/~feminism/>
Art By Women's Resource Center

"I've yet to be on a campus where most women weren't worrying about some aspect of combining marriage, children, and a career. I've yet to find one where many men were worrying about the same thing." ~Gloria Steinem

In The Spotlight:

Lena McQuade is our very first Graduate Certificate recipient! The Graduate Certificate has been approved by the Department of Education and the transcribed certificate will start in Fall 07. Here's what Lena has to say about her experience:

"I was honored to receive a graduate certificate in Women Studies this past December. I have a B.A. in Women Studies and I always wanted to delve into graduate level courses in feminist theories and methodologies. The gradu-

ate certificate gave me just this opportunity and I hope it will continue to open doors for me in my future."

Congratulations, Lena!



Lena

Spotlight: Leigh Johnson



Hi! I am Leigh Johnson, your newsletter writer. I am delighted to be part of the UNM Women Studies Program! I am a PhD student in American Literature with interests in Chicana/o Literature, Postcolonial writing, and 19th Century American Literature. This summer I am looking forward to teaching Shakespeare to 7-10 graders at The Center for Gifted Studies Summer Camp at Western Kentucky University. I love camps, and last summer, I organized a camp for low income women and their children at WKU. Next fall, I will begin my TA-ship with Women Studies.

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Women Studies is an interdisciplinary program that strives to provide equal education for both women and men by making the study of the history and culture of women, as well as the social structures of gender, the central focus of concentrated scholarship and learning. The program incorporates insights from the study of history, literature, and the social sciences as well as law, education, the humanities, and fine arts. The program supports the development and application of new theories of feminist studies throughout the university and works to create an atmosphere in which women and their achievements can continue to receive serious attention.

The Women Studies Program upholds the highest levels of academic excellence and integrity and supports its faculty's efforts to establish and maintain rigorous scholastic standards.

Summer and Fall Classes Information:

Watch for Summer and Fall 2007 course information coming soon. Women Studies will again offer courses taught both by faculty in Women Studies (both tenure-track and part-time) and by faculty in departments throughout the university. Courses that address women, gender, and sexuality that are offered in other departments are cross-listed with Women Studies or listed as "related courses." Check the web for information www.unm.edu/~womenst. Any student interested in the Women Studies major, second major or minor should contact the program's academic advisor at 505-277-3854.

December Graduation



Congratulations to Second Majors: Mary Bourne, Jennifer Lynn Gordon, Alba Nydia Villezcas, and Susan Weiss; and Graduate Certificate Recipient: Lena McQuade

Giving the Gift

Our program is only as strong as it is because of generous donations from our friends. Please consider providing a gift.

Enclosed is my gift for:

\$25 \$50 \$100

\$500 Other amount

Thank you! Did you know you can make donations on-line, through payroll deduction, or with a check?

www.unm.edu/~womenst/Giving/index.htm

Thank you to Kyla Thompson for a donation of a \$1500 scholarship for 2007-08!

