The Social Justice Leadership Project

In the Spring of 2014, the Women’s Studies Program at UNH developed The Social Justice Leadership Project (SJLP), which was made possible by a generous grant to support this fantastic endeavor. The SJLP affords students the opportunity to focus on the study of feminist leadership while training leaders committed to diversity and social justice.

The momentum of the Social Justice Leadership Project began to build last year with some concerted programming. The Women’s Studies Convocation in the Fall of 2013 was focused on Feminist Leadership. Many on and off-campus organizations and offices were invited to present on how they do the work of Feminist Leadership. The event also provided students, faculty, staff, and community members the opportunity to meet other feminist leaders, see how feminist leadership functions here at UNH and beyond, and discover how they too could become feminist leaders!

In the Spring of 2014, the SJLP added a new and exciting event to UNH Feminist Week: “Feminism Crossing Generations.” Women from the local Active Retirement Association, and faculty, staff, and students from the Women’s Studies Program at UNH met in Durham to discuss women and leadership.

Also, in the Spring of 2014, the SJLP ran a film screening and discussion with a local Girl Scout Troup. As another Intergenerational project, a public film screening of Girl Rising was held at UNH and we organized a group of Girl Scouts and UNH Women’s Studies students to participate in a discussion held prior to the film. We discussed the following topics: feminism, inclusivity and leadership among girls today.

In the beginning of the Summer of 2014, 6 Women’s Studies students, (Nyomi Guzman, Jessica Rosenthal, Caitlin Duttry, Emily Dickman, Taylor Barclay and Emily Sorey-Backus) and Faina Bukher, the Assistant Coordinator of the Women’s Studies Program and Coordinator of the SJLP attended the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) at the University of Maryland. NCCWSL is sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA) and is known for being the premier conference for college women student leaders in the United States. Attending workshops, listening to keynote speakers, and engaging in critical conversations throughout their time at the conference, our WS students practiced their feminist leadership skills.

There is lots more to come this year from the Social Justice Leadership Project, including a new course, WS 505.03: Leadership in the Real World, which will focus on Social Justice Leadership. So stay tuned and join us!

Upcoming Event

Women’s Studies Convocation
Tuesday, September 30th, 2014, 5pm, MUB Entertainment Center

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