Many of us who are returning to UNH this fall are still feeling bruised by a painful spring 2017 semester. Open displays of white supremacy, sexual harassment, and acts of transphobia and homophobia roiled our campus, as indeed they have continued to roll the country all summer long. And yet, I can't help but feel cautious excitement as I look forward to reuniting with old friends and colleagues and meeting new ones. While our program, like many programs committed to social justice, continues to be targeted for harassment from several quarters, UNH Women’s Studies is now also stronger than ever.

Thanks to extraordinary support from our Dean and Provost, we are welcoming not one, but three new full-time professors this year. Dr. Tina Beyene studies African feminist discourses around sexual violence and armed conflict; she’ll be bringing her much-needed expertise not only to Women’s Studies, but also to Justice Studies and International Affairs. Dr. Aria Halliday writes about Black and Caribbean girls’ uses of new media and digital space; expect to learn a lot from her about Twitter, Instagram, and memes! And Dr. Kabria Baumgartner, who arrives in January, will be teaching and researching antebellum African-American education for both Women’s Studies and English. We are so excited to have this dynamic trio joining our ranks.

Thanks, too, to the steadfast, decade-long leadership of my predecessor, Dr. Marla Brettschneider, we have some additional funding through our Social Justice Leadership Project. Thus far we have been able to fund some student travel to conferences and to offer an additional course on Managing Social Justice Organizations. If you know Marla, you know it’s impossible to list all of her contributions in a newsletter like this, but one other thing I’d like to note here is her shepherding of the new Feminist Studies Graduate Certificate. With great help from Dean Cari Moorhead in the Graduate School, that certificate is rolling out this year, and we’re ready to engage new and current graduate students in interdisciplinary scholarship and skill-building.

The economy being what it is, Liberal Arts programs nationwide are struggling these days, but our major and minor are booming. We owe this to our fierce and fabulous teachers and student leaders. Tamsin Whitehead and Dr. Joelle Ruby Ryan have been cornerstones of our curriculum, maintaining devoted followings with an innovative array of courses including Queer Sustainability, Disability Studies, and Trans/Forming Gender. Longstanding instructors like Penelope Morrow and Peter Welch have helped recruit students from their expertly led introductory-level courses; and Dr. Lyn Tjon Soie Len, who arrived last year, is offering exciting new seminars on topics like feminism and the law. Finally, our core faculty—almost every one of whom is also serving in a major leadership position in their home departments—continue to go above and beyond in their teaching and service to our program.

If you’re new to campus, stop by Huddleston 203. Whatever else is going on in the world and around Durham, the WS office is an intentionally supportive space. Anchored by the phenomenal Julia Pond, swinger of kettlebells and scheduling, there’s always someone around. We will continue this year to challenge hate and intolerance in all their forms. But we will also continue loving each other, laughing and crying together, and eating chocolate.

For an updated list of Women’s Studies Faculty Bios, please visit: http://cola.unh.edu/faculty/womens-studies
Fall 2017 Events Calendar

You’re invited to join us!

For an updated list of Women’s Studies events please visit: http://cola.unh.edu/calendar/womens-studies

September

10th– 2nd Annual Be BRAVE Gala, 6pm, Johnson Theatre
12th– University Day, T-Hall Lawn
13th– Social Justice Leadership Breakfast, 8am-9:20am, HUD 203
14th– Garden Party: Welcome Reception for lgbtqiap+ and ally Community, 4:30pm-6:30pm, Paul College Courtyard
19th– OMSA Unity Reception, 5pm-7pm Strafford Room
20th– Stop Street Harassment Founder & Author Holly Kearl, 7pm-9pm, Johnson Theater

October

5th– WS Welcome with Speaker Lydia X.Z. Brown, 5:00pm-6:30pm, Strafford Room
11th– Social Justice Leadership Breakfast, 8:00am-9:20am, HUD 203
17th- Innovative Models for International Development and Poverty Alleviation-Mercado, 3:40pm-5pm, MUB Theater I
19th- Innovative Models for International Development and Poverty Alleviation-Jibu, 3:40pm-5:00pm, MUB Theater II
24th– WS Tea and Book Celebration, 4:30pm-6:30pm, Huddleston Ballroom
26th– Fierce and Fabulous Women’s Expo, 12pm-3pm, UNH Campus Recreation

November

8th-Social Justice Leadership Breakfast, 8:00am-9:20am, HUD 203
13th-17th- Gender Identities Awareness Week (GIA)

December

11th-Social Justice Leadership Breakfast, 8:00am-9:20am, HUD 203
After 2 successful searches, WS is excited to introduce the newest T-T and Core Faculty of the program. Dr. Lyn Tjon Soei Len joined the program in August of 2016. Dr. Tina Beyene and Dr. Aria Halliday will join the faculty in August of 2017. And Dr. Kabria Baumgartner will join the WS Core Faculty in January of 2018. We are excited about their research, scholarship, and teaching and know that they will each bring something distinct to the program.

The New Faculty of UNH Women’s Studies

For more information about the UNH WS Faculty, please visit:

http://cola.unh.edu/faculty/womens-studies
Announcing the new Feminist Studies Graduate Certificate

Approved in May of 2017

The Graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies is designed to provide students with an opportunity to pursue feminist scholarship within a structured, interdisciplinary curriculum. It can be earned by students enrolled in a Graduate Degree Program, or as a stand-alone certificate for those who have completed their Bachelor's Degree from an accredited institution.

The Graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies enables students to develop specific skills for use in their own personal and professional development by providing tools such as feminist theoretical frameworks and an understanding of contemporary feminist activism. The Feminist Studies Graduate Certificate also enables students to conduct research in the areas of critical Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and centrally relies on analyses from such fields as critical race, ethnicity, nationality, class, age, religion, and disability studies.

The faculty of the Women's Studies program will act as advisors to students pursuing the certificate, helping to plan and facilitate an individualized course of study that fulfills student's academic, professional, and research needs. The certificate provides students a concentrated inquiry in advanced Feminist Studies that is supplemental to their disciplinary training, thereby qualifying them for positions requiring such expertise. In addition, it is an added component to graduate studies that informs and enriches careers, activism, and professional networks.

For more information please visit our Feminist Studies website

Homecoming & Family Weekend: Sept. 22 – Sept. 24
Meet our Program Assistants

These students are the back bone of our program. We couldn’t do our work without them!

HOLLIE FOSTER

Year at UNH: Senior
Major(s)/Minor(s): Women’s Studies Major, Psych Minor

Why you like working in WS: It’s an easygoing, but serious job that has given me practical life skills, as well as introduced me to more people in the Women’s Studies Program and gave me opportunities to expand my feminist knowledge.

Personal motto: “I’m a feminist and if that offends you, then f*** you.” - Kate Nash, “All Talk”

MARISA RAFAL

Year at UNH: Junior
Major(s)/Minor(s): Human Development & Family Studies, Social Justice Leadership Minor

Why you like working in WS: Because I feel it is a community of caring people who are motivated both to learn and to make positive change.

Personal Moto: "Your ambition should be to get as much life out of living as you possibly can, as much enjoyment, as much experience, as much understanding. Not simply to be what is generally called a 'success'."

KATIE BAKER

Year at UNH: Junior
Major/Minor: Women’s Studies/Psychology & Public Health

Why I like working in WS: The networking opportunities are endless and it helps me feel more involved in the department.

Personal motto/quote: "and the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to bloom"

HANNAH MATHIEU

Year at UNH: Junior
Major/Minor: IT & Women’s Studies

Why I like working in WS: Women’s Studies is the place where I can de-stress and I can fully feel like myself. At the office and with the faculty/staff you truly feel like you’re listened to and accepted no matter what your identities are. I want to be that person that people feel comfortable with.

Personal motto/quote: If your heart breaks, let it break open. Basically, if things get tough or something doesn’t turn out the way you wanted, keep your heart open and stay positive.

For more student stories, make sure you follow the WS program on all of our social media:
My name is Teresa Quint and I graduated from UNH in 1999 with a Bachelor in Social Work with a minor in Women's Studies. Eventually I went on to receive my MSW with UNH. I have been a practicing social worker for 18 years. I spent many years working for a Community Health Center before transitioning into providing therapeutic services to incarcerated males. My self-care time is usually spent on a trail or in a book!

1. What made you interested in Women’s Studies?
I knew that I wanted to make a difference in society but I just wasn’t sure how that would translate into a career. So I set out to learn as much as I could about populations I felt were often overlooked, under-served and discounted. I clearly recall my first Women's Studies class and my excitement in the wide variety of topics offered. I was learning so much and I was never bored. Each course fit perfectly with Social Work major and I knew I had found my calling.

2. What is your fondest memory of UNH?
Sitting in class sharing thoughts and feeling free to explore new ideas.

3. How are you applying what you learned in Women’s Studies to your career?
I have been a practicing social worker for 18 years. Women's Studies helped me add a new lens to social problems and look for meaningful solutions. The first half of my career (this far!) was focused on women’s health, wellness and safety. The next phase of my career has been centered around assisting perpetrators of crime make positive changes. What I learned in Women's Studies and Social Work informs every part of my life - personal and professional. I wouldn’t change a thing!

4. Do you have any advice for current students?
Don’t be afraid to pursue your passion or take risks at UNH. You will absolutely find a way to make joy your career.

News

Amy Antonucci Class of 1996: was named New Hampshire organic gardener of the year by the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA).

Sabrina Aldrich Class of 2015: I just completed the first year of my masters degree in Public Health. I am now looking to extend my experience to impact communities for the better. I am starting my focus on Global Health and how culture can impact the accessibility to quality care and services.

Sarah Jones Class of 2015: Graduated from UNH with Master's Degree in Marriage, Couple, and Family Therapy in August 2017.

Laura Joseph Class of 2011: Entering their 7th year of teaching. Currently working at Rise Academy in Newark NJ, a public charter school. Teaching 8th Grade English Language Arts

Hannah Bowen Class of 2017: Starting City Year in Manchester NH.
603 Challenge Update

Thank you for your support during the 603 Challenge!

We raised $779.15

Thank you to:
Brigitte Bailey
Rudolph Martinez
Brittany Zorn
Adam Butler
Noelle Grattan
Gregory Tillman
Siobhan Senier

Elizabeth Sheckler
Julia Pond
Kathryn Baker

For your generous support during the program!

The 603 Challenge will be back next June.

We didn’t win the photo contest, but almost 1000 people voted for us!

Thank you to our alumni donors who continue to support Women’s Studies and the Social Justice Leadership Project with substantial gifts:

Ursula Robinson Daley ’93
Katie Bouton ’96
David Jacobsen ’11

Your ongoing support and trust in our mission positively impacts the lives of our students every day.
Our Donors Make a Difference!

From providing student with scholarships and books, to giving students the opportunity to attend leadership conferences and programs, our donors help our students every day! We couldn’t do our work without you!

The Barbara A. White Social Justice Leadership Award
The UNH Women’s Studies Program offers an award for women’s studies majors who have demonstrated feminist and social justice leadership. The award honors Women’s Studies Program co-founder Barbara A. White, who passed away in 2014. The award is made possible by generous donations made on behalf of Dr. White.

The Barbara Anne White Scholarship Fund
The purpose of the Fund is to provide need-based scholarship support to students concentrating their studies in Women’s Studies. Recipients must be juniors or seniors who are majoring in or minoring in Women’s Studies. The scholarship honors Women’s Studies Program co-founder Barbara A. White, who passed away in 2014. Preference will be given to students who embody Barbara's legacy and lifelong commitment to higher education.

Social Justice Leadership Project Women’s Studies Special Fund
The Social Justice Leadership Project affords students the opportunity to focus on the study of feminist leadership while training leaders committed to diversity and social justice.

The Ursula Robinson Daley ’93 Women's Studies Scholarship Fund
The Ursula Robinson Daley ’93 Women's Studies Scholarship Fund was established through the generosity of Ursula Robinson Daley, a member of the Class of 1993. Ursula received her bachelor's degree, cum laude, in Women’s Studies from UNH and continued her studies at Pace University School of Law, receiving her J.D. in 1997. After practicing law in the financial services sector for several years, Ursula co-founded a private wealth management company. She credits the UNH Women's Studies program with contributing to her success at UNH as a student and in building a career as a female financial consultant. In establishing this scholarship fund, Ursula wants to ensure that students are given the same opportunities to pursue their education that she had while at UNH. The purpose of the fund is to provide scholarship support to students majoring in Women’s Studies. Recipients must demonstrate a financial need and be in good academic standing.

The Sheila Clary Memorial Fund
This fund was founded in memory of Sheila Clary, 6/19/60-6/28/84. Beloved daughter, sister, friend and outstanding Women's Studies student. The Fund's purpose is to purchase books, videos and audio resources for the Women's Studies Program. Your gift to this fund provides a lasting tribute to Sheila Clary and helps make a positive difference for the Majors and Minors of the Women's Studies Program at UNH.

Donations to all WS Funds may be directed to: Women's Studies Program, c/o UNH Foundation, 9 Edgewood Road, Durham, NH 03824.
Or made online at unh.edu/women's-studies/giving