Local planning has begun to host next year’s National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference in Cincinnati. Over 1000 feminist academics and activists from across the country and beyond will be converging at the Duke Energy Convention Center and adjacent Millennium Hotel downtown from June 19-23, 2008 to discuss cutting edge feminist theory and issues, hear speakers, present papers, engage in writing workshops, view films and performances, attend a major book exhibit, focus on organizing and organizational directions, and share best practices for the further development of women’s studies and women’s centers in academic institutions. The emergent conference theme will foreground race and sexuality politics in local and transnational feminist perspective in an age of empire. We hope to showcase major local as well as national and transnational women leaders and cultural workers within the conference program and parallel events and exhibits on feminist themes at area institutions and cultural sites.

To date, local and statewide organizers include faculty, student, and staff representatives connected to women’s studies programs and women’s centers at the University of Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky University, Xavier University, Wright State University, the University of Dayton, Ohio University, The Ohio State University, Youngstown State University, and Wooster College. We expect more to join in at the statewide level. Local feminist organizations involved in planning thus far include Women Writing for a Change, the UC Friends of Women’s Studies, and MUSE. We welcome others who want become involved in the planning, publicize parallel events during the conference that would be of interest to conference participants, or sponsor an exhibit booth or reception through cash donations to contact me as the local program chair at anne.runyan@uc.edu. We also encourage those who want to participate in the conference to submit proposals for panels and workshops by the deadline of November 1, 2007, once the call from the national office of NWSA goes out. More information on the 2008 conference will be available at www.nwsa.org in the coming year, with the call for proposals appearing on this site by fall 2007 and conference registration information appearing by March 2008.

This is an exciting opportunity for our students, faculty, alums, and Friends to help shape the representation of contemporary feminist knowledge and to participate in large numbers in a national conference held “at home,” but also for the wider feminist community in the Cincinnati area that has long struggled in a particularly difficult political climate where race, sexuality, class, and gender inequities and violence are so palpable. UC Women’s Studies was launched back in the early 1970s by organizing one of the first national conferences on feminist perspectives in the academy and the community, which was held in Cincinnati and helped to form NWSA. Over 30 years later, we hope this conference will renew such feminist energies to apply to new intellectual and political challenges. Hope to see you there.

new affiliate faculty

**Therese Migraine-George** is an assistant professor of French in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. She received a PhD in comparative literature from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her research focuses on women’s representation in African theater and on Francophone women writers. Her book, “African Women and Representation: From Performance to Politics,” has been accepted for publication by Africa World Press. She has also published articles on African, Canadian, and Swiss women writers and on the issue of homosexuality in African films. This spring, she is teaching a seminar on “Francophone Feminisms,” with graduate students from the Departments of Women’s Studies, Romance Languages, and Education.

**Carolette Norwood** is an assistant professor in the Department of African and African American Studies. She earned a PhD in sociology with concentrations in demography and development. During her doctoral studies, she spent one year as an Andrew W. Mellon Scholar at the Université de Montréal in African Demography (2002-2003) and did summer studies at the University of Ghana at Accra (2000). She earned a master’s in liberal arts, and a two bachelor’s degrees, one in sociology and the other in French from Louisiana State University. Her areas of research include women, population and development; microcredit; reproductive health and rights; HIV prevention; interracial fertility; spatial segregation and concentration; and research methods.
(new affiliated faculty, cont.)

**Nikki Taylor** is an assistant professor in the Department of History. Dr. Taylor received her BA (Honors) in U.S. History from the University of Pennsylvania. She earned both her MA and PhD in U.S. History from Duke University. She has been the recipient of several fellowships and grants, including a Fulbright Fellowship, SSRC grants, and two Mellon Grants. Her book, “Frontiers of Freedom: Cincinnati’s Black Community, 1802-68,” examines the growth of the African American community in a city that was distinctly hostile to them.

**Susan Allen** is an adjunct assistant professor in the Anthropology Department. She received her PhD in 2005 from Boston University. Her research areas include prehistoric Europe and eastern Mediterranean; origins of agriculture and social complexity; regional analysis and landscape archaeology; palaeoethnobotany and ethnobotany; archaeological method and theory.

**new core faculty and staff**

**Amy Lind** is the first Mary Ellen Heinz Endowed Chair in Women's Studies, made possible by the support of so many Friends during our capital campaign. Joining us at the rank of associate professor, Dr. Lind comes to us from Arizona State University, where she has been teaching for several years. She earned her PhD in city and regional planning at Cornell University, with gender and development, social policy and feminist theory as her areas of concentration. She completed her undergraduate work at the University of California at Santa Cruz where she majored in both women's studies and Latin American Studies, areas in which much of her current work is focused. She has spent more than four years in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia conducting research, consulting for state agencies and non-governmental organizations, and teaching graduate courses under a range of grants. Dr. Lind is currently working on a book on querying/queering development, in which she addresses how sexuality is imagined and understood in the global development industry and how queer activists in the global South and North have challenged heteronormativity and gender normativity in global and (trans)national arenas. In the Women’s Studies Department, she has been teaching Feminist Theory: Race, Class, Nation and North American Feminisms among other courses. She has been able to share her research with the department as a part of the Women’s Studies Presents lecture series, which she has also organized on behalf of the department and Friends. Also named as an affiliate faculty in the School of Planning in DAAP at UC, she is working on developing some joint programs between Women's Studies and Planning. She is additionally serving as one our faculty presenters, along with Women’s Studies Affiliate and Head of Anthropology Dr. Martha Rees, at our co-organized North American Women’s Studies 2007 Summer Institute at the Universidad de Las Americas in Puebla, Mexico. Dr. Lind has already proven to be an excellent choice for this long-awaited fulfillment of our endowed chair.

**Olga Sanmiguel-Valderrama**, who joined us last year as a Friends visiting professor, is now a tenure track assistant professor of women's studies in the department. She continues to teach in her areas of women's human rights and the law and Latina feminisms and to conduct her research on women's labor struggles in the flower industry in Colombia and the US.

**Patti Jeffries** joined the department in August 2006 as the new administrative secretary.

**faculty updates**

**Grace Auyang** (Behavioral Science, Raymond Walters) was a co-presenter of a research paper on “Assessment Tools of Problem-Based Learning Across Disciplines” at the 2006 PBL International Conference in July at Lima, Peru.


**Gila Safran Naveh** ( Judaic Studies, A&S) received the prestigious, university-level George C. Barbour Award for Promoting Outstanding Faculty-Student Relationships for 2006. She also published “Traumatic Memory and the Implication for Holocaust Memoirs,” and two book chapters: “Culture as Education: A Semiotic Reading of Stories by Former Prisoners of Pitschti” in The Cultural Shaping of Violence (Ed. Mydrene Anderson) and “A Speck of Dust Blown by Wind across Land and Desert”: Images of Survivors.” She has also published the article, “Glimmerings of the Gallows: Film and Fiction of the Holocaust,” in The Thomas Jefferson School of Law Review. She has also given numerous presentations and scholarly lectures, including: “Ozick’s Fiction,” at the Writers’ Institute, Albany New York; “Sholem Aleichem,
The Jewish Mark Twain,” SUNY at Albany, Department of English; “Through Different Lenses: The Fiction and Philosophy of Bernard Malamud,” at the American Literature Association, Boston; “Representations of the Holocaust in Film and Fiction,” in the session entitled “Surviving Genocide: The Aftermath of the Unimaginable” at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Romance Languages Studies, University of Cincinnati; and “Psychological Ozick’s Readings and The Holocaust in the Fiction of Cynthia Ozick” at the ALA, in Boston.

Pat O’Connor (Romance Languages and Literature Emerita, A&S) was selected and honored as the outstanding graduate of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Florida, where she lectured on “Abran paso, que llegan las dramaturgas” about what Spanish women dramatists are writing in the early years of the 21st century. Her new book, “Mujeres sobre mujeres en los albores del siglo XXI,” was published in Madrid by Fundamentos. Also, her book of translations to English (plus a 50 page introduction) of plays by Antonio Buero Vallejo, Spain’s outstanding playwright of the second half of the 20th century, is currently on press at the University of Colorado Press. The title is: “Antonio Buero Vallejo: Four Tragedies of Conscience.”

Holt Parker (Classics, A&S) was awarded the Women’s Classical Caucus Prize 2006 for his article, “Why Were the Vestals Virgins? Or The Chastity of Women and the Safety of the Roman State” in the American Journal of Philology.

Rhonda Pettit (English, Raymond Walters) published five poems on the subject of sex slavery in “Trivia: The Voices of Feminism” (www.triviavoices.net), another poem in The Raven Chronicles, and has a poem sequence forthcoming in Out of Line. She will give a reading of her work in April as part of the Poetry in the Garden Series at the Cincinnati Public Library (downtown), and in March at the Kentucky Philological Association annual conference in Pine Mountain.

Barb Rinto (UC Women’s Center) and Cindy Berryman Fink (Communications, A&S) were responsible for the publication of the 2006 UC Status on Women Report.

Anne Sisson Runyan (Women’s Studies, A&S) was selected for and honored as the 2007 Feminist Theory and Gender Studies Eminent Scholar at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association where she also presented on two panels on Gender and Global Restructuring for the second edition of Gender and Global Restructuring that she is co-editing with Marianne Marchand and agreed to produce the third edition of Global Gender Issues, co-authored with V. Spike Peterson.

Hilda Smith (History, A&S) received a Taft Center Fellow award for next year.

Judith Trent (Communications, A&S) has published “Political Campaign Communication: Principles and Practices, Sixth Edition” (with Robert V. Friedenberg) and “Gender and Politics” in Encyclopedia of Political Communication (with David Luftig). Her conference presentations include: “Does Candidate Gender Make a Difference in the Ideal Characteristics of a Presidential Candidate?”, “Suggestions for Improving Communication and Social Responsibility in the Surfacing Stage of Political Campaigns”; and “The Political Times: A Review of the Mid-term Elections and a Preview of the 2008 Presidential Campaign” at the Central States Communication Association Conference. She participated on the following panels: Town Hall Debate on “The Communication Discipline is served best when it avails its research to popular culture outlets such as Oprah, Dr. Phil, CNN, and other viewer-centered media”; “Professional Freedom of Expression: Crossroads or Dead-End?”; and “Women and Leadership in the Academy: Crossroads and Intersections, Challenges and Opportunities” at the Eastern Communication Association Conference.

Barbara Watts (Law) received the 2007 Leading Woman Award in the category of Law/Law Enforcement for her commitment to women and gender equality as evidenced through her work in establishing the MA/JD Joint Degree Program in Women’s Studies and Law at the University of Cincinnati.


travel & research grants

Friends Faculty and Student Travel Grants

Michelle Gibson (Women’s Studies) $500: National Women’s Studies Association Conference Presenter, “All Polygamy All the Time: A Rhetorical Analysis of Media Portrayals of Sexual Violence in Fundamentalist Latter-Day Saints Communities.”

Amy Lind (Women’s Studies) $500: “Dis/orGANized Pleasures: Changing Bodies, Rights, and Cultures” panel sponsored by the International Association for the Study of Sexuality and Culture in Society in Lima, Peru Presenter: “Querying/Queering Development.”

Laura Jenkins (Political Science) $500: Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting Presenter, “Governance Reforms in Rural India: Empowering Women, Hijacked by Men and/or Extending State Rule?”

Wendy Kline (History) $500: American Association of the History of Medicine Annual Conference Presenter, “Childbirth Made Difficult: Raising Consciousness on the Delivery Table.”
2006—Student Travel

Students Samantha Casne, Heidi Pitzer, and Jill Williams participated in the University of Cincinnati El Salvador Study Tour in March. They had the opportunity to meet with a representative from Las Dignas, a Salvadoran feminist organization.

Kai Kohlsdorf (MA) $400: Translating Identity Conference and National Women’s Studies Association Conference Presenter, “What’s Sex Got To Do With It? Heteronormativity, Transmasculine Desire and the Politics of Identity.”

Heidi Pitzer (MA) $400: National Women’s Studies Association Conference Presenter “No Child Left Behind or Every Child Under Surveillance?: Feminist Pedagogy for Counter-Hegemonic Resistance.”

Samantha Casne (MA) $400: Participant in El Salvador Study Tour.

Jill Williams (MA) $400: Participant in El Salvador Study Tour.

Courtney Walton (MA) $400: National Women’s Studies Association Conference and Northwestern University Black Graduate Student Association Conference Presenter “The Big (and) Easy Masquerade: Examining Issues of Race, Class, Citizenship and Belonging in Post-Katrina New Orleans.”


Friends Mini-research Grant
Holly McEntyre (MA/JD)

Returning Woman Student Award
Connie Underwood (Undergraduate) $500

Coombe GA Stipends, 2006-2007
Beth Lytle (MA)
Sarvani Prasad (MA/JD)
Atucungwiire Rwebiita (MA)

Public Interest Internship Grants, Summer 2007
Robin Sheets Fund
Derek Mize (MA/JD) $1000 to intern with LeGaL: The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Law Association of Greater New York in New York City

Katherine Weber (MA/JD) $300 to intern with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission in Cincinnati, OH

Jill Williams (MA) $600 for study at Universidad de las Americas in Puebla, Mexico as part of the North American Women’s Studies Summer Institute

Sue W. and Jerry N. Ransohoff Fund
Jeni Jenkins (MA) $1000 to intern with The Idaho Women’s Network

Dornette Fund
Heather Parker (MA/JD) $1000 to intern with Legal Momentum in New York City

Ransohoff/Dornette Fund
Jennifer Johnson (MA) $500 to study and intern at Mt. St. Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia

The following students received partial department funding to present at the 2007 National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference in St. Charles, IL:


Incoming Graduate Students

Damaris Del Valle, an MA/JD student with a teaching graduate assistantship who has completed her first year of law school, is also working at an immigration law firm in Cincinnati. She spent most of her life in central Florida and her research interests are: religious studies, women’s studies and feminist philosophy.

Jeni Jenkins, an MA student with a graduate assistantship in the UC Ombuds office, is from Boise, Idaho and has worked on various boards whose main goals included educational outreach, working for change, and grassroots pro-activism. She is also a trained and certified mediator. Her undergraduate major was a BS in social science from the University of Idaho and her research interests are broad but focus on violence, social inequality and human rights work. She loves music, art, poetry, making art and writing poetry, indie films, theatre and stand up comedy, satire and political comedy and, of course, her two beautiful children.

Jennifer Johnson is an MA student with a teaching graduate assistantship. She is originally from Mt. Sterling, KY and did her undergraduate degree at Morehead State where she majored in French and government. Her research interests are black feminist thought, critical race theory, and the concept of community. She loves hanging out with my precocious puppy, Lola, and in her spare time, she likes to travel. She plans to spend her fall 2007 term at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Canada under the department’s North American exchange program.
Lisa Nicolosi, an MA/JD student with a teaching graduate assistantship, is from Dayton, Ohio. She received my BA in political science with a minor in Women's Studies from Wright State University. Her general interests are LGBT rights and women's rights and focuses on the deconstruction of sexual orientation/transsexuality. Once she completes her MA/JD, she plans to enter a PhD program in Women's Studies and/or Gender Studies.

Sarvani Prasad, an MA/JD student with a combined teaching and office graduate assistantship who has completed her first year of law school, was born in Baltimore to immigrant Indian parents and grew up in Cincinnati. Her undergraduate work at Sarah Lawrence College focused on French, vocal music (opera and jazz), and social psychology. While in UC's fabulous joint degree program, she has spent last summer in Bangalore, India working with an NGO called Vimochana on issues related to violence against women. Her work there focused on sex selection and its occurrence in the villages of Mandya District (in the state of Karnataka). She was given mounds of data collected by untrained villagers to determine whether or not sex selection was occurring despite an act criminalizing the disclosure of a fetus’ sex. She found that the sex ratio continues to decline due to various forms of sexual discrimination. These include illegal sex determination practices; neglect of girl children and diminished access to education, healthcare, and food; and pressure on young wives to have late term abortions and repeated pregnancies compounded with inadequate nutrition of young mothers. Bridal burnings, dowry violence, sati, and other forms of violence also affect the diminishing ratio. She is interested now in both why aggression towards women is heightened during times of crises as well as the hegemonic approach to human rights as embodied in the culture of international human rights law.

Katie Weber, MA/JD student with an office graduate assistantship, completed her first year of law school last year and also did her undergraduate work at UC and majored in political science. She enjoys reading and politics and volunteers at a fair trade store and for political campaigns. Her research interests are public policy and issues related to social class.

Jill Williams, an MA student with a teaching graduate assistantship, is originally from St. Louis, Missouri and went to Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, graduating in 2003 with a double major in women’s studies and political science (with a focus on Transformation and Development.) She also studied abroad in Durban, South Africa, for one semester during her junior year. Her undergraduate thesis focused on women's involvement in armed struggle and whether or not it can be a catalyst for their future political involvement in transitional states. Since graduating from college, she has spent some time working in the restaurant industry and volunteering with various organizations. She volunteered with the Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project in Portland, Maine as an intake interviewer. Furthermore, she spent about eight months working with the Sue Shear Institute on Women and Public Life at the University of Missouri St. Louis as a research intern. She also took some time off from work and volunteering and spent six weeks taking intensive language courses at a Spanish language school. In her free time, she enjoys cooking and reading and is always looking for an opportunity to travel. She plans to participate in the department's co-sponsored North American Women's Studies Summer 2007 institute at the Universidad de Las Americas in Puebla, Mexico.

The following plan to graduate in June or August 2006 after completing their MA projects:


Samantha Casne (MA) Project: “The Next Generation: Young Women and Elective Office”


Kai Kohlsdorf (MA) Project: "Sexy Monsters: The Painful Rhetoric of Trans-as-Transsexual Only”

Beth Lytle (MA) Project: "The Female Sailor Bold: Transgressive Narratives of the Sea”


Courtney Walton (MA) Project: “The Big (and) Easy Masquerade: Examining Issues of Race, Class, Citizenship and Belonging in Post-Katrina New Orleans”

graduating undergraduates

majors
Rachel Kloss (African American Studies minor)
Allyson Moyer

minors
Emily Joy (fine arts major)
Laura Turner (communications major)

new majors and minors

majors
Jasmine Berry
Sarah Briedis
Julia Davenport
Alessandra Hernandez
Cassandra Jensen
Jessica Price (with a Sexuality Studies concentration)
Amanda Sunderhaus
Sarah Szekeres
Connie Underwood (double major with anthropology)
Karen Whyte (double major with history)
Chana Wolfson (with North American studies concentration; double major with Latin American Studies)

minors
Hannah Sayre (chemistry major)
Laura Turner (communications major)

triota women’s studies honor society members

The following are officers and new inductees in the UC chapter of Iota Iota Iota (Triota), the National Women's Studies Honor Society:

Melissa Assum
Lori Gresham
Rebecca Hale
Emily Joy
Katrina Kadisevkis
Rachel Kloss
Amy Penn
Jessica Price
Sarah Szekeres
Laura Turner

alumnae updates


Hollie Hinton (graduate certificate 2004) has begun a new position as the director of the Ohio Governor’s Office of Women’s Initiatives and Outreach in Columbus.

Regina Langley (MA 2003) is a first year doctoral student at Princeton Theological Seminary (NJ) in the Religion and Society Department. She has also taken on a new career as a radio DJ. You can listen to her at www.wprb.com. Her radio personality name is The Black Girl.

Lori Larusso (MA 2002) received a master’s in fine arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art. She currently works as an office manager at a Women’s Health Clinic in Providence, RI and she also teaches a drawing class at a college in Boston.

Valerie Louis (MA 2000) is pursuing a PhD in the Educational Foundations Department at the University of Cincinnati. She also works as the director of the Peaslee Neighborhood Center in Cincinnati.

Natalie Mathis (MA 2004) is a development associate with Foundations and Corporate Relations at the Taft Museum in Cincinnati.

Rebecca Moskow (MA/JD 2004) has been accepted into the PhD program in women’s studies at the University of Minnesota.

Valerie Ruffin (MA 1999) is currently completing her PhD in women’s studies at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. She will graduate in May of 2007 and is currently teaches world literature at a high school in the area.

Hisae Sasaki (MA 1996) is teaching English at a high school in Japan.

Shelby Smith (MA/JD 2000) now works as associate director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, a non-profit law firm that defends the human rights of people targeted by the criminal courts and prison systems in the Deep South. While a graduate student at UC, Shelby worked with Friends of Women’s Studies, which helped her find her calling to work in non-profits in development and administration.

Rachel Strasinger (BA 2006) is a development associate at the YWCA in Cincinnati.

Alecea Standlee (MA 2006) is pursuing a doctorate degree in sociology at Syracuse University. Her main research interests in the (re) construction of marginalized sexual, race, and gender identities through use of the online cyber communities.

Ageenah Saleem (MA 2006) is home schooling her son.

women’s studies awards

The following outstanding women were honored at the 2007 Annual Women’s Studies Awards and Recognition Ceremony, Friday, May 4.

Faculty Award
Lisa Hogeland, Associate Professor of English and Women’s Studies

Graduate Student Award
Federica Gentile (MA 2007)

Undergraduate Student Award
Emily Joy (minor 2007)

Alumnae Award
Brionnea Williams (MA 2001)

Friends Award, Honoring Capital Campaign Cabinet Members
Marian Brown
Marquita McLean
Molly Tami
naws update

“It was one of the best experiences of my life!” So says Karen Floeckher, who spent fall 2006 at the Universidad de Las Americas (UDLA) in Puebla, Mexico as a participant in the Department of Women’s Studies’ student exchange program among six universities in the United States, Canada, and Mexico that is supported by federal funding. The program allows students to focus on gender issues in a North American context. Despite her interest in the flyers she saw around the Women’s Studies offices, as a doctoral student in Romance Languages and Literatures, with a full schedule of classes and the need to work to help support her family, she initially did not think it would be possible to study abroad for a semester. However, with the urging of a Women’s Studies professor to investigate the scholarships more in-depth, she found that there were ways to organize her academics, her finances, and her family life to make it possible. To further prepare for the program, she became a graduate certificate student in Women’s Studies to augment her doctoral level studies in Spanish and French.

As Karen says, “I was able to live, observe, and participate in world views that I had only read about in articles and books. The courses in UC’s Women’s Studies Department prior to my departure prepared me to see the experience through a gendered lens and to critically analyze the class structures and gender roles that were playing out in front of me everyday. I was also able to improve my Spanish exponentially in order to forge close friendships with people I would never have encountered, if I had not participated in this program. I truly feel like a citizen of North America, not just the United States, and this has changed my view of the world and my orientation to subsequent coursework at UC, in terms of globalization, human rights, women’s rights, and migration. If anyone is considering this program, please pursue it!”

Katherine Seiger, an MA student in Women’s Studies, spent fall 2006 at York University in Toronto as part of this exchange program, where she could work with experts in her area of research on mothering issues. Two more Women’s Studies students will spend fall 2007 abroad: Jennifer Johnson (MA) at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax and one undergraduate student Chana Wolfson (major) at UDLA-Puebla. Two other students from Women’s Studies (Jill Williams) and International Affairs (Stephanie Matson) will participate in our final summer institute at UDLA Puebla in June 2007. Funded exchanges may be available for another 1-2 years and non-funded exchanges may continue beyond that. For more information on the program, contact nrthaws@uc.edu or see the department Web site.

friends president’s report – jane anderson

Greetings to all current Friends and (we hope) soon-to-be new Friends! The Friends Board and I deeply appreciate the support all of you who are Friends have made and continue to make in keeping Women’s Studies at UC strong and growing. And for those of you who are not yet Friends, we hope that this newsletter will inspire you to join us. The following is a brief update of the various activities of Friends over the past few months.

The Friends Board kicked off the new academic year in September with a welcome pot luck dinner for the new and returning graduate students at the home of Women’s Studies Department Head Anne Runyan. All the members of the board who gathered with the students that evening were so impressed with the energy, enthusiasm, intelligence and sense of purpose of this great group of students. It reconfirmed for us how worthy this program is of our support.

That event was followed in November by our annual Fall Reception graciously hosted this year by UC President Nancy Zimpher at her lovely home. We were pleased to honor at this event the members of the Capital Campaign Cabinet who were so instrumental in raising the funds to provide for our new endowed chair position in the department. The first appointee to that position, Dr. Amy Lind, spoke to us about the importance of local women’s movements in making a difference in an age of globalization and the connection to the efforts of Friends of Women’s Studies. This stimulated a “trip down memory lane” led by Joan Rieveschl, reminding us of the origins and early struggles of Friends. It was quite inspiring to those who remembered and those who were hearing about these efforts for the first time.

That evening Dr. Lind also presented a calendar of presentations on campus to be made by various student and faculty from Women’s Studies based on their activities and research funded in part by Friends Travel and Research Grants from previous years. I hope that those of you who are Friends have been receiving information about these interesting presentations and have been able to attend one or two of them. As part of the on-going work of Friends, certain members of the board assisted in the selections of this year’s grant recipients. We are looking forward to future presentations based on the work from this year’s awards.

Other Friends’ activities include serving as Friends Connections with graduate students in the department. Please remember that you do not have to be a board member to serve in this mentoring capacity with a student. I can testify personally to the enjoyment and personal reward of doing this and encourage anyone who is a Friend to become a mentor to one of our students.

If you are not yet a Friend for this year, it is not too late to do so. Just use the form in this Genderline or contact us at friendsws@uc.edu or 513-556-6653. We are planning some exciting future activities for Friends, including involvement with the NWSA national conference scheduled for June 2008, so this is a great time to join us. Pat Timm will lead Friends next year.

We enjoyed seeing many of you at the Women’s Studies Awards and Recognition Ceremony on May 4. This year among the honorees, the Friends Awards was presented to Marian Brown, Molly Tami, and Marquita McClean for their many contributions to Friends and especially their work on the capital campaign.
The following reprinted article from the in-house McMicken Monthly is in memoriam of a long-time Friend of Women’s Studies who provided substantial annual donations for many years in support of our annual Returning Woman Student Award for undergraduate or graduate women students in need who have returned to school after a hiatus in their education. This past year, it was given to a Women’s Studies major who has also been recognized as the oldest undergraduate in the McMicken College of Arts & Sciences.

Helen Cooper Howe: UC Ties Stayed Strong
By Britt Kennerly

She was an energetic, independent person, one recalled by her family and friends as a woman who followed her interests and her heart.

The family of Helen Cooper Howe recently held a celebration of the life of the lifelong Cincinnatian, a 1943 A&S Classics and teaching graduate who died Nov. 13, 2006, at age 85. She is survived by her husband, Robert T. Howe, professor emeritus in the UC College of Engineering; two daughters, Barb Howe and Nancy Bull; her son, Steve Howe, head of the UC Department of Psychology; a son-in-law, David Bull; a daughter-in-law, Shelley Rooney; and much-loved grandchildren, Alexander and Zachary Howe.

In a tribute for his spouse of 61 years, Robert Howe called her a “cherished wife” and his “best friend,” a woman whose friends described her as friendly and helpful.

He also shared a wealth of stories about his wife’s teaching career, which started with full-time work, stopped for a few years as she raised three children and started again when she took up substitute teaching in the Cincinnati Public Schools system.

“When I started teaching, Helen could not have cared less about her salary,” he wrote. “Her teaching at Walnut Hills High School – for two years in Latin and for the remaining years in ancient and medieval history,” her husband wrote.

“Helen’s greatest gift was a sense of empathy; she could strike up a conversation anywhere she went and before long she would be listening with sympathy to problems. She had innumerable telephone counseling sessions without ever using a cell phone.”

Howe’s daughter Nancy Bull conveyed her mother’s love of bridge that developed while Helen – an only child – was a student at UC, and “her deep disappointment that I never learned to play as part of my college education.”

“The war years made the difference and they apparently played bridge as entertainment while the men were gone,” said Bull, associate dean, Outreach and Public Service, and associate director, Cooperative Extension System, at the University of Connecticut.

The family’s ties to UC are strong, said Barb Howe, director of the Center for Women’s Studies and associate professor of history at West Virginia University.

Her mother, Barb Howe thinks, “really owed her UC education to the endowments in the Classics Department – she was a Classics major because she got a scholarship there.”

“Since my sister, brother, and I are all in higher education, we know how important private fund-raising is in providing scholarships, and Mom definitely benefited from those scholarships,” she said. “She did what was known as the 4-A program when I did it – a BA in classics and a bachelor of education.”

“While Mom and Dad were the first in their immediate families to go to UC, Mom’s cousin (like a brother to her) was a UC graduate in 1938,” said Howe – who, like her sister, did not learn to play bridge!

“Dad also has a master’s from UC, my BA and BS in education were in 1969 from UC; my sister has a bachelor’s and master’s from UC, my brother has a bachelor’s and PhD from UC and my sister-in-law has a PhD from UC.”

Her mother’s connections to her Phi Mu sorority sisters and her Mortar Board class remained true, Barb Howe said.

“Most of those who are still living in the Cincinnati area were at the celebration of her life on Nov. 25, and they got together until very recently – the Phi Mu group last met, I think, in 2004, so that was about 64 years of regular meetings – and the Mortar Board group last got together some time in 2006, as I recall. One of her Phi Mu sisters grew up next to her and was like her sister and is my godmother.”

And life was very different in every way when Helen graduated with her UC class during World War II.

“You couldn’t get nylon stockings so women wore leg makeup and drew a line up the back of the leg with something like a mascara pencil,” Barb Howe said. “It was very, very hot that night and they were wearing white dresses, and she said the leg makeup ran and got onto the dresses.”

Helen also used her UC education at the Cincinnati Art Museum, where she was a docent for almost 20 years.

“She loved giving tours of the collections there that featured ancient and medieval art - and apparently also helped a lot of the other docents learn about those collections,” Barb Howe said.

“Then, after retirement, she and Dad co-authored a text book for
Longman’s on ancient and medieval history that was used in high schools and colleges for many years.”

That book, “Ancient & Medieval Worlds,” was followed by a job offer from Longman Publishing Co., one that led to a four-year stint for Helen as sales representative in Ohio for its entire line of publications.

Helen’s concern for others, her husband said, “extended beyond life, for she wanted her remains to be used by the College of Medicine.”

And in that spirit, they asked that any donations in her name be made to a favorite charity or funds, including one supporting scholarships in UC’s Department of Women’s Studies. “Our women’s studies program here at West Virginia University started a scholarship for returning women students about 1987,” Barb Howe said.

“I understood from our director at the time that she got the idea from a scholarship that the UC program gave. When I mentioned it to Mom, she really liked that idea and began giving money for such a scholarship at UC.”

**honor roll of donors**

The following Friends of Women’s Studies made contributions between April 1, 2006 and April 9, 2007, for which our students and faculty are very grateful.

**$500-1000**
Barbara B. and Richard H. Allen
Dorothy Anne Blatt
Anna K. Carey, PhD
Mrs. Eva Jane R. Coombe
Drs. Margery and Frederick Gass
Emily M. Hodges
Robert Theodore Howe, PhD
E. V. Hess Howett, MD
John E. Pepper, Jr.
Doreen A. Quinn
Martha W. Rees, PhD
Joan Cochran Rieveschl
Louise Roselle
Margery and Anne S. Runyan, PhD
Michael J. Woolley

**$101-499**
Janet G. Abaray
Wendy Allinsmith-Kennedy
Jane S. Anderson, PhD
Betty E. Benjamin
Mary Alice Burke
Shirley S. Chewning
Frances A. Haas
Julia H. Hawgood
Kathy Fryer Helmbock

Steven R. Howe, PhD
Mary J. Klyn
Deborah R. Lydon
Susan R. Momeyer
Barbara K. Myers
Valerie L. Newell
Patricia O’Reilly, PhD
Susan R. Robinson
Theresa A. Seery
Martha A. Stimson
Elizabeth A. Stone
Sallie R. Wadsworth
Mary Wells
Susan Reid Wilke
I'd like to show my support for The Rag.

NAME __________________________________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS_________________________________________________ ZIP ________________________

EMAIL __________________________________________________________________________________________

☐ I want to help keep a feminist publication alive in Cincinnati. I’m making a tax-deductible donation of $______.

(Please make check payable to UC Foundation - Women’s Studies Student Publication)

☐ I would like my donation to remain anonymous.

---

Visit our new Web site: www.theragmag.com

E-mail us: theragmag@gmail.com

Send donations to:
The Rag
518 Riddle Road, Apt 1
Cincinnati, OH 45220

The Rag is a democratic, gender-focused magazine embedded in feminist consciousness. It was founded by UC Women's Studies MA students in 2002. Community volunteers, alumnae, and current UC students produce the magazine independently of the Department of Women's Studies, but with its generous support. The Rag seeks volunteer staff members, and internship credit is available through the Department of Women's Studies.
Marian A. Spencer
Louise W. Spiegel
Kayla J. Springer, PhD
Dee Stegman
Elizabeth B. Stewart
Sue B. Straus
Penny A. Summers
Molly T. Tami, Esq.
Arlene A. Thorwarth
Patricia Z. Timm, EdD.
Judith B. Titchener
Prof. Ann Marie Tracey
Barbara G. Watts
Bea and Henry Winkler
Martha J. Wolf
Ying Zhang

women’s studies presents

Women’s Studies Presents is back as the department’s annual lecture series which features presentations by faculty and students whose scholarship and activism has been supported by the Friends grants and department endowments. This year, faculty members presented on such topics as feminist analyses of bankruptcy reform, queering globalization, portraiture of 17th century women, confronting environmental racism, and lesbian ethics. Students shared their conference, public internship and study abroad experiences. In addition, the series included public lectures by such guest speakers as Middle Eastern feminist peace theorist Simona Sharoni, Nicaraguan poet Daisy Zamora, and Canadian professor and outlaw mothering theorist Andrea O’Reilly. Thanks to Endowed Chair Amy Lind and graduate assistant Federica Gentile for organizing these successful events.

save the dates

Friends of Women’s Studies is honored to announce that the

THE 2007 FRIENDS FALL RECEPTION

will be held at the home of
Francie Pepper, in Wyoming, Ohio
on October 18, 2007, from 6-8 p.m.

THE SPRING 2008 AWARDS RECOGNITION CEREMONY

will be held in
615 Old Chem, UC West Campus
on May 2, 2008, from 5-7 p.m.

friends of women’s studies

Become a Friend!
Support research and scholarship about women, activities, and programs of the Department of Women’s Studies. Please make checks payable to the UC Foundation.

Name

Email

Address

City

State Zip

Phone Fax

☐ $500 ☐ $100 ☐ $25

☐ $250 ☐ $50 ☐ $10

other

All donations and membership fees are tax deductible. Please mail to:
Friends of Women’s Studies
University of Cincinnati
PO Box 210164
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0164.

All annual donations make the donor a member of Friend of Women’s Studies, and donations of $1000 or more additionally make the donor a member of the McMicken Society for the year in which the donation was made.
### Department of Women's Studies

Anne Sisson Runyan  
Head and Graduate Director  
Deb Meem  
Graduate Advisor  
Michelle Gibson  
Undergraduate Director  
Amy Lind  
Women's Studies  
Olga Sanmiguel-Valderrama  
Women's Studies  
Lisa Hogeland  
English and Women's Studies  
Beth Ash  
English and Women's Studies  
Janine Hartman  
Romance Languages/Literature and Women's Studies  
Wendy Eisner  
Geography and Women's Studies  
Patti Jeffries  
Administrative Assistant  

Phone  
513-556-6776  
E-Mail  
womens.studies@uc.edu  

### www.artsci.uc.edu/womens_studies

Genderline is published annually by the University of Cincinnati Department of Women's Studies. The deadline to submit notices, make inquiries, or be placed on the mailing list for the next issue is February 15. Please contact:

Genderline  
Department of Women's Studies  
University of Cincinnati  
P.O. Box 210164  
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0164  
womens.studies@uc.edu  

---

### Friends of Women's Studies

Jane Anderson  
President  
513-556-6653  
friendsws@uc.edu  

Jane Anderson  
President  
513-556-6653  
friendsws@uc.edu