

Women's Studies Program **Fall 1999**
UMass Amherst **Newsletter**

Message from the Director

Friends and Donors

Comings and Goings

People News

Alumni News



We love to brag!

News for all students

Library and Campus News

Addenda to Course Guide

Events for Fall 1999

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It has been a busy, challenging and enlightening Spring semester for me as the Women's Studies director. As acting director for this year, the spring was a "journey of discovery" and also of "self"-discovery. On the one hand, it took both joy and sometimes pain to understand the full spectrum of the program and all the details that go into making it look "easy" and "seamless." The program comes out that well thanks to the behind-the-scenes on-going work of the staff. It is difficult to imagine that so much can be accomplished without the dedication and hard work of Linda Hillenbrand, Karen Lederer, and Nancy Patteson. I thank them for making my job possible and manageable. I also want to thank the faculty for their support of my work during the spring semester. At the same time, this semester was for me a journey of "self"-discovery. Despite my much touted cross-over between management and feminism, I often found myself promoting the managerial logic that, intellectually, I so much suspect. I found myself, in fact, "managing." I hope that eventually I will be able to find a viable balance between management and feminism that would serve as a positive contribution to Women's Studies.

All those reflections aside, altogether it was a very exciting semester. We were pleased to host challenging and engaging scholars such as Julie Graham, Ellen Kornegay, and Laurie Witt who through the lecture series "Truth and Consequences: The Ethics and Epistemology of Research" spoke on pressing issues of global importance. Also, the Spring lunchtime brownbag lecture series, ran jointly with the Graduate Certificate Research Seminar, and hosted feminist scholars from Finland, Croatia, Thailand, and Brazil.

From the above, you can gather that this past spring we have also started to strengthen and highlight the program's global expertise. The long range planning document, completed last December, outlines how the program's objectives will be focused over the next five years. This focus is moving now toward globalization processes and their impact on intersectionalities of gender, race and class worldwide. For this purpose a new scholarly niche on "Gender, Globalization and Multiculturalism" is being designed. You will be hearing more about this planning process in the months to come.

Also this past spring, Women's Studies got engaged in the campus debate on affirmative action. While this issue arose at UMass about admissions policies, we are part of a national conversation about affirmative action, the legal, ethical, and practical ways to address institutional racism and sexism. The Women's Studies Executive Committee called upon the Chancellor to set a national example by examining admissions standards as a whole, and not only focusing on affirmative action. Focusing on affirmative action alone assumes the current standards are "neutral" even though SAT scores and other indicators have been clearly shown to favor upper level economic groups and people from European backgrounds. We are pleased to be part of this national dialogue that will continue here and across this country this year. In fact, the 1999-2000 lecture series will have a strong focus on Affirmative Action in connection with the politics of gender, race and class. In addition several members of the Women's Studies program are coordinators and participants in various campus-wide upcoming events focusing on affirmative action. More information on these is provided in the following pages.

As always, we are proud of, and I am grateful as well to our productive faculty and their prestigious projects, but I am sorry to say a (temporary we hope) goodbye to Janice Raymond and Leila Ahmed. In the meantime, we have hired a trio of dynamic professors Sima Fahid, Lisa Robinson, and Kathleen Zane to teach in the program for this year and fill in the gaps.

For now, I am looking forward to a productive, stimulating year (and to Ann Ferguson's return as director in the Spring 2000!).

Friends and Donors!

We were pleased to organize our first ever Friends' event! On August 21, Friends of Women's Studies gathered in Lenox, MA for Tina Packer's "An Afternoon With Virginia Woolf" with actress Tod Randolph, director Daniella Varon and Harvard scholar/playwright Carol Gilligan. The event was in the Wharton Theatre at the Mount, Edith Wharton's former home, now the home of Shakespeare and Company Theatre, of which Tina Packer is Artistic Director. Friends enjoyed a box supper on the grounds of the Mount following the performance. For more information on Shakespeare and Company, you can contact them at 413-637-3353 or check their website at www.shakespeare.org for more information.

The friends continue to try and raise funds to support the vigorous and expanding field of Women's Studies. These funds will be used for special events and speakers, visiting lecturers, and student scholarships. This year we have some interesting and exciting incentives to send as a token of our appreciation for your gift. Please contact Linda in the Women's Studies office or consult the friends' section of the [website](#) (Click on "Be a Friend") for details.

A special thank you to new and old friends who responded to our most recent mailing:

Craig Alimo
 Elena Azzoni
 Jayne Barnes
 Judith Branzburg
 M.J. Canavan
 Stephanie Chapko
 Linda Chatfield
 Melanie Desilva
 Susan Dorazio
 Andrea Fox
 Joanne Gangi
 Suzanne Gardinier
 Marlene Gerber Fried
 Sarah Hamilton
 Frank Holmquist
 Debra Joyce
 Christen Kavanaugh
 Christine King
 Paul Lederer
 Patricia Lee Lewis
 Birdie MacLennan
 Kathryn McGarvey
 Susan Michelman
 Dr. Anne E. Mullin
 Christine Murphy
 Lorna Peterson
 Diana Riddle
 Donna Uhlman

We also had a great response to telefund calls! Without this financial support, we couldn't send our students off with a meal and a T-shirt, and couldn't support much of our programming. Special thanks to:

Barbara Bazemore
 Andrea Berman
 Leslie Breault
 Maureen Carney
 Susan Cayleff
 Christina M. Cincotti
 Francis A. Cincotti
 Jeanne Comeau
 Daniel and Karen Corveleyn

Diane Lynch Curley
Alicia Georgantas
Suzanne Graver
Mary Hawkesworth
Jackson T. Katz
Dale M. LaBonte
Janice Rayner
Mary E. Reilly
Rachel Rubin
Donna Rush
Inez Sieben
Kathleen Wagner
Christine Willis
David Velton

Comings and Goings

We sent many fine students off into the world this spring at our graduation breakfast. Marta Calás statistically proved that 100% of our students are fabulous, we ate, sang bread and roses, and distributed T-shirts and flowers. This 1999 graduation was a fine jump start to the new millenium for Women's Studies because we awarded our first Graduate Certificate in Advanced Feminist Studies to **Viera Wallace-Lorencova**. Congratulations to Viera and to all! We will miss you.

Congratulations to these graduated Majors:

Allyssa Bibeault, Zibby Bisgard, Danielle Burger, Melissa Cardenas, Maura Crowley, Meredith Dimola, Jeanne Fuqua, Jennie Horton, Amy Howland, Tracey Huggins, Sharon Katkow, Ronna Lytle, Sherri Martin, Molly McKnight, Andrea Montalbano, Megan Murphy, Ann Marie Pennola, Rachael Pepe, Ann Marie Pennola, Andy Rolinger, Deb Rose, Joscelyn Ruelle, Adelina Soares, Jennifer Swiderski, Leah Tyler, Anita Weisberg, Deidry Williams, Renee Wurtzel, and Adrienne Zahner.

Best of luck to these graduated Minors:

Cheryl Alper, Maricruz Badia, Julie Bettencourt, Sherri Cohen, Jessica Craft, Cheri Caneles, Melissa Dipinto, Laurie Faille, Kate Geyer, Jodi Harmon, Katie Herzig, Marcia Hill, Eileen Hoarle, Nancy Ingels, Heather Janvrin, Emma-Kate Jaouen, Jennifer-Lyn Jennings, Olga Daisy Navedo, Kellie O'Donnell, Christine Oliveri, Angela Osei-Mensah, Kristin Perry, Alexandra Piesiur, Jennifer Robson, Brenda Santos, Caroline Sunshine, Allana Todman, Emily Trask, Meenakshi Verma, Marcia Ward, Jessica Yoakum, and Jessica Wilson.

Farewell also to **Karen Garcia** who taught in the program 1998-1999, and to departing graduate student teaching assistants: **Nandini Balakrishna, Heather Hackman, Deborah May** and **Viera Wallace-Lorencova**. Best of luck to you all.

WELCOME to new Teaching Assistants for our Introduction to Women's Studies course, **Shu-Chen Huang, Jan Dahms, Brenda Bethman**, and **Tanya Kachwaha**. Welcome back to **Jeannine Marks** (Intro to WOST) and to **Jana Evans-Brazil** (Writing for Women's Studies Majors) who will teach in the program again this year.

The new graduate students for Fall 1999 (the third group admitted!) are: *Michelle Boucher* (English/American Studies); *Kristina Bourne* (Management); *Stevoda Chepko*; *Lynn Couturier*; *Jan Dahms* (Sociology); *Lisa Giddens*; *Shu Chen Huang* (Comparative Literature); *Michelle Paranto* (Language, Literacy and Culture); *Karen Pearce* (Anthropology); *Chizu Sato* (Center for International Education); *Rainier Sielaff* (German); *Anne Stouffer*.

We hope that the new majors, minors, and graduate students can get to know the faculty, staff and one another as we work together in Women's Studies. Welcome all!

People News

Leila Ahmed's book "A Border Passage: From Cairo to America-A Woman's Journey" was published in the spring by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Her book was favorably reviewed in many places, including the New York Times Review of Books. This year Leila will be teaching Women's Studies at Harvard Divinity School. We will miss her.

Arlene Avakian continues to be involved in Not In Our Town, an Amherst based anti-racism group which just got a Haymarket grant to support its work. She is also part of the Ad Hoc committee to organize the Teach-In on Affirmative Action. Her article, "Transgressing Borders: teaching About Whiteness in Women's Studies" will appear in the latest issue of Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power. On the food front, Arlene organized the panel "The Material and the Symbolic: Women, Ethnicity, Race, Class and Cooking and Eating" for the annual meeting of the Association for Food and Society. Her paper, "Are We What We Eat? Armenian American Women's Ethnic Identity and Food" is based on the research she did last semester while on leave. Another version of this paper was part of a plenary session she organized for a conference on Armenians in New England. She and Barbara Haber are co-editing a book of scholarly articles on women and food. Arlene continues to serve on the Five College Women's Studies Research Center Steering Committee and the MSP Board.

Marta Calás has been very busy directing Women's Studies (see Director's Statement on front page) and planning the fall conference "Re-Organizing Knowledge: Trans-forming Institutions; Knowing, Knowledge and the University in the XXI Century" (see related article.) In addition Marta has received a Fulbright Scholar grant to conduct research in Finland in the spring of 2000. She will be at the Åbo Akademi in Turku and she will address issues of gender, organizational theory and diversity. Her work in Finland will continue her long term research combining feminist theory with organizational theory, focusing on how organizations are designed, the values that sustain them, and the origins and meanings of those values. This is her 2nd Fulbright grant. Congratulations Marta. We will miss you this spring.

Alex Deschamps had a mini-sabbatical because she was a Lilly Fellow for 1998-1999. Her project concerned feminist pedagogy and Third World Women's Research Methodology. As usual, she was a faculty supervisor for the BDIC program and a faculty advisor in the Honors Program/Commonwealth College. She is looking forward to teaching Critical Race Feminism in the graduate program this fall, and is working on developing a research methodology class in keeping with our international focus as articulated in our new long range plan. Alex is developing a concept for a participatory research class with a travel component to the Caribbean in conjunction with the University of the West Indies campuses in Jamaica and Barbados. This summer she was again involved with P.L.A.Y., Planned Learning Activities for Youth which targets junior and senior high school students of color.

Ann Ferguson has been on sabbatical leave since January and will continue to be on leave this fall. She is working on a research project comparing the Nicaraguan and other Central American Women's Movements with the Spanish Women's Movement in terms of the political concepts used by popular educators and activists. She visited Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua this spring and did interviews of feminists there. She brought hurricane relief to women's groups from the local group Feminist Aid to Central America. She will be visiting Spain in the fall to complete her research. While in Europe she plans to give a talk on her research at a Citizenship and Feminism conference in Lisbon, Portugal. This past spring Ann gave a plenary talk on feminism and democracy at a Women's Studies conference at SUNY/Binghamton. She has also written two reviews and has had a paper on global women's studies and pedagogy accepted for the journal "Transformations." Finally, she is also working on a second edition of her book Sexual Democracy for Westview Press.

Linda Hillenbrand in addition to her busy schedule here at WOST, continues to take on more leadership positions in the University Staff Association, the clerical union here at UMass. Her newest duties are Chair of the Public Relations Committee, editor of the USA newsgram, and chief designer for the new USA website (<http://www.umass.edu/usa>). On the homefront she continues to be an advocate for children with special needs by involving herself in the interviewing and hiring of teachers for a new special education program in Amherst in which her son will be enrolled. Linda is also proud to announce the next volume of the publication, "We are More Than You See," entitled, "Voice Prints." Linda reports that her submission was inspired by her son and says it's her best piece yet. Contact Labor Management/Workplace Education for a copy or call Linda herself.

Karen Lederer has had a busy year on committees of various types within the program and outside of it-University Advisors Collaborative, Women's Studies Executive Committee, Undergraduate Studies Committee, The UMass Learning Communities Committee, the Communities Project of the Five College Women's Studies Research Center, the Chapter Board and the health and safety committee of SEIU Local 509. Last fall she taught a section of "UMass Plugged In" a course for students in the Patterson Program, a program for undeclared first year students. This course included diversity issues, selecting a major, and survival skills at the University and in life and was a refreshing new challenge. Karen has been doing a lot of thinking about how

best to work with students to both prevent incompletes, and then work with people who get them anyhow. Stay tuned. As Karen enters her 40s this fall she is thinking of taking a breather from some of her committee work for a change of pace!

Nancy Patteson was busy last year working on the Women's Studies lecture series *Truth & Consequences: The Ethics and Epistemology of Research*. The series highlighted local professors Joyce Berkman, History, and Julie Graham, Geosciences, and noted anthropologist Laurie Whitt, Michigan Technological University, and Ellen Kornegay, CEO, Office of the Status of Women, Office of the Deputy President (as of last spring), Pretoria, South Africa. This coming year she will be researching resources toward enriching collaborations with the sciences, environmental issues, and women and development as part of the Women's Studies long range planning efforts, while also strengthening the graduate Certificate program, advising students and trying to get the course guide done on time. She is also developing strategies on curricular transformation as part of her work with the Faculty Senate Status of Women Council and continuing to be active in research on girls and women's sport and physical education initiatives and institutional gender equity.

Jan Raymond delivered the keynote speech "How Do We Make Human Rights Real for Women" at the 50th anniversary celebration of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights at the International Women's Conference in Oslo, Norway in December 1998. During January, Jan gave the opening address on "Organizing Against Sexual Exploitation, Globally" at the international conference of the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women in Dhaka, Bangladesh. In May, 1999, Jan was invited to address the faculty of law at Tel Aviv and Jerusalem University in Israel and to participate in a conference on "The Status of Women on the Eve of the 21st Century" where she spoke on the trafficking in women. In June, she testified before the United Nations Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery in Geneva, Switzerland. And in July 1999, Jan attended the United Nations meeting on transnational crime where she participated in the drafting of a new UN Convention and protocol on trafficking. Jan's work has been recognized with 2 grants which will enable her to continue her projects (see article). Alas, she will be gone from the program for 2 years. Congratulations and best of luck in this crucial work.

Welcome to new faculty members filling in for core faculty who are on leave. (see course guide addenda on back page).

Sima Fahid taught "The Intersection of Gender, Sexuality and Ethnicity in Modern Middle Eastern History" this past spring, and will teach "Critical Perspectives" and "Women in Islam" this coming fall. Sima brings to her work here a background in Modern History and Middle Eastern History and previous research on gender and power.

Lisa Robinson has taught in our program in the past, and is a doctoral student in the Social Justice Program. Her research centers on the impact of racism and sexism on African-American Women Professors and Administrators. In the fall Lisa will teach "Critical Perspectives" and "Black Women and Activism."

Kathleen Zane has taught in Japan and in the United States. Her research focuses on cultural constructions of the Asian/Asian American body and her educational background is in comparative literature and cultural studies. She is interested in questions of race, popular culture and women's studies. In the fall Kathleen will teach "Women and Health" and "Asian American Women in Popular Culture."

We are fortunate to have such a talented group here with us this coming year. Take the time to seek them out for advice or information. Office hours information will be available in the main office.

Welcome Kathleen, Lisa and Sima!

Alumni News

Pilar Alessandra wrote that she is a freelance writer and story analyst and taught story analysis at the UCLA Extension in the spring of 1999. Last fall she married comic and writer Patrick Dodson.

Elena Azzoni moved to San Francisco, aiming for work with at-risk adolescents.

Jayne Barnes is a Licensed Social Worker working as a Recreational/Art Therapist at the River Valley AIDS Project. She also works at the YWCA: North as a counselor/advocate in the Transitional Living Program for Battered Women.

Tammi Brandon is an assistant language teacher in Japan, and is active in many organizations including being the Regional Representative of the Japanese Exchange and Teaching Program and "Wimmin Helping Wimmin" in Osaka.

Judith Branzburg is still in Pasadena, California, teaching English with "Women's Studies/Queer Studies thrown in".

Melinda Chateauvert has a new book "Marching Together: Women of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters" 1998 University of Illinois Press.

Tina Cincotti is working as a project coordinator for the Abortion Access Project.

Katherine Daube earned her Master's in Public Health from Harvard, and last summer started a job as the Social Services Director at the Council on Aging in Chicopee. She designs health promotion programs for elders.

Cheri Ehrlich is an elementary school art teacher for grades K-8, and teaches courses at the Rockland Center for the Arts in West Nyack, NY.

Andrea Fox has been working for the Massachusetts Nurses Association for 10 years and is currently negotiating a 1st contract for nurses in Worcester. She is studying Shuriryu Karate at Valley Women's Martial Arts in Easthampton, and is learning more about gardening, travel, and more.

Michelle Hillman works as a reporter for a weekly newspaper company called "Messenger-Wolfe" in Fishers, NY. The company publishes 9 weekly and one daily paper; Michelle is a reporter and lives outside of Rochester. She writes she has "survived the crazy winter weather. . .I miss UMass and the wonderful WOST classes I took while up there!" and adds that she wants to hear from other alums.

Amy Howland moved to Seattle to work in a Quaker program living cooperatively and working with homeless youth.

Sharon Katkow is doing a Masters Program in Language Acquisition in Tel Aviv, Israel. She teaches English at the middle school level as part of this program.

Jackson Katz was recently quoted in the Boston Globe regarding the Mentors in Violence Prevention Program. The MVP program is at Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport and Society. The goal is empowering men to become active bystanders in the face of men's violence against women. The front page article focused on a sexual harassment training offered to Marines on U.S. military bases worldwide.

Caledonia Kearns recently read from her anthology "Motherland: Writings by Irish American Women on Mothers and Daughters," William Morrow and Company, 1999. This book includes well known contemporary and historical authors, as well as work by Caledonia herself.

Christen Kavanaugh is getting her Master's in Early Childhood Education at UMass.

Katie Koloseike is in North Carolina and is the Operations Manager at Bonita Software in Raleigh. She earned her Masters of Arts in Business at the California Institute of Integral Studies. She is learning blacksmithing and flyfishing and is "psyched to be living in the south" and is active in many arenas.

Kathryn McGarvey is a Teaching Assistant at King Philip Regional High School in Wrentham with a Collaborative Program designed as an alternative high school for students with emotional, behavioral and social needs.

Birdie MacLennon is a librarian at the University of Vermont, and has been doing that for 9 years. She writes that she likes the "diversity of the work, the people and the changing technological environment." She has been studying French and traveling to Quebec, Canada. She still appreciates "the value of my education in Women's Studies, and the passion it has given me for

learning, questioning, and discovering new ways to invent and imagine the world."

Dorothy Merriam is a family nurse practitioner at Holyoke Pediatric Associates.

Christine Murphy is the anti-racism program associate in the Faith in Action department of the Unitarian Universalist Association. She finished her M.Div. at Harvard in 1997, and was the director of a church rebuilding project in South Carolina immediately after. A construction accident sidelined her, but now she writes that she is "working toward ordination and feel very blessed to be able to do faith based anti-oppression work professionally at a national level."

Patricia Murphy-Sheehy wrote last spring that she was renovating her house in prep for a baby, and working at Massachusetts General Hospital as an epidemiological researcher of medical issues including cardiovascular disease and diabetes. She lives in West Somerville with her husband Jim.

Judith Schneider is a Staff Assistant in the Dean of Students Office at Emerson College.

Amy Summers has begun a business entitled "Transformations-Wholistic Emporium, Gallery, and Workshops." It opened in August in Amherst. Transformations offers products for personal growth, classes, and an inspirational art gallery.

Donna Uhlmann is a criminal defense lawyer in Providence, RI.

WE LOVE TO BRAG! ★

Janice Raymond Awarded 2nd Grant

Last spring the newsletter described the \$188,000+ grant Jan had been awarded from the National Institute of Justice for a project in Sex Trafficking in Three Regional U.S. Cities. She has also been awarded a \$225,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to research "Women in the International Migration Process: Patterns, Profiles, and Health Consequences of Sexual Exploitation." This project will document how female migration is linked to patterns of sex tourism, mail order bride arrangements, domestic labor and sex trafficking. Female migration will be examined in the context of globalization of markets and capital, the globalization of the sex industry, and the internationalization of these patterns of female sexual exploitation. The study will specifically document the health burden of migrant trafficking on women. While Jan is doing this important work she will be on leave from Fall 1999-Spring 2001. Congratulations, best of luck with this project and we will miss you. We look forward to learning more of Jan's new research upon her return.

Honors, Honors, Honors Galore

As usual our students did us proud by garnering lots of recognition, including: a slew of Senior Leadership Awards, Honors Awards, prestigious fellowships, Dean's List, recognition for work on behalf of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender communities, ALANA awards, invitations to selective honors societies and more. Faculty and staff spent lots of time this spring snapping pictures as our graduate and undergraduate students (and faculty) were called up on stage to be handed trophies, certificates or checks. Keep up the excellent work. We are inspired by all you do! For information on faculty recognitions see people news.

Special note: Brenda Bethman, graduate certificate student, will be returning from her Fulbright experience in Vienna, and will speak on her experiences this fall.

News for all Students

Undergrad News
Graduate News

THE WOMEN'S STUDIES LOUNGE

The lounge is a place of respite, inspiration, and a haven for undergraduate and graduate students. Check your email, chat with friends, organize a meeting or informal event. Volunteer and internship opportunities are available for lounge staff. Stop by the lounge in 208A Bartlett, or call the office to find out more 545-1922. Thanks to our friendly lounge coordinators for 1998-99; Ronna Lytle, Renee Wurtzel and Vanessa Serotta.

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING WIRED

There are undergraduate and graduate student seats on the Women's Studies Executive committee, the policy making board of the program which meets monthly. This year we are trying something new-we are going to do the nomination/election process through email. If you don't have an email account, we urge you to get one. If you don't have a computer you can use the computer in the Women's Studies lounge to check your email. Women Studies students must have computer skills to succeed in today's workforce. Helpful lounge workers can assist you in entering cyber space. Women's Studies Majors, Minors and Certificate students, watch your email box for election news. If you aren't on the appropriate listserv, email the program at women-studies@wost.umass.edu.

THE VALLEY WOMEN'S HISTORY COLLABORATIVE

The Valley Women's History Collaborative offers graduate and undergraduate academic credit to students who undertake research that will assist the Collaborative in its mission to reconstruct the history of the feminist and lesbian movements in Western Massachusetts (Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden Counties) since 1965. In addition to currently enrolled students, Women's Studies alums are invited to volunteer their time. If you are interested contributing to this mission, please contact Joyce A. Berkman, Professor of History (Adjunct Professor of Women's Studies); phone 549-0659, 549-0089, 545-6759, 545-1330 or email: jberkman@history.umass.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

If you need a major application or an end of program report please contact Karen. Applications for the fall semester are due October 31. End of Program reports are due before the end of finals. Seniors, (and all students!) it is strongly recommended that you come in for a credit check. As always, field work and independent study opportunities abound, come in and find out more.

All primary majors are required to come in for advising during preregistration. Secondary majors and minors and potential majors and minors are encouraged to come in as well.

Please keep us updated with your whereabouts!

HEADS UP:

The honors students in the class of 2003 (incoming this fall) will be in the new Commonwealth College. The Class of 2000 honors students are still in the Honors Program. Confused? Give Karen, the honors coordinator for the program a call and we will figure it out together. If you don't know about honors opportunities, call to find out more.

There are new (and therefore) different graduation requirements for people majoring in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. If you are a double major Women's Studies (College of Humanities and Fine Arts) and a major in Social and Behavioral Sciences please come in to check on this. If you aren't sure whether this applies to you, give us a call 545-1922 or email lederer@wost.umass.edu.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

MAILBOXES

The Women's Studies Program office has removed individual graduate student mailboxes. Important information will be communicated via e-mail or will be sent to your local address. Please check in with Nancy to verify mailing address. The graduate bulletin board and posted material is still located in the office at 208 Bartlett Hall, so please come into the office often for updates and further information.

NEWSLETTER

The first edition of *Women's Voices* will be available in September, 1999. The graduate bulletin is a scholarly publication of the Women's Studies Program at UMass. Articles are submitted by graduate students and editing is done by the graduate coordinator and interested students. Contact the Women's Studies Program office for more information and/or to be put on the mailing list. Pick up your copy soon!

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate Certificate students are given priority as candidates for all Women's Studies teaching assistantships. The positions are usually filled in late spring for the following year. The statute of limitations for holding these positions is three years. T.A.'s lead discussion sections for WOST 187, Introduction to Women's Studies, and teach the Women's Studies Junior Year Writing course (offered in the fall semester). Contact Nancy, graduate coordinator, for information.

APPLICATION TO CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Certificate in Advanced Feminist Studies continues to grow. We currently have 26 students from a variety of disciplines and we are beginning our third year of operation. We receive hundreds of inquiries annually and applications are already being sent out for admission in Fall, 2000. The deadline for getting your application in is March 10, 2000.

NEWS AROUND CAMPUS

Several new databases have been added to the growing list of electronic resources at the library. See the [Library Web page](#) for more information, or stop by any of the libraries for a tour and introduction to Library services and resources.

Does the Library provide what you need? If you have suggestions for books to purchase, or services to provide; if you need research assistance, or would like to schedule a research workshop, please contact [Emily Silverman](#) at the Du Bois Library, 545-0995.

In the Library's new multimedia room (Du Bois Library, Room 1602, 577-0696), faculty and graduate students can explore and apply multimedia technologies in support of teaching, learning, and research. Multimedia room staff can provide assistance with multimedia applications. The hardware and software available allow you to scan and edit images and text; scan film and slides; print high-resolution images; create and transfer materials for courses; Web site; write interactive tutorials and course modules; digitize and edit video and audio; and develop multimedia presentations incorporating sound, video, animation, images, and text. Contact [Julie Linden](#), 577-2104 for more information.

NEWS AROUND CAMPUS

It is going to be a busy fall with lots of issues!

Re-Organizing Knowledge: Trans-forming Institutions Knowing, Knowledge and the University in the XXI Century

This ground breaking international conference will take place September 17-19, 1999 here at the University. The organizing questions include: does the university as a "house of knowledge" have a future? Is it an institution in the process of transforming its identity ("entrepreneurial" and "market driven") or an institution soon to be extinct? Should the house of knowledge be re-organized, or should a house of knowledge exist at all? Scholars from around the world will explore shifting social and organizational re-arrangements now underway, as contests of meaning over "knowledge," and its production, ownership, dissemination, and consumption continue.

More information is available from the conference website, off the Isenberg School of [Management website](#) or from Marta Calás or Linda Smircich in the Department of Management.

Teach In: Defending Affirmative Action September 22-24

An ad-hoc group of faculty, students and staff have worked over the summer planning a teach-in defending affirmative action. This teach in is a response to the crises last year precipitated by the Chancellor's decision to change admissions policies in ways that will drastically reduce the number of students of color. Over 100 faculty members from departments across campus have signed on to support the teach-in. Faculty are asked to either devote their classes to affirmative action during the teach-in or require that their students attend one or more workshops or plenary sessions. There are 2 full days of workshops, a keynote address and plenary sessions. For information contact Arlene Avakian at 413-545-1922 or [e-mail](#) her.

Privatization Issues

There are several efforts underway to privatize University jobs and bring in outside vendors for campus services. This has far reaching implications for students, faculty and staff. If you want to find out more, contact Karen in the office.

Status of Women Council

The SOWC is a University Faculty Senate Committee concerned with issues affecting women students, staff and faculty. The council is a volunteer watchdog group of elected members committed to gender equity and improving the campus climate for women. Currently, the council is reviewing and reporting on the status of recommendations brought forth by several initiatives and national agendas for women. Examples of issues being studied by the sub-committees are gender inclusive curriculum and pedagogy, faculty hiring and tenure process, class disparity and sexual harassment. If you are interested in becoming a member of the SOWC, contact Maureen Mooney, Provost's Office or see Nancy in the office.