

The following survey and letter were sent out in December, 2004. We are still compiling and would love to hear from you. Note: this survey is for UMass Amherst Women's Studies graduates only. Please send it to: Linda Hillenbrand, Women's Studies Program, 208 Bartlett Hall, Amherst, MA 01003.

December 8, 2004

Dear Women's Studies Alums,

We are once again asking for your help. In 2001 we asked you to participate in an evaluation of the curriculum we implemented in 1993, and many of you returned that questionnaire with thoughtful answers. That evaluation was overwhelmingly positive and we can now send you a summary if you are interested. We know that you have a wealth of experience, insight and resources, and we need to call on it again for the review we are now undergoing. It is our turn for the Academic Quality Assessment and Development Review mandated by the Board of Trustees for every department in the system. The review is actually coming at a very good time since we have two new faculty, Dayo Gore and Miliann Kang, and another who just got tenure, Banu Subramaniam. The review provides an opportunity to do a systematic self-study and we have been discussing various aspects of the program and our future. Among these issues is a very basic question—who are our constituencies and how do we relate to them. Instead of imagining how our alums might like to connect to the Program, we thought it would make the most sense to just ask you.

A number of questions in the enclosed survey are about fund raising. Departments at UMass Amherst and across the country are being asked more than ever before to raise funds. We are not asking for donations now--though we always welcome them--but we are very interested to know if you would be willing to participate in fund raising efforts. We also want to know if you would be interested in mentoring seniors and grads, whether you read the newsletter or visit the web site and if you have suggestions for ways to improve them, and if you would be willing to come to campus to talk about your school and/or work experiences.

So, please return the enclosed survey by December 23rd, and tell us what you think. We really value your input.

Sincerely,



Arlene Avakian, Director and Professor
On behalf of the Women's Studies faculty and staff

WOMEN'S STUDIES ALUM SURVEY

NOVEMBER 2004

Name _____

Address _____

check if different than address on envelope

Email _____ Phone _____

ALUM STATUS

graduate studies certificate _____

major (B.A.) _____

undergrad minor or certificate _____

other _____

year of graduation _____

graduate or professional degrees other than UMass Amherst: _____

current occupation/vocation: _____

work contact information: _____

future plans:

1. We would like to develop networks between our seniors and recent grads to help with career and/or graduate school choices. Would you be willing to meet with current students or recent grads? By checking yes you give us permission to give out your name and contact information to students interested in careers in your field, or moving to your area.

yes no

2. How do you prefer that people contact you? Work, home, email, phone?

3. Would you be interested in speaking on one of our alumni career panels?

yes no

If yes, check what kind of career panel you could contribute to.

- ___ Arts
- ___ Health
- ___ Law
- ___ Politics
- ___ Business
- ___ Community Activism
- ___ Balancing Work and Family
- ___ Other _____

4. We are considering forming alumni committees. Would you be interested in being on an alumni committee?

yes no

- ___ Fundraising
- ___ Event planning
- ___ Activism
- ___ Other _____

Some UMass Amherst alums have local organizations for networking or fund raising. We know there are clusters of women's studies grads in certain cities. The following questions refer to the possibility of creating such organizations for women's studies alums.

5. Are you in touch with other women's studies alums in your area?

yes no

6. Would you like to be in touch with alums in your area?

yes no

7. Would you be willing to attend a local gathering/meeting of alums?

yes no

8. Would you be willing to help to organize a group in your area?

yes no

9. Would you be interested in being involved in fund raising efforts for women's studies?
- yes no
10. Do you know of other graduates who might be interested?
- yes no
11. Please see enclosed list of alums we have lost touch with over the 30 years we've been graduating people. We welcome information from you to complete our lists.
12. Do you know of funding sources such as foundations, corporations, or individuals who may be interested in investing in women's studies' future? Do you have any other suggestions or comments for us?
13. If yes, please supply contact information.
14. We are considering organizing a 30+ year anniversary celebration, possibly also a reunion next year.
- Would you be interesting in attending? yes no
- Would you be interesting in working on this event? yes no
15. Do you have any suggestions on how we can strengthen our connection to our alums?

16. Do you read the women's studies newsletter regularly?

yes no

comments or suggestions?

17. Have you visited the Women's Studies website? www.umass.edu/wost

yes no

comments or suggestions?

Other suggestions or comments?