MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am still basking in the good feelings of the wonderful year we had in 2003-2004. Banu Subramaniam sailed through her tenure case with unanimous decisions at all levels. If you have had a class with Banu, read her work, or worked with her on a committee you know why we were so confident sending her case forward. Congratulations Banu and we are so glad to have you back after your semester teaching at Harvard.

Milann Kang and Dayo Gore, the two tenure track faculty we hired last year, both exceeded the very high expectations we all had of them. They are terrific teachers, great colleagues, and have already gotten involved in campus and Five College activities. They were both chosen to be members of CISA, the Five College Faculty Seminar for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Americas. Even by her first semester on campus Milian had become an important member of the Asian American Studies committee, and she has organized a very exciting program for the fall with Yunah Hong, a Korean American poet. Barely settled in, Dayo was involved in planning the events commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Brown vs. Board of Education, the Supreme Court decision that outlawed discrimination in schools. She is responsible for the panel on women in the Civil Rights Movement. Check inside for details on both of these events.

Both Dayo and Milian are also both being recognized nationally. Dayo won a prestigious fellowship at the Schomberg Library in Harlem, which unfortunately means that she will be away for this school year. We will all miss you Dayo. Milian and C.N. Le won a grant for their project on Second Generation Asian American Families in New England and Milian’s essay received the Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Award by the American Sociological Associations’ Race, Gender and Class section. See Milian’s People News items for all the details. Alex Deschamps, Ann Ferguson, and I have also been busy this year. See People News to find out what we have been up to.

Kudos to associated faculty Sangeeta Kamat for getting tenure, and to Sara Lennox who was elected vice president of the German Studies Association. We were also very proud to have graduated a large class of wonderful students, many of whom did extraordinary academic work and were involved in various activist projects on and off campus. We also took in new energetic majors, minors and graduate students who seem as excited about being in Women’s Studies as we are to have them.

The connections between STPEC and Women’s Studies have been strong for many years. Included in our collaboration is Linkages, a residential academic program for incoming students. Women’s Studies 187 has always been one of the required courses. In addition to Women’s Studies and STPEC the other programs involved in Linkages include Afro-American Studies, Latin American Studies and the Labor Center. Over the spring and summer, Women’s Studies and STPEC faculty and staff worked more closely together on the residential academic program Linkages, and this fall Nancy Patteson will be teaching the one-credit Linkages seminar. We hope that Linkages will continue to provide first year students who are budding critical thinkers and activists a space where their interests will be nurtured.

The accomplishments of our faculty and students and our interactions with other programs will stand us in good stead in the program review which we will be undergoing this academic year. Mandated by the board of trustees in 1999, each
department must have an Academic Quality Assessment and Development (AQAD) to both measure the performance of the department and to make plans for the future. During the fall semester we will prepare a self-study, including an action plan, which goes to the Dean and then the Provost. In the spring a team of outside evaluators will come to campus and do their own assessment, using our self-study as a guide. They will make recommendations that will come to us for our response and then go to the Dean and the Provost. The action plan prepared for the AQAD and responded to by the Dean and the Provost may be used as a basis for making decisions about our growth. While this process can be arduous and is certainly time consuming, it provides us the opportunity to think systematically about where we want to be in five years, how to get there as well as getting concrete feedback from the administration.

Although there is much good news in women’s studies, the state of the state, the country, and the world is full of uncertainty – at best. The results of the election this November may prove to be more decisive for the future of the country and the world than any we have faced, at least in recent history. The country is polarized, and the issues at stake are monumental. As we know from the last election, just a few votes can make an enormous difference. To do our part to encourage people to vote, we have organized a panel of activists from on and off campus to speak to the impact of the election on women on October 4, 4:00 in the Campus Center. Mark the date now and see below for details! We urge all of you in the area to come to the panel and all of you who are reading this newsletter to vote and to encourage everyone you know to vote. The presidency, the congress, and other elected officials may seem very remote, but their policies affect us every day. Who they are matters!

I wish you all a good semester and hope to see you at our upcoming events.

John Avlon

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**WOMEN’S STUDIES EVENTS**

“Between the Lines: Asian American Women Poets”
Film and talk with filmmaker Yunah Hong
Tuesday, September 28, 2004, 7:00 p.m.

Co-sponsored by the Korea Society, and the academic programs in Asian and Asian American Studies, Communication, English, and Women’s Studies.

**ACTIVISTS SPEAK OUT: WHY WOMEN’S VOTE MATTERS!**
Monday, October 4, 2004
4:00-5:30 p.m.
Campus Center 911-915

Co-sponsored with Everywoman’s Center. Panel discussion on the issues for women in this coming election.

**Moderator:** Ellen Story, State Representative

**Confirmed panelists:**
Amy Santiago, YouthBuild, Springfield
Annalise Fonza, doctoral candidate, Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, legislative aide to Representative Ben Swan

**Voter registration in the concourse level of the campus center all day prior to the event.**

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**GUEST LECTURE**

_Dailies of Uptown/Downtown Kingston: Female Attitudes and Masculine Domination_
Gina Ulysse, Ph.D., Assistant Professor African American Studies Program and Department of Anthropology at Wesleyan University
Thursday, October 28, 2004
4:00-5:30 p.m.

This paper seeks to deconstruct the stereotype of the strong black woman. It examines black Jamaican females’ gendered survival strategies, especially the embodiment and performance of attitudes such as tuffness (toughness) as a response to the symbolic violence of ‘masculine domination’ in Kingston, Jamaica.

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**NEW MAJOR WELCOME DINNER**

As always, after the undergraduate major application deadline of October 31, there will be a welcoming dinner for the new majors in November. Stay tuned for info.
IF YOU ARE A U.S. CITIZEN HAVE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

Election Dates and Voter Registration Deadlines in Massachusetts:

Deadline to register to vote in State Primary Election: August 25, 2004
Deadline to change party affiliation for State Primary: August 25, 2004
State Primary Election September 14, 2004
Deadline to register to vote in the General Election October 13, 2004
General Election November 2, 2004

Information from the Massachusetts League of Women Voters [http://www.voteinfo.info/]

There will be voter information available on campus in numerous places.

STONEWALL CENTER OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday, September 14
3:00-5:00 p.m.

GLBT GRADUATE STUDENT RECEPTION
Monday, September 29th
For info: 413-545-4824 [www.umass.edu/stonewall]

RACE, LAW AND CIVIL RIGHTS: FIFTY YEARS OF BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION

The History Department is inaugurating the Feinberg Family Distinguished Lectureship with a series of events this fall marking the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in Brown v. Board of Education. There will be three inaugural lectures and a series of related events that examine the impact of the Supreme Court’s momentous decision declaring racial segregation in public schools unlawful, and overturning the doctrine of “separate but equal.” In collaboration with Women’s Studies, the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Afro-American Studies, Legal Studies, Center for Public Policy and Administration, The Political Economy Research Institute and Sport Management. There are lectures, musical events, art exhibits and more.

INTERNATIONAL TOUR OF BANGLADESHI GARMENT WORKERS

These teen workers and activists are speaking on working conditions of garment workers in developing countries who produce apparel marketed in the U.S. including college logo apparel. There is a campaign to raise wages and protect the rights of these workers. Come see these speakers on October 20 in classes and in the evening at Wright Hall at Smith College. For information Dale Melcher, Labor Extension, Labor Center, Gordon Hall, 545-6166.

EVERYWOMAN’S CENTER has lots of upcoming events including:

EWC Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Walk and Vigil October 21, 2004
The Women of Color Leadership Network is planning a Women’s Conference for next spring. Everywoman’s Center, [www.umass.edu/ewc], 545-0883.

FIVE COLLEGE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS DAY
October 27, 2004
Student Union Ballroom
Contact Campus Career Network for information, now located in Goodell. [http://www.umass.edu/careers/]

FIVE COLLEGE WOMEN’S STUDIES RESEARCH CENTER
Events, lectures, talks. Contact them for info. [http://wscenter.hampshire.edu/]

As always, there are many fascinating campus events, check websites for the Fine Arts Center and more.
Our Women’s Studies faculty and staff are busy, busy, busy earning professional accolades and when time permits, trying to have a little fun besides:

FACULTY NEWS

Arlene Avakian writes: “I have two big news items this year. The edited book I have been working on for years is finally on its way. The University of Massachusetts Press will publish From Betty Crocker to Feminist Food Studies: Critical Perspectives on Women and Food in the Fall of 2005. My co-editor, Barbara Haber, and I are delighted that it is out of our houses and in the good hands of Bruce Wilcox at the press. And a personal note: after thirty years together, and despite my railing against marriage as an arm of the patriarchy, Martha Ayres and I rushed into marriage on June 4th, shortly after Massachusetts became the first state in the union to allow gay marriage. We had a very private ceremony – otherwise known as an elopement. Not big news, but something that pleases me greatly is that my essay, “Body Politic” a short narrative about getting older was translated into Armenian and published in Kayak Hayots (Women of Armenia), a journal published at Yerevan State University, Armenia. Congratulations Arlene and Martha, what an exciting time in Massachusetts!

Alex Deschamps, as part of the Teachnology program last school year, learned more ways to enhance her teaching with technology, web-based projects useful in large lectures as well as using technical tools to build community in seminar classes. The web allows students in small classes to access research and provides additional methods of dialogue. Alex appreciates the work of the Center for Teaching here at the University that enabled her to work with like-minded colleagues where they could learn from one another and reaffirm their passion for teaching. Projects under development include possible connections between Women’s Studies and the Centers for Gender Research in the Eastern Caribbean. Stay tuned for new developments.

Dayo Gore will be a Scholar-in-Residence at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Located in Harlem New York, the Schomburg is one of the leading research facilities devoted to the preservation of materials on the global African and African diasporan experiences. She will be working on her book project which examines the activism of a group of black women radicals who organized in the U.S. and transnationally during the 1940s and 1950s.

Ann Ferguson went to Gotteberg Sweden in June and gave a paper on women, empowerment and women’s liberation at the International Association of Women Philosophers Conference. She then spoke to a popular audience in Barcelona, Spain on Moral Responsibility and the Self which featured her own theory of the split nature of self and the need for a transformative feminist community to work for social change that will benefit women across race, class, sexuality and other differences. As a reward she spent 5 days in the Pyrenees with friends and hiked while discussing visions of ideal feminist society. In August she participated in AlterGlobalization: A New World Is Possible conference in Mexico. In her free time she is going to the Cape, weeding her garden in Leverett and trying to get more writing done.

Miliann Kang received the Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Article Award from the American Sociological Associations’ Race, Gender and Class section for her article, “The Managed Hand: The Commercialization of Bodies and Emotions in Korean-owned Nail Salons” (Gender and Society, Dec. 2003). She also received a fellowship and grant with co-principal investigator C.N. Le (Visiting Professor in Sociology) from the Institute for Asian American Studies at UMass/Boston for their project: Second Generation Asian American Families in New England. Miliann is also working on a book, tentaive title: Manicuring Migrants: Race, Gender and Class in Beauty Service Work. On the fun side she has been penning poetry and creative writing. She has also started practicing Bikram or ‘Hot’ yoga. She is enjoying settling into the area and hanging out, riding bikes and eating ice cream with daughter Sangha and husband C.N. Le. See events for the film on Asian American poets that Miliann is organizing.

Banu Subramaniam was awarded tenure this past year! Congratulations! In addition to compiling all her work for her tenure process, this past spring she taught at Harvard University, and is currently working on a book project with Betsy Hartmann (Hampshire College) and Charles Zerner (Sarah Lawrence College) called “Making Threats: Biofears and Environmental Anxieties.” This anthology emerged as a response to the intense proliferation of rhetorics of threat and fear in the wake of 9/11/2001. The essays explore how the contemporary landscape of fear shapes and is shaped by biological and environmental discourses.

STAFF NEWS

Linda Hillenbrand keeps busy as Vice President of her local union, the University Staff Association, designer of their website and chair of the union’s Classism Committee. With the little bit of spare time Linda has left, she does a lot of running, walking and hiking with her puppy, Scottie, as well as helping out with the family business, cutting down trees. She and her new husband are also very excited to
begin the process of building their own home on a hill in Leverett.

**Karen Lederer** had an interesting summer, she went to the National Institute of Health Consensus Development Conference on Celiac Disease back in her home area of the Maryland suburbs of Washington D.C., and then vacationed in Florida including a cruise to the Eastern Caribbean. *Your editor is writing this during the summer, and vacation is all she can think of!* In addition to teaching “Career and Life Choices for Women” Karen will also be teaching a section of the Dean’s Book Course 391 for the Commonwealth College. The book this fall is Barbara Kingsolver’s intriguing book of essays “Small Wonder.”

**Nancy Campbell Patteson** wears many hats for Women’s Studies and the University. She has been the Program Coordinator of the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Feminist Studies since it began in 1997. In addition to her advising and project planning for the department, this fall she is excited about teaching again. Nancy will teach the honors seminar for first year students in the W. E. B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies, a Ph.D. student from the W. E. B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies, who will be teaching Women’s Studies 295A, Representations of Black Women in Literature: A Feminist Perspective. Welcome also to **Andriana Foiles**, Ph.D. student in Anthropology who will be teaching the Continuing Education section of Introduction to Women’s Studies this fall.

**Welcome to Claire Schomp**, Graduate Certificate student who will be teaching “Writing for Women’s Studies Majors” this fall. Congratulations Claire on the birth of your daughter Noa.

As always, we have hellos and goodbyes to report from the spring:

**Welcome to new minors:** Aimee Louise Bechan, Agnes Capron, Melissa Decker, Jacqueline DeJesus, Deborah Eskie, Emily Hayes, Alex Kimball, Michelle Kozlowski, Katy Noone, Nissa Perrott, Vanessa Schick, Abigail Sneed, Teresa Walker and Mamei Willie Bongto.

**Welcome to our new graduate certificate students:** Lori Bindig, Communications; Amy Cronin, Public Policy & Administration; Kyle Frackman, Germanic Languages; Susanne Hamscha, non-degree, International Programs; Annette Marie Hunt, Sociology; Katherine (Kat) Jones, Sociology; Katherine Mallory, Social Justice Education; Yasser Munif, Sociology; Amrita Pande, Sociology; and Kirsten Wisneski, Communications.

In May we had a wonderful graduation ceremony to celebrate our fabulous scholar/activist graduates. Students spoke meaningfully about what Women’s Studies means to them. Thanks for all your wonderful work and we look forward to your future accomplishments. Best of luck!

**Congratulations to our May and August 2004 major graduates:** Keyse Angelo, Julia Becker, Cara Bedick, Courtney DeBlieck, Cristal del mar Cruz, Phaedra Davis, Caroline Goodman, Jennifer Eastwood, Melissa Goodman, Larissa Jones, Nellie Krentzman, Nicole Lawrence, Leah Lissauer, Lauren Mollomo, Erin Nadeau, Stephanie Parker, Jessica Pearson, Nicole Potvin, Susan Reddy, Emily Rimmer, Christine Rutkoski, Noelia Santana, Julia Weiner and Kernan Willis.

**Congratulations to our graduated minors:** Erika Arthur, Naomi Cairns, Kimberly Ann Childs, Marisa Crawford, Lauren Goodman, Corey Hessinger, Emily Hayes, Alex Kimball, Samara Marblestone, Kelly Ormond, Parul Pande, Maya Perepelitsky, Melissa Perez, Mary Ann Ruszala, Kristin Simonds, Teresa Walker, and Lakenya Webster.

**Congratulations to Carolyn Shread,** doctoral candidate in French & Italian Studies, who successfully completed a Certificate in Advanced Feminist Studies last May. Her final research project examined the feminist controversies surrounding the translation of *Les co-épouses* by Fatima Gallaire, a play produced by the UMass Theater Department. Carolyn served as Director of the UMass Paris Program for several years while working on her Certificate and she is the mother of 2 young children.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**Farewell to Sima Fahid.** Sima taught our students for many years on the crucially important topics of Women in Islam and the Middle East. Sima continues her committed scholarship and is enjoying being closer to her mother and the rest of her family in California.

**Farewell to Kirsten Isgro** a great teaching assistant for Introduction to 187. *Welcome to Mitch Boucher who will be a Teaching Assistant for WOMENSST 187.*

**Welcome to Trimiko Melancon,** a Ph.D. student from the W. E. B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies, who will be teaching Women’s Studies 295A, Representations of Black Women in Literature: A Feminist Perspective. Welcome also to **Andriana Foiles**, Ph.D. student in Anthropology who will be teaching the Continuing Education section of Introduction to Women’s Studies this fall.

**Welcome to Claire Schomp**, Graduate Certificate student who will be teaching “Writing for Women’s Studies Majors” this fall. Congratulations Claire on the birth of your daughter Noa Freedom Horse Grant in July.
As always all our graduates—majors, minors, and graduate students make us proud! Read on.

Pamela Berkowitz wrote last January that she was living in San Bruno California and working as an administrative assistant at the UCSF Medical Center.

Andrea Berman Price wrote that she lives in Washington D.C. and is a freelance Project Manager. Last fall she was researching priorities for a strategic plan for the National Cancer Institute’s Office of Education and Special Initiatives, conducting market research for a company that creates special certifications, and writing grants for a school system. She got married in 2002 and bought a house in 2003.

Danielle Bonnici also wrote last January to say that she is a “proud graduate of the Women’s Studies Program” and is now working for the Feminist Press at the City University of New York in New York City.

Tammi Brandon wrote to say she is living in Scottsdale, Arizona and will be completing her Master’s Degree in Community Counseling through the University of Phoenix. Her focus has been feminist theory, and she is hoping to continue her education to obtain a doctorate degree.

Winnie Chen wrote that she was moving to Washington, D.C. last spring.

Tina Cincotti wrote to announce her marriage to Kate Thomas.

Susan Crane sent beautiful family pictures and news that she is working four days per week.

Keith Forrest, Certificate graduate 2003, has landed a tenure track job as assistant professor of speech at Atlantic Cape Community College in Mays Landing, NJ. He defended his dissertation prospectus in June, and is now ABD. The dissertation is titled: “Bringing Up Politics: Mentoring and Political Women.”

Jeanne Fuqua completed her studies and earned a Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine (N.D.) degree.

Erica Gagne writes that she got a position with the Colorado Civil Rights Division in the Housing Unit.

Nina Beth Huntemann, Certificate graduate 2002, begins her second year in the Communication and Journalism Department at Suffolk University (Boston). She took six weeks this summer to travel around Europe, her first real vacation since starting graduate school in 1993! She spent the second half of the summer recovering from the trip, tending to her garden in Cambridge, finishing up her dissertation and more.

Beth Kaplowit is heading off for a year in Hawaii at an artists’ retreat to hone her silversmithing skills and figure out the next chapter of her life.

Adam Keigwin wrote last fall that he and his wife moved to Sacramento and he was serving as the Press Secretary to Assembly Member Leland Yee, Assistant Speaker pro Tempore (D-San Francisco.)

Emily LaBarbera-Twarog has been living in the Chicago for the past several years. She is now a doctoral student at the University of Illinois in Chicago in History, and a candidate in the Gender and Women’s Studies graduate certificate program, “of course” she adds. She has taught in the Gender and Women’s Studies department and is working as the Editorial Coordinator of Labor: Studies in Working Class History of Americas, a new labor history journal.

Susan Manatt has been the director of the Victim/Witness Assistance unit of the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office in Northampton for the past 12 years. The office provides advocacy and information about the court process to victims and witnesses of crime as well as information about victim rights, referrals to community resources, crisis intervention, counseling and support. They also assist people in filing for abuse prevention orders. Editor’s note: Numerous undergraduate students have done valuable internships with this program over the years. If you are interested see Karen in the office.

Nicole Manganelli wrote last fall that she was working at the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence at the University of Southern Maine. She is a trainer/project coordinator and does advocacy and trainings for harassment/hate crime prevention.

Kristina Meuse worked at HAWC Help for Abused Women and their Children in Salem, Massachusetts. Budget cuts after 9/11 changed her work to the restaurant field. She helped her grandmother write a self published book “From My Bakery’s Perch” by Vita Orlando Sinoplogi which contains memories of growing up in the North End of Boston during World War II and family recipes.

Lori Murphy wrote to say she was in the Boston area at REACH beyond domestic violence as Director of Community Education.

Tinker Ready is still free-lance writing on health issues in Cambridge.
Susie Reddy was in the process of moving to San Luis Obispo, California this past summer.

Megan Shackelford was featured in an article in the Daily Hampshire Gazette. She and a friend have begun a wholesale vegan bakery in Northampton. The bakery is supplying local restaurants and coffee shops. The name of the bakery is “Oh Sweet Mama’s.”

Rachel Tanenhaus wrote in May that she was headed off to D.C., having accepted a position with the Department of Justice, in the Civil Rights Division. She will be working in the Disability Rights Office.

Kate Toran and Joanna Totino’s upcoming wedding was featured in the cover story of the Boston Globe Magazine this summer.

Margaret Valenti wrote a long note that she misses the leaves changing in New England, but likes the pace of Texas. She was working for a small state agency called Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board, giving technology grants to libraries, school districts, non-profit health care clinics, etc. She has traveled throughout the state, met people and eaten “lots of barbeque.” She was house hunting, training for a marathon and being involved in a variety of social change groups focusing on eliminating racism, peace in the mid east and community activism.

Beth Wilson writes that she is doing a 3 year research fellowship focusing on health care disparities at UCSF. She is also a practicing family physician and works part time at a local community clinic.

Amy Hoffman while not officially an alum was a teaching assistant in our intro course years ago. She writes that she is now the Editor in Chief of the Women’s Review of Books.

Attention alums: We know you are doing wonderful work. Tell us about it. We accept cards, letters, emails, holiday cards, baby announcements and the like. Alumni news is generally published in the fall. Write to Karen Lederer, lederer@wost.umass.edu.

DONORS

Without our donors there would be no fabulous red T-shirts, or fluffy asparagus omelets at our graduation breakfast. You wouldn’t be reading this newsletter in paper form either. For our wonderful donors, if you haven’t received a gift from us, be assured they will come soon. If you’re curious about what we send, check out our website. Thanks once again to:

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ENEWS

The past two semesters were big ones for the spammers and hackers. Women’s Studies is no longer listing e-mail connections to alums on the website. Since spammers scan websites for e-mail addresses we didn’t want any of those that shared to be added to the spammer lists. If you’re needing to be in touch with someone that you’ve lost track of, contact us about the friends/alums listserv. It is secure and might be just what you need.

We lost count of the viruses that we acquired and the patches we downloaded during the past year. Windows new SP2 should be helpful in keeping the hackers from invading our computing lives. For those running Windows XP go to the Windows Update program on your computer. It may take some time but all reports are positive so far.
Library News

Do you wonder what is going on at the W.E.B. Du Bois Library? Have you noticed the prominent construction project that is taking place all around the building? There is lots of activity taking place in conjunction with the long-awaited Library Deck Replacement Project. Please visit the Library’s website http://www.library.umass.edu/ for more information about this project.

Or better yet, check in with Beth Lang, who is the new Women’s Studies librarian. Beth is a general reference librarian at the W.E.B. Du Bois Library. She has worked at the UMass Library for the past 11 years, and is available to help Women’s Studies students, faculty and staff find library resources that they need. Contact info: bwlang@library.umass.edu, 545-6890. Please feel free to contact her to make an appointment for library research help, or just to get acquainted!

Inside you’ll find updates on faculty and staff, people news, comings and goings, upcoming events, alumni news and much more. Get your date book out and catch up on old friends!

This newsletter is published twice a year funds permitting. It is written and edited by Karen Lederer. Design, production (both paper and electronic) and distribution by Linda Hillenbrand. Thanks to Arlene Avakian, Linda Hillenbrand, Nancy Patteson, Beth Lang and the Women’s Studies faculty for their submissions. This publication is online at www.umass.edu/wost.

From time to time we reevaluate the newsletter and its purpose and we welcome your feedback. Let us know what you think!