

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
 Women's and Gender Studies
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Women's & Gender Studies Academic Program

WGS offers undergraduate major and minor and MA degree programs and a graduate certificate. Our interdisciplinary major and minor emphasize excellent intellectual training and community engagement and are flexible enough to work in tandem with many other majors. The MA program offers three concentrations (leadership, health, individualized) and two tracks (thesis or internship) and equips students with skills needed for work in many professions, including public service, health care, and not-for-profit management, and for further professional and academic education. The graduate certificate, usually taken along with an MA or PhD in another field, provides an additional credential for those interested in teaching and research.

See [WGS.uncg.edu](http://wgs.uncg.edu) for more information.

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2013-2014 WGS Office Staff

Carole Lindsey-Potter, Marissa McMinn, Marla Sutherland, Sherronda Brown, Dayne Alexander, Taylor Chapman

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WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

Newsletter
 2014



Dr. Jody Natalle

Dr. Jody Natalle, New Director of Women's and Gender Studies

We welcome our new Director of Women's and Gender Studies, Dr. Jody Natalle, for a four-year term effective August, 2014. Dr. Natalle, professor of communication at UNCG, has thirty-five years experience teaching and training women as public speakers and a long history of involvement with the WGS program.

We would like you to join us in thanking our current 2013-2014 interim Director of WGS, Dr. Hepsie Roskelly, for all of the amazing work she has done over the past year. Hepsie has lifted up WGS both in terms of community as well as leadership. She has effectively and successfully guided WGS through an intensive and positive program

review, created the Faculty Dialogues connecting faculty research with the program and its students, overseen the selection of a new Linda Arnold Carlisle Distinguished Excellence Professor in WGS as well as the selection of the newest WGS Director, and has genuinely influenced people first-hand through her generosity, kindness and intelligence.

Jody and Hepsie were interviewed about their vision for the WGS Program.

Jody, how do you see your background international networking/relationships influencing WGS?

Jody: I have been active in the International Programs Center since 1995 and have solid experience in study abroad, curriculum development, and research collaboration. I will bring all of this to the WGS contribution to UNCG's QEP mandate for internationalization. I see us increasing our numbers of undergraduate and graduate students who study abroad, and I see collaboration and exchange among faculty as well. In addition, we have an opportunity to conduct service learning in our own backyard given the number of international people who now live in Greensboro.

Hepsie: Jody's distinguished background as a champion for international study and for the ways that a global connection enriches our WGS work is going to be so important to our program these next years. I think we can attract international students to study in our program as well, and they'll bring new skills and ideas that will continue to energize our work.

Hepsie, what direction would you like to see WGS move towards in relation to long-term goals?

Hepsie: I see us moving in several directions at once, but all with the same ends in mind, to increase our presence on campus and in the community and to continue to broaden our mission. I hope for more connection to international feminism and human rights initiatives for one thing. I'd like to see us more involved with the public schools. And I think we should take the lead on writing a history of our university that emphasizes its record of access and leadership for women. Wouldn't that be a wonderful project for students and faculty? Even in our difficult budget times, there are some exciting possibilities for us.

Jody: Hepsie offers us some good projects to work on! I see our program reaching its full maturity within this decade. We are the direct legacy of the founding of this university, so naturally I would like to see our curriculum and programming serve as the intellectual center of UNCG--writing our history lets the public know that access and leadership training for women has now broadened to include access for all genders and human rights for all who are denied. We now have the range of WGS faculty available on this campus to meet the needs of our diverse student body, so I see WGS only increasing its participation in campus life.

What do you think WGS's greatest strengths are? Areas for improvement?

Hepsie: Actually, this question is like the second question for me. We have so much to offer in our courses, our programs and the strength of our students and faculty. We need to keep demonstrating that to the university and our community. Our biggest strength is also our challenge: to preserve our mission and our history and to foster and enact change. I've been thrilled to be a small part of helping that happen.

Jody: I have to agree with Hepsie--our strength is in the intellectual and creative talent that WGS faculty and students bring to the table. In addition, we have the added advantage of community support from the Friends of WGS. Our challenge is to showcase WGS in tough economic times and remain vibrant when resources are scarce. We can do this with the right communication plan and commitment from all. I look forward to those challenges in the next four years.



Dr. Hepsie Roskelly

Be the Change

Karen Kilcup appointed the Linda Arnold Carlisle Distinguished Excellence Professor

Dr. Karen Kilcup, Department of English, has been appointed to a four year term as the Linda Arnold Carlisle Distinguished Excellence Professor in Women's and Gender Studies. Dr. Kilcup will conduct a research project, "Engendering Environmental Ethics: American



Women Writers and Editors, Then and Now". What do we mean when we invoke "the environment"? Often led by women, the environmental justice movement defines the term as the places where we live, work, and learn (and, in some variations, also where we play, pray, and heal). Building on the

achievements of the women writers and activists whom my research investigates, Engendering Environmental Ethics seeks to create more environmentally self-aware WGS and UNCG communities. Engendering Environmental Ethics will foreground environmental equity as a core value. It will engage directly with the WGS Mission Statement by attending to how individuals' "gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, nationality, and religion"—to which Dr. Kilcup would add ability and age—impact their environmental agency.

Looking Forward: Program Review

During the 2013-14 academic year, the WGS Program again prepared for program review to look at accomplishments in the past five years and to plan for the future. This program review was the first self-study conducted by WGS in eight years, producing a five hundred page document detailing our work, complete with our successes, as well as areas for improvement. The beauty behind the self-study was the collaborative process that made it possible. We wanted to make sure that no stone was left unturned, and that people involved in making our program wonderful were given the opportunity to examine it intimately. Areas identified as needing improvement included curriculum expansion and recruitment resources necessary for our program to continue growing. We want to widen our presence at the university to ensure that students are aware of all that WGS can provide for them, and all that they have to offer WGS. Likewise, implementing more programs dealing with equal pay, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ issues would be both beneficial to us as a department as well as contributing to the Greensboro community and beyond. The presence of these issues doesn't cancel out the huge strides we have been able to make as a program. We are now located on the third floor of the Curry building, doubling our space and including a conference room and library that can be used for study sessions, meetings, workshops, or checking out WGS materials! We also have two tenured professors, one a joint appointment with AFS, and a flourishing graduate program that is one of three MA programs from Atlanta to Baltimore. Through the program review process, we have gained a full-time director, our number one priority. We are proud of our commitments to the university and to the community, and we seek to continue to develop those commitments. We welcome your help and guidance as we continue to set the direction for improved effectiveness.



Rebecca Mann and Marla Sutherland

Fundraising Project

Rebecca Mann, the President of WGS Friends, and Marla Sutherland, a WGS graduate assistant, have been working on a fundraising project that develops alumni giving and implements a more comprehensive fundraising plan. The alumni contact list is being updated, in a move toward a more continuous and strategic approach to fundraising. Part of the alumni giving section of the fundraising project focuses on increasing student involvement with WGS Friends, as well as recruiting more WGS alumni to the group. Keeping people up to date about WGS events, educating others about our mission, reminding supporters about the purpose of WGS's existence along with the necessity of its continual success, and highlighting the important/beneficial impact WGS has on its community are some of the key responsibilities assigned to the fundraising project.

Spring 2014

Dear WGS Alumni and Enthusiasts:

Forty two years ago, the Women's Studies program was created at UNCG and has been dedicated ever since to critical thinking about contemporary social issues, engagement with students about diverse interests and interdisciplinary studies, and career preparation for future graduates in academia, public service, and beyond. WGS is forever grateful for all of your support over the past years; we couldn't have built the thriving program we have today without you.

WGS's future successes are dependent upon your continued support, and what better way to express that than through a financial gift? Our goal is to enhance WGS academic and co-curricular programs and to stimulate community participation in WGS through outreach programs. The extent to which WGS can create meaningful incentives for research and curriculum development, bring important speakers to campus, support WGS students in internships with local organizations, and sponsor educational outreach programs depends heavily on the level of support received from donors like you.

Why is it important for WGS to seek funds from individuals like yourself? The university is state-assisted, not state supported. Your donation enables the Women's and Gender Studies Program to go beyond its minimal allocated operating budget to begin to address the centuries-old resistance to valuing knowledge of women's lives and their contributions to society. Your support allows Women's and Gender Studies students and faculty to share an understanding of gender with women, men and young people in our region.

Your gift will not only make a positive difference today, it will continue to strengthen our programs for generations to come.



Women's and Gender Studies Mission Statement

The central focus of the Women's and Gender Studies Program is to explain how gender is produced within social institutions and how these institutions affect individual lives and to analyze the mutual constitution of gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, nationality, and religion. The Program addresses issues of neglect, omission, and bias in curricula while honing critical thinking skills vital to a liberal education. Faculty in WGS are expected to further this vision through their teaching, research, and service.

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New WGS Cross-Appointed Faculty

Congratulations to all of the newly cross-appointed faculty members this year! The cross-appointed faculty makes WGS the most well-established interdisciplinary program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. We are thankful for their involvement in the continuation of the WGS program and their support for its success.

Risa Applegarth, English

Silvia Bettez, Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations

Ben Clarke, English

Michelle Dowd, English

Alyssa Gabbay, Religious Studies

Cynthia Ling Lee, Dance

Noelle Morissette, English

Loreen Olson, Communication Studies

Anne Parsons, History

Amy Vetter, Teacher Education and Higher Education

Amy Vines, English

Amy Williamsen, Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Keepin' it Queer (KiQ)



After collaborating on the 2012 documentary *Between Friends and Family*, WGS alumna Carrie Hart and filmmaker

Rick Dillwood sought to create a project that would discuss queerness in an immediately accessible way. The result was *Keepin' it Queer (KiQ)*, a webseries that interviews local members of the queer community to help draw attention to existing work for queer liberation and to "highlight that queerness, as an idea, doesn't always mean the same thing". Hart and Dillwood say that "it's really fun to meet and get to talk to folks around the area who are thinking about queerness in different ways, and it's very emotionally sustaining to get to highlight what they're doing."

Profile: Sarah Cervenak Popular Course - Feminist Theory: Haunting and a new book!

Dr. Sarah Cervenak's Haunting course is devastating and addictive. She brings her brilliance and insight to craft a course that continually challenges students and demands from them critical thinking and self-reflection. While investigating how the ghosts of historical traumas continue to haunt us in covert and insidious ways, students will discuss many themes, such as traversing the borders between pain and pleasure and life and death. Students are encouraged to take up the painstaking work of reflexivity by asking and attempting to answer the question, "what trauma(s) do we have to forget in order to just make it through the day?"



Dr. Sarah Cervenak



Dr. Cervenak's book, *Wandering: Philosophical Performances of Racial and Sexual Freedom* is expected to be released mid-september from Duke University Press. Combining black feminist theory, philosophy, and performance studies, Cervenak ruminates on the significance of physical and mental roaming for black freedom. She is particularly interested in the power of wandering or daydreaming for those whose mobility has been under severe constraint, from the slave era to the present. Since the Enlightenment, wandering has been considered dangerous and even criminal when associated with people of color. Cervenak engages artist-philosophers who focus on wayward movement and daydreaming, or mental travel, that transcend state-imposed limitations on physical, geographic movement. From Sojourner Truth's spiritual and physical roaming to the rambling protagonist of Gayl Jones's novel *Mosquito*, Cervenak highlights modes of wandering that subvert Enlightenment-based protocols of rationality, composure, and upstanding comportment. Turning to the artists Pope.L (William Pope.L), Adrian Piper, and Carrie Mae Weems, Cervenak argues that their work produces an otherworldly movement, an errant kinesis that exceeds locomotive constraints, resisting the straightening-out processes of post-Enlightenment, white-supremacist, capitalist, sexist, and heteronormative modernity. Their roaming animates another terrain, one where free, black movement is not necessarily connected to that which can be seen, touched, known, and materially valued.

Social Media Buzz



We are making an effort to get more and more connected with our students and the supporters of our program. Our Social Media Coordinator has transformed our Facebook page into an active space for our followers to interact with our staff as well as each other. Our staff regularly posts articles, photos, and videos in order to generate discussion, to keep our followers informed on progressive news, or simply to inspire moments of happiness and laughter. Conversations about societal ideas, fears, and oppressions encourage others to think deeply about social issues and to share their

thoughts with the community. We have also been able to use the page as a platform to promote the mission of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, to promote equity and intersectionality, to advocate for others, and to create an inclusive environment which celebrates difference and all of the wonderful and varying ways in which we can exist. Followers are also able to keep up with events coordinated by or sponsored by the Women's and Gender Studies Department, such as film screenings, Love Your Body Week, Faculty Dialogues, and our recently conceived Annual Research Symposium for students, faculty, and alumni. Our Social Media Coordinator has also been developing Instagram and Twitter accounts, where photos and memorable moments from our events are posted, and attendees are invited to share theirs as well. The Instagram and Twitter accounts also feature inspirational images and quotes that promote our guiding principles. By taking advantage of growing technology and social media, we have the opportunity to connect and interact with our students, faculty, and alumni in way that we never have before, and we are hoping that these platforms will allow us to be even more inclusive and even more involved and to have a positive impact on the campus and the surrounding community.



WGS Faculty Promotions

Congratulations to Dr. Danielle Bouchard, who successfully received tenure and is now an Associate Professor, and to Beth Walker, MA, who was promoted to Senior Lecturer.

Of Bouchard's success, Walker says, "Danielle's tenure is a monumental happening for our program. When she joined the faculty, she was the right person at the right time to not only support the growth of our program, but to expand the variety of issues addressed in the program. It's a fabulous thing that former director Mary Ellis Gibson had the vision to advocate for this tenure-track position, and that Danielle has brought so much to the program and has now been successful in achieving tenure." A unanimous vote of the cross-appointed Women's & Gender Studies faculty in Fall of 2013 recommended Bouchard for tenure.

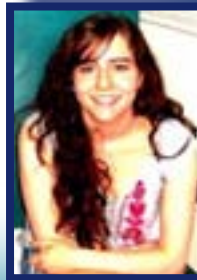
"Beth Walker's promotion is well-deserved and long overdue," says Dr. Sarah Cervenak, Assistant Professor jointly appointed in WGS and African American Studies. "She has wonderfully educated so many of our students over the years. We are so proud of her achievement and what it means for our program!"



Beth Walker and Dr. Danielle Bouchard

NEW MA STUDENT PROFILES

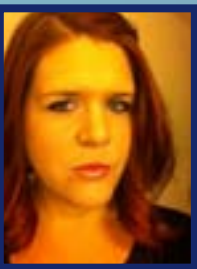
Dayne Alexander is from Concord, North Carolina. She is a graduate assistant and teaching assistant in the WGS Program. She graduated from Appalachian State University in 2012 with a BS in Sociology, concentrating in Social Inequalities, and a minor in Women's Studies. At ASU, she worked as a research assistant in the sociology department, was the co-founder/co-president/co-editor of LIPS AppState: Expressions of Female Sexuality Club & Zine, was involved in campus activism, and co-organized SlutWalk AppState 2012: Protesting Rape Culture. She is a member of Pi Gamma Mu, The International Honor Society of Social Sciences as well as UNCG's Graduate Student Association as a WGS Senator. This past spring, she presented her paper "The Politics of Needs Interpretation: A Deconstruction of Needs Discourse Surrounding Issues Relating to the Female Body" at the annual SEWSA conference. Dayne's main research interests are feminist theory, critical animal studies, feminist-vegan ethics, posthumanism, and ecofeminisms. Her prospective thesis will discuss the social death of the non-human animal and the feminist (re)production of the pathological non-human animal body. She plans to pursue her doctorate in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, American Studies, or Sociology to become a professor.



Sherronda J. Brown is from Tarboro, NC. She graduated from UNCG in 2012 with a BA in English and in Media Studies, and a minor in WGS. With her MA in WGS she hopes to counsel survivors of sexual assault and intimate/situational partner violence. Her thesis, "Vengeful and Demonic Spirits in Modern Horror Films," combines her academic interests in violence against women and film criticism. It connects themes of violence in popular haunting and possession stories, asking (and attempting to answer) questions about how we think about certain bodies and their relationship to violence, why women seem to only have agency in death, why men are always seen as victimizers, and why the haunting of Black spirits is always informed by their "Blackness". Her accomplishments include receiving the Jackson-Loving-Gibson Creative Writing Scholarship in Fall 2011, being a founding member of UNCG's Chapter of Sigma Alpha Pi: National Society of Leadership and Success, being a member of the Graduate Student Association as a WGS Senator, and being featured in SlutWalk Greensboro: Because We've Had Enough, a documentary by Sika Wheeler. She is currently working with the Office for Violence Against Women to develop evaluation methods for programs providing services for survivors of sexual and domestic violence. In her free time, Sherronda is engrossed in film, television, and literature.



Jodie Crandall is a first year WGS graduate student from South Bend, Indiana. Jodie graduated from Western Michigan University in 1987 with a degree in Political Science and a double minor in English Literature and Public Administration. In 2010, she began taking 51 credits of undergraduate English classes and then went into the graduate program for English Literature completing her MA last May. Jodie's research interests include identity politics and the mentally differently-abled. These interests are shaped by Jodie's background in English Lit and the discursively constituted Subject as well as her life experiences with her two children who are mentally differently abled. Of WGS, she says that while English Lit has given her a critical tool for interpretation, WGS/feminism/queer theory have given her the potentiality of our existence-the possibility of "being" together in a different way. Jodie uses her place in academia and her work as a platform to question institutional structures and the production of value and certain knowledges within higher education. Her goal is what she is currently doing: critically engaging with her life. Her interests include horseback-riding, wine, travel, cooking, entertaining, poetry, debate, and thrift store shopping.



Amber Mathwig is a first year WGS graduate student from Arlington, Minnesota. Amber served in the Navy from 2002-2012 as a Master-at-arms (military police officer) and has travelled to and lived in many different places. She has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Central Texas College and Bachelor's in Sociology from Virginia Wesleyan College. Her academic and research interests are varied, but all are focused around the military and gender issues. In particular, Amber is interested in the ways in which violence is shaped in the military environment. She says her best academic accomplishment thus far is surviving the first semester of graduate school. She intends to pursue a doctoral degree in WGS or Military Sociology and to be a SME (Subject Matter Expert) on military gender issues. Amber's non-academic interests include her dogs, cooking, weightlifting, wine, and interacting with nature.

The application deadline for the Master of Arts in Women's and Gender Studies is February 1. The Graduate Certificate has rolling admissions. Apply at <http://grs.uncg.edu/apply-online/>

Alumni ALUMNI Alumni

Cassandra Velarde, BS, BA '12

Cassandra earned a Bachelor of Science in Human Development & Family Studies and a BA in WGS. She works as the Day Camp Coordinator at Camp Weaver through the YMCA of Greensboro. As of August 2013, she is also a graduate student and graduate assistant at UNCG in Community and Therapeutic Recreation. Following her graduation in May 2015, she hopes to become a camp director at an outdoor YMCA camp.

Elizabeth Vogel, Graduate Certificate '08

Elizabeth is a tenured English professor at Arcadia University.

Susan Watson, BA '12

Susan was a non-traditional student who discovered her passion for non-profit work after graduation. This past January, Susan became the Executive Director of the Women's Resource Center in Alamance County. She also serves on the boards of: The Women's Resource Center in Greensboro, Women's Professional Forum, and Women of Guilford.

Liz Wilkinson, Graduate Certificate '08

Liz is an Assistant Professor at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota where she teaches Native American, sports and women's literature courses, often cross-listed with the Women's Studies department. She is about to embark on a two-year long book project on Women's Roller Derby and Third Wave Feminism. Outside of academia, she sings in the band Wilkinson James, with their CD scheduled to come out this spring.

Jessica Zellers, BA '03

Jessica, a triple major in WGS, English and History, also worked as an undergraduate assistant in the WGS office. She earned her MLS from UNC Chapel Hill and worked at several libraries in Virginia, including Williamsburg. Jessica is currently working as a Collection Development Librarian with the Mid-Continent Public Library in Kansas City, Missouri. In 2009, she published *Women's Nonfiction: A Guide to Reading Interests*, which she describes as "four-hundred pages of annotated bibliographic bliss". She is the only known undergraduate major to have published a book, and this work is in the UNCG WGS library collection.

Lynn Zimmerman, Graduate Certificate '02

Lynn is a Professor Emerita of Education at Purdue University. She is working as Online Curriculum Development Consultant for Training Express, Madrid, Spain. Her honors include being a Fulbright Scholar (University Wroclaw, 2009), receiving the NW Indiana Jewish Federation Community Service Award (2007), and receiving the Outstanding Faculty Service Award (Purdue University Calumet, 2012). She has published two books: *Jewish Studies and Holocaust Education in Poland and ESL, EFL and Bilingual Education: Exploring historical, sociocultural, linguistic, and instructional foundations*.

My Trip to the United Nations by Taylor Chapman



My week at the 58th Commission on the Status of Women began with the General Assembly meeting. It was truly inspiring seeing so many people from

different cultures coming together for a common goal. On Tuesday I met the other delegates also sent to the UN by SustainUS, a non-profit that empowers youth by sending them to national conferences. We attended a meeting of the United States Mission to the United Nations with Peggy Kerry from the state department. This event served as a quick briefing for US NGOs (United States Non-Government Organizations) and as a question and answer session for those present. Questions asked were about Gender-Based Violence, LGBT Issues, Women's Health Statistics, and CEDAW (the Convention to Eliminate all forms of Discrimination Against Women). Ambassador Russell, a panel member, said she was most interested in issues of gender-based violence, women's economic empowerment, and the education of adolescent girls, while Ambassador Cousens said "Women don't simply need to be recipients of positive change, they need to be agents of positive change." This quote stuck with me throughout the entire week, thinking about how the conversations could be turned into opportunities for action. On Wednesday, I attended two events



near and dear to my heart. We talked about ways in which women with mental illness are stigmatized, which can hinder us from becoming self-actualized individuals. Mainstream societal narratives describe all women as inherently crazy by saying that emotions are illogical and need to be contained. The problem

this presents is that women who have actual mental illnesses are written off as lazy or stupid. To solve this issue and to get closer to achieving gender equality, we must destroy the stigma around mental illnesses, while offering more comprehensive access to the healthcare needed to address mental illnesses. The second event was about Black Women & Women of Color and their role in achieving Gender Equality, despite the existence of racism and patriarchy. The solution proposed by this panel was that policies under CEDAW (the Convention to Eliminate all forms of Discrimination Against Women) need to be ever more specific, and need to take into account the racial, ethnic, and cultural variables that affect women all over the world. Thursday was about using the internet as a tool for women's empowerment and social change, a topic that is very important to me, because my interests in women's empowerment and social justice were cultivated through blogging. It also helped me to further my interest in exploring my multiple identities through photography and other forms of art. Friday was a day of reflection. Attending the events was wonderful, but the personal conversations I had with other women outside of the events seemed even more uplifting than the events themselves. This week was saturated with learning experiences, but the most important one of all was knowing that the work I do is important, and that if we don't do it, no one will - but it's clear that we are doing the work, and that gives me extraordinary hope.



Shana Carignan, BA '06

After graduation, Shana interned and accepted a job with the Feminist Majority Foundation and Ms. Magazine. She received a Masters of Public Affairs with a concentration in Nonprofit Management (UNCG 2011). She has worked at the Triad Health Project for over three years and serves on the NARAL Pro-Choice NC Board of Directors. She is the Board President for Camp R.E.A.C.H., an organization that helps children and young adults with augmentative communication. Shana and her wife, Megan Parker, adopted their son, Jax, in 2010. When second parent adoptions became illegal for same sex parents in 2012, Shana and Megan became plaintiffs with five other gay and lesbian couples in NC in the Second Parent Adoption Ban, represented by the ACLU and the ACLU of NC. In July 2013, the ACLU added an additional claim challenging the state's ban on marriage for same sex couples to the lawsuit.

Yasmeen Chism, BA '12

Yasmeen Chism graduated in 2012 with a double major in AFS and WGS. She is currently a graduate student at the University of Louisville in Women's and Gender Studies. Yasmeen is a graduate teaching assistant and will be designing and teaching her own class in the fall of 2014. She is also an intern with T* Star lab, which does affirming research on local trans* populations.

Dakia Davis, BA '08

Dakia recently received her MSW degree from Howard University. She works as the Patient Services Manager for Community of Hope's Marie Reed Health Center in Washington, DC. Dakia is also a co-chair of the WIN Nonprofit Network and co-blogger for The Crossover, a site dedicated to women in hip hop. She treasures her time and experiences at UNCG, and in the WGS program, crediting the program as shaping the work she does today.

Suzanne Deggas-White, Graduate Certificate '03

Suzanne is currently the chair of the Department of Counseling, Adult and Higher Education at Northern Illinois University. She recently released a book co-authored with Dr. Christine Borzumato-Gainey: *Mothers & Daughters: Living, Loving and Learning over a Lifetime*. *Mothers & Daughters* shares the stories of hundreds of women/girls with multiple perspectives on the mother/daughter relationship. Dr. Degges-White and Dr. Borzumato have also co-authored a book addressing women's friendships: *Friends Forever: How Girls and Women Forge Lasting Relationships*. Dr. Degges-White considers her educational experiences in the WGS program to be a meaningful starting point from which she could explore the relationships of women she has written about.

Carrie Hart, MA '11

Carrie is currently working on her PhD in Educational Studies & Cultural Studies at UNCG, co-producing a documentary

web series about queerness called KiQ (<http://keepinitqueer.com/>), and co-coordinating YouthSAFE, a community-based group for LGBTQIA youth in the Greensboro area.

Rachel Jones, Graduate Certificate '07

Rachel is an Assistant Professor of Education and Women's and Gender Studies at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY and the Coordinator of Student Learning Outcomes Assessment for the campus. She published *Postcolonial Representations of Women: Critical Issues for Education* with Springer in 2011 and is working on a manuscript tentatively entitled *Rethinking Orientalism: Using Graphic Narratives to Teach Critical Visual Literacy* under contract with Peter Lang.

Brandi Ledesma-Burney, BA '05

In 2012, Brandi received her Master's degree in Social Work from Columbia University. She is a licensed social worker living in New York City, working as a human resources consultant for non-profit organizations.

Lilit Marcus, BA '04

Lilit is working as a freelance journalist in New York, writing regularly for the Wall Street Journal, the Today Show, and the Jewish Daily Forward. Her first book, *Save the Assistants: A Guide to Surviving and Thriving in the Workplace* was published by Hyperion in 2010.

Karen Mustian, Graduate Certificate '03

Earning a PhD in Kinesiology, Karen received numerous awards at UNCG including the Sally Cone Research Award. She is currently a professor in the department of surgery at the University of Rochester Medical Center and will be awarded the Pacesetter Award for Distinguished Alumni in the School of Health and Human Performance in April. Dr. Mustian credits the WGS program as being a major initial support, and considers the program a large part of her early success.

Emily Peffer, MA '13

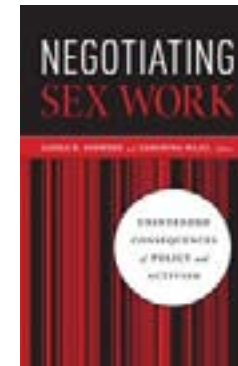
Emily works as a Recreation Specialist for Experiential and Environmental Programs at the Madison School of Community Recreation. She hopes that the programming she provides will offer the next generation opportunities to discuss and develop their social and emotional education, including community building, understanding of difference, and advocacy for self and others.

Amy Rose, BA '06, MA'09

Amy is an administrative assistant at The Relatives, a nonprofit organization affiliated with Alexander Youth Network. It has a crisis center for children, a residential facility for young men, and a resource center and case management for young men and women transitioning to adulthood. Amy has volunteered at Time Out Youth (a support and advocacy nonprofit for GLBT youth), Community Link (a nonprofit which assists folks in getting access to stable housing as well as traveler's aid), and the Humane Society.

Faculty Updates: A Center for Interdisciplinary Research

Carisa R. Showden: On April 1, the book Carisa Showden edited (with Dr. Samantha Majic of CUNY/John Jay) was published: *Negotiating Sex Work: Unintended Consequences of Policy and Activism*. On April 21st, Carisa Showden gave an invited lecture at the Western Washington University Women Studies Program titled "Whose Sexual Expression Is It Anyway?: The Legal Regulation of Sex Work Versus The Agency of Sex Workers."

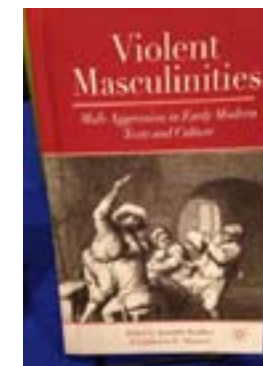


Jody Natale gave an invited lecture at the University of Helsinki through the Aleksanteri Institute. "French Policy on the Veil: a Populist Signification of Gendered Othering"

Michelle Dowd: Co-edited *Early Modern Women on the Fall: An Anthology* which was awarded the 2013 Award for Best Teaching Edition from the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women (SSEMW), an interdisciplinary, international organization. In 2008-2009, Michelle received a Linda Arnold Carlisle Faculty Research Grant from WGS to help aid the completion of this volume.

Loreen Olson: (under contract). Examining the darkness of family communication: The harmful, the morally suspect, and the socially inappropriate. Peter Lang.

Eugene Rogers: *Aquinas and the Supreme Court: Race, Gender, and the Failure of Natural Law* in Thomas's Biblical Commentaries (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013).



Jen Feather: Co-edited *Violent Masculinities: Male Aggression in Early Modern Texts and Culture*. During the early modern period in England, social expectations for men came under extreme pressure; the armed knight went into decline and humanism appeared. Here, original essays analyze a wide-range of violent acts in early modern literature and culture – everything from civic violence to chivalric combat; from verbal attacks to masochistic suffering; from political assassination to personal retaliation; and from brawls to battles. In so doing, they interrogate the seemingly inevitable connection between masculinity and aggression, placing it in a specific historical context and showing how differences of status, ethnicity, and sexual identity inform masculine ideals.

Lisa Levenstein published an article on 1970s feminism in the *Journal of American History*. The article was based on research funded by the Linda Arnold Carlisle Research Award. She received a fellowship from the National Humanities Center for 2014-2015.

Cybelle McFadden: *Gendered Frames, Embodied Cameras: Varda, Akerman, Cabrera, Calle, and Mäiwenn*, was published by the Fairleigh Dickinson University Press this spring.

Mark Rifkin: *Settler Common Sense: Queerness and Everyday Colonialism in the American Renaissance*, University of Minnesota Press (forthcoming 2014).

2013-2014 Sally and Alan Cone Awards

Fall 2013 Course Scholarships
Hannah Dudley Shotwell

Major Scholarship
Laura Drewicz-Ewing

Spring 2014 Course Scholarships
Tara Holmes
Valerie Snell

Outstanding Work Award
Michelle Powell for her queer and trans scholarship on emancipatory practices "Deconstructing Liberated Subjects"

Special Projects Awards
Michelle Powell to present "Thinking Trans Politics Through Speech and Silence" at the NWSA Conference
Anna Malika Beard to attend the Sharing the Hope 2013 Conference
Laura Parker to present "Depictions of Rape in Medieval Literature: Power" at the SEWSA Conference

Special Projects Awards (continued)
Taylor Chapman to attend the 58th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations as a student delegate
Jodie Crandall to attend the Center of Study and Investigation for Global Dialogues Summer Institute - "Decolonizing Knowledge and Power: Postcolonial Studies, Decolonial Horizons"

Graduate Travel Award
Leah Milne to present "Ethnic Reflections and Metafictional Distortions in Louise Erdrich's *Shadow Tag*" - 28th Annual MELUS Conference & Ralph Ellison Centennial Symposium.

"All of Us North Carolina"



In September, WGS collaborated with the African American Studies department and The Human Rights Film Series to screen All of Us North Carolina. The film focuses in on the local struggle against Amendment One, encouraging queers to consider issues beyond gay marriage including the intersection of social identities in the queer community. The filmmakers, Sowjanya Kudva and Mikel Barton, spoke on a panel at the end of the film along with members of the community.

Wooten Gough Wins Prestigious Honors College Award

WGS Major, Wooten Gough won the Lloyd International Honors College Student Excellence Award, UNCG's highest academic honor for undergraduates. He was honored at the 52nd Student Honors Convocation held April 29th. Recipients received special congratulations from Chancellor Brady and Provost Perrin.



Library Updates

Libraries are often seen as spaces where patrons are shushed into silent learning, but the shelves in our WGS Library are packed with voices waiting to be heard. Through a collaborative effort among students, faculty, and Greensboro community members, our library provides a service for people by offering a space where the elevation of diverse voices is encouraged and appreciated, and by making WGS-focused resources more accessible, as well as providing a safe work and study space for students. By implementing a non-traditional approach to running and utilizing a library, our WGS program is bringing a whole new meaning to the phrase "Don't judge a book by its cover."

Professor and MSNBC Host Melissa Harris-Perry spends time with WGS & AFS students

The Women's & Gender Studies and African-American Studies Programs recently worked together to bring Dr. Melissa Harris-Perry, Tulane professor and host of the Melissa Harris-Perry show on MSNBC, to UNCG for a meet and greet with students. Dr. Harris-Perry was in Greensboro as the keynote speaker for Planned Parenthood's annual Health Heroes fundraising dinner, which WGS Friends Linda Carlisle and Sally Cone were instrumental in planning. Many UNCG students, administrators and alumni attended the dinner and talk.



WGS MA alumna Brittney Anderson with Melissa Harris-Perry

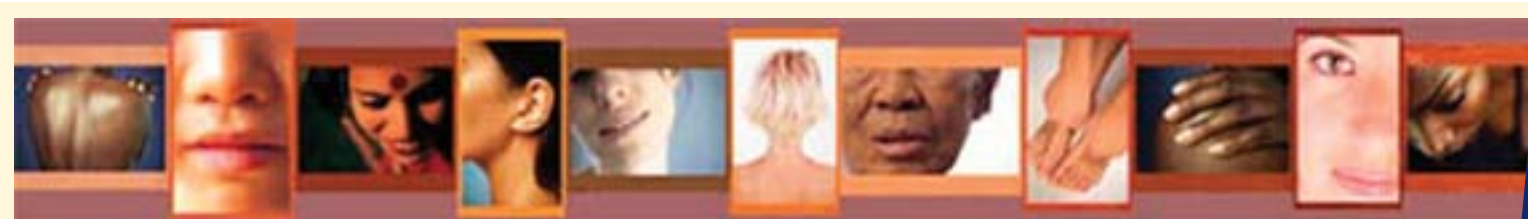
On Thursday October 17th, 2013, about 40 WGS and AFS minors spent an hour and a half asking questions of the author. At least two alumni of the programs drove in from out of town to take advantage of the opportunity. Brittney Anderson (pictured right), who received her MA from the WGS program in May 2012, said, "When I heard about this event I had to attend. Before graduating, I saw a video of her lecture on the concept of the "crooked room" in relation to stereotypes about Black women in the US. Her ideas resonated with me so much that I chose her book Sister Citizen as my graduation gift to the WGS library. She was so personable, relatable and accessible as an African American woman public figure. She seemed like a favorite college professor, mentor and girlfriend all rolled into one!"

NWSA 2013 Conference

Program Administrator, Isabell Moore and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Danielle Bouchard participated in the 2013 National Women's Studies Association conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. The workshop highlighted the links between capitalist power dynamics and those of nonprofit organizations and the nature of service work in universities.



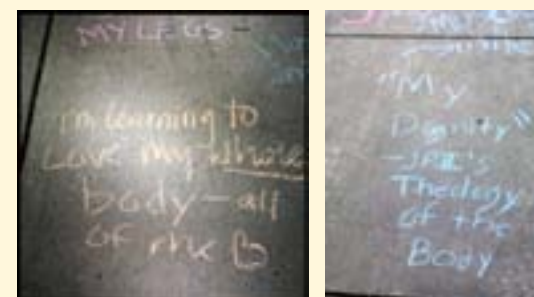
Dr. Bouchard states that "People were hungry for that kind of information", and it is likely that the workshop will be brought to universities in North Carolina.



Love Your Body Week

Monday

WGS major Brittany Frankena opened the week with Ableism: Unpacking the Knapsack. Drawing upon her own lived experiences, Frankena illustrated the realities of privilege and oppression among those who are able bodied and those with disabilities. Frankena says she wanted to create the workshop because of her own experiences with ableism, and that she had "seen similar workshops done in different organizations but had yet to see it presented from someone in the [UNCG] community". Frankena intends to share her workshop again on campus with residence halls through her work as a Resident Advisor.



Tuesday

On Tuesday 10/29 during the day the "Resolution Road" event invited passers by to write and draw Love Your Body Resolutions and positive affirmations on College Ave. The activity inspired both written and spoken dialogue.

Wednesday

Wednesday's Love Your Body Week event was hosted by Chisa D. Pennix-Brown, MBA and CEO of Lady Bizness, Inc. and founder of NeoNaturalz. Her event, titled "Plus Size is the New Normal", shed light on the narrow standards



Thursday

The Love Your Body Week crew celebrated Halloween on Thursday 10/31 with a screening of "Busting Out", a film about America's obsession with breasts, which was followed by a discussion so involved that it ran over the allotted time.

Friday

"Body Positivity 101" was a presentation hosted by Taylor Chapman. Taylor is a positive body image advocate and fat activist – someone interested in the way fat people are treated socially, economically, and politically. She began by asking attendees to raise their hand if they had ever felt ugly. In seconds, every hand in the room was raised. Taylor then presented a slideshow of pictures from her life and detailed her struggle with her body image. She said "As a fat woman, I am forced on a daily basis to believe that I take up too much space in this world. As a fat activist, I am ensuring that space will be made for me, because I deserve to exist in whatever body I have, no questions asked." She then defined body positivity and presented a 3-step plan for beginning a body positive journey. Everyone stayed well over an hour to engage in discussion about their own body image issues, as well as to discuss ways in which they can lead a more body positive life.

