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Women's Studies Program Newsletter, Spring 2003

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Women's Studies Program

Encouraging students to think critically and
envision justice for all peoples.

Inside this issue:

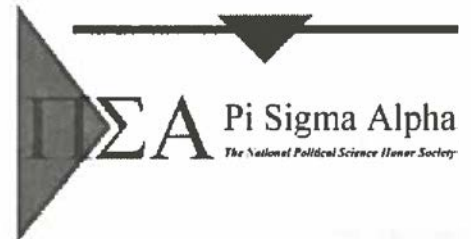
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Pi Sigma Alpha presents: "Sex & Politics: A History of Ideas About Women"

As part of Women's History Month, Pi Sigma Alpha is sponsoring a dinner theatre presentation "Sex & Politics: A History of Ideas About Women" from 5:00PM to 8:30PM in the UC Ballroom on Thursday March 20.

Pi Sigma Alpha is the Honors Society for the Political Science Department. They are an active group, which looks for projects to sponsor, such as election debates and a spring banquet.

Currently there are 30 members. They are however in the process of recruiting others. The contact for the group is either Professor Grey (rgrey@selway.umt.edu), Pi Sigma Alpha's Sponsor, or Katie Auvil-Stutts (auvilstutts@hotmail.com) Pi Sigma Alpha's President.



Honors Society for the Political Science Department

(cont'd on inside page)



Special points of interest:

- March is Women's History Month. Lots of great events scheduled!
- Hail and Farewell—changes in the Women's Studies Program Directors and Staff
- Lecture Series 10th anniversary

10th Annual Maxine Van de Wetering Lecture Series



BLANCHE WIESEN COOK

The Women's Studies Program is pleased to present Blanche Wiesen Cook as this year's Maxine Van de Wetering 'American Women Making History' Lecturer.

Blanche Wiesen Cook is Distinguished Professor of History and Women's Studies at the John Jay College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She was chosen for the honor of Scholar of the Year in 1996 by

the New York State Council on the Humanities.

Her most recent book, bestseller Eleanor Roosevelt: Volume Two, was published by Viking Penguin in July 1999; the Penguin paperback was published in June 2000. Volume One, published in 1992, remained on The New York Times bestseller list for three months and received many awards, including the 1992 Biography Prize from The Los Angeles Times, and the Lambda Literary Award. It is now available as a Penguin paperback. Professor Cook is now working on the third and final volume of Eleanor Roosevelt. For the first time, in Cook's biography, "ER" is seen as the most important woman in American political history: an activist, a desiring and desired woman, a person of great independence of spirit, a teacher, writer and crusader for social justice and human rights worldwide.

Blanche will be speaking on Monday, March 10 at 7:00PM in the Music Building Recital Hall. A Reception will follow in the Presidents' room in Brantly Hall.

Program News

Women's Studies Program

2002-2003

Co-Directors:

G.G. Weix, ANTH

Ramona Grey, PSC

Administrative Assistant:

Kris Sweat

Work Study:

Scott Davis, PMED

Research Scholar:

Dyan Mazurana

Research Assistant:

Khristopher Carlson

Steering Committee:

Bari Burke, LAW

Celia Winkler, SOC

Chris Fiore, PSYCH

Dianne Phillips-Miller, COUN-ED

Dyan Mazurana, WS

G.G. Weix, ANTH

Gyda Swaney, PSYCH

Hiltrud Arens, FLLG

Ione Crummy, FLLG

Janet Finn, SW

Jill Bergman, ENLT

Lorina Quartarone, FLLG

Maxine Jacobson, SW

Ramona Grey, PSC

Rita Sommers-Flanagan,
COUN-ED

Ruth Vanita, LS, WS

Sara Hayden, COMM

Sub-Committee Chairs:

Programming: G.G. Weix

Curriculum: Ruth Vanita

Faculty Development:

Rita Sommers-Flanagan

Library: Ione Crummy

Program Review: Jill Bergman

Research

This spring brings to closure two years' productive research affiliation with our program for Dr. Dyan Mazurana, who moved to Missoula in 2000. Since then, she has done much to enhance the international aspects of Women's Studies. She taught a seminar, "Women and War" for our majors; she has supervised two grants on child soldiers in Africa, and traveled to Uganda, Mozambique and Sierra Leone for field research; and last year, she sub-contracted a major report on gender and peacekeeping for the UN Security Council. She has shared her findings through two Brown Bag lectures and a guest lecture at the Law School. Her recent grant from Harvard University, and affiliate appointment at the Kennedy School of Government there, brings visibility to the University of Montana.

We thank Dr. Mazurana for the extraordinary research she does on women and girls in a global context.

Curriculum

The number of majors (LS with WS emphasis) more than doubled this year! Students continue to ask for more upper division courses, and faculty have responded with an array of new offerings, including three new courses in English and Liberal Studies:

WS/ENLT 336: American Women Writers (Jill Bergman)

WS/ENLT/LS 372: Gender and Sexuality in 20th Century Fiction (Ruth Vanita)

WS/ENLT/LS 375: Gay and Lesbian Studies (Casey Charles)

Summer courses:

WS395: Men, Women and the Rest of Us: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Gender Studies (Mona Bachmann)

WS495(01): Multi-cultural Writing & Discourse in Contemporary Germany (Hiltrud Arens)

WS495(02): Gender Issues in Adolescence (Rita Sommers-Flanagan)

WS495(03): Studies in French Prose: George Sand's Heroines (Ione Crummy)

Kate Shanley has revised WS/NAS 342 to address gender issues in Native American Studies.

The capstone course WS 494, is offered every semester, but topics vary. This past fall, "Feminisms: Local and International" drew 17 students to examine local women's organizations such as WEEL, WORD, WIC, Women's Center, League of Women Voters, Silent Witness Project and the Business and Professional Women's Association, among others. The seminar featured panel presentations by Ruth Vanita, co-founder of *Manushi*, the first feminist journal in India, Kate Shanley, Native American Studies Chair, Patricia Covarrubias, new faculty in Communication Studies, Charles Couture, Dean of Students, Shiv Ganesh also from Communication Studies, and Carol Williams, co-founder of PeaceLinks. Thanks to all these individuals for participating in capstone discussions.

This spring Ruth Vanita is teaching "Renaissance Debates on Women" as the capstone course. Next year, Ruth will be on sabbatical; her courses will be taught by Joanne Charbonneau, Visiting Asst. Professor in Liberal Studies. Joanne will offer LS495: Medieval Women.

Next fall, Casey Charles will teach ENLT 423: "Judith Butler and Gender Studies" as the capstone. One final change to note: WS 275S: Gender and Society, will be offered in the FALL.



"Feminism is the radical notion that women are people."
- Cheris Kramare and Paula Treichler

Women's History Month

Each Friday—WOMEN IN BLACK at Higgins Street Bridge

March 1 - Rally, Stand Up For Education. 11:00AM—12:00PM University Center Copper Commons Room

March 3 - Belly Dancers. 12:00PM University Center Atrium. Sponsored by the Multi-Cultural Alliance. Free!

March 3 - Choice Conversations "Discussion on Reproductive Choices" 3:30PM—4:30PM UC North Lounge 2nd floor. Sponsored by NARAL, Planned Parenthood, the Women's Center and Women's Studies. Free!

March 3 - Art Reception. 4:30PM-5:30 PM Sponsored by Blue Mountain Clinic and Planned Parenthood. University Center North Lounge 2nd floor. Free!

March 4 Poetry Reading "30 Years later, *Gilt Edge* at UM." 7:00PM—9:00PM Quartermoon Books 1221 Helen St. Free!

March 5th - Brown Bag Lecture Series "The Montana Feminist History Project" 12:00 in room LA138. Speakers Erin Cuniff, M.A. candidate in Anthropology, Lael Gabrian, Honors College and Anthropology major, and G.G. Weix, Dept. of Anthropology. Free!

March 5 - Business and Professional Women meeting. Speaker Alison Cobb, AAUW Fellow. 6:30PM at the Waterfront Pasta House.

March 6 - Multicultural Alliance film. "Uphill All the Way!" 7:00PM UC Theatre. Free!

March 8 - Intl Women's Day Rally. 11:30AM meet at Caras Park, 12:00PM march to Missoula Children's Theatre, 12:30PM speakers in MCT Ballroom. Organized by WORD, co-sponsors YWCA, WEEL, AFL-CIO, UM Foreign Student Services.

March 8 - AAUW Missoula Branch meeting. Speaker Alison Cobb, AAUW Fellow and Doctoral Candidate in Psychology at UM. 10:00AM—12:00PM. Public Library meeting room. Free!

March 8 - Art exhibit "Myth in My Life, Stage One" by artist Julie Hoffman. 12:00PM—2:00PM Third Floor of Missoula Children's Theatre.

March 8 - WORD Fundraiser. "Many Faces of Women" 8:00PM at the Elks Club. Tickets are \$15.00 and are available through the WORD office at 543-3550.

March 10 - 10th Annual Maxine Van de Wetering 'American Women Making History' Lecture "Eleanor Roosevelt and the Quest for Human Rights." Speaker Blanche Wiesen Cook 7:00PM at the Music Building Recital Hall. A reception follows in the Presidents' room in Brantly Hall. Free!

March 11 - Workshop and Seminar "Eleanor Roosevelt: Women and Power" Presented by Blanche Wiesen Cook. 11:30AM—1:20PM in the Law Building Pope Room. Free!

March 11 - Dramatic Reading "Lillian Wald: At Home on Henry Street" by author Clare Coss. 5:00PM—7:00PM in Journalism 304. Co-sponsored by Outfield Alliance, School of Nursing, School of Fine Arts, Liberal Studies. Free!

March 11 thru March 17 - Art Exhibit "Myth in My Life, Stage One" by artist Julie Hoffman. Art Annex Inner Gallery UM. Free!

March 13 - Concert. Cheryl Wheeler; Jen Adams opening act. 8:00PM at the Crystal Theater. Sponsored by the Folklore Society. Tickets \$12.00 for MFS members, General public \$14.00 and \$16.00 at the door.

March 13 - Philosophy Forum "The Crux of the Matter of 'post-war' Guatemala: Power, Identity, Duplicity." Diane Nelson, Asst. Prof. of Anthropology, Duke University. 7:00PM—9:00PM, in North Urey Lecture Hall. Co-sponsored by CAJA, Anthropology, Club, Montana Human Rights Network, Women's Studies. Free!

March 16 & 17 - French film 7:00 PM at the UC Theatre. "Les Filles Ne Savent Pas Nager (Girls Can't Swim)." French with English subtitles. LeCercle Francais (French Club), Sponsored by Women's Studies, Outfield Alliance and LAMBDA. Free!

March 18 - Law School guest lecture "Challenging Institutional Notions Regarding Gender and Race-Based Incarceration Rate and the Impact of DNA Evidence in Exonerating Felons Falsely Convicted". Speaker Luana Ross, Assoc. Prof. of Native American Studies, UC Davis 12:00PM—2:00PM. Law School Castles Center. Sponsored by UM Law School, ACLU and NALSA Student Group.

March 18 - Poetry Reading "Scratch and Snickering" Group (women reading poetry). 7:00PM—9:00PM. Quartermoon Books 1221 Helen Street. Free!

March 19 - Brown Bag Lecture Series "Foster Single Mothering". Speaker Maxine Jacobson Assistant Professor Social Work at UM. 12:00PM LA138 Free!

March 20 - Live Dinner Theatre "Sex and Politics: A History of Ideas about Women". Sponsored by Pi Sigma Alpha and Women's Studies. 5:00PM-7:30PM at the UC Ballroom. COST \$15 Senior Citizens, PSA members, Women's Studies students, \$20 General Public, \$25 Grand Patron.

March 20 - Brown Bag Lecture Series "History of European Women's Sororities." Speaker Eldridge Moore. 3:00PM - 4:00PM in LA202. Sponsored by National Pan-Hellenic Sororities Council, Office of Greek Life and Women's Studies. Free!

March 20 - Multicultural Alliance Film "Where the Spirit Lives." 8:00PM. UC Theatre. Free!

March 25—YWCA Conversations "Status of Women Report." Speaker Terry Kendrick. 12:00PM—1:30PM at YWCA Free!

March 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Schedule of Events

- **Mar 8** International Women's Day
- **Mar 10** 10th Annual Maxine Vas de Wetering Lecture Series featuring Blanche Wiesen Cook
- **Mar 11** Dramatic play reading by Clare Coss
- **Mar 14** Philosophy Forum featuring Diane Nelson
- **Mar 18** Law School lecture featuring Luana Ross
- **Mar 20** Live dinner theatre "Sex & Politics: A History of Ideas About Women"

My idea of feminism is self-determination, and it's very open-ended: every woman has the right to become herself, and do whatever she needs to do."

- Ani DiFranco

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB!

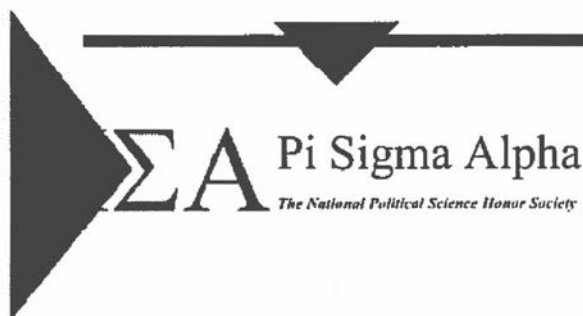
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Pi Sigma Alpha Presents

New Live Dinner Theatre Event (cont'd from front page)

This March Pi Sigma Alpha is pleased to present "Sex & Politics: A History of Ideas About Women", a live dinner theatre presentation Thursday March 20 from 5:00—7:30PM in the UC ballroom.

The Political Science Department Honors Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, presents this evening as a rare opportunity to reflect on how ideas of women have evolved, while enjoying fine food. An Italian Buffet with a cash bar will be offered. Tickets are \$15 for senior citizens and students, \$20 general public, \$25 Grand Patron and \$11 for Pi Sigma Alpha members. Contact Loretta Edwards in the Political Science Dept. at 243-5202 for more information and to reserve tickets. Tickets must be bought in advance.



The members of Pi Sigma Alpha are pleased to be working alongside the Women's Studies Program and in bringing a new event to their Women's History Month Calendar. This promises to be a wonderful evening of fine food and stimulating conversation; don't miss it!

Director's Notes

A brief chronology of the past six months---

At our Fall retreat last September, we welcomed Professor Paul Dietrich as the new Director of Liberal Studies, and discussed how we can strengthen ties with LS as our academic unit. We also completed a new Policy and Procedures manual. This 'charter' document seeks to include many feminist voices in the spirit of cooperative self-governance.

The discussion then turned to the future of the program. Ramona Grey and I are stepping down as co-directors at the end of May. This marks the sixth year I have been involved directing Women's Studies, and I am glad to return to the Anthropology department, where I will have time for my original research interests on women, gender and Islam. Next fall I am introducing a new course on North Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Sudan and Egypt) and in the spring, two courses on Southeast Asia. I have learned much from directing Women's Studies. As Chair of the University Council on Student Assault this year, I have had the pleasure of working with SARS staff, Bridget Hanna and Shantelle Gaynor, for whom I have incredible respect. AAUW, BPW and the League of Women Voters have welcomed efforts to link Women's Studies to their organizations. The Women's Center continues to inspire me with their leadership and activism.

Ramona Grey, who agreed to co-direct with me under during my sabbatical in 2000-2001, has handled the duties of a co-director with acumen and grace. I thank Political Science colleagues for sharing their only political theorist with us! Not only did she help us establish consensus on policy matters, she has helped Women's Studies broaden its visibility by collaborating with the honorary society, Pi Sigma Alpha, which will host the dinner theatre, "Sex and Politics" on March 20th. Ramona has represented the program in campus forums, such as the "Dessert with the Deans" for prospective students and their parents, and the Provost's faculty seminars on academic civility.

Ramona and I would like to acknowledge the superlative management skills of Ms. Kris Sweat, who joined the program as temporary administrative staff in September. Kris brought 23 years experience in the private sector; most recently she launched a successful joint venture in Shanghai, China. She chose to move to Missoula because of her strong interest in higher education. Kris has 'launched' us into the 21st century with a new look for the website, program marketing, and high standards for office management. She has created numerous reports, databases, and records invaluable in the transition of the directorship.

In November, Kris hired Scott Davis as work study student in the office, and he, too, has contributed much to a new look for Women's Studies. If you swing by LA 138A, you will notice, among other changes, a large map of Montana displaying the *American Association of University Women* branches across the state. We hope to see UM become an AAUW University Partner in 2003-2004, enhancing ties to its Education Foundation, with fellowships and grants for women students and faculty, as well as AAUW advocacy in legislation and policy issues.

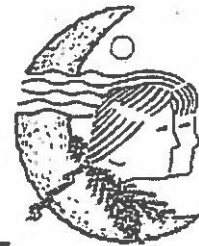
Finally, this year marks the tenth anniversary of the Maxine Van de Wetering annual lectures, in honor of Women's History Month. We thank Maxine, always, and all those who have made Women's Studies an enduring part of the University. The Montana Feminist History Project, headed by Diane Sands, has just completed documenting and archiving the activism of the past thirty years through oral history interviews, as well as training some twenty students in oral history methods. Fifty interviews are being donated to the K. Ross Toole Archives this March, and will be discussed at the Brown Bag lecture on March 5th. Please join us at one of the many events in March to celebrate the accomplishments of this program, its faculty, students, and alumni, and women's organizations across Montana.

by G.G. Weix

Women's Studies

Mission Statement

Women's Studies, an interdisciplinary program founded in 1971, encourages the production, discussion, and dissemination of knowledge about women's experiences, oppressions, and achievements, in Montana, the U.S., and the world. In the last decade, this focus has broadened to include study of the social and cultural construction of gender, sex, and sexualities. By fostering awareness of cultural and international diversity, as well as of the circulations of power mediated by race, class, age, and sexual orientation, Women's Studies encourages students to think critically and to envision justice for all peoples.



"Woman must not accept; she must challenge. She must not be awed by that which has been built up around her; she must reverence that woman in her which struggles for expression."

- Margaret Sanger

"Feminism is not a doctrine that seeks to confine us but rather a quest to continually define".

- Caroline Soriosis

Lecture Series Anniversary

2003 marks the 10th anniversary of the Maxine Van de Wetering "American Women Making History" Lectures. The lecture series honors Maxine Van de Wetering; an ardent advocate for Women's Studies. She advocated for the Women's Studies Program to the University of Montana in the early 1971, and its establishment in the 1990's.



SPEAKERS

1994 - Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, Professor of Humanities and History. University of Pennsylvania. Afternoon seminar "Captive Women/Savage Others." Evening lecture "The Federalist Capers: The Engendering of Political Representation."

1995 - Gloria Steinem, Feminist Author, Co-Founder of the National Women's Political Caucus. "Feminism in Everyday Life."

1996 - Alison Jagger, Professor of Philosophy and Women's Studies. University of Colorado at Boulder. Afternoon seminar "Sex in the Original Position: A Critique of Rawlsian Contractarianism." Evening lecture: "Affirmative Action as Meritocratic Justice."

1997 - Carol Delaney, Professor of Anthropology Stanford University. Afternoon seminar: "A Critique of the Story of Abraham." Evening Lecture: "The Presence and Absence of Fathers in the Welfare Debate."

1998 - Val Plumwood, Feminist Philosopher and Author. University of Montana (Visiting Professor of Philosophy) "Irrationalism and Feminist Philosophy."

1999 - Drew Gilpin Faust, Annenberg Professor of History. University of Pennsylvania. Afternoon seminar "Death in the Civil War." Evening lecture "Mothers of Invention: Writing Women into the Civil War."

2000 - Diane Sands, Activist, educator, organizer and UM graduate. Afternoon seminar "Oral History Project; Illegal Abortions in Montana". Evening lecture "Herstory in Our Hands"

2001 - Kristin Hoganson, Assistant Professor, Univ. of Illinois. Afternoon Seminar "The Problem of Male Degeneracy and the Allure of the Philippines." Evening lecture "Cosmopolitan Domesticity: International Interiors in a Globalizing Age (1865-1920)."

2002 - Linda Gordon, Professor of History, NYU. Afternoon seminar "Women, Family and the State." Evening lecture "Poverty, Race, & the Politics of Welfare Reform."

2003 - Blanche Wiesen Cook, Professor of History and Women's Studies, John Jay College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Afternoon seminar "Eleanor Roosevelt: Women and Power". Evening lecture "Eleanor Roosevelt and the Quest for Human Rights".

The University of Montana

Women's Studies Program

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