Message from the Director
Hope Jennings, Ph.D.

What an exciting year we’ve had in the Women’s Studies Program! Faculty and students have been very active in their research projects, internships, participation in on and off campus events, and publications. This semester we commend and thank Dr. Julianne Weinzimmer for her exemplary performance and ongoing contributions to the program as an affiliate faculty member (p. 11). We recognize Jill Winchester as this year’s Outstanding Undergraduate Student (p. 7) and Taylr Ucker as Outstanding Graduate Student (p. 8). The Women’s Studies Advisory Committee unanimously awarded Jill and Taylr with this recognition of their high level of academic achievement, feminist activism, and commitment to the Women’s Studies Program. Congratulations as well to the record number of students who completed the WMS Graduate Certificate this year (p. 7); many of these students have also graduated from their Masters programs or will be graduating this spring. We’re also pleased to report on the activities of WSU alumna, Kristina Beckett (p. 9), and Emerita faculty member, Dr. Paulette Olson (p. 10), both having positive impacts in their global and local communities.

To continue our program’s trend of innovation and excellence, this summer and fall we’ve scheduled a number of fantastic special topics courses (pp. 3-4), and in the fall we’ll begin offering themed sections of our core introductory course, WMS 2000. Students in the International and Comparative Politics M.A. program can now elect to take a Global Gender Studies track, thanks to the hard work of Dr. Laura Luehrmann. This new graduate option adds to the concentrations in Women’s Studies already available within the Master of Humanities and English M.A. programs.

Please be sure to check out some of the activities, awards, scholarship, and recent publications of Women’s Studies core and affiliate faculty (p. 12). To close out the Spring Newsletter, we’ve highlighted the many programming events that were offered this spring, the majority of these co-sponsored with the Women’s Center, and continuing to demonstrate the unique partnership between our two units. Thanks to all the other departments, programs, and faculty who have also contributed to this year’s student and program success!
Program Updates

Beginning Fall 2014, we will be offering themed sections of WMS 2000, which will allow students to explore different disciplinary approaches or subjects.

Here’s a preview of upcoming themes:

- Utopia/Dystopia
- Film & T.V.
- Literature
- History
- Feminist Activism & Social Media

Global Gender Studies Track now available in the International and Comparative Politics M.A. See Dr. Laura Luehrmann for further details: laura.luehrmann@wright.edu

Social Transformation cannot remain at the level of ideas, it must engage practice.

M. JACQUI ALEXANDER & CHANDRA TALPADY MOHANTY, 1996

WOMEN’S STUDIES INTERNSHIPS

WMS 4980: Independent Field Experience

Spring 2014

This course coordinates out-of-the-classroom internship experience and in-class coursework to provide students with advanced practice and supervision in the field of women’s studies and feminist activism. With the guidance of the course instructor, students select an internship site, on- or off-campus, where they intern for approximately 110 hours during the term. Here are the internship sites and exciting projects that students are working on this year:

Ebony Davenport
Major: Women’s Studies
Minor: International Studies
Site: YWCA Dayton
Project(s): Social media presence for Teen Services; Girls, Inc. curriculum development

Kristen Pennington
Major: Women’s Studies
Site: YWCA Dayton
Project(s): Girls, Inc. newsletter; curriculum related to positive body image

Marissa Kirkland
Major: Women’s Studies/Nursing
Minor: Sexuality Studies
Site: Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio Region
Project(s): Review and suggestions for Annual Book Fair (Friends of Planned Parenthood)

Kellyn Wagner
Major: Psychology
Minor: Sexuality Studies
Site: Michael’s House
Project(s): Create fact sheet, brochure, and other materials for child survivors of human trafficking

April Millis
Major: Psychology
Minor: Sexuality Studies
Site: Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio Region
Project(s): Education outreach preparation
Americanah, 2013 (Fiction)
Americanah is half social commentary and half love story, following a young woman, Ifemelu, who decides to move back to Nigeria from the U.S. to be with an old flame. Adichie adroitly explores the complexities of racial politics unique to Africans living abroad.

My Beloved World, 2013 (Non-fiction)
Rising from a Bronx housing project to a seat on the highest court of the land, the first Latina and third woman to be appointed to the Supreme Court transcended the burdens of her childhood with fierce determination.

Summer Special Topics Courses

Dr. Hope Jennings
Sex & Subversive Bodies: Angela Carter and Jeanette Winterson
Texts by contemporary British authors Angela Carter (1940-1992) and Jeanette Winterson (1959- ) explore the boundaries of physicality and imagination, gendered polarities, sexual desires and transgressions, and radical or socialist feminisms. Through intertextual practices, their fiction engages with and challenges the literary canon’s representations of gendered roles. Carter and Winterson are also at the forefront of postmodern feminist theories and texts that interrogate “trans” bodies and identities, with emphases on disrupting western master narratives concerning rigid gender schemas and sexualities. Their textual subversions and experiments in narrative time and space work toward refiguring the body, and through their privileging of grotesque or carnivalesque bodies, they attempt to reshape feminist strategies and politics that challenge patriarchal, heteronormative, and other oppressive discourses. Lastly, their historiographic metafictions and revisionary approaches toward classical myth, fairy tale, and folklore contribute to our understanding and rethinking of literary pasts, presents, and futures in order to recover marginalized voices and experiences.

Jeanette Winterson: Sexing the Cherry, The Passion, The Stone Gods, and Written on the Body (grad students only).

Dr. Kelli Zaytoun will also be offering a course on Feminist Memoirs during Summer B.
Fall Special Topics Courses

Dr. Hope Jennings  
*History, Memory, and Trauma in Contemporary Literature*

This course explores trauma studies in feminist theory and literature. Contemporary feminist authors often call attention to the gaps in official histories that have repressed or marginalized women’s voices. As Kali Tal argues in *Worlds of Hurt: Reading the Literature of Trauma*, “the privileged classes have an investment in making the traumatic experiences of the oppressed classes invisible [and] given the preoccupation of minority writers and women with questions of trauma, memory, silence, [and] dissociation [we need] new avenues of inquiry and interpretation [that] demand the reintroduction of a political and ethical dimension to the interpretation of texts dealing with trauma and memory.” Through our readings of selected literary texts, we will examine intersecting issues of race, class, age, gender, and sexuality; the impact of war, imperialism, and violence on women’s lives; and the ways in which these texts, as contemporary historical fiction, engage with the past by offering alternative accounts or counter-narratives of women’s lived experiences, female relationships, and communities. We will also explore how these texts suggest possibilities and limitations of feminist utopias as adequate responses to oppressive and violent histories.


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Dr. Dana Murray Patterson  
*Black Feminist Thought*

In this course we will explore the development of Black women’s “ways of knowing,” including Black Feminism as coined by Patricia Hill Collins, Standpoint theory, and Africana Womanism, while also considering the possibilities for new models. Dr. Patterson’s model for “Enlightened Black Womanism” will be critically debated, analyzed, and deconstructed. Students will come to understand the value of multiple ways of knowing and gain an appreciation for the conditions under which such dynamics develop.

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Ms. Linda Long-VanBrooklyn  
*Women, Gender, Genocidal Regimes*

Beloved mothers of the future. Breeders of “life unworthy of life.” Social outcasts with corrupted bodies. Powerful men with powerful weapons. Genocidal regimes have commonly co-opted traditional gender norms and old social tensions between groups to propel a vision of a re-invented future. We’ll look beyond Anne Frank to genocidal regimes in Europe, the New World, Africa, and Asia and consider how women survive, challenge, and participate in these governments and various forms of ethnic cleansing. Our historical and geographical scope will cover the terrain of 20th century genocidal regimes, events, and doctrines. Auschwitz. Baltic transfers. Darfur. Dawes Plan. “Killing Fields.” Kosovo Polje. We will closely examine women’s lives and the gender roles and ideals that shaped their resistance to and participation in genocide and ethnic cleansing. Potential texts: *Mothers in the Fatherland; Exile and Identity; They Wouldn’t Hurt a Fly; and Born of War.*

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Dr. Marjorie McLellan  
*History of American Family Life from 1800*

This course takes an interdisciplinary look at the social and cultural history of American families, marriage, childhood, aging and domestic life. American families, marriage, and households – intersected by class, race, ethnicity, place, religion, and other factors – have encompassed tremendous diversity at any point in American history. We will look at how ideas about gender and sexuality have impacted the experience of love, relationships, marriage, parenting, and family life. American family life has seen what Sidney Mintz and Susan Kellogg describe as a series of “domestic revolutions” transforming roles and functions, relationships, demographic characteristics, everyday practices, meanings, expectations, and emotions. Wider economic, cultural, legal, and political changes have all impacted the family. We will examine the extent of change as well as the contexts and forces that made for revolutionary change in American family life. Graduate students will have additional readings and assignments focused on historic house museums and the material culture of everyday life. Required Texts: Anya Labour, *Major Problems in the History of American Families and Children*; David Peterson *del Mar, The American Family: From Obligation to Freedom*; Nancy F. Cott, *Public Vows: A History of Marriage and the Nation*.

Dr. Alpana Sharma will be offering a literature course on *The Postcolonial Diaspora*, with the majority of required texts by women authors.
## SUMMER 2014 COURSES UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Instructor/Room</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-A01</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>4:40 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Kathleen Kollman 047 Rike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-A02</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies</td>
<td>MTWR</td>
<td>11:40 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Andrea Harris 142 Med Sci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-WA1</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Christine Wilson 183 Andrews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 3000-A01</td>
<td>Sociology of Gender</td>
<td>MTWR</td>
<td>9:50 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Julienne Weinzimmer 129 Med Sci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 3990-A01</td>
<td>Women in Film</td>
<td>MTWR</td>
<td>12:45 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.</td>
<td>Nicole Richter 1032 Creative Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 3990-A02</td>
<td>Appalachia: Racial and Gender Socioeconomic Trends and Social Welfare Issues</td>
<td>Web Only</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Theresa I. Myadze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 4890-A01</td>
<td>Sex &amp; Subversive Bodies: Angela Carter and Jeanette Winterson</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>11:40 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.</td>
<td>Hope Jennings 229 Allyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 3010-B01</td>
<td>Survey of Women Writers</td>
<td>MTWR</td>
<td>9:50 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Kelli Zaytoun 402 Millett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 3010-B21</td>
<td>Stratford Shakespeare Festival</td>
<td>Ambassador Program</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>July 10 – July 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>KNH 1800-A01</td>
<td>Weight Training: Women</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>10:40 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Jennifer Haley 208 Nutter Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 4520-B01</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Prejudice Research Capstone</td>
<td>MTWR</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Martin Gooden 062 University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 4950-C01</td>
<td>Sexuality and Endocrinology Capstone</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>9:50 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Patricia Schiml 395 Millett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 3100-A01</td>
<td>Sociology of the Family</td>
<td>MTWR</td>
<td>11:40 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.</td>
<td>LaFleur Small 401 Millett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 4090-A01</td>
<td>Sexual Assault &amp; the Criminal Justice System</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Tracey Steele 125 Med Sci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 4600-B01</td>
<td>Sociology of Sexuality</td>
<td>MTWR</td>
<td>11:40 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Tracey Steele 125 Med Sci</td>
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## FALL 2014 COURSES UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE

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<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Instructor/Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-01</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies: Utopia/Dystopia</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Hope Jennings 161 Rike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-02</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies: Film &amp; TV</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. – 10:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Andrea Harris 135 Allyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-03</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies: Literature</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Kathleen Kollman 153 Russ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-04</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda Long-VanBrooklyn 033 Rike</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-05</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>10:10 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Andrea Harris 286 Millett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-06</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>4:40 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TBA 158 Rike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 2000-90</td>
<td>Approaches to Women's Studies</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>WEB ONLY</td>
<td>TBA 158 Rike</td>
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<td>Course Title</td>
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<td>Time</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMS 3000-01</td>
<td>U.S. Women's History in Multicultural Perspective</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>1:25 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Nancy Garner</td>
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<tr>
<td>HST 3800-01</td>
<td>Sociology of Gender</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>4:40 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Julianne Weinzimmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMS 3000-02</td>
<td>Privilege: Race, Class, Gender and Nation</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 7:40 p.m.</td>
<td>Judith Ezekiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 3610-01</td>
<td>Political Economy of Women</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>11:00 p.m. – 12:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Zdravka Todorova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 5610-01</td>
<td>Feminist Thought</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Andrea Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMS 4890-01</td>
<td>Research Methods in Women's Studies Feminist Qualitative Methods</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Julianne Weinzimmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMS 4900-01</td>
<td>History, Memory and Trauma in Contemporary Literature</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Hope Jennings</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMS 4910-01</td>
<td>Black Feminist Thought</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>4:40 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Dana Patterson</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMS 4920-03</td>
<td>Women, Gender &amp; Genocidal Regimes</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda Long-VanBrooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 4450-01</td>
<td>The Postcolonial Diaspora</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>12:20 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Alpana Sharma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS 1890-05</td>
<td>History of American Family Life from 1800</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Marjorie McLellan</td>
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<tr>
<td>HST 1870-01</td>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Marie Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>COM 4250-01</td>
<td>Race, Class and Gender in Communication</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>9:05 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Carol Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>COM 4320-01</td>
<td>Gender &amp; Race in Health Communication</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>10:25 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Marie Thompson</td>
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<td>HST 7110-01</td>
<td>Women's History of Social Movements</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>4:40 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Nancy Garner</td>
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<tr>
<td>MP 4350-01</td>
<td>Cinema &amp; Sexuality</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>3:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Nicole Richter</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS 4260-01</td>
<td>Sex and the Law</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.</td>
<td>John Feldmeier</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY 2110-02</td>
<td>Human Sexuality</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>10:10 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Patricia Schiml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 3100-01</td>
<td>Psychology of Health Behavior</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Tamera Schneider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 2720-01</td>
<td>SRV: Multicultural Competency</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Shreya Bhandari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 3520-01</td>
<td>Race and Ethnicity</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Julianne Weinzimmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 4830-01</td>
<td>Sex, Drugs &amp; HIV</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.</td>
<td>Marlese Dunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>KHN 1550A-01</td>
<td>Rape Defense Strategies: Basic</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 8:55 a.m.</td>
<td>David Finnie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KHN 1550B-01</td>
<td>Rape Defense Strategies: Intermediate</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 8:55 a.m.</td>
<td>David Finnie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KHN 1800A-01</td>
<td>Weight Training for Women</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>10:10 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Janette Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KHN 1800A-02</td>
<td>Weight Training for Women</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Janette Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KHN 1800B-01</td>
<td>Weight Training for Women</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>10:10 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Janette Davis</td>
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2013-2014
Women’s Studies
Graduate Certificates

2014 Outstanding WMS Undergraduate Student: Jill Winchester

Jill Winchester is a dual major in Women’s Studies and English (Literature), and will be graduating in December 2014 after completing her remaining coursework in Women’s Studies. Jill is originally from Cedar Grove, Indiana and relocated to Dayton in 2009 to join her partner. She worked as a paralegal before returning to school to complete her college education and is a member of several honor societies, including Golden Key, Kappa Delta Pi, and Phi Kappa Phi.

While at Wright State, Jill has been published twice in the Fogdog Review for essays exploring representations of gender in works by Zora Neale Hurston and in Joseph Conrad’s Heart of Darkness; she currently has pending submissions for consideration in future editions of Fogdog. Jill presented a paper at the 2012 Race, Class, Gender, Sexuality Symposium examining the economic impact of divorce on women, followed by a small-scale original research project on gender bias in family law. This research was conducted for her coursework in WMS 4790: Research Methods in Women’s Studies, which she shared as part of a student roundtable at this year’s RCGS Symposium (see p. 13).

After graduation, Jill plans on applying to law school for 2015 admission with the intent to focus on family law, which is something she has wanted to do since she was eight-years-old and personally encountered this part of the legal system. She observes that “when practiced correctly, family law can be a powerful form of women’s and children’s advocacy,” and that her Women’s Studies degree has helped prepare her for entering into this career sector. As she goes on to explain, “Women’s Studies has changed the way I think about people and the world. It’s helped me imagine and relate to people more complexly and in all their diversity, and to afford them their contexts, which is something I constantly strive to do.” This is a skill, Jill claims, that applies to and enhances all human relationships, irrespective of career plans. “Women’s Studies, at its core, pushes us to achieve better communication with and understanding of others.”

Maria del Mar Aponte, International and Comparative Politics
Rebecca Burgan, Humanities (Women’s Studies)
Dana Fleetham, International and Comparative Politics
Lucy Flowers, English (Composition & Rhetoric)
Gina Giardina, English (Composition & Rhetoric)
Jessica Gray, English (Literature)
Kathleen Kollman, Non-degree
Claire McDowell, English (Literature)
Jennifer Money, Humanities (Women’s Studies)
Margaret Murray, Education Leadership (Student Affairs)
Toni Penwell, English (Literature)
Jolene Pohl, Humanities (Women’s Studies)
Rhiannon Seals, Selected Studies (Women’s Studies)
Taylr Ucker, Humanities (Women’s Studies)
Ashley Wright, English (Literature)
Hannah Tarbert, International and Comparative Politics
2014 Outstanding WMS Grad Student: Taylr Ucker

Taylr Ucker entered the Master of Humanities Program in Fall 2012 to pursue the Women’s Studies concentration. After earning an undergrad certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies at Ohio University, Taylr knew this was the direction her life was meant to take. The Women’s Studies program at Wright State was one of the many reasons she was drawn to our campus.

In the past two years, Taylr has pursued multiple opportunities to network with other activists and learn more about feminism by interning with Ohio NOW (through a WMS independent study) and at various events, such as the 2013 National Organization for Women Convention in Chicago and the 2013 National Women’s Studies Association Conference (see p. 7). Taylr also attended Soapbox, Inc.’s Winter 2014 Feminist Camp in New York City, a program organized by Third Wave feminist authors and Soapbox, Inc. founders Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards to provide the next generation of feminist activists a “transformative week of feminism in action.” Notably, Taylr was the first Wright State student selected to participate in Feminist Camp, also taking the initiative to fund a majority of the program and travel costs through “crowdfunding,” a form of online fundraising often used in feminist activism projects.

Early in her graduate research, Taylr realized she had a passion for education and decided to combine that interest with her knowledge of feminist activism and social media. She is currently completing her creative thesis project, “Defending Feminism Online: Using Social Media in the Classroom to Promote Critical Media Literacy Skills,” which explores feminist pedagogy and social media and the roles these can play in media literacy education. The product of her research will be a curriculum plan and workshop that allows students to analyze Internet memes and explore strategies for effectively engaging with these potentially powerful tools for promoting online feminist activism.

In Fall 2013, and as part of her graduate assistantship with the M.Hum program, Taylr began working with the Women’s Studies Program on its Teaching Innovation Grant, a study focused on the design and assessment of effective online and alternative delivery methods in WMS 2000, the program’s general education introductory course. Under the supervision and mentorship of the program director, Hope Jennings, and while also working with other faculty members contributing to the grant study, Taylr gained invaluable training in classroom facilitation, lesson plan design, and assignment development. In Spring 2014 she also took on the role of Research and Recruitment Assistant for Women’s Studies, promoting the program’s website and Facebook pages, as well as representing the program at various recruitment events and helping with the design of program marketing materials.

Taylr says of her time here at WSU, “I have had the most amazing opportunities while working with the Women’s Studies Program. Faculty members truly care about student success and go beyond expectations to mentor, support, and provide innovative learning experiences to all of those in the program, regardless whether they are graduate students, majors, minors or those who decide only to take the introductory class. I cannot be thankful enough for my time working with the Wright State Women’s Studies Program and for the expertise, skills and support that were shared with me.”

After graduating in May, Taylr plans to stay in Ohio and continue working in the fields of communication, education and feminist activism.
Kristina Beckett graduated from Wright State in Spring 2013 with a B.A. in International Studies. In a recent letter to Dr. Nancy Garner, Kristina credited her Women’s Studies class as an inspiration for her ongoing activism work:

“The way I view society and my desire to challenge it quickly inflamed once I finished your course. Each day that I went to your class I felt empowered when I would leave. ... What I took from your class was that I can’t live just by what is expected. That I need to be involved in what I believe in.”

While completing her Bachelor's degree, Kristina apprenticed for three years as an optician at LensCrafters. On the 1st of this year, she moved to Uganda in order to work closely alongside the team at Kingdom Pearl. She has also partnered with ophthalmic groups in Uganda through the connection of TOMS Optical.

**My work at Kingdom Pearl:** I operate as the communications director for Kingdom Pearl, a grassroots nonprofit in Northern Uganda. The organization aims to offer opportunities that allow for women and children to engage in programs that support a sustainable livelihood. Kingdom Pearl resides in the small, rural town of Rackoko, which was once an internally displaced camp that offered protection from rebel groups, such as the Lord's Resistance Army.

**Two programs building momentum:**

**Pearl City FC:** One of Kingdom Pearl's largest projects is its soccer team, Pearl City FC. The team consists of young people committed to leading a healthy, educated, and honorable lifestyle. Kingdom Pearl commits to giving the players all of the athletic and educational support they need in exchange for the players' commitments to maintain a lifestyle of community leadership. The soccer program continues to gain momentum with its success, as it is now competing regionally. We believe their success is due to the program seeking to provide young people with the opportunity to be part of something positive. The act of being part of a team transforms the lives of young people by allowing them to commit to something and gain discipline from it. When the outlet is positive, like athletics, participants gain discipline and health.

**Kingdom Pearl Optics:** This is our newest program where we are still paving the way as to how we will reach the community with eyewear. Our goal is for everyone in the community to be able to receive glasses. Kingdom Pearl has found that there is a frequently overlooked need for vision care in Northern Uganda. While many organizations are working to battle HIV/AIDS, malaria, and child mortality rates, there are very few working to remedy the fundamental issue of sight. By working with different groups and sponsors, Kingdom Pearl hopes to make eye health a priority in Northern Uganda.

**What I loved about our first optical clinic:** The event was designed with women as the key focus. When we approached the elders and leaders of the community with this idea, their response was a bit defensive. After hours of discussing the needs of the community they became more supportive. It was because of their efforts that over 50 women, many of whom were HIV positive, showed up for reading glasses. I learned firsthand how valuable it is to partner with the already respected local leaders of the community. At one point, a handful of drunken males from a nearby bar arrived and demanded eyewear for themselves. A few of the women picked up on it right away and used their stern voices to escort them out. I heard one of the women note that this event was to “empower women” – a term I had only used in dialogue with the local leaders.

**Kristina’s Goal**

I have found that it is my goal to inspire women and children to see the world with not only their hearts and minds, but with their eyes.

**About Kingdom Pearl**

Kingdom Pearl Uganda was founded in 2005 with the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people of Uganda. Started by Godwin Kalinte in the slums of Kampala, Kingdom Pearl saw a need, and moved North to Rackoko.

**Children playing in Rackoko**

Rackoko, Uganda is a town 35 miles north of Lira, Uganda, which is 200 miles north of Uganda’s capital, Kampala. During the time of conflict in the North, Rackoko was home of the ABC Camp for Internally Displaced Persons. Rackoko is a town ready for a positive change.
Emerita Faculty Profile: Paulette Olson

Retirement is a luxury that not every woman enjoys as they mature. So I wake up every morning with tons of gratitude for this privilege. Since my retirement at the end of Spring Semester, 2013, I’ve had the privilege of visiting friends in the Bahamas and celebrating my mother’s 93rd birthday in New Orleans. In February I’ll be visiting friends and another retired WSU faculty, Maggie MacDonald, in Florida and then head to New Orleans for Mardi Gras in March. In April I travel to Europe with retired WSU faculty, Anna Bellisari. And in August, I’ve been invited to travel to Iceland with a geologist. Hard work has its rewards!

In the meantime, I continue to practice yoga, meditation and sing with the Yellow Springs chapter of the Threshold Choir. The Choir, which began in California in 2000, has evolved into a non-profit organization with over 100 chapters throughout the U.S. and Canada and points beyond: www.thresholdchoir.org.

Our purpose is not to entertain, but to bring comfort to people at the thresholds of living and dying. We sing in homes, hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care facilities, prisons, etc. Although we rehearse in a large group, when we are invited to sing at bedsides our numbers shrink to 2 to 4 singers. The songs are simple, soothing and deeply spiritual, without being religiously oriented. Members have composed most of the songs in the over 400-song repertoire. Indeed, I composed a song during my year struggling with breast cancer and it’s been accepted as part of the repertoire.

I have also started a book club composed of women who live in Yellow Springs. We meet once a month and read a variety of titles to reflect the diverse interests of the group such as Those Who Save Us by Jenna Blum, And the Mountains Echoed by Khaled Hosseini and The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse by Louise Erdrich; all highly recommended novels.

I’ve also joined a book discussion group at the Dharma Center in Yellow Springs to learn more about the health benefits of meditation, among other things. I continue to volunteer for various organizations in town as time permits and have recently become the Treasurer for the homeowners association where I live. It’s a privilege to be able to contribute to my wonderful community of neighbors in Yellow Springs in this way.

Every day I am filled with gratitude!

Paulette with students when she was Director of the Women’s Center and Women’s Studies Program (1994-96). Dr. Olson also created and taught one of the earliest Women’s Studies courses at Wright State, “Political Economy of Women,” which is offered again this fall semester.

How We Started
Threshold Choir founder Kate Munger (third from the left, below) explains how an 8-year-old’s campfire experience, a day of housework and singing, and a trip home from Montana were woven into the fabric that became Threshold Choir.
**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT**

**Julianne Weinzimmer, Ph.D.**

Dr. Julianne Weinzimmer has been an exemplary Women’s Studies affiliate faculty member, teaching several cross-listed Women’s Studies courses and actively participating in program events. This past year she has been an invaluable team member of the Teaching Innovation Grant study, leading the assessment of learning outcomes and student engagement in multiple sections of WMS 2000. Julianne earned her Ph.D. in Sociology in 2008 from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. In 2011, Julianne’s dissertation, based on a qualitative study with 29 participants, was published as a book titled, *Homeland Conflict and Identity for Palestinian and Jewish Israeli Americans* (part of the series *The New Americans: Recent Immigration and American Society*).

When Julianne joined Wright State in Fall 2008, she met Amber Vlasnik, Director of the Women’s Center, and Kelli Zaytoun, Director of the Women’s Studies Program (2004-2012). “I felt welcomed and supported by them and spent more time in the Women’s Center.” Julianne notes that during her graduate studies she had few opportunities to explore her passion for gender-based topics. One of her first career strategies was to develop courses that were more inclusive by supplementing her lectures with guest speakers and gender scholars.

Today, Julianne’s areas of specialization include social stratification and inequality, race and ethnicity, ethnic conflict and identity, gender, sexuality, qualitative methods and sociological theory. Her areas of research are pedagogy and how to make classrooms/courses more inclusive; qualitative gender studies, including a piece on the impact of intimate partner violence on women’s mothering; and a textual analysis of campus traditions that promote hegemonic masculinity.

Through her scholarship and activism, Julianne seeks to move society toward a more equitable and peaceful state. One of her personal philosophies is *ahimsa*, or “do no harm.” Julianne practices this in her daily life as a vegan and proud mother of six fur-babies (four cats and two dogs). “Animals are my second passion. I believe that there are various forms of oppression that human animals and nonhuman animals face. Everyone deserves to live a happy life and to not be exploited for the joy of others.”

Other notable facts about Dr. Weinzimmer: Affiliate WMS Faculty, Member of SWS, Member of NWSA, Member of WMS Advisory Committee, Member of M.HUM Advisory Board, Co-Chair of COLA Civic Engagement and Service Learning, and Treasurer of Peace Lecture Committee.

**NWSA 2013 Cincinnati**

This year faculty and staff from the Women’s Center and Women’s Studies Program were at the annual NWSA conference in Cincinnati. Our student employees working on the Teaching Innovation Grant had the opportunity to attend workshops, network, and gain the experience of attending a large national conference.

**According to Khadija Kirksey:** “The National Women’s Studies Association Conference was one of the most exhilarating experiences of my life. Being surrounded by students, and scholars, and professionals of the field was reaffirming and inspirational. I took part in this great exchange of theory, experience, and knowledge and I thought to myself: ‘This is why I’m a Women’s Studies major.’”
Faculty Activities, Awards & Scholarship


Andrea Harris’ essay, “From One Survivor to Another,” was included in the anthology *Dear Sister: Letters from Survivors of Sexual Assault,* edited by Lisa Factora-Borchers (AK Press 2014), which was selected as the Women’s Center Spring Reading Selection (see p. 15). An excerpt of Andy’s essay was also published in *Cosmopolitan* magazine: [http://www.cosmopolitan.com/celebrity/news/rape-dear-sister-excerpt](http://www.cosmopolitan.com/celebrity/news/rape-dear-sister-excerpt)

This spring, Judith Ezekiel will be presenting her paper, “The Women’s Liberation Movement in the USA and France: Trans-Atlantic Sisterhood and (Mis)appropriation” at *A Revolutionary Moment: Women’s Liberation in the Late 1960s and Early 1970s*, Boston University, 29 March, 2014.

Amber Vlasnik, along with her co-teacher and peer mentor Melissa McCune, just won the Holly Jackson Award for Outstanding Innovation in Co-Curricular Activities from University College First Year Programs. It was for a series of assignments they developed to help students learn about the campus as well as their class trip to the Dayton International Peace Museum.

Kelli Zaytoun was awarded Professional Development Leave during the Fall 2014 semester to support her continuing scholarship and research on the work of Gloria Anzaldúa. Kelli also received funding last year from a Professional Development Grant to work with the Anzaldúa archives at the University of Texas at Austin.

The following affiliate and core faculty presented papers and workshops at this year’s *Race, Class, Gender, Sexuality Symposium*:

- Judith Ezekiel, “Teaching Privilege”
- Sharon Lynette Jones, “Advocating Awareness: Constructing Cultural Ideas Within Contemporary Films”
- Dana Patterson, “Exploring Black Masculinities at the Intersection of Race Class, Gender and Sexuality” and “Model of Enlightened Black Womanist”

Many thanks to the following affiliate faculty for moderating panel sessions and workshops at this year’s RCGS symposium: Anna Casas, Ava Chamberlain, Michel Coconis, Andrea Harris, Kathleen Kollman, Carol Mejia LaPerle, Alpana Sharma, Patricia Schimi, and Julianne Weinzimmer.

Vagina Monologues
Many of our affiliate faculty, including Kelli Zaytoun, Dana Patterson, Andrea Harris, and Marie Thompson, participated in the 2014 *Vagina Monologues* this spring.

Forthcoming Novel
Women’s Studies Quilt Show

By Linda Morgan

The theme of our first quilt show was Celebrating Women's Studies Through Quilt Stories because Women’s Studies, an interdisciplinary program, uses several textbooks in their courses which feature quilt designs as their covers. Quilts are fabric conversations about individuals, families, communities, or nations. Quilts, through their fabrics, patterns, colors, purposes, themes, and textures are the voice of history or current events and issues. The Quilt Show, held in the Women’s Center, was well attended and featured over forty different varieties of quilts or quilted items including quilts from the early 1900s. Our guest speaker, Angela Reichelderfer, a professional historical dressmaker and M.Hum student, spoke on “The Gendered Nature of the Dressmaking Profession.” We are already working on the show for next year which will feature I Spy Quilts crafted by several of our own Wright State community members.

Race, Gender, Class, Sexuality Symposium

Keynote speaker Dr. Jakobi Williams, Associate Professor of African American and African Diaspora Studies and History at Indiana University, presented "From Fred Hampton to Barack Obama: Race, Class, Gender, and the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party." Dr. Williams discussed stereotypes surrounding the Black Panther Party, the accomplishments of its community activism, and the diverse roots of the Rainbow Coalition. Dr. Williams then discussed the campaign strategies and platforms of elected/incumbent politicians and described how the philosophies of the Black Panther Party and the Rainbow Coalition have been co-opted and repackaged for modern-day success.

Student Workshops & Roundtables
Margaret Murray, "First Year Student Perspectives of Diversity"
Khadija Kirksey & Jennifer Money, "Creating a Dialogue about Race in the GBLTQ Community"
Quanita McRoberts & Andrianna Milton, "Why We Resist: Reasons, Stigmas, and Myths of Black Women in the Fight for Reproductive Justice"
Angela Reichelderfer, "Gendered Nature of the Dressmaking Profession"
Marissa Kirkland, Khadija Kirksey, Kathleen Kollman, Taylr Ucker, Jill Winchester, and Amber Vlasnik, "Methodologies in Action: Tensions, Triumphs, and Field Lessons from Novice Researchers"

Student Papers
Ebony Davenport, "From Eugenics to Planned Parenthood: How a Black Feminist Can Reconcile a Troubled Past in Order to Accept a Promising Future"
Lucy Flowers, "Fat Feminism, Health Science Discourse, and the Media"
Alicia Grodecki, "A Transnational Feminist Approach toward the Female Circumcision Debate"
Phillip Michael Logan Jr., "Beyond the Mountaintop: A Reflection and Critique of Michael Dawson’s Call for Independent Black Organization"
Linda Morgan, "Death is Not Enough: Jim Crow and WWI African American Gold Star Mothers"
Hanna Tarbert, "Family Planning and Human Trafficking in China"
Memorable Quotes*

“A mentor gives advice; a sponsor picks up the phone.”
“You have to be excellent at what you do, so that you are respected and listened to – but you have to speak up.”
“Ask me something challenging.”
“I am just one person with one voice, but my voice has value.”
“If you can’t get a seat at the table, bring your own chair.”

*These are not verbatim

Shirley Chisholm: Urban Liberalism, Feminism, and the Black Freedom Struggle

Barbara Winslow is a historian teaching in the School of Education and the Women's Studies Program at Brooklyn College. Winslow believes that Shirley Chisholm is one of the most overlooked historical figures. In her lecture, she discussed:

- Why Chisholm has been overlooked as a historical figure
- Chisholm’s immigrant status and Bajan culture
- Scholarship in the Black community
- Community organizing and Chisholm’s personal philosophies
- The intersections of Chisholm’s race and gender

Fast Fact: Chisholm remains the first and only woman to be nominated for presidency at the Democratic National Convention

GERALDINE MORIBA

Women’s History Month Scholar-In-Residence

Geraldine Moriba is the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion at CNN International. In her role, Moriba offers strategic guidance on issues of diversity to the CNN Management team and chairs the network’s diversity council. Moriba delivered the second annual Anita Hill Lecture on Gender Justice at Wright State University, organized by Soapbox, Inc. and sponsored by the Wright State Women’s Center and Women’s Studies Program.

Keynote Address & Lecture

Moriba discussed her experiences as a Women’s Studies major at the University of Toronto and then cited her personal experience as an activist protesting the “Into the Heart of Africa” exhibit at the Royal Ontario Museum (Nov 1989-May 1990) as the catalyst for her career in journalism. From there, Moriba noted that she had all the tools to become a journalist before considering it as a career. Moriba encouraged the audience to identify and broaden their “core” -- whomever or whatever we direct our efforts toward. Moriba also led a workshop on Women of Color in Leadership and spoke with faculty and students at an informal luncheon during her residency at Wright State.

Memorable Quotes*

“...”
“...”
“...”
“...”

*These are not verbatim
Join us to discuss the Women’s Center spring reading selection, *Dear Sister: Letters from Survivors of Sexual Violence*, edited by Lisa Factora-Borchers, whose work with legal and medical advocacy for survivors of sexual violence inspired her to put together this collection of stories. She hopes the letters will speak to the survivors of sexual violence and anyone who lives in their communities.

*Dear Sister* makes a compelling argument by harmonizing different voices about justice, sexuality, and healing by exploring the varying accounts of how one goes about the process of healing and survival. *Dear Sister* highlights that diversity of survivors and speaks to the un-patterned and complex nature of everyday healing.

**Thursday March 27, 2014**
**11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**
**008 Student Union Rathskellar**