

New England Women's Studies Association 2010 Conference

Teaching Activism: Women's Studies in the 21st Century

As a regional branch of the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) for 32 years, the New England Women's Studies Association (NEWSA) seeks to bring together regional women's/ gender studies programs, departments, and women's centers to share scholarship, community events, and educational opportunities for students. NEWSA's mission, to be "a feminist anti-racist network open to all and which actively seeks new meeting ground for discussions about Women's Studies and social change," is reflected in the themes of NEWSA's conferences in previous years: "Culture, Work and Power: Building Working Relationships among Women of Color and White Women" at Bentley College; "International Feminism, Human Rights and the Women's' Studies Classroom" at Suffolk Law School; "Code Red: A Feminist Call to Action" at UConn, Storrs; "Performing Activism" at UMass Dartmouth; and "Women and Justice" at Norwalk Community College.

This year's conference at UMass Dartmouth, "Teaching Activism: Women's Studies in the 21st Century," marks the return of the NEWSA conference after a four year hiatus. Highlights include a workshop on April 30th from 2:00-5:00pm with Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards, who are celebrating the 10th anniversary of *Manifesta: Young Women, Feminism and the Future*, on the afternoon of April 30th. Baumgardner and Richards' workshop will focus on activism and ways to integrate activism into our teaching, our learning, and our lives. Details are included in the conference schedule.

The conference keynote is Rory Kennedy, a well-known activist and documentary filmmaker, who will speak at 7:00pm on April 30th. Her talk, *The Camera Doesn't Lie: Social Change Via Documentary Filmmaking*, will be followed at 8:00pm with a viewing of her award-winning documentary *American Hollow*, which tells the story of the Bowling clan in Kentucky's Appalachian mountains.

We are pleased to offer a broad range of presentations, roundtables, and workshops on May 1st. This year's conference, based on discussions of NEWSA regional members at the annual NWSA conference in Atlanta, focuses on encouraging undergraduate student presentations. Our goal was to provide undergraduates in Women's and Gender Studies with a forum for their work and a space to learn from other feminists in the field. Please welcome them to our conference.

Last but not least, thank you for attending the 2010 NEWSA conference. We hope you enjoy the conference and the UMass Dartmouth campus.

Best regards,

Jeannette E. Riley
NEWSA Director

NEWSA 2010 Conference Schedule

Friday, April 30th

1:00 Conference Registration

Woodland Commons

2:00 – 5:00pm: Activism Workshop

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the publication of *Manifesta: Young Women, Feminism and the Future*, authors Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards will facilitate a workshop on community engagement and ways to integrate activism into your everyday life. This workshop is open to undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. Come learn how to get involved in your local communities and make a difference!

The undergraduate and graduate student session will run from 2:00-3:30pm.
Faculty and other conference attendees are invited to join from 3:45-5:00pm.

It's helpful if you RSVP for this event by April 25th to Claire Travers: cltravers@umassd.edu

5:00-7:00pm Conference Supper

Woodland Commons

NEWSA is pleased to present a supper reception with cash bar for conference attendees. This event is included in your registration fee if you selected the full conference registration.

7:00-8:00pm Keynote Presentation

Woodland Commons

The Camera Doesn't Lie: Social Change Via Documentary Filmmaking

Rory Kennedy, Documentary Filmmaker and Producer

Co-founder of Moxie Firecracker Films, Rory Kennedy is an award winning producer and director of documentaries for HBO, PBS, Lifetime Television, A&E and more. Her films cover a range of topics, including human rights, AIDS, freedom of speech, poverty, domestic abuse, and family.

8:00-10:00pm Viewing of *American Hollow*

Woodland Commons

Released in 1999 at the Sundance Festival, *American Hollow* tells the story of the Bowling clan in Kentucky's Appalachian mountains as the film follows them for a year in their lives. Exploring issues of poverty, gender, family history, cultural traditions, and domestic abuse, among other issues, the film documents how one family struggles to survive in a rapidly changing modern world. *American Hollow* earned Best Documentary prizes from the American Film Institute and the Chicago International Film Festival.

This film is open for all conference attendees and the general public.

Saturday, May 1st

**8:00-9:00am Conference Registration
Continental Breakfast**

Liberal Arts

SESSION #1: 8:30-9:40am

1.1: Bad girls, Working Girls and the Study of Female Roles in Contemporary Film

Memory Holloway, UMass Dartmouth
Molly Zakarian, UMass Dartmouth
Casey Otovic, UMass Dartmouth
Jodi Tucker, UMass Dartmouth

1.2: Cross-Listing Violence: Students Thinking About Women as Agents/Survivors of Violence

“Women and Violence in Contemporary Literature and Film”
Colleen Lutz Clemens, DeSales University

“Sexual Violence”
Michelle Issadore, Lehigh University

1.3: Translating Feminist Theory and Activism from University to Career

Katrina Semich, UMass Dartmouth
Alexandra Case, UMass Dartmouth
Vanessa Ortiz-Lora, UMass Dartmouth

1.4: Engaging in Feminist Research

“A Feminist Analysis of Adolescent Dating Violence: Using Rihanna and Chris Brown as a Model”
Bonnie Bryant, Lesley University

“*Who you callin; a bitch?:* Women in Hip Hop as a Means to Establish and Validate Postcolonial Feminist Rhetorical Theory”
Kalyana Champlain, University of Rhode Island

“Feminist Pedagogy and the Post-Structural Critique: the ethics and politics of subjectivity”
Andrei Israel, Pennsylvania State University

“Understanding the Dynamic of Chinese Girls with Cerebral Palsy and Their Families: A Qualitative Investigation”
FangFang Wen, Boston College

1.5: WORKSHOP: Classroom Tools for Feminist Teaching and Learning

Dana Simpson, Clark University

SESSION #2: 9:50-11:00AM

2.1: ROUNDTABLE: Beyond the Classroom: Practicing Activism in a Women's Studies Minor Program

Jennifer Tuttle, University of New England
Lucia Fiorenza, University of New England
Alyssa Martin, University of New England
Alicia Healey, University of New England

Jennifer Stenberg, University of New England
Erika Streim, University of New England
Elisabeth Ziemba, University of New England

2.2: From Theory to Action: Building Women's Networks in and beyond Harvard Divinity School

“Holy/Wholly Series: Creating Space for Women to Discuss What the Academy Doesn't”
Joy Fallon, Princeton University

“University as a Platform for Activism: A conference on Women and Diversity at Harvard”
Shenila Khoja-Moolji, Harvard Divinity School

“Student-Faculty Collaborations: Strategies for Advancing Feminist Philosophies in Print”
Celine Lizzio, Harvard Divinity School

2.3: When Knowing Becomes Doing: A Rationale for Getting Personal in the Classroom

“When Knowing Becomes Doing: A Rationale for Getting Personal in the Classroom”
Andrea Harris, Wright State University

“Well, There Should Be”
Angela Koch, Wright State University

“Of course, That’s Not a Pocket Bible Next to my Vagina Key Ring”
Naomi McDowell, Wright State University

“I Can Be Strong All by Myself”
Ashlyn Young, Wright State University

2.4: The Women's Resource Center as a Site for Feminist Activism

Rebecca Ide, UMass Dartmouth
Kayleigh Moore, UMass Dartmouth
Jillian Washburn, UMass Dartmouth

2.5: Sites of Resistance

“African American playwrights”
Lizandra Gomes-Lopes, Lesley University

“Women’s Studies on the Sly: Teaching Resistance and Cultural Relativism Before Anyone Realizes”
Heidi Johnson, LaGuardia Community College

“Teaching About Women in World History Courses”
Cristina Mehrtens, UMass Dartmouth

“3rd Wave Feminists: Experiencing Our Trajectory for the 1st Time”
Romy Poletti, McGill University

2.6: ROUNDTABLE: Food and Feminism in the Classroom: A Student-Faculty Panel Discussion

Jessica Hayes-Conroy, Wheaton College
Molly Labell, Wheaton College
Nina Fenelon, Wheaton College
Lana Rosen, Wheaton College
Megan Streeter, Wheaton College

SESSION #3: 11:10am-12:20pm

3.1: Vision 2000: Ten Years Later

Nancy Campbell Patteson, UMass Amherst
Anne Schoenberger, University of Maine
Mazie Hough, University of Maine
Additional presenters to be announced

3.2: Feminist Pedagogy and Collaboration: Faculty, Graduate, & Undergraduate Perspectives

Jody Lisberger, University of Rhode Island
Jenn Brandt, University of Rhode Island
University of Rhode Island Teaching Assistants

3.3: Teaching Activism through Community-Based Learning

Stacy Grooters, Stonehill College
Brienne Kellogg DeRosa, Womansplace Crisis Center
Erin Banner, Womansplace Crisis Center

3.4: Feminist Activism in Iran: Restoring Rights Through Self-Advocacy

Ellen Parker, UMass Dartmouth
Estelle Peyton, UMass Dartmouth
Denise Schultz, UMass Dartmouth
Nancy Walkden, UMass Dartmouth

3.5: Activism, Consciousness Raising, and Service Learning in the Classroom

“Revisiting and Reviving Consciousness Raising in the Women's Studies Classroom”
Janet Freedman, UMass Dartmouth

“New Pedagogies: From Community Arts to Arts Activism”
Karen Frostig, Lesley University

“Feminist Philosophy and Service Learning”
Jason Mallory, Raritan Valley Community College

“Engendering Praxis, Encouraging Activism: Service Learning with Feminist Practice Through Reflection and Process”
Catherine Milton, Norwalk Community College

3.6: WORKSHOP: Teaching Social Justice: Tools for the Activist Educator

Morganne Ray, UMass Amherst

12:30-1:40pm

Conference Lunch

Woodland Commons

with special guests *The Raging Grannies of Westerly Rhode Island*

SESSION #4: 1:50-3:00pm

4.1: Feminist Theory Across the Disciplines: Opening up the Gap

Jody Lisberger, University of Rhode Island
Vanessa Lazar, University of Rhode Island
Beazley Kanost, University of Rhode Island
Kristen Lahteine-Stepalavich, University of Rhode Island
Moira Duffy, University of Rhode Island

4.2: ROUNDTABLE: Pedagogies of Accommodation, Pedagogies of Dissent: Teaching for the Radical Feminist Imagination

Heather Turcotte, University of Connecticut
Manisha Desai, University of Connecticut
Jamie Huff, University of Connecticut
Vannessa Lovelace, University of Connecticut
Nicole Powell, University of Connecticut

4.3: Girlhood, Identity, and Girl Culture - A Progress Report on the Impact of a Service Learning Project

AmyRutstein-Riley, Lesley University
Bonnie Bryant, Lesley University
Alice Diamond, Lesley University
Marie LaFlamme, Lesley University

4.4: Bringing it Together: Teaching Women's Studies Inside-Out

Susan Krumholz, UMass Dartmouth
Sarah Ostrander, UMass Dartmouth
Amanda Donovan, UMass Dartmouth

4.5: WORKSHOP: Writing Songs of Peace and Justive Justice

The Raging Grannies of Greater Westerly Rhode Island
Deborah Dear, Penny Jackim, Marlies Parent, Karen Stein, Dotty Stumpf

SESSION #5: 3:10-4:20pm

5.1: Place, Space, and WMS/Gender Studies

“A War on Women, Color, and Class: The Criminalization of Women in the War on Drugs”

Bethany Mathieu, University of Maine at Farmington

“Built-In Oppression: The Power of Landscape in the North End”

Jess Pinter, University of Maine at Farmington

“*Obentō* and the Construction of Motherhood”

Nadine Byers, University of Maine at Farmington

5.2: Finding Voices: Students Take on Twilight, Cosmopolitan, and the Torah

“Finding Voices: Students Take on Twilight, Cosmopolitan, and the Torah”

Laura D’Amore, Roger Williams University

“Twilight: Perpetuation Beliefs of Gender Identity”

Scott Bacheller

“Sacred Wombs: Marriage, Infertility, and Motherhood in the Book of Genesis”

Jessica Cassidy, Roger Williams University

“Breaking Down Walls: Cosmopolitan Magazine and Female Sexual Expression”

Jessica Crawford, Roger Williams University

5.3: A Cross Cultural Look at Third Wave Feminism’s Approach to Sexual Rights in Development-Are We on The Right Track?

Kelley Ready, Moderator, Brandeis University

Krista Clement, Brandeis University

Jodi Clark, Brandeis University

Stacyann Gabbidon, Brandeis University

Amy Hanes, Brandeis University

Lilis Suryani, Brandeis University

5.4: And Then Students got Involved: Teaching Activism in a Business Educational Environment

Terri Hasseler, Bryant University

Janet Dean, Bryant University

Toby Simon, Bryant University

5.5: ROUNDTABLE: Crosslisting Women’s Studies: The Issues

Heidi Berggren, UMass Dartmouth, Moderator

Manisha Desai, University of Connecticut

Stacy Grooters, Stonehill College

Jody Lisberger, University of Rhode Island

Catherine Milton, Norwalk Community College

Sarah Wiggins, Bridgewater State College

The New England Women's Studies Association would like to thank the following co-sponsors who helped make this conference possible:

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