

**Women's Studies**

# NEWS

**Women's Studies Program • SUNY New Paltz • (845) 257-2975 • July 2011**

Many changes will be taking place over the course of the next year! After six years of coordinating the Women's Studies Program, it is time for me to step down and focus on teaching. I am excited to be able to offer new classes in Women's Studies but will miss the opportunity of collaborating with so many different faculty and students across campus. I have learned a great deal over the past six years, and it has been a true honor and plea-

## **From the Coordinator**

sure to run the program. I am deeply grateful to all of my colleagues for their support and guidance, most of all Amy Kesselman. I very much look forward to the leadership of the incoming Coordinator, Kathleen Dowley.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Women's Studies Program! Happy summer.



## **Changes at Women's Studies**

This May concludes Heather Hewett's sixth year of coordinating the Women's Studies Program. In September she will be teaching full-time: half-time in the English Department, and half-time in the Women's Studies Program.

Heather has done a superb job of coordinating the program: she facilitated the hiring of two core faculty members, Karl Bryant of Sociology and Edith Kuiper of Economics, enriching our program immeasurably. She

has skillfully represented Women's Studies on the campus and brought her expertise in transnational feminism to bear on the revision of our curriculum. We will miss her grace, good humor



and collegiality but look forward to her expanded teaching in Women's Studies beginning this fall with an exciting new course on Motherhood and Mothering.

We enthusiastically welcome our new coordinator, Kathleen Dowley of the Political Science Department. Kathleen, who has taught "Women and Politics" for many years, brings to the Program scholarly expertise in comparative and international politics and will enable us to continue our efforts to make our program more transnational. She has been successful in obtaining funds (these days an essential skill) from the SUNY system and beyond and will bring that experience to the organization of Women's Studies' extracurricular activities.

— Amy Kesselman

## **Amy Kesselman to Retire Next Year**

At the end of the 2011-12 academic year, after 31 years in the Women's Studies Program, Amy Kesselman is planning to retire. We are collecting testimonials and letters of support from alums and community members about the value of the Women's Studies Program and the need to continue her legacy with a full-time replacement based in Women's Studies.

Testimonials and inquiries can be directed to the Women's Studies Program, Southside House, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY, 12561.

— Heather Hewett  
and Kathleen Dowley



## Faculty News

**Peter D.G. Brown** (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) published *Oskar Panizza and The Love Council* (McFarland, 2010). He organized a library exhibit, "What Remains: 40 Years of Teaching, Scholarship & Service at SUNY New Paltz, 1971-2011," that examined four decades of his scholarship, activism, and teaching.

**Karl Bryant** (Sociology/Women's Studies) will be a visiting scholar at the Center for Nanotechnology in Society at UC Santa Barbara in Fall 2011. He and Women's Studies student Claire Papell presented a paper on Transgender Childhood at the annual Pacific Sociological Association meetings in March.

**Katherine French** (History) has accepted the J. Frederick Hoffman chair in medieval English history at the University of Michigan.

**Anita González** (Theatre Arts) published *Afro Mexico: Dancing Between Myth and Reality* (U. of Texas P., 2010) and led a January 2011 directing workshop at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Conference at Fitchburg State University, titled "Kissing, Sex, and Violent Acts."

**Kristine Harris** (History) published "Modern Mulans: Re-imagining the Mulan Legend in Chinese Film, 1920s-1960s" in *The New Woman International: Representations in Photography and Film from the 1870s through the 1960s* (U. of Mich. P., 2011).

**Heather Hewett** (English/Women's Studies) was a Teagle participant in a workshop on "Civic Engagement in the Women's and Gender Studies Classroom" at the National Women's Studies Association Annual Convention in November 2010. She published a review essay, "Working It: The Problem with Too Many Names," in the Fall 2010 issue of *Brain, Child: The Magazine for Thinking Mothers*.

**Susan Ingalls Lewis** (History) was awarded the prestigious Hagley Prize for her book *Unexceptional Women: Female Proprietors in Mid-Nineteenth Century Albany*,



New York, 1830-1885 (Ohio State UP, 2009). With the help of her graduate students, she curated the Women's History Month library exhibit, "Beyond Susan B.

Anthony: Celebrating Women's Activism in the United States, 1776-1920."

**Mary L. Kahl** (Communication and Media) published "First Lady Michelle Obama: Advocate for Strong Families" in *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* (2009).

**Amy Kesselman** (Women's Studies) spoke on a panel at a conference entitled "Women's Liberation and Jewish Identity: Uncovering a Legacy of Innovation, Activism and Social Change" at New York University on April 9.

**Edith Kuiper** (Economics/Women Studies) co-edited *Feminist Economics, Volume II: Households, Labour and Paid Work* (Routledge, 2010). She also received a Research and Creative Projects Award for her research on Eighteenth-century women economic writers.

**Fiona Paton** (English) published "Monstrous Rhetoric: Naked Lunch, National Insecurity, and the Gothic Fifties" in *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* (Spring 2010).

**Kate McCoy** (Educational Studies) co-edited a special issue of *The International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, which includes her article, "Into the Cracks: A Geology of Encounters with Addiction as Disease and Moral Failing." She received a UUP Professional Development Award to travel to Jamestown, VA this summer to study the role of drug crop agriculture in colonial processes, specifically the disruption of indigenous farming and food systems brought about by British factory farming of tobacco. She was also awarded a Research Fellowship to travel to Manchester Metropolitan University this July to serve as a keynote speaker at the Summer Institute on "Qualitative Research: Putting Theory to Work."

**Peri Rainbow** (Women's Studies) celebrated her 20th year teaching in the program. She was appointed co-chair and lead consultant for the Orange County Institute for Trauma-Informed Care. She helped current students start the first LGBTQ student-facilitated peer support group.

**Anne R. Roschelle** (Sociology) published "Toward a Feminist Methodological Approach to the Intersection of Race, Class, and Gender: Lessons From Cuba" in *Advances in Gender Research* (Emerald, 2010) and has a forthcoming chapter, "Motherhood Unbound: Homeless Chicanas in San Francisco" in *Latina/Chicana Mothering* (Demeter 2011).

**Vicki Tromanhauser** (English) published "Animal Life and Human Sacrifice in Virginia Woolf's *Between The Acts*" in *Woolf Studies Annual* (2009). On January 10, 2011 she gave birth to Judith Nancy Festa, whose name was inspired by Woolf's Judith Shakespeare.

**Sarah Wyman** (English) presented a paper, "Women and Plants: Asserting a Commons of the Spirit in Jeanne Larsen's *Why We Make Gardens* and Louise Gluck's *The Wild Iris*" at the "Nature at the Intersection of Arts, Humanities, Sciences, and Society" conference at New Jersey City University on April 1st.

## Can Feminism Stop Global Warming?

Feminism alone won't stop climate change, but climate change can't be stopped without feminism! That was the conclusion of keynote panelist Joni Seager at the 29th Women's Studies conference, "Green Feminisms: Women, Sustainability and Environmental Justice," held on April 28, 2011.

Organized by students and faculty from many programs and departments on campus, the multifaceted conference successfully brought together scholars and activists to consider the im-

pact of environmental degradation on women and the myriad ways that women have continued to challenge the destruction of the earth.

Suzanne Kelly, a Women's Studies faculty member, provided the intellectual and political framework for the conference in her opening statement.

For Suzanne's statement and the description of conference events, please see the Women's Studies website: [www.newpaltz.edu/wmnstudies](http://www.newpaltz.edu/wmnstudies).

### Scenes from the Conference



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**Women's Studies Program**  
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