

Women's *and* Gender Studies



Spring 2012 Colloquium Series Devoted to Masculinities

The Women's and Gender Studies Program's Spring 2012 colloquium series focused on issues of masculinities. The series began in January with Italian scholar Maria Camboni who talked about how Italian translators interpreted masculinity in Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* to advance fascism. WGS also hosted a brown bag lunch with Camboni.

In March, Michael Kimmel spoke about the changes in the transition to manhood for modern guys in his talk "Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men." Kimmel's talk elicited many laughs and serious questions from the large audience, which filled the Nebraska Union Auditorium.

A roundtable discussion on incorporating masculinities in Women's and Gender Studies closed out the series. Rose Holz moderated the discussion with UNL professors Jan Deeds, James Garza, and Iker González-Allende, who all study masculinity as part of their work. The discussion brought up many interesting questions from faculty and students and examined ways to include the study of masculinity in individual classes and the program as a whole.

All of the talks were well attended and the series received a lot of attention from many different university publications. Links to these stories can be found on the colloquium page of the WGS website.

For full coverage of all the colloquium talks, stay tuned for the Fall 2012 newsletter to be published in December 2012.

For news, events, & info, go to:
<http://www.unl.edu/womenssp>

Introduction to Men's Studies Course Offered for the First Time

Introduction to Men's Studies was offered for the first time this spring as a special topics course and received a lot of positive attention. Jan Deeds, director of the UNL Women's Center and board member of the Men's Studies Association created and taught the course. She says, "It's really exciting. It feels like this is exactly the right time for this because women's studies and gender studies are embracing new ways of looking at things. We are ready for this type of discussion."

The course objectives included examining the historical development of men's studies and men's movements since the 1970s, looking at the intersections between men's and women's movements, examining masculine identity development, and developing a gender lens to observe and analyze the intersections between masculine identity and race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, gender performance, and other social/cultural issues.

Students in the course also met with Michael Kimmel before his colloquium talk and discussed his work on masculinities. The course has been popular with its students, who have had many positive things to say.

Fall 2012 Graduate Special Topics Course WMNS 891: Transnational Feminism, Islamophobia, and Queering the War on Terror

Framed within the context of the US War on Terror and its cross-border alliances with other securitized regimes, this course will focus on helping graduate students uncover how transnational feminist and queer inquiries decolonize and dislodge our racial, ethnic, and gendered understandings about the War on Terror, which are held in place by nationalism and Islamophobia. WGS core faculty member Dr. Basuli Deb will teach this seminar class on Tuesday afternoons.

Awards and Achievements

WGS faculty member Joy Castro's (English) novel *Hell and High Water* has been chosen by The Las Comadres and Friends National Latino Book Club as the September 2012 Book of the Month.

WGS Associate Director Rose Holz has been awarded a Distinguished Teaching Award from the College of Arts and Sciences.

WGS faculty member and former director Margaret Jacobs (History) was awarded a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies to work on her next book project. The book will explore the history of the fostering and adoption of American Indian children within non-Indian families.

WGS core faculty member Emily Kazyak (Sociology) received a Layman Award from UNL's Office of Research & Economic Development to support research for her project "Making Laws Matter: How Families Navigate Legal Uncertainty."

WGS faculty member Julia Schleck (English) was selected for a Franklin Research Group grant from the American Philosophical Society to fund her research for her next book, which will focus on the role of English trading companies in the evolution of travel writing in the late 16th and early 17th centuries.

WGS Graduate Specialization student Kate Hunt (Political Science) has been awarded a Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship from the Social Science Research Council. The fellowship enables her to participate in the 2012 DPDF program in the field of Gender Justice in the Era of Human Rights and conduct pre-dissertation fieldwork in South Korea.

WGS alumna Audrey Johnson won the National Championship at the American Bar Association Law Student Division's 39th Annual Client Counseling Competition alongside Christine Baughman. Baughman and Johnson will represent the United States in the International Client Counseling Competition at the Law Society in Dublin, Ireland. Johnson is currently a 3rd year student at the Nebraska College of Law.

New WGS Core Faculty Member

In Fall 2012 Carly Woods will join Women's and Gender Studies as a member of the Core Faculty. In addition to teaching courses in WGS and Communication Studies, Woods will coordinate all sections of WMNS 101: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies. Woods studies the intersecting rhetorics of identity, power, and difference in public argument and address. Welcome Carly.

Fall 2012 Colloquium Series, Women's Health and Reproduction

The talks in Fall 2012 Colloquium Series will explore women's health and reproduction and feature scholars affiliated with the Women's and Gender Studies Program.

In September WGS Associate Director Rose Holz will speak about her new book *The Birth Control Clinic in the Marketplace World*.

In October Julia McQuillan (Sociology) and Karina Shreffler (Oklahoma State University) will discuss their work on sterilization and regret.

In November Beth Burkstrand-Reid (College of Law) will give a talk entitled "Life After Death" on "Missing Angel" laws, newly created birth certificate laws for miscarriages of fetuses after 20 weeks of gestation.

WGS Director Chantal Kalisa hopes that the talks will show how one of WGS's focus areas, Women, Gender, and Science can be applied to many different areas and be used to investigate various topics.

No Limits 2013

In March 2013 UNL will host the annual No Limits conference. Like the Fall colloquium series, No Limits will focus on Women, Gender, and Science with the theme of "Science and Gender Matters. The conference will feature a keynote speaker and a student oriented panel featuring students in WGS faculty member Sarah Gervais' research group who will speak on their work on psychology and gender.

Graduates

On April 25 at the Spring Graduation and Awards Ceremony, WGS will celebrate 27 graduating majors, minors, and graduate specialization students.

Majors: Katherine Brimager, Adelle Burk, Amanda Colborn, Arianne Holland, Jason Lucht, Sarah Whitt

Minors: Kylee Britzman, Allison Fortkamp, Michelle Haikalis, Vincent Marasco, Sarah Miller, Michael Milone

LGBTQ/Sexuality Studies Minors: Michael Booton, Breanna Bussel, Joshua Erlewine, Jennifer Florimon, Aaron Hurtado, Amy Juliano, Jade Novotny, Magie Wieneke, Amy Vanderpool

Graduate Specializations: Regina Flowers, Amber Harris Leichner, Megan Gannon, Sinduja Sathiyaseelan, Steven Soebbing, Briony Zlomke.

Please join us in congratulating all of our graduates.