

# WOMEN'S STUDIES

## Winter Notes

### THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

December 2007

#### Founding Friends Book Group



**Come to the first meeting** of the spring semester, on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, at noon in Morton 314!

We will be discussing Octavia Butler, *The Parable of the Sower*. Contact Suzanne on [sxrait@wm.edu](mailto:sxrait@wm.edu) if you are interested in coming.

Dates and books for the spring semester are as follows:

February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Geoff Ryman, *Air: Or, Have Not Have*

March 28<sup>th</sup>: Shelley Jackson, *Half Life*

#### Black Studies/Women's Studies Brownbag series

Fridays at noon, Morton 314

#### Spring semester:

**February 8<sup>th</sup>:** Tova Johnson (American Studies), "Performances of Black Female Sexuality in Hip Hop Magazines"

**March 14<sup>th</sup>:** Deirdre Royster (Sociology/Black Studies), "I Thought Every Black Man Was Special: What Is Lost as Options for Masculine Esteem Narrow"

**April 11<sup>th</sup>:** Robert Vinson (History), "Legal Minors and Social Children: The Gendered and Generational Struggles of Female Garveyites in Segregationist South Africa"

Light refreshments and beverages will be available.

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**The Annual Minnie Braithwaite Lecture in Women's Studies, Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2008, 7.00 pm, McGlothlin-Street Hall**

**Pamela Stone**

**“The Rhetoric and Reality of Opting Out”**

**Pamela Stone** is Professor of Sociology at Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Her research focuses on gender inequality in employment, addressing such topics as occupational classification and measurement, job segregation, pay equity, and the work-family interface. She has published articles on these and other subjects in scholarly books and journals and her research has been supported by a variety of funders including the National Science Foundation and the Sloan Foundation. Former chair of the Department of Sociology at Hunter, Stone is the recipient of a Radcliffe Fellowship at Harvard University, where she also served as Associate Director of the Radcliffe Public Policy Institute. Her recent book, *Opting Out? Why Women Really Quit Careers and Head Home* (University of California Press, 2007), examines the lives of high-achieving women who leave the labor force and become full-time, at-home mothers.

The Annual Minnie Braithwaite Lecture in Women's Studies commemorates the efforts of Minnie Braithwaite to attend classes at William and Mary in 1896. On October 2 of that year, Braithwaite petitioned the faculty of the college to allow her to attend chemistry lectures. The faculty assembly voted 4-3 to deny her request. Six days later, after much discussion about Braithwaite's appeal of their decision, the group rejected a more sweeping resolution that would have allowed women into the science lectures. It was another 22 years before women were admitted to the college in 1918. We are very grateful to Mrs. Dorothy Ross, Minnie Braithwaite's daughter, for her generous support of this lecture series.

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#### Dean's Prize for Student Scholarship on Women

Have you written a paper you're specially proud of? Do you have a student whose work you would like to see recognized?

In the Spring of 2008, two prizes will be awarded to current William and Mary students whose work (completed during the 2007-2008 academic year) is evaluated by a selection committee as most successful in advancing our knowledge of women.

Students may submit term papers or other class assignments, independent study projects, honors or thesis research. The Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences will award two prizes of \$100 each. This competition is open to all undergraduate and graduate arts and science students.

Projects and papers of up to 35 pages in length will be considered. Three copies of each entry must be submitted. In addition, your full name, social security number, local phone number, e-mail address, and the name of the instructor and class to which the work was originally submitted should appear on the paper but on a separate cover sheet. While papers may be submitted at any time, the final deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 21, 2008.

Materials for consideration should be submitted to Suzanne Raitt, Director of Women's Studies, 321 Morton Hall

#### Calling all Women's Studies alums!

Julian Carr ('04) and Carolyn Barbadoro ('07) are working on forming a Women's Studies alumni society, geared towards networking and fundraising, possibly affiliated with the W&M Alumni Association. If you would be interested in joining such a group either now or after you've graduated, please let them know. Julian's e-mail is [julian.lee.carr@gmail.com](mailto:julian.lee.carr@gmail.com) and Carolyn's is [cebarb@gmail.com](mailto:cebarb@gmail.com).

Julian graduated from W&M's law school in May and has just begun working for PETA as a research associate on vivisection issues. He is moving to Norfolk in January and will take the Virginia state bar in February. Carolyn is currently taking her finals at William Mitchell College of Law.

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#### Think now about applying for a Carol Woody Real World Internship!

Carol Woody Internship awards are available for female students seeking real world experience to complement their studies. The awards are available for students interested in doing an internship over Spring Break. Applicants are asked to submit a one-page description of where they will spend their internship, why they chose this particular internship, and what they hope to gain from this experience. Please include an estimate of expenses. Applications are due in the Women's Studies office (322 Morton Hall) by Monday, February 4, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. For more details, call 221-2457.

#### Featured Website



Womenworking.com, a networking community for professional women, features career advice from top leaders, strategies for advancing, skill-building tips, and access to Power Contacts and other resources. The active Message Board offers mentoring and networking for women of all ages- check out our newest forum for women who are "just starting out on the work world."

#### Alumni News:



#### Stephanie Spong, '07

After graduation and a brief stint in post-grad limbo, I arrived in Mie-ken, Japan to teach English in a tiny rural town on the coast. I teach at six *shogako* (elementary schools) and two *chugako* (junior high schools). Any image you might have of a Japanese classroom filled with demure, attentive students should be immediately discarded. My students are raucous, entertaining, questioning, and complex. They are growing up during a great deal of change in rural Japanese life, and they offer me reflections and resistances to these changes everyday. The actual amount of work I do in the classroom is equal to the amount of time it takes me to process this new environment, language and culture. And even though my students all shout "*Stephanie-sensei*" (Stephanie-teacher) to me in the halls, streets and grocery store, they are the ones I truly count as my best teachers.