

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

January 2008

Inside this issue:

- Carol Woody Real World Internship
- Braithwaite Lecture March 20th, 2008
- Brown Bag Schedule
- Dean's Prize
- Women's Studies Alumni Society
- Alumni News
- Featured Website
- Summer Research Housing
- Friends of Women's Studies Travel Fund
- Planning Meeting
- Founding Friends Book Group
- Call For Papers: Global Non-Violence Student Conference

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.

GIVE TO WMST through our website

WWW.WM.EDU/WO MENSSTUDIES

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

Please send them all to the editor! Ann Repeta
E-mail: darepe@wm.edu
Snail Mail: Women's Studies Program
P.O. Box 8795
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795

Program Contact Information

Main Office: Morton Hall 322

Phone: 757.221.2457

Fax: 757.221.1946

www.wm.edu/womensstudies

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

January 2008

The Annual Minnie Braithwaite Lecture in Women's Studies, Thursday, March 20th 2008, 7.00 pm, Small Hall 109



Women, Careers, and Family: The Rhetoric and Reality of "Opting Out"

Pamela Stone
Department of Sociology
Hunter College and Graduate Center, CUNY

The decades-long surge of married women into the labor force appears to have stalled or even reversed in the mid-1990s. The downturn has been concentrated among college-educated women, especially mothers of very young children, and journalists have made much of highly educated mothers "opting out" of successful careers to stay home with their children. Everybody talks about them, but no one has really talked to them. In this lecture, I discuss my recent book, *Opting Out?*, to reveal the truth about this so-called revolution. Interviews with high-achieving professional women across the country challenge the conventional understanding of these women's decisions as reflecting a change in work-family preferences, faltering ambition, or a desired return to the domesticity of the 1950s. The real culprit is the long-hour, high-demand, and inflexible workplace, which restricts the options of even high-achieving women, too often forcing them into either-or, all-or-nothing decisions with profound implications for women's lives, their status in the workplace, and work-life policy.

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.

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

January 2008

Black Studies/ Women's Studies Brownbag series

Fridays at noon, Morton 314

Spring semester:

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

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

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

April 18th: Hilary Marcus's "Third
World Feminisms" Class,
"Activism Transcending
Borders: Student Work in
Women's Studies"

Light refreshments and beverages
will be available.

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
(x12453).

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

January 2008

NEW – Women's Studies Alumni Society!

Julian Carr ('04) and Carolyn Barbadoro ('07) have formed a Women's Studies alumni society, geared towards community building, networking and fundraising. If you would be interested in joining such a group either now or after you've graduated, visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wm_wmst/.

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.

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."

Catching up with Alums:



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.

Summer Research Housing:

If you are doing summer research on campus and need housing, please contact Suzanne Raitt for the application forms.

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

January 2008

Friends of Women's Studies Travel Fund

Need money to travel to a conference or to do research? Apply for a Friends of Women's Studies travel grant!

We have set up an undergraduate research fund using membership fees and generous donations from the Friends of Women's Studies.

Applications from Women's Studies majors and minors will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Please include with your application a letter detailing the travel you wish to undertake, why you want to go there, and what the purpose or outcome of your trip will be (e.g. gain training in activist methods, Senior Honors thesis, etc), a budget, and a copy of your W&M transcript (off the web is fine). Applications should be sent by e-mail to Suzanne Raitt, Director of Women's Studies, sxrait@wm.edu. Small grants of up to \$200 will be awarded. Funds are limited so apply soon!



Planning Meeting:

The Annual Planning Meeting for the Women's Studies Program is on Saturday, February 9th, 9.00-12.30. Breakfast will be served. Come and help shape the future of the program! Everyone is welcome.

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

January 2008

Founding Friends Book Group



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

We will be discussing Octavia Butler, *The Parable of the Sower*. Contact Suzanne at sxrait@wm.edu if you are interested in coming.

Dates and books for the spring semester are as follows:

February 22nd: Geoff Ryman, *Air: Or, Have Not Have*

March 28th: Shelley Jackson, *Half Life*

Call for Papers: Second Global Nonviolence Student Conference of the Mahatma Gandhi Center for Global Nonviolence

The second Global Nonviolence Student Conference of the Mahatma Gandhi Center for Global Nonviolence will be held on April 10, 2008. The conference theme is "Be the Change." It is taken from the writings of Mahatma Gandhi: "Be the change you want to see in the world." The conference is planned and directed by students of James Madison University. We encourage students from universities and colleges across the United States and abroad to participate. We encourage presentations of nonviolence and peace in all forms and from all disciplines and perspectives. The Gandhi Center hosted its inaugural student conference, "Dialogues on Nonviolence and Peace," in 2006.

We invite papers that address such topics as security issues, cross-civilizational or inter-religious dialogue, civilizational or cultural or religious foundations of peace, teaching peace in elementary schools, media's role in reporting peace issues, environment and peace, healthcare and justice, economics and structural violence, micro-finance and economic empowerment, ethnic conflict and reconciliation, impact of conflict on women and children, and societal isolationism and intolerance.

The deadline for submission of proposals is February 29, 2007. Proposals must include: Title, Author(s) name and contact information, and a 300-word abstract. Send your abstracts to Gandhicenter@jmu.edu.