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WKU Women's Studies & Support Program

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Feminist Activist Network, FAN for short, is the exciting new organization on Western's campus. We are affiliated with the Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF), through them, we are connected to many other feminist campus organizations all over the nation. FMF also supplies us with information and resources to help us make a difference here on Western's campus and in the Bowling Green community.

Over the semester FAN meetings were held at 8:30 on Monday nights at the Women's Studies Center. The meetings focused on getting the organization off the ground, getting to know one another, and brainstorming for events and fund-raising ideas (one of which was the yard sale that we held the last week of the semester). On Monday September 15th FAN elected the executive committee members by secret ballot. Elected were:

President- Nicole Dorris
Vice President- Angie Fetty
Finance Chair- Jenna Vondran
Publicity Chair- Mackenzie Erd
Events and Retention Chair- Katie Cielinski
Recruitment Chair- Christy Kayrouz
Press Chair- Rachael Paquette
Communications Chair- Shelly Giorioso
Equality Chair- Christira Antoine
Community Outreach Chairs- Robyn Trivette and Shawna Quire
Web Manager- Lindsey Looft

October 15th was Love Your Body Day (LYBD) this is "a national day of action to speak out against ads and images of women that are offensive, harmful, dangerous and disrespectful" (NOW). To celebrate LYBD, FAN setup a table in DUC, and handed out information on a variety of women's health issues. There was a petition for people to sign, telling the magazine companies that we don't like the way women are depicted in their magazines and we refuse to starve ourselves to fit into the fashions they are advertising.

FAN also got a chance to volunteer our time at Girls Inc., a great and empowering after-school program for girls. This was a very rewarding experience for us, and we plan on doing more with Girls Inc. next semester.

FAN has a lot of exciting ideas for next semester including a trip to Washington, DC to march for Freedom of Choice. To learn more about the Feminist Activism Network, join us in the Women's Studies Center (the stone house next door to the International Center) on the first Monday of next semester (January 12, 2004) at 8:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

Jenna Vondran, WS minor

INTRODUCING

FRIENDS OF WOMEN'S STUDIES

SEE PAGE 7

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Trish Lindsay Jaggers, Chair, Editor, WS Office Associate
Jenna Vondran, WS Minor
Angela Fetty, WS Minor
From the

DIRECTOR’S DESK

This semester has been terrific. We had two wonderful speakers for our Catherine Coogan Ward Visiting Professorship and the Gail Martin Lecture Series. Winona LaDuke had people sitting in the aisles in the Mass Media & Technology Building, and Jean Kilbourne filled the lower level of Van Meter. More gratifying than the near- or over-capacity audiences, however, is the fact that LaDuke’s and Kilbourne’s presentations were excellent. I don’t always feel that way, even after some of our “big name” guests.

I’m also proud of the steering committee and the former fundraising council, which have worked together for over a year to re-envision what we’ve decided to call Friends of Women’s Studies. Our “coming out of planning and into reality” was on November 19, when Julie and Gary Ransdell hosted our recognition reception at their home. The highpoint was when Alicia McDaniel offered a snippet of the “magic show” she and a number of her colleagues in Chemistry do every year as part of our Girls to Women in Science project.

Another first: our Halloween Open House gave us the opportunity to strut our alter egos. We had a wonderful costume contest, judged by Barbara Burch, who came up with her own categories (and kept wanting “just one more” category ‘til we ran out of prizes to award!) With over twenty contestants (and a whole lot of “absent-minded professors” who looked suspiciously normal) it was a colorful crowd.

As I head off on my spring semester sabbatical, I find myself grateful for a chance to focus on some other work—yet also a little wistful that I’ll be missing all the action next semester! The program will be in good hands: Kathryn Abbott will be acting director.

— Jane Olmsted

WOMEN’S STUDIES ANNOUNCES A NEW ACTING DIRECTOR

Women’s Studies is pleased to introduce and welcome Dr. Kathryn Abbott (Department of History) as acting Director for the spring 2004 semester (Jane Olmsted, director, is on sabbatical until May 2004.)

“I am excited to take on new responsibilities as the interim director of Women’s Studies for the Spring 2004 semester. Jane Olmsted has left some large shoes to fill—I just hope I don’t trip over my own feet! Seriously, though, the Women’s Studies office is an exciting and dynamic place, and the program has provided me with wonderful opportunities for professional and personal development. I am so happy to be able to give something back.”

Kathryn Abbott, Department of History

Et cetera

Perspectives is published twice yearly—spring and fall terms—by the Women’s Studies Program at Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky. The Women’s Studies Center is located at 1532 State Street. Our mailing address:

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Bowling Green, KY 42101

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or Jane.Olmsted@WKU.edu
Visit our website at:
www.wku.edu/womensstudies/

We are . . .

Jane Olmsted, Director
Trish Lindsey Jaggers, Office Associate
Farrah Ferriell, WS Instructor
Barry Brunson, Faculty Fellow
Shelly Glorioso, Student Office Assistant
Preethi Sirivella, Graduate Assistant
Girls in Science

October 2003: Women's Studies sponsored another Science Magic Show, with Butler County middle-schoolers as the attendees. Girls and boys created silly putty and tie-dyed goggles, all while learning a bit of chemistry. Afterward, they were treated to a "magic show" where the mystery of chemistry was revealed in a fun and magical way.

Jean Kilbourne

Deadly Persuasion: Advertising & Addiction

On Wednesday, November 12th Jean Kilbourne delivered an eye opening lecture, "Deadly Persuasion: Advertising and Addiction," on Western's campus in Van Meter Auditorium. She began her lecture by saying that everyone is affected by advertising even if they think they are not.

Dr. Kilbourne is internationally recognized for her pioneering work on alcohol and tobacco advertising and the image of women in advertising. Her films, slide lectures, and television appearances have been seen by millions of people throughout the world. She was named by The New York Times Magazine as one of the three most popular speakers on college campuses.

Kilbourne's lecture and explicit slide show focused on alcohol and tobacco advertising. Cigarette companies gear their ads to kids to make up for the adult customers that they have lost to death or quitting. The cigarettes that are advertised towards women are often associated with being thin like Virginia Slims. Those advertised towards men like Marlboro and Winston are focused on being tough and masculine.

Both alcohol and tobacco ads equate their products with rebellion, but Kilbourne points out that it isn't rebellious to smoke or drink; people are being manipulated and controlled by big corporations.

Her lecture gave the audience a glimpse of her wonderful and shocking research, much of which appears on her web site: http://www.jeankilbourne.com, and also in her new book, Can't Buy My Love.

Jean Kilbourne's appearance, which nearly filled Van Meter Auditorium, was brought to Western Kentucky University thanks to the Catherine Coogan Ward Visiting Professorship and Campus Activities Board, with assistance from Rodes Helm Lecture Series and Potter College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences.

Jenna Vondran, Women's Studies minor
WRESTLING WITH PACKAGES

by Dale Rigby

Did you read the scene of our commander-in-chief landing on the USS Abraham Lincoln as a heroic gesture or a sick joke? Mission or PR accomplishment? Was the act worthy of American President George Bush or Professional Wrestling's Gorgeous George? Who is right? Well, we all are.

We come to both the most pit of a professional wrestling promotion and the cockpit of a presidential photo op in what scholars deem different "reading formations." No matter how over-determined these scripts might attempt to be—no matter how ostensibly misogynistic, homophobic, phallicentric, or just (continued on page 5)
Winona LaDuke: "Last Standing Woman"

Gal Marilyn Lecture Series Present:

Winona LaDuke is a Native American activist, journalist, and writer. She is known for her work in environmental justice and indigenous rights. LaDuke is a prominent figure in the Native American rights movement and has been involved in numerous campaigns to protect the environment and indigenous lands.

LaDuke is the author of several books, including "Rocking the Blockade" and "Anuntiita: The Story of a People." She has also been involved in films such as "Reservation Dogs" and "The Battle of Polyblend."

LaDuke's work often focuses on the intersection of environmental justice and indigenous rights, and she is a strong advocate for indigenous rights and environmental protection.

LaDuke has been a vocal critic of the Keystone XL pipeline and has been involved in numerous protests and demonstrations against the pipeline.

LaDuke is a key figure in the ongoing struggle for environmental justice and indigenous rights, and her work continues to inspire and motivate activists around the world.
MOMENTS FROM FALL 2003

Wayne Tarrant, Sherrie Serros, & Barry Brunson

Soup, bread, & conversation

Students enjoy the atmosphere

Molly Kerby & Lisa Lindley

Audience enjoys lunch of warm bread and delicious soups

Friends of Women's Studies
INTRODUCING FRIENDS OF WOMEN’S STUDIES

With pride and pleasure we wish to introduce the brand new Friends of Women’s Studies, which serves as a bridge between the Women’s Studies Program at WKU and the broader communities of Bowling Green and Kentucky. Its goals are:
1. Carry the Women’s Studies mission into the broader community
2. Increase awareness about women’s issues
3. Serve as a catalyst for change
4. Fund scholarships, events, and other activities that support women

The Friends of Women’s Studies inaugural ceremony took place at the home of Julie & Gary Ransdell on November 19, 2003. Attendees were treated to a glimpse of the Girls to Women in Science magic show (a community outreach project). FOWS was the brainchild of the WS Steering Committee and WS Fundraising Council. All funds contributed to FOWS directly benefits students.

Persons wishing to be a member of FOWS can do so at various membership levels. Contributions and membership fees support FOWS initiatives: Graduate scholarships, travel scholarships for students (assistance to attend conferences, research, and internships), and community projects such as the Girls to Women in Science project.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Regular $25
Student $10
Contributor $50
Supporter $100
Life Member $500
Life Patron $1000

LIFE MEMBERS
(GIFTS OF $500 OR MORE)

Dawn Bolton
Jane Brantham & Cam Collins
Valerie Brown
Donna & Charles Dussey
Wilda Collins
Elmer Gray
Pat & Nick Kafoglis
Divie & Pete Mahirra
Gail & Cornelius Martin
Mary Ellen Miller
Patricia & Mike Minter
Judy & Ernie Owen
Regina Parsley-Byrd
Jimmie Price
Valere Scott
C. G. Shahnir
Cora Jane Spiller
Dr. Robert Spiller, Jr.
Katie & Bob Ward

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

FOWS always welcomes people eager to serve on the executive board. Current officers:

President
Regina Parsley-Byrd
Past President
Romanza Johnson
Vice President, Membership
Cora Jane Spiller
Treasurer
Trish Lindsey Jaggers
Women's Studies Director
Jane Olmsted
Faculty Representative
Aaron Hughley
Events Co-chairs
Patay Sloan & Gail Martin
Outreach Co-chairs
Katie Ward & Kahlry Abbott
Honorary Board Member
Julie Ransdell

2003-2004 WOMEN'S STUDIES MEMBERSHIP/CONTRIBUTION FORM*

*All donations are tax-deductible

The name(s) shown on this gift receipt should be

Please make my gift in □ honor □ memory of:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

I am a Friend of Women’s Studies. I wish to join at the following level:

□ Friend $25
□ Student $10
□ Contributor $50
□ Supporter $100
□ Life Member $500
□ Life Patron $1000

Please use my gift for:
□ Catherine Coogan Ward Visiting Professorship
□ Gail Martin Faculty Development & Lecture Series
□ Women’s Studies Unrestricted

Enclosed, please find my/our

□ Check, payable to WKU Foundation
Charge to: □ Visa □ Mastercard □ Discover □ AmEx

Card # ____________________________
Expiration Date: __________ / ______

Send to:
Women’s Studies Program
Western Kentucky University
1 Big Red Way
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Enclosed is my total "gift" pledge of: ____________________________
News and announcements can be sent to the Women's Studies Office.

Please submit a travel grant proposal to the Women's Studies Office.

Women's Studies supports new faculty in the field.

The annual included a full page and publication in their new edition.

And the White Paper, "Women in the Workforce," has been submitted to the Women's Studies Office.

The annual included a full page and publication in their new edition.

The annual included a full page and publication in their new edition.

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