

Women's Voice

Illinois State University

Volume 7, Issue 5, January 2002

From the Director

Sandra D. Harmon, Acting Director

Update on Women's Studies Activities

I want to use the column this month to give an update on Women's Studies activities. First, Sophia McClennen, Foreign Languages, is serving as interim assistant director and academic advisor on a quarter-time assignment during this semester. Spring semester is a busy time at Women's Studies, so we are very happy to have her assistance. For more on Professor McClennen, see page 3.

During the fall semester, the Women's Studies Curriculum Committee worked on the proposal for a graduate certificate in Women's Studies and solicited letters of support from a number of department chairs. The committee actually started the planning process last year as we discussed what a graduate certificate should be and how it might work with degree programs. We worked closely with the Graduate School because a certificate of the type we envisioned did not exist at Illinois State. As the Graduate School formulated certificate guidelines this fall, we submitted our proposal. We learned in early December that the certificate had been approved by both the College of Arts and Sciences and Graduate School Curriculum Committees and will appear in the 2002-2003 Graduate Catalog. Please see page 2 for more information on the certificate. This semester, the committee will work on a new graduate seminar on feminist theories and methods.

The Programming Committee spent a good deal of its time preparing for an eventful spring semester. Beginning Wednesday, February 6,

and running through April 10, we will host a weekly noon brown bag series, "Been There; Still Doing That: The Status of Women in Traditionally Female Fields." Speakers will explore how the field came to be female dominated and what that has meant in terms of the current issues and status of women in the field. The Women's Capabilities Initiative is a co-sponsor. A schedule appears in the newsletter. All of these programs are free and open to the public as are all Women's Studies programs.

The Seventh Annual Women's Studies Student Symposium will take place on Friday, March 29 in the University Galleries. In keeping with the university theme of "The Leading Edge: Issues in Technology and Society," we have invited Professor Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University Law School to be the keynote speaker on the topic "Race and the Ethics of Reproductive Technologies." She is the author of *Killing the Black Body*, which received a 1998 Myers Center Award for the Study of Human Rights in North America.

Women's Studies is also collaborating with the School of Social Work in the Women's Capabilities Initiative (WCI), an academic, training, and community outreach program that addresses the situation, needs, and prospects of low-income women in Central Illinois—particularly minority women. The major WCI event this spring is the conference, "WOMEN: Unlimited Possibilities: Steps Beyond Survival," on Saturday, April 20 at the Baby Fold's One Normal Plaza location. The planning committee has invited an exciting line-up of speakers on four areas of emphasis: health, safety, housing and education. Further information about the conference will appear in future issues of *Women's Voice* and on the WCI web page at <http://www.socialwork.ilstu.edu/wci.htm>. ■

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Women's Studies Staff

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Visit our website at: <http://www.cas.ilstu.edu/womenstudies>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies Approved

The graduate certificate in Women's Studies has received approval at all curriculum levels and will appear in the 2002-2003 Graduate Catalog. So that interested faculty and students may know the requirements, we are providing an advanced look at the catalog copy:

Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies

The graduate certificate in Women's Studies is an option for students whose interest in women and gender issues leads them toward particular courses and thesis topics in their department/school and to seek further work in inter-disciplinary feminist theory and methods. This graduate certificate requires a 12-hour course of study. Students must complete WS 391 and WS 400 plus six hours selected from among the following courses: CJS 339, ENG 360, ENG 460, FCS 305, FCS 333, FCS 412, HIS 330, PSY 305, SOC 311, SOC 341, SOC 366. With the approval of the graduate certificate coordinator and the Graduate School, additional courses may be approved for the certificate. Non-degree seeking graduate students desiring to apply for the graduate certificate in Women's Studies are advised to contact the certificate coordinator. Degree seeking graduate students should consult their graduate program coordinator/advisor as well as the Women's Studies graduate certificate coordinator.

Admission Requirements

Students who seek the certificate in conjunction with a graduate degree program must meet admission requirements for that degree and also be admitted for the certificate. Non-degree graduate students must meet the university graduate admission requirements and be admitted for the certificate. Admission for all certificate students is made upon the recommendation of the Women's Studies certificate coordinator.

The director of Women's Studies will serve as the graduate certificate coordinator. See the Courses link on the Women's Studies web page for course descriptions. For more information about the certificate, please contact Sandra Harmon, Interim Director, Women's Studies. ■

International Women's Day Breakfast

Do not forget to mark your calendar for the annual International Women's Day Breakfast on **Saturday, March 9**. It will be held at Eastland Suites from 9-11:30 AM, and the cost is \$12. Jana Edge will speak about how women in Russia live. The event is co-sponsored by the Bloomington-Normal American Association of University Women and the Bloomington Soroptimist International. For more information, contact Jan Farkas at 452-9508 or Marion Jones at 454-3870. ■

Expanding Your Horizons Conference

The 12th Annual Expanding Your Horizons through Science and Mathematics Conference will be held **Saturday, March 2, 2002** at Illinois State University. The goal is to encourage young women in grades 6th – 10th to pursue careers in mathematics, science, and technology, and to assist adults who help young women achieve their goals.

Conference highlights include: Participation in hands-on workshops, investigate careers in mathematics, science, medicine, business, government and computers with successful women in these fields, view exhibits and displays from diverse careers and occupations, exchange ideas with others and expand your resource network; Educators may also earn CPDU credits. The registration deadline has been extended to **February 8, 2002**. Contact the EYH Conference Office to receive a copy of the brochure and for information about registration scholarships at 309-438-3012, or EYHatILSTU@netscape.net or visit their web site at <http://www.eyh.ilstu.edu>.

Cineclub Presents Screenings of Women in Film

During the Spring semester, the Cineclub of the Department of Foreign Languages will be presenting screenings of women in film on **Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m.** in Stevenson Hall Room 202. Films are open to the public and all films have English subtitles.

January 30 *Tristana* (1970, Dir. Luis Buñuel, 95 min., PG)

February 6 *Belle du Jour* (1967, Dir. Luis Buñuel, 101 min., R)

February 13 *De noche vienes Esmeralda/Esmeralda Comes by Night* (1997, Dir. Jaime Humberto Hermosillo, 103 min., R)

February 20 *Mujeres Insumisas/Untamed Women* (1995, Dir. Alberto Isaac, 120 min. NR)

February 27 *Madame Bovary* (1933, Dir. Jean Renoir, 101 min., NR)

March 6 *Solas* (1999, Dir. Benito Zambrano, 101 min., NR)

March 20 *¿Qué he hecho yo para merecer todo esto?/What Have I d?* (1984, Dir. Pedro Almodóvar, 101 min., NR) *one to Deserve This*

March 27 *Cet obscur objet du désir/That Obscure Object of Desire* (1977, Dir. Luis Buñuel, 102 min., R)

April 4 *Danzón* (1991, Dir. Maria Novaro, 120., PG-13)

April 10 *De eso no se habla/I don't Want to Talk About It* (1993, Dir. Maria Luisa Bemberg, 107 min., PG-13)

For further information about the films and Cineclub, contact Bridget Fahrner at bfahrn@ilstu.edu, Robert Hyde at atrjhyde@ilstu.edu, or Carlos Cuyas at cfcuyas@ilstu.edu. ■

WOMEN'S STUDIES FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Faculty Profile: Sophia McClennen, Department of Foreign Languages

By Kate Moritz
Women's Studies
Graduate Assistant



Dr. Sophia McClennen

Professor Sophia McClennen joins the Women's Studies program at Illinois State University as the Interim Assistant Director and Academic Advisor. As a professor in the Department of Foreign Languages at Illinois State University, she currently teaches the undergraduate course English/Foreign Languages 206, Cultural Expressions in Social Contexts: Women of Asia, Latin America, and Africa, a Women's Studies elective.

McClennen received her AB from Harvard University in Philosophy and her MA and PhD at Duke University in Spanish and Latin American Literature. Her research interests include comparative cultural studies of Latin American film and media with a focus on gender. This has led her to explore the work of Mexican women film directors. She is currently finishing a book on the writer Ariel Dorfman and is also writing the entry for Cristina Peri Rossi in the *Encyclopedia of Erotic Literature*.

McClennen served on the Women's Studies Programming Committee from 1997-2000 and on the Curriculum Committee since 1998.

This semester she will draft a new course proposal for a graduate course on feminist theory and methods for the Curriculum Committee, assist with Women's Studies programming, and be available to advise Women's Studies minors. She will be at Women's Studies 11:00a.m. – 4:30p.m. on Tuesdays and 11:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. on Thursdays. ■

Don't forget the Brown Bag Series starting February 6, 2002!

Faculty News

Sophia McClennen, Foreign Languages, has presented the following lectures: "Comparative Cultural Studies Within and Without Latin America," American Comparative Literature Association Panel at the Modern Language Association, December 27-30, New Orleans, LA, 2001; "Alien Nation: Nationalism in Exile Writing," GLOBALICITIES: A Conference on Issues Related to Globalization organized by the Program in Comparative Literature, Michigan State University, October 18-20, 2001; "(De)Signing Women: Mexican Women Directors and Gender Representation," Latin American Studies Association Conference, September 6-8, Washington, DC, 2001.

Her book, "The Dialectics of Exile: Nation, Time, Language and Space in Hispanic Literatures," is forthcoming with Purdue UP, and her article, "(De)Signing Women: Mexican Women Directors and Gender Representation," is in the January 2002 issue of the *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*.

Janice Neuleib, English, will be the Arts and Sciences Spring Lecturer on March 19 at 7:30 PM in the Old Main Room of Bone Student Center.

Elizabeth Reitz Mullenix, Theatre, has an essay, "Private Women/Public Acts: Petticoat Government and the Performance of Resistance," which will appear in the Winter Issue of the performance studies journal "TDR: The Drama Review." ■

ISU Faculty Association

The ISU Faculty Association is sponsoring an informational meeting on Thursday, February 7 from 3:00-4:30 PM in the Stevenson Memorial Room, Stevenson Hall. If you want to know more about the Illinois Board of Higher Education's report on nontenure-track and part-time faculty, you will not want to miss this meeting. The IBHE's report strongly influences our academic senate's ongoing study of NTT and part-time faculty. For more information, contact Gretchen Knapp at 438-8119 or email geknapp@ilstu.edu. ■

Student News

Women's Studies Welcomes New Minors

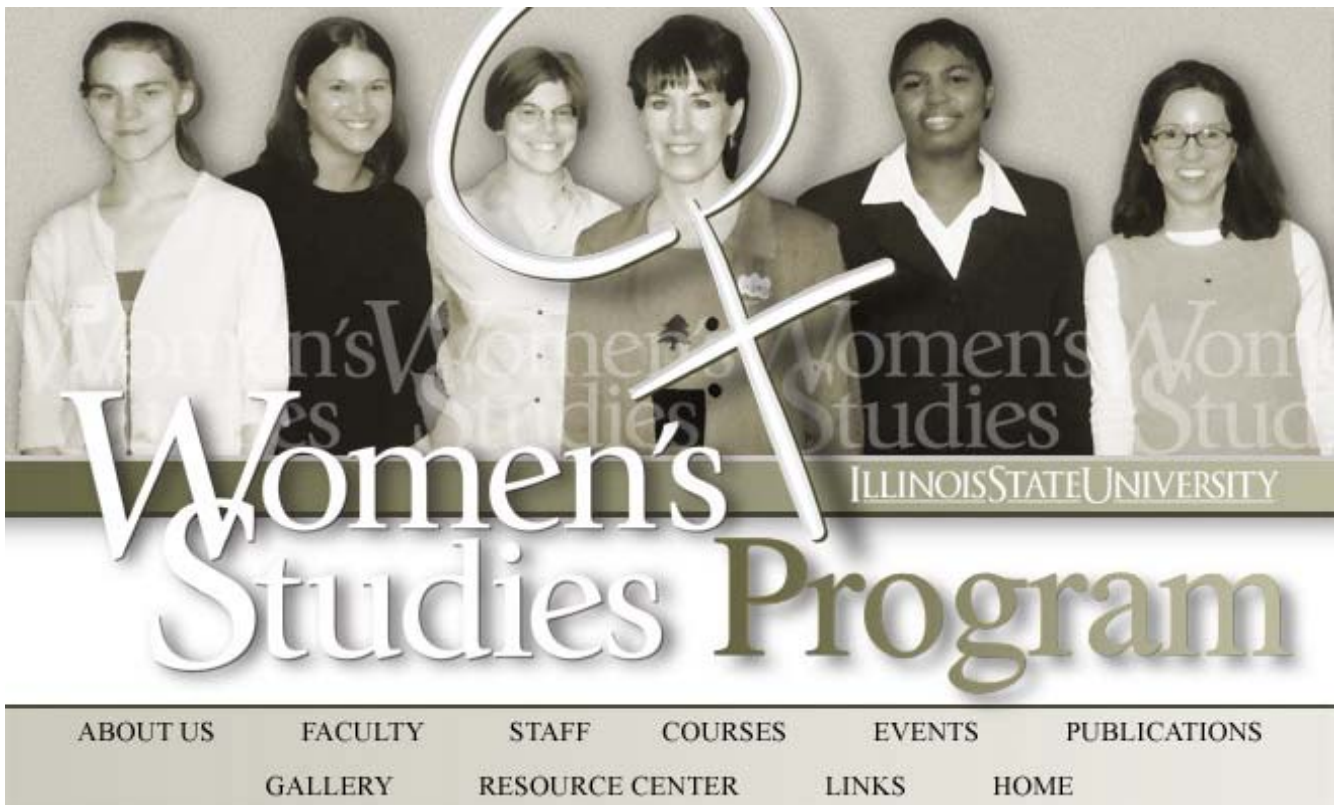
Sarah Henschel—Psychology
Carrie Oswald—Elementary Education



Did you know that Women's Studies has a Resource and Documentation Center available to use for your research studies that focus on women's issues? Photo copy service available. We do not allow materials to be checked out. Call 309/438-2947 for information, hours available, or scheduling study-groups. You may also e-mail Rozel White at rwhite@ilstu.edu.

Women's Voice
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For a complete viewing of Women's Studies newly designed website visit <http://www.cas.ilstu.edu/womenstudies>.



Women's Studies Program

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