# Undercurrent



Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies Program Fall 2013



# A Note from our Director: TJ Boisseau

The 2013-14 year begins a new era in our program with the announcement of a new name: the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. The decision to change our name was prompted by the addition of a new undergraduate Minor in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGTB) Studies but has been a long time coming and is a truer reflection of our faculty's collective and individual commitment not only to the study of women's lives and experiences but also to the entwined project of interrogating and recognizing the social construction of gender and the significance of sexuality, along with other major intersectional considerations such as race, nationality, age, and ability, as ideological systems that together generate gendered identities

Our new Minor in LGBT Studies (see page 12 for details) helps mark this new era with a particular emphasis on the study of non-normative sexualities and the needs and interests of the LGBT community of Purdue. We are also working closely with student leaders to help promote a new Learning Community aimed at providing safe space and an academic home for students who wish to prioritize their study of gender and sexuality.

One exciting new curricular innovation this fall is the newly transformed WGSS 280, taught as a recitation by a "DREAM TEAM" of Purdue scholars affiliated with the WGSS program. Each week a different honored guest delivers her or his "dream" lecture to students enrolled in the program as well as guests. For more detail on these lectures and to find out how you can sit in, see the story on page 3.

Even as we look ahead to the upcoming National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference in Cincinnati (see page 9 for details) and to the summer 2014 WGSS-sponsored service learning study abroad trip to Uganda (see page 4 for how to join that trip), we look back to a fantastic past year filled with genuine victories such as the March to Celebrate 100 Years of Public Action in honor of Women's History Month (photos on page 14-15). Building on that success, we begin organizing this fall for WHM 2014 with a planned emphasis on International Women's Day (March 8). Please email WGSS program coordinator Julie Knoeller (juliek@purdue.edu) if you would like to be a part of that planning process so you can be notified of upcoming organizing meetings. Also be sure to mark your calendars for the slate of

exciting feminist speakers coming to Purdue this fall including Madeleine Albright, Peggy McIntosh and Michelle Alexander (see page 8 for details on these events).

During this, my second, year at Purdue I look forward once again to a year filled with excitement, engagement, and hard work in the service of women, feminism, and in the pursuit of scholarly excellence. And I urge you to join us by taking a course, becoming a major or minor, attending a Dream Team lecture, organizing or participating in an event, or just visiting us up on the sixth floor of Beering Hall! Boiler Up!!

Inside this issue:	
Name Change	2
Dream Team Lecture Series	2-3
WGSS in Uganda	4
Meet the Faculty	5-7
Fall 2013 Speakers	8
NWSA	9
Meet the TAs	10-11
LGBT Minor	12
WGSS Associates	13
2013 WHM March	14-15

# Women's Studies (WOST) is now Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS)

We are delighted to announce our new name and the ambitious intellectual and institutional expansion it represents!

Our decision to add "gender" and "sexuality" to our program's name reflects changes within our program, our discipline, and the Purdue community at large. Our faculty's teaching represents a commitment to understanding gender as a constructed category as well as making visible and acknowledging non-normative sexual orientations and the hegemonic pervasiveness of what Adrianne Rich has termed "compulsory heterosexuality."

While our new undergraduate minor in LGBT Studies alerts students to our faculty's significant expertise in this area of study, our name change is meant to send a message of sustained commitment and organizational responsiveness to students who have called for more inclusiveness and awareness of the needs of LGBT students on the Purdue campus. We believe our new name more accurately communicates our discipline's

expanding purview, more soundly communicates our faculty's political and intellectual commitments, and more adequately reflects the student body we serve.

I am very excited for the departmental name change!

Not only is it more inclusive of different communities of people, but it is also more representative of feminism as a political ideology

- Dorothy Snyder, TA

# New DREAM TEAM Lecture Series

You are invited to attend our new DREAM TEAM Lecture Series this fall! Lectures are scheduled at 1:30-2:45 each Tuesday in Forney (Chemical Engineering) G-140. The lecture/ recitation format of WGSS 28000 represents an exciting and innovative pedagogical approach to the study of women, gender and sexuality. The first time offered in this format, this course will provide exciting, intellectually stimulating discussions on topics ranging from politics, literature, culture, and contemporary/ current events. Feminist scholars here at Purdue have been invited to teach their

"dream lecture" during the Tuesday lecture. In the Thursday recitation section, students will meet with their TA in smaller learning communities to discuss in depth the lecture and to participate in learning activities that will help students apply and evaluate academic knowledge as well as translate that knowledge to contemporary issues and current events. One objective of this new course design is to engage the students in interdisciplinary discussions related to women, gender and sexuality both locally and globally and to introduce students to the nationally and internationally-recognized

feminist scholars at Purdue. It is my hope that through this novel instructional format that we inspire, motivate, engage and challenge you, the student, to consider and reflect upon the impact and importance of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies as a personal, intellectual and political project. All members of the Purdue community are invited and encouraged to be our guests. There is plenty of room in Forney G-140, no need to RSVP. Please come and experience a lecture from our DREAM TEAM!

### Dream Team Lecture Series Fall 2013

Free Open to the Purdue Community No RSVP Required

Sept 3
Dr. Cheryl Cooky
(Feminist Sports Studies):
Women, Gender,
Sexuality, & Sport



Tuesdays 1:30-2:45 Forney G140



Sept 10
Dr. Rosalee Clawson
(U.S. Politics)
U.S. Public Opinion on
Women's and Gay Rights

Oct. 22
Dr. Marlo David
(Cultural Studies)
U.S. Popular Culture
& Reproductive Free-



Sept 17
Dr. Laurel Weldon
(Global Politics)
Global Women's Rights
& Government Policy





Oct. 29
Dr. Lorraine Kisselburgh
(Communication)
Difference, Disability, &
Cyborg Identities



Sept 24
Dr. Evie Blackwood
(Anthropology)
Sexual Diversity in a
Global World

Nov. 5
Dr. Kand McQueen
(Educational Psych)
Gender Dichotomies &
Transgenderism



Oct. 1 Dr. TJ Boisseau (US History) The New Woman in the Modern City, 1875-1925





Nov. 12
Dr. Jennifer L.
Freeman Marshall
(Literature)
Writing Culture/
Writing Gender



Oct. 15
Dr. Alicia Decker
(African History)
Gender & Militarism in
Africa, post 9/11

Nov. 19
Dr. Tithi Bhattacharya
(World History)
Neoliberalism &
Gendered Violence





# Women's Studies in Uganda







- Earn up to 6 Credits
- Language Immersion
- Daily Cultural Exchange
- Innovative Lectures
- 3 Week Internship
- Three Day African Safari
- Chimpanzee Sanctuary
- Raft the Nile
- Cruise Lake Victoria











Open to all students who complete Global Feminisms (WGSS 483) in the spring of 2014!

For more information contact Dr. Alicia Decker at acdecker@purdue.edu or Adrianna Ernstberger at alozano@purdue.edu

# Meet the Faculty: Alicia Decker

Alicia Decker is a jointappointed assistant professor in the Department of History and the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. She received her Ph.D. in Women's Studies from Emory University in 2007. She also has a master's degree in Gender Studies from Makerere University in Uganda and a BA in Anthropology from the University of Minnesota. Her research and teaching interests include gender and militarism, African women's history, peace and conflict studies, and global feminisms



Dr. Decker has recently published a number of articles and book chapters. These include:

Decker, Alicia C. "On the Promotion of 'Certain' Ugandan Women: Was Idi Amin Feminist or Foe?" *Women, Gender, and Sexualities in Africa*, edited by Toyin Falola and Nana Akua Amponsah, 225-236. Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2013.



In March 2013, Dr. Decker traveled to India with Dr. TJ Boisseau and Adrianna Ernstberger to explore potential scholarly collaborations with faculty members at SNDT Women's University and Sophia College as part of Purdue's "Engaging India" initiative. She



Decker, Alicia C. "An Accidental Liberation: Ugandan Women on the Frontlines of Idi Amin's Economic War." *Women's History Review* 22, no. 6 (2013): 1-17.

Decker, Alicia C. "Sometime you may leave your husband in Karuma Falls or in the forest there': A Gendered History of Disappearance in Idi Amin's Uganda." *Journal of Eastern African Studies* 7, no.1 (2013): 125-142.

Dr. Decker's book, *In Idi Amin's Shadow: Women, Gender, and Militarism in Uganda*, will be published by Ohio University Press in spring 2014. Oxford University Press will be publish-

and Dr. Boisseau have begun to design a new service-learning based study abroad program to Mumbai, which they hope to get off the ground in the next two to three years. Dr. Decker also traveled to Ethiopia in May 2013 as part of an interdisciplinary research team that is looking at issues related to gender and food security in rural parts of the country. This project is funded by Purdue's Global Policy Research Institute.



ing her second book, co-authored with Andrea Arrington, later in the spring. The title of this book is *Africanizing Democracies:* 1980 to the Present.

Dr. Decker will be presenting a paper at NWSA titled "Women's Studies in Africa: A Comparative Historical Analysis of Morocco and Uganda." She will also be presenting a paper at the International African Studies Conference in Moscow in May 2014. In addition, she will be participating in a feminist research program in Cuba in November 2013 and leading the Women's Studies in Uganda study abroad program in June/July 2014.

# Meet the Faculty: Cheryl Cooky

Cheryl Cooky is an Associate Professor with a joint appointment in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program and Department of Health & Kinesiology at Purdue University. Dr. Cooky's research focuses on gender and sport participation, and media coverage of sport, particularly representations of female athletes and media framing of sports controversies. Her work has been published in Communication & Sport, Feminist Studies, the Journal of Sex Research, the American Journal of Bioethics, the Sociology of Sport Journal, Sociological Perspectives, the Journal of Sport and Social Issues, as well as in several edited books and anthologies. She is a recipient of the Title IX Distinguished Service award



conferred by Purdue University and has been recognized as a Purdue "Difference Maker" for her research on girls and women's sport. Dr. Cooky has appeared as an expert in media outlets such as National Public Radio, HuffPost Live, Fortune Magazine, The Globe & Mail, in a segment "Ask a Sports Sociologist" broadcast on the

ESPN station on XM *radio* as well as other local, national and international outlets. Dr. Cooky serves on the Board of Directors for the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport. In her spare time, Dr. Cooky practices yoga, goes golfing, and enjoys running with her 4-year old chocolate lab, Wrigley.



# Meet the Faculty: Jennifer Freeman-Marshal

Dr. Jennifer Freeman Marshall published "In Search of Heidi Durrow within a Black Woman's Literary Tradition: On Reading The Girl Who Fell from the Sky" in the Forum for World Literature Studies. She was awarded the Teaching for Tomorrow Award for 2013-2014 at Purdue University and was selected to participate in the 2013 National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) Women of Color Leadership Project, and she will serve as a panel moderator for the panel "Profanely Weird: The Genderqueer Popular" at the

upcoming NWSA conference. She will present two papers on her book project, Zora Neale Hurston: Icon. Token, and Canons, at the The Fifth Biannual conference of the Reception Studies Society at Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI and at the 7th Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD), to be held in Santo Domingo, The Dominican Republic. She looks forward to teaching Contemporary Black Feminist Literature in Spring 2014.

# Meet the Faculty: Marlo David

Marlo D. David is an assistant professor of English and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Purdue University, specializing in contemporary African-American literature and culture as well as feminist, gender and sexuality studies. Marlo's interdisciplinary research concentrates on the following topics: representations of black mothers, the politics of motherhood, black feminist thought and intellectual history, relationships between black expression and contemporary social and political movements, and black sexualities. Marlo's essays have appeared in *The* African American Review, Black



Camera: An International Film Journal, Home Girls Make Some Noise: A Hip Hop Feminist Anthology, and Black Woman & Child. Her essay entitled "'I Got Self, Pencil, and Notebook': Writing the Maternal Subject in Sapphire's PUSH" is forthcoming

in Tulsa Studies of Women's Literature. She is currently completing her manuscript, Mama's Gun: Maternal Figures, Black Women and the Politics of Transgression.

# Meet the Faculty: TJ Boisseau



Dr. Boisseau is Director of the WGGS program and Associate Professor of U.S. Women's History in the Department of History here at Purdue University. She received her BA in History and Women's Studies from Suffolk University in Boston, an M.A. in U.S. History from Georgetown University, and a Ph.D. in U.S. Women's History from Binghamton

University (SUNY-Binghamton). She has been a Fulbright Scholar (to University of Bayreuth in Germany) and has performed research at archives in Zanzibar, Tanzania, Turkey, Belgium, and Great Britain as well as the United States. Her research has seen publication in the form of a monograph, White Queen (Indiana University Press, 2004), two edited collections of essays, and numerous journal articles. Dr. Boisseau teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in U.S. women's history and American popular culture. She is currently engaged with several research projects including a nascent book project that will utilize the archival resources of Purdue University to reflect upon

Amelia Earhart's public career and representation as a feminist media icon. Other research projects build on an ongoing interest in women and gender at world's fairs, women and travel narratives, feminist legal history, black feminist autobiography, and the gendered reception of Hollywood film abroad. Dr. Boisseau makes her home on the coast of Maine where she spends summers along a salt sea cove with her daughter Octavia and partner, Kirk Hoppe (Associate Professor of African and World History at the University of Illinois, Chicago).

# Fall 2013 Speaker Events

Michelle Alexander is a highly acclaimed civil rights lawyer, advocate, and legal scholar. In recent years, she has taught at a number of universities, including Stanford Law School, where she was an associate professor of law and directed the Civil Rights Clinics. In 2005, she won a Soros Justice Fellowship, which supported the writing of *The New* Jim Crow, and that same year she accepted a joint appointment at the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity and the Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University. Since its

Cummings-Perrucci Lecture on Class, Race and Gender Inequality

Michelle Alexander

"Incarceration As the New Jim Crow"

November 14th at 7:30pm in the PMU South Ballroom

first publication, *The New Jim Crow* has received rave reviews and has been featured in national radio and television media outlets, including MSNBC, NPR, *Bill Moyers Journal, Tavis Smiley*, C-SPAN, and *Washington Journal*, among others. In March, the book won the 2011 NAACP Image Award for best nonfiction.





The 2013-14 Sears Lecture Presented by the Department of History

An Evening with Madeleine Albright

October 10th at 7pm in the Elliott Hall of Music

Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright speaks with humor, insight and eloquence about her life as a young refugee who rose to become the highest ranking woman in the U.S. government at that time. Albright sketches a vivid portrait of her years as Secretary of State and offers candid descriptions of her experiences in Washington and overseas. She also discusses America's global role and the many challenges facing President Obama and other world leaders today on a number of foreign policy issues.

The ADVANCE 2013 Gender and STEM Research
Symposium will be held on
November 13-14th in Stewart
Center 310 and 302. Proceedings from this symposium will be available through Purdue e-Pubs.

Professor Peggy McIntosh, Associate Director of Wellesley Centers for Women, will be the keynote speaker during the afternoon on Wednesday, November 13th.



# Purdue's WGSS Scholars at the 2013 NWSA Annual Conference

Purdue scholars are gearing up for an exciting exchange at the National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference in Cincinnati November 8th through the 11th.

Jennifer Freeman-Marshal "Profanely Weird: The Genderqueer Popular" 11/8 8-9:15 Duke 211-AV

"Pedagogical Excavations: The Pleasures and Perils of Enacting Social Change in the Women's Studies Classroom" 11/9 4:00-5:15 Duke 261

Dharmini Patel

America the Beautiful (White Woman): White Female Beauty in the Service of the Nation 11/8 4:-5:15 Duke 203-AV See

TJ Boisseau

"The Strongest Type of Western Woman": White Female Beauty at the 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition"

#### Kera Lovell

"The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Gender, Race and Ability in Freaks"

Adryan Glasgow

"Race, Gender, and the Deadly Logic of Looking: Night of the Living Dead" And

Jaimalene Hough

"Virgin America: White Girls' Sexual Purity in the Service of the State"

African Women's Studies: Negotiation Points of Encounter in the History of Women's Studies in Africa 11/8 10:50-12:05 Duke 237 See both

Alicia Decker

"Women's studies in Africa: A Comparative Historical Analysis of Morocco and Uganda"

Adrianna Ernstberger "The Pink Pearl of Africa: A History of Women's Studies in Uganda"

#### Stephanie Allen

"On Black Lesbian Femme Invisibility" *Erasure. Contestation. & Reclamation:* Femme Politics In and Outside of the Academy 11/9 9:25-10:40 Duke Center 264

Dana Bisignani Panel Organizer and Presenter "Anxious About Complicity: Moving Beyond Students' Denial-as-Defense Mechanism" Teaching Women's Studies in Conservative Environments 11/8 12:55-2:10 **Duke 264** 

#### Meet the TAs

Dorothy Snyder is a third year doctoral student at the Brian Lamb School of Communication in Organizational Rhetoric with a minor in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. She earned her Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Purdue University, Calumet. Her research interests include the use of new media technologies to facilitate a more democratic political participation amongst marginalized communities, the public's perception of women as leaders particularly in the sphere of politics, alternative organizational rhetoric as used in peacebuilding, and incorporating community-building in the classroom as an instructor. Her research has been presented at the annual conferences of the National Communication Association and the Central States Communication Association.





Jaime taught public speaking while pursuing a MA in Communication at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; before moving "next door" to Purdue and making the disciplinary leap to American Studies. Her research is on virginity, particularly the intersection of sexuality, sexual regulation and national identity in the United States during the Cold War and the War on Terror.

Stephanie A. Allen is a Ph.D. candidate in American Studies. Her dissertation, "Marginal and Forbidden: Black Lesbians, Contemporary American Culture and the Politics of Representation," examines the marginalization of black lesbian cultural productions and the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality that contribute to the invisibility of Black lesbians in popular and literary culture. Stephanie will be presenting her paper "On Black Lesbian Femme Invisibility" at NWSA's annual meeting this fall, where she

has also been accepted into NWSA's Women of Color Leadership Project. Stephanie is also on the advisory board of the upcoming film "A Persistent Desire," which documents the experiences of butch/femme relationships in lesbian communities. In Stephanie's spare time, she writes for the online Black lesbian magazine *Elixher*.





Suzanne Thompson Clemenz is a doctoral candidate in American Studies and holds two graduate certificates in Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies (from Purdue and North Carolina State U). Her dissertation examines how contemporary southern writers grapple with the contested terrain of gender, sexuality and "family values" in the new US south. She spends her "free time" cheering her sons on the soccer field and teaching them to play piano.

Dharmini Patel: is a PhD candidate in Theory and Cultural Studies in the Department of English and is a returning graduate instructor for the Women's Studies Program. She is currently completing her dissertation, Looking for Love in all the Wrong Spaces: Representations of Love in Popular South Asian Diasporic Literature and Film, which reflects her primary research interests in Asian-American studies, post-colonialism, and Women's Studies and feminism. Recently, an article from one of her dissertation chapters was published under the title "What's Love Got to do with it? Locating Identity through Love in Jhumpa Lahiri's The Namesake," in a book collection entitled Diasporic Consciousness -Literatures from the Postcolonial World. She is teaching Introduction to Women's Studies at Purdue and Composition at Ivy Tech.







Adrianna is neck deep in research for her dissertation on the global history of Women's Studies as she completes interviews and archival research in nineteen countries on six continents over the course of 2013/2014. Her passion for feminist pedagogy and student-centered learning motivates her to constantly challenge her student's critical thinking skills and expose them to feminism in any class she teaches.

Dana Bisignani is a Ph.D. candidate in literature. Her dissertation examines intersections of gender, artmaking, and war-making in the critical reception of anti-war poet Denise Levertov's writing and activism in the Vietnam era. She also holds an M.F.A. from Purdue, and her poetry has appeared in *Slipstream*, Cimarron Review, Prairie Schooner, and other journals. In the spring, she was awarded the Berenice A. Carroll Award for Feminism. Peace, and Social Justice for the service learning project she designed for her WGSS 280 students. Dana has taught creative writing, composition, and literature and teaches with Purdue's Gifted Education Research Institute (GERI) in the summers. She also maintains a public blog for her WGSS 280 course that features current events, videos, links, and lectures about feminism and social justice at http:// genderpressing. wordpress.com.

Adryan Glasgow is a PhD candidate in English Literature and Film. Her dissertation project argues that zombie narratives have always functioned as a pedagogy of US imperial white masculinity. Beginning in 1932, she examines the ways that black men and white women have played supporting roles to this white masculine development in popular zombie films and literature. She is delighted to be presenting at the NWSA alongside some of her WGSS colleagues to trace how white women's beauty has served as a technology of empire.



# Minor in LGBT Studies

The LGBT minor requires students to take WGSS 282: Intro to LGBT Studies plus three additional courses selected from a list of approved courses. We recommend that the Intro course be taken as the first course of the program.

For more information contact Dr. Laurie Graham, Asst. Dir. WGSS lgraham@purdue.edu.

Students interested in this minor are also encouraged to visit the LGBTQ Center and Director Lowell Kane ENAD-room 301

"One of the most enlightening, inspirational, confusing, disorienting, disrupting — in a good way — classes I have ever taken. The way I interact with and perceive the world has been changed forever (and I am elated because I didn't know that it had needed changing)."

Intro to LGBT
WGSS 282
Your first step to the
LGBT Minor

Intro to LGBT is a survey course focusing primarily on the evolution, history, and activism, of LGBT groups in a Western, and most often United States, context. A fundamental concept in this class is that identity, activism, media representation and political discussion are always linked to each other. A major objective of the course is to draw connections between material spanning different times, cultures, groups and issues.

# Approved Courses to Satisfy the Minor

# LGBT Studies Minor: 12 credit hours

**Requirements** for the minor include:

- WGSS 282 or ANTH 282 Introduction to LGBT studies and three additional courses selected from a list of approved courses. Some of these courses may have departmental prerequisites. It is recommended that WGSS 282 or ANTH 282 be taken as the first course of the program.
- No more than TWO (2) courses used to satisfy the requirements of this minor may also satisfy the requirements of another Liberal Arts Major or Minor

# A. The following course is required of all students

ANTH 282 or WGSS 282 Introduction to LGBT Studies

#### B. At least one course from the following 400 level Core Courses

ANTH 482 Sexual Diversity in Global Perspective

HIST 488 The History of Sexual Regulation

WGSS 482 Sexual Diversity in Global Perspective

# C. One of the following courses from List 1\*

ANTH 482 Sexual Diversity in Global Perspective\*\*

CLCS 237 Gender & Sexuality in Greek & Roman Antiquity

HIST 488 The History of Sexual Regulation\*\*

PSY 244 Introduction to Human Sexuality

SOC 356 Hate and Violence WGSS 380 Gender and Multiculturalism WGSS 382 History of Love and Marriage

WGSS 480 Feminist Theory WGSS 482 Sexual Diversity in Global Perspective\*\*

# D. One from the following courses from List 1 or List 2\*

ENGL 360 Gender and Literature HDFS 330 Human Sexuality HIST 375 Women in America since 1870

HIST 430/WGSS 430 Women in African History

HK 570 Gender Roles and Physical Activity

LC 239 Women's Literature in Translation

POL 222 Women, Politics and Public Policy

POL 524 Public Policy and the Family SOC 426 Social Deviance and Control SOC 450 Gender Roles in Modern Society

WGSS 483 Global Feminism

\*Students' minor field programs will be constructed in consultation with faculty members of the LGBT Studies Steering Committee. Students will be encouraged to construct a four –course package (WGSS 28200 or ANTH 28200 and three electives) that is intellectually coherent and topically embedded in LGBT Studies

\*\* These courses may only be used to satisfy ONE area of this minor

The official form for the Purdue minor can be found here:

http://www.cla.purdue.edu/ academics/programs/pos/ MinorLGBT\_.pdf

#### Shout-Outs

WGSS would like to warmly acknowledge our Affiliated Faculty and our Associates

# **Affiliated Faculty**

Emily Allen, English Janet Alsup, English Dorsey Armstrong, English Jennifer Bay, English Elena Benedicto, English Linda Bergmann, English Evelyn Blackwood, Anthropology Samantha Blackmon, English Pat Boling, Political Science Kristina Bross, English Helen Brown, Visual and **Performing Arts** Nadia Brown, Political Science Patrice Buzzanell, Communications Brenda Capobianco, Education Robin Clair, Communications Rosalee Clawson, Political Science Dorothy Deering, English Catherine Dossin, School of Languages and Cultures Raymond Dumett, Hlistory Anne Fliotsos, Visual and **Performing Arts** 

Geraldine Friedman, English Nancy Gabin, History Ellen Gruenbaum, Anthropology Sally Hastings, History Elizabeth Hoffmann, Sociology Tara Star Johnson, English Education Janice Kelly, Psychology Lorraine Kisselburgh, Communications Anne Meis Knupfer, Education Paula Leverage, School of Languages and Cultures Maren Linett, English Roseanne Lyle, Health and Kinesiology Dawn Marsh, History William McBride, Philosophy Fatma Mili, Technology JoAnn Miller, Sociology Sylvia Mitchell, History Abdelfattah Nour, Basic **Medical Sciences** Venetria Patton, African American Studies and Research Center

Alice Pawley, English Education Nancy Peterson, English Caroline Perrucci, Sociology Aparajita Sagar, English Charlene Haddock Seigfried, Philosophy Marcia Stephenson, School of Languages and Cultures Dawn F. Stinchcomb, School of Languages and Cultures Patricia Sullivan, English Mangala Subramaniam, Sociology Jill Suitor, Sociology Antonia Syson, School of Languages and Cultures Eric Waltenburg, Pol itical Science Whitney Walton, History Laurel Weldon, Political Science Jennifer William, School of Languages and Cultures Melinda Zook, History

# **Associates**

Berenice Carroll, Political Science, Emerita
Jan Cortner, Advisor
Carolyn Johnson, African American Studies and Research Center
Katie Pope, Butler Center
Joan Marshall, College of Liberal Arts
Margaret Moan Rowe, English, Emerita
Dena Targ, Human Development and Family Studies, Emerita

If you are a Purdue University faculty member with research or teaching interests in women's, gender, and/or sexuality studies, or if you are a Purdue University administrator or staff member who would like to support and ally with the WGGS program, simply email Director TJ Boisseau (tjboisseau@purdue.edu) your request.

# 2013 March Retrospective



On March 22 nearly 60+ organizers at the head of more than 40 Purdue student organizations and community groups and nearly 500 Purdue students, faculty, staff, and administrators marched and rallied in support of many issues, past and present, central to women's lives and crucial to the democratic character of our society.



Together last year we made a little bit of Purdue history at our March to Celebrate a Century of Public Action in honor of 2013 Women's History Month.



We marched to remind ourselves of those who marched before us—100 years ago for women's right to vote, 50 years ago for black people's right to vote and right to economic justice, 40 years ago for the right for women to choose abortion and for the right to equality in education, 40 years ago for the right of LGBTQ people to exist...and the list goes on.



Be sure to keep your eyes and ears open for planning sessions in anticipation of the exciting events we will be planning for our 2014 Celebration of Women's History Month. Onward!



In the vanguard of the march were the members of Delta Sigma Theta—the same historic black sorority that was formed in the lead-up to, and helped to organize, the 5000-strong historic 1913 woman suffrage parade but who were told to march in the back at that time to appease the southern white wing of the woman suffrage movement.





Following our march through campus, we gathered in the Frances Cordova Recreation Center to be inspired by speakers from afar, such as lifelong activist Zoe Nicholson, and from all corners of the Purdue community including students Sloane Bowman of Delta Sigma Theta, Victoria Loong of the Asian Student Union Board, Tiffany Gavros fof FACT, Michelle Hemler, Sam Walburn of the Purdue LGBTQ Student Alliance, Jaime Hough, and Jolivette Anderson-Downing from the Black Cultural Center.







In 1913, the woman suffrage parade was forcibly de-segregated by members of DST, most famously by Ida B. Wells-Barnett who sprang out of the crowd to join her contingent of Illinois women marching. This time DST led the Purdue march alongside members of Gamma Rho Lambda (the only explicitly lesbian-friendly sorority on the Purdue campus), F.A.C.T. (Purdue's leading feminist student organization), VOX (Voices for Planned Parenthood advocating for women's reproductive rights at Purdue), and various LGBTQ student organizations. What we did not improve on in terms of size and numbers we did improve on in terms of diversity and inclusiveness!

# The Graduate Certificate

MA 9 cr. hrs. PhD 12 cr. hrs.

The interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies is designed to enhance graduate studies in any major field or discipline, and offers students work experience in their prospective fields. The certificate provides students with grounding in the knowledge, theories, and methods of a variety of approaches in feminist scholarship. The program seeks to transcend traditional boundaries among disciplines, and to offer students opportunities for systematic study of gender and women's experience in all fields of knowledge.

Requirements for an interdisciplinary graduate certificate in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies include: WOST 68000 Feminist Theory

WOST 68100 Contemporary Issues in Feminist Scholarship

WOST 68200 Issues in Feminist Research and Methodology

Beyond the core courses, students may choose electives from courses listed by the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, according to their research interests.

To register for a graduate certificate, send a letter of intent and a copy of your plan of study to:

Dr. Laurie Graham, Assistant Director Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program 6164 BRNG

Once you've completed the requirements, submit a transcript to the same address as above. Your file will be evaluated; if all courses are in order, the graduate certificate will then be awarded.

Undercurrent Winter 2012

Newsletter Edited by Adryan Glasgow

Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies 6164 Beering Hall West Lafayette, IN 47907

Phone: 765-494-6295 Email: juliek@purdue.edu

URL:

http://www.cla.purdue.edu/womens-studies/



Undercurrent Winter 2012 Newsletter Edited by Adryan Glasgow

WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES PROGRAM Beering Hall, Room 6164 Purdue University

Phone: 765-494-6295 Email: juliek@purdue.edu

URL:

http://www.cla.purdue.edu/womens-studies/



# Food for Thought from some of our Favorite Feminists

"I advocate feminism."
— bell hooks

"The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any."

— Alice Walker

"What are the words you do not yet have? What do you need to say? What are the tyrannies you swallow day by day and attempt to make your own, until you will sicken and die of them, still in silence? Perhaps for some of you here today, I am the face of one of your fears. Because I am woman, because I am Black, because I am lesbian, because I am myself - a Black woman warrior poet doing my work - come to ask you, are you doing yours?"

— Audre Lorde

"Above all, patriarchal culture is about the core value of control and domination in almost every area of human existence. From the expression of emotion to economics to the natural environment, gaining and exercising control is a continuing goal of great importance. Because of this, the concept of power takes on a narrow definition of 'power over' -- the ability to control others, events, resources, or oneself in sprit of resistance — rather than alternatives such as the ability to cooperate with others, to give freely of oneself, or to feel and act in harmony with nature."

— Alan Johnson

"If God is male, then male is God."

— Mary Daly

"No woman can call herself free who does not control her own body."

— Margaret Sanger