Women's Studies Update

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COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Many thanks to those of you who helped support Women's History Month. Special thanks go to the following. Kathryn MacKay led the "Bread and Roses" March for International Women's Day and assisted with the film showings. Susan Matt contributed significantly to the Women's History Month Planning Committee, made the opening presentation and assisted with organizing Sarah Gordon's visit. Rebecca Barrett, Lindsay McDonald, and Services for Women Students staff organized many Women's History Month activities, particularly Wisdom on Wednesdays. Judy Elsley made the wall hanging that will allow us to continue disseminating information about women and their contributions in many arenas of our society. Sally Bishop Shigley delivered a lecture on Black Women's Cookbooks and organized/judged the program's First Annual Poetry Contest. **Congratulations to the winning poets**: Faculty/Staff, 1st **and** 2nd place - Linda Sillitoe; Students, 1st Place - Hannah New, 2nd Place - Kimberly L. Kasey, 3rd Place - Marilyn Diamond; Honorable Mention - Elisabeth Anderson, Katie S. Terry, and D. Louise Brown. Consult the WS web page for the recipes submitted. Finally, we thank Kim Hyatt for inviting a wider audience to presentations of general interest in her Women's Health Issues class.

Summer registration is going on now and fall registration will come soon. Please note these upcoming Women's Studies courses. During summer semester, *Introduction to Women's Studies* will be offered, as will the cross-listed course, *Psychology of Diversity*. For fall semester, look for *Introduction to Women's Studies* and the cross-listed courses: *Psychology of Women and Gender, Gender and Communication, Perspectives in Women's Literature: Fearless Girls, Wise Women and Beloved Sisters, Literature of Places and Culture: Middle Eastern Women Writers, Topics in World Politics: Third World Women*, and *Minorities, Women and Media (Special Topics in Women's Studies.)*

The WS End-of-Year Retreat will be held Friday, April 30, 12:30 - 4:00 PM, in the WSU Stadium Sky Suites (3rd floor.) **Take special note of this important date!** For more information, contact Laura in the WS office (626-7632.)

Wanted: Students who are interested in breathing new life into the organization Feminists United Network (FUN.) Please call me for more information at 626-8049.

FACULTY PROFILE

It is our great pleasure this month to introduce another new Executive Council member. Vel Casler joined the Weber State faculty in 2001 as an Assistant Professor of Sales and Service Technology, offering courses in fundamental and advanced sales techniques, customer service, and ethical sales and service. Vel came to academia from more than two successful decades in the corporate business world, with extensive practical experience, domestically and internationally, in all aspects of customer service. He has had executive-level experience as vice-president, president, CEO or Chairman of the Board of numerous companies, including QoS Solutions Inc., Datamark, Inc., WPITERMIFLEX, Micro Palm Computers (a company which he also founded), Porta-Printer Systems, Inc., Gould, Inc., Evans & Sutherland Computer Corp., and Casler Associates. These positions have resulted in his making a professional home in Florida, California, Utah, and Texas. Vel's academic career is diverse as well; he holds an AA in physics

from Weatherford College (Texas), a BA in mathematics from North Texas State University, and an MBA from Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire. He has also received postgraduate training at the University of Utah and Stanford University.

At Weber, Vel has attended numerous workshops to hone his teaching techniques, both on and off campus, as well as conducting a workshop for the Teaching & Learning Forum. He has served as a consultant for a variety of companies, from local to national, and been a member of the Board of Directors of Thoughtform Corporation and Seismic Insight, Inc. As WSU advisor for the international organization of students in sales, Delta Epsilon Chi, he mentored a student finalist in the international entrepreneurship competition and was recognized with an award at the 2003 International Career Development Conference. Other service activities include committee membership from department to university level and active involvement in soliciting interest and financial support for Weber State.

We welcome Vel to the Women's Studies family and look forward to a mutually beneficial association.

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Weber State hosted the "First Undergraduate Research Symposium and Celebration" on Monday, 29 March, and a WS minor was among the student researchers reporting their results. **Michelle Groncki** coauthored (with Erica Alleman) "The Relationship of Estrogen and Performance on Memory Tasks in Men and Women Ages 20 to 35" (advisor: Dr. Lauren Fowler.)

The beginning of April is marked by two major campus-wide activities. Weber State's 10th Annual Holocaust Commemoration, "Courage and Complacency in the Face of Evil," will focus on the role of bystanders in the Holocaust. History professor Oliver Griffin returns to WSU to speak at 1 PM, Thursday, on "Bystander Apathy in the Face of Evil." Thusday's (10 AM - noon) convocation will feature "Journey to a Hate Free Millennium," a film focusing on why hate crimes exist and exploring hate in modern society as reflected in the events of Mathew Shepherd's murder, the Columbine High School shootings, and the dragging death of James Byrd Jr. in Jasper, TX.

Also, this weekend, more than 150 students from 51 campuses will be at WSU for the 19th Annual Undergraduate Literature Conference. Featured conference speakers are Kenneth Brewer, Laura Furman, and Robert Pinsky; several public readings will be held in Stewart Library Special Collections. For further information, contact the English department.

CALENDAR

7 April - SWS Wisdom on Wednesdays, "What is Sexual Assault?" Marti Liccardo, Utah Coaliton Against Sexual Assault; UB Lair, noon. and University Village Community Room at 7pm.

12 April – Fall semester registration begins.

14 April - SWS Wisdom on Wednesdays, "Gender Discrimination," Barry Gomberg, WSU Affirmative Action/ Equal Employment Opportunity Office; noon, Diversity Center

30 April -Women's Studies End-of-Year Retreat, 12:30 - 4:00 PM, WSU Stadium Sky Suites (3rd floor.)

- Spring semester classes end.

Maria Parrilla de Kokal, Coordinator; Laura Albright, Secretary; Gloria Wurst, Newsletter Editor
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