

WOMEN'S STUDIES BULLETIN

November/December 2002

ASSOCIATE OF THE MONTH

Dr. Kristen Myers started out wanting to be a social worker, attending a small women's college in North Carolina. Then she realized she loved her sociology classes. And then, she became deeply interested in feminist theories and their relation to sociology. The theme that most intrigued her, and one of the areas that she pursued in graduate school at North Carolina State University, was inequality. She explains, "My dissertation, *Sailing Under False Colors: Race, Class, and Gender in a Women's Organization*, was on an organization of wealthy black and white women supposedly fighting racism, but it was more of a ladies' club."

She adds, "I look at capitalism, racism, homophobia, sexism, the structures of oppression, and how they constrain people. . . . Mostly now, racism is reproduced in private through the way people talk." Race talk is the subject of two of her articles and a book prospectus. She further discusses her work: "I just did a piece with Jill McCorkel that looked at our being middle-class white women and how it affected what data we were able to gather. It was a methodological piece, mostly," she says. A forthcoming article, written with Kay Forest and Susan Miller, is about gay and lesbian police officers.

To find out more about this Assistant Professor of Sociology: her classes, her vita, etc., please visit her website at www.socqrl.niu.edu/myers.

NEW STUDENT EMPLOYEE

Cassie Reuter, our new work-study employee, says she loves coming to work every day. The Women's Studies Program is lucky to have this enthusiastic and efficient young woman as part of our staff. When asked what she likes about NIU, she says, "Everything. A great campus, awesome people, I just like it here." A graduate of Freeport High School, Cassie is an Elementary Education major. Her professional goals include teaching second or third grade, as well as math in middle school.

**COMING SOON: FALL 2003 REGISTRATION—
WOMEN'S STUDIES COURSES CURRENTLY
LISTED UNDER ILAS WILL BE LISTED AS
WOMS COURSES**

SPRING 2003 COURSES OFFERED FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES MINOR

Core Course

ILAS 235/235H: Women Across Cultures and Centuries
3:30-4:45 MW. Instructor: Swanson.

Regular Electives

ILAS 332 Growing Up Female

2:00-3:15 MW. Instructor: Swanson.

ILAS 430.P1/POLS 495.2 Current Debates: Women & Gender

3:30-4:45 TTh. Instructor: Kamenitsa.

ILAS 430.P2 Topics in Women's Studies: LGBT

Communities: Images and Debates

6:00-8:40 Th. Instructors: Swanson/Peters.

COMS 410 Communication and the Sexes

3:30-4:45 TTh. Instructor: Bisplinghoff.

HIST 322/H Women in Modern Europe

12:30-1:45 TTh. Instructor: Worobec.

HIST 346 Women in Asian History

2:00-3:15 TTh. Instructor: Andrew.

IDSP 402 Africana Woman

6:00-8:40 T. Instructor: Gyant.

SOC 385 Gender and Crime

3:30-4:45 MW. Instructor: McCorkel.

The following courses may count toward the minor with the approval of the Director:

ILAS 390.P1 Internship

Time held: TBA. Instructor: Levin.

ILAS 439.P1 Independent Study in Women's Studies

Time held: TBA. Instructor: Levin.

HIST 402 Gender & Sexuality in History

2:00-3:15 TTh. Instructor: Wingfield.

Other courses of closely related subject matter may be substituted with the approval of the Director.

SPRING 2003 COURSES OFFERED FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES GRADUATE CONCENTRATION

Core Course

ILAS 530 Research In Women's Studies

Time held: TBA. Instructor: Levin.

Regular Electives

ILAS 430.P1/POLS 495.2 Current Debates: Women & Gender

3:30-4:45 TTh. Instructor: Kamenitsa.

ILAS 430.P2 Topics in Women's Studies: LGBT Image/Debate

6:00-8:40 pm Th. Instructors: Swanson/Peters.

ILAS 510.P1/SOCI 563 Women's Studies Special Topics: Women's Health Issues

6-8:40 pm W. Instructor: Moremen.

ILAS 510.P2/ENGL 529 Special Topics in Women's Studies: LGBT Communities:

Images and Debates ENGL 529/Topics in Rhetoric

6-8:40 pm Th. Instructors: Peters/Swanson.

The following courses may count toward the graduate concentration with the approval of the Director:

ILAS 502.P1 Internship

Time held: TBA. Instructor: Levin.

ILAS 539.P1 Independent Study

Time held: TBA. Instructor: Levin.

ENGL 683 Seminar: Anne Tyler & Louis Erdrich

6:00-8:40 pm W. Instructor: Gomez-Vega.

Call Theresa at 753-1038 for permit information. For honors permits, go to the Campus Life Building, Room 110.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK . . .

. . . **Dr. Debbie Smith-Shank**, who organized the Fall 2002 Faculty Associates' Lecture Series. Thanks to her, we learned about diverse topics such as The Reality of Beauty and Teaching Social Skills to Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder. Deb, your dedication to the Women's Studies Program is greatly appreciated!

. . . **Eric Crane**, who has donated his time to work on our website at www.clas.niu.edu/wstudies. Due to his efforts, people have been able to access current information online. Thanks, Eric!

SENIORS TAKE NOTE: GRADUATION CORDS NOW AVAILABLE

Attention, Women's Studies minors, show off your achievement by wearing special purple cords with your graduation gowns! These cords are available from Women's Studies in Reavis 103. Stop by and get one for your big day!

CERTIFICATES OF GRADUATE STUDY

Students who earn a certificate of graduate study (or complete the graduate concentration) and wish to receive an actual certificate, not just a transcript notation, should contact Sheri Kallembach, Associate Director of Registration and Records, about the procedure and fee. She is in Williston 320; her number is 753-8217.

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
POSTER CONTEST WINNER CHOSEN**

We are pleased to announce that Cathleen Stresinshe, a student in the Visual Communications program, will be designing the poster for Women's History Month 2003. In her spare time, she loves researching feminist literature and, together with friends, she is involved in designing a website based on their research on women's studies.

COMING SOON:

MOTHERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Mothers Memorial Scholarship Fund honors those who are, or act as, mothers to members of the NIU community by providing scholarships to upper division and graduate students at NIU whose career goals include improving the lives of women. Initial fundraising for the scholarship fund will be through word-of-mouth contacts, public announcements, and direct mailings to members of the NIU community. The fund will be housed in and administered by the NIU Foundation. All contributions will be welcome. The annual presentation of scholarships will be made at the Outstanding Women Students Awards ceremony. The number of scholarships awarded annually and the amount given will be determined by an award selection panel in consultation with the NIU Foundation. If you are interested in making an initial contribution, please contact the Women's Studies office at 753-1038.

NWSA CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The National Women's Studies Association annual conference will be held June 19-22, 2003, in New Orleans. The proposal deadline is midnight our time, November 24, 2002. One plenary topic of the conference will be "Southern Discomforts," where speakers will bring to the forefront the racial, cultural, and sexual diversity of southern women's lives and activism. Negotiating race and class will also be addressed. Other plenary topics include "What Women's Studies Graduates Do" and "NWSA: the Next Twenty-Five Years." Proposals addressing the themes of the plenaries, and work being done in or about the South, are especially welcome. Also, there will be a new Creative Writing Component that will run concurrently with the panels and paper presentations. Proposal forms are available in the Women's Studies office in Reavis 103.

**ASIAN JOURNAL OF WOMEN'S STUDIES
INVITES CONTRIBUTIONS**

AJWS is an interdisciplinary journal that publishes articles pertaining to women's issues in Asia from a feminist perspective. The journal invites scholarly contributions that have not been published in English or submitted to other journals or to publishers, from

individuals and collectives of different backgrounds throughout the world. For details, contact Hayon Park at hayon@ewha.ac.kr .