

# BOLDER VOICES

University of Colorado Boulder

## FROM THE DIRECTOR:

The summer newsletter marks the transition from one academic year to the next. On May 10<sup>th</sup>, the Women and Gender Studies Program along with families and friends celebrated the graduation of 22 majors, 18 minors, and six graduate certificate students with a wonderful ceremony in the Old Main Chapel and a delicious late lunch in the Heritage Center (on the top floor of Old Main). For faculty and staff, graduation is a bittersweet moment as we say goodbye and good luck to our wonderful students. Our hope is that you will stay in touch—and maybe even drop in for visit now and then.

Next academic year is already looking like a special period. We hope to take a graduate degree proposal for a program in global gender studies to the Board of Regents sometime this fall. The proposal has been vetted by the Graduate School and the College of Arts and Sciences and is making its way (slowly) through the CU bureaucracy. You'll get a detailed account of the program as soon as we get approval from the Regents. So keep your fingers crossed.

We are especially thrilled to welcome a new colleague for fall semester. Professor Katie Oliviero will be at CU-Boulder for the next two years on an American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) fellowship. Although most of you probably haven't heard about the program, the competition for ACLS fellows is intense and most end up at Ivy League institutions. Katie has a PhD in women's studies from UCLA and is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Vulnerability and Human Condition Project organized through the School of Law and the Graduate School at Emory University. Her dissertation, "Vulnerable Sensations: Compositions of Imperiled Citizenship, Intimacy and Personhood in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Social Change," considers how activist opposition to liberalized gay, immigration and reproductive rights effectively harnesses sensationalism and memory to compose core national ideals—citizenship, intimacy, personhood and family—as vulnerable and needing political protection. Her postdoctoral project refocuses this research to examine how more international movements employ children's, disability and animal rights narratives to generate cultural traction and call for state interventions. It inquires into how more progressive movements can engage with these idioms of vulnerability and advocate for state recognition while mediating their reactionary applications. For those of you who would like to know more about Katie's innovative and timely work, I highly recommend her recent article, "Sensational Nation and the Minutemen: Gendered Citizenship and Moral Vulnerabilities," *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 36:3 (2011). The article is a treat to read and ponder—and we would be happy to send you a PDF copy upon request. Katie will be teaching a topics course Queer Theory, Performativity, and Politics in the fall.

Wishing you all a happy and productive summer.



*Robert Buffington*

**Rob Buffington**

Director and Associate Professor

# ALUMNUS PROFILE: DR. PETER HIGGINS, 2008

## PHD, PHILOSOPHY WGST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE



Dr. Peter Higgins

Originally from Lawrence, Kansas, Peter Higgins came to CU-Boulder after earning his BA in philosophy from the University of Kansas. As an undergraduate, his areas of philosophical interest were ethics and feminist philosophy, and he sought a graduate program where he could pursue both. Peter found that while most of the top PhD programs in the U.S. have faculty specializing in ethics, only a few have faculty specializing in feminist philosophy. "I was drawn to apply at Boulder because of the presence of Alison Jaggar on the faculty," Peter relates, and also notes that the great financial support CU-Boulder offered him influenced his decision to attend graduate school here.

Peter found there was some feminist focus in the philosophy department, particularly in classes taught by Alison Jaggar and Claudia Mills, but there were no courses offered in feminist philosophy itself. "Since it seemed to me that gender and gender inequality are relevant to most areas of philosophy, in particular the area of my specialization (social and political philosophy), it was clear to me that my dissertation as well as future research would be philosophically deficient without a background in women and gender studies." Peter's most fundamental reason for obtaining a graduate certificate in WGST is that for most of his life he has had an interest in the critical examination of gender. "I have never conformed well to the traditional masculine gender expectations that are applicable to me, and this made my life a bit rough and mildly unpleasant for periods during childhood and adolescence. To some extent at points growing up I found fault with myself; however, for the most part, these experiences made it obvious to me from a relatively young age that our society is fundamentally unjust with respect to gender. Thus, I've been drawn to the critical study of gender for as long as I've had the opportunity to pursue it."

The WGST classes that Peter found had the most profound impact on him include two classes taught by Dr. Jaggar: *Feminist Methodology* and *Race, Ethnicity, and Empire*. Peter reveals they were influential "not only for the literature and ideas they brought to my attention, but also (and more so) for the shift in my approach to thinking about philosophical problems that they effected in me." Peter was also significantly inspired by Lynn Staeheli's feminist geography class, *Space, Place and Gender*, motivating him to write a paper on immigration that eventually became his dissertation, *Immigration Justice: A Proposal for Developing Just Admissions Policies*; a revised and expanded version of which will soon be published as his first book.

After receiving his PhD in philosophy in 2008, Peter began a one year visiting assistant professorship at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He then accepted a position at Eastern Michigan University as an assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy. Peter notes that during his time on the academic job market, his graduate certificate in women and gender studies helped him to land several interviews, including the interview for his current position at EMU which requires the ability to teach feminist theory.

*Continued on page 3.*

“I credit the work I did in completion of the WGST graduate certificate for giving me the perspective...to make this unique contribution.”

“I have been extremely fortunate to have landed in my current position at EMU. It can be difficult to find a philosophy department where one’s colleagues tolerate, let alone accept, feminist philosophy. In my department, working in feminist philosophy is not only accepted, but familiarity with and respect for it is required!”

This summer, Peter is completing the manuscript for his book, *Immigration Justice*, to be published by Edinburgh University Press (U.K.) and Columbia University Press (U.S.) in 2013. His book assesses the justice of nation-states’ immigrant-admissions policies—the criteria by which states grant and refuse admission to foreigners—from a feminist, structural justice perspective. “Immigrant-admissions criteria have been the focus of debate among philosophers who write on this topic, but none so far have conceived the issue as a matter of structural justice or attended to the gendered dimensions of global migration. Feminist philosophers have written about a variety of issues related to immigration, but none so far have talked about immigrant-admissions policies specifically. Thus, my book will be the first of its kind in philosophy, and I credit the work I did in completion of the WGST graduate certificate for giving me the perspective on the topic in virtue of which I will have been able to make this unique contribution.”

Peter’s research also involves the analysis of some concepts at the core of feminist theory: oppression, social groups, and intersectionality. “I recently began work on a paper whose goal is to bring clarity to the idea of intersectionality, the introduction of which has advanced feminist theory in ways that are difficult to measure. I was motivated to write this paper because the concept of intersectionality has become ubiquitous in feminist theory, and yet I found it difficult to understand precisely what any one theorist meant by it. The meaning of the word seems to shift slightly from theorist to theorist (even sometimes within works by the same author), and it is rarely explicitly defined.” His paper disentangles ten distinct claims often articulated under the name “intersectionality,” some of which are logically incompatible with others, arguing in favor of some, but contending that others are subject to serious objections.

In addition to his appointment in philosophy, Peter is a department member in the Women’s and Gender Studies Department, where he was a co-creator of a new interdisciplinary queer studies minor to be introduced in fall 2012. He will teach a new course he has developed for the minor called *Philosophy and Sexuality* that will examine ethical, political, and conceptual controversies related to sexual preference and identity, using the methods of analytic philosophy. Peter will also teach *Feminist Theory*, which he finds extremely challenging but highly rewarding because “it enrolls lots of students who have little background or initial interest in feminist thought; many of them are predictably resistant to the idea of feminism at the outset; by the end of the semester, most of the students in my course see their society through a new lens and are able to detect gender bias in their daily lives that had previously escaped their attention.”

# 2012 COMMENCEMENT & AWARDS EVENT



*Women and Gender Studies Class of 2012*

## *Bachelor of Arts Recipients*

**Anna Alford** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in women and gender studies and sociology. She is not sure what she is going to do just yet, but she knows it is going to be something awesome.

**Julia Baldino** graduated with a degree in women and gender studies this past December and since then has been working as a nanny, living in a housing co-op in downtown Boulder, and exploring her passion of doing birth work. Julia notes that if it was not for the professors, courses, and classmates in this wonderful program, she would not have discovered her path of serving and caring for women.

**Rachel Blanchard** is excited to leave CU with a degree in women and gender studies, which she believes will help her in her passion and lifelong goal of helping others. She's thankful for the new perspectives and critical thinking skills she has received through the program, as well as all the people who have helped her reach her goals thus far in life.

**Shannon Brown** graduated with a degree in both psychology and women and gender studies.

**Hannah Chatelain** graduated with a double major in women and gender studies and anthropology. She will be commissioning in the United States Army on May 11<sup>th</sup> as a second lieutenant, and will be stationed in Oahu, Hawaii. She wants to thank her mother for not only listening to her long rants on social injustice, but also encouraging her in every obstacle she has taken on: from running her first marathon, to joining the Army, to getting her degree in women and gender studies. She has high ambitions in the Army and plans on seeing, or being, the first woman allowed into infantry.

## *Congratulations to our 2012 WGS Graduates!*



### *Bachelor of Arts Recipients (continued)*

**Janelle DeGree** graduated with a double major in women and gender studies and psychology. Her degree in women and gender studies has provided her with a feminist lens, allowing her to view the world in a new light. She would like to thank her family for supporting her throughout the past four years and giving her a strong foundation to grow from.

**Layla Forshee** hopes for a life full of learning and love. Her aspirations include superhero (cape included), world liberator, and mother of the millennium. Without the love and support from her friends and family, Layla would not be the mosaic of progression and compassion she is today. She would also like to note the sacrifices and understanding she has received from her three amazing daughters.

**Meaghan Kari** graduated with degrees in both English and women and gender studies.

**Jennifer Koenig** was president of Triota, the women and gender studies honor society, and a former member of the Gender Justice League. This summer she'll be working on getting her paralegal certificate to study immigration and family law. She will also be spending the summer enjoying the Colorado sun, perfecting her recipe for her famous rhubarb pie, and brewing beer from wild hops.

**Kayla Martin** graduated with a degree in women and gender studies as well as a history minor. This major has given her the tools to set out and prove women can do everything men can do, only better. In the meantime, she will be traveling to the Pacific Northwest to teach elite wilderness survival courses. After she returns, Kayla plans on going to fire science school in order to achieve the ultimate goal of becoming a smoke jumper.

**Lauren Mason** graduated cum laude in women and gender studies, along with a second degree in ethnic studies and a minor in technology, arts, and media. After graduation she will be working as a project lead in the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics (JILA) on the CU-Boulder campus, where she has worked for the past three years. Lauren also plans to spend time with her lovely partner, Laura, immerse herself in feminist and queer theory, and strive for balance and harmony throughout her life.

**Sarah McCullar** graduated summa cum laude with degrees in both women and gender studies and political science. After graduation she will work while studying for the LSAT in preparation for law school. She would like to thank her parents Burl and Julie McCullar, her boyfriend Jesse, Granny Maxine, her wonderful friends and family who have supported her along the way, and the faculty of this department who have provided guidance and wisdom throughout her undergraduate career.

**Allison Melvin** is traveling to Cuba this summer through CU Study Abroad for her final credits. Upon her return, she will enjoy a three month road trip, ending in Alaska, where she plans to further pursue a number of interests including brewing beer and studying criminology.

**Kelsey Messer** graduated with a double major in psychology and women and gender studies. She is excited for God to reveal what He has planned for her after graduation, and she hopes to use her past experiences and her education here at CU-Boulder to pursue a way to bring healing to women who are in need of it. With the love of her family and friends, she will be happy no matter where she ends up.

**Hillary Montague-Asp** graduated with a double major in women and gender studies and magna cum laude in sociology, as well as with certificates in peace and conflict studies and LGBT studies, after four amazing years here at CU-Boulder. In the fall, she will be moving to Amherst, Massachusetts to pursue a master's degree in social justice education and will also be working as the graduate assistant at the University of Massachusetts LGBTQ Center. She would like to thank her amazing friends, partner, family, and Joanne Belknap for being an incredible support system and for never letting her give up during the sometimes challenging, but incredibly rewarding journey. Hillary is looking forward to many more exciting adventures post-graduation!

**Chelsea Mullen** is excited to be graduating in four years as a triple major in anthropology, psychology, and women and gender studies. Next year she will be entering a dual master's in social work and child development with New York University and Sarah Lawrence College. She is delighted to have the opportunity for further study in both of the subjects she loves. She would like to thank the incredible women of the Women's Resource Center for their love and support and for helping her grow into the feminist and activist she is today.

**Erika Munter** is excited to graduate with a BA in sociology and women and gender studies after four years, six volunteer positions, two jobs, over twenty student groups and organizations, and a variety of life-changing experiences. She would like to thank all of the incredibly influential people in her life who have loved and supported her throughout this amazing journey. Next year, Erika plans on continuing her devotion to helping others through victim services and the nonprofit sphere.

**Jenna Rabe** is continuing her work after graduation at a local non-profit autism center working with early childhood kids as a behavioral intervention therapist. She is having a commitment ceremony in September to her partner Michelle and looks forward to having more time to relax with her family.



*Women and Gender Studies Bachelor of Arts Recipients*

## Bachelor of Arts Recipients (continued)

**Rhiannon Riccillo** is glad to finally be finishing up her long, not-so-traditional journey to graduation with a double major in women and gender studies and English literature. She is excited to begin her work as a Notre Dame Mission AmeriCorps Volunteer with the “I Have a Dream” Foundation of Boulder County’s newest class of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in the fall! She’d like to thank her mother, father, and partner Nick for the support, encouragement, and most of all love – without it she wouldn’t be standing up here today.

**Jennifer Romero** graduated with a double major in women and gender studies and ethnic studies. She says that the main thing she takes away from her college career is something that she holds dear to her heart from an inspirational Chicana lesbian feminist who has inspired her to live life in a new way: “You change yourself, you change the world.” (Gloria Anzaldúa)

**Meg Staires** will be moving into the children’s section at the public library after graduation, where she will read juvenile fiction to her heart’s content. She believes this is the only way to muster the courage and perseverance she will need for medical school.

**Hannah Warner** graduated with a degree in women and gender studies and English/ creative writing. In the coming years she plans on using her feminist knowledge and her job experience as the program director of CU’s Radio 1190, to pursue careers in both writing and radio-journalism. She would like to thank her mom, dad, and brother for their love and support throughout her college journey because without them, she would be lost.

## Recipients of the Minor

**Devon Marie Abbott**, Sociology  
**Samantha Arnowitz**, Speech, Language, and  
Hearing Sciences  
**Christine Herminia Cabral**, Sociology  
**Amber Alida Dawson**, Sociology  
**Emily Jean Draving**, Communication  
**Alexandra Marie Gallant**, Integrative Physiology  
**Xochitl E. Garcia**, Ethnic Studies  
**Amanda Gellar**, English  
**Vannessa Michelle Gordillo**, Studio Arts;  
Ethnic Studies  
**Kerstin Nicole Leary**, International Affairs;  
Political Science  
**Kaylie Marsh**, Ethnic Studies  
**Jacquelyn Marti**, History  
**Lauren Baine Mead**, Psychology  
**Danielle Joy Mulein**, Journalism (News-Editorial)

**Christine Abuba Nakwa**, Sociology; Peace and  
Conflict Studies certificate  
**Jamie Lynn Reeves**, Psychology; Sociology  
**Natalie Jean Thomas**, English  
**Amy Jee Woeste**, English



*WGST Minors (in attendance: D. Mulein, A. Woeste, L. Mead, V. Gordillo, J. Marti, C. Nakwa)*

## Graduate Certificate Recipients

**James Michael Fortney** (PhD candidate, Communication) is working on a dissertation titled "Embodying Risk: A Critical Analysis of Disability in Organizational Discourse."

**Rachael Anne Liberman** (PhD candidate, Journalism and Mass Communication) is working on a dissertation that will deconstruct the production and consumption practices of feminist pornography through a cultural studies framework.

**James McDonald** (PhD candidate, Communication) is working on a dissertation entitled "Changing the Face of IT and Computing Work: Re-branding Occupational Identities for Gender Diversity."

**Danielle Lancellotti** (MA candidate, Religious Studies) plans to defend her thesis on Unitarian Universalism's engagement with immigration justice in the U.S. in the fall. Her other general interests include GLBTQI individuals and religion, women and religion, the history of marriage, religion and sexuality, and religion and feminism. She works mostly in contemporary American movements. "I learned so much while working for my WGST graduate certificate and am looking forward to integrating feminism more firmly into my future work."

**Magdalena Red** (PhD, Journalism and Mass Communications) received her Ph.D. in media studies and communication in May. Her dissertation examined the mediated intersection of popular culture and youth politics in Mexico. She utilized ethnographically informed methods enhanced by a pluralistic theoretical approach that drew from post-colonial theory, gender studies, Latin American studies, and cultural sociology. Her future research interests include transnational media flows, youth identity and practices, and how these intersect with national politics on both sides of the Mexico-U.S. border.

**Graham Slater** (MA, Education) has completed a master's in educational foundations, policy, and practice. In the fall, he will begin to pursue a Ph.D. in education, culture, and society at the University of Utah. His research interests include Marxism, feminist theory, and critical pedagogy. In particular, he is concerned with the effects of neoliberal globalization on education, as well as with the cultivation of resistant anti-capitalist subjectivities and ontologies.



*Women and Gender Studies Graduate Certificate Recipients (in attendance: J. Fortney, R. Liberman, J. McDonald)*

## Lucile Berkeley Buchanan Scholarship

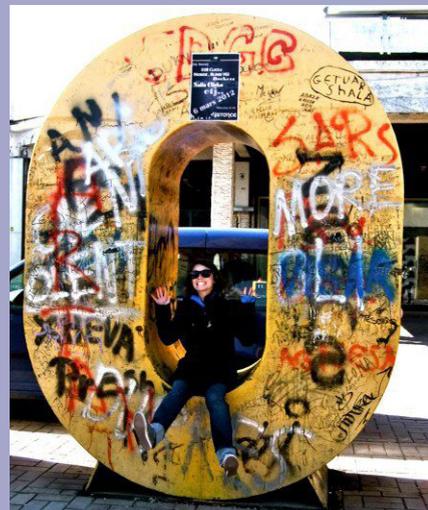
This scholarship honors Lucile Berkeley Buchanan, the first black female graduate of the University of Colorado. It is awarded to a student who demonstrates a commitment towards social justice and who is the first generation in their family to attend college. This year's recipient, **Cassy Gonzalez**, is a women and gender studies and sociology major whose ultimate goal is to "study and develop new restoration efforts for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation."



*Lucile Berkeley Buchanan Scholarship Winner Cassy Gonzalez, with Dr. Bayard de Volo*

## Susannah Chase Memorial Scholarship

Dedicated to the memory of Susannah Chase, a CU student who loved studying the issues of women and gender, this award is given to a student who exhibits strong academic achievement and shows a similar commitment to that of Susannah Chase. This year's recipient, **Elise Matatall**, spent the spring semester on study abroad in Serbia, Bosnia, and Kosovo, collecting data for her honors thesis on women's activism in the post-conflict Balkans. She is now traveling through Bosnia, Croatia, and Slovenia. Elise is a psychology major and a women and gender studies minor, and she is also completing a certificate in peace and conflict studies.



*Susannah Chase Memorial Scholarship Winner Elise Matatall, while on Study Abroad in Prishtina, Kosovo*



*Jean Dubofsky Scholarship Winner Sophia Surage, with Dr. Bayard de Volo*

## Jean Dubofsky Scholarship

Given in honor of the first woman to serve on the Colorado Supreme Court, Jean Dubofsky, a Boulder attorney who has worked tirelessly on civil rights issues. This award is given to a women and gender studies major and is based on academic record, education and career goals, community and campus service, and a demonstrated commitment to raising awareness of and combating oppression in all its forms. This year's recipient is **Sophia Surage**. Sophia is a women and gender studies and an ethnic studies major, a member of the Gender Justice League, a diversity mentor for Hallett Hall, and she recently joined the CU chapter of Students Against Modern Day Slavery.

## Joanne Easley Arnold Outstanding Senior Award

Named in honor of Joanne Easley Arnold, a professor emerita of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Colorado Boulder, for her long term support of the Women and Gender Studies Program, this award is given to a graduating women and gender studies major in recognition of outstanding leadership and service to women and gender studies and to related issues of social justice, during their time at CU Boulder. The winner of this first annual award, Meg Staires, is a women and gender studies major and is a pre-med student. Despite a demanding academic schedule, she has been an active member of the Gender Justice League and is graduating with honors with her thesis titled "Examining Disparities in Native Women's Health: Formation, Perpetuation, and a Way Forward." She wrote this outstanding thesis in order to prepare for her future work as an activist doctor. Last year she was a member of the senior colloquium group project, "Administrative Smackdown," which focused on advocating for the better implementation of CU's policy on sexual harassment and assault, a cause for which she continued her activism this year. Dr. Celeste Montoya spoke during commencement that Meg is a person "who stands out in many ways. She is one of those leaders that you almost don't recognize as such, because she does such a good job of inspiring people, just by being herself: through her sincerity, her compassion, her determination, and her very quirky sense of humor. She leads by example, and she leads with her heart. She has done so much for this department and for the people in it. We will greatly miss her smiling face, which is found so often in the Cottage."



*Joanne E. Arnold Outstanding Senior Award winner Meg Staires, with Dr. Bayard de Volo*



The commencement address was given by **Dr. Joanne Belknap**, Professor in the Department of Sociology.

**Jenna Rabe, Sarah McCullar, and Meg Staires** were the student commencement speakers.

**Malia Caldwell and Erika Munter** enchanted the audience with their original spoken word performance. Watch it online at: [www.youtube.com/WGSTatCU](http://www.youtube.com/WGSTatCU)



# ASSOCIATE FACULTY PROFILE: DR. HILLARY POTTER

**Dr. Hillary Potter** is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology and an associate faculty member in the Women and Gender Studies Program. She specializes in various aspects of criminology, particularly in the intersections of race, gender, and class as they relate to crime and violence, and has both academic and practical experience in this field. She received her bachelor's degree in sociology at CU-Boulder and then went on to study criminal justice at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice before returning to CU-Boulder to complete her PhD in sociology. She has augmented her scholarly work with "real-life" experience in various aspects of the criminal justice field, including working as a probation officer, as a staff member for substance abuse treatment centers, as a counselor for a shelter, and as an administrator at several corrections centers. She is currently a commissioner, appointed by the mayor of Denver, for the Denver Civil Service Commission, as well as a member of Denver's INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence.



Dr. Hillary Potter

Dr. Potter is the editor of *Racing the Storm: Racial Implications and Lessons Learned from Hurricane Katrina* (2008, Lexington Books) and the author of *Battle Cries: Black Women and Intimate Partner Abuse* (2008, NYU Press). She is currently at work on her latest books *Racialized Perceptions of Crime* with fellow CU-Boulder alumna Allison Cotton, and *Intersectionality and Criminology* for Routledge Press. She has also written numerous journal articles, and her latest "'We Told You That's How They Are': Responses to White Women in Abusive Intimate Relationships with Men of Color" was recently published in the journal *Deviant Behavior* (Vol.33, Issue 6, 2012).

This fall Dr. Potter will teach Criminology and a graduate level course in Criminological Theory for the sociology department. She is active as an associate faculty member for WGST and was a participant in this year's commencement and awards ceremony.

## GENDER JUSTICE LEAGUE

The Gender Justice League held events the first week of April to recognize Denim Days, a campaign designed to raise awareness about rape and sexual assault, and the victim blaming that often follows.

They expanded their annual denim display to include a second display in the Math Quad, in addition to their display surrounding the Gates Woodruff Cottage. This year also featured a showing of the movie *North Country*, with a discussion following, and a relationship survey, available to all students to gauge the health of their relationships. Counselors from the Office of Victim Assistance were on-hand to speak to students after taking their surveys.

Gender Justice League members also published a new issue of their newsletter, available for download at: [wgst.colorado.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/GJL-Newsletter-Spring2012.pdf](http://wgst.colorado.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/GJL-Newsletter-Spring2012.pdf)



2011-2012 Gender Justice League members

**Kate Black (2005)** is a staff attorney at the Texas Defender Service, a non-profit law firm in Houston, Texas. She specializes in the representation of indigent death row inmates in their habeas corpus and clemency proceedings, with particular focus on the representation of clients who suffer from mental illness. She has been featured by NBC Nightly News, the BBC, Mother Jones Magazine, and The Atlantic for her work on the case of Buck v. Thaler, stayed by the United States Supreme Court on the day of execution. She is licensed in Texas and Washington DC.

**Kristina Schelbert Brown(1994)** graduated with a BA in English and a minor in Women's Studies in 1994. She is the program director for the Marriage and Family Therapy Program at Forest Institute in Springfield, Missouri [[www.forest.edu](http://www.forest.edu)]. Kristina notes "my journey here from Boulder was very long and windy! After graduation, my husband (R. Tucker Brown '94 BA in Sociology) moved to San Diego for graduate school where both of our children were born (Taylor, 15 and Kyle, 13). We moved to New York in 2003 for me to return to school for my doctorate at Syracuse University. In 2007, we moved to Springfield for me to begin my faculty position. During this past spring and current summer semesters, I have the pleasure of teaching a diversity seminar on women's issues. The focus was on specific issues that can present for women in therapy. The most popular assignment is reading the book, *Egalia's Daughters* by Gerd Brantenberg, and answering specific questions about if men and women are equal. I was first introduced to this book in one of my Women's Studies classes at CU – thank you!"

**Kat Morgan (1988)** currently works as an internal and external Organization Development consultant. Her practice focuses on democratizing workplaces by facilitating inclusive group conversations about what matters most. She manages staff training and development for a national nonprofit. She earned her MSW from the University of Denver in 1992, concentrating on macro level practice and nonprofit management. She directed Colorado's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Services Center before leaving Colorado for the San Francisco Bay Area in 1994. In both Colorado and California she worked in the movement against domestic violence for 15 years. Kat earned her MS in Organization Development in the joint program run by American University/National Training Lab (Washington, DC, 2009). She is a marriage equality advocate, having served as the Board Development Chair on Equality Maryland's Board until 2008. She and Dr. Daena Petersen, her wife of 19 years, currently live in Vermont where they are thrilled to be legally married.

**Peter Vielehr (2008)** completed an MA in sexuality studies at San Francisco State University this May, with his thesis titled "The Saliency of HIV-Positive Identity for Young Gay Men Living with HIV." Peter notes that "my work as a women and gender studies undergrad was essential in being able to offer a critical intersectional lens to the public health and sociological theory and research that framed my project." He is currently working on publishing research looking at HIV stigma, relationship dynamics, and race within serodiscordant same-sex male couples which will be presented at the 2012 International AIDS Conference. In the fall, he is attending Vanderbilt University to work toward a PhD in sociology focused on gender and sexuality, medical sociology, and the life course. "I have so many great memories of being a WGST major. Without the mentorship and encouragement I found from the faculty, I would not be where I am today in my career or as a person. I learned not only critical thinking, but what it means to live ethically and thoughtfully while creating change in an increasingly hostile social climate. For that, I will always be grateful."

*We'd love to hear from you! To share your updates in the next issue, please send them to [wgst@colorado.edu](mailto:wgst@colorado.edu).*

# SENIOR COLLOQUIUM

Students in WMST 4800, the Senior Colloquium, collaborated on several different projects this semester as part of their study of activism in their community. One group worked to help promote the LGBT Studies Certificate Program, including creating postcards and working on a re-design of the LGBT Studies website. Other students worked to promote the WGST Program itself, creating a brochure to advertise the program to other students on campus. The students also created a video answering the question "What is women and gender studies?" This inspirational video can be watched online at: <http://www.youtube.com/WGSTatCU>. The final group of seniors worked with the CU Foundation to create a new fund to help support students' research, travel, and study abroad activities. These students then worked to promote the new WGST Student Professional Development Fund, sending letters and email to our alumnae/i, donors, and friends. They also created a brochure to advertise the fund, which was distributed at the reception following commencement. Read below for more information on this fund, and how you can help them reach their \$5,000 goal.

## WGST STUDENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Donations to the **WGST Student Professional Development Fund** will be used to support such activities as:

- employing students as research assistants to faculty, where they will gain valuable professional and research experience in preparation for graduate school or a career;
- covering travel expenses for students who attend conferences, where they will learn new, important information and skills to bring back to the rest of the department and campus
- helping students to study abroad, where they may broaden their understanding of transnational women's issues

***Your gift now will greatly impact the lives of many future students committed to making a difference in our world.***

You can make your gift:

- online at: [www.cufund.org/wgststudent](http://www.cufund.org/wgststudent)
- by phone:  
call Jeni Webster (CU Foundation)  
at (303) 541-1439  
to make a gift by credit card

• by mail:

send your check made payable to "CU Foundation" to  
University of Colorado Foundation,  
1305 University Ave., Boulder, CO 80302  
*Please indicate "WGST Student Professional  
Development Fund" in the memo area of the check.*

[www.cufund.org/WGSTstudent](http://www.cufund.org/WGSTstudent)

**Lorraine Bayard de Volo** is teaching Gender, Race, and Class in a Global Context this summer, as an online course that she has developed using the new Desire2Learn platform. The course content includes video lectures, interactive activities, films and readings all available within this new learning management system. She is also continuing her research on Cuba.

**Robert Buffington** is spending the summer finishing up two book projects. The first is a scholarly monograph on changing ideas about manhood among working-class men in Mexico City with the tentative title *Sentimental Education for the Working Man: Mexico City, 1900-1910*. The second is a co-edited book (with Donna Guy at Ohio State University and Eithne Luibhéid at the University of Arizona) with an ambitious title, *A Global History of Sexuality*.

**Alison Jaggat** spent the beginning of the summer working with Theresa Tobin of Marquette University at the Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature at the University of Oslo on their book project *Undisciplining Moral Epistemology*. She also gave talks at the Centre and at the University of Vienna. She then enjoyed a nice holiday in Vienna and Prague, and is currently spending time with her family in North Wales.

**Deepti Misri** is going to India this summer to research women's creative protests around the state's disappearances of young men in Kashmir.

**Celeste Montoya** attended the International Studies Association Annual Convention in San Diego this past April. She presented a paper titled "Exploits and Exploitations: Using DSK to Link the Micro and Macro-leveled Gender Fallout of IMF Leadership," and she was also elected as a member of the executive committee for the Feminist and Gender Studies Section. In April she also attended the 40<sup>th</sup> Joint Session Workshops for the European Consortium for Political Research. With the CEUCE, she held a workshop in May bringing together scholars from the U.S. and Europe who study women's movements in Central and Eastern Europe. From this collaboration they are launching a new research network that she will be administrating: Women, Equality, Mobilization in an Expanding Europe Research Group (Women EMEERG).



**WGST Faculty at this year's Commencement (clockwise from top left): Lorraine Bayard de Volo, Joanne Belknap, Rob Buffington, Alison Jaggat, Celeste Montoya, Deepti Misri**

## WGST SPEAKER SERIES: GLOBAL STUDIES IN GENDER & SEXUALITY

### Leveraging Change: Women, Peace, and Security in the Balkans

Dr. Jill Irvine, Professor and Director, Women's and Gender Studies, University of Oklahoma

On Thursday, April 19, Dr. Irvine presented this talk, examining how regional and local women's organizations in Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Kosovo have used UNSCR 1325 as a tool for organizing and advocacy in three broad areas: women's inclusion in decision making processes; regional and human security; and transitional justice. This talk was co-sponsored by the Department of Political Science, the Colorado European Union Center of Excellence, and the Center for the Study of Conflict, Collaboration and Creative Governance.

# FALL 2012 COURSE OFFERINGS

- WMST 2000 Introduction to Feminist Studies
- WMST 2020 Femininities, Masculinities, Alternatives
- WMST 2050 Gender, Sexuality, and Popular Culture
- WMST 2200 Women, Literature, and the Arts
- WMST 2600 Gender, Race, and Class in a Global Context
- WMST 3200 Religion and Feminist Thought
- WMST 3311 Gender and U.S. Politics – *New Course!*

For all class descriptions, see:  
[wgst.colorado.edu/courses/fall2012](http://wgst.colorado.edu/courses/fall2012)

*Provides an overview and critical examination of women as political actors within the United States. Students will examine the gendered components of citizenship, election, political office, and public policy. Furthermore, students will explore the ways in which gender intersects with class, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and other identities in U.S. politics.*

## WMST 3700 Topics: Queer Theory, Performativity, and Politics – *New Course!*

*Drawing from U.S., queer of color, and transnational perspectives, this course explores key concepts and tensions in queer theory. How does queerness complicate existing understandings of sexual behavior and gendered bodies, particularly as they are shaped by race, ability, culture, and nation? In what ways does queer theory shift our understandings of the relationship between everyday lives and broader institutional forces like government, media, medicine, or family? Central to our investigation is how queerness—as a lived experience and a politics—engages with contemporary debates around sexual freedom, globalization, socioeconomic justice, and violence.*

## WMST 3710 Global Topics: Gender, Violence, Representation

## WMST 3800 Advanced Writing in Feminist Studies

## WMST 4500 Gender Politics and Global Activism

## WMST 4636 Lesbian and Gay History

## WMST 6190 Feminist Methodology

*These courses are sponsored by the Women and Gender Studies Program. Additional courses that may cover topics of interest are offered by other departments and are cross-listed under the course heading WMST.*

## Bolder Voices

Women and Gender Studies Program Newsletter

### Director

Robert Buffington

### Faculty

Lorraine Bayard de Volo, Alison Jaggar,

Deepti Misri, Celeste Montoya

### Staff

Alicia Turchette, Valerie Bhat



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I decided  
it is better  
to scream.  
Silence is  
the real crime  
against humanity.

-Nadezhda Mandelstam, Russian author, *Hope Against Hope*

Sarah McCullar, left, and Meg Staires, of the Gender Justice League in front of the Denim Day exhibit on April 2, 2012, on the CU-Boulder Campus. This photo appeared in the Daily Camera and Colorado Daily as part of a news story about the Denim Day event (photo credit Paul Aiken). To read more and see the video, visit: <http://goo.gl/AS7LL>

## *Please support the Women and Gender Studies Program!*

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