

BOLDER VOICES

University of Colorado Boulder



FROM THE DIRECTOR:

This has been a year filled with energy, transitions, and new beginnings. Two of our undergraduate majors Sarah McCullar and Lindsey Tagen became founding members of a Boulder campus chapter of the national women's studies honor society, Iota Iota Iota (or Triota). This organization celebrates women's studies as a discipline and complements the experiential and activist work of our undergraduate student club (WAGON) and our senior majors' colloquium.

In the fall, our administrative assistant Shelley Dahme moved from her position in one of the smallest academic programs to one of the largest, Art and Art History. We miss her and congratulate her on this promotion. It is our good fortune that our half-time staff member Alicia Turchette has moved into Shelley's former position in Women and Gender Studies. This newsletter also introduces you to our new part-time staff member Valerie Bhat, who took over Alicia's former responsibilities for Bolder Voices and our website.

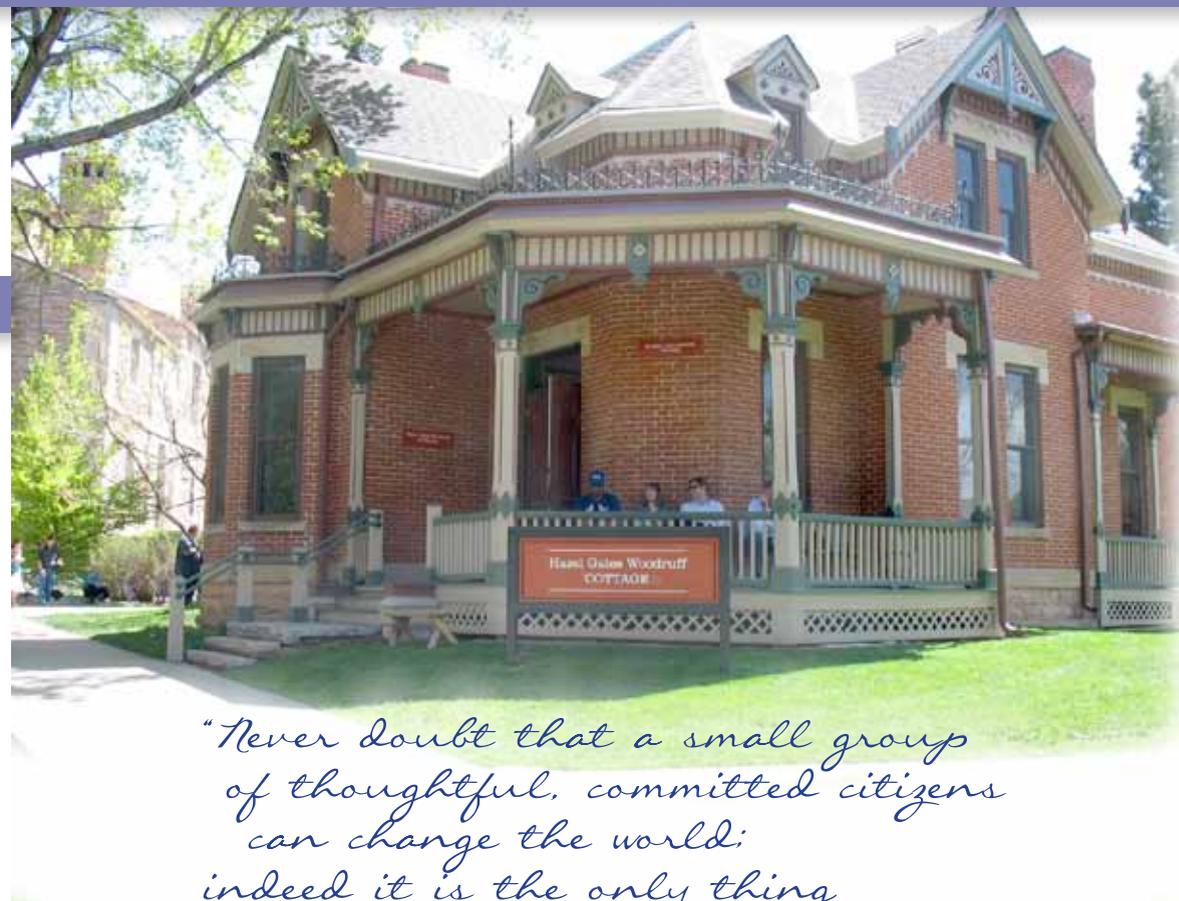
In November the program co-hosted, along with University of Colorado Denver and University of Colorado Colorado Springs, a very successful CU welcome reception at the annual meeting of the National Women's Studies Association held in Denver. This event allowed our faculty and students to meet women and gender studies scholars from across the U.S. and the world.

In January the program elected faculty member Robert Buffington to become the next director and first man to head our program on the Boulder campus. Rob and I learned when attending the annual meeting of the Southwestern chairs and directors of women and gender studies programs, that he will become the third male chair or director in Colorado. The others are at Metro State and Colorado College.

I look forward to finishing four years as WGST director this summer and taking a year-long sabbatical to begin work on a new book on recurring American social movements challenging racism and sexism. I will compare tactics and strategies of abolitionism and the black civil rights movement with the suffrage and women's rights movements. This work builds on my past research as well as two forthcoming publications dealing with American women's activism through social movements and interest groups.

The future of the program at Boulder is very bright, with excellent faculty, creative staff, and incredible students. The work of our alumnae/i continues to motivate and inspire us all. Please stop by the Cottage and give us the opportunity to meet you.

Anne Costain
Director and Professor



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has." -Margaret Mead

SUMMER 2011 COURSE OFFERINGS:

WMST 2020: Femininities, Masculinities, Alternatives

WMST 3220: Women in Islam

WMST 2200: Women, Literature and the Arts

WMST 2400: Women of Color and Activism

WMST 2600: Gender, Race and Class in a Global Context

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. For more information, please see <http://www.colorado.edu/summer>

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ALUMNA PROFILE:

Blair Young WGST Major, 2005-2007



As a women and gender studies student, Blair Young began working at the Boulder Valley Women's Health Center as a "very part-time" community health educator. Established in 1973, BVWHC (now known also as Women's Health) has the mission to provide accessible, confidential and comprehensive gynecological and reproductive healthcare, including sexual health services and education to women, teens, and their partners. Soon after joining the organization, Blair quickly transitioned into the job of youth services director, where she worked enthusiastically for three years before taking on her current position as the development director at Women's Health in January 2010.

In the early 1990s Blair studied fine arts at Kenyon College in Ohio but had long been questioning the "expected" path of completing college, entering the work force, marrying and bearing children. After spending a semester studying in France and then living and working in Germany for a year, instead of returning to school, she continued to work through her twenties as a women's health clinician assistant and in nonprofit youth services. Entering school again at CU-Boulder as a 28-year-old, she felt more directed. She joined our Women and Gender Studies Program somewhat by chance. "You could say it was chance, but it was definitely meant to be," she clarifies as she tells the story. In an attempt to be practical, she had planned to finish her fine arts degree, but on her very first day, Blair felt rather overwhelmed by the size of the art department and of CU. She was walking frustratedly in circles around the campus when she saw a Victorian building that seemed "homey" and tentatively knocked on the door. When then-Director of the WGST Program Polly McLean welcomed her inside the Cottage and asked how she could help, Blair burst into tears. But by the time she left the building a bit later, she had signed up for three women and gender studies classes, and it would become her new major!

"The program and the classes became part of who I was, of who I am," she says. Social justice became her focus. "I discovered that I wanted to go on to work in a field that would address what I considered a root cause issue, and I narrowed that down to global access to clean water or reproductive health. Once I found Women's Health, I pretty much would have done anything to work there. Being in control of one's reproduction and having access to the resources that either prevent pregnancy, or allow adequate spacing of children, and that make possible a healthy pregnancy and raising children precedes most other ways in which women and families can thrive — being able to make informed, personal reproductive decisions and being self-sufficient impacts everything — access to education and a sustainable job, for example."

"Women and gender studies helped me name the things I was questioning..."

As youth services director for Women's Health, Blair oversaw operations, program development, and funding for the peer education and community health education programs and two teen clinics (in Boulder and in Longmont) that serve 1600 unique patients each year. She led an innovative project to redesign the teen clinic's website. She was reminded of discussions on privilege from her past WGST classes, when she and her colleague set out to create a site to reach youth of diverse racial/ethnic, geographic, and economic situations. "Our priority was to get youth input and to address the 'digital divide' between those who have regular access to computers and those who don't," she says. They found through youth focus groups that although some teens lack access to a computer, that almost all had cell phones — and that texting is their preferred method of communication. As a result, the anonymous Q&A forum where teens can ask questions about sex is accessible via the website but also through a text message line. "The challenge is answering those [texted] questions in 60 characters or less," Blair adds with a smile.

It was a difficult decision for Blair to leave her job with the youth programs to become development director, but she felt that she could take what she does best and benefit the entire organization. She now writes grants, plans major events, and works with individual donor development and foundations. In her current position, she is again trying something innovative, this time with fundraising. "People perceive development as a privileged space. We at Women's Health want to change that," she explains. Rather than a gala fundraising event with tickets that are financially out of reach for many, this past November Women's Health hosted the troupe Broad Comedy at the Boulder Theater. Tickets started at \$25, so that "participation in giving is more accessible" to more people in the community. Women's Health will bring Broad Comedy back to the Boulder Theater again in October 2011 — the show is not to be missed!

Blair would like to honor some of her former professors, Caroline Denigan, Anne Marie Pois, and Joanna Starek, for their unique and inspiring teaching styles which truly put responsibility for learning into their students' hands. When Blair talks again about her path of questioning the roles we're "supposed to" fill, she says, "Women and gender studies helped me name the things I was questioning, put a framework

around them, and validated my feelings. I was encouraged to continue to build my life however I want regardless of the 'guidebook' that was handed to me when I was young, and I left the department more motivated than ever to apply the privilege of my education to social justice work."

For more information on Women's Health, please visit these websites:

Women's Health (Boulder Valley Women's Health)
www.boulderwomenshealth.org

Teen Clinic
www.teenclinic.org

INGRID ALONGI (1997) is currently the co-founder and CEO of Quick Left, a web engineering company, www.quickleft.com. She attended San Diego State University's 40th anniversary celebration, and spoke on the alumni panel about how she utilizes her women's studies degree. She received her master's in women's studies from SDSU in 2001. Ingrid also made the Boulder County Business Report's 2011 "40 under 40" list of emerging business leaders under the age of 40 in the Boulder Valley.

PAM (HAHN) BARTH (1991) is living happily in Durham, NC, with her husband Chris and their son Daniel. After a decade as a computer programmer, she returned to school and earned her master's in city planning. She's now working at UNC-Chapel Hill's Highway Safety Research Center in the area of K-8 students' pedestrian and bicyclist safety. She would love to hear from fellow alumnae.

STEFANIE CARROLL (1999), MNM, recently accepted a position at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law as the new administrative director of academic programs. She serves as the chief administrator for the Constitutional Rights and Remedies, Environmental and Natural Resources Law, Workplace Law and Corporate/Commercial Law Programs.

KIM DVORCHAK (1991) graduated from the City University of New York School of Law in 1995. She was a public defender in Colorado Springs and New York City and then moved back to Colorado after having twins. She is now the executive director of the Colorado Juvenile Defender Coalition, a new nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring excellence in juvenile defense and justice for children and youth in Colorado's juvenile justice system.

R. AVY HARRIS (2008) moved to an island off of South Korea last fall and is currently a teacher and freelance writer there.

LIZA HENSLEIGH (2005) works in the CU-Boulder Study Abroad Programs office within the Office of International Education. She manages programs in Latin America, Spain, and Portugal. She is also pursuing a master of public administration part-time from CU-Denver.

MANDY (DYER) JEFFRIES (2003) received her master of social work from the University of Denver in 2005. She has recently left her job of 5 1/2 years as a health case manager at a nonprofit in Denver called The Bridge Project, and is now working at home as a contract grant writer for Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. She is also in the process of starting her own business as a Hypnobabies childbirth educator, labor doula, and lactation educator, called Mama Prana Birth Services. She is very proud to announce the birth of her beautiful son, Traeson Michael, born April 27, 2010.

SARAH JOHNSON (2005) received a master of library and information science from the University of Denver in 2009 and is now a children's librarian at Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library in Broomfield, CO. Her main focus is early literacy programming and working with the toddler age group. She creates library programs to help parents and caregivers learn about early literacy and the impact they have on their children's lives as their first teachers. Another professional goal of hers is creating opportunities for children to become active in their community, so they too realize that they have an impact on their local and global community. She has been married for more than two years and she and her husband welcomed their first son in August 2010. She values her WGST degree and knows that it has instilled an outlook in life that continues to have impact almost daily.

RACHEL OURS (2007) is the community affairs manager for Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties, one of the largest and most successful Planned Parenthood affiliates in the country. She is also serving on the founding board of directors of Equality Inland Empire, a grassroots 501(c)(4) nonprofit that works to ensure the dignity, safety, and equality of all LGBTQ residents of southern California's Inland Empire. Rachel states that "the organizing skills and social justice theory I learned in CU's WGST department are absolutely invaluable to the work I do every day." On a personal note, Rachel and her partner are celebrating their first anniversary as domestic partners this May.

MORGAN VERA PARDUE (2007) moved to southern New Mexico after graduation where she became a certified doula and worked at La Pinon Sexual Assault Recovery Services as a case manager. Since August 2010 she has been working and living in Guayaquil, Ecuador as a Peace Corps volunteer where she works at the main hospital in the country that addresses HIV/AIDS and other infectious-contagious diseases.

ALLISON TITLEY (1995) has been with Women's Cancer Advocacy, Resources and Education (WomenCARE) for six years, working with women and their families and helping manage the organization. She lives in Santa Cruz, CA, has an awesome 11-year old son, and gets "home" to Colorado each year to visit friends and "drink in" the mountains that she misses each and every day.

VICKI VAN ANTWERP (2009) has been attending CU-Denver working towards a master's in criminal justice and has been teaching. Her master's thesis is focused on women in SWAT teams. Since women in SWAT is an issue that is rarely addressed within empirical literature, she is hoping that her thesis can help shed light on how women's experience in SWAT is vastly different than their male counterparts.

PETER VIELEHR (2008), after working for two years at Northern Colorado AIDS Project, has just started a master's program in human sexuality studies at San Francisco State University.

ELIZA WILLIAMSON (2009) has been working for a year as a community organizer for RAAP, Denver's rape crisis center. She will be spending most of this year in Argentina on a Fulbright fellowship, conducting an ethnographic study of a maternity hospital that takes a woman-centered approach to perinatal care.

NATALIE ZIEMBA (2010) headed to Samoa last October to do community development and teach English with the Peace Corps.

*To share your updates in the next issue,
please send them to wgst@colorado.edu.*

GLOBAL STUDIES IN GENDER AND SEXUALITY

2010-2011

Upcoming Speakers:

Friday, March 11, 4pm, Humanities 1B90

Dr. Sandra Soto, University of Arizona, Department of Gender and Women's Studies
"She's Come Undone: Graciela Iturbide's Photographic De-Compositions"

Thursday, April 7, 2pm, Wolf Law 205

Dr. Jasbir Puar, Rutgers University, Department of Women's and Gender Studies
"Israeli Pinkwashing, Left Ambivalence and Queer Critique"

Thursday, April 21, 2pm, UMC 382

Dr. Rajinder Dudrah, University of Manchester, Drama and Screen Studies
"Mancunian Br-Asians Bop Bollywood: Haptic Urban Ethnoscapes in the City"

Previous Speakers:

Thursday, September 30, 2010

Dr. Celeste Montoya, University of Colorado Boulder, Women and Gender Studies Program
"Variable Standards of Gender Equality: Addressing Violence against Women in the EU Accession Process"

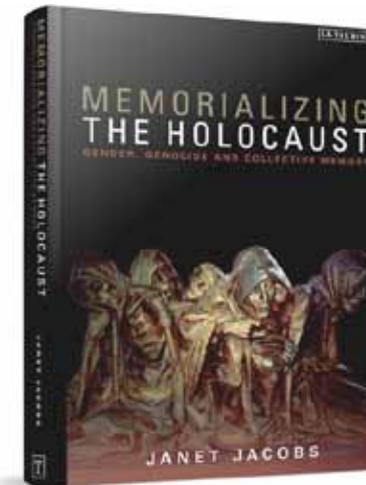
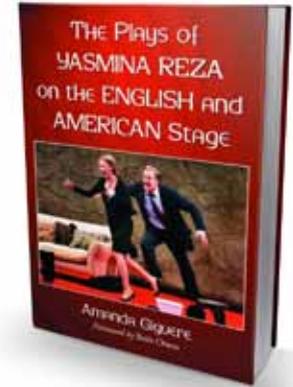
Thursday, October 21, 2010

Dr. Sanyu Mojola, University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Sociology
"Providing Women, Kept Men: Gender, generation and social reproduction in the wake of the African HIV/AIDS epidemic"

All talks in the speaker series are held in the library of the HAZEL GATES WOODRUFF COTTAGE, unless otherwise noted.

For dates, times, and updated information, view our online event listings: www.colorado.edu/WomensStudies/Events.html

AMANDA GIGUERE, (2010, GRADUATE CERTIFICATE) is pleased to announce the release of her new book, *The Plays of Yasmina Reza on the English and American Stage*, published by McFarland. The book chronicles the seven plays of French playwright Yasmina Reza, with a focus on West End and Broadway productions. If you're interested in women playwrights, contemporary theatre, or Reza in particular, you will enjoy reading the book and learning more about this exciting playwright. The book is now available for sale on Amazon and through McFarland's website.



JANET JACOBS, professor of sociology and women and gender studies, has released a new book titled *Memorializing the Holocaust: Gender, Genocide and Collective Memory*, published by I.B. Tauris. Dr. Jacobs travelled to several Holocaust sites and memorials to examine their representations of gender and to reveal the origins of collective gendered memories of the Holocaust. Her feminist analysis also explores the meaning and measures of collective memory and its impact on racial and gender stereotypes.

Reviewed in the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* (vol. 49, issue 4), Dr. Jacobs' work is praised as "groundbreaking in its focus on the ways the motifs of gendered memory of the Holocaust have been integrated into the monuments, memorials, and museums that commemorate Nazi genocide."

Dr. Jacobs will present her work at a special book release event on Monday, March 14 at 4:00 pm in Guggenheim, room 206. Please join us for a reception immediately following in the Gates Woodruff Cottage.

PROFILE:

Dr. Joanne Easley Arnold



Each April, the faculty, students, and alumnae/i of the Women and Gender Studies Program gather to honor our scholarship recipients at the Joanne Easley Arnold Annual Scholarship Awards Event. This year represents the 8th annual celebration of this scholarship event, just one example of the many forms of support given to our program by Dr. Joanne Arnold.

Joanne Easley Arnold has been a member of the CU community since she started her undergraduate studies in 1948. After graduating with a degree in English, she taught at Boulder High School for several years before returning to complete her master's degree, which was the first conferred by the School of Journalism, and then earned a PhD in communications and theatre. In 1974, she was recruited to be the associate dean of journalism, becoming the first woman to hold a tenure-track position in that school. Dr. Arnold has also served CU as the associate and the interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, the associate and the interim dean for the School of Journalism, the faculty associate director of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Resource Center, and she retired in 1995 as professor emerita in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Dr. Arnold first became involved with the Women and Gender Studies Program when her good friend Marcia Westkott was director, and she offered her administrative and organizational experience to help the program move forward. Dr. Westkott reveals that "the program would not be what it is today without Dr. Arnold's humane and wise guidance as well as her generous financial and moral support. She was instrumental in helping to raise the funds to complete the renovation of the Cottage. She established scholarships to fund the education of our students. And she promoted the program among the Boulder and University communities. In addition to all these more public gifts, Jo was a behind-the-scenes mentor and friend who shared with me her knowledge of the university, her gift for navigating bureaucracy as an art form, and her zeal for creating real community. For all these gifts, I remain eternally grateful to her."

In 1991, Dr. Arnold decided to endow two scholarships in women and gender studies (WGST), at that time her largest endowment to date, and did so in the name of Jean Dubofsky, one of her personal heroes. "Who could be a more wonderful choice to name a scholarship for in WGST than Jean," asks Dr. Arnold, who lauds the work Dubofsky has done as a pro bono legal aide for many who are less fortunate (and oftentimes women), as well as her work to overturn Colorado's Amendment 2, which denied gays and lesbians legal protection from discrimination.

"Any help we can give is a part of finding our place in the sun"

"People like to be asked to support causes that they're interested in," Dr. Arnold remarks, "and generally speaking, people don't give you money unless you ask for it." When a new scholarship named for Lucile Berkeley Buchanan was \$5000 short of its original goal in 2007, Dr. Arnold wrote emails to many of her friends, because "if 50 people were to give just \$100 each, we would reach our goal." Dr. Arnold has personally endowed several other scholarships on campus, including the Karen Raforth scholarship, which was the first for an LGBT studies student. She hoped that this first endowment would inspire other people to contribute "because women and gay people need all the help they can get, and neither has an industry to support it."

She notes that these segments of the population have had a long history of being second-class citizens, and because of that, there has been less support for programs such as gay studies and women studies, though these programs are growing. It was particularly clear in her mind that she wanted to contribute to both of these programs, and she has always encouraged others to lend their support. "Women and gay people are trying to catch-up, and any help we can give is a part of finding our place in the sun ... our seat at the table."

Dr. Arnold's support for her scholarship recipients extends beyond the monetary gift; she personally hands out the certificates to each winner and enjoys meeting with the students and their parents during the scholarship event. "They're so proud and grateful," she remarks, "and I love hearing about the incredible things these young people do – it's just amazing. If I can give them a little boost, that is wonderful."

"There are many ways to help," Dr. Arnold adds, "and it doesn't always have to be about giving money." Dr. Arnold hopes to encourage friends and alums of the Women and Gender Studies Program to "remember the program with affection, as it remembers you," and "to support the program in any way you can: through encouragement, interest, and involvement."

The Joanne Easley Arnold Annual Scholarship Awards Event will be held April 10, 2011 in the Koenig Alumni Center

You can [make a tax-deductable donation online](#), or send your check made out to the University of Colorado Foundation, along with [this completed form](#), to:
University of Colorado Foundation, Attn: Gift Processing,
4740 Walnut, Boulder, CO 80301

<http://www.cufund.org/giving-opportunities/fund-description/?id=3719>

LORRAINE BAYARD DE VOLO traveled to the European Peace University in Austria as a guest faculty on "Gender, War and Peace" in November for their master's program in peace and conflict studies that attracts students from across the globe. She also presented her work "A Revolution in the Binary?: Armed Rebellion, Hierarchy, and Gender in Nicaragua," at the Latin American Studies Association International Conference in Toronto, and gave a presentation in December with Lynn Hall entitled "Rape Culture and the U.S. Air Force Academy."

ROBERT BUFFINGTON presented his work "Intimate Transformations: Working-Class Men Confront Modern Love in Mexico City, 1900-1910" at a conference in Querétaro, Mexico in October.

ALISON JAGGAR released an edited volume, *Thomas Pogge and His Critics*, in 2010, published through Polity Press. It contains an introduction by Dr. Jagggar, critical essays by several authors, and a response by Thomas Pogge himself. Dr. Jagggar served as an editor for a special issue of the journal *Philosophical Topics* devoted to the topic of global gender justice, authoring the editor's introduction, "The Philosophical Challenges of Global Gender Justice," and the article "Transnational Cycles of Gendered Vulnerability: A Prologue to a Theory of Global Gender Injustice." (*Volume 37, Number 1, Spring 2009, appeared 2010*). She co-edited a special issue of *Bioethics: Journal of the International Association of Bioethics*, concerning the use of prisoners and other vulnerable populations in biomedical research, which included the article "Beyond the IOM: Prisoners, Children, and other Vulnerable Research Subjects," co-authored with Ben Hale, Annette Dula, and Dayna Matthew (*Volume 24, number 1, January 2010*).

CELESTE MONTOYA published a chapter on "The European Union and Transnational Advocacy: Combating Gender Violence in the Post-Communist Member States" in the edited volume *Violence against Women in Post-Communist Europe and Eurasia: Global Forces, Local Activism and Domestic Policy*, published by Indiana University Press in summer 2010. She co-authored the article "Politics Closer to Home: The Impact of Subnational Institutions on Women in Politics" with Candice Ortvals and Meg E. Rincker, which was accepted and is forthcoming at Publius. She was interviewed for an article in the November 15, 2010 edition of *Newsweek* about Berlusconi and Italian gender politics, and was invited to write a synopsis of her research on the cultural framing of gender violence in EU policy for the European Women's Lobby's inaugural publication of their new magazine. In January, Dr. Montoya presented two papers at the European Politics Research Consortium's Conference on Gender and Politics in Budapest, Hungary.

The National Women's Studies Association held its 31st annual conference in Denver this past November. Drawing over 1600 participants each year, it is the only annual meeting dedicated to showcasing the latest in feminist scholarship in the United States. This past year's theme, Difficult Dialogues II, centered on the relationship between women's studies, black studies, and ethnic studies, and the need to create new dialogues to examine these, often contested, relationships. Several of our students and faculty members participated in the conference, and our program, along with the programs at UC Denver and UC Colorado Springs, helped to host a welcome reception for all attendees.

Sharon Adams led a session entitled "Spoken Word Poet Andrea Gibson and Feminist Performance: Creating a Space for Contemplation and Activism", in which she evaluated the effectiveness of feminist performances as tools to motivate student awareness and participation.

Deepti Misri was involved in the roundtable discussion "Teaching Radical Feminist Pedagogy: Women of Color in College Classrooms," where she offered examples of her own experience as a female faculty of color, and engaged in a discussion of strategies to develop feminist and critical thinking skills in college.

Celeste Montoya participated in a workshop on "Power and Privilege at the Intersections of Race, Class and Nation" as a recipient of the Teague Civic Engagement Fellowship, where they discussed ways to incorporate intersectional civic engagement into the classroom.

This year's NWSA Annual Conference will be held November 10-13 in Atlanta, Georgia with the theme "Feminist Transformations."

Bolder Voices

Women and Gender Studies Program Newsletter

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Anne Costain

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