

*Women's and Gender
Studies Program Spring
2008 Newsletter*

*Co-Directors Anya Jabour
and Ione Crummy*

University of Montana

Spring 2008
Newsletter



Pictured: Beth Hubble, PhD,
and son, Ian, age 1 1/2.



Above: Winona LaDuke,
founding Director of the
White Earth Land Recovery
Project and this year's Women
Making History speaker in
conjunction with the Presiden-
tial Lecture Series.

Special Points of Interest

- Update: Montana Women Vote Project
- Distinguished Teaching Award
- Spring Featured Student
- Spring Scholarship Winner
- Capstone Corner

Spring Greetings

Both spring weather and spring break have come late this semester, and the spring newsletter is following suit. Despite cold temperatures outside, the Women's and Gender Studies Program is hot!

This spring we are especially proud of our featured speaker, Winona La Duke. La Duke, founding director of the White Earth Land Recovery Project and a renowned Native American speaker, shared her thoughts on environmentalism and development to a packed auditorium in February 28 as this year's Maxine Van de Wetering "Women Making History" speaker, in conjunction with the President's Lecture Series, the Native American Studies Department, the Environmental Studies Department, and the Meloy Museum. La Duke's thought-provoking presentations brought together the arts, activism, and academe as well as a diverse constituency from the campus and the community, and we were honored to be a part of her visit to Montana.

Curriculum review has been one of the Program's top priorities this semester. Following up on the goals set at the fall retreat, the WGS co-directors and the program coordinator have been hard at work overhauling the list of cross-listed courses and streamlining the requirements for the WGS minor. With an expanded list of course offerings and a coherent "core" curriculum, we are confident that our class enrollments and declared WGS students will continue the growth trend of the past five years.

As the school year draws to a close, we are laying plans for a special celebration of WGS graduates. The WGS commencement gala will give us an opportunity to recognize graduating seniors with a Minor in Women's and Gender Studies as well as those majoring in Liberal Studies with a Women's Studies Emphasis. This year we are especially pleased to honor Jennifer James, who is graduating with Honors in Liberal Studies and Women's Studies. (See inside story for more about

Jennifer.) Of course, we are proud of all of our graduates, and we invite you to join us in celebrating their accomplishments! We will be hosting the graduation ceremony on the lawn between Corbin and Brantly Halls, at 11:30 pm, Saturday, May 10th.

Another priority for the Program this spring has been to provide for continued leadership for Women's and Gender Studies. After three years in the position, Anya is stepping down as co-director at the end of this year. While we plan to conduct a national search for a full-time director soon, we needed to find someone to share administrative responsibilities with Ione in the meantime. We are delighted that Beth Hubble has agreed to serve in this capacity for the coming year. Beth has been a popular teacher of women's and gender studies courses and an active member of the Steering Committee. We're very pleased to have her join the Women's and Gender Studies Program's administrative team this coming year. - Anya and Ione

Activist Update: Montana Women Vote

Stacey Kelleen McClure, a senior in Psychology and Women's and Gender Studies, is also busy as an intern with the Montana Women Vote project (MWV).

Started in 2001 by Judy Smith under the umbrella of WORD, MWV was born as WORD noticed that only 30% of low income women were voting regular elections. MWV recognized low income women were not represented as an voting bloc or interest group when the state legislature was in session. Ten statewide groups and non-profits came together to form the Montana Women Vote project with the mission of educating low income women and allies to participate in the democratic process, voter education, voter registration and leadership development. By 2007, 77% of women who

MWV had registered to vote had done so.

At the 2007 Legislative Session in Helena, MWV held a first women's international day, a day devoted to advocacy training at the Legislature and then talking with state representatives about their individual issues. MWV now has a statewide steering committee and 85 volunteers in Missoula County alone.

Stacey talks about her involvement with MWV, how she felt empowered after volunteering a few years ago, how MWV was very supportive of her volunteering and later interning with the organization as MWV provided child care for her two small children. Stacy used her paid internship in 2007 to develop statewide materials for the coordinators around the state.



Above: A voter talks with Judy

"I didn't know of women working on women's issues in state politics. I was blown away by meeting women advocates and legislators who were working on women's and low income issues."

- Stacey McClure,

Montana Women Vote Intern

Featured Professor: Sara Hayden

Sara Hayden has been awarded the 2007-2008 Distinguished Teaching Award from the Office of the Provost. We are proud that Sara, the Co-Director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program from 2005-2007, received this prestigious award.

Sara's extensive teaching and mentoring, such as involving graduate students as editorial assistants when she was the Editor of *Women's Studies in Communication*, made her a candidate for the award.

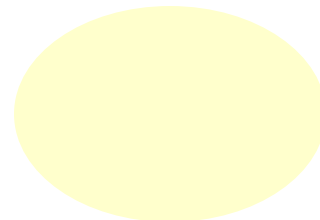
She also helped to develop, with Anya Jabour, the WGS Senior

Capstone course to include a service-learning project.

In the Communication Studies Department, Sara oversaw five independent studies in three semesters and led several students to pursue graduate degrees and careers in academia.

The nomination process for this award is rigorous and competitive. Sara was nominated by her colleagues in the Communication Studies Department, and she submitted 14 years worth of

teaching evaluations. She received letters of recommendation from fellow faculty at UM, but also from the many students she has mentored from as far away as Northwestern University. Please join us in an elated congratulations to Sara!



Featured Student: Jennifer James

Name: Jennifer James
 Hometown: Scottsbluff,
 Nebraska
 Major: Liberal Studies
 Emphasis: Women's Studies

Jennifer is graduating with Honors in Liberal Studies and Women's Studies this spring. She has volunteered for many



organizations already, including NARAL, the YWCA, NCBI and others. Jennifer is dedicated to the Women's and Gender Studies program, saying that she specifically went into Liberal Studies to be able to focus more completely on the Women's and Gender Studies emphasis.

Extracurricular activities: Jennifer enjoys going to surrounding hot springs and rivers with her son, Cadence, age 6.

Future plans: Jennifer is going to work for local non-profits with a feminist activist bent after graduating this spring and then plans to pursue her Ph.D. in Women's Studies.

Jennifer says: "The Women's and Gender Studies Program is important for everybody, not just for women, because gender is an important aspect of daily life. Coursework in women's and gender studies has helped me identify the role that gender plays in our culture, including the ways in which it gives some people privileges and denies them to others. Women's and Gender Studies has informed me on many issues and given me a clearer way of looking at the world."

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**- Jennifer James
 Honors Graduate in
 Liberal Studies and
 Women's Studies**

Faculty Accomplishments

An essay entitled, "La Barde comme génie national: *The Wild Irish Girl* de Sydney Owenson, un modèle de *Corinne, ou l'Italie*," [The Female Bard as National Genius: Sydney Owenson's *The Wild Irish Girl*, a Model for Germaine de Staël's *Corinne, or Italy*] by WGS Co-Director Ione Crummy will appear in *Cahiers Staëliens* 59 (2008).

Co-Director Anya Jabour received a Merit raise for outstanding research over the past three years.

Spring Scholarship Winner: Karen Weaver



Congratulations to our Spring 2008 scholarship winner Karen Weaver!



Each year, the Women's and Gender Studies Program honors the best work of its students and faculty through the administration of scholarships and awards. The 2007-2008 academic year brought a change to our scholarship competition. Whereas in past years we had granted one scholarship to a Women's and Gender Studies major or minor who excelled academically and who enacted her commitment to feminist issues through community activism, this year we chose to give two awards, each honoring one of the two prongs of Women's and Gender Studies work.

The Winner of the Louise Green-Elizabeth Smith Academic Scholarship is Karen Weaver.

Karen Weaver is a senior

double majoring in Sociology and Anthropology with minors in Women's and Gender Studies and in Human and Family Development. To qualify for this scholarship Karen submitted a research paper, "Women's Suffrage: The Great Unifier," that she wrote for Professor Anya Jabour's course, HIST 370: Women in America from the Civil War to the Present, during spring semester 2006. That course and other WGS courses, such as LS 119: Philosophical Perspectives on Women in the Western Hemisphere; SOC 275: Gender and Society; HIST 371: Women in America: From the Colonial Era to the Civil War; and SOC 355: Population Problems, have helped Karen "view past and current issues from a feminist perspective" and discover women's "amazing and powerful work

in all aspects of life." In addition to her full-time studies at UM and half-time employment, Karen volunteers for Students for Choice, Montana Women Vote, NARAL, the Western Montana Humane Society, and the Montana Anthropology Students Association. Karen believes that her minor in WGS will give her valuable skills for use in her future career, community and family life. Karen's professors speak highly of her investigative mind and superior analytical and writing skills. They describe her as an intelligent, dedicated, and self-motivated student, as well as a well-rounded leader and feminist activist. The Women's and Gender Studies program at UM is very pleased to offer this scholarship to Karen Weaver and has the highest confidence in her future achievements.

Fall 2008 Course Offerings (continued on next page)

Focus Courses:		WGS 342H	<i>Gender in Native American Studies</i>
WGS 263S	<i>Women's and Gender Studies</i>	MW	4:10-5:30 GBB Shanley, Kathy
Tu/Th	12:40-2:00P LA 207 Beth Hubble	WGS 370H	<i>Women in America: Colonial Era to Civil War</i>
WGS 275S	<i>Gender & Society</i>	MWF	9:10-10:00 LA 205 Jabour, Anya
MWF	12:10-1:00 LA 106 Ellestaad, June	WGS 380	<i>Gender and Communication</i>
WGS 295	<i>Intimate and Family Relations</i>	Online	Dare, Alexa
TR	4:00-5:30 ED 312 Johnson, Veronica	WGS 380	<i>Gender and Communication</i>
WGS 320	<i>Women in Antiquity</i>	M	3:10-6:00 LA 302 Staff
MWF	3:10-4:00 LA 134 Gillison, Linda	WGS 395	<i>Fathers & Daughters in West Literature</i>
WGS 324	<i>Gender and the Politics of Welfare</i>	TR	9:40-11:00 GBB 225 Vanita, Ruth
T	6:10-9 LA 138 Finn, Janet		

Capstone Corner

In the Women's and Gender Studies Capstone course this semester our graduating seniors have been working on researching on WGS related-issues and presenting their findings to several community groups.

One group has set up a panel discussion entitled "Human Papillomavirus : Have you wondered how it can affect you ?". The panelists, a local physician and a nurse practitioner, will discuss myths and facts about HPV. The panel discussion, geared toward university students and the community, was presented April 22 at 7 p.m. in LA 202.

A second group of capstone students have organized an Alter-

native Prenatal Health Care Awareness Fair at the YWCA on April 30 from 6:30- 8 p.m. Expectant mothers and the general community can talk to a local doula, herbalist, and massage therapist about natural childbirth, herbal remedies, massage, and yoga. There will be childcare provided at a children's play area to give mothers time to mingle.

Our third capstone group, focusing on food sustainability, is working with the North Missoula Co-op to develop a media plan to publicize the local program "Real Meals", which brings together women once a month to pre-

pare a meal made of locally grown food. This group hopes to foster an ongoing relationship between Real Meals and UM's WGS program.



Natural Health, Pre-Natal and Beyond Group: Mary Moon, Kaila Haffeman, Leia Pate-Terry, and Maggie Whitfield.



Women's Health and HPV Group: Kathleen Gallagher, Galen Amy, and Anna Mitchell.



Food Sustainability Group: Tanya Cohen, Rachele Cobell, and Tegan Maynard-Hahn. Not pictured: Stacey McClure

Fall 2008 Course Offerings, continued

Content Courses:

SOC 220S	<i>Race, Gender and Class</i>	HIST 367H	<i>American Families and Children</i>
MWF 10:10-11:00	LA 106 Staff	MWF 11:10-12:00	LA 138 Jabour, Anya
ANTH 330H	<i>Peoples and Cultures of the World: Indonesia</i>	SOC 370S	<i>Social Change & Global Development</i>
TR 12:40 - 2:00	OJ 217 Weix, GG	T/R 12:40-2:00	SS 254 Sobieszczyk, Teresa
ANTH 340H	<i>Contemporary Issues of Southeast Asian Peoples</i>	COUN 485	<i>Counseling Theories in Context</i>
R 6:10 - 9:00 p	OJ 304 Weix, GG	M 4:00-7:00 pm	Sommers-Flanagan, John

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We're on the web!!

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Encouraging students to think critically and envision justice for all peoples.

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