

# Women's & Gender Studies

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES • UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Fall 2009

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**October 22, 2009** at 7:00 pm, Law School Auditorium

*Adrenée Glover Freeman Lecture: "Domestic Violence in the African American Community: We Are Our Brother's & Sister's Keeper"*

Tameika Isaac Devine

**November 18, 2009** at 3:30 pm, Currell 107

*"Embodying Food Studies: Unpacking the Ways We Become What We Eat"*

Darcy Freedman, Ph.D., Social Work

**February 1, 2010** - *Words of Fire Symposium*, USC - Upstate. Details at [http://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/arts\\_sciences/womens\\_studies](http://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/arts_sciences/womens_studies)

**February 11, 2010** at 3:30 pm, Location TBA  
*Panel: Communities and Families: African American Perspectives*

Dr. Shauna M. Cooper, Ph.D., Psychology and  
Dr. Rhonda L. White-Johnson, Ph.D., Psychology

**February 25-27, 2010** "*Bodies*," the 12th Annual Comparative Literature Conference, USC - Columbia. Details at <http://www.cas.sc.edu/DLLC/CPLT/activities/12thannuonconf.html>

**MARCH 2010**- *Women's History Month*

**March 17, 2010** *Carlisle Panel Lecture*, 3:30 pm, Location TBA

*"Mi bebé, mi vida': Latina Prenatal Care Access in a Sending & Receiving Community"*  
Dr. Erica Gibson, Ph.D., Anthropology and Women's & Gender Studies

*"The Inability to Love: Jews and Gender in Contemporary German Literature"*  
Dr. Agnes Mueller, Ph.D., Languages, Literatures, & Cultures

**March 18-19, 2010** *Bodies of Knowledge Symposium*, USC - Upstate. Details at <http://www.uscupstate.edu/bodiesofknowledge>

**March 25-27, 2010** *SEWSA 2010: Cultural Productions, Gender, and Activism*  
Daniel Management Center, USC - Columbia

**April 8, 2010** "Students Creating New Knowledge" 3:30 pm, Location TBA  
Women's & Gender Studies Graduate Students' Panel

## Tameika Isaac Devine To Deliver Freeman Lecture



Tameika Isaac Devine will deliver the 2009 Adrenée Glover Freeman Lecture in African American Women's Studies on Thursday, October 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., in the USC Law School Auditorium. The topic is "Domestic Violence in the African American Community: We Are Our Brother's & Sister's Keeper."

A 1994 graduate of Hampton University and a 1997 graduate from the University Of South Carolina School Of Law, Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine is an up and coming political leader. In 2002, she defeated a 16 year incumbent city councilwoman to win the At-Large seat on Columbia (SC) City Council. Devine is the first African American female elected to council, the first African American to win an At-Large election in the city and the youngest person ever to serve on Columbia City Council. She was re-elected in 2006, in a landslide election against three challengers.

Devine is a partner in the law firm of Jabber & Isaac, PA, where she has built a thriving real estate, probate and governmental relations practice. She serves on numerous boards, commissions, and civic organizations. She is a board member of the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) and a past committee chairperson for the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO).

The Freeman Lecture was established in 1993 in memory of Adrenée Glover Freeman, a Columbia attorney who was active in civic affairs and served on the Community Advisory Board of the Women's and Gender Studies Program. The Freeman Lecture is co-sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences and the African American Studies Program. The lecture is free and open to the public. Contributions to the Freeman lecture fund may be made to the Women's and Gender Studies Endowment Fund, USC Educational Foundation, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208.

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**Notes from the Director: It's All about Change(s)**

**Drucilla K. Barker**

Well it really did happen. The Women's & Gender Studies program has moved into the Jones Physical Science building on Main Street just across from the Law School. We are housed in Suite 109. While we sure do miss our old digs, we are working to make the new space as warm and welcoming as Flinn was.

The move was nearly seamless, thanks to the help and generosity of many. Let me start with Paulette Jimenez, our program coordinator. Or perhaps I should say, our generalissima extraordinaire. She organized and supervised, packed and taped, and carried and moved, all the while doing her actual job. Packing and taping, carrying and moving, were also the lot of our administrative assistant, Jacqueline McClary who ably supervised the work-study students. Also, while still doing her actual job. The students, Linabel, Shanovia, and Aliyah were amazing.

We could not have done it without their goodwill and strong muscles.

Special mentions also go to Charo Maldonado, John Moring, and the entire painting crew for helping us make the space as nice as it is. On days when I was tired of myself and my ceaseless questions, they were unfailingly friendly, polite, and helpful. John Burbage and the other folks in tech support also need a mention here for the yeoman's work they have done getting our computers, printers, scanners, and phones up and running.

Last but certainly not least, the WGST faculty. Both the core and the affiliates have shown amazing goodwill and resourcefulness during this challenging transition. Thanks to all of you!

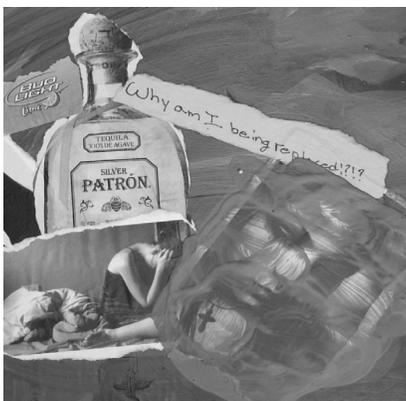
We have had a few other important and happy changes: Dr. Deborah Billings has joined the core faculty. She is a joint appointment with the Arnold School of Public Health. Welcome Debbie! Beth Fadeley, a WGST certificate student and Master's candidate in Art History, has assumed responsibility as coordinator of the Women's Well-Being Initiative. The Partnership Council is changing as well. Mary Baskin-Waters is the incoming chair and we are welcoming several new members at an upcoming retreat.

So with all these changes we are moving ahead with the core mission of our program: teaching our students, creating new knowledge, and reaching out to the community in ways that will improve the lives of women, girls, and other under represented groups. To this end the Partnership Council is considering several options to make common cause with various other progressive organizations in the greater Columbia area such as Tell Them and the New Morning Foundation. The Women's Well-Being Initiative hosted the second meeting of the West Columbia Community Advisory Board on September 21 and the first meeting of the WWBI Student League on September 23. Also this semester, the WWBI will conduct a Fall arts workshop for young women in the Lexington County Juvenile Arbitration program. The faculty are working on a variety of proposals for the Quality Enhancement Program organized around the theme of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary knowledge. Finally, we will be hosting the annual Southeastern Women's Studies Association Conference here on March 25-27, 2010.

With all these changes we are moving on and moving forward. To paraphrase a popular TV show, we are going to make it work!

**WWBI News  
Olga Ivashkevich**

As part of the Women's Well-Being Initiative (WWBI) partnership with the juvenile arbitration program of Lexington County, a team of WWBI members and student volunteers organized a four-session art workshop this summer for a group of girls between 14 and 17 years old. The workshop, entitled Un-Layered, was conducted by Olga Ivashkevich, USC assistant professor of art education, with the help of students Mary Mohr, Chayah Stoneberg-Cooper, Kathleen Hall, and Beth Rogers. It invited adolescent girl participants to uncover emotional, gendered, and socioeconomic layers that shape and constrain their lives. To explore and reflect upon these layers, the girls were introduced to the art of resistance by the visual and hip-hop feminist artists. During four workshop sessions, each of the participants created a mixed-media collage that pieced together painted expressions of their feelings, digital photographs of their home and neighborhood, magazine images, written statements, poetry, and small objects. The emotionally charged themes explored in their artwork included critique of female body images in popular culture, drug addiction, unhealthy relationships with boys, and lack of belonging.





**Letter from the Undergraduate Director: Ed Madden**

Last spring, I had the extraordinary privilege of visiting seven 499 students at their internship sites. WGST 499 is our community internship class, which we consider a kind of capstone to the major, an opportunity for our students to take the things they've learned in class and put those ideas to work in community settings. It's also an important step in professionalization, as our seniors move into the workplace or on to graduate school.

We had seven interns in community placements last spring. One of the duties of the undergraduate director is to administer the internship, which includes a site visit—and for me, the site visit is one of the highlights of my work.

Annie Boiter-Jolley took me on a tour of the South Carolina Democratic Party headquarters and talked about her grassroots work with young voters. With Dr. Laura Woliver she published a guest editorial in *The State* in March, "SC suffering from lack of female lawmakers."

In April we honored Boiter-Jolley with our annual Arney Childs Award, presented to an outstanding WGST graduating senior.

Sable Cantor let me observe her work with a special education class at Carver Lyon Elementary, where, among other things, she helped to produce a student play and dinner that brought local parents and law-enforcement together to talk about community issues. Kelly Houde gave me a tour of the American Red Cross offices, where she helped to establish their first online volunteer contact and recruitment system, as well as drafting a workflow document to help streamline the volunteer process.

Margo Peterson and Lauren Wiggins worked in the USC Office of Sexual Health and Violence Prevention, long an ally of our work. Peterson produced a documentary film about a woman's first pelvic exam, interviewing both medical providers and female students in order to address the misconceptions and myths about pelvic exams. Wiggins developed a Powerpoint presentation on same-sex dating violence as well as working with some of the office's critical campaigns, such as Stalking Awareness Week and Project Condom.

Brenna White worked with our own Women's Well-Being Initiative, and one of her really important accomplishments was establishing the WWBI student group, which continues its work this year in engaging undergraduates in the projects and issues of the Women's Well-Being Initiative.

Caroline Stallings, a double major in WGST and Psychology, worked with adolescents at the William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute for Children and Adolescents. She worked with groups on anger management and communication issues, and I had the opportunity to observe her presentation on dating violence, which was engaging for both me and the students. It was a thrill for me to see ideas and issues from our program finding such an immediate use in the community.

These are the kinds of things our students are doing in their communities and the effect our program has: grassroots political work among young voters, fostering important community relationships, devotion to the special needs of adolescents in educational and institutional settings, media projects that inform and dispel myths about women's health and sexual violence, and the creation of programs and organizations that help to meet the human resource needs of non-profit organizations and women's health initiatives. Stunning, I think, what our students can do. Every semester we send two-six students into the community to do this kind of work.

One site supervisor said of one of these interns: "She has contributed original and helpful ideas in this project. She has really been integral in getting this project going." As another supervisor said of one of our students—and as I want to say of all of our WGST students who do such important community work—"Her work was outstanding. . . . I am certain that she will have a fabulous career and go far."

**New Faculty Member Joins Women's & Gender Studies!**



Deborah L. Billings, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Arnold School of Public Health and Women's and Gender Studies at the University of South Carolina (effective August 2009).

She comes to USC after having worked for 15 years in an international women's health organization, Ipas ([www.ipas.org](http://www.ipas.org)), where she was a Senior Associate in Research and Evaluation working with women's organizations and health systems in Africa and Latin America. Dr. Billings is an Adjunct Associate Professor, University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Maternal and Child Health and provides technical guidance to Masters and PhD students at the National Institute of Public Health

(INSP) in Cuernavaca, Mexico. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a Ph.D. in Sociology. Her research examined the process of Guatemalan women's political organizing while in exile. Her research interests include sexual and reproductive health and rights, human rights, maternal health and mortality, gender-based violence, migration and exile, stigma, health systems, and community-based interventions.



## Faculty Kudos

**Katherine Adams**, WGST and English, published *Owning Up: Privacy, Property, and Belonging in U.S. Women's Life Writing*, (Oxford University Press, USA, 2009). **Drucilla K. Barker**, Director of WGST, and her co-editor, Edith Kuiper, published *Feminist Economics: Critical Concepts in Economics*, (Routledge, 2009). It is a four-volume collection of historical and contemporary work in the emerging field of feminist economics. With her co-author Susan F. Feiner, she published "Affect, Race, and Class: An Interpretive Reading of Caring Labor," *Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies* 30 (1): 41-55. **Darcy Freedman**, Social Work and WGST affiliate, was awarded "Best Dissertation Relevant to Community Psychology" by the American Psychological Association, Society for Community Research and Action. She was also the first author on "Public Health Literacy Defined," *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 36(5), 446-451. **Yvonne Ivory**, Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and WGST affiliate, published *The Homosexual Revival of Renaissance Style, 1850-1930* with Palgrave Macmillan in May. **Kevin Lewis**, RELG and WGST affiliate, has a new book forthcoming from Palgrave, *Lonesome: The Spiritual Meanings of American Solitude*. **Kathryn Luchok**, adjunct faculty in the Arnold School of Public Health and WGST affiliate, became the Director of the South Carolina Access Initiative. She has also co-authored several publications, including a paper with Prabhu Das, I, Parra Medina, D, Messias, DH, Luchok, KJ, Richter DL titled "Making it Happen: Follow-Up Decision-Making Among Low-Income African-American Women with Abnormal Pap Tests" forthcoming in the *Journal of the South Carolina Medical Association*. In addition, the work that she and Jihong Liu did with their Abney award on disparities in birth outcomes will be presented at the 138th American Health Association Meeting.

**Ed Madden**, English and WGST, was interviewed on "Walter Edgar's Journal" on South Carolina Public Radio. He is also the 2009-2010 recipient of the Irish American Cultural Institute's annual research fellowship for a residency at the National University of Ireland in Galway, which cosponsors the award. The IACI-NUIG fellowship is awarded annually to one American scholar, in any academic field, working in Irish cultural studies. Madden's project, "Quare Fellas," is a study of evolving representations of masculinity in Irish culture 1977-2002. He will be visiting faculty and research fellow at NUIG in the spring of 2010. **Jacqueline M. McClary**, M.Ed., has had her paper "The Age of Technology: Computer Literacy and the Non-Traditional College Student" accepted for publication in the 2009 issue of the *Teacher Education Journal of South Carolina*. **Agnes Mueller**, Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and WGST affiliate, was invited to guest lecture at the Free University of Berlin's Kennedy Institute with the title: "Guilt, Gender, and America: Jews and Germans in Contemporary German and American Fiction" (July 1, 2009). She published a book chapter, "Beyond Totalitarianism? Gender, Jews, and East vs. West in Peter Schneider's *Eduards Heimkehr*." *Literatur im Jahrhundert des Totalitarismus. Festschrift für Dieter Sevin*. edited by Barbara Hahn, Elke Gilson, and Holly Liu, Hildesheim: Olms, 2008, 239-255.

**Dr. Denise Shaw**, Assistant Professor of English and Women's Studies at USC Union is the recipient of two recent grants. The first, Duke University's Mary Lily Research Grant, was awarded for her current research project, Julia May and Virginia: The Making of a Modern Southern Belle. The second grant awarded is from the National Endowment for the Arts to host The Big Read in Union, South Carolina. **Kimberly Simmons**, Anthropology and WGST affiliate, published a book article *Reconstructing Racial Identity and the African Past in the Dominican Republic*, University Press of Florida. **Suzanne Swan**, Psychology and WGST, was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. **Annie Boiter-Jolley**, 2009 WGST B.A. and **Dr. Laura Woliver**, Political Science and WGST, had their guest opinion piece, "SC suffering from lack of female lawmakers," published in *The State* newspaper on March 4, 2009.

## People News

**Beth Fadeley** was named as Program Coordinator of the Women's Well-Being Project. Sheri Hardee, 2007 Certificate graduate, accepted a position as assistant professor of education in the Division of Education, Health, & Wellness at Gainesville State College. **Kate Adams** was named new Graduate Director of Women's & Gender Studies. **Suzanne Swan** will be the interim Undergraduate Director of Women's & Gender Studies. **DeAnne Messias** received a well-deserved sabbatical for the 2009/10 academic year.

## Congratulations to all our 2009 Graduates !!

### Graduate Certificate Graduates

Yamilette Chacon  
Margarita Hernandez Franco  
Christina Griffin  
Kristen Hudgins

### Bachelor of Arts

Georgette Aiken  
Annie L. Boiter-Jolley  
Sable C. Cantor  
Savannah Gwinn  
Kelly B. Houde  
Caroline C. Stallings  
Brenna N. White  
Lauren T. Wiggins

### Minors

Ashley L. Douglas  
S. Jo Dunaway  
Anna M. Mader  
Jessica L. Maples  
Stacy R. Mossor  
C. Ann Patterson  
Heather L. Reese  
Mona Strickland

## Women's and Gender Studies Program Presents Annual Awards

The USC Women's and Gender Studies program has awarded three research awards this spring to Marjorie J. Spruill, professor of history; Erica Gibson, assistant professor of anthropology and WGST; and Agnes Mueller, associate professor of German. The program also named Annie Boiter-Jolley the outstanding graduating senior with the Arney Robinson Childs Award. Sharon White, a graduate student in curriculum and instruction in the College of Education, received the program's annual undergraduate teaching award.

The 2009 Josephine Abney Faculty Research Award went to Spruill for her project, "Remembering International Women's Year 1977: A Feminist History Preservation Project." The funds will go toward transcribing a vast archive of oral interviews conducted with women who attended the 1977 International Women's Year conference in Houston, Texas, with a special focus on South Carolinians.

Two 2009 Carol Jones Carlisle Faculty Research Awards were awarded to Gibson, for her project, "Perinatal Care Access: A Cross-Cultural Study of Mexican and Mexican-American Women," and to Mueller, for "Jews and Gender in Contemporary German Literature."

### Undergraduate & Graduate Student Awards Winners

*Emily Thompson Fall 2008 Award:* Imelda Cuison  
Submission: Power, Powerlessness, and Cardiovascular Disease

*Emily Thompson Spring 2009 Award:* Chinelo Ogbuanu  
Submission: Reasons why women do not initiate breastfeeding: A southeastern state study.

*Spring 2009 Harriott Hampton Faucette Award for Women's and Gender Studies Graduate Student Research:* Sarah Gareau  
Research Proposal: Public Health Impact of Criminal Justice Referral on Substance Abuse Treatment for Women in South Carolina prior to and after the Whitner Decision

*Fall 2008 Harriott Hampton Faucette Award for Women's and Gender Studies Graduate Student Research:* Christina Griffin  
Research Proposal: Gender and Social Capital in the Recovery Stages of Disasters.

*Arney Robinson Childs Student Award (Undergraduate)*  
2008: Maria T. Reyes (alumna)  
2009: Annie Boiter-Jolley (BA alumna and first year grad student)

### 2009-2010 Award Application Deadlines:

Fall 2009

Harriott Hampton Faucette: October 14, 2009  
Josephine Abney: October 30, 2009

Spring 2010

Carol Jones Carlisle: February 4, 2010  
WGST Teaching Awards: February 4, 2010  
Harriott Hampton Faucette: February 17, 2010  
Emily Thompson: February 22, 2010  
Arney Robinson Childs: February 25, 2010

Please check our website for complete details on applying for the WGST 2009-2010 awards:  
<http://www.cas.sc.edu/wost/academics/awards.html>

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## Call for Papers

**Southeastern Women's Studies Association Conference  
At the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC**

March 25-27, 2010  
SEWSA '10

### **Cultural Productions, Gender and Activism**

Keynote Speakers: Judith Halberstam, Marjorie J. Spruill, and  
Bernice Johnson Reagon

Cultural Productions, Gender, and Resistance Theme includes:

Culture, Globalization, and Transnational Activism

Art, Culture, and Empowerment

Cultural Work as Intellectual Work

Cultural Work as Political Work

Guerrilla Art and Guerilla Activism

Art and Social Resistance

Activist Art

Grassroots Organizing through Arts and Culture

Pedagogies of the Oppressed

Theater of the Oppressed

Performance, Slam Poetry, and Politics

Thematic papers are encouraged, but we welcome paper proposals on all women's studies topics.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE for INDIVIDUAL PAPERS and SESSIONS of 3-5 PAPERS: December 1, 2009  
To submit a paper go to: <http://www.saeu.sc.edu/reg/sewsa/>



## Christina Rossetti's Rarest Book: Donors Fund a New Library Collection

Two generous donations to the libraries' Treasures Acquisition Program (TAP) have funded purchase of a new research collection of the Victorian poet Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). The new collection will be on exhibition in Thomas Cooper Library's mezzanine gallery February-April, 2010, coinciding with the upcoming SEWSA conference hosted by WGST in March.

Interest in Rossetti's poetry has been increasing in recent years, not only for researchers, but in teaching at both undergraduate and graduate level. Until now, the only Rossetti first edition in the library's Rare Books & Special Collections was her best-known book, *Goblin Market and Other Poems* (1862). Using the first gift, from an anonymous donor, department staff were able during the spring to buy, one by one, first editions of all but two of Rossetti's books, as well as some of the magazines and anthologies to which she contributed poems. The second gift, from James P. Barrow '62, sparked purchase of Rossetti's rarest book, *Verses* (1847), privately printed by her grandfather Gaetano Polidori when she was just sixteen. Only one other copy has been offered for sale in the past ten years. Next spring, in time for the SEWSA, the volume will be reproduced in facsimile for the first time since its publication, both in digital form by the libraries' Digital Collections team under Kate Boyd and as a paperback in USC Press's series Accessible Books.

The new Rossetti collection adds to earlier holdings of writing by women in Rare Books & Special Collections, including first editions by Phillis Wheatley, Jane Austen, Mary Shelley, the Brontës, George Eliot, and others, as well as more recently-acquired collections of Margaret Fuller, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.



## 12th Annual Comparative Literature Conference - BODIES February 25-27, 2010

A lot has been said about bodies, yet the body still remains one of the most contested concepts in a wide range of fields, such as art, anthropology, history, literature, medicine, philosophy, religion, as well as the study of gender and sexuality. Thinking about bodies has occasioned ongoing encounters, clashes, and border-crossings between these disciplines.

The Program in Comparative Literature at the University of South Carolina invites submissions to an interdisciplinary conference entitled "Bodies," to be held in Columbia, SC, February 25-27, 2010. We welcome papers and panels that examine bodies from any angle, and we especially encourage cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approaches. Suggested topics include, but are not limited to:

- the ghostly body
- the anorexic body
- the medical body
- bodies and biotechnology
- the self-destructive body
- the religious body
- the Oriental body
- racialized bodies
- emotional bodies
- animal bodies
- cross-dressed bodies
- transgendered bodies
- invisible bodies
- viewed bodies
- philosophies of corporeality
- speaking bodies
- corpses
- the "undead" body
- robots & cyborgs
- the disabled body
- the thinking body
- the body in the arts
- the body as metaphor
- bodies of knowledge
- loving bodies
- corporeality and writing
- body modification
- border-crossing bodies
- bodies and the grotesque
- bodies "East" and "West"

### Plenary Speakers:

Shigehisa Kuriyama, Harvard U, East Asian Languages and Civilizations

Peter McIsaac, York U, German

Please send 300-word proposals and short bio to [jieguo@sc.edu](mailto:jieguo@sc.edu) and [yivory@sc.edu](mailto:yivory@sc.edu) by November 15, 2009.



Address Service Requested

**Mission Statement:**

Women's and Gender Studies at the University of South Carolina promotes an understanding of the experiences of women and other underrepresented groups through a complete program of teaching, research, and service to the University, the local community, the state, the nation, and the global community. Through its teaching mission, Women's and Gender Studies shares this knowledge with students so that they learn to think critically, to communicate effectively, to solve problems, and to interpret human experience. Through its research mission, Women's and Gender Studies reconceptualizes existing knowledge and creates new knowledge through the lens of gender and the prism of diversity. Emerging from an activist tradition, Women's and Gender Studies serves University, local, state, national, and global communities by acting as a resource and guide for issues related to women and gender.

Our teaching, research, and service missions interweave as we create, share, and apply knowledge, skills, and values that promote the full participation of women and other underrepresented groups in society. At the core of the work of Women's and Gender Studies teaching and research at the University of South Carolina are broad but fundamental questions that drive examinations of the intersections of race, gender, ethnicity and other dimensions of inequality.

**Support USC Women's and Gender Studies and the Women's Well-Being Initiative**

The Women's and Gender Studies Program is growing. We invite you to join our efforts to promote the understanding essential to improving the lives of women and other underrepresented groups by becoming a Friend of Women's and Gender Studies.

\$25       \$50       \$100       \$250       \$500       \$1,000      Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please use my gift for the following:

Women's Studies Endowment \$ \_\_\_\_\_       Initiative for Women's Well-Being \$ \_\_\_\_\_       Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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