



WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

Calendar of Events

Women's and Gender Studies Conference, February 29-March 2, 2013, Location TBA, USC, Columbia

TRANSITIONS AND TRANSFORMATIONS: *Gender at the Crossroads of the Sciences, the Social Sciences, and the Humanities*

Published biannually by Women's and Gender Studies at the University of South Carolina

Dr. Drucilla K. Barker, Director
Dr. Ed Madden, Undergraduate Director
Dr. Agnes Mueller, Graduate Director

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712 Main Street
Columbia, South Carolina



Cynthia Hardy was the guest lecturer at the 2012 Adrenèe Glover Freeman Lecture

Cynthia Hardy, host of an independently owned news talk show broadcasting live Sunday evenings from Columbia, South Carolina on 101.3 WWDM, delivered the 2012 Adrenèe Glover Freeman Lecture in African American Women's Studies. On the show, Cynthia Hardy has conversation with a panel of newsmakers and thinkers from around the nation. A lively call in audience adds energy and insight to the discussion, broadcast from 6-7 p.m. EST in Columbia, SC. Currently in its 7th year, OnPoint! seems to have its 'finger on the pulse' of the community. So much so that now Ms. Harding has her own TV show, On Point! Sunday Mornings on Columbia's Own Wach Fox. Today she is the vice president of Maxim Communication Group where she is responsible for day to day operation of the advertising agency.

Cynthia's journalistic insight is also often sought by media outlets on the national level. She has appeared on MSNBC's Hardball with Chris Matthews, and NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw. She makes frequent appearances on NPR's News and Notes.

As a public figure and communications executive, Cynthia often looks for activities in the community in which she has opportunities to give back. She hosts the Orangeburg Teen Girls Club, a monthly program for teen girls who are either pregnant or already have children. Noting that often there is an abundance of programs to prevent teen pregnancy, but few that work with girls after they've had children, Cynthia and her sponsors work with the high school nurse and principal to provide mentors, role models, and community resources for the girls.

The Freeman Lecture was established in 1993 in memory of Adrene 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.

Call for Papers

2013 University of South Carolina Conference for Women's & Gender Studies

February 29-March 2, 2013

TRANSITIONS AND TRANSFORMATIONS:

Gender at the Crossroads of the Sciences, the Social Sciences, and the Humanities

We invite papers that focus on gender studies across and between disciplines, and papers that focus on gender studies as transitional, transformative, and transnational.

We also invite any papers that take on the trans- (papers about the ways gender studies addresses the across, the beyond, the between). This includes, but is not limited to, topics invoking the intersections of gender and the environment or gender and space.

Please send proposals of approximately 250 words to Anna Sykes, Program Coordinator for WGST, by January 10. Please email proposals to ESYKES@mailbox.sc.edu, with the subject line "WGST conference proposal."

Proposals must be received by January 10.



Notes from the Director: Drucilla K. Barker

Let me begin with apologies for the lateness of this newsletter. We have many changes in WGST! Agnes Mueller, Associate Professor of German and Comparative Literature is our Graduate Director for this year and Ed Madden, Associate Professor of English and WGST has returned as our Associate/Undergraduate Director. Anna Sykes is our new Program Coordinator. If you have not met them, please stop by and welcome them to our program. We are in Jones PSC 109. Just across from the law school.

In terms of time, not only did Anna have to learn the ins and outs of a new college (she comes to us from the School of Medicine) she also learned to use a new design software. All University offices are now required to use InDesign, a program designed for professionals. Watch for new changes on our website!

We also have USC Connect duties and submissions for the Core and are planning a workshop on the new tenure and promotion guidelines for faculty with joint appointments. So life is busy!

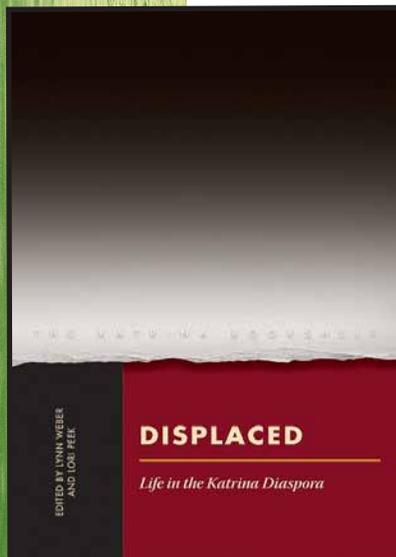
The Partnership Council has a new chair, Ginny Waller, Esq. She is the Executive Director of Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands. She is also an expectant mother! Congratulations to her on both events. (Although I suspect her upcoming motherhood is the most important for her!) Thanks so much to Mary Baskin Waters for her tireless service.

The Council has created a subcommittee to formulate a plan for their role in WGST. Julie Lumpkin, currently is the chair of the in the Office of Healthy Aging as System Developer at the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHE). I have recused myself because I want to see what they come up with without my influence. The focus will be why WGST is essential to USC maintain its Carnegie designation as a research intensive university. (What used to be called a Research One.)

If you have any ideas, please feel free to send them to our Program Coordinator. Please put in the subject line "partnership council." You all know how inundated we are with email, both important and spam!

We have also submitted three of our courses for the Core: WGST 111 - Women and Culture, WGST 112 - Women and Society, and WGST 113 - Women and Health.

Unfortunately, I am having some health problems and will be taking a medical leave. I will also be resigning as the director of WGST. Best of luck to the new interim director!



DISPLACED

Life in the Katrina Diaspora

Edited by Lynn Weber and Lori Peek

Hurricane Katrina forced the largest and most abrupt displacement in U.S. history. About 1.5 million people evacuated from the Gulf Coast preceding Katrina's landfall. New Orleans, a city of 500,000, was nearly emptied of life after the hurricane and flooding. Katrina survivors eventually scattered across all fifty states, and tens of thousands still remain displaced. Some are desperate to return to the Gulf Coast but cannot find the means. Others have chosen to make their homes elsewhere. Still others found a way to return home but were unable to stay due to the limited availability of social services, educational opportunities, health care options, and affordable housing.

The contributors to *Displaced* have been following the lives of Katrina evacuees since 2005. In this illuminating book, they offer the first comprehensive analysis of the experiences of the displaced. Drawing on research in thirteen communities in seven states across the country, the contributors describe the struggles that evacuees have faced in securing life-sustaining resources and rebuilding their lives. They also recount the impact that the displaced have had on communities that initially welcomed them and then later experienced "Katrina fatigue" as the ongoing needs of evacuees strained local resources. *Displaced* reveals that Katrina took a particularly heavy toll on households headed by low-income African American women who lost the support provided by local networks of family and friends. It also shows the resilience and resourcefulness of Katrina evacuees, who have built new networks and partnered with community organizations and religious institutions to create new lives in the diaspora.



Notes from the Graduate Director: Agnes Mueller

It's been a great pleasure to get to know such intellectually engaged and engaging students from different programs, and from many different walks of life. Beyond advocating for women's and gender issues across the curriculum, I am invested in minority and interdisciplinary studies. Fortunately, this new position allows me to help others pursue their own interdisciplinary work in women's and gender studies via our fabulous Certificate Program. I am looking

forward to meeting even more of you, so please come and meet me.

Let me introduce myself briefly. I have been a professor here at USC for 15 years, and I teach in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. My main research and teaching focus is on contemporary German Studies and Comparative Literature, but I also have interests in American Studies and in literature of the long eighteenth century. Committed to women's and minority issues, I published on Toni Morrison and German Turkish writer Emine Sevgi Özdamar. More recently, I completed a book entitled *The Inability to Love*. It is a study of how contemporary German non-Jewish writers represent Jews and Judaism in literature. Two chapters deal with the interrelation between the memory of the trauma of the Holocaust and representations of gender. My book argues that Germans have not properly worked through the guilt and shame of their German past, and therefore still today act out in ways that discriminate against women and (Jewish) minorities. I am currently working on a new book that explores the writings of contemporary German Jewish women's literature in Germany.

I teach a wide range of classes, some in German language, many in literature. For WGST, I am currently developing a brand new graduate seminar that will be offered this coming Spring. Stay tuned for details (and email me for a draft syllabus!), but the course will deal with contemporary issues in literature by women and minorities in Germany and beyond. I am very excited about this class, and look forward to an engaging and diverse group of students. For all the WGST course offerings in the Spring, please see the schedule here: <http://src6.cas.sc.edu/wgst12/sites/default/files/SPRING%202013%20courses.pdf>

And here is what other programming WGST had to offer you this semester: Thanks to the wonderful work of Alexis Stratton, we had the Feminist Film Series returning, in an exciting cooperation with the McKissick Museum. We also had a Brown Bag Lunch facilitated by Becky Collier and Erica Gibson, focusing on Pedagogy issues in October. Thank you so much to both of them for doing such important work.

In order to keep our programming fresh and engaging, I'd like to hear what YOU would like to see more of in WGST. Please email me (agnes.mueller@sc.edu), meet me, and let me know your ideas. I look forward to getting to know you, and I wish you continued success for the Fall semester.

Cordially,

Agnes Mueller

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

Spring 2012

Certificate Graduates

Sasikumar	Christiane B.
Balasundaram	Steckenbiller
Annie Boiter-Jolley	Alexis Stratton
Charis Davidson	Bethany Tisdale
Robin Estrada	
Christy Kollath	
Lydia F. Robins	
Jennifer L. Slobodian	
Micah K. Sorum	

Spring 2012 Minors

Hannah K. Adler
 Aubrey O. Carson
 Caroline Carter
 Amy C. Dewitt
 Madeleine Green
 Katelyn M. Hagan
 Denesha Haigler
 Olivia E. Hill
 Kimberly Howard

Joan M. Hurley
 Amanda Jennings
 Stevie L. Justice
 Rachel C. Lindsay
 R. L. Montgomery
 Esther C. Porter
 Alexandra Smith
 Lauren M. Smith

Spring 2012 BA

Graduates

Veronica D. King
 Lauren E. Mackey
 Kaitlyn E.
 Timmerman
 Veronica F. Van
 Winkle
 Jakquelyn A. Williams

Kudos!

● **Drucilla K. Barker** on her publications: “Querying the Paradox of Caring Labor, Rethinking Marxism; “Feminist Economics as a Theory and Method,” in a special edition on *Between Nation, State, and Sexuality*; “Feminist Economics as a Theory and Method,” in the *Handbook of Research on Gender and Economic Life*, Deborah Figart and Tonia Warnecke, eds. Edward Elgar. She presented “Querying” at the CrossRoads of Cultural Studies conference at the Sorbonne in Paris.

● **Debbie Billings**, WGST and HPEB on her publication in the *Journal of Asthma*, “Fatty Acids in Breast Milk Associated with Asthma-Like Symptoms and Atopy in Infancy: A Longitudinal Study. She is the second of five authors and the lead author of the new SAASH Call to Action Resource Document (SC State Alliance for Adolescent Sexual Health). Titled “Call to Action Resource Document,” the report is from the SC State Alliance for Adolescent Sexual Health (SAASH), a multidisciplinary team of health professionals, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders. The report asks that schools, health care providers, policy makers, and parents take immediate action, said Dr. Billings, a faculty member in the School of Public Health’s department of health promotion, education, and behavior.

● **Erica Gibson**, Anthropology and WGST, on being selected to give a TEDx talk in January with Julie Smithwick-Leone on the topic of women’s reproductive health and immigrant women in South Carolina. TED is a non-profit organization dedicated to ideas worth spreading. TEDx is a local affiliate of the national TED program, bringing together small groups of people to create connections, spark discussions, and spread new ideas.

● **Ed Madden**, English and WGST, on publishing “Queering the Irish Diaspora: David Rees and Padraig Rooney,” in a special issue of *Éire/Ireland* (summer 2012) devoted to “New Approaches to Irish Migration,” and “Gently, not gay: Proximity, Sexuality, and Irish Masculinity at the End of the Twentieth Century” in the *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies* (spring 2010, published 2012), a special issue on “Queering Ireland.”

● **Julia Elliot**, Affiliate Faculty and Extended University receiving a 2012 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer’s Award, which is given annually to six women writers who demonstrate excellence and promise in the early stages of their careers.

● **Mary Baskin Waters**: Women’s and Gender Studies, Political Science and Master of Public Administration has been presented a Champion for Our Children Certificate of Appreciation from the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. The award was presented to Dr. Mary Baskin Waters by Stacey Atkinson on behalf of of the Friends of Juvenile Justice for the work that the Spring 2012 Women In Society Service-Learning students performed on the Habitat House That DJJ Built.

● **Lynn Weber**, Women’s and Gender Studies and Psychology, on the publication of her edited volume with Lori Peek, *Displaced Life in the Katrina Diaspora*. It is a collaborative of 12 scholars from across the country who have been studying the experiences of displaced persons. An online journal at Emory University, *Southern Spaces*, has just published an excerpted version of Weber’s chapter on the experiences of the displaced in Columbia. Here is the link: “No Place To Be Displaced: Katrina Response and the Deep South’s Political Economy”. http://news.emory.edu/stories/2012/09/er_hurricane_katrina_research/campus.html

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 \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____

Send information about the Women’s and Gender Studies Program.
 Add my name to the mailing list.

Remove my name from the mailing list.
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Make checks payable to USC Educational Foundation.*

Please return to: Women’s and Gender Studies Program
Jones PSC, Suite 109
University of South Carolina
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