



WOMEN’S & GENDER STUDIES

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You can access the link for the affiliates survey at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LY7FCXQ>.

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ALICIA OSTRIKER visits USC as WGST Visiting Scholar

Poet, feminist literary critic, and Jewish studies scholar Alicia Suskin Ostriker spent a week at USC earlier this year as a Visiting Scholar and guest of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program. Her visit was sponsored in large part by a grant from the Institute for Visiting Scholars in the Office of the Provost and by WGST, with additional support from the Jewish Studies Program, the Departments of Religious Studies and English, and the Jewish Community Center.



Alicia Ostriker

The highlights of her visit were a poetry reading on campus and a presentation titled “Entering the Tents: Revisionary Midrash and Our Lives,” at the Jewish Community Center on Flora Drive. The poetry reading focused on her most recent book, *The Old Woman, the Tulip, and the Dog* (Pittsburg 2014).

As scholar and writer, Ostriker has become more and more engaged with the Jewish tradition of Midrash—homiletic stories that interpret scripture, fill in gaps and address problems, extend our understanding of scriptural narratives. To retell is to reinterpret, as she said at one campus workshop. No telling is the final telling.

Over the course of the week, Ostriker was able to work with scholars, writers, and local artists in a series of workshops and meetings both formal and informal. She began the week with a special master class in poetry for MFA students, and closed it with a fascinating workshop on “stealth feminism,” which offered a valuable and intimate discussion of feminist and creative work. She also visited classes in English and in Religious Studies and directed a workshop for both university and community participants on “Midrash as Method.” Along with the community outreach provided by the Jewish Community Center reading, WGST hosted a luncheon with community artists—writers, performance artists, visual artists, musicians—a lively and rich discussion on art, feminism, and community.

(Continued on page 3)

Notes from the Director: Ed Madden

Sending a clear signal

Thirty years ago, a group of faculty at the University of South Carolina were urging then-President James Holderman to create a new position, a Director of Women's Studies, and by the end of 1984 he had committed to do so. In a letter in our archives, dated 11 December 1984, the Advisory Group on the Status of Women commended him for the important role he played in a cultural shift at USC, part of what they described as "an historic turn in this institution's treatment of women."

"Your commitment to move on the establishment of a director of Women's Studies sends a clear signal that the University respects and supports the goals of Women's Studies, among which is enlightenment of the general population about its own members," wrote Katherine Mille on behalf of the advisory group. They also cited new policies and procedures strengthening the status of women, changes in alumni development strategies, and the president's "personal commitment to the spirit of the changes we proposed."

Filed with the letter, an undated proposal for the new director position states: "It is now clear that Women's Studies is nationally and internationally recognized as an important field for teaching and research. The time has come, therefore, for the University of South Carolina to signal its commitment to a leadership role in the state and in the region by hiring a Director for its Women's Studies Program."

It's exciting to read these documents, now that I'm newly appointed as the director of the program. Over the past few months, the WGST core faculty have been looking back and looking forward. We're planning to acknowledge our 40th anniversary in USC classrooms next year. We also just finished strategic planning and we're looking toward an external review in the fall. (If, as a program stakeholder, you would like to see our 2-page strategic planning document or the vision statement I submitted for my candidacy, please let me know and I'll gladly send copies.)

More precisely, I guess I would say we're looking back in order to better look forward.

But the language of these documents feels strangely resonant right now for other reasons, cultural and institutional. The language seems inspiring and uncanny, of another age yet fiercely apt — "historic turn," "sends a clear signal," "a leadership role." These documents depict the clarity of the historical moment, the sense of a shift in institutional commitment, the need for leadership.

An old friend called me in tears about the recent closing of the Center for Women's and Gender Studies at USC Upstate, coming on the heels of legislative attacks on textbooks at the College of Charleston and USC-Upstate and on gay-related academic programming at Upstate. As we talked, I wondered if we couldn't see this as a moment of progress, despite the setbacks, since we agreed that we couldn't imagine a public university in SC using similar gay-related books for first-year programs even 5 or 10 years ago. Even if the homophobic arm of the SC State House is raising its heavy fist against intellectual and academic freedom, she wondered if this is the just the flailing anger of someone who won't accept that the culture has shifted.

About the closing of USC Upstate's center, though, we remain deeply troubled. Administrative spokespeople have cited a variety of reasons—budgetary constraints, administrative "consistency," even a claim that the center has done such a good job of changing campus culture that it is no longer needed. On a petition site for the center, an alumna countered, "The university is not a safe and welcoming space. The Center is the only safe and welcoming space on campus. Dr. [Lisa] Johnson's work did not make the university more safe or welcoming, it made the hostility of the university bearable [. . .] to students who otherwise felt like outsiders." Sobering. A number of faculty at Upstate refused to give their names to a Charleston *City Paper* writer covering the story, more than one citing a hostile climate. (Continued on page 6.)



Ed Madden

(Continued from page 1)

Twice a finalist for the National Book Award, Alicia Ostriker has published 14 volumes of poetry, including *The Book of Life: Selected Jewish Poems 1979-2011*, and most recently *The Old Woman, the Tulip, and the Dog*. She is known for her intelligent and passionate appraisal of women's place in literature, and for investigating themes of family, Jewish identity, and social justice. Her critical work includes the now-classic *Stealing the Language: the Emergence of Women's Poetry in America*. Ostriker is also the author of critical books on the Bible, including the controversial *The Nakedness of the Fathers: Biblical Visions and Revisions*, a combination of midrash and autobiography. Her newest prose work is *For The Love of God: the Bible as an Open Book*, of which Elaine Pagels wrote, "No one who reads this amazing, brilliantly written book will ever read the Bible the same way again."



Alicia Ostriker attends a luncheon with local writers and artists

As we had hoped, Ostriker's brief residence as a visiting scholar allowed us to learn from a founding scholar in feminist literary and scriptural studies and to learn more about forms of creative-scholarly engagement with religious tradition, as well as to network with other scholars and artists across disciplines and within the community. Well over 200 people were able to meet with or hear Ostriker during her visit, and we hope these interactions will produce future interdisciplinary research and creative collaborations.

THE WIND THAT BLOWS THROUGH ME

I feel the hand of God inside my hand
when I write said the old woman
it blows me away like a hat
I'll swear God's needy hand is inside every atom
waving at us hoping we'll wave back

Sometimes I feel the presence
of the goddess inside me said the dark red tulip
and sometimes I see her
waltzing in the world around me
skirts flying though everything looks still

It doesn't matter whether you call the thing
God or goddess those are only words
said the dog panting after a run through the park
and a sprint after a squirrel
theology is bunk but the springtime wind is real

by Alicia Suskin Ostriker
from *The Old Woman, the Tulip, and the Dog* (U of Pittsburgh, 2014)
Used with author's permission

Graduate Director's Report: Susan Schramm-Pate



Susan Schramm-Pate

Enhancing Interdisciplinarity in a Collaborative Culture

As WGST Graduate Director, I work to advance USC's reputation as a top-ranked research institution and to promote graduate education in keeping with the Graduate School's motto, "Our Culture is Collaborative," by modeling collegiality amongst our community of scholars and practitioners. In, *Democracy and Education* (1918) famed educator and philosopher, John Dewey wrote that, "a democracy is more than a form of government; it is primarily a mode of associated living, of conjoint communicated experience" (p. 87). Ernest Boyer (1990) argued in, *Scholarship Reconsidered*, that higher education institutions need to place greater importance on becoming more vigorous partners in the search for answers to our most pressing social, civic, economic, and moral problems. Like me, faculty and students in the WGST Graduate Certificate Diploma Program value democracy as a disposition that emphasizes bridging differences and coming together around common interests. In this way, we see democracy is a way of being in and acting on the

world.

Interdisciplinary learning values civic engagement that emphasizes democratic values in collaboration with our local community to construct knowledge, to generate appropriate, context-specific methodologies that address home-grown challenges, and to consider the interests of our area constituents. We respect alternative perspectives, promote cooperation, nurture relationships, reflect critically on values and beliefs, and develop knowledge to address both our students' challenges in higher education and our local community's core challenges.

We have over 60 graduate students matriculating in the Certificate program (with 3 new students for spring 2014; 1 new student for summer 2014; and 5 new students for fall 2014), all concurrently enrolled in masters and doctoral degree programs across campus—ranging from the College of Arts & Sciences to the Law School to the Arnold School of Public Health to the Moore School of Business. Our students work across disciplinary lines in order to learn to communicate and cooperate both interdisciplinarily and disciplinarily. In this way, our faculty and students share ideas and work with our colleagues in other fields to translate important research for the public sphere, which reinforces the public's positive perceptions of and faith in higher education.

As Graduate Director, the women and gender studies work I find necessary and rewarding centers on interdisciplinarity vis-à-vis the development of a feminist cross-cultural mentoring model designed for female, middle-level students in our local community in what Boyer calls the "scholarship of engagement." Feminist cross-cultural mentoring requires us to lead by assuming leadership roles and collaborating with communities in civic participation that emphasizes democratic engagement and challenges the traditional assumptions that have reinforced the content-discreet "expert" model of knowledge generation, which privileges disciplinary specialization, positivistic methodologies, and apolitical scholarship.

This spring, I had the privilege of engaging with students and faculty across campus— including the Honors College, the Darla Moore School of Business and the College of Education—to promote the educational experiences of female students and build community outreach at Fulmer Middle School (FMS) through the Girls for Tomorrow (GiFT) program, a non-profit USC student organization. Many FMS students face enormous challenges due to economic hardship as well as the challenges associated with adolescence.

Within GiFT, I serve as an advisor to the young women who volunteer to serve as mentors to over 100 female students in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. They work with their mentees at FMS in workshops focused on Social Media Responsibility; Preparing for and Saving for College; Self-Esteem, Anti-Bullying; and Self-Care. The GiFT mentors use digital tools such as YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook to engage the FMS mentees, and each other at the university level, for both academic purposes and to publicize their intellectual and civic work in the West Columbia community. (Continued on page 6.)

WGST celebrates 40 years at USC this fall!

Partnership Council planning to celebrate anniversary next year

Forty years ago, fall 1974, the first women's studies class was offered at USC: UN 111, Women in Western Culture. In our newsletter last fall, we told the story of that first class, taught by Dr. Beverly Heisner (Art), Dr. Kevin Lewis (Religious Studies), and Karen Rood (English). The newsletter included images from The State newspaper coverage in 1974 and a copy of that very first exam. (If you missed it, email esykes@mailbox.sc.edu and we'll get you a copy.)

Thirty years ago, then President James B. Holderman committed to creating a new position at USC: a Director of Women's Studies. As a letter in our archives from late 1984 documents, women at the university saw this as part of "an historic turn in this institution's treatment of women."

Twenty years ago this fall, a group of female faculty and graduate students at USC were beginning to work on "We Are . . . Women," a reader's theatre production of selections from women writers (such as Margaret Atwood, Nora Ephron, Cherrie Moraga, and Sylvia Plath), which was performed in March of 1995 to coincide with the USC Women's Studies Conference.

We're working on a few things to celebrate our 40th anniversary, among them some kind of commemorative banquet, organized by our Partnership Council. Maybe even a performance of that 1995 play next spring! Or course, the bigger anniversaries are to come (2024!), but since we're already looking back to better look forward (see Notes from the Director), it's a good moment to think about who we are, where we have been, where we're going.

Sally Boyd offered her reflections on those founding years in last fall's newsletter, and we hope to offer reflections from Paula Feldman and Kevin Lewis in coming publications. If you have a story you would like to tell—an experience, a memory, an encounter from those founding years—please let us know.

More importantly, you would like to play a role in our celebration, please contact Ed Madden at maddene@mailbox.sc.edu.

Spring 2014 WGST Award Winners

Harriott Hampton Faucette Award for Graduate Student Research and Development:

Fall 2013, Travis Wagner, "Where's Your Plug?: Nationalism and Consumption of Non-Human Gendered Bodies in Contemporary East Asian Cinema"

Spring 2014, Ebru Cayir, "Understanding Historical Trauma among American Indians in a Southeastern Tribe: An Intergenerational Perspective"

Arney Robinson Childs Award for Outstanding WGST student:

Erin Lewis

Josephine Abney Faculty Fellowship Award:

Katrina Walsemann, "The health of undocumented immigrants at the intersection of gender and country of origin"

Carol Jones Carlisle Faculty Award:

Laura Woliver, "Pushing Back: the National Council of Women's Organizations and Coalition Lobbying"

The Women's & Gender Studies Program would like to offer congratulations to our newest WGST graduates of 2014: Amanda Affolter, Allana Cates, Katherine Clinkscales, Sanura Eley O'Reilly, Erin Lewis, Rachel Martin, DeMonica McIver, Julie Moran, Amber Smith and Sarah White. Go Gamecocks!

Notes from the Director: (continued from page 2)

The timing is too coincidental to recent events to think it is not related. (*The State* newspaper included the closing in a story about the Senate compromise on budget cuts and textbook selection.) The center closing reinforces the idea that the legislature is “punishing” schools for gay-related programming, and it confirms legislative micromanagement of budgets, curriculum, and resources.

In the midst of a battle over academic and intellectual freedom, you don't close the office that has become the very symbol of intellectual freedom.

However, it's about more than intellectual freedom; these events confirm political and institutional positions on the value of gender and sexuality as topics of intellectual and curricular inquiry—and the human worth of all students. The lesbian performance that so outraged a few GOP senators, scheduled (and then cancelled) at Upstate, was by a Myrtle Beach native, based in part on her experiences coming out at Coastal Carolina University. Because the closing of the center reinforces attacks on lesbian and gay representation, it also reinforces a pervasive culture of silence, stigma, and repression. This decision says to sexual minority students: *your story can't be told.*

As this newsletter goes to print, USC Upstate Chancellor Tom Moore has released a statement (on May 20) announcing a task force to plan a new campus diversity center that will include gender studies within its purview. He is at pains to insist that “this restructuring is not a capitulation to external pressure from the state legislature.” One wonders, then, why this new diversity center plan wasn't announced in advance of the closure, given the astoundingly negative publicity it was sure to (and did) provoke.

Looking through our historical documents, I wonder: what is our role in these controversies? What clear signal would we like to send? What leadership would we like to see? Civic engagement and community impact have always been central to Women's and Gender Studies at USC. Engaged scholarship is also central to one of the goals of the USC College of Arts and Sciences: “to encourage positive change through engagement with the broader society.”

After Senate debate had closed, both Dean Mary Ann Fitzpatrick and President Harris Pastides released internal statements to faculty and staff condemning the legislative attacks and the center closure. As of this writing, the center remains closed.

[See page 8 for additional comment.]

Graduate Director's Report: (continued from page 4)

I wish to congratulate our recent graduates John Knox and Rebecca Lambert (spring 2014). I also want to congratulate the recent winners of the Harriet Hampton Faucette Prize: Travis Wagner (fall 2013) for his research “Where's Your Plug?: Nationalism and Consumption of Non-Human Gendered Bodies in Contemporary East Asian Cinema”; and Ebru Cayir (spring 2014) for her research “Understanding Historical Trauma among American Indians in a Southeastern Tribe: An Intergenerational Perspective.” These distinguished WGST students represent the type of leadership and of civic engagement and the level of democratic work Dewey and Boyer called for in their collaboration with the public to address one of society's core challenges—empowering historically marginalized and diverse groups of people.

References:

Boyer, E. L. (1990). *Scholarship reconsidered: Priorities of the professoriate*. Princeton, NJ: The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Dewey, J. (1918). *Democracy and education*. New York: the Free Press.

WWBI Spring 2014 Update

Program receives ASPIRE grant

For its “Arts-Based Community Interventions for At Risk Youth” proposal, the Women’s Well-Being Initiative (WWBI) has received a highly competitive ASPIRE-II grant, offered by the Office of the Vice President for Research to support “existing collaborative interdisciplinary research that is nationally and internationally competitive.” WWBI will use the funding to evaluate the effectiveness of its arts-based community program with female juvenile offenders, to assess community changes in perceptions of these offenders, and to seek funding to expand the model throughout the state.

Last month, WWBI wrapped up our spring community youth interventions. Nine girls successfully completed the arts-based program for female juvenile offenders. The girls created books that reflected who they are and who they want to be—through portrait drawings, collage, and written reflections based on workshop discussions. The next session is scheduled to begin in June. Second Chance—a collaboration with Brookland-Cayce and Airport High Schools, Juvenile Arbitration, and other state agencies to divert students from the court system—graduated 6 students this spring. The program hosted speakers from numerous social service agencies in the Midlands. And students created artwork that was exhibited at April’s First Thursdays on Main.

Additionally, this semester WWBI staff and faculty presented on our youth models at the International Intersectionality Conference in Vancouver, the USC’s Women’s and Gender Studies Conference, and the Juvenile Arbitration’s arbitrator training workshop and for the Lexington County School District 1 guidance counselors. WWBI will expand its art program to Camp Aspen for Boys this summer.

Check us out on the web: <http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/wwbi/>

Want to get involved? Email wwbiusc@gmail.com

WGST Library now has online catalogue!

Need an essay in feminist theory—and the only library copy is checked out?

Looking for something for a course packet on feminism, but not sure exactly what?

In an effort to make the WGST library both useful and *used*, we have begun to catalogue the collection on LibraryThing.com. The catalogue will include all books, journals, and DVDs currently available in Jones 109. (Our small DVD collection is frequently used and growing.)

We hope that faculty affiliates and students will use our collection. The library currently includes reference works (*International Encyclopedia of Women*), useful anthologies (*Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings, or Theorizing Masculinities*), legal and other discipline-specific works (*Sexuality, Gender, and the Law*), and feminist classics. (And we gladly accept donations of books relevant to women’s and gender studies.)

If you want to check out a book or DVD, please make sure that one of the office staff or work-study students record the loan.

For more information, look for the USCWGSTLibrary catalogue at LibraryThing.com.



Meshe Sullivan and Jake Isenberg catalogue books for the WGST Library

WGST ADDRESSES LEGISLATIVE ATTACKS ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

As a Gamecock, my imagination has no limits.

A number of controversies related to academic programming and academic freedom in South Carolina have appeared in the news lately. The South Carolina legislature attacked USC Upstate and College of Charleston over first-year reading book selections that addressed homosexuality, with some legislatures urging both schools' budgets be cut by the exact amount they spent on the texts in order to "punish" them. Later Upstate legislators attacked programming at USC Upstate, and the Spartanburg's Center for Women's and Gender Studies was closed.

USC WGST responded with an op-ed by Ed Madden (with lots of suggestions and edits by WGST core faculty as he revised it), an op-ed taking as its inspiration USC's No Limits campaign.

The article was published in The State, 1 May 2014 (page A9).

LIMITING IMAGINATION

Published online as "Is This Column Pornographic? You Decide."

by Ed Madden
Guest Columnist

COLUMBIA, SC — For the past few years, the University of South Carolina has been using a "No Limits" campaign to talk about our values and our aspirations. It's a powerful way to tell our stories. A banner on the historic Horseshoe proclaims: As a Gamecock, my teaching has no limits.

I would like to think that's true, but some legislators think otherwise. They think there should be limits — on what and how we teach.

Some Republicans want to punish universities for teaching books that address gay and lesbian issues in campus reading programs. The College of Charleston used *Fun Home*, Alison Bechdel's graphic novel about a young lesbian. The University of South Carolina Upstate used *Out Loud: The Best of Rainbow Radio*, a collection of essays about being lesbian and gay in South Carolina, which I co-edited.

Rep. Garry Smith, who led the charge in the House to punish the schools by cutting their budgets, characterized both books as "pornographic." To do so, he took a couple of images in Bechdel out of context, and he apparently decided not to read *Out Loud*, a collection of 44 essays by 32 South Carolinians, gay and straight.

As a Gamecock, my compassion has no limits.

Out Loud opens with an essay by a teenager about having a gay uncle, and includes essays about coming out as an Iraq war vet and taking a dying man to church. The only way you could call this book pornographic is if you think the simple representation of lesbian and gay lives is pornographic. (Using that rationale, this op-ed by an openly gay man is also pornographic.)

Sens. Mike Fair and Lee Bright piled on, attacking USC Upstate for a small gender-studies conference that included a satiric performance called "How to Be a Lesbian in 10 Days or Less." Irony-impaired Fair called it an attempt to "recruit" lesbians.

"It has always been my goal to make gay and lesbian students feel like a visible and valued part of the student population," said conference director Merri Lisa Johnson.

As a Gamecock, my dedication to students has no limits.

In a fundraising letter in March, Smith called the books "pornographic propaganda without any alternative or counter-balancing view." I guess a discussion of sexual difference is not "balanced" unless you include someone calling gay people sick and sinful.

Having served on the First Year Reading book-selection committee at the Columbia campus, I know how difficult book selection can be. We always considered relevance one of our primary selection criteria. Is the book relevant in some way to students, to the community, to university initiatives, to current society, to pressing issues?

The point is to use a book to get students thinking and talking, to involve them in sustained civil and intellectual discourse — about fellow students with disabilities or ethical issues arising from new medical technologies (to note recent topics). In a diverse and complex world, books help us discuss pressing and sometimes difficult issues with reason and empathy rather than with simplistic arguments or dismissive bigotry.

As a Gamecock, my pursuit of knowledge has no limits.

Fair remarked that students should no more be exposed to these texts than to “skinheads and radical Islam.” I can only think that if we better understood class and race resentments or Islamic fundamentalism, we might more effectively address the dangers of both.

Even if the Senate doesn’t uphold the budget cuts, these attacks will have a chilling effect on future curricular decisions. I can’t imagine any text-selection committee in this state will make such brave or relevant selections in the wake of this controversy.

If we learn anything from this moment, it is that it is difficult to discuss homosexuality, with reason and empathy, in South Carolina. We learn that some public leaders would impose limits on what we can teach, what we can discuss, what we can learn. We learn that there are those who would limit the kind of society we can have, by limiting the kind of change we can imagine.

— Dr. Madden is director of USC’s Women & Gender Studies Program and former chair of USC’s First Year Reading Experience book selection committee.

WGST HOSTS FORUM ON PARTNER BENEFITS

Over 60 people crowded into Currell 205 for “The Quest for Domestic Partner Benefits at the University of Georgia: Lessons Learned for Other Southern Universities,” a forum WGST hosted earlier this spring with the USC LGBTQ Faculty Coalition and the College of Social Work. This presentation and panel discussion focused on campaigns for benefits equity both at University of Georgia and elsewhere in the South.

Nearly 80% of the top ranked public research universities in the United States offer full health insurance benefits for domestic partners/same-sex spouses of university employees. For the remaining universities in the rapidly dwindling minority (almost all of which are located in the South), the lack of such benefits hinders recruitment and retention of top faculty and staff, contributes to the broader reputation that southern states are backwards and discriminatory, and harms our national reputation. Dr. Janet Frick and Deirdre Kane of the University of Georgia discussed the campaign for benefit equity for domestic partners at the University of Georgia, as well as successful campaigns elsewhere.

Frick is an Associate Professor of Psychology and Associate Department Head at UGA, where she has been on the faculty since 1997. She has been a member (and occasional chair) of UGA’s Human Resource Committee of University Council (UGA’s faculty senate) for many years, and in that capacity has worked hard as an ally to increase benefits and recognition for LGBT faculty and staff on campus. Kane is Director of MBA Admissions for the Full-Time program at UGA and Chair of GLOBES, an organization that supports queer faculty and staff and provides outreach and education services to the campus and local community. Before joining the Terry College as Associate Director of MBA Admissions for the Full-Time Program in 2011, she worked for 12 years at the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

After their presentation, they were joined for a panel discussion by local attorney Malissa Burnette, a specialist in employment and labor law and director of the SC Equality Post-DOMA Litigation Task Force, and by Dr. Kirk Foster, an assistant professor of social work at USC.



*Dr. Janet Frick,
Associate Professor of
Psychology, University
of Georgia*

Tyburczy wins LGBTQ Article Award

Assistant Professor of English and WGST Affiliate Jennifer Tyburczy received the Modern Languages Crompton-Noll Award at the Modern Language Association convention in January 2014. Presented by the GL/Q Caucus for the Modern Languages, the award recognizes the best essay in lesbian, gay, queer studies in the modern languages/literatures. Tyburczy's award-winning essay, "Queer Curatorship: Performing the History of Race, Sex, and Power in Museums" appeared in *Women & Performance* (23.1, 2013). The award pays tribute to Louis Crompton, who passed away in 2009, and Dolores Noll (Kent State University), two early scholar/activists who helped found the gay and lesbian caucus of the MLA.

As one judge for the Crompton-Noll Prize wrote: "This article goes above and beyond a traditional reading of a cultural text or theoretical explication; it simultaneously shows the everyday efficacy of queer theory - showing how contemporary interventions in queer temporality can inform the way curators and museums display the queer past - while also offering a distinct concept (queer curatorship) to describe a new kind of radical practice that can implement these insights in material ways."

A longer version of the essay will reappear in her first book, *Sex Museums: The Politics and Performance of Display* (forthcoming with the University of Chicago Press in 2015).

Congratulations to WGST Affiliate Jennifer Tyburczy!



GL/Q Caucus of the MLA Award Event: From left to right: Jenny James, GL/Q Caucus Treasurer; Melissa González, GL/Q Caucus Vice-President; Guillermo De Los Reyes, winner of the Michael Lynch Service Award; Jennifer Tyburczy, winner of the Crompton-Noll Award; Larry LaFontain, GL/Q Caucus President; Mel Chen, winner of the Alan Bray Memorial Book Prize

Have YOU completed our Affiliate Faculty Survey?

As the WGST Program enters its 40th year, we are updating our Faculty Affiliates files. With updated information, we hope to gain a better sense of teaching profiles of our faculty and affiliates, current research directions, and fields of expertise available to our WGST students.

Last fall, a committee of affiliates suggested that we also survey of affiliate faculty about what programs are most useful.

Affiliate faculty and staff include full- and part-time employees of the University who teach WGST core or cross-listed courses, whose research and publications are gender-focused, and/or who may provide some service to the program (for example, serving on a program or student committee, serving as a liaison, or other forms of support).

If you haven't yet submitted your updated form, please email mcclaryj@mailbox.sc.edu or maddene@mailbox.sc.edu and we will get you the forms.

You can access the link for the affiliates survey at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LY7FCXQ>.

Kudos!

Drucilla K. Barker, Anthropology and WGST, published “Gender, Class and Location in the Global Economy,” with her coauthor Edith Kuiper, in *The SAGE Handbook of Feminist Theory*. She was a plenary speaker at the Crisis Economics Workshop at the Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of Minnesota.

WGST adjunct instructor **Rebecca Collier** received a Two Thumbs Up Award from the Office of Student Disability Services in April, during the Delta Alpha Pi induction ceremony. The award recognizes faculty and staff who have gone above and beyond in advocating for students with disabilities and contributing to their success.

Erica Gibson, Anthropology and WGST, testified in front of the South Carolina House of Representatives about the importance for women of keeping birth centers open during open comments on a new birth center bill that has been proposed. She also has a chapter about the outbreak of H1N1 swine flu, entitled “A Pandemic Pig Tale,” forthcoming in *Community Health Narratives: A Reader for Youth*.

WGST affiliate and Art Education faculty **Olga Ivashkevich** won the Southeastern Region Higher Education Art Educator Award, awarded by the National Art Education Association. She won

the award based on her community work with the Women’s Well Being Initiative and the arts-based intervention projects with young girls.

Ed Madden, English and WGST, published his third book of poetry, *Nest*, with Salmon Poetry of Ireland this spring. The orchestral and choral production of *My Father’s House*, his collaboration with local composer Patrick Dover, was performed at Tapp’s Art Center last November. He also presented at Columbia’s TedX talks in January—“How to lift him,” a talk about his experience helping with his father’s hospice care.

With co-researchers Jennifer Salinas, Daisy Morales-Campos, and Deborah Parra-Medina, **DeAnne K. Hilfinger Messias**, Nursing and WGST, published “English language proficiency and physical activity in Mexican origin immigrants living in South Texas and South Carolina” in the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved* (2014). With WGST certificate student Kristen Van De Griend, she also recently published “Expanding the Conceptualization of Workplace Violence: Implications for Research, Policy, and Practice,” in *Sex Roles* (2014).

Ann Ramsdell, USC School of Medicine and WGST, published “Morphometric and fractal dimension analysis identifies early neoplastic changes in mammary epithelium of MMTV-cNeu mice,” with JW Fuseler, JP Robichaux, and Atiyah Hi, in *Anticancer Research* (2014).

Suzanne Swan, Psychology and WGST, chaired a symposium entitled “The role of traditional and non-traditional gender attitudes in intimate partner violence and bystander actions to prevent violence,” at the meeting of the Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists, in Augusta, GA in November 2013. Several USC graduate students in Psychology presented their research at the symposium, including Peter Warren, Diane Woodbrown, and Andrew Schramm.

Lynn Weber, Psychology and WGST, just published *Hurricane Katrina and the Forgotten Coast of Mississippi* (Cambridge, 2014) with her co-editors Susan Cutter, Christopher T. Emrich, Jerry T. Mitchell, Walter W. Piergorsch, and Mark M. Smith. The book, which includes Weber’s essay “Powering an Unequal Recovery,” examines the impact of Hurricane Katrina on southern Mississippi and examines the role of inequalities in the recovery process.

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

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WGST website at <http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/wgst>

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Ed Madden's column on first-year reading controversy – *The State*

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/01/3419090/madden-is-this-a-pornographic.html>

Alison Piepmeier's column on academic freedom at College of Charleston – *The State*
[Piepmeier is the director of Women's & Gender Studies at the College of Charleston.]

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3418581/piepmeier-college-of-charleston.html>

“What's Wrong with SC Legislators?”

Old Broad New Trix blog by WGST Partnership Council member Sheryl McAlister

<http://oldbroadnewtrix.com/2014/05/18/whats-wrong-with-scs-legislators/>

Quest for Domestic Partner Benefits at the University of Georgia: USC forum and workshop with Dr. Janet Frick and Deirdre Kane, University of Georgia

[Thank you to filmmaker Brian Harmon for the footage.]

<http://vimeo.com/88438482>

Ed Madden's Ted talk - “How to lift him”

<http://tedxtalks.ted.com/video/How-to-lift-him-Ed-Madden-at-TE;search%3AColumbia>