

2005

Program Notes- Oct. 2005

Women's Studies Program Staff

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WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM (WSP)



PROGRAM NOTES VOLUME 28 NUMBER 1 October 2005

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

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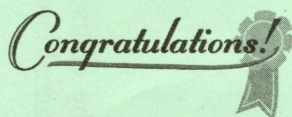
The Women's Studies Program would like to introduce a few more people who have made Women's Studies a part of their life.

Farewell Renny Golden, Justice Studies



At the potluck in May, 2005 we said farewell to Professor Renny Golden (Justice Studies and Women's Studies), who retired in the summer.

To honor Renny's lifelong commitment to activism, and her dedication to taking students to the field and instilling in them a passion for justice, we established the **Renny Golden Activist Award**. Funds for this student award will go through the Women's Studies NEIU Foundation account, so if you would like to make a tax exempt donation, please make a note to the Foundation that it should go into this fund.



Spring/Summer 2005 Graduates

Monica Carlin, Minor
Aubrey Gillett, Minor
Diane Ruse, Minor
Deborah Vege, Minor
Vanessa Villanova, Minor
Emily Winesberry, Major

2005 WS Distinguished Student Award Recipients

Claudia Alvidrez, Minor
Patricia Gomez, Minor
Heather Kopolnek, Major
Krystle McRoberts, Major

Fall 2004 Dean's List

Belinda Copeland, Major
Alphonso Fuller-Rogers, Major
Julie Hackman, Major
Denise McClay, Major
Emily Winesberry, Major

Spring 2005 Dean's List

Amy Halpren, Major

Susie Schubert, Women's Studies Major



Susie Schubert, a new Women's Studies major, says that becoming a student at NEIU has been great fun. She says, "I wasn't scared. This school welcomes you with open arms. Students don't make you feel like 'Who's this old goat?' The other students make you feel like you're one of them." Susie started college in 2004, at age 52.

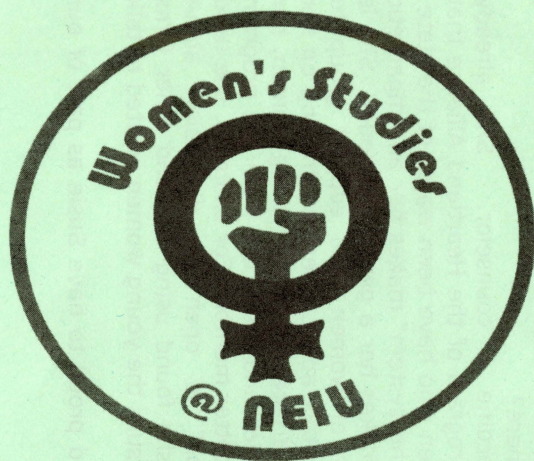
Her life so far tells a story that is central to why Women's Studies came to be. Her life story represents struggle, resilience, and empowerment.

Mother of six and grandmother of ten, Susie grew up in a series of foster homes before being adopted at age 10 in a small Kentucky town. There she married young, divorced and began raising her kids, often working three jobs to support them. She attended vocational school and became a cosmetologist and had her own beauty shop, but years ago sold it and moved to Chicago for additional opportunities. Susie's journey to college has not been the easiest, but she is "proud of the things I've done to raise my kids."

Susie's history has given her a critical perspective on injustices of today. After years of working so many diverse jobs, today she relies on disability. She comments on the trap such programs create, "they give you just enough to where you can't survive, but they want you to better yourself." Further, she graduated high school in 1968 at the height of another war; over half the boys in her graduating class were killed in Vietnam. Now, we're in a war in Iraq, which she says is another Vietnam; it's about oil. Why are we there?

Susie aims to become a counselor. She already volunteers with the Neon program of the Heartland Alliance that serves 18-21 year old women who have been wards of the state. Her own experience with "the system" makes her an empathetic listener and her resilience makes her a good role model. She is working with small groups of women in a support group to explore issues they want to talk about. Besides drawing on her extensive life experience and listening to the young women, her learning from women's studies and resources from the program office are helping her be a better mentor. For example, she used the video, "Sisters Speak" to open up discussion about relationship violence, and she found using this and other films really helped pinpoint the issues the young women wanted to talk about.

We are honored and proud to have Susie as part of our program.



Women's Studies Courses Spring 2006

WSP 101-01 Women's Perspectives & Values

WSP 101-18 Women's Perspectives & Values

WSP 101-31 Women's Perspectives & Values

Examines the philosophical basis of patriarchy and analyzes the impact of gender on the lives of women. Emphasis is placed on the effects of ethnicity, race, class, and sexual orientation on women's status. *(This is a General Education course and fulfills a Humanities requirement.)*

Instructor: Harper 1:00 - 2:15 pm MW B 158 Ref. # 15025

Instructor: TBA 6:00 - 8:40 pm M ELC 128 Ref. # 15030

Instructor: Fuller 5:40 - 6:55 pm MW FA 104 Ref. # 15035

SP 350-31 Seminar In Women's Studies

4:15 - 6:55 pm T FA 216 Ref. #15020

This interdisciplinary seminar builds on knowledge gained in other Women's Studies classes. Research will focus on feminist theory and methodology.
Instructor: Fuller

ENGL 371-31 Studies in Women's Literature

5:40 - 6:55 pm MW CLS 2020 Ref. #18205

Literature by or about women; includes writing by women, portrayals of female characters, attitudes toward women and women's roles; other thematic concerns. Instructor: Over

ENGL 382-31 Chicano/a Literature

7:05 - 9:45 pm T CLS 2020 Ref: #18220

Instructor: Libretti (Of special interest but not cross-listed.)

JUST 322-31 Women, Justice and the Law

4:15 - 6:55 pm W SCI S211 Ref. #12980

A discussion of justice and its intersection with gender. The course focuses on federal statutes and their interpretation, on sexual harassment and employment and state statutes focusing on family law and criminal law. Instructor: Bernstein

JUST 325-31 Women and Revolution

4:15 - 5:30 pm TR FA 153 Ref. #12985

Theories of justice informing revolutionary practice with attention to the role played by women in revolution, especially in liberation struggles in Central America. Instructor: Capeheart

PHIL 353-01 Feminism & Philosophy of Science

10:50 am - 12:05 pm TR CLS 3056 Ref. #14175

Analytic examination of the concept of femininity as found in the biological and social sciences in order to facilitate discussion of the nature of objectivity and scientific investigation. Instructor: Hoagland

PSCI 307K-01 Gender and Development

10:50 am - 12:05 pm TR SCI S111 Ref. #14455

Exploration at an advanced level of issues of gender in the developing world. Instructor: Wooden

PSYC 312-01 Psychological Development in Women

1:00 - 1:50 pm MWF SCI S311 Ref. #14630

Psychological development and identity formation in women with emphasis on personality, psychosexual and cognitive development. Instructor: Hollis-Sawyer

SOC 105-01 Women, Men, and Social Change

Instructor: Hayes 12:15 - 1:30 pm TR SCI S144 Ref. #18415

SOC 105-18 Women, Men, and Social Change

Instructor: Ryan 6:00 – 8:00 pm T ELC 137 Ref. # 18850

SOC 105-31 Women, Men, and Social Change

Instructor: Hayes 4:15 - 5:30 pm TR B 152 Ref. #14795

The course will consider the consequences of the social organization of gender relations and possibilities for change in the positions of men and women in society. (*This is a General Education course and fulfills a Behavioral/Social Sciences requirement.*)

SOC 214-31 Sociology of Marriage and the Family

4:15 - 5:30 pm MW CLS 2094 Ref. #14800

This course will examine the major issues involved in the criticisms of family systems with a view to predicting how current forms are likely to mesh with changing trends to form marriage and family patterns in the future. Instructor: TBA

SOC 270-18 Sociology of the Latina

Instructor: TBA 6:00 – 8:40 pm R ELC 127 Ref.#18855

SOC 270-32 Sociology of the Latina

Instructor: TBA 10:50 am - 1:30 pm S TBA Ref. #18420

Study of the role, played by the Latina, and the social, economic and political issues that affect her life. The relationship between class and gender, and the impact of modernization on women's roles and status will be examined.

SOC 306-01 American Women: The Changing Image

10:50 am - 12:05 pm TR CLS 2109 Ref. #14835

This course will analyze women's varying roles, statuses and life opportunities; covers the feminist movement, past and present with special emphasis on the intersection of gender, race, and social class. Instructor: Thompson

SOC 329-31 Sociology of Violence

7:05 - 9:45 pm R B152 Ref. #14875

Cross cultural study and focus on social and psychological explanations of violence in American society. Instructor: Hayes

QUESTIONS?

Contact Laurie Fuller, Coordinator (LS-Fuller@neiu.edu) 773-442-4552 or Ann Botz, Secretary (A-Botz@neiu.edu) 773-442-4550

Visit our website at <http://www.neiu.edu/~wstudies/>

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NAJMA AND NANCY NATIONALLY NETWORKED AT 2005 NWSA CONFERENCE

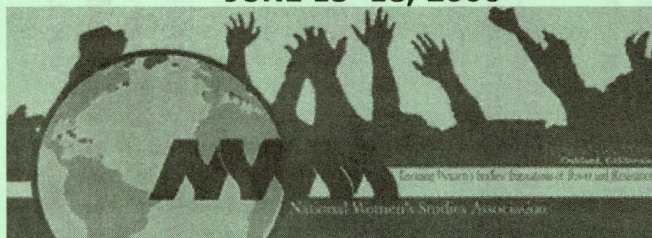
In June, 2005, Women's Studies Faculty Nancy Matthews (then acting coordinator) and Najma Adam (Social Work) attended the Annual Conference of the National Women's Studies Association in Orlando, Florida. Both attended the Program Administrators and Directors pre-conference, with Najma participating in the NWSA initiative to promote leadership development among women of color. Nancy and Najma enjoyed the opportunity to network with people from a wide variety of other women's studies programs. They collected ideas about student recruitment and participation, program review, and programming. (And felt proud of all that our NEIU program has accomplished.)

Women and the Environment was the NWSA general conference theme, where they were inspired by keynote speakers Dr. Vandana Shiva and Winona LaDuke, among others. Dr. Shiva, a physicist and environmental activist based in Dehra Dun, India, spoke about her work building a movement to protect the environment from destructive international development projects and the impact of global policies of the World Bank, IMF and GATT on women in developing countries. Winona LaDuke echoed similar themes in relation to protecting native culture and resources in the US.

Think about attending this year's conference!

"Locating Women's Studies: Formations of Power and Resistance"

**National Women's Studies Association
Oakland, California
JUNE 15-18, 2006**



Call for Proposals:

NWSA invites papers that examine women's studies education, scholarship, service, and activism wherever they occur, whether in Research I institutions, comprehensive or liberal arts campuses, community colleges, K-12 schools, women's centers, research institutes, community organizations, or via independent scholarship and creative works. Note that all proposals must be submitted electronically via the conference site or to nwsaoffice@nwsa.org by **midnight EST on November 1, 2005.**

For more information about the conference and the call for proposals see <http://www.nwsa.org>

LOVE YOUR BODY

April 19th, 2005 was Love Your Body Day at NEIU, thanks to an incredible effort by the WSP 202 Feminist Activism class. The all-day series of workshops and displays were presented in the Student Union with a good turnout of students attending, despite the unseasonably warm weather that brought sweltering temperatures to the SU. Guest speakers invited and arranged by students in the class taught engaging and active workshops ranging from "Solo Flight" on masturbation, to belly-dancing and self-defense. Students from the class offered excellent presentations on vegetarian eating and alternative menstrual products. At the end of an exhausting, but satisfying day, another guest led a relaxation and meditation session.

Students in the class practiced and learned many important lessons and skills for everyday activism. Their "hard work, organization, and preparation put into action" (J. Hackman) and they enjoyed the sense of camaraderie and mutual support. They learned that some things, like getting an audience to come, are more challenging than they appear, and that detailed planning is essential to the success of an educational event. They also learned valuable lessons about working together across differences: "Working together, and getting along helped tremendously. Getting along didn't necessarily mean that we all saw the same point of view, or that we all agreed with one another all the time. Recognizing that we are all different, and that we all contributed something different is what made our event successful." (V. Martinez).

