Save the Dates

“Silent Choices”
January 22, 7:00 pm
EUC Auditorium

“The Vagina Monologues”
February 13-14 - 7:30 pm
EUC Auditorium

Women’s History Month Programs
Multicultural Resource Center
Lecture, March 19, 4:00 pm
“Women’s Roles Around the World”
Breastfeeding & Feminism Symposium
“From Birthplace to Workplace”
March 26 and 27

The Carlisle Research Grant Lecture
Dr. Michelle Dowd
April 15 - 4:00 pm
Claxton Room, EUC

WGS Annual Awards Luncheon
Wednesday, May 6 - 12:00 noon
Alexander Room, EUC

International Biennial Conference on Feminist Theory & Music
May 27-31

Women’s and Gender Studies, African American Studies, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs welcomed Dr. Marisa Fuentes as the signature speaker for the fall 2008 Co-Curricular Lecture Series. In her presentation “Silenced Histories: Enslaved Women, the Archive, and Power in the Urban Atlantic World,” Fuentes discussed the silences in the records around female slavery and the ways in which some historians of female slavery have overlooked how the nature of the archive prevents us from articulating the many facets of enslaved women’s lives. Specific attention was given to slave societies in Bridgetown, Barbados and Charleston, South Carolina.

Fuentes is a Post Doctoral Research Associate in the Curriculum in Women’s Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. She received her Ph.D. in the Department of African American Studies from UC-Berkeley. Fuentes’ work brings together critical historiography, historical geography, anthropology, and black feminist theory to analyze enslaved women in the urban Atlantic.

Feminist Theory and Music 10:
Improvising and Galvanizing

The tenth meeting of the international, biennial conference Feminist Theory and Music will take place at UNCG May 27-31, 2009. Because FTM is the most prestigious regularly occurring conference dedicated to music and its intersection with feminism, gender, and sexuality, it draws accomplished scholars and provides a crucible for innovative research. Not only does such a conference serve UNCG’s research mission, it also honors our history as a women’s college. The planned line-up includes an onstage interview with the Darlinettes, Greensboro’s all-girl group of the WWII era; Yolanda Broyles-Gonzalez, author of Lydia Mendoza’s Life in the Music; Tammy Kernodle, author of Soul on Soul, a biography of composer and pianist Mary Lou Williams; and a panel on Title IX, Music, and Academic Careers.

Together with paper presentations, musical performances, and lecture-recitals, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a workshop on feminist ethnography/oral history with the Darlinettes, led by Sherrie Tucker. An exhibition on feminist visual art will also be on display at UNCG’s Weatherspoon Art Museum.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Keathley, Associate Professor in Historical Musicology and WGS, at ekeathl@uncg.edu.

Dr. Marisa J. Fuentes

http://wgs.uncg.edu
Greetings to our alumni, long-time supporters and friends of Women’s and Gender Studies at UNCG. It is an interesting time in our collaborative growth. With the help of our new colleague, Dr. Tara Green, Director of African American Studies, we are once again searching for a jointly appointed faculty colleague who will help advance the aim of WGS to offer courses and scholarly exchanges that articulate the ongoing links between race, gender, social class, and sexuality within a transnational awareness. To aid in this, 27 faculty from 16 different departments were appointed to the WGS faculty this year. These appointments formally recognize the important work that faculty from across the university have contributed to the WGS program over the years. As well, during spring semester, we were fortunate to have Dr. Delia Douglas spend 6 weeks with us as a visiting scholar in biology. Dr. Douglas and Dr. Sabrina Ross accepted appointments as visiting assistant professor for the 2008-09 academic year; and Dr. Nadine Ehler’s wrapped up her 1 year appointment with WGS and moved onto a faculty position at Georgetown University.

Clearly, we have been fortunate that the College of Arts and Sciences was able to fund the presence of so many fine scholars in WGS this year. This infusion of varied scholarly interests and expertise highlights the need to establish a regular Visiting Scholar appointment in WGS. Given current budget conditions, a development initiative such an appointment may be coming soon. Do let us know if you’d like to participate in such a campaign — there are many roles to play in such an initiative, including simply helping us to increase interactions between faculty, students, and off-campus community members.

As to the core of the WGS program, our curriculum, the Undergraduate Studies Committee is reviewing and revising the program’s student learning goals. Last year, exit interviews with graduating students and faculty teaching observations highlighted our program’s many successes. Notably, students consistently reported that WGS presented them with intellectual and political challenges not often found in their other courses, and highlighted the many ways instructors continue to expand the boundaries of the kind of work possible in WGS. In the coming year we plan to rearticulate student learning outcomes, and more fully include intersectional analyses, critical transnationalisms, theories of social construction, and an integrated application of queer theories, theories of racial formation, and feminist theories.

At the graduate level, we continue to surpass projected enrollments in the MA program, as we prepare to recognize our second graduating class in May 2009. Both the MA and Post-Baccalaureate Certificate continue to serve graduate students well, especially as new courses, like Social Entrepreneurship and Feminist Praxis (Dr. Channelle James, Bryan School of Business and Questrom, Race, and Empire in the US Context (Dr. Mark Rifkin, English) are offered by our faculty affiliates across campus. As a reminder to all of our readers, one does not need to be enrolled in a degree program to complete the PBC in WGS — it is a stand-alone program and may be especially attractive to those who wish they could have majored in WGS “back in the day.”

Finally, as we draft these comments, we sit one week before the 2008 US presidential election in which a young vote, grassroots organizing, and democratic practice (not just voting) made change possible. It was also an election in which we were asked by Hillary Clinton to separate race and gender, as if Hillary is not located in a racial hierarchy and Barack is not located in a gender hierarchy — both live at the intersections of inherited conditions of race, gender, social class, and sexuality, as do we all. Throughout the campaign season deep divisions in feminisms coupled with not-so-subtle messages about race and gender, as if Hillary is not located in a racial hierarchy and Barack is not located in a gender hierarchy — both live at the intersections of inherited conditions of race, gender, social class, and sexuality, as do we all.

Dr. Jacqueline White has collaborated with Dr. Jen Read as a co-investigator at the University of Buffalo on a National Institute of Drug Abuse funded project on Trauma, Trauma Sequelae and Substance Use. Preliminary results suggest substances are associated with traumatic stress, but vary for women and men because females are at an increased risk for exposure to traumatic experiences. As a result of her findings, she is calling for a new framework of feminist resilience that focuses on re-creating a discourse on female binge drinking and its consequences.

Tracy Nichols, Associate Professor of Public Health Education, is currently involved with BRIGHT (Building Relationships Involve Giving Hope Together) and M4M (Men for Mothers).

Sunny Yarborough

Dr. Jill Green, Associate Professor of Exercise and Sport Science, began a six week long Kinetic Awareness™ study on the UNCG campus. The project aimed to identify if Kinetic Awareness™ would reduce fatigue and improve sleep and quality of life for breast cancer survivors. The system, comprised of body-mind awareness and movement that includes ball work, enhances the understanding of the language that the body uses to communicate. Breast cancer survivors who participated did experience fatigue, but breathing techniques and ball work provided low physical activity that helped to increase energy levels. KA also provided a calming effect for breast cancer survivors, and overall, the women felt more in control of their lives and health in general.

Faculty Research and Publications

C.P. Gause’s latest publication is entitled Integration Matters: Navigating Identity, Culture, and Resistance (Peter Lang, 2008). Gause’s book “conceptually integrates queer legal theory, the tenets of critical spatiality, and notions of collaborative activism to construct a blueprint for realizing academic achievement and academic success for all students.” (Pub. notes, 2008)

Mary Ellis Gibson presented her research this past summer in Ghent, Belgium at the Europan Europa conference on European Avant-Gardes and Modernism. In November she presented at the North American Victorian Studies Association conference at Yale University.

Diane Gill, Professor in the Department of Exercise & Sport Science, recently completed two chapters relating to gender and cultural diversity within sport and exercise psychology. The chapters include journal keeping, and discussions on parent-child communication. M4M groups meet every other Tuesday at the Women’s Resource Center.

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Message From the Directors

WGS Graduate Program Director and Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations has published Feminist Theories and Education, a primer which introduces various perspectives of feminisms, covering a chronology of over five centuries in feminist work and theorizing.

Karen Weyer, Associate Professor of American Literature, was awarded a 2008-09 research fellowship to the Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. While on research leave in Philadelphia, she is working on how Phyllis Wheatley used broadside publications to establish her reputation as a poet.

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Cristen Bullock, who graduated in 2008 with a double major in Spanish and Women’s and Gender Studies, currently teaches Spanish at Eastern Guilford High School. She is working on her K-12 teaching licensure through NC Teach and hopes to start working on a Master’s in Education in the spring.

Kia Davis graduated in 2008 with a double major in Social Work and Gender Studies. She is an administrative assistant for the Hope Project, a youth gang prevention program that operates out of the City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department. She is also working on a graduate certificate at UNCG in Nonprofit Management through the Political Science Department.

Suzanne E. Deggs-White received her WGS graduate certificate and PhD in Counseling and Counselor Education in 2003. She works as an Associate Professor at Purdue University, Calumet campus, where she received tenure in May 2009. Suzanne also works as a licensed mental health counselor and has a small private practice that works with adolescent girls and adult women.

Jessica East received her WGS graduate certificate in 2003 and her PhD in Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations in 2004. She is currently the project director of Women and Children’s Services at the California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, California.

Rachel Goldstein completed the graduate certificate program in 2003 and is currently working on an MA in Photography at Savannah College of Art and Design. She still enjoys drinking out of her WGS coffee mug.

Christy Hyman, a 2008 WGS graduate, completed the graduate certificate program in 2003 and is currently working with WGS graduates on a film that will be shown at Savannah College of Art and Design. She still enjoys drinking out of her WGS coffee mug.

Annie Silberman was contracted by North Carolina Families United Inc. (NCFU), a 2005 WGS graduate, lives in New York; she serves on the Women’s Studies committee and is currently an Assistant Professor in Social and Psychological Foundations in 2004. She recently took the position as Director of Women’s and Children’s Services at the Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, California.

Rachel Bailey Jones graduated in 2007 with a PhD in Cultural Studies and Women’s and Gender Studies in 2005. She currently teaches at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas as an Assistant Professor where her teaching areas include diversity, diagnosis, and community agency counseling.

Jamesa Bitting McGriff completed a double major in African American Studies and Women’s and Gender Studies in 2005. She is currently working on a PhD in Counseling and Counselor Education and a graduate certificate in WGS. She currently teaches at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas as an Assistant Professor where her teaching areas include diversity, diagnosis, and community agency counseling.

Donyell Roseboro graduated from the MA program in May 2008. Damie then accepted the position of Youth Transition Program Director with North Carolina Families United Inc. (NCFU), a 2005 WGS graduate, lives in New York; she serves on the Women’s Studies committee and is currently an Assistant Professor in Social and Psychological Foundations in 2004. She recently took the position as Director of Women’s and Children’s Services at the Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, California.

Lilit (Rae) Marcus is a 1996 WGS graduate who is currently working on an MA in Psychology. She currently teaches at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas as an Assistant Professor where her teaching areas include diversity, diagnosis, and community agency counseling.

Jasmine Modoor was our first MA graduate in 2007. She is a student at the Howard University School of Law and was recently named a Womble Carlyle Scholar. Through this award, Jasmine will receive a scholarship as well as an offer of summer employment.

Casey Barrio Minton graduated in 2005 with a P.h.D. in Counseling and Counselor Education and a graduate certificate in WGS. She currently teaches at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas as an Assistant Professor where her teaching areas include diversity, diagnosis, and community agency counseling.

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Sarah meets some new friends “Down Under” to make new friends and try new things was very rewarding. I quickly fell in love with my new surroundings and Australian culture! Some of my favorite experiences in Australia include feeding kangaroos, running a marathon along the Great Ocean road, traveling to Tasmania, and exploring the beaches along the southern coast.

I chose to study at Macquarie because the university offers a strong Women’s Studies program and degree. I had the opportunity to take a course in the Women’s Studies program entitled “Family Values” in the 21st Century. In the course, we examined women’s changing roles within the family over the past century. I was particularly interested in the things we examined in relation to connecting feminist values with “family” values. We also studied feminism theory and spent a few classes discussing Australian masculinity which was one of my favorite topics within the course. I definitely see myself as a more well rounded student and citizen of the world as a result of my study abroad experience.
What Can You Do With Your WGS 650 Paper?

by Sarah Colonna

I went into WGS 650 in the fall of 2006 unsure of my writing and somewhat intimidated by the thought of the final paper. I ended up writing “Feminism and Systems Theory, Then What?” It is an analysis of feminism within systems of language, the academy, and heterosexuality that, for me, seemed foundational, but when interrogated I found ways to offer my critique to these areas. As 650 ended, I could not get these ideas, or this paper, out of my head. I kept coming back to the concepts in other things that I was reading, and papers seemed to somehow shadow the systems that I had written about. After having conversations with Dr. Danielle Bouchard and others, I decided that presenting at a conference would be a good way to revisit this paper. I was able to make some changes and condense it for presentation. In April 2008, I presented the paper at the Southeastern Women’s Studies Association (SEWSA) conference in Charlotte, and in October 2008 I presented it at the 17th Annual Women and Society conference at Marist College in Douglassny, NY.

Sarah Colonna will complete her WGS M.A. in December. She also currently teaches a section of WGS 250: Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies.

History in the Making 2008 Democratic National Convention

by Samantha Korb

Throughout the week in Denver, I was taken back from the welcomes we received from residents and businesses. I was greeted wherever I went with smiles, hugs and prayers because not only was I in their city supporting their economy, but because the excitement I felt about changing their city and our nation was so prevalent among the Denver residents. The amount of political discourse was so high, and I felt like I was home.

As I sat high up in Invesco Field at Mile High, the speakers were small as ants in my eye that final night of the convention, but the feeling there did not change. I was completely convinced it was time to elect Obama to expand my rights as a LGBT American, secure women’s rights, make healthcare more affordable, end the Iraq war, and fix the economic crisis we are currently in.

Love Your Body Week

by Kimber Heinz

Love Your Body Day is an annual campaign originally created and nationally sponsored by the National Organization for Women (NOW), a historic advocacy organization for women’s rights. Each year US communities and classrooms are put to the challenge of hosting events that help foster engaged dialogue, learning opportunities and community building around what it means to be embodied as a woman in our culture. Classically, these events have critically examined beauty standards and the ways in which women and girls have learned to have unrealistic expectations for their bodies based on images of the “ideal woman” projected by the media and in advertising. At UNCG, Love Your Body Day turned into Love Your Body Week, and for the third year in a row WGS hosted this event series on our campus with renewed energy and a broader focus. This focus pushed the boundaries of the original NOW campaign to include critical discussions about different kinds of embodiment and the ways in which our bodies are situated in and constituted by history and community and the ways we have learned to think about ourselves and others.

Love Your Body week was co-sponsored by the UNCG Student Health Center and WGS. VOX (Voices of Planned Parenthood) and Student Health spent all week in the Elliott University Center, handing out Love Your Body Week t-shirts and flyers to passers-by, along with condoms, lube and literature of all kinds. The Counseling and Testing Center hosted the “Burial of Hauntings” project, which had people bring in items from home that reminded them of something negative about their bodies that they wanted to retire. People who came up to the table made tombstones for their object of choice or about the negative ideas that they were working through, for anonymous display on the outside walkway of the EUC.

On Monday evening, WGS hosted the first film of the week, Killing Us Softly 3. Jean Kilbourne’s film that looks at gender representation in advertising, with a discussion led by PhD student and WGS instructor Sabrina Puenzo. On Tuesday, WGS hosted our second Salon of the year, a discussion on Masculinities with the help of David Rogers, our facilitator and a PhD candidate in the English department, and a panel of six featured guests who do work in Masculinities as students, educators, activists, counselors and administrators. This lunchtime discussion posed the question, “Why have a discussion about Masculinities during LYB Week?” This was followed on Tuesday evening with a showing of NO! The Rape Documentary, a film by Asha Shahida Simmons about sexual assault in the African American community, from the perspective of Black women survivors and at the intersections of race, gender and sexuality. This film screening was followed by a discussion led by Lori Hinsley from the Counseling and Testing Center.

Student Health hosted a discussion on “Sex, Stereotypes and Beauty” on Wednesday, which was the perfect segue into Thursday’s Self-Care day event! All about letting UNCG students love their bodies, Self-Care day brought in various self-care focused providers from the Greensboro community to provide students with free massages, holistic health counseling, facials, hand and foot scrubs and affirmation therapy. Our featured health service providers included Kammaleahh Livingstone and Miriam Biber from Sustainable Health Choices, representatives from BeautiControl Greensboro, and Natasha Edwards, MA candidate in WGS. Thanks to all of our providers and everyone who came out for a fun afternoon! Thursday night’s film was XXX, by Argentinian filmmaker Lucia Puenzo about the coming of age experiences of an intense teen struggling to negotiate identity outside of the male/female gender binary, followed by a discussion led by Kimber Heinz, MA candidate in WGS. Friday was the last day of LYB Week and was led by Dr. Jill Green and Dr. Kerrie Jean-Hudson from the Dance Department, who took students through movement based body awareness exercises and connected these activities to discussions of body image.

This year’s Love Your Body Week was a whirlwind of activity and it challenged students to think about their bodies both in terms of self-care and self-love and in terms of embodiment as coextensive with histories of oppression based on race, gender, class, sexuality and ability in the US. Borrowing from NOW’s legacy of activism, we took up Love Your Body Day in an attempt to make space on our campus for all kinds of bodies, challenging ourselves to broaden the scope of our thinking and discussions and revising the campaign in a “uniquely WGS” way.
The Vagina Monologues 2007
by Noelle Avina

From the second year in a row, under the direction of Alicia Sowisdral, the UNCG production of The Vagina Monologues offered two nights of critical, funny, and poignant stagings of Eve Ensler’s original work. Not only did the production entertain and raise awareness about physical and rhetorical violence targeting women’s bodies, it also garnered donations totaling $2,700, for The Clara House of Greensboro. Noelle Avina made the trek to the V-Day celebration in New Orleans. Below is a brief, but powerful description of her journey.

Noelle Avina on the Road, V to the Tenth:

Driving into New Orleans was an emotional experience. It had been three years since hurricane Katrina, and the first time I had returned since the storm. Trying to keep my eyes on the road, I drove by buildings and houses with roofs blown off and shattered windows. Of those who survived, many poor and homeless remain in a tent city below I-10. I had come down for two reasons, 1. Because New Orleans has always felt like home and 2. This year’s spotlight for The Vagina Monologues 2008 was to celebrate the 10th anniversary of The Vagina Monologues (V to the Tenth) which had returned since the storm. Trying to keep my eyes on the road, I could easily feel the uneasy ghosts of trauma that had taken place in that very building. But now the superdome was about love and healing. A new monologue performed by Liz Mikel, “Hey Miss Pat,” an account of one woman’s struggle after the storm, while art, performance and bonding occurred, you could readily feel the uneasy ghosts of trauma.

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WGS 450: Special Topics “Cinemas of Empire”
by Danielle Bouchard

One of the highlights of my semester has been teaching a special topics course, which I have entitled “Cinemas of Empire.” We have been watching a wide variety of films, taking them not just as objects to be analyzed but as texts which themselves actively produce theory and cultural meaning, and thus allow us to engage in feminist, anti-racist, and queer thought. We examine the complicity of cinema, colonialism, and racial and sexual formation, juxtaposing a study of colonial cinema industries with a consideration of filmmakers who have grappled with what it means to see oneself as an “other” and in doing so have presented challenges to dominant ways of looking.

WGS Welcomes New Visiting Assistant Professor
by Liz McDaniel

Women’s and Gender Studies welcomes Dr. Sabrina Ross as Visiting Assistant Professor to our program and to African American Studies. Ross received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from UNCG, which include a Ph.D. in Cultural Studies from the School of Education.

She currently teaches two sections of WGS 333, Gendered Worlds, and one section of AFS 201, Introduction to African American Studies. In the spring, Ross will continue to teach a section of WGS 333 in addition to WGS 651, Feminist Research Analysis, and a course she developed entitled Postmodern Blackness.

Most of her research focuses on the history and thought of African American women. According to Ross, her research broadly explores the understanding of oppression and “the ways in which groups that experience oppression can be motivated by those experiences to work for social justice or to reproduce/perpetuate structures of oppression and domination.” She recently completed work on a research project with the Center for Youth, Families, and Community Partnerships and is currently working on sections for two books, one being a piece on genital mutilation for the Encyclopedia of Feminist Thought and the other addressing social theory as a means to teach about race.

On her experience thus far in WGS, Ross is appreciative of all the support extended to her from WGS faculty, staff, and friends. She is especially excited about the diversity of experiences and understandings that has emerged in her classes. Ross notes, “I believe that honoring and attending to these differences help to prepare students and faculty for participation in our increasingly global society. I am glad that my presence in the WGS program is contributing to increased diversity in these courses.”

WGS Grad Student Association

Last spring, a group of Women’s and Gender Studies graduate students decided that it was time to form a Women’s and Gender Studies grad student association. As we moved into our third year as a Master’s program, WGS students came together to brainstorm new ways to create community and build relationships with students and faculty from other programs and departments. The WGS CSA hosts regular events for our current students and alumni and is currently working on creating a mentorship program to connect incoming grad students to WGS alumni and to Greensboro community members who do work in their areas of interest. Another goal of the CSA is to maintain an organized body of WGS students to have a voice in WGS decision-making, including in the WGS/AFS (African-American Studies) joint-appointment faculty hiring decision to be made this school year. We hope to build more members and on-campus support for the CSA as we discover our collective interests and continue to grow!

For more information about the CSA, contact the WGS office at (336)334-5673.
The Bennett College Quartet listens to their favorite numbers. Date: unknown.

A suffrage booth on the Woman’s College campus around 1918/1919.

Founded in 1873, largely through the inspiration of newly emancipated enslaved people, Bennett College began its history from the basement of Warnersville Methodist Episcopal Church North.

The UNCG Friends of Women’s and Gender Studies launched the Linda Arnold Carlisle Professorship in 2002 as a means to enhance the academic and co-curricular programs of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program. The professorship rewards the most promising faculty research agendas while using that selected research focus to build energy throughout the WGS Program and the campus community. Jackie White, Professor of Psychology, served as the first Professor from 2002-2004. She conducted work on girls and violence, which led to other grants and projects and informed her work as editor of Psychology of Women Quarterly. White was succeeded by Paige Hall Smith, director of the Center for Women’s Health and Wellness at UNCG, who served from 2004-2006. Through the Professorship, Smith launched the First Annual Breastfeeding and Feminism Symposium in 2005. Smith’s work on breastfeeding and the workplace continues to develop and remain relevant as evident in the annual symposiums which have grown to national forums. The fourth annual symposium will return to the UNCG campus in March. After the Professorship began to receive state matching funds, its title changed to the Linda Arnold Carlisle Distinguished Excellence Professorship in Women’s and Gender Studies. Dr. Hephzbah Roskelly, Professor of English, is the current and first Distinguished Excellence Professor in an interdisciplinary program at UNCG.

Professor Roskelly’s original research as the Linda Arnold Carlisle Professor brings together the social activism of Ida B. Wells and Jane Addams in post Civil War America. Roskelly’s lecture in the fall of 2007 explored connections between the civil rights activist and the social settlement director, showing how these two women worked together and wrote about methods to achieve social justice. The lecture argued that Wells and Addams learned lessons in their humanitarian and feminist work that teachers and theorists interested in social activism, cosmopolitanism, and pragmatic philosophy can make use of today. Addams called the process of connection, collaboration and change she saw in her research “affectionate interpretation,” and the lecture suggested that affectionate interpretation can become a methodology for bridging the divides created by inequities in society. The process of what she also called “social amelioration” acknowledges difference, asserts humility in relationships between self and other, and insists on the possibility of change through principled action. Taking its ideas from the pragmatic philosophy of John Dewey, William James and C. S. Peirce, the feminist pragmatic approach of Addams and Wells invites new voices to become part of the cultural dialogue and locates new ways to listen to and act on the messages those voices deliver. The lecture will become a cornerstone of the book Roskelly is writing on women, pragmatism, and feminism, Certain About Uncertainty: Feminist Rhetoric and the Hope for Peace.

Her research on the interconnectedness of Wells’ and Addams’ work inspired Roskelly in planning an event that connects the WGS program to the wider university community. What evolved is a Symposium with Bennett College that investigates the history of how women from Bennett and UNCG, formerly Woman’s College, have worked together towards social justice. The Symposium will address not only the history of the relationships between students at Bennett and Women’s College, but also the institutional and intellectual challenges of Women’s Studies programs in general, and new possibilities for connections between these two historically strong programs.

Specifically, Bennett and UNCG students are engaging in archival research to prepare for the event, and they will facilitate discussions around their findings, sharing information and ideas about the work of female college students in Greensboro from the early days of women’s education in the city through the 20th century. According to Roskelly, “Presentations, readings, and stories will help recover the history of education for white women and women of color in the city and draw connections between the two groups that might lead to new collaborations in the 21st century.” The Symposium, entitled Affectionate Interpretation: The Parallel Histories of Civic Engagement by Students at Bennett College and UNCG, will be held at the Greensboro Central Public Library from 2:00-5:00 p.m. on December 5, 2008.

Bennett students picketed the National Theatre in downtown Greensboro at the showing of Tobacco Road during the early 1960’s.

WWII students practicing first aid at Woman’s College.

WWI students practicing first aid at Woman’s College, and WWI students rolling bandages; girl standing is Mary McLean, class of ’45.

Certain About Uncertainty: Feminist Rhetoric and the Hope for Peace.

The Bennett College Quartet listens to their favorite numbers. Date: unknown.

A suffrage booth on the Woman’s College campus around 1918/1919.

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