A Word from the Chair

The news for the academic year (2009-10) has been all about the deterioration of the UC system and our economy at large. Drastically, despite student and faculty protests across campuses, the University of California Board of Regents approved a 32 percent fee increase, pushing the annual tuition above $10,000, the highest tuition fee in the history of the UC system. As we experience uncertainty regarding the security of our jobs, the stability of our retirement plans and the dismantling of public education, I want to remind ourselves on the power of hope. Hope, in Emily Dickinson words, “is the thing with feathers—that perches in the soul.”

I sincerely hope for the best to the 2010 graduating class of Women’s Studies. In this Newsletter, we celebrate all your accomplishments. Congratulations Class of 2010!

The Art of Hope: Evelyn Wilson (1915-2006)

Five sculptures (each sculpture about sixteen inches in height) by Evelyn Wilson have been donated to Women’s Studies (February 2010). The donation was made by the artist’s daughter, Joanne Jaffè, from the Ben and Evelyn Wilson Foundation. Since the passing of her mother in 2006, Joanne has donated her mother’s sculptures to about 65 museums and colleges in the East coast.

Following her father’s death in 2001, Joanne’s mother came to live with her in Santa Monica and continued to be amazingly creative until her 90th birthday. Recently Joanne has been donating her Santa Monica work to universities and colleges in California: UCLA, Redlands, Pomona, Northridge, La Verne, UC Santa Barbara and UC Riverside.

The terra cotta sculptures of Evelyn Wilson: (from top to bottom, page 2) Mother and Child, After the Bath, The Lesson, Girl with Mirror, and Friendship, have become the center pieces of our departmental library. The pieces express the beauty of humanity and the sense of life, conveying a message of hope.
About Evelyn Wilson

Evelyn Wilson (1915-2006) exhibited her sculpture extensively for over 45 years. It was the monumentality of her small sculptures that drew the attention of the late Henry Geldzahler, former curator at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, who wrote, “Her modeled figure groups, about sixteen inches in height, make no compromises as far as scale is concerned. One can well imagine them at full human scale, or even larger.” Other critics have noted a kinship between her work and the sculptures of Greece, Rome, Byzantium, and Renaissance Italy, and, among the moderns, Henry Moore and Picasso.

Wilson’s figures are marked by an economy of detail that heightens their emotional impact. Depicted in intimate grouping—mostly of women and children—the sculptures convey a sense of gentleness and calm. “I always try in my work to express the inner spirit—to communicate the essential beauty of human beings,” said the sculptor. “I’m offended by the chaos and destructiveness in the world, so I create an idealized realm where people nurture each other and relate to each other with sympathy and compassion.”

For many years Wilson led a double life. Married to the painter Ben Wilson (1913-2001), she had a successful career in the cosmetics industry-- where she was executive vice president of Faberge, president of Faberge France, and a designer for Revlon, among others. At the same time she was a frequently exhibiting sculptor, working abstractly in stone, hydrocal, and bronze. Her discovery of clay and figurative sculpture coincided with her retirement. “It was love at first touch,” she recalled. She immediately began working in clay exclusively. “Clay works with me. It’s very responsive to the hands,” she explained.

During the ’90s, Wilson decided to illustrate some of her favorite literary works with her sculpture and produced several large series that are now in universities and museums in NY and NJ. Her Mother Goose series is in the Zimmerli Art Museum, and her Canterbury Tales and Iliad and Odyssey are at Rutgers University. Her Old Testament illustrations are on permanent display at the museum of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Manhattan. Many of the sculptures in her largest series, which she title “Community of Women” and considered her major opus, are permanently housed in many museums and university collections on the east coast.

Until moving to California, after her husband of 65 years passed away, Wilson fired in an electric kiln at cone 06 and finished her pieces with stains or glazes, but after moving to California in 2001, she turned to unglazed stoneware fired in a gas kiln. “I never could have predicted that at the age of 86 I’d begin working in a new way,” she confided. “I love experimenting with new clays now, and achieving a stone-like effect without any additional surface treatment.”

Up until her 90th birthday, she continued to work every day for several hours. “Sculpting enables me to live creatively,” she said. “It fulfills a need. I continue to do what pleases me and accords with my views. I’m grateful that I’m still able to work every day.” She passed away peacefully several months later.

The majority of her work and her archive are housed in the sculptor’s pre-Revolutionary stone house and studio in Blairstown, New Jersey.
Discovering Women's Studies in my first year at UCR was liberating because I never knew such vast knowledge existed on struggles that I have pondered about. Women's Studies is critical in our society because of its alternative views to what history books and mainstream society typically tells us. Over the past four years, I have acquired knowledge about worldwide struggles and the brave people who have organized to improve their situations. This ultimately led me to the path I'm on now -- pursuing a Master's degree in Social Work at USC in the fall semester.

-Kristina Tran

Education is a succession of eye-openers each involving the repudiation of some previously held belief." - George Bernard Shaw

This is what I reflect on when thinking back on my education through the Women's Studies Department at UC Riverside. I knew that I was hooked into the curriculum in WMST 1, winter quarter of my first year, when Dr. Gailey turned my world upside down by challenging my preconceived notions about the two gender system. I was challenged further by Dr. Chatterjee, who on the first day of class encouraged us to "get pissed off" about what we were reading because "without emotion our education was pointless." A good chunk of my third year was spent sitting in one of Dr. Ward's classes with my jaw on the floor regarding the vast amount of Queer (her story) that had been conveniently left out of mainstream textbooks. Further, Dr. Hafez continued to press my boundaries by encouraging me to realize that every single piece of information fed to us is through someone else's "lens." She also taught me about hegemony, and how to challenge conventional knowledge production, particularly regarding gender and culture, which may be one of the most important pieces of information I will walk away from UCR with. Lastly, there is Dr. Arrizón, who was never willing to back down from a debate. One of my fondest memories regarding the Women's Studies Department is that it is very tight nit-so professor's who I had never taken class with knew who I was. There was a vast sense of community, and everyone was always willing to help you, from Renee, who I think knew who I was after the first time I walked into the office to Mike, who put up with dozens of emails and instant messages in trying to put up with my ever changing class schedule. (A special shout out to Dr. Arrizón and Dr. Ward for letting me leave class early on more than one occasion so that I could make it to football practice on time....Myself and the California Quake Defensive Line thank you!)

In short, I would like to thank the entire department for opening my eyes and challenging me to challenge my own boundaries, I will take what I have learned with me to the University of San Francisco's Sport Management M.A. program, where I will challenge everyone else's conventionality, as well as my own.

Thank you.

-Vern Staffel
Graduating Majors Final Thoughts Cont.

After my first WMST course, I began to see the world through the feminist perspective and as we all know, there was no turning back. I immediately switched my major from psychology to women's studies the following quarter. Since then, I knew this discipline was for me, as it challenged me in new ways, exposed me to new knowledge and experiences that are indispensable to my personal development. After graduation, I will continue the fight during my fellowship at The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Los Angeles.

-Lucia Hincapie

Undergraduate Faculty Advisor

Student Advising

In the fall 2009, I assumed the responsibility of Undergraduate Faculty Advisor. I have since been working closely with our women's studies major and minor students to expose them to different avenues of academic and leadership skill development. A lot of great things have happened since then. We started a student association, officially known as Women's Studies Student Association (WSSA), which runs on a strong commitment to co-leadership structure. Our leaders, Brittnee, Krystal, Damaris, Brenda, Kevin, Carolina, Soha and Tangela, have done a fantastic job moving WSSA forward, and I cannot be more grateful.

WSSA students are very enthusiastic about their intellectual prospects. About twenty WSSA students and five others from philosophy, history, media and political science, who heard of the great things WSSA was doing, have so far attended local, regional and national conferences. I am grateful to Women's Studies department, David Fairris, Yolanda Moses, Georgia Warnke, Amalia Cabezas, Marguerite Waller and Christine Gailey for providing financial support to our students who attended a national conference at Southern Connecticut State University on “Women and Girls of Color: History, Heritage and Heterogeneity” from April 16-17, 2010.

The association has developed some goals including building community and collaboration with others. Working with different professors and graduate students in the Dance department, we raised funds for Haiti and supported the efforts of Partners in Health in Haiti.

We also have a community potluck for every first Monday of the month. We hope to see you at one of the potlucks in the fall.~~~

Dr. Tushabe

The Women's Studies Student Association (WSSA) invites UCR community staff, students and faculty to MUST Do Monday Potluck. MUST Do Monday (1st Monday of every month) is a practice of community building that brings together community members to break bread and enhance meaning of who we are in community. Please bring food, drink, stories and laughter to INTN 2043.
Women’s Studies Student Association (WSSA)

Women’s Studies Student Association (WSSA) is an organization created out of the necessity for greater representation of feminist issues and struggles that are not limited to women but also men of every race, age, and sexuality. As President of WSSA, I believe our organization is critical to the UCR community because it raises awareness around issues of gender(s), feminism(s) and difference. I have great hopes for the longevity of WSSA. My main goal for next year will be to increase the membership and campus awareness regarding our goals, making the organization an empowerment tool for all students. As President, I serve as representative of WSSA, preside over meetings, and delegate responsibilities to other officers.

Brittnee Meitzenheimer
President

As the Vice President of WSSA, I have gained a tremendous amount of experience. Throughout my time as Vice President, I have been in charge of the agendas for the meetings and recorded and emailed the minutes to group members. I also help to plan the Monthly MUST-DO Monday (potluck social meetings) organized by WSSA every first Monday of the month. As Vice President, I also assist in conducting the meetings and act as back up to the President whenever it is needed. I work alongside the President in corresponding with the officers about activities and other events. Teamwork is really what keeps WSSA running.

I think WSSA has a bright future. We want to grow and expand to create a gendered-conscious society within our campus and within the larger Riverside community.

Krystal Huff
Vice President

I am the Activities Coordinator for WSSA. The experience I have had is rewarding because I am a creative person and love to think about new ways to help promote our new organization. I usually work creating posters, set up activities, and various other fun tasks. I envision a great organization in the future; I would like to see many students and faculty attend and participate in all of our planned activities as they will be fun and beneficial to the UCR campus. I chose my position because I think I am a valuable asset to WSSA with my creative and organizing skills.

WSSA is crucial to the UCR campus because there is no other academic Women’s Studies group that involves undergraduate students.

Brenda Davila
Activities Coordinator
My name is Tangela Terry and I have decided to take upon the Activities Coordinator position of WSSA. Originally, I took on this position just because no one stepped up to do the job. However, as time went on, I have begun to realize that I would like to remain in my position so that I can make a difference on campus. Even though there hasn’t been many activities held this year, I plan on taking this responsibility seriously once the new school year begins. For example, I plan to create a calendar of events that I would like to host in coordination with other officers in the organization. I want to become more involved with the campus community and then branch off into the community surrounding UCR. I know all this sounds like a far stretch, but I truly believe this organization can make it happen.

Tangela Terry
Activities Coordinator

I am the Public Relations Officer for WSSA and my position requires networking and creating new ties with the community and other organizations. I also promote events and provide online accessibility for the WSSA membership. The position was bestowed upon me because of my positive personality and availability. I believe in WSSA’s efforts to promote academia and to raise community awareness. My goal is to help WSSA become a successful organization in providing an inspiring “platform” for future officers and most importantly, for Women's Studies students, or anyone interested in making a difference.

Kevin Alvarez
Public Relations

Being part of WSSA from the very beginning has been a great learning experience. Usually I never participate in clubs or student organization, but WSSA is different. That is why I became the treasurer. Becoming the Treasurer was only by chance. After our original treasurer left, I decided: “sure, why not?” Being a member of the cabinet is the kind of experience needed as a college student. I hope WSSA continues as student group once I’ve graduated. But most importantly, I hope WSSA continues to be a site of inspiration for its members. I believe that we must inspire each other to participate in conferences, to write in academic journals, and prepare ourselves for graduate school. Of course, the support and guidance of faculty in Women’s Studies is vital for the development of our organization and its intellectual agenda.

Damaris Molina
WSSA Treasurer
I am currently an active member of WSSA and hold the secretary position. My role is to keep all active members up to date of what is discussed in every meeting and of upcoming events and activities. My experience has been very positive and rewarding since I am able to contribute to an excellent organization that is at its initial stages. It is rewarding to interact with other Women's Studies Majors/Minors and Professor Tushabe, the organization’s faculty advisor. I hope for WSSA’s great future and for an excellent membership composed of dedicated students, both men and women who are aiming to transcend boundaries within UCR and beyond.

Carolina Navarro
WSSA Secretary

Abstract
Making Free Trade Beneficial for Everyone: Globalization, Development Economics, and the Woman Migrant Domestic Worker in Asia

Amber Qureshi, Major: Business Administration, Minor: Economics University of California, Riverside
Dr. Christine Gailey, Department of Women’s Studies, University of California, Riverside
Dr. Sean Jasso, Anderson School of Management, University of California, Riverside

This paper focuses on certain adverse effects of globalization on women, with an emphasis on the region of South and Southeast Asia. It delves into the physical and emotional abuse of the migrant domestic service worker, and the trafficking of women as guest workers into substandard living and working conditions in host countries. The racialization and degradation of these women and the ensuing physical, sexual, and emotional abuse forms a sort of involuntary servitude caused largely by a poverty level that makes victims vulnerable to promises of a better life, money, and security. The goal of this research is to posit possible solutions to the flaws in globalization that allow such trespasses against humanity, in order to make free trade and the free flow of labor beneficial for all parties involved. Certain current examples, such as the South African Domestic Workers Union, ensure basic rights of domestic workers and would be excellent models for the Asian region. Insight, through the field of development economics, into the poverty that is the driving factor for a majority of these women is also an essential step towards diminishing abuse. Government regulation is effective, but not entirely since often abuses are committed regardless of their legality. Still, UN regulations such as CEDAW, and organizations such as the ILO, are necessary first steps. Government intervention to decrease dependence of migrant domestic workers on their employers is also necessary, as it is the main source of power that allows abuse of domestic workers by their employers.
Krystal Huff
Attending the "Women & Girls of Color: History, Heritage, Heterogeneity" conference at Southern Connecticut State University was an amazing experience. It took a lot of time and preparation to get to the actual conference and to get to the point of being ready with a presentation. The process began months ago when Dr. Tushabe first told me about the conference. Since this was my first conference, I had no idea what to expect but I knew that it was a great opportunity. I began to think about what issue I wanted to address so I began to research issues in the African American community. I finally decided to explore a topic that has always had my attention: the oppression of Black women by Black men. Choosing my topic was easy but writing the abstract was much more difficult. The next step was to figure out how I would pay to go. I began to save my money and cut back on all of my expenses, I applied for a research grant (which thankfully I received). Many staff, faculty and students helped tremendously by donating to the conference funds so that myself and the other students could go. Therefore, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped and made our trip to Connecticut possible. Presenting at the conference was so invigorating: it was truly a life-changing experience.

Marina Espinoza
Southern Connecticut State University’s Women Studies Conference was brought to my attention by my friend and fellow presenter Valeria Flores. She told me that we could write about what ever we wanted. I had never taken a women’s studies course and so this was something new for me. I have to say that this whole paper from the abstract to where the paper is now has been a broad learning experience.

I have always felt strongly that women are hindered and devalued due to the fact that they are not pushed to succeed or think as men are. I wanted to write this paper because we are in a time where women are gaining independence and working more than ever before and in order to be viewed equally women must be perceived as more than mothers and wives and create new identities as women. In my ignorance of feminist writing and my lack of practice in critical writing, I am extremely indebted to Professor Tushabe who helped me write an abstract that was worthy of sending in. If it was not for her encouragement I do not think I could have undertaken the paper. It was also Professor Tushabe who helped us raise money for the trip. If it were not for her and the other patrons at UC Riverside I could not have made the trip.

Not only did UC Riverside help us attend the trip, but the Women’s Studies Department also put on a mock conference so we could practice our oral skills and obtain ideas on how to improve our papers. Although I learned immensely while researching for my paper, the conference was even more enriching. I have never attended a conference, so to come to a gathering that is just to think critically, analyze, discuss and share different perspectives was incredible for me. I feel more aware and to see so many people who are as passionate as I am, was unbelievable and so self-affirming for me. I am extremely grateful that I was able to attend the conference, it has changed my life and created an impetus for me to write more.
**Faculty Accomplishments**

**Christine Gailey**
Most Americans assume that shared genes or blood relationships provide the strongest basis for family. What can adoption tell us about this widespread belief and American kinship in general? Blue-Ribbon Babies and Labors of Love examines the ways class, gender, and race shape public and private adoption in the United States. Christine Ward Gailey analyzes the controversies surrounding international, public, and transracial adoption, and how the political and economic dynamics that shape adoption policies and practices affect the lives of people in the adoption nexus: adopters, adoptees, birth parents, and agents within and across borders. Interviews with white and African-American adopters, adoption social workers, and adoption lawyers, combined with her long-term participant-observation in adoptive communities, inform her analysis of how adopters' beliefs parallel or diverge from the dominant assumptions about kinship and family. Gailey demonstrates that the ways adoptive parents speak about their children vary across hierarchies of race, class, and gender. She shows that adopters' notions about their children's backgrounds and early experiences, as well as their own "family values," influence child rearing practices. Her extensive interviews with 131 adopters reveal profoundly different practices of kinship in the United States today. Moving beyond the ideology of "blood is thicker than water," Gailey presents a new way of viewing kinship and family formation, suitable to times of rapid social and cultural change.

**Chikako Takeshita**
Professor Chikako Takeshita was selected as a recipient of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Dating back to 1888, the American Fellowship is the largest and oldest of the AAUW grants. The Publication Grant she received will support Professor Takeshita's work on her upcoming book on the history of the intrauterine device (IUD).

**Caroline Tushabe**
Caroline Tushabe received a Future of Minority Studies (FMS) postdoctoral fellowship funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation at Syracuse University. The FMS is a branch of a national research project that fosters cultural and intellectual diversity. It is housed in the department of Women's and Gender Studies, and focuses on questions of minoritized identities, marginalized epistemologies in the context of national and transnational justice and feminist politics. Carol will be in resident from January to May (2011). Under the mentorship of Professor Minnie Bruce Pratt, she will be working on her book in progress tentatively titled Identified Out of Existence.

**Jane Ward**
Jane Ward (with coauthor Rachel Luft) was awarded Emerald Publications’ 2010 Outstanding Author Contribution to Perceiving Gender Locally, Globally, and Intersectionally: Advances in Gender Research Vol. 13. Bingley, United Kingdom: Emerald Publishers. 2009.] Intersectionality Just Out Of Reach: Confronting Challenges to Intersectional Practice [In Marcia Texler Segal and Vasilikie Demos (eds.)
Women’s Studies Graduates
Major’s

Fall 2009
Ynez Canela WMST/ETST
Claudia Becerra SOC/WMST
Ye Lee
Ngoc Annie Nguyen
Jennifer Macias SOC/WMST

Winter 2010
Cassandra Collins
Sarah Godoy POSC/WMST
Claudia Mendoza ANTH/WMST
Kristina Tran SOC/WMST

Spring 2010
Sokhim Prak PSYC/WMST
Richard Murillo ANTH/WMST
Veronika Staffel
Angelica Delgado
Jessica Yamane POSC/WMST
Judy Garcia ANTH/WMST
Lucia Hincapie
Jessica Macias CRWT/WMST
Valeria Flores SOC/WMST
Jamie Pereira SOC/WMST
Deisy Huerta SOC/WMST

Summer 2010
Jazmin Ortiz
Jennifer Marks
Thanh Kim Nguyen (IDST with concentration in WMST)

Minor's

Xinia Banesa Nadeem (winter 2010) BSAD
Joann Im (spring 2010) MUS
Cheri Veilleuz (spring 2010) ENGL
Megan Figurski (spring 2010) PSYC
Angelica Vega (summer 2010) SOC
Esmeralda Hernandez (summer 2010) SOC
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http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=95926495924

The Department of Women's Studies seeks to connect with all of its students, staff and faculty. Let's stay connected and continue to support our program.