



Be the change.

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FROM

*Asha
Sen,
Ph. D.*

As I pick up my pen to write this, I feel a surge of mixed emotions. We have achieved so much in the last year, but budget cuts all over the country have put programs like ours at tremendous risk. In fact, the theme for the National Women's Studies convention this year is "Precarity." But more on this later. First the good news!

We finally made our transition to our new home; we are now a part of the Office of Interdisciplinary programs on the third floor of Hibbard Hall. We share this space with fellow interdisciplinary programs American Indian Studies, Latin American Studies, and the Watershed Institute for Environmental Studies, and the whole third floor vibrates with meaningful cross-disciplinary exchanges that make up the core of a good liberal education. If you are ever in the neighborhood, stop by and visit, and while you are here do make sure to say hallo to our new ADA Ann Ormond Fennell. Ann works tirelessly on behalf of our program and is particularly good at ironing out annoying little details that plague a program director's life.

We are also very happy to welcome another addition to our program, Dr. Diane Detournay, to teach our core courses: WMNS 200 (Introduction to Feminist Theories), WMNS 250 (Feminist Research Methodologies), WMNS 335 (Transnational/Global Feminisms), WMNS 206 (Perspectives in LGBTQ Studies), WMNS 406 (Queer Theories and Sexual Politics), and WMNS 301 (Examining Women's Studies). Diane came to

us with a PhD in Feminist Studies from the University of Minnesota and an Andrew Mellow Postdoctoral fellowship from the Centre for Humanities Research at the University of Western Cape, South Africa. She brings her critical expertise in EDI theory to all her classes, is currently working on integrating Hmong Studies and Women's Studies coursework, and is also a member of the LGBTQ student advisory board.

Diane also played a vital role in helping put together this year's extraordinary Women's History month speaker series. The talks covered topics such as feminism and the politics of mass incarceration, feminism and disability studies, transnational feminisms in India, challenges of non-profit agencies, Women's Studies research as art, feminism and professional life, and feminist approaches to AIDS and the politics of public health policy. The breadth and diversity of the talks, which were attended by students, faculty, and staff from all over campus testify to our program's commitment to the university's core values of interdisciplinary and equity, diversity, and inclusivity. In a similar vein, the program is also proud to announce the completion of yet another successful Eau Queer Film Festival. The festival was held last fall and was attended by a total of 1,100 university and community members. We also continue to successfully partner with ARCW, Planned Parenthood, Family Support Services, and other local non-profit organizations as part of our continuing commitment to bridging gaps between the classroom and the community.

This year we added a new study abroad program to our list of highly successful programs in Nicaragua, Alabama, and San Francisco. In January 2015 Theresa Kemp and I took a group of twelve students to study abroad at Miranda House College for Women, Delhi University, India. Miranda House is one of the premier educational institutions in the world and ranks fifth out of 2,060 colleges in India according to India Today's 2014 annual Nielsen survey. UWEC students studied in the same classes as their Miranda House counterparts and also did field work with them. We plan to run this program again in January 2017.

As you can see, our program continues to grow from strength to strength, and in many ways we

Our program continues to grow from strength to strength, and in many ways we have never been stronger.

have never been stronger. We number eighty five major, minor, and certificate students; and we continue to serve the rest of the campus community through our liberal education classes. We graduate wonderful alumni who continue to make use of their degrees in their varied and impressive professional lives, and who carry our program's mission to the local community as well as to different parts of the world. This spring's Women's Studies awards ceremony beautifully put together by Patti See, Josh Brown, and Chris Jorgenson was a lovely testimony to the creative intellectual work we do, and it was inspiring to see such an impressive and dedicated group of people come together to value and celebrate our program and its mission.

It is to this group of supporters and to you dear readers that I now turn to help us through these difficult times. As many of you know, early this year a hiring freeze was administered to all College of Arts and Sciences searches. While every department and program has been affected by this freeze and by the non-renewal of all academic staff contracts, because of the timing of the freeze no other program has been as adversely affected as ours. Our national search for a Women's Studies professor well versed in transnational and LGBTQ studies was "frozen," and we consequently have not been able to replace the tenure-line position that was vacated when Dr. Barbara Kernan retired last spring. The other tenure line-joint point appointment that we

community understand what a cutting edge program we have, and why we need funding for our tenure lines and for our academic staff so that we can continue to lead the way in EDI and IDIS pedagogy and research. Look for the latest updates on all our news on our Facebook page and on our Women's Studies homepage.

We'll keep you posted on all our events and also on the budget cuts and their effects on our program. And if you are ever in the neighborhood do come and visit us on the third floor of Hibbard Hall, and help us celebrate our program and all that it represents.

-Asha Sen, Ph.D.



Asha Sen, Ph.D., and student Jessica Amaris at the 2015 Women's Studies Award ceremony

2015 WMNS AWARD RECIPIENTS



Helen X. Sampson
Undergraduate
Research Paper

Quinn Forss

Nominated by
Audrey Fessler



Helen X. Sampson
Undergraduate
Project

Emilee Grunow

Nominated by
Audrey Fessler



Helen X. Sampson
Graduate Category

Tim Allison

Nominated by
Audrey Fessler



Donna C. Turell
Award

Elaine Lor

Nominated by
Asha Sen and
Theresa Kemp



Mickey Crothers
Award

Jessica Amaris

Nominated by
Ellen Mahaffy



Virgiline and
Joseph See Award

Pham Huyen

Nominated by
Karen Loeb



Tillie Olsen Award

Jason Ketchem

Nominated by
Patti See

Title:
"Worse than Death!"
The Limits of
Syphilis/Disability
as Metaphor in
Sarah Grand's
The Heavenly Twins

Title:
A New Birth,
Lessons of the Body,
Tiny Girl

Title:
"If Real Men Don't
Eat Quiche,
What Do They Eat?"

Title:
"Remembering India"

Title:
"The Spirit
of Sisterhood"

Title:
Five Poems:
My Name Is...
Firefox,
My Grandma's Cat,
Angel in the Dark,
The Giant Rock

Title:
"Facing My Demons
Head On Through
the Gay Identity
Formation Model"

WMNS

AFFILIATES SHARE THEIR PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Janice Bogstad, an affiliate from McIntyre Library, accomplished the following:

Paper presentation, "Tolkien and the Multimodal Text," Popular Culture Association Conference, Chicago Marriott, 16-19 April, 2014.

Paper presentation, and Session Organizer/Presider. SESSION: STEM Education through Science Fiction: Promoting Science Thorough Interdisciplinary Critical Thinking.

Paper: "Using Science Fiction to Introduce Sciences on the Interdisciplinary Subject of Climate Change." Third STEM in Education Conference, Vancouver, B.C. July 2014.

Paper presentation, "Women of Authority in Kim Stanley Robinson's Earthbound Fictions." U of Wisconsin System Women's Studies Conference, River Falls, WI 2014.

Consulting Trip, Lebanese American University, July 18-24, produced two written reports (third completed in January 2015) "Consolidating Functions of Libraries on Separate Campuses"; Reports completed in August and December, 2014.

Sanjukta Chaudhuri, Economics

Chaudhuri was named one of UW-Eau Claire's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Faculty Fellows for 2015-2016 for her project "Reviewing and developing outcomes and evaluative criteria for assessing student and mentoring outcomes from research activities." She was also UWEC's 2014 honoree for University of Wisconsin System Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award.

She had these other accomplishments:

Sanjukta Chaudhuri. (2015). "Excess Female Infant Mortality and the Gender Gap in Infant Care in Bihar, India" (Forthcoming in July 2015: Feminist Economics)

Available on-line: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13545701.2014.999007>

Sanjukta Chaudhuri and Shahnaz Abdullah. (2014). "Women's Education, Work Outside Home, and Marital Violence: The case of Bangladesh" International Journal of Public Policy 10(1/2/3): 135 - 160.

"Panel of AAUW Fellowship and Grant Recipients," American Association of University Women State Convention – Eau Claire, WI (April 2014).

Mary Canales, an affiliate from Nursing (and our EDI Fellow for the past three years) offered the following presentations:

eXtension CLRFS 2014 Food Security Conference: Building Extension Capacity to Address Community Food Security through Food Systems. Cleveland, OH, September 29-October 1, 2014. The meaning of food insecurity in Eau Claire County (PR)(poster).

2014 Association of Community Health Nurse Educators (ACHNE) Annual Institute: Social Justice: Within and Beyond Our Borders, San Antonio, TX, June 5-7, 2014. Doing social justice -What can we learn from nursing beyond U.S. borders? (PR)(podium co-presenter)

- Canales, M.K. & Drevdahl, D.J. (2014). Social justice: From educational mandate to transformative core value. In P.N. Kagan, M.C. Smith, & P.L. Chinn (eds.), *Philosophies and Practices of Emancipatory Nursing: Social Justice as Praxis*. New York: Taylor & Francis/Routledge (pp. 153-174).
- Canales, M.K. & Drevdahl, D.J. (2014). Community/Public health nursing: Is there a future for the specialty? *Nursing Outlook*, 62(6), 448-458. doi.org/10.1016/j.outlook.2014.06.007
- Coffey, N., Canales, MK., Moore, E., Gullickson, M., & Kaczmarski, B. (2014). Putting a face on hunger: A community-academic research project. *Journal of Extension (JOE)*, 52(6), 6FEA2.
- Weiner, D, & Canales, M.K. (2014). "It is Not Just Diabetes:" Engaging ethnographic voices to develop culturally-appropriate health promotion efforts. *American Indian Cultural Research Journal*, 38(1), 78-100.

More WMNS Affiliates

Valerie L. Guyant, an affiliate from English, published the following: "Who/What is 'Matska' in LeFanu's *Carmilla*?" *Explicator* 72.3 (July - September 2014): 185-188.

Theresa Kemp, an affiliate from English, published Erica J. Benson, Theresa D. Kemp, Angela Pirlott, Casey Coughlin, Quinn Forss and Laura Becherer. "Developing a Nonsexist/Nongendered Language Policy at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire." *Feminist Teacher*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (Spring 2013), pp. 230-247. <http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/ft.html>

Stephanie Wical, an affiliate from McIntyre Library, published "Combining Citation Studies and Usage Statistics to Build a Stronger Collection" in *Library Resources & Technical Services* 59 (1): 33-42, with colleague R. Tood Vandenbark.

Patti See, Student Success Center

" 'A Woman Who Writes': On Being a Freelance Writer." Women's History Month, UW-Eau Claire, WI. 03/17/15.

"Why I Give: Going Above and Beyond." 2015 Employee Appreciation Luncheon. UW-Eau Claire, WI. 02/19/15.

"Like Me Best" at Volume One's Let's Be Honest: A Grown-Up Storytelling Series. The Local Store. Eau Claire, WI. 12/04/14.

"Our Long Goodbye: One Family's Experiences with Alzheimer's" at Let's Do Lunch sponsored by UW-Eau Claire's Alumni Association. Fanny Hill, Eau Claire, WI. 9/24/14.

"The 'New' Gender Gap: Keeping Men in College." 2015 National Association of Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA. March 23, 2015.

"The Growing Gender Gap: How to Keep Men in College." Wisconsin Academic Advising Association (WACADA), Eau Claire, WI. September 19, 2014. Won "Best of Conference."

"Using Multimedia to Teach the 'Net Generation.'" Wisconsin Academic Advising Association (WACADA), Eau Claire, WI. September 19, 2014.

Other publications:

"Hunter's Mother." *Wayfarer: A Journal of Contemplative Literature*. 3.4 (DEC 2014): 53-55. Won the Kay W. Levin 2014 Short Nonfiction Award, Honorable Mention, Council for Wisconsin Writers.

"A Daughter Discovers That Her Mom Has Alzheimer's." *Complete Wellbeing: India's Best Magazine on Wellbeing*. 8:9, July 2014: 78-79.

"Man with Dog." *Wisconsin Life*. Wisconsin Public Radio. Aired on 07/09/14. <http://wilife.tumblr.com/>

"Fine Music." *Wisconsin Life*. Wisconsin Public Radio. Aired on 05/07/14. <http://wilife.tumblr.com/>

Eva Santos-Phillips, a retired affiliate from the department of languages, had her interview (including an introduction, filmography, and bibliography) on Latina documentary filmmaker, Sonia Fritz, "Latina Documentarian: An Interview with Sonia Fritz (Web Exclusive)" published in *Cineaste: America's Leading Magazine on the Art and Politics of the Cinema*, Vol XXXIX, No. 3, Summer 2014.

Social Issue Filmmaker Comes to Eau Queer Film Festival and Packs Woodland Theater

By Ryan Spaight

Filmgoers crowded into the aisles of the over-capacity, 202-seat Woodland Theater on the UW-Eau Claire (UWEC) campus as the Eau Queer Film Festival showcased its opening-night documentary, *Out in the Night*, on Wednesday, September 24, 2014.

According to Eau Queer Film Festival staff, attendance surpassed 1,100 people during the five-day run of the film festival—with 253 people attending opening night alone. This year's festival was the most widely attended in the LGBTQ film festival's five-year history.

Among those present for opening night were blair dorosh-walther, director, writer and producer of *Out in the Night*, and Renata Hill, participant and interviewee of *Out in the Night*, according to the Eau Queer Film Festival website. Eau Queer Film Festival graphic designer Lauren Pink is a senior graphic design major at UWEC. She attended opening night of the festival and said this was her first year on staff.

"I was really excited about the turnout," Pink said.

"Being able to see how opening night turned out and see the community we have at this university was so rewarding, because we are a student-run film festival, and we put a lot of work into it."

Pink said she was thrilled festival staff decided to bring dorosh-walther and Hill, because their film exposes atrocities committed by mass media and the criminal justice system, based on their identities as black and lesbian women.

"In 2006, (Hill) and a group of friends were in the West Village of New York, which is a historically gay-friendly space," dorosh-walther said. "They were catcalled and harassed by a man on the street, and when they said they were gay, it turned violent, and a big fight broke out."

dorosh-walther said most of the events that night were caught on surveillance camera, but only the women were arrested, charged and convicted with varying degrees of assault, gang assault and attempt to murder. The four women who plead 'not guilty' went to prison for three and a half, five, eight and 11 years.

"The media attention in New York was very immediate and called them a wolf pack, a gang of killer lesbians and attack of the killer lesbians," dorosh-walther said.

Hill said she was devastated when she saw what was being published about her and her friends. She said she felt robbed of the opportunity to tell her own side of the story, and ever since then, she has had a problem reading an article and believing that what it says is completely true.

"That was really why I got involved—because of the media—because I really believe that in this case, the media helped create a more dangerous environment for queer youth of color in the West Village," dorosh-walther said.

Director of the Eau Queer Film Festival, Jerrika Christianson, was also at the opening night of the festival and said she thought dorosh-walther and Hill had impacted students in a really positive way. Christianson is a senior social justice major at UWEC.



Packed crowds gather with excitement for opening night.

"I got involved with the film festival in 2013 as a director of traffic," Christianson said. "My job was to manage the theater during the festival, and I also had to watch all of the films before the festival started to make sure that there were no technical glitches."

Christianson said she was thrilled when co-executive directors of the Eau Queer Film Festival, Pam Forman and Ellen Mahaffy, offered her the job of director this year.

"We brought blair and Renata to Eau Queer because they have a great, intriguing, emotionally-driven story," Christianson said. "It is also a powerful story."

Immediately following *Out in the Night* at the Eau Queer Film Festival, Christianson led a question and answer session with dorosh-walther and Hill. Christianson said even though *Out in the Night* is a serious film, the two managed to get a few laughs from the audience.

"I think the audience really enjoyed what (dorosh-walther) had to say; she is smart and silly," Christianson said. "And to have (Hill) here was such a treat, because she was able to speak about what the experience was like for her personally."

Christianson said she was glad so many people came to the free-to-attend film festival this year—for opening night especially. She said Eau Queer Film Festival gives students the opportunity to build lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and to see lives portrayed on screen that might be unlike their own.

"Making (the film festival) free makes it accessible to everyone," Christianson said. "I come from a working class family, so I know how hard it can be to go to a movie theater as a family when cost is involved."

66 I INTEND ON
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE WORLD

-KALLIE FRIEDE
HEAR HER STORY NEXT

JUNIOR WOMEN'S STUDIES & COMMUNICATION MAJOR

My time in college has been a series of unintentional events. I unintentionally came to Eau Claire. I unintentionally ended up studying abroad in South Africa. But one of the most unintentional things that I've done was to become a Women's Studies major. What I've quickly learned is that the unintentional paths in college have been the best things that have happened to me. The Women's Studies program has not only influenced how I view myself, but how I view the world. I think, as students, we've all, at some point, felt a disconnect in our classes, like we couldn't quite figure out when we would ever have to know or use the information that was being taught to us. In the Women's Studies program, I've never felt that. We have discussions on current, real world issues. It has also given me the opportunity to learn more about myself as a human and as a woman than I ever imagined. It has taught me that I've been a

feminist for as long as I can remember. It has also given me a purpose in my other classes. I'm a double major in Women's Studies and Public Relations, and the combination of these classes has given me a real sense of belonging on our campus and has given me more direction as to what I want to do when I get older. The Women's Studies department also led me to my internship in the Women's and LGBTQ Resource Center on our campus, which makes me feel like I can really make a difference in the lives of fellow Blugolds. In my Women's classes we talk a lot about problems that we see in the world and on our campus that need to be fixed, and the Center has given me a way to be active in what I want to fix. Whether it's talking to students, co-facilitating some of our training programs, working at events, or just talking with my fellow interns-- I learn something new everyday. Although much of what I have done

in my life has been unintentional, I now know through the Women's Studies program and the Women's and LGBTQ Resource Center what things in my life I want to be intentional. I intend on making a difference in the world when I graduate. No, I don't mean I want to single handedly change the world but I want to change the world for some people. Women's Studies has given me the education to know more about the inequality issues I want to fight for, my communication classes have given me a background in how to fight effectively, and my internship at the Women's and LGBTQ Resource Center has shown me how to be an active ally and how to effectively enact change. And whether they have been intentional or unintentional events, I wouldn't change them for the world.

-Kallie Friede

WOMEN'S ALUM SPEAKS -at-



VoteRunLead

By: Catherine Emmanuelle

I was recently an invited speaker and trainer with the first national VoteRunLead conference. I gathered with 300 of my newest friends, and we had a weekend of inspiration, teaching, and learning about the nuts and bolts of women's leadership, from the boardroom to all-levels of elected office. VoteRunLead is a new nationwide organization is dedicated to teaching women how to run for office. The organization has its roots in 2nd and 3rd wave activist feminism, stemming from the same leadership that started "Take Your Daughter to Work Day" and then the national organization, The White House Project, which aimed to increase the political pipeline of women leaders. That organization retired, and out of that retirement, sprung up VoteRunLead.

VoteRunLead is an organization that reflects feminist activism. They walk the talk of inclusive leadership. At the first conference there were more women of color than caucasians, and a diversity of economic levels were well represented. The organization has in-person and online trainings, to be more accessible to women anywhere, anytime. In addition, there are lots of online resources, ranging from how to research to how to declare your candidacy, to running your campaign to win! Most of the resources are paid for through grants and sponsorships, which means there is no to low-cost to use the civic services.

It's been almost four years since I turned the tassel on my cap as I graduated as a Women's Studies major. And it's been almost three years since I started my service on the Eau Claire City Council.

Without a doubt, the training I received from UW-Eau Claire helped to prepare me for my public service. The investment of a Women's Studies degree helps to give me a lens to more thoroughly examine multi-layers of power structures as I work to make public policy that best improves the lives of people, our environment, and the community-at-large. Many people invested in my leadership endeavors, through lending a listening ear to helping to find funding for me to research women's leadership and resilience. My involvement in VoteRunLead is a continuation in the investment that was given to me.

I invite you to check out VoteRunLead <https://voterunlead.org>, find them on Facebook under "Vote Run Lead" and on Twitter under @VoteRunLead.

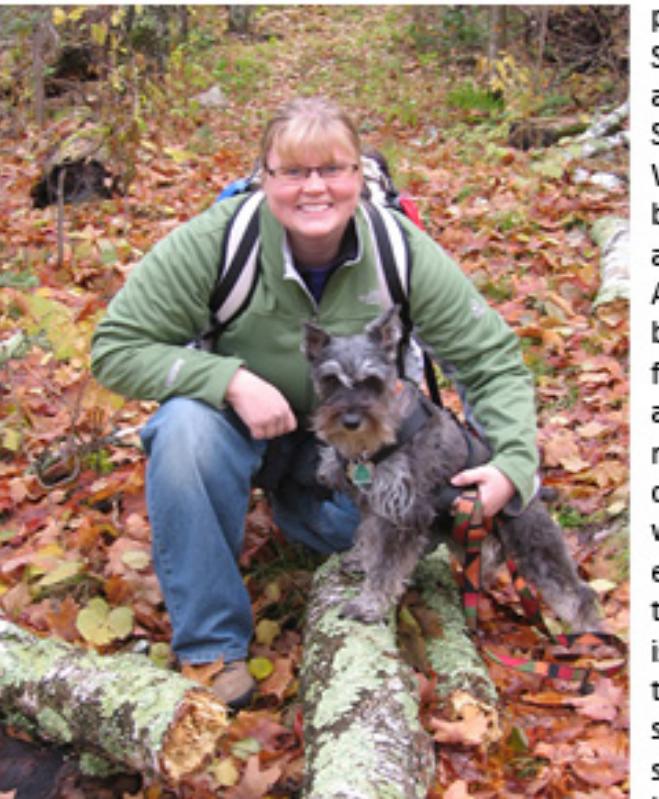
Who knows, maybe you'll inspire another woman to run for office—or better yet, maybe you'll consider running for office yourself!



Fifth Grade Feminist, Growing up

By Creanna Cote

Recently my parents gave me a box of my old school work. In it I found the workings of a young feminist. I spoke of equality, clean water, poverty and education, all of which I currently connect to issues surrounding race, class and gender, and many of the core concepts explored through Women's Studies coursework. Though my 5th grade essay spoke of my dreams of a better tomorrow, I didn't grow up in a house or attend a school that used terms like feminism, at least not in a positive way. Certainly I think the adults in my life instilled in me values of equality and gave me the confidence that made me believe in myself and be a critical thinker, however a path specifically understanding feminism was never a direction in which I was presented.



This of course all changed after my freshman year at UW-Eau Claire after taking a WMNS 100: Race, Class, Gender. It was there that I first unpacked my knapsack of privilege, something that changed the course of my life and how I see the world. When I look back at the core concepts I gained through my education as a women's studies student at UW-Eau Claire, I realize that much of my work directly benefits from that exploration and growth. My current role as the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Admissions Counselor includes recruiting underrepresented students in the STEM fields.

This work would not be possible or as successful without understanding that complex institutional barriers exist for not only women, but also underrepresented minorities in STEM fields. In addition to my core role in admissions, I have been able to help support girls and women in STEM in our community and on our campus through partnerships with Girl Scouts, AAUW and serve as a co-advisor for a Women in STEM Student Organization, WSTEM, started in 2012 by UW-Eau Claire Physics and Math student, Roxie Accola. The WSTEM group is bringing together students from across STEM disciplines and providing support, networking and professional development to students who care about gender equity and succeeding in the STEM fields. This group is relatively new, however the possibilities of outreach, support and growth for our students is exciting and I am honored that I get to be a

part of it and help the campus that helped shape who I am. A curious twist to this story about my feminist journey is that the essay about equality I found in that old box of school work was in my 5th grade math and science notebook. This reminds me that the places in which conversations about equity cannot be limited to courses such as WMNS 100. However without it and courses like it I don't know if I would have had the tools and understandings I first began to unpack in that first year of my college career, tools that have served me through my undergraduate, graduate and professional careers.

DANIELLE DECOCK



I became a part of the Women's Studies program after my initial introduction to this academic field of study during WMNS 100 with Barbara Kernan. I was fascinated by the ways in which the material we studied resonated within me, I finally had found the vocabulary and concepts to explain past experiences in my life. I came to the realization that I was dedicated to challenging systems that encourage racism, sexism, homophobia, and an assortment of other oppressions that dominate people's daily lives.

Women's Studies provides the necessary education, skills, and experiences to ensure students understand the historical context and how systemic and intertwined many "isms" are. I have immersed myself within this department, and I am currently a student worker for Women's Studies and an intern for the Women's and LGBTQ Resource Center with Chris Jorgenson.

Both positions include a component of envisioning, creating, and collaborating with faculty, organizations, and students to host campus events that raise awareness of these systemic issues. From the internship, my fellow interns and I made National Coming Out Day, Love your Body Day, Safe Space and Bystander Intervention Trainings, and many other events possible. The importance of these events in spreading educational tools remains obvious in my eyes, and I am grateful to have been able to receive these experiences. The deeply committed staff working within these programs have enhanced my personal educational experiences, and I am thankful I gained such an intense and critical amount of information and saw the value with participating in the endless amount of opportunities.

&

Q

A discussion about the
Women's Studies program
at UW-Eau Claire

A

Interview with:

DIANE DETOURNAY^{Ph.D.}

Visiting Assistant Professor



Q: Why did you study Women's Studies?

DD: My path through Women's Studies has in many ways been unconventional in its directness— I pursued feminist theory without hesitation from high school onwards and never looked back. I chalk this up to sheer stubbornness perhaps more than anything else—both my parents are civil engineers and this was the best way to rebel! I was fortunate in high school to have a debate coach that was deeply committed to teaching us how to read, and on my prompting, he meticulously lead me through Judith Butler's *Gender Trouble*. Looking back, it is clear that I did not understand very much (!), and yet this experience introduced me to the idea that gender and sexuality are not merely natural and self-evident, but powerful ways of shaping social reality. I entered college determined to major in Women's Studies, and was immediately drawn to feminist analyses of colonial histories, racialization, and empire—which continues to be the focus of my scholarship.

Q: Why should everyone take Women's Studies courses at UW-Eau Claire?

DD: On the first day of class, I always ask students for their definition of feminism and I hand them back at the end of the semester. While common understandings of feminism usually revolve around rights-oriented gender equality, students overwhelmingly leave Women's Studies courses surprised by the broad range of topics we cover and the many intersections they find to their own lives. Some of the issues discussed at the introductory level include: the politics of mass incarceration, police violence and the "black lives matter" movement, the US state response to Hurricane Katrina, racialized histories of population control and forced sterilization, economic globalization and structural adjustment programs, transnational movements for seed sovereignty, and indigenous land struggles—to name a few! Feminist inquiry is concerned with challenging systems of power and inequality in the world, and for that reason, we spend as much time talking about race, nation, globalization, capitalism, colonialism, and empire as we do sex, gender and sexuality. In that way, Women's Studies courses provide tools for thinking critically about disparity and marginalization in a transnational world—this should be a central part of an undergraduate liberal education for all students! In short, taking a Women's Studies course will challenge you to think differently about how certain lives are valued, and others are marked as deviant, criminal, or unworthy of protection from the state and the law—within the borders of the United States and beyond.

Q: What's in store for the future of Women's Studies?

DD: This is a really exciting time for Women's Studies as a discipline. While the previous generation of scholars fought a long and difficult battle to have Women's Studies recognized as a field deserving of its own institutional space within the academy, we are at a critical moment when upcoming scholars now have PhD degrees in Women's Studies for the first time. The discipline is currently being re-oriented towards transnational feminism—which, broadly put, brings together US women of color feminism, critical race studies and postcolonial feminism to build alliances and solidarities across borders. Critical of previous efforts that, in privileging gender, positioned white, Western women as the agents of feminism charged with "rescuing" others, transnational feminism seeks to critically engage the specificities and complexities of place and history that shape relations of inequality. Some of the current discussions include: complicating the rhetoric of "women's empowerment" within development discourse; challenging the joining of "women's rights" and "gay rights" to military campaigns, and unseating the entrenched Islamophobia within contemporary politics. As you can see, the sites and debates that feminism engages are not only diverse in nature, but mark some of the most urgent questions of our political moment!

HELP US, HELP YOU.

Please return to:

**UW-Eau Claire Foundation
Box 4004
Eau Claire, WI 54702**

1-877-625-2473

Name: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Please accept my gift of \$ _____
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Credit card # _____

MasterCard VISA Discover Am Express Other

Expiration date: _____ Signature: _____

Joint gift? Include spouse/partner's name here: _____

Comments or other designations: _____

GREETINGS!

From Christopher Jorgenson,
Director of Women's & LGBTQ Resource Center



My name is Christopher Jorgenson, and I am the director of the Women's & LGBTQ Resource Center. I am thrilled to share with you the exciting programs and events taking place in my office and around campus. As proud alum of the UW-Eau Claire Women's Studies program, I strive each day to do justice to the many faculty and friends who have so profoundly contributed to my personal and professional life. The success of the Women's & LGBTQ Resource Center is as much a reflection of their dedication and tirelessness of purpose as it is my direction.

This year, there were some new additions to our existing events/programs. In October, we partnered with Bolton Refuge House and Family Support Center for the first ever *Walk-a-Mile Chippewa Valley* and raised a few thousand dollars to help victims/survivors of domestic violence. It was a huge success, and we are already busy working on next year's event.

This past Fall, we rolled out the new *Bystander Intervention Training Program for Sexual Assault*. The first of its kind at UW-Eau Claire, this training program has quickly become a staple, now a mandatory addition to all RAs and Housing and Residence Life front desk staff. It has been requested by numerous departments, offices, and classrooms throughout the academic year, and, importantly, it satisfies Title IX requirements. The training program is continuously reviewed and revised, and we are looking forward to aggressively marketing it across campus during the summer and 2015-16 academic year.

In March, we held our grand opening for the new Women's Resource Center. Housed in HHH 311C, this new multi-use space will serve many functions. Not only will student interns staff it,

but also the resource center will provide a space for meetings, classroom activities, targeted programming, and socializing. The response has been overwhelmingly positive, and we look forward to utilizing the space in whatever ways benefit/support students, faculty, and staff.

The Women's & LGBTQ Resource Center continues to draw in students, and we were lucky enough to have eight interns for the 2014-15 academic year. The momentum is certainly not slowing, as we already have ten interns slated for the 2015-16 academic year. Representing a wide variety of academic foci and personal interests, student interns continue to meaningfully contribute to the mission of the office, and they are many times behind successful programs/events. Whether it be the *Love Your Body Day* photography campaign (over 100 participants!), the week-long *Trans*Mission* programming (featuring UW-Eau Claire alum Jessica Janiuk), hosting Starhawk (which included 150 attendees participating in a spiral dance), or facilitating discussions for the *Night OUT: Film Series* (13 films and over 500 attendees!), Women's & LGBTQ Resource Center interns are helping affect change in order that UW-Eau Claire fulfill its institutional commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

The future of the Women's & LGBTQ Resource Center is as bright and promising as the students for whom it advocates. As its director, I am continually humbled and energized by the passion and commitment of those who offer their support. Thank you!

Women's Studies Alumni Survey

Have you completed a major, minor or certificate with Women's Studies at UW-Eau Claire? We'd love to hear from you! Please follow the link below to share information about you, your degree, and what you've been up to:

https://uweauclaire.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6xIdD5RI9vKW3yt

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