



Women's Studies @ Tufts

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Newsletter of the Women's Studies Program at Tufts University

Spring, 2002

Women's Studies @ Tufts

Sonia Hofkosh, Director
Aileen Kounaves, Administrator

Women's Studies Program
106 Eaton Hall

Tufts University

Medford, MA 02155

Tel: (617) 627-2955

Fax: (617) 627-3032

Email: akouna01@tufts.edu

ase.tufts.edu/womenstudies



WS Faculty Committee

2001/2002

Nancy Bauer, *Philosophy*

Madelaine Caviness, *Art & Art Hist.*

Sonia Hofkosh, *English*

Ikumi Kaminishi, *Art & Art Hist.*

Pearl Robinson, *Political Sci.*

Lisa Shin, *Psychology*

Paulette Smith, *Romance Lang.*

Kathleen Weiler, *Education*

Jean Wu, *American Studies.*



Congratulations!

WS Seniors 2002

Katharine Cheung, *WS/Pre-med*

Victoria Crispin, *WS*

Elizabeth Dank, *English/WS*

Stacie Dubin, *WS*

Melissa Fernandez, *Philosophy/WS*

Iris Halpern, *English/WS*

Danika Kleiber, *Biology/WS*

Bronwyn Luong, *English/WS*

Shayla Donald, *IR*

Tracie Dorfman, *Political Science*



Gifts to Women's Studies

We want to thank those generous souls who have sent gifts small and large. A special thank you to Susan Cohen for her extremely generous donation to our program recently. We are grateful for gifts in any amount to support current activities and new initiatives. See what we've been doing and how you can contribute by visiting our web site:

ase.tufts.edu/womenstudies

Letter from the Director

I am very proud to be writing to you as Director of the Women's Studies Program in this our first newsletter since 1994! Since that time and before, through our beginnings in the minds and hearts of numerous students, faculty, administrators, and staff, Women's Studies @ Tufts has experienced the thrills and pains of change and growth. As we embark on a new era of scholarship, teaching, and activism about and for women and gender and social justice with a strengthened program in place, I want to recognize the many people, too many to name them each individually, whose vision and energy brought us to this possibility.

We now have a half-time Program Administrator in our small office in the basement of Eaton Hall. Peggy Barrett, whose vision, activism, and organizational brilliance sustained the program for years, can finally devote herself to the full-time work of Director of the Women's Resource Center at 55 Talbot Avenue. Jean Farnsworth also provided crucial administrative support through our early years and we thank them both from the bottom of our collective heart. The directorship of Women's Studies is itself now a half-time position, filled by a tenured member of the Core Faculty in 3-year terms. We are grateful to Dean Susan Ernst and former Dean Leila Fawaz for working with us to make these steps possible.

The newly developed senior course, WS190 *Doing Feminist Research*, is a one semester, one credit class on issues, methods, and practices of advanced feminist scholarship that we continue to refine as preparation for projects and theses. This course

replaces the former .5 credit senior colloquium and is open to both undergraduate as well as graduate students in all programs and departments who are interested in doing sustained research on women and gender. We also continue to develop the WS22 *Intro to Women's Studies* course, so successfully established by the inspirational Ronna Johnson, to reflect the evolution of Women's Studies as an interdisciplinary, academic field of study in a cross-cultural, global context.

Tufts now has a major as well as a minor concentration in Women's Studies and in May 2000 we graduated our first two Women's Studies majors! The students who have committed to a major or minor in Women's Studies continue to do amazing work, challenging us intellectually and politically and making our collaborations with them one of the highlights of our lives at Tufts.

I have been gratified in so many ways by my participation in these ongoing developments. Like the social movements in which it has its origins, Women's Studies @ Tufts does not stand still: it *moves* with the intellect and creativity of individuals who will not let things be as they are, women and men who aspire to productive change through the acquisition, dissemination, and implementation of knowledge in its many and various forms. If such continual agitation is potentially exhausting, it at the same time enables an exhilarating community of students and teachers across generations, all of us working towards new ideas and to turn those ideas into a just reality.

Tufts Women's Studies Courses

Spring Semester 2002

*Anth 149B *Global Feminisms* (counts as Anth 181)
 Anth 185 C *Gender & Sexuality in East Asia*
 CH 104 *Women and Health*
 Drama 94K *International Women Film Directors*
 Eng 92 *Jane Austen*
 Eng 110 *Chaucer*
 Eng 192B *Differences of Modernism: Virginia Woolf*
 Eng 192D *What the Novel Knows*
 *Eng 192F *The Question of Feminism: Literature & Theory*
 FAH 80A/180A *Women Artists in Latin America*
 FAH/Ger 129 *Women & Medieval Art & Lit.*
 Fr 192 *Eros & Destiny: George Sand & Balzac in Dialogue*
 Ger 92 *Writing the Holocaust: German-Jewish Women Writers*
 His 105/ww *Historical Constructions of Sexuality*
 His 187 *Discovering Women's Lives*
 JPN 192 *Gender & Identity in Japanese Popular Culture*
 PS 106/ww *Civil Liberties*
 Soc 20/ww *Family & Intimate Relations*
 Soc 130 *Class, Race, & Gender Inequalities*
 *WS 72 *Introduction to Women's Studies*
 WS 92 *Rape Crisis & Recovery*
 WS 99 *Women's Studies Internship*
 *WS 193 *Senior Project*
 CRWS 292 *Transformations of Families*
 MUS 126 *Women in Music*



Fall Semester 2002

CHNS 112 *Women & Modern Chinese Literature*
 CR 10PH *Feminist Theologies*
 EDU 162 *Class, Race & Gender in the History of US Ed.*
 ENG 91A *The Invisible Spectacle: Cinema, Discipline, Desire*
 ENG 91B *Girls' Books*
 ENG 118 *Renaissance Drama: Over-the-top Performance*
 ENG 132 *Women & Fiction*
 ENG 170 *Sexuality, Literature & Contemporary Criticism*
 FAH 192B *Seminar: Gender & Domestic Art in Middle Ages*
 FAH 197A *Seminar: Feminist Art Practice Since the 1970's*
 FR 121 *Adv. Fr. I: French & Francophone Women's Voices*
 GER 75 *Grimms' Fairy Tale: Ideology & Politics*
 GER/DR 57/157 *Bertold Brecht*
 HIST 01 *Enterprising Women*
 HIST 93 *Women in 20th Century America*
 ITAL 121 *Italian Women's Images & Voices*
 *PHIL 48 *Feminist Philosophy*
 RUS 70 *Women in Russian Literature & Culture*
 SOC 30/ww *Sex & Gender in Society*
 SOC 188A *Children of Immigrants & Immigrant Children*
 WS 91 *Identity & Difference: Intro to Lesbian & Gay Studies*
 WS 99 *Women's Studies Internship*
 *WS 190 *Doing Feminist Research*
 *WS 193 *Senior Project*

* Core or required Women's Studies courses for the major/minor.

Program News

Women's Studies Graduates

May 2001

Rachel Elkinson, *Reproducing the Classroom: Sexuality Education & Interactive Multimedia* (Psychology/WS)
 ♦ **Kimberly Levinson**, *A Base-line Level of Care: Breast & Cervical Cancer Screenings for Racial Minority Women in the US* (Biology/WS) ♦ **Elana Needle**, *Prostitution & US Military Bases* (WS) ♦ **Alexis Rebane**, *Coming Out Unitarian: Photography and Narrative* (American Studies/WS) ♦ **Mara Hoffert & Alissa Murray** (English majors), a joint video documentary for the WS minor, *Filling in the Gaps: Women's Studies @ Tufts*.

May 2000

Aparna Basnyat, *Closure: Of Masks & Murals*, an investigation of the trafficking of girls in Nepal (IR)
 ♦ **Jessica Branco**, *The Women of St. Luke's Church: A Brief Comparison of One Episcopal Parish's Active Female Population & the Changing Patterns of Mainstream Protestantism in 20th C. America* (History) ♦ **Jennifer Dodge**, *Driving Rain: A Novella* (English) ♦ **Alison George**, *Our Web: A Study of Women & the Internet*, a series of workshops and on-line learning tools (English/WS) ♦ **Meredith Kormes**, *Taking Control of the Dancing Body* (History) ♦ **Sera Morelli**, *Sampling from the Net*, a study of keyword "woman" online (Clinical Psychology) ♦ **Danielle Olivier**, *Accessing Oral Contraceptives* (Biology/French) ♦ **Valerie Orth**, *Anti-Oppression Workshop* (WS) ♦ **Estelle Zagaris**, *Women in the Orthodox Church* (IR)



Research Colloquium Speakers

Amy Tsanga, Faculty of Law & Director of Women's Law Center, University of Zimbabwe, "Gender, Legal Literacy & Access to Justice: Raising Awareness on Violence Against Women in Zimbabwe," February 15, 2002.

Esther Ngan-ling Chow, Professor of Sociology, American University, "Globalization, Women, & East Asian Development," November 2, 2001.

Dr. Nawal El Saadawi, world renowned Egyptian human rights activist, medical doctor, feminist, and author, "Women, Creativity, & Mental Health," April 2, 2001.

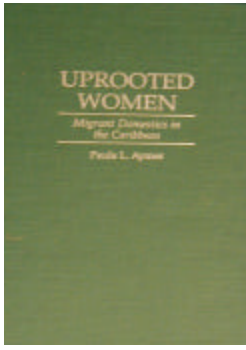


Dr. Nawal El Saadawi

Charlene Gilbert, Award winning film maker and Professor of Film Studies, SUNY, Buffalo, "In Search of our Mothers' Stories: Documentary Research as Feminist Practice," November 11, 2000.

Malini Bhattacharya, Professor of English and Director, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, Calcutta, India, "The Violence of Faith: Women in their Communities," October 10, 2000.

Some Recent Tufts Books in Women's Studies



Paula Aymer, Associate Professor in the Sociology department, is the author of *Uprooted Women: Migrant Domestic Workers in the Caribbean* (Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc., 1997.)

Associate Professor **Cristelle Baskins** (Department of Art & Art History & Architecture) is the author of *Cassone Painting, Humanism, and Gender in Early Modern Italy* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1998), which draws on historical context and poststructuralist textual interpretation to argue that Cassone furniture paintings played an important role in the socialization and gender formation of women in early modern Italy.



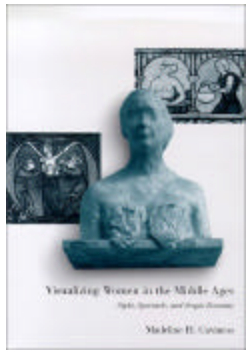
Nancy Bauer is an Assistant Professor in the Philosophy department. In her book, *Simone de Beauvoir, Philosophy, and Feminism* (Columbia University Press, 2001), Bauer argues that the extraordinary effect *The Second Sex* has had on women's lives can be traced to Beauvoir's discovery of a new way to philosophize - a way grounded in her identity as a woman.

Madeline H. Caviness is the Mary Richardson Professor of the History of Art. Her recent publications include *Visualizing Women in the Middle Ages: Sight, Spectacle, and Scopio Economy*. (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001) and Tufts University's first e-book, *Reframing Medieval Art: Difference, Margins, Boundaries* (<http://nils.lib.tufts.edu/Caviness/>.)



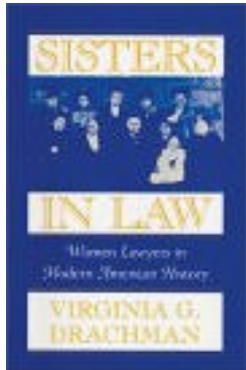
History Professor **Virginia Drachman's** most recent book is *Sisters in Law: Women Lawyers in Modern American History* (Harvard University Press, 1998.)

Barbara Rodriguez is an Assistant Professor in the English department. She is the author of a book entitled, *Autobiographical Inscriptions: Form, Personhood, and the American Woman Writer of Color* (Oxford University Press, 1999), in which she discusses innovations of form and structure in autobiographical works by Harriet Jacobs, Zora Neale Hurston, Hisaye Yamamoto, Maxine Hong Kingston, Leslie Marmon Silko, Adrienne Kennedy, and Cecile Pineda.

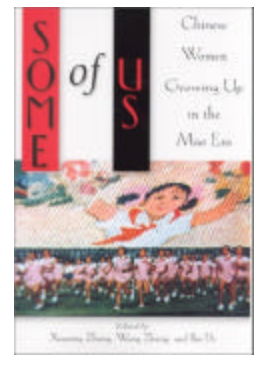
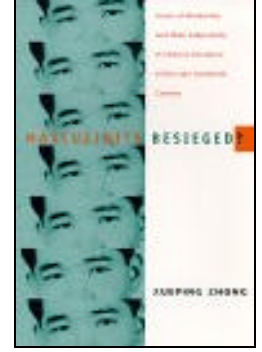
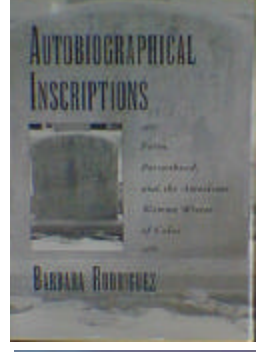
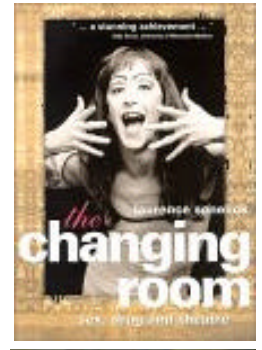


Laurence Senelick, Professor in the Department of Drama and Dance, is the author of *The Changing Room: Sex, Drag and Theatre (Gender in Performance)* (Routledge, 2000), which was awarded a special commendation by the Theatre Library Association.

Kathleen Weiler, Professor of Education. Among her publications are the recently edited, *Feminist Engagements: Reading, Resisting, and Revisioning Male Theorists in Education and Cultural Studies* (Routledge Press, 2001) and *Country Schoolwomen: Teaching in Rural California, 1850-1950* (Stanford University Press, 1998.)



Xueping Zhong, Associate Professor, Department of German, Russian & Asian Languages & Literatures. She has recently co-edited a book, *Some of Us: Chinese Women Growing Up in the Mao Era* (Rutgers University Press, 2001), which is a collection of memoirs by Chinese women now living in the US. Her own book, *Masculinity Besieged?: Issues of Modernity and Male Subjectivity in Chinese Literature of the Late Twentieth Century* (Duke University Press, 2000), looks at Chinese literature and films produced during the 1980s to examine male subjectivities in contemporary China.



We want to hear from you!
Please send us an email (akouna01@tufts.edu) or drop us a line and let us know what you are doing.

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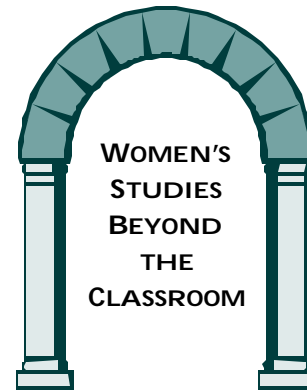
Professor Howard Solomon
*Coming Out:
The History, and Future, of an Idea*
Tuesday, April 9, 2002



Women's Studies honors Professor Solomon upon his retirement from the History Department and thanks him warmly for his contributions to our program. His courses, including *Historical Constructions of Sexuality*, and his generous mentoring of many seniors doing Women's Studies projects have inspired us all.

17th Annual
Forum

*Where students
present their work
on women and
gender across the
disciplines*



**Friday
April 5, 2002**
11:00 - 2:30
Rabb Room



Announcing:

A new collaboration among the Dept. of Art & Art History, the Women's Studies Program, and the Boston chapter of Women's Caucus for Art (WCA), a community organization that supports women in the arts professions and is committed to education about the contributions of women; opportunities for the exhibition of women's work; publication of women's writing about art, and inclusion of women in art history. Visit www.wcaboston.org.