This past academic spring and summer have marked an important one of reflection and a gratifying one of community engagement. We have sadly marked the passing of Professor Andrea Lebowitz, one of the founders of our Department, and the first WS recipient of the excellence in teaching award. She was a trailblazer setting very high standards for SFU. Thanks to a grant on the digitization project from the Bennett library, we are making inroads in our Ruth Wynn Woodward archive, which is a valuable retrospective on the evolution of the field of women's studies in the province, and indeed, a history of this department. As a part of this period of reflection and historical reconstruction, we are inviting alumni, faculty and students to write research notes and extended biographies on the leading Canadian women who have been appointed as Woodward Chairs. MA candidate Sandra Martins is undertaking to coordinate this initiative.

We are especially glad to have Roberta Neilson back on board after a lengthy leave. We were fortunate to have had Pam Stroud from the Dean’s office help out as a four half-day-per-week replacement through a hectic semester.

As we make the transition to a new annual spring publication date for this newsletter, I will confine my comments to our activities in the last eight months which continue the year of consolidation of our new name change. Our strategic goal this year was to program to new communities. We continued our emphasis on events and outreach with a very successful Medicalization of Sex conference at the end of April under the direction of the Junior Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair, Thea Cacchioni. This Conference was opened by our President Andrew Petter, who as Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Human Rights, was the first AG in the Commonwealth to speak out in favour of the recognition of same sex marriage and initiated a court case under the Charter of Rights to change Canada’s marriage laws. Keep an eye out for the impending publication of a volume of the conference papers. The final conference report is posted at http://www.sfu.ca/gsws/MedicalizationofSex.html#Final. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Cacchioni on her appointment to a tenure track position at the University of Victoria!

Excitement continued to build at the We Demand conference to mark 40 years of gay and lesbian history offered in partnership with the Canadian History Association in August, 2011. We are gratified to engage a total estimated attendance of 400 women, academics, activists and students. And this spring, the Canadian Journal of Communication published a reflective field note coauthored by Catherine Murray and Alison Beale on Sex, Money and Media, our conference featuring Rosalind Gill, Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis at the Centre for Culture, Media and Creative Industries, King’s College, London in partnership with Women in View which was hosted at the Segal Centre in October, 2010.

Our department was proud to sponsor a panel on Gender, Sexuality and Violence in the Media. Included in the panel were Amber Dawn, Marsha Newbery, Mary Lynn Young. The final report may be viewed at http://www.sfu.ca/gsws/documents/MediaandDemocracyDayPanel.pdf

Equal Voice’s Experiences program presented “Young Women in Politics: Speakers Panel and Round Robin” at SFU Harbour Centre. Participants and elected officials from all levels of government and all parties discuss the challenges and solutions to young women’s involvement in politics, followed by small group discussions. Ample opportunity to...
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How to Find Us
Interested in more information about Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies at Simon Fraser University? You can visit us on the Web at www.sfu.ca/gsws/.

If you’re on campus you can come to our offices on the fifth floor of the Academic Quadrangle (directly above the East Concourse Cafeteria), the main office is AQ 5102A.

We have a brochure describing all the activities of the department, and more detailed booklets describing undergraduate and graduate programs which we are happy to provide upon request.

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Murals in GSWS

Of interest: We are looking for a new home for our department murals. See page 15 for more details.
was available to ask questions and talk personally with the panelists, Linda Reid, Liberal MLA, Michelle Mungall, NDP MLA, Maria Minna, Liberal MP, Sophie Pierre, Chief Commissioner, BC Treaty Commission, former Chief of St. Mary’s Indian Band. For experiences and a video, visit http://www.equalvoice.ca/experiences/index.cfm

Our department was proud to sponsor the upcoming Women’s Worlds 2011 conference, July 3-7, 2011 in Ottawa-Gatineau. The main theme was “Inclusions, Exclusions, and Seclusions: Living in a globalized world” because where globalization and women are concerned, provocative questions abound.

In defence of Burnaby School Board’s anti-bullying policy to Protect LGBTQ Highschool Students, the Burnaby School Board drafted Policy 5.45 to protect LGBTQ students from harassment and bullying in the high schools. The local Burnaby Now and Burnaby Newsleader newspapers covered the debate at school board meetings. Coquitlam Now quoted Brian Burtch and Ann Travers in a story about the June 14 vote of the Burnaby School District office on the policy. The impact of the favourable result was recognized at a conference in Ottawa recently.

GSWS began work with Elise Chenier, Associate Faculty and Professor of History, to establish a sexualities studies group and is launching a campaign to fundraise $1 million for a large ($20,000) annual graduate scholarship at the conference.

On the whole, our relations with the Faculty and especially the new Dean in Arts and Social Sciences, John Craig have been reasonably good, despite the tight budget constraints. The Dean’s Office was able to award much needed top ups to the sessional budgets for medical leaves, modified contracts, and provided a windfall from TI budgets to shore up the RWW program this year. Most importantly, in the spring, the Dean approved the joint appointment of Dr. Jen Marchbank between GSWS as home department and Explorations in Surrey. Dr. Marchbank teaches the popular gender and violence course based in Surrey, and is active in the local gay and lesbian rights movement. The Surrey City Council is highlighting a prevention campaign targeting violence against women in 2011-2012, which our Department will support. As well, after a successful address to the Metropolis conference in the Fall, Dr. Habiba Zaman and PhD candidate Syeda Bukhari will be working to develop more course offerings each Fall in Surrey, including the development of a community based learning course in partnership with local immigrant receiving agencies in Surrey. As well, I am advising the City on the development of their arts and culture policy, including a vital role for women in local community development. But there are clouds on the horizon. The Department is actively working to raise its complement of Associate Professors (adding 6 to bring the total to 18 now) but can not sustain much longer any further attrition through retirement. There is a real need to rebuild at the core in acquiring renewal faculty positions.

Honours and Transitions

This June, Dr. Lara Campbell was the recipient of the Marion Dewar Prize from the National Capital Committee on Scholarship, Preservation and Dissemination of Women’s History. The award is given to Canadian historians who specialize in women’s history and it recognizes an outstanding scholar based on the strength of research, teaching and administrative work over their career. Dr. Campbell is the seventh recipient. In addition, Dr. Campbell received Honourable Mention for the Canadian Women’s Studies Association (CWSA) book prize for her recent publication, Respectable Citizens: gender, family, and unemployment in Ontario’s Great Depression (2009). Please join me in congratulating Lara.

Convocation celebrated the graduation of 1 MA and 22 undergraduates and a great reception with family and friends in our lounge. Enrollments topped 1,000 and our majors and minors climbed close to 100. GSWS continues to work toward enhancing SFU’s profile as a major research leader. In addition to the presentation by Professor Habiba Zaman and Sayeda Bukhari of the first study on South Asian women’s immigrant experience at the national Metropolis conference this year, Professor Helen Leung published a canonical text on a leading Asian cinema, and is now introducing a grad course on Gender and Asian film studies. Dr. Catherine Murray piloted a graduate Gender and City seminar, working towards the 2013 Women Transforming Cities Conference to be held in June, 2013. A Community based learning course was introduced at the Grad level, featuring oral history projects (Azin Mirsayah), publication in the third language press (Roghiyeh Rasmaray-Shargh) and work towards curating an art exhibit celebrating genital diversity (Jennifer Safronick). An outstanding blog/F-word collective partnership was forged for The Medicalization of Sex by Meghan Murphy.

We continued to significantly diversify the curriculum in FASS. Dr. Brian Burtch (Associate Faculty, and Professor of Criminology) licensed us to offer his popular Law and Reproductive Technology Seminar this year. We cross-
listed “Aboriginal Women in Canada” with First Nations
Studies, the excellent course taught by Professor Deanna
Reder, and the RWW series added “Medicalization of
Sex”; and “Gender and Health” both courses taught by
Thea Cacchioni. In response to undergraduate concerns,
we acted to reduce course overlap: and as budget permits,
will consider their request for more flexibility at 200
level directed reading. Finally, we acted to introduce a
course on disable-ism and able-ism in the third year in
the Spring of 2012, recognizing that with retirements
and the inability to replace positions, this component
of our curriculum had languished too long. We very
much miss the contributions of Professor Sue Wendell
who retired in 2003! We have furthermore implemented
the 6-semester plan successfully (with web/support) to
assist undergraduates in longer term program planning.
We have also targeted the Web site for upgrades to
assist student navigation through our program.

Planning

Our spring Advance featured intense discussion over
the feasibility and likely design of a GSWS certificate,
techniques for benchmarking outcomes of courses,
and a variety of techniques to further engage students,
by earmarking flexibility for “customized” lectures.
A variety of amendments to graduate examination
procedures were passed, and the idea of a graduate
professional development colloquium was suggested
for reinstatement which will go to discussion with
the grad caucus. To enhance undergraduate service,
the Department will introduce a Fall undergraduate
orientation, and alumni conference in the spring.

Finally, we are delighted to announce the incoming
Junior Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair is Dr. Dana
Mohammed Olwan (PhD, Queens), recently of the
gender studies program at Queen's. Dr. Olwan’s theme for
the year’s activities is combating violence against women.

Her research program traces the history of “honour”
killings in Canadian imagination. It examines how the
turn in federal political discourse towards the “honour”
crime can be read in relation to larger shifts in Canada's
multiculturalism and Canada’s rewriting of its
own history from a nation of peace making to a
global power, engaged in various international
conflicts. More broadly, Dana’s work engages
issues of violence against women, the racialization
of Muslim men and women, and debates
over accommodation in
multicultural states like
Canada. Dana received the W. J. Barnes Teaching
Excellence Award for Arts and Science Undergraduate
Society at Queens in 2010. During her tenure at SFU,
Dana will teach a number of courses, including one on
debates on Islam and Feminism. This course addresses
questions about Islamic gender politics and Muslim
feminists’ engagement with and challenge to issues
of subjectivity, agency, and authority as presented by
traditional western feminist writings. Dana is also former
National Chair of Solidarity for Palestinian Human
Rights and a member of Faculty for Palestine.

This Fall will mark the return of Drs. Campbell
and Levitin from research leave, the first full year Dr.
Marchbank is joining us, and a promise of a busy, exciting
and productive year of feminist community-building.

~~Catherine Murray

Sad Passing of Andrea Lebowitz

The department is very saddened
to hear of Andrea Lebowitz’s passing
(July 2, 1941–March 22, 2011). She was
one of the founding members of
Women's Studies at Simon Fraser
University and championed Women's
Studies throughout her career at Simon
Fraser University.

Andrea was warm, intelligent, creative, and a brilliant teacher.
She was a superb organizer, a Master Gardener, an avid citizen, and
a most wonderful chef, baker and hostess. She was a lover of good
music, especially the opera, and of art and photography. She was her
own best critic, and supportive of others. She could often be their best
critic as well. She was a founding member of Vancouver Women’s
Caucus, a member of the Corrective Collective, and co-founder of
Simon Fraser University’s Women’s Studies Program, the first of its
kind in Canada. She taught English and Women’s Studies at SFU
over a period of 36 years, beginning when SFU first opened. She
served on numerous committees and in several administrative positions
at the university, including 5 years as Associate Dean of Arts.
All who met her were delighted by her political wisdom, her ability
to chair meetings, and her ability to get things done.~~ Excerpt

The Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies
department would like to record its deep gratitude to
Andrea and our sincere hope that Wayne and her family
and friends know how important she has been to us.
Brian Burtch was invited to Nelson, BC on Thursday, February 10 to speak at the United Church about homophobic and transphobic bullying, followed by an informal dialogue leading into a discussion of the book, *Get That Freak*, followed by Q&A. When the event ended, a small private discussion continued.

On Friday, February 11 Brian presented a PowerPoint talk at LV Rogers High School to about 80 people. The video by Rebecca Drysdale went over big, as did the three short skits on *thinkb4uspeak*. Many questions ensued, with teachers joining the discussion night. Brian’s feeling is the dialogue series may have been a catalyst for bringing back the Gay Students Association in the school. A continuing relationship with the school, possibly involving Rebecca Haskell, would be most welcome.

Thea Cacchioni was excited when she found out she had been invited to Whitehorse, YT from February 28 to March 1. Her speaking tour included a CBC interview, an article in the *Yukon Gold* newspaper, plus three opportunities to hear her speak on three different topics. Guests at Yukon College Lecture Theatre heard “Sex, Lies and Medicine: The Search for the ‘Pink Viagra’”; guests at the Whitehorse Public Library heard “Learning about Sex and Love in the post-Viagra Age”; and “Challenging the Medical View of Women’s Sexual Problems.”

Thanks to the Victoria Faulkner Women’s Centre, Women’s Directorate and Yukon College for collaboratively organizing and promoting Tha’s visit. Without any doubt, we know all the wonderful stories we hear about the Great Northern Hospitality are true!

The department was proud to see 23 students (one Master’s Student and 22 Undergraduates) convocated at the June 15, 2011 ceremony. Three undergraduate students received GSWS department convocation awards. Natasha Sanders-Kay had the highest GPA of all WS Majors graduating ($200 award) (3.750) Natasha contributed her poem “Punished” in the Parachuting Past Patriarchy feminist poetry zine. She transferred from Langara College where she first started in Women’s Studies. Undergraduate Chair Helen Leung has the following to say about Natasha, “Natasha was in three courses with me and she excelled in all of them. She is the kind of student professors dream of having: diligent, engaging, passionate about social justice but always remaining intellectually curious about diverse viewpoints. She also has a creative soul. Her voice is at once artistic and politically engaged. I see a great future ahead of her and want to wish her the very best and congratulate her on her achievements!”

The next award was given to Salome Grolimund for having the second highest GPA of all WS Majors graduating ($100 award). Salome completed a joint major with Political Science. Salome is an international Student now working on her Masters in Gender, Policy and Inequality at the London School of Economics Gender Institute. Salome donated her award to the Vancouver Women’s Health Collective as her way of giving back to the community!

Hilaire Ford received the third award as she had the highest GPA of all GSWS Minors graduating ($100 award). Hilaire completed an English Major with Honours. Hilaire is currently working for a private international high school in the Surrey school district and hopes to return to SFU in the future to pursue a Master’s degree.
“No means NO, and Yes means YES,” could be heard for blocks in the heart of Downtown Vancouver on Sunday May 15th. The walk which began at the Vancouver Art Gallery made its way through the downtown core was the culmination of six weeks of dedicated hard work and planning from the Slutwalk Vancouver organizing committee. Our common goal was to spark conversation about the impact of victim blaming and rape culture, and highlight how it affects both women and men within Vancouver and beyond. The walk, which was the most visible part of the campaign, stopped, at various points along the way to hear the inspired and poignant words of women and men, who shared stories that as Lucia Lorenzi said in her profound spoken word piece, were in many ways all of our stories.

Slutwalk Vancouver is just one walk in an outstanding grassroots uprising that began in January after the victim-blaming comments of a Toronto Police Officer were made to a group of York undergrad students. Since then, walks have sprung up across Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Europe and South America. Over the next three months there are countless walks planned all over the world! While each walk has its own organizing team, the walks are all linked through the Toronto committee and through the belief that rape culture affects and demeans EVERYONE in our society. It is these beliefs that drew me to Slutwalk; as a feminist, a student, an activist, a woman and a mother. Thus, when I received the email looking for people who might be interested in organizing a Slutwalk in Vancouver, I needed to be a part of it. I knew that I had made the right choice as committee meetings progressed and it became clear that the people on the committee were there because they believed in starting conversations and helping to change the 'common sense' sexism that is deeply embedded in victim-blaming and sexual assault. What amazed me the most over the course of the last six weeks was the way that people connected to these beliefs. One of the ways it became clear to us that this movement was more than a walk, was through the many stories and messages we received from women and men telling us stories of their assaults. As such, we launched a campaign that encouraged participants to send us their stories that they wanted to share publicly, to post as part of our stories campaign.

Slutwalk has grown in ways that the founding group in Toronto probably never imagined. It has taken on a life of its own in some regards, spreading to cities and communities around the globe, into classrooms, and homes, the walks have been attended by an incredible cross-section of people, sparking conversation and allowing us all a chance to rethink how we interact with each other.

“For more information on Slutwalk visit slutwalktoronto.com/ or slutwalkvancouver.com

What more could we have asked for?

~~Kat Davidson

GSWS SUPPORTS THE SFSS
Dana Mohammed Olwan began her BA studies in English Literature at Yarmouk University (Irbid, Jordan). She completed her BA in English at La Roche College (Pittsburgh, PA) and her MA at the English Department of Georgetown University (Washington, DC). In 2009, Dana received her Ph.D. in English Literature from Queen’s University’s English Department (Kingston, Ontario). Her dissertation, “The Politics of Legibility: Writing and Reading Contemporary Arab American Women’s Literature,” examined the practices of writing, publishing, marketing, and reading fictional works by Arab American women writers post 9/11. After completing her doctoral work, Dana became Assistant Professor of Gender Studies at Queen’s University where she received the W. J. Barnes Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching. In the Summer 2011, she was the Future Minority Studies Postdoctoral Fellow at the Women’s and Gender Studies Department of Syracuse University (Syracuse, New York) where she began her book-length project on honour killings in Canada.

Tentatively entitled, Bodies that Matter in Death: Honour Killings in Canadian Racial Logics, this study focuses on the highly publicized murders of twelve Muslim Canadian women and the national debates they have evoked about the status of women in Canada, violence against women in racialized communities, immigration, assimilation, and multiculturalism. While analyzing media coverage of these crimes from 2000 to 2010, this project also studies the Canadian government’s motives for labeling the honour crime as a singular and distinct act of violence. It explores how this turn can be read in relation to Canada’s rewriting of its own history from a nation of peace making, with an ostensibly open immigration policy, to a global power, engaged in various international conflicts. More broadly, Dana studies the racialization of Muslim men and women post 9/11, violence, and debates over religious accommodation in multicultural states like Canada.

During her tenure at SFU, Dana will teach a number of courses, including two courses on transnational feminist theory in the Fall term and one on Islam and feminism during the Spring term. Dana is committed to doing anti-racist feminist work in the classroom and beyond. She has participated in various activist organizations, including Free Queen’s!, OPIRG Kingston, The Ban Righ Center, and Faculty for Palestine. Visit her Webpage at sfu.ca/gsws/RuthWynnWoodwardProfessorship/index.html.

The conference was inspired when Thea testified against the FDA approval of the drug flibanserin, an ineffective and harmful daily anti-depressant drug proposed to treat women’s “low sexual desire.” It was there she first met members of the New View Campaign, a feminist scholar-activist group which has challenged the burgeoning sexual pharmaceutical industry since 2000. The FDA experience reminded Cacchioni of the potential power of international, cross-disciplinary alliance and coalition. The response to the call for papers was very strong, but fund-raising proved to be a challenge since critical health studies are not likely to be supported by the scientific funding bodies. But thanks to the generous support of the Ruth Wynn Woodward Endowment, various faculties at Simon Fraser University, other small donations, high conference enrollment, and the New View Campaign’s promotion, the show did indeed go on!

The screening of “Orgasm, Inc.: The Strange Science of Female Pleasure” attracted many members of the public in addition to conference attendees, and sparked a lively discussion. The conference brought another issue to the fore as well; namely, how women’s natural genitals are portrayed as in need of “fixing” by the medical industry. As a response to the growing trend of liabiaplasty, “The Antidote Art Show and Reception” curated by Jennifer Safronick showcased creative works of artists and activists who shared images and poked fun at the “pill for every ill” approach to health.

The final conference report is available for viewing at www.sfu.ca/gsws/MedicalizationofSex.html#Final.
AFTER a long period of preparation, our new undergraduate curriculum is now live on your calendar! You will find all courses under the integrated acronym GSWS and that the previously separated Gender Studies Minor and Women’s Studies Minor are now integrated into one GSWS Minor. In addition, our introductory courses have been redesigned under the new titles: GSWS 100 (Sex Talk), GSWS 101 (Gender Talk) and GSWS 102 (Feminist Action). There are also three new advanced seminars (GSWS 431: Local Sex On Global Screen; GSWS 432: Sex In The Sixties; GSWS 433: Gender, Violence, Resistance) which will be offered in the coming semesters. Look out for these courses and share in our excitement for the unveiling of our new undergraduate program!

Helen Leung

SABBATICAL AS VISITING PROFESSOR AT UBC
Habiba Zaman

2010 (January to December) was my “sabbatical” year, which Simon Fraser University named as “study leave.” The concept “sabbatical” sounds romantic, relaxing, and fun; while the concept “study leave” indicates one is required to perform—research, read, write, and publish—rejuvenating academic rigour. My 2010 was a combination of both, although the year ended too fast—unlike a regular year! As a Bangladeshi-Canadian, I could be affiliated as a professor during my study leave with any major Bangladeshi university or I could go elsewhere, such as Australia, where I was a visiting professor earlier, or India, where I have a professional network. I decided to stay in Vancouver in 2010 as this would allow me to complete a couple of writing projects and prepare a book manuscript.

When I spoke with Dr. Sunera Thobani in 2009 regarding an affiliation with the RAGA Center at UBC for one term (spring) in 2010, she asked me to be a visiting professor for the entire year. Generally, the Centre for Women’s and Gender Studies (CWAGS) formalizes and appoints a Visiting Scholar for one term. The appointment for one year has an entirely different requirement and has to go through a number of levels including obtaining approval from the UBC Board of Governors. Dr. Gillian Creese, Director of CWAGS, wrote a long letter supporting my Visiting Professorship appointment for one year, and the application went through various levels without a hitch. My sincere thanks and gratitude go to Dr. Gillian Creese and Dr. Sunera Thobani, who took special initiative to appoint me as a Visiting Professor for both CWAGS and the RAGA Centre and provided me all sorts of logistical support, including office and computer space. Special thanks go to Jane Charles and Wynn Archibald for their generous time and support. Wynn with her smiling face provided me with helpful tips whenever I needed them. Dr. Creese encouraged me to organize a panel for the forthcoming 11th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women Conference, commonly known as “Women’s Worlds,” to

My sincere thanks and gratitude go to Dr. Gillian Creese and Dr. Sunera Thobani

(Continued on next page)
SABBATICAL AS VISITING PROFESSOR AT UBC (CONT’D)

be held in Ottawa in July 2011. Accordingly, I submitted a panel proposal titled “Globalization, Migration, Gender, Women's Agency, and the Canadian State,” and the proposal was accepted. In addition to me, the panelists were: Dr. Gillian Creese and Ms. Cecilia Dioscon, Director of the National Philippine Women's Association in Canada.

Although CWAGS allocated an independent office for me to share with another visiting professor, I preferred to work in the RAGA Centre office, which has several desks with computers. Graduate students as well as visiting scholars use the computers and printer regularly. Working in this kind of environment allowed me to interact with graduate students who had diverse and vibrant research interests. As a Visiting Professor, I was not restricted by teaching, marking, lecture preparation, or attending committee meetings, so I tried to be away from a regular office space. The orientation session of the RAGA Centre in the beginning of the spring session was superb because there I met with several well-known community activists and academics. Affiliation with the RAGA Centre also persuaded me to present a paper titled “Naturalized Social Inequality via Racialized and Genderized Immigrant Labor: Fact or Fiction in Canada?” at the anti-colonial conference in October in Edmonton. It is worth mentioning that the RAGA Centre also sponsored and organized several films and events on UBC campus, which I attended according to my convenience.

As an international MA student from Bangladesh, I first visited the UBC campus while presenting a paper at the Canadian Asian Studies Association meeting of the Learned's (now the Congress) in June 1983, and the paper was published in a conference proceeding under the editorship of Dr. S. Pendakur of UBC. (Coincidentally, later on I worked with his son, Dr. Krishna Pendakur of SFU, in the Metropolis Project.) I was intrigued by the university’s vastness and natural beauty, including the spectacular view from the rose garden, which I really enjoyed during my stay. In the summer of 2010, I used to park my car at the rose garden parking lot, and while walking to the Jack Bell Building where the CWAGS/RAGA Center is located, I frequently stopped for few minutes at the rose garden to enjoy the mystique and beauty of mountain, ocean, and land—all in one view. Since my first visit to UBC in 1983, I had attended several conferences, meetings, and community events on UBC campus. My Visiting Professor position in 2010 surpassed all past activities and academic engagements. During this period, I wrote a long review essay (invited) of four books that had been published in the journal Labour/Le Travail and also reworked and substantially revised according to the reviewers’ comments a manuscript that was published in a feminist journal entitled Pakistan Journal of Women's Studies in Pakistan. I received a research grant from Metropolis in Pakistan; the project title is “Informal and Formal Sources of Support and Information Utilized by South Asian Immigrants’ Settlement and Integration: Exploring Opportunities and Limitation.”

Best of all, I completed the first draft of another book manuscript. My continuous interaction with graduate students, feminist colleagues, and CWAGS professors sharpened my analysis and provoked new ideas that both informed and challenged the theoretical framework in the book manuscript. Also, I learned that some professors complete the first draft of a manuscript before the beginning of their study leave; consequently, the study leave facilitates reviewing, revising, and publishing the book. This reminds me of a well-established academic colleague who once commented about the major research grant agencies: “Do research, write, and then apply for the research grant. This helps you to publish and meets the agency’s requirements when you receive the funds.”

Of all the events organized by CWAGS, what I liked most is its stimulating seminars series held during Wednesday noon hours. It was amazing how many graduate students and professors from across the campus, including retired/emeritus professors, attended this weekly seminar with enthusiasm! The seminar series was run and introduced mostly by CWAGS graduate students under the guidance of Dr. Gillian Creese. In addition to this opportunity for academic stimulation, several faculty, including Dr. Creese, Dr. Becky Ross, and Dr. Valerie Raoul, hosted pot-luck dinners at their homes to celebrate such events as the beginning and ending of the semester, a successful PhD thesis defense, and so on. These dinners provided opportunities for graduate students, staff, professors, and administrators to meet and have fun collectively.

In addition to the Wednesday seminars in spring and fall 2010, I attended several events organized by the Liu Institute. These included the Social Justice workshop as well as the Metropolis Health Migrant Workers’ Workshop and the CWAGS graduate students’ (Continued on next page)
Sabbatical as Visiting Professor at UBC (Cont’d)

One of the greatest strengths of these workshops/mini-conferences is the student (mostly graduate student)-centred learning, which trains and prepares graduate students for future leadership. Throughout this process, I came to know several graduate students across disciplines, including forestry, fishery, engineering, interdisciplinary studies, Asian Studies, and so on. Several graduate students who were close to defending their theses asked me about their job opportunities as they were extremely worried about the global economic recession and its negative outcome for generating jobs in the labour market. I encouraged them to apply to all prospective places and often cited this mantra borrowed from an administrator friend during my job-searching years: “Remember, you need a job, but the University [the employer] also needs you.”

One of the challenging aspects for me was getting to UBC, as it takes more than an hour to drive there from my residence. As I have a yearly SFU parking permit, the cost was zero due to the inter-university agreement. One day, however, I had an interesting experience at the parking lot. Before I could leave the parking lot, I had to stop and go through the parking personnel. I told the attendant that I had an SFU parking permit. He responded immediately, “That’s your husband’s.” I was calm, but answered back sharply: “Don’t I look like a professor?” (Or I could have been staff!) He did not buzz me through, but rather asked me to provide my SFU photo ID. Like UBC, SFU had not yet developed any centralized ID that allows one to perform multiple tasks. The only photo ID I had was my SFU library card ID, which I use only in the SFU library! Without going through heated arguments, I convinced him by showing my business card. He softened his attitude and allowed me out of the parking lot without paying extra. Such sexist remarks have been part of my life since my childhood, and I try to deal with sexism without getting bitter and angry. In the late 1990s, for example, a community organizer phoned and asked me to give a talk on “Bangladesh’s Victory Day.” I accepted happily. At the end of our phone conversation, he told me, “I am inviting you to give a talk as your husband [an eloquent speaker] is not in town [Vancouver].” I felt humiliated, but did not revise my positive response. Delivering a provocative lecture was the answer, and I eventually did that.

One of the experiences I will fondly remember from 2010 is that several of my immigrant family members in Greater Vancouver started graduate and undergraduate programs at the UBC Campus in September. This was not in any way planned for my study leave! On one Wednesday, I invited all of them—my son, nephew, and two in-laws—for a late lunch at a restaurant near CWAGS and the RAGA Centre. During my tenure, I also attended four family members’ convocations. One was my nephew’s undergraduate convocation at the UBC campus, and he was selected to make the valedictory speech. My younger sister Sabera, who had been suffering from breast cancer (died on 20th June 2011), received her Visitor’s Visa from Canadian Immigration without any hassles and came all the way from Bangladesh to attend her son’s convocation. I bought her a cup with the words “UBC Mom.” In a nutshell, my Visiting Professorship at the CWAGS/RAGA Centre opened new horizons—academic, community, and familial—for me without my leaving Vancouver!

(The above report was originally published in an abridged form in the UBC Centre for Women’s and Gender Studies Newsletter, Spring/Summer 2011.)

Update received August 24, 2011: Habiba Zaman’s work with the PWC-BC was discussed at a meeting organized by the Coalition for Employment Standards with the Deputy Minister of Labour, Robert Lapper, last Feb. 2011. Marilou Carrillo, Jocelyn Vergabera, Alex Taimuri, and Rene Nicolas had an 8-minute presentation and shared the summary of Habiba’s research, “Workplace Rights for Immigrants in BC: The Case of a Filipino Workers,” with the Deputy Minister and other representatives of community organizations who attended the meeting. At previous meetings, other organizations cited the recommendations in her work as the framework they could use as a coalition in changing and improving labour standards. The PWC-BC, for one, is very grateful for Habiba’s relevant and lasting contributions to the welfare of workers, particularly women under the Live-In Caregiver Program (LCP).
Grad News

Sandra Martins has been involved with several important projects. During the first half of this year, she embarked on the digitization of the Ruth Wynn Woodward project. More details of this project may be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Another activity Sandra is involved with is through her own research on the relationship between feminism, activism and the GSWS Department. Acknowledging that the Department has a very strong history of activism, she is interested in proposing unique and student centered forms of outreach. So please keep an eye out for web surveys and invitations to open forums related to this! She is anticipating your feedback and comments, so please watch for the survey, which will be announced shortly via email.

Meghan Murphy is making waves—air waves, that is—with her feminist radio show, The FWord, being aired every Monday at noon on www.coopradio.org. Meghan is also to be congratulated on the success of her podcast radio documentary (Radical Media) with Zoe Druick. posted at www.rabble.ca. For still more, check out their website and blog, of which she is executive editor, at www.feminisms.org.

Mary Shearman's current research explores the history of the Penthouse Nightclub in Vancouver, Canada's longest standing exotic nightclub. The study illustrates the relationship between dancers, the law and the community over an extended period of time. You can help Mary with her project at sfu.ca/gsws/MaryShearman/.

Master's Program

Catherine Murray, along with the Department are pleased to welcome this year’s (2011-2012) Graduate Students joining the Master’s Program:

Kat Davidson. A resident of Surrey, Kat did her BA at SFU after transferring from Langara Women's Studies. Kat was originally from Alberta. She has twice been a recipient of the President and Dean’s Honor Roll Open Scholarship and has come to GSWS to do the two extended essay option, intending to work with Dr. Lara Campbell as her senior supervisor. Kat hopes to explore the study of romantic friendships through the 18th to 20th centuries, and the contending representations of the regulation of women’s fertility cycles in medicalised settings as well as through popular cultural prescription. Kat has an extensive background as a community activist, and works to combine a genuine love of ideas with a feminist, anti racist and anti-oppressive lens. She has worked as a special education assistant in the New West School district, and worked as a research assistant for a number of professors.

Karen Foley. Returning to the academy, after receiving a Bachelor of Social Work from UBC in 2001, Karen has worked extensively with the BC Government's Community Living BC and the Sunshine Coast Community Services Society. She wishes to immerse in the course intensive MA to read and reflect around theories and practice of community activism and social justice issues. Karen's career has led her to be a strong advocate for disadvantaged groups, and her personal and family interest is in special needs First Nations’ children. She has worked with co-leading community groups focusing on building unity and cohesion in addressing complex issues such as building community capacity to support individuals born with Foetal Alcohol Syndrome. Such practice has led her to want to polish her ability to critique social systems through a feminist lens, and improve her anti-oppression pedagogy for community learning. It is her belief that social work is essentially the practice of conflict resolution, so a deeper understanding of power dynamics is essential to her practice. She has an interest in integrating First Nations studies at the graduate level, with plans to prepare for PhD work.
Master’s Program (Cont’d)

Daiset Ruiz Sarquis joins us from Mexico City. She completed a Masters of Philosophy in the History of Art and Visual Culture from Christie’s Education at the University of Glasgow, based in London, in 2005, after completing a Bachelors in the History of Art from the Cultural Studies Center of Casas Lamm, Mexico City. She has taught at several Mexican institutions, such as the University of Morelos, and the National Centre of Research: Documentation and Information of the Arts (CENDIDIAP). Her studies have also included a course on Gender studies at El Colegio de Mexico and Gender Studies and Cultural Critique from UNAM, the National University. Daiset is passionate about art and literature, and interested in broadening her critical gender theory lens. She has produced papers on the work of three contemporary women artists through the theories of Giles Deleuze, has been a frequent contributor on commentary on contemporary art, and has worked as a researcher for Canal 22, the Mexican public TV channel. Daiset is eager to crack the tidy discipline of art history, driven by her new interest in feminist theories of performativity and gender, and inspired by her upbringing in a very close Indian tradition. Her goal is to develop a PhD proposal of in Latin American history, gender and cultural studies, seeking the breadth of the course-based MA.

Hilary Thurston comes to us after a productive ‘gap year’ after a BA at York University in 2009 where she trained for three years in a joint Sheridan College-York University Design program, and then completed her Honours Bachelor of Women’s Studies in her fourth year. She was a recipient of the Marta Danylewycz Essay Prize from York in her graduating year. Her areas of research interest include indigenous sexual discourses and spiritual practices as they inform the social organization of gender and sexuality. Framed theoretically by a poststructural approach to language, space and sexuality as they simultaneously inform questions of sexual identity and governance, she asks the question, how do sexuality and indigenous traditions of spirituality inform each other? What are alternative, post colonial ways of ‘reading’ the sex work by Aboriginal women in Canada (the Pamela George case, the Disappeared of the downtown Eastside, the spatial politics of the ‘stroll’), and what implications may they have for possibilities for reconciliation and healing between indigenous and settler communities? Hilary has worked as a volunteer at Interval House Women’s Shelter in Toronto, running a Building Economic Self-Sufficiency program for women who have left their abusers. She is starting in the course-based MA option.

Doctoral Program

GSWS is proud to welcome these new 2011 graduate students to a thriving, passionate, excellent and engaged feminist community of graduate scholars! Joining GSWS for our Doctoral Program are:

Huai Bao comes to us after winning scholarships from the Vancouver Film School in 2007 and from the Beijing Educational Institute in 1997. He has an MA in British and American Literature from Beijing Normal University in 1995 and Diploma from the Vancouver Film School. Huai is fluent in Mandarin and English and has chosen to be a permanent resident of Canada after a stint in L.A. Huai will be working with Senior Supervisor Helen Leung to examine vernacular Chinese literature and musical drama in the late Imperial period of China. What are the influences of this classical tradition on contemporary musical performances of transvestitism in film? His MA thesis was on Emily Dickinson’s poetry on love and death, the libido behind the unrequited love. Huai Bao has produced a script for a film entitled The Seduced, which explores dissociative disorders at VFS which is now being developed into a full length feature film script with the working title City of Forbidden Ghosts, for a potential China-Canada co-production. Huai’s work career includes a stint at a state-owned publishing company in China, as a creative marketing advisor to a private Beijing-based pastic surgery group, and as co-founder of www.genderwindow.org, a website sponsored by Scandinavian countries to assist the first NGO of its kind to address women’s and gender studies in China and developed in partnership with Tsing Hua University’s Department of Sociology. Huai’s short film Fearless from Red China about a gay red guard was invited to the New Asia Film Festival in BC (Richmond, BC, 2009). Huai has also taught non fiction writing to IELTS students at a number of local institutes, translated two books and published articles in the Chinese Canadian Times and China Daily.
Novia (Shih-Shan) Chen. With an MFA in Film Production from Ohio University in 2008 and BFA from the National Taiwan University in 2003, Novia has served as an instructor of Film and Video theory and Criticism at Chao-Yang University of Technology in Taiwan, and the Kao-Fun College of Digital Contents, also in Taiwan. She has also been a teaching assistant at a range of courses at Ohio U. Novia has worked outside and inside the Academy as a film Director, Production Coordinator, and in technical lighting and as a camera gaffer. Her most recent short thesis film, Evelyn, completed in 2008, which she directed and co wrote won the Betty Thomas Film Award from Ohio University and was screened at seven festivals. Evelyn was nominated for the best narrative short at the Trail Dance Film Festival in Duncan in January of 2009. In 2010 she completed a documentary entitled Now He is a She, which explores a family with a male to female transgendered teacher and the study of sexuality, gender and familial roles in Taiwanese culture. Her doctoral aim is to develop her insight into research methodologies, interdisciplinary perspectives and individual disciplines to crystallize her voice as an educator and filmmaker with interest in the Three China’s cinema past and present. Novia wants to ‘revolutionize the way that Taiwanese film students perceive and interpret women’s roles on screen”, with a special emphasis on critical studies of Asian third wave feminism. She will be working with Helen Leung as her senior supervisor.

Eli Manning. In a brave career redirection, Eli comes to SFU in a transfer out of York University in order to work with Cindy Patton. Her research interest is in health policy and sexuality, and one of her mentors is Francisco Ibanez-Carrasco, a past student of Cindy’s. Eli’s dissertation research will focus on a critique of clinical guidelines on sexually transmitted diseases, drawing on post-structuralist analyses of the multiple exclusions of trans, intersex and Two Spirited populations. She intends to conduct focus groups and participatory action research with a goal to queer health policy. Its’ working title is Epidemiology as Biopower: Exposing Race, Gender Abilit and Sexuality in HIV policy. Eli has already published peer-reviewed academic articles in journals like the Canadian Review of Social Policy, Thirdspace and a forthcoming book on Engaging Fathers with Social Change. Eli has worked with the renowned Canadian queer public policy scholar, Miram Smith, from York. Eli also has an MSW from UVIC, and has worked in the community on HIV/AIDs in public education, program and event planning, advocate and facilitator, seeking to trouble the service delivery models on the ground. Her MSW thesis explored “Who are the Men who have sex with Men: Gender and Sex Constructions in HIV Research” and was nominated for the Lieutenant Governor’s Silver Medal for best thesis. She has participated in a multi-year HIV study in Zambia with a “Universities without Walls Fellowship,” and been a recipient of a CIHR Institute Gender and Health Travel award. Eli has worked as a teaching assistant, researcher and editor for a number of different professors and was intrigued by her first introduction to our community at Susan Stryker’s Transomatechnics conference.
SELECTIONS FROM HISTORIANS WITHOUT BORDERS

Presidential Address to CHA by Mary Lynn Stewart

Mary Lynn Stewart delivered the Presidential Talk to the Annual General Assembly of the Canadian Historical Association—Société historique du Canada in June 2011. Here is an abbreviated version of what happened in her own words.

The tipping point in my conversion to women’s history occurred in 1969, when I was a graduate student at Columbia University in New York. But it occurred in a non-credit, off-campus graduate seminar in history conducted by pioneers of women’s history like Gerda Lerner and Joan Kelly Gadol. This was the most demanding and rewarding course I ever took, because we all devoted a lot of time to finding elusive reading material and came to each session prepared to debate our interpretations of what was very fresh material. To those who dismiss this period of women’s history as mere recovery history, I agree that we searched high and low for documents and secondary sources, but I disagree about not using theory. In my case, I drew heavily on Simone de Beauvoir’s *Second Sex*, with its useful notions of women’s situation and historical contingency.

We were explorers in nearly uncharted territory. I say nearly uncharted because we quickly discovered an earlier generation of historians whose superb scholarship on women had escaped our notice, since these works had not been assigned in any course or been included on any comprehensive exam bibliography. I understand that other historians excavating what they thought were untapped lodes of historical data, have also uncovered predecessors who had been excised from the historiographical record.

In marathon negotiations with the departmental curriculum committee at Columbia, we concentrated on including women in Western Civilization courses. The dominant progressive narrative considered women ahistorical, so women barely played cameo roles in history courses. When they entered the scene, they were identified as exceptional women; on the rare occasion that anyone alluded to femininity, it was eternal, or the negation of history as progress. Most of us refused to focus on “exceptional” women or accept the notion of an eternal feminine.[1] We were grappling with essentialism, but did yet not have the language to talk about it. Here too we ran into the problem of patriarchal structure versus women’s agency. It would take several years to articulate ideas about the coexistence of flexible structures and limited agency, notably the concepts of patriarchies in the plural, capable of change, and structured choice within patriarchies.

We grappled with the need for multiple histories, not just a single narrative. (We did not yet have the term master narrative.) We encountered the “fear of plurality” that still informs efforts to be more inclusive, fears that still lead to the near exclusion of women in, for instance, the national historical canon in Holland, imposed in 2004.[3] Other excluded groups, such as people of colour, have met resistance when they argued for a more representative history.

This extracurricular women’s history course was the only occasion I had as a student to observe women as professors of history. Their enthusiasm and intellectual rigour inspire me to this day. Many in that seminar continue to teach women’s history or women’s studies. I spent twenty-eight years in a joint appointment with Women’s Studies and History and I am now full time in the recently renamed Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies at Simon Fraser University. In my thirty-eight years teaching career, I have tried to recreate the unadulterated pleasure in learning that I felt in that seminar. As the boundaries of historical inquiry opened to include other previously-unrecognized subjects, such as disabled people, gays, lesbians and transgendered people, some of my students have experienced that joy of discovery.

The other impetus for my interest in women’s history was the women’s movement. During the campaign for abortion rights in New York State, I began attending what would later be called consciousness-raising sessions at Columbia. However, our large group of university students, including such feminist luminaries as Kate Millet and Ti-Grace Atkinson, focused on practical issues like acquiring more women’s washrooms on campus—and liberating men’s rooms—when we got no results. Like getting access to birth control pills—and occupying the student health centre when we were ignored—and lobbying for what became the first police unit dedicated to sex crimes, the Special Victims Unit that is now the subject of a TV series and was most recently the backdrop for the “perp walk” of Dominique Strauss-Kohn. When I returned to Canada in 1977, I joined an equally vibrant women’s movement.

(Continued on next page)
When I began teaching, I was further drawn to women’s history, because I began to realize that history itself was gendered and that this was linked to the predominance of men in history departments. When I was first hired in a department of history at a women’s college, Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, I was still naïve enough to be impressed by the fact that the department employed three women and eleven men. I soon realized that there were informal gender barriers that I had not imagined. The most ironic and frustrating one was opposition to teaching women’s history at a women’s college—until, that is, influential alumnae (aka large donors) urged the department at least to offer a course during the centennial of the College in 1975. After I joined the History Department at Simon Fraser University in 1977, it was acceptable to teach women’s history, because the only two tenure-track women—the other one was an earlier President of the CHA, Nikki Strong-Boag—were jointly-appointed with Women’s Studies. For fifteen years, I was one of only two women in a department of twenty-eight tenure-track faculty members. At SFU, I bumped into the attitude that two tenured women were quite enough for a department, an opinion expressed in hiring battles when Nikki and I tried to persuade the department to hire promising women. Even after the walls of history departments had been breached, some tried to defend the perimeters from outsiders. These prejudices and battles prevailed until the early nineties, when a few more women were hired. Not incidentally, many more have been added since then.

Meanwhile, I took advantage of the inter-disciplinarity of Women’s Studies, notably when I conceived of a book on the history of modern women’s clothing that used symbolic anthropology to detect the meaning of fashion along with a political economy of the couture business in interwar France. In the late 1980s, I helped form Academic Women at SFU to organize other faculty women, many of whom felt very isolated in their departments. Although we lobbied for and got an employment equity officer and a pay equity review, we also attended each other’s talks. These talks expanded our horizons and enriched our scholarship. To belabour the metaphor, we benefitted from excursions over disciplinary borders. Other multi-disciplinary societies serve the same purpose.


**THE RUTH WYNN WOODWARD DIGITIZATION PROJECT**

Sandra Martins has been involved with several important projects. During the first half of this year, much work has been done around the Ruth Wynn Woodward Digitalization Project. Material related to the RWWP and to the Department at large has been digitalized at the SFU Library, thanks to Don Taylor and Ian Song. The next step is to transfer all the information, and create a Web site set-up. Undoubtedly an official announcement will be forthcoming via email, but keep on checking out the GSWS Web site for an announcement and link! You will be able to interact with past and current GSWS events, conferences, activities, newsletters, photos and so much more. The Web site is exciting because now there is a place of reference for all that is GSWS; our community involvements are archived; research on the Department is accessible; survey of past and present activism is available; and as the Web site matures there will surely be added positive impacts. I feel really fortunate to be part of this project, because its focus is to build and strengthen the Department, and I learned tons about the Department!
Elise Chenier is an associate faculty member

Equipment needed: map, bike, bike lock. Skills required: ability to trust your instincts.

Elise has been away for extended research on a round-the-US motorcycle trip; and what better way to see the country!

A trip around the US was quite a commitment. As much as she would have liked to stay for longer periods of time in all the places she visited, a single day was it before pushing on. The exceptions were Boston, NYC, and Durham, NC where she stayed longer to do research; and San Francisco where Cameron joined her for a (too short) 4-day holiday.

A city can easily be experienced in a single day, however. Well, perhaps not NYC or Toronto, but Charleston, Savannah, Austin, and even New Orleans can be appreciated in 24 hours.

Renting or borrowing a bicycle seemed like the best way to cover a lot of ground without exhausting herself in the effort. Faster and less tiring than walking, she was still going slow enough to see shops and cafés that she wanted to pop into; but she could also get out of a neighbourhood quickly if it turned out to be of little interest.

Both Charleston and Savannah were within walking distance, with the historic areas being very small. Locating beaches required the motorcycle, since they were further away.

What did an average day look like? Slept in till 10 am, got up, skyped with Cam, showered, had breakfast, chatted with her Ellen (her host), put in a load of laundry, and hit the trails. She took a city guide and followed the lovely Shoal Creek Trail all the way downtown to the Colorado River where she found a shady spot to read her new book of short stories (The Sound and the Fury).

After that she followed the guide’s advice and rode up Congress Street, but it was not at all the interesting shopping mecca the guide made it out to be. She did spot a Mexican art museum and selected a souvenir for her daughter, then headed over to the state capital buildings, and after that, the University of Texas campus, nicely situated overlooking the government below. She consulted the guide again and was pointed to a nearby café, but it was closed. It was Saturday. Perhaps the downtown was generally abandoned on weekends, so she looked yonder. South Austin seemed promising, but it was across the river, and she was starting to wilt. She finally decided to head to Whole Foods. Austin is Whole Foods’ corporate headquarters, and their flagship store surprisingly attracts more tourists than the state capitol buildings. How could she resist?

It was pretty awesome, just what you’d expect to see and maybe a little more, but—Canadians will appreciate this—at least a quarter of the store was dedicated to wine and beer! They have a wine tasting bar, and were giving away samples of a Belgium beer. Nice, but take that away and it’s not much different from Whole Foods on Cambie in Vancouver.

She bought a salad and slice of pizza, and finished it off with a sample from the chocolate bar.

She rode the trail back home and by this time it was really hot outside. She noticed that when she rode the motorcycle: the temperature peaked from about 2 pm to 4 pm.

On the corner of the street where she was staying, she spotted two shiny new motorcycles: a Triumph and another street bike. She stopped to talk with the proud owners, who are excitedly planning several long trips in the coming years.

Elise then headed out for dinner and music with Ellen.

The next day she was back on the road again. There was a lot more to see and do in Austin, but one day was better than none, and she felt like she has enjoyed a good slice of the best Austin had to offer!

Check out her blog for more great stories, photographs and videos! sabbaticalride.wordpress.com/
**Faculty and Associate Faculty Research**

**Catherine Murray**’s research interests include gender, urban studies and the cultural economy. This past year, she collaborated on two projects: a retrospective on Vancouver as an emerging cultural metropolis, a book chapter co-authored with Tom Hutton of UBC’s Centre for Human Settlements with Sage; and another book chapter on culture-led regeneration strategies for rural areas, co-authored with Nancy Duxbury and Ross Nelson, in a forthcoming book by UBC press. Her work on the Metro Vancouver region in cultural policy has led to a collaboration with Sara Sparks, doctoral candidate in GSWS which reviews original documents and existing publications on Queering Vancouver: where Vancouverism meets LGBTQism, again in recognition of Vancouver’s 125th anniversary. The paper was delivered at International Women’s Worlds and is being developed for publication with further interviews. Finally, Dr. Murray’s pilot study of cultural workers in collaboration with Dawn Bennett, Perth University, continues with publication intended in 2012. As a part of her ongoing community outreach with salons at the Centre for Studies on Culture and Communities (SFU Vancouver), Dr. Murray is collaborating with the Women’s Transforming Cities initiative, in anticipation of the major international conference in 2013 in Vancouver.

**Brian Burtch**, associate member of GSWS and a professor of Criminology at SFU, presented a paper on homophobic and transphobic bullying in schools at the British Society of Criminology conference in Newcastle, England. The paper was co-authored with Rebecca Haskell. Rebecca and Brian co-authored *Get That Freak: Homophobia and Transphobia in Schools* (Fernwood Publishing, 2010). The reviews and key information about *Get That Freak* can be viewed online at http://www.fernwoodpublishing.ca/Get-That-Freak-Rebecca-Haskell/. Brian also met with locations, and always a potential backup when the weather is inclement is the Rhizome Cafe. What makes this event so successful is because they are “on location” where the herstory actually occurred. For more information on future events, visit .www.herstorycafe.ca. Congratulations to Lara for winning three awards and honorable mentions this year, noted elsewhere in this newsletter. Certainly these are well-deserved recognitions!

**Lara Campbell** teaches Canadian Women’s history. Her joint venture with Jolene Cummings continues to draw crowds of herstory buffs to their “Herstory Cafe” held monthly at varying locations of herstorical interest—everywhere from Museums to parks—and everything in between. One of their favorite

**Marjorie Griffin Cowen** is an associate faculty member of GSWS. She has been active in feminist issues, serving for many years on the executive board of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women. She currently is involved in two research projects related to global warming, *Work in a Warming World*, and *The Climate Justice Project*, which include the issues of *Green Employment in Energy Industries, Gender and Climate Change Policy*, as well as *Comparative Approaches to Climate Change within Canada*. In the fall of 2010, she taught WS 320 and 830: Public Policy for Women. Other projects include *The Gendered and Precautionary Nature of Teenage Work* and Feminist Activism on *Employment and Economic Issues: The Ontario Committee on the Status of Women.*

**Helen Leung** continues to research queer and trans issues in Asian cinemas. She has two forthcoming articles on, respectively, queer aesthetics in Chinese cinema and trans cinema to be published this year. She also has begun a new project on emergent cinematic practices in Hong Kong as they relate to issues of cultural survival/preservation, the ethics and aesthetics of slowness and anti-development in the context of the rapid and successful rise of a commercialized mainstream cinema in China. In addition, she is interested in exploring how to engage in critical and creative practices in meaningful and non-dogmatic ways and has been involved in developing discussions and workshops to that end.
PUBLISHED ARTICLES


Cohen, Marjorie. “Best Place on Earth? Not if you’re a working women,” Vancouver Sun, Mar 8, 2011.


BOOKS AND CHAPTERS


CONFERENCE PAPERS AND ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS


Cohen, Marjorie. May 16–18, 2011. Organized the political economy sessions for the CPSA, University of Waterloo, ON. Chaired two Sessions, discussant for one.


Patterson, Natasha. (2011). “‘We gave them the colours to paint the picture’: Self-Reflexive Interviewing and the Feminist Scholar-Fan.” Paper presented at the Pacifi c Sociological Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA.


Films, Videos and Media Interviews


Cohen, Marjorie. May 25, 2011, interview, The Province, “Kevin Falcon’s Announcements about Reducing the HST to 10%.”


Cohen, Marjorie. Apr 28, 2011, interview for *The Province*, “Christy Clark’s unwillingness to Debate Eby.”


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**LECTURES**


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**OPINION EDITORIALS**


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**PRIZES AND AWARDS**

Campbell, Lara. National Capital Committee on the Scholarship, Preservation and Dissemination of Women’s History, Marion Dewar Prize, 2011.


By now many of our readers recognize this as a mural by Juan M. Sanchez (1998) situated in our GSWS Department Lounge. Our department commissioned it while Marjorie Cohen was Chair. We are grateful to the President’s office and also the Dean of Arts for their assistance with these—now historical—pieces.

The artists were both from Argentina. The mural in the hallway (right) was done in 1998 by Nora Patrich.

Nora and Juan were later married. Both artists were living in Canada while they produced these art pieces. The department had a committee overseeing the projects. Some folks had very strong feelings about what they wanted the murals to look like/do—and even gave directions to the artists. This doesn’t work for artists of course, so that required some finessing, but ultimately everyone was very happy with the results. No complaints—ever!

Both artists are well-known in Argentina and Nora was commissioned to do a major sculpture in the square in front of the Casa Rosata in Buenos Aires to commemorate the women (mothers and grandmothers mostly) who demonstrated against the government regularly in the city square. This was the time in history when people simply ‘disappeared’—because they had been murdered. Now folks commemorate once a month as a remembrance of the horrible times of the Junta’s tyrannical rule.

Our department would love to preserve these beautiful works of art. They will be carefully removed from their respective walls by professionals in the SFU Art Gallery. We wish they could have a permanent home without ever being placed into storage. The murals will become the property of SFU.

Last we heard, Juan and Nora live by splitting their time between Vancouver and Buenos Aires.