



WOMEN'S STUDIES

Newsletter 2005-2006

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Mary Lynn Stewart

As the new Chair of Women's Studies, I want first to thank my predecessor, Marjorie Cohen, who led the department for three eventful and satisfying years, during which the department introduced the Ph.D. program, celebrated its thirtieth anniversary (during the University's fortieth anniversary year) and sponsored no fewer than four major conferences. Last year alone Marjorie, ably assisted by the Ruth Wynn Woodward Assistant and other staff, held a major conference on Economic Security, "As If Women Mattered" and a day-long thirtieth anniversary

conference with four panels of SFU-WS faculty and students and WS faculty and students from UBC, the University of Victoria, and as far away as the University of New Brunswick. The Ruth Wynn Woodward Professor, Liz Philipose, also organized a successful conference on Gender, Race, Islam and the 'War on Terror.' Liz and I are discussing how best to publish and circulate the conference papers; one possibility is as the first in a series of Occasional Papers. Another signal achievement last year was the award of three SSHRCC graduate fellowships to WS students and a

SSHRCC research fellowship to faculty member Jacqueline Levitin.

Second, I want to introduce myself to readers who do not know me. I am a full-time Professor of Women's Studies, after holding a joint appointment with Women's Studies and History for twenty-eight years. I have been Chair once before, in the mid-1990s, and was Coordinator of the (then) Program in Women's Studies twice in the 1980s. This experience should help me fulfill an assignment that has become more demanding over the

(Continued on page 3)



Photo by Greg Ehlers

“The first problem for all of us, men and women, is not to learn, but to unlearn.”

- Gloria Steinem

Women's Studies Open House

Mignon Alphonso

Simon Fraser University embarked on a year of activities across three campuses starting in September 2005 to celebrate and prepare for its 40th Anniversary on June 3, 2006. On that day, SFU hosted an Open House event for the general public at the Burnaby Mountain campus. Organizers created a Discovery Trail consisting of over 250 displays (including faculties' and departments' tables) which weaved through the campus and was engineered

to allow visitors to participate in games and challenges, view experiments and displays, and collect stamps for their trail



Trish Garner and Roberta Rogers

passports. Guests and their children visited the various zones, marked with colourful balloons, with excitement as they collected stamps for their passports. Guests with more than sixteen stamps had a chance to win prizes such as a colour laser printer, an iPod, and other spectacular giveaways. There were also many activities for children such as jugglers, balloon animals,

face painting, and games with prizes, to name a few. The day had something for everyone!

There were over 2,000 volunteers, which included SFU staff and an estimated 12,000 to 15,000 visitors making it the biggest event in SFU's history. As part of the Women Studies Department's commitment and participation in this cele-

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HOW TO FIND US

Interested in more information about Women's Studies at Simon Fraser University? You can visit us on the web

at: www.sfu.ca/womens-studies.

If you're on campus you can come to our offices on the fifth floor of the AQ (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 can be sent on request.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

past decade. Two of my first observations are that the Administration, and therefore the Chair, has become more bureaucratic and that everything happens earlier than ten years ago. I am honing my multi-tasking and time-management skills.

I began my tenure with an Advance, a gathering of faculty and, in our department, graduate students to discuss future directions for the department. Such a gathering is known, in other departments, as a Retreat. Eleven faculty members and four students attended an all-day meeting divided into five sessions chaired by the

Chair of the Undergraduate Committee, Helen Leung; the Chair of the Graduate Committee, Marilyn MacDonald; the new Ruth Wynn Woodward Professor, Kate Braid; the Library Representative, Moninder Bubber; Habiba Zaman, who reported on her research into outreach among high school and college

students, and Beth Pentney, a PhD student who spoke for graduate students. Two of the issues that we identified for further work were fund raising for graduate scholarships and follow-up research into how best to reach high school and college students. We have already begun work on both of these issues.

Women's Studies Open House cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

bration, students, staff and faculty volunteered their time and energy to making the department table a vibrant, informative, and fun table to visit. The theme presented at the WS table



Mignon Alphonso and Jennifer Jarvis

was "Transformations: Women's Studies in the 21st Century", which also included information about Gender Studies. Visitors at the WS table were presented with information in innovative ways such as a history of women poster display, DVD presentations, and a women's trivia contest with 4 winners. In hopes of winning a prize, visitors and their children gathered around the large board that presented

clues and answers to the quiz. The table also offered visitors a great selection of treats, which were enjoyed by all!

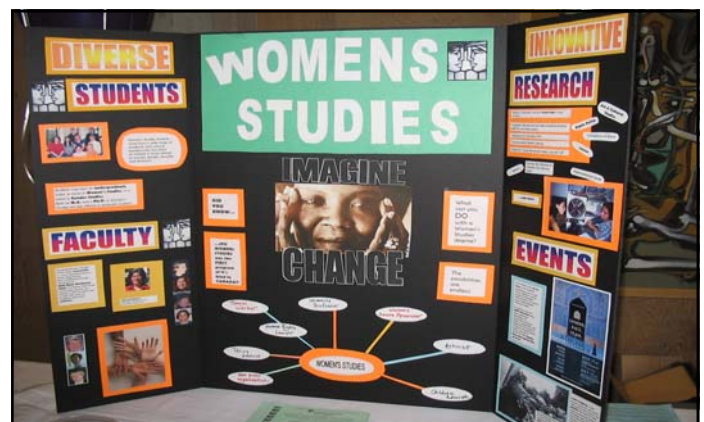
The enthusiasm about the day was clearly reflected by the WS volunteers, including students, staff and faculty: Mignon Alphonso, Sarah Berry, Melanie Crudginton, Trish Garner, Bryon Lee, Jennifer Jarvis, Roberta Rogers, Amanda Shaw, Mary Shearman, and Habiba Zaman. The table and activities would not



Marilyn MacDonald and Habiba Zaman

have been such a great success without the dedication and contribution of these volunteers, a big thank you goes out to all of them!!! A big kiss and thank you also goes out to Roberta's mom who supplied the delicious cupcakes for the volunteers.

“The enthusiasm about the day was clearly reflected by the WS volunteers, including students, staff and faculty”



GRADUATE CHAIR REPORT

Marilyn MacDonald



Our Graduate Studies program has undergone, or will soon undergo, a number of changes since the last newsletter. In September, we had a mixture of loss and gain, as Mary Lynn Stewart stepped down as Graduate Chair, in order to take on the position of Chair of the department. In February, we will be losing Christine Goodman to retirement. Christine, as departmental secretary, has been a coordinating force for the graduate program (including providing the information for this report). I know that we all extend our thanks to both Mary Lynn and Christine for all the time and energy they've committed to the develop-

ment of the Doctoral program, and the continued operation of the Master's.

This September, we welcomed three new candidates in the Master's program – Lisa Weeks is pursuing the thesis option, and Iram Zaidi and Karen Kinsey, the course option. All have begun the completion of their first semester's course requirements, and had a chance to meet faculty, staff and fellow graduate students at an orientation/reception held on September 13th.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Ph.D. program had candidates join our department in both 2004 (5) and 2005 (6). Although no new candidates were admitted in 2006, there has been considerable progress in the program's development. One major achievement is the reading list (available on the departmental website), which indicates those texts for which doc-

toral students will be responsible in their comprehensive examinations (comps.). This reading list includes both a general list on theory, and several lists by field. With coordination and considerable direction from Mary Lynn, doctoral candidates and faculty worked together to develop this list, and to agree that the comps. for those students admitted in 2004, would be based on reading lists prepared in consultation with their supervisory committees. Still under development are possible examination question sets, guides to the reading list, and so on.

In the Ph.D. program, Sonja Boon successfully completed her comprehensive examinations (comps.) in August, and will be defending her thesis proposal in December. Tash Patterson will be taking her comps. in November. This sets the stage for another

major achievement, which will involve the possibility of our doctoral students (who have successfully completed their comps.) teaching undergraduate courses through sessional appointments.

In the M.A. program, Mignon Alphonso successfully defended her thesis proposal in September, and Alieka Rudder will defend her proposal in November.

With changes rumoured in such areas as provincial funding for graduate studies (perhaps affected by the recent increases in Ontario), and provincial pressures to decrease undergraduate enrolment in the Arts and Social Sciences, as well as the soon-to-be-released university report on graduate supervision (a committee on which we are ably represented by Mary Lynn), it promises to be an interesting time between now and the next newsletter.

GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE NEWS



*M.A. Representative:
Sarah Berry*

The 2005-2006 academic year involved a flurry of activities for graduate students: social events, caucus meetings, pub nights, transgender-inclusion workshops, teaching assistantships, research assistantships, reading groups, par-

ticipation in conferences and forums, activism, publications, thesis writing, dissertation writing, comprehensive examinations, thesis proposal defences, thesis defences, the launch of the Women's Studies Support Network, and even a book launch by Caelie Frampton! As Women's Studies' graduate students, we are clearly a diverse and active group, and represent an array of accomplishments, both inside and outside of academia.

This past year, in order to foster a more inclusive environment in Women's Studies and Gender Studies, a group of graduate students and faculty developed a departmental dialogue around transgender issues. The Women's Studies' Support Network also came up with some ideas to provide practical and mutual peer support for graduate students. Some of the activities of the network included peer editing support, food donations, a clothing swap, and a fam-

ily-friendly social event.

The most recent graduate student initiative was the launch of a brown bag series for graduate students. The ongoing series will include faculty presentations on a variety of professional-development-related topics.



*PhD Representative:
Beth Pentney*

Helen Loshny Receives CIHR Institute of Gender & Health Three Year Doctoral Award

Helen Loshny plans to investigate the role of socioeconomic, cultural and environmental factors in hormonal contraceptive prescribing practices and use in British Columbia, Canada. According to a 2002 survey, hormonal contraceptive methods make up thirty-four percent of contraception methods used in Canada. With a usage rate of thirty-two percent, oral hormonal contraceptive methods, known collectively as birth control pills, make up by far the largest proportion of this group and of contraceptive methods in general. Injectable hormonal contraceptives, of which there is only one brand currently available in Canada known by the trade name Depo-Provera, comprise two percent of hormonal contraceptive use in Canada. Findings from Canadian and international studies as well as anecdotal evidence on hormonal contraceptives point to demographic and cultural patterns in use amongst the hormonal contraceptive population. For instance, oral hormonal contraceptive use seems to be concentrated amongst more affluent, higher educated groups and Depo-Provera use is disproportionately higher amongst segments of the youth population, in aboriginal and ethnic communities and in resource-poor areas. The relationship between such usage patterns and the socioeconomic, cultural and environmental factors that shape the hormonal contraceptive prescribing practices of health professionals and influence women's decisions in choosing hormonal contraceptives is poorly understood. Under the supervision of Cindy Patton, Mary Lynn Stewart and Jerilynn Prior of UBC Helen Loshny will be conducting a lit review and using a combination of survey, interview and participant observation methods in urban and rural centres in BC with the aim of increasing knowledge and understanding of these factors.

Caelie Frampton: SFU Bookstore's Author of the Month

Caelie Frampton was awarded SFU Bookstore Author of the Month for October 2006. As author of the month, Caelie's book was prominently displayed at all SFU bookstores during the month of October. She also received a framed portrait of herself and a gift from the bookstore. Caelie and Gary Kinsman will be organizing workshops on Activist Research in Vancouver in the spring of 2007. Caelie Frampton is a Women's Studies M.A. student at Simon Fraser University. Her thesis will be defended this Spring 2007. Using an institutional ethnographic approach, her work examines the ways in which graduate student employee unions in Canada (such as the TSSU) have attempted to negotiate tuition relief into their collective agreements.



Photo by Greg Ehlers



Sociology for Changing the World: Social Movements/Social Research
 Edited by Caelie Frampton, Gary Kinsman, AK Thompson and Kate Tilleczek, 288pp ISBN: 1-55266-183-0

Written for activists and scholars, this book aims to build connections between social movements and social research. It sets out practical ways to map social relations of struggle and to produce concrete knowledge for more effectively changing the world. Chapters address direct action, union flying squads, homelessness and gentrification, the regulation of transsexuals, national border restrictions, globalization, garment workers and more. Grounded in political activist ethnography and emphasizing confrontation, *Sociology for Changing the World* does not approach social movements as "objects" to be studied but as starting points from which to research and transform ruling regimes.

From the Preface to *Sociology for Changing the World*

“One of the central propositions of political activist ethnography is that, through confrontation with ruling regimes, activists are able to uncover aspects of their social organization. Through an analysis of the institutional relations movements are up against, more effective forms of activism can be developed.”

Smiling at the Other End: Surviving the WS Comprehensives

Sonja Boon

Preparing the comprehensives was a learning experience in many ways. While the prospect of reading 150-odd books generally fills me with excitement, the idea of being able to assimilate and regurgitate them at will was far more daunting. Being one of the first students in the department to start to work through them, and the very first to complete them made the journey that much more adventurous. Luckily a student from another department offered me useful advice: "Read a book a day," she said. A book a day? Yipes! I gulped and got to it. She was right. All told, after factoring in all the other stuff I also had to read, it *was* about a book a day. No more luxuriating in ideas and wallowing in style. No more leisurely meandering through the pathways of prose. No more lingering longingly at the edges of hidden thought-worlds or happy romps through fields of philosophi-

cal folly...that would just have to wait for another year.

Not that I was entirely alone throughout this process. On the contrary, the support of my supervisor and committee members made all the difference. Together with another student, Helen Loshny, I wrote short literature reviews on feminist theory and defended them for my supervisor Mary Lynn Stewart. I got through over a third of the feminist theory reading list this way. My other committee members were equally supportive. Kathy Mezei worked with me to find a useful starting point for my comprehensive on women's autobiographies, and I spent a happy term in the French department, auditing a course on eighteenth-century French women's writings with my third committee member, Rosena Davison. All three of them helped me work my way through the mysteries of the comprehensives.

I still can't quite believe that the intensity of the comprehen-

sives is behind me. Nor can I quite believe that I'm in Paris, finally starting to follow in the footsteps of the ladies who drew me to doctoral study in the first place. My research focuses on salon women of eighteenth-century Paris. In particular, I want to explore the idea of the Parisian salon as an embodied space, in which the gendered bodies of salon women functioned as volatile entities through which newly emerging ideas of sex and sensibility troubled the ordered environment of the public sphere of the salon itself. I have spent my days at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, buried in the life of the late eighteenth-century French aristocracy. In the early morning and the late afternoon, I wander the narrow little streets of Paris, looking for what remains of my ladies and their world. While much has changed, it's not all gone. I'm right around the corner

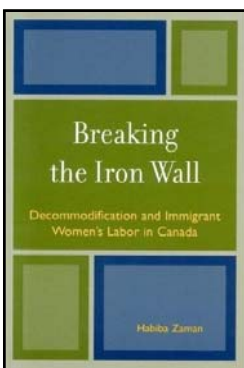


Sonja, all smiles, with her two sons: Stefan (5) and Tobin (16 months)

from the Église St. Roch, where one of the women I am studying was baptised and later married. Her mother, also a salon woman, was married here too, as was one of her salon colleagues. I'm not sure that I'll ever even come close to understanding these women and the ways in which they experienced their lives, but I'm revelling in the possibilities. I'm smiling. It's a happy place to be.

“While the prospect of reading 150-odd books generally fills me with excitement, the idea of being able to assimilate and regurgitate them at will was far more daunting.”

IN PRINT



Breaking the Iron Wall: Decommodification and Immigrant Women's Labor in Canada by Habiba Zaman, 200pp, ISBN: 0-7391-1235-X

In the latter half of the twentieth century, as immigrant-receiving countries such as Canada began competing to recruit the "most desirable" candidates, immigrant labor was bought and sold for the benefit of national and global markets. By providing empirical as well as historical evidence, Habiba Zaman undertakes a rigorous analysis of immigrant women's commodification and the possibility of their decommodification of labour in Canada. In order to present a comprehensive picture of commodification, this book uses empirical as well as historical evidence to explore the relationship between transnational migration and globalization, a relationship that sets the trajectory for immigrant women's commodification of labour. *Breaking the Iron Wall* looks at the detailed lived experiences of immigrant women, expertly revealing the intersections of race, gender, and class and exposing the forces and processes of commodification in public and private spheres.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Sarah Berry M.A. Candidate



Research: My Master's thesis examines media representations of elective caesarean sections. Specifically, my research demonstrates that rather than exploring the complex relational nature of

decision-making processes surrounding elective caesarean sections- in which women, their physicians, and an array of contextual factors influence the framing of medical dilemmas and their outcomes- mainstream Canadian media portrays this surgical event as primarily driven by the selfish desires of women who are "too posh to push."

Conference Presentation, 2006

Berry, Sarah. "Too posh to push? Critical analyses of media representations of elective caesarean sections." Poster presentation at Creating Synergy: Collaboration for Better Care Conference. UBC Collaboration for Maternal and Newborn Health. May 4-6, 2006. Vancouver, BC.

Learning to Lead: June 2-4, 2006

In February, 2006, I applied to attend the Minerva Foundation's "Learning to Lead" development program. The program is designed to advance leadership skills for women in British Columbia. I was accepted into the program and attended the leadership weekend at St.

John's College at UBC from June 2-4, 2006. As a graduate student, I was designated an "emerging leader," and was paired up with a high school student from northern B.C., and a community leader from Vancouver. It was an ideal opportunity to share ideas and learn from a variety of remarkable women in British Columbia. I have since maintained contact with the high school student that I "mentored," and also the community leader who "mentored" me. The weekend was inspiring, both in terms of the opportunities for practical skills development that it allowed for, and also the space that it created for collaborative learning.

Sonja Boon Ph.D. Candidate

In January 2007, I will begin my seventh year of sessional teaching at the School of Music, University of British Columbia, where I teach the graduate Seminar in Performance Practices (M521A). I will also teach WS 320, The Maternal Imaginary.

Guest Lectures:

- * "Ecos fidelles: Flute music of the late French Baroque," a pre-concert introduction for the Early Music Vancouver Summer Festival (Vancouver, Canada), August 2006.
- * "The Impossibility of Silence: Pattern in Western Classical Music," a guest

lecture at the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design (Vancouver, Canada), January 2006.

Musical Projects:

- * Soloist, W.A. Mozart's *Concerto for flute, harp and orchestra* with the Portland Baroque Orchestra (Portland, USA), May 2006.
- * Guest Master class, School of Music, University of British Columbia, Spring 2006.
- * CD Release, *Anniversary Edition, Volume 2: The Music of Johann Sebastian Bach*, Portland Baroque Orchestra

(dir. Monica Huggett), 2005. Featured soloist.

Translations:

- * "Accoucheur (Obstetrician)," "Accoucheuse (Woman-Obstetrician)," "Nourrice (Wetnurse)," "Sarabande," "Allemande," "Courante," for the *Encyclopaedia of Diderot and D'Alembert: Collaborative Translation Project* (<http://www.hti.umich.edu/d/did/>)

Byron Lee M.A. Candidate



Photo by Greg Ehlers

Byron has spent the 2005-2006 year in courses and what seems like a never-ending acquisition of new skills and knowledge. All of this effort was for work that will manifest itself in the 2006-2007 year. He will present papers

inspired by his coursework at two conferences at SFU: "Straight and Wider:

Straight Men Seeking Men in Online Personal Ads" at Sex At SFU; and "I Want Someone Hot for Right Now" – Mystifying Men Online" at Sexing the Text, the SFU English Graduate Student Conference. In the spring, he will present "Redefining Transitions: the "trans" moment in body enhancement" at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

Byron will also be working on his thesis, "The Construction of Ethnicity

and Gender for Gay Asian Males During the Negotiation of Anal Intercourse." This work will highlight the negotiation of anal intercourse as a site of identity construction. By examining and contrasting public health and HIV-prevention literature targeted at Asian males with online personal ads, this piece will complicate notions of "safer" negotiations, desire, and identity in the sexual arena.

UNDERGRADUATE CHAIR REPORT

Helen Leung



Many of you will have noticed the new "look" of our undergraduate program in this year's calendar. You are seeing the fruits of our efforts at cur-

riculum renewal during the past year. In response to the University's new curriculum initiative, our program has developed a range of courses that fulfill the new Breadth (in all three areas of Humanities, Social Science, and Science), Quantitative, and Writing-Intensive requirements. Be sure to check

the WQB notations on the calendar to find the courses that you need! In addition, we have expanded the selections of upper-level courses required for the Gender Studies Minor, including new courses in Gender Studies, English, Criminology, and Sociology/Anthropology. Also look for

our Special Topic courses, which change every semester to offer a variety of exciting, cutting-edge thematic courses. The undergraduate program is dynamic and continually evolving. I welcome comments and suggestions from past, current, and potential students!

Kate Cooper - Making a Difference

In early October 2006, Kate Cooper who graduated with a B.A. in Women's Studies, four and a half years ago, came to visit us. She was back in Canada on a short leave from her work.

After Kate graduated, she went to England to visit her extended family in London. With a cousin, she camped around France and

Spain and thought about what she would do next. She returned to London and began looking for work. This was the beginning of an adventure which took her to Ghana as a field worker for International Refugee Rescue. She was based in Ghana for three years, organizing the rescue of people dispossessed by civil war. Kate and her team helped people

from Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Rwanda, Burundi and the Congo, and any other people who required their help, either to return to safe areas in their own countries or to gain refugee status in other countries.

After three years, Kate was transferred to Thailand. Currently, she is based in Bangkok where her organi-

zation concentrates on the Burmese who live in refugee camps on the Burma-Thailand border, and the Hmong mountain people of Laos, whose lands and traditional lifestyle are under threat.

Kate says that she expects to do this work for a very long time. She has found her vocation.

Rebecca Scott Receives SSHRC

Women's Studies undergraduate student, Becky Scott, was recently awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Graduate Scholarship to pursue an M.A. in Communication at SFU. According to Becky, it was the Women's Studies department at SFU that enabled her to be a competitive candidate for the CGS: "The professors in Women's Studies inspired me to go to grad school, especially Habiba Zaman. And

Women's Studies provided me with really valuable work opportunities and exposed me to real academic research."

A year and a half ago, when Habiba Zaman was looking for a research assistant for her project on the BC Liberal government changes to labour market policies and their impact on recent Asian immigrants, Becky decided to apply: "When Habiba decided to hire me, it really proved to me how special the

Women's Studies department is here at SFU. They care about student success, and take chances in making it happen."

Beginning work as an R.A. in October of 2004, Becky did an in-depth review and analysis of the 2002 changes to the *Employment Standards Act*.

Becky then moved on to compiling and analyzing a survey of 100 participants already in progress. The survey was being administered by the Philippine Women

Centre (PWC), a non-profit organization

that serves Filipino immigrants and their community, and fights for their rights. Becky undertook that work at the PWC, under the guidance of Cecilia Diocson, a co-investigator of the project, which exposed her to some of the inner workings of a women's group: "Cecilia taught me a lot about grassroots organizing



(Continued on page 9)

Rebecca Scott Receives SSHRC cont'd

(Continued from page 8)

and research.”

For the next nine months, Becky compiled data, wrote progress reports, researched and wrote literature reviews, and attended CCPA meetings. In March 2005, Habiba, Cecilia, and Becky had the

opportunity of presenting some of their preliminary findings at the Metropolis Conference held in Vancouver. Then in April, they held an invitation-only workshop, presenting the findings to over 60 participants from the Filipino and academic communities and to representatives from governments and non-profit

groups. Becky was given the opportunity to present at the workshop: “Presenting at the conference and workshop was the capstone of the whole experience for me. It felt like the project was finally coming together, and all that hard work really amounted to something important.”

Becky says of her experience: “I can’t thank Habiba, Cecilia and the PWC, the CCPA and Women’s Studies enough for providing me with all of these experiences and opportunities. Women’s Studies is about empowerment, and that’s what happened to me as an undergraduate student here.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Leah Allen (WS Ph.D. Student) who was awarded a SSHRC scholarship. Since Sept 2006, Leah has been a doctoral student at Duke University in N. Carolina.

Mig Alphonso (WS M.A. Student) who was awarded the Maggie Benston scholarship for Spring 2007.

Caelie Frampton (WS M.A. Student) who was acknowledged as SFU Bookstore’s Author of the Month in October 2006.

Trish Garner (WS Ph.D. Student) who has received a SSHRC three year doctoral scholarship.

Helen Loshny (WS Ph.D. Student) who was awarded the CIHR Institute of Gender & Health Three Year Doctoral Award, which began in Sept 2006.

Mary Shearman (WS M.A. Student) who was recently awarded the Ann Peters Pinto Award in Women’s Studies for the Spring 2007 semester.

Rebecca Scott (Former WS B.A. Student) who was recently awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Special Graduate Scholarship to pursue an M.A. in Communication at SFU.

Lisa Weeks (WS M.A. student) who was recently awarded a SSHRC scholarship for the 2006-2007 academic year and the Grace MacInnis Women’s Studies entrance scholarship.

Iram Zaidi (WS M.A. Student) who was recently awarded the National Council of Jewish Women scholarship for the Spring 2007 semester.

Congratulations to the following graduate students who received Graduate Fellowships for the 2006-2007 academic year: **Beth Pentney, Sarah Berry, Silke Frischmuth, Abhar Husain, Byron Lee, Natasha Patterson.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Women’s Studies Holiday Party: December 13, in Room AQ 5119 at 12 noon.

Christine Goodman’s Farewell Dinner: Friday, February 9th, 6 pm at the Pink Pearl Restaurant on 1132 E. Hastings St., Vancouver.

Maggie Benson Lecture Series: “Have We Won? The Need for Canadian Women’s Stewardship in the Emerging Struggles of Our Time”; Maude Barlow, National Chairperson of the Council of Canadians, Thursday March 1st, 2007.

RUTH WYNN WOODWARD PROFESSORSHIP

Welcome to Kate Braid: Current Ruth Wynn Woodward Professor



Photo by Greg Ehlers

Kate has a chequered past that includes – in addition to teaching – time spent as

a secretary, lumber piler and carpenter. She holds a B.A., M.A. and M.F.A. in Creative Writing and is a Red Seal journey Construction Carpenter. She has written seven prize-winning books of poetry and creative non-fiction. Most recently, she co-edited with Sandy Shreve, *In Fine Form*, the first collection of Canadian form poetry. Her regular position is in the Creative Writing and

Journalism Department of Malaspina University-College in Nanaimo, BC.

Kate's current writing projects include a book of poems in the voice of Canadian pianist, Glenn Gould, and a memoir of her fifteen years as a carpenter. One of her essays ("The Mother Puzzle") has just been published in the anthology, *Nobody's Mother: Women Without Kids*.

In addition to teaching a creative non-fiction course on "Telling Women's Stories" this fall, and a poetry course in the spring, Kate is planning at least two outreach events: one, a reading of poems ("Poems to Love") by actress Joy Coghill on Valentine's Day 2007, and the other, on April 20-21, a conference celebrating women in trades.

Previous RWW Chairs

1985-86	Susan Penfold, psychiatrist	1994-95	Vanaja Dhruvarajan, sociologist
1986-87	Rosemary Brown, politician	1996-2000	Sunera Thobani, sociologist
1988-89	Daphne Marlatt, writer	2000-2002	Dionne Brand, poet, novelist
1989-90	Marjorie Griffin Cohen, economist	2002-2004	Sue Wilkinson, psychologist
1990-91	Hilda Ching, scientist	2005 Spring	Louise Chappell, political scientist
		2005-2006	Elizabeth Philipose, political scientist

Gender, Race, Islam and the "War on Terror"

RWWP Community Symposium May 11-13, 2006

Liz Philipose



Photo by Greg Ehlers

The Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair and R.A.C.E. (Researchers and Academics of Color) organized a symposium entitled *Gender Race Islam and the War on Terror*, held from May 11-13, 2006. The symposium consisted of two public panel presentations and two days of workshops with invited participants. The organizing committee included Habiba Zaman (SFU), Itrath Syed (MA student, UBC), Almas Zakuidin (PhD student, UBC), Sunera Thobani (UBC) and Liz Philipose (SFU, RWWP). Amanda Shaw was the project administrator. We had several interests represented on the

committee: war and militarism, global politics, secular feminism, feminist approaches to the Qur'an and mosque politics, faith-based feminism and identity-based cultural politics. The title of the symposium and the range of speakers represent a collaborative joining of these interests, to put secularism in conversation with faith-based approaches to feminism, and to challenge secular feminism to understand the significance of faith in the lives of most women in the world. Islam was the primary focus as a cultural identity, a religious identity, a racialized category, and the vilified 'other'

of the 'war on terror'. We aimed to bring together as broad a representation of participants as possible, including students, community activists and advocates, academics, international participants and Canadian participants from all regions of the country.

Part of the impetus to hold a symposium on these topics came from the 2005 public debate about the status of faith-based arbitration in the Ontario court system. Initiated by a review of family law and faith-based arbitration, written by former Ontario Attorney General Marion Boyd and commissioned by the Minis-

ter of Women's Affairs and the Attorney General's office, the debate focused on the pitfalls and possibilities of instituting legal recognition for tribunals based on Islamic legal principles. Though the implementation of Islamic law varies depending on the historical, geographical and national contexts, concerns were expressed about the status of women under Islamic legal principles and the possibility that Muslim women living in Ontario might be denied the protections of the Charter of Rights and

(Continued on page 11)

Gender, Race, Islam and the “War on Terror” cont’d

(Continued from page 10)

Freedoms and international human rights legislation that are part of Canadian human rights law. The Ontario debate about faith-based arbitration and the place of Islam and Muslims in multicultural societies is one among many taking place in many countries since 2001. These debates feature the role of women and women’s equality rights, and as such, they present some vexing issues for how feminists negotiate the claims of nation, religion, race and gender. For this reason, it is vital for feminists to create the venues in which we can exchange our ideas and experiences to better understand how we might respond to proposed legislation and policy changes.

The first public panel included speakers Asma Barlas, Professor of Politics, Ithaca College, and author of “Believing Women” in *Islam: Unreading Patriarchal Interpretations of the Qur’an*; and Rosalie Sindi Medar-Gould, Executive Director of BAOBAB for Women’s Human Rights, Nigeria. Each spoke about their work with Islam and women; Asma from the perspective of a devout person dedicated to reading the Qur’an for its liberatory potential, and Sindi from the perspective of a non-Muslim working (mainly) with Muslim women in Islamic legal frameworks.

The second public panel included four speakers: Zool Suleman, immi-

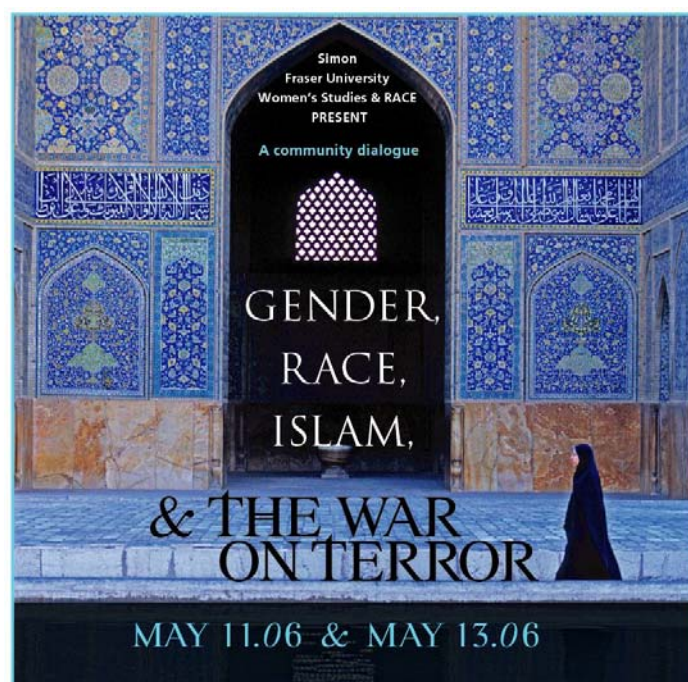
gration lawyer who works on racial profiling cases in Vancouver; Sedef Arat-Koc, professor, Ryerson College, whose work is on women, the war on terror and whiteness in Turkey; Amina Jamal, postdoctoral fellow at Concordia, whose work is on Jamaat women in Pakistan; and Sunera Thobani, professor, Women’s Studies, UBC, whose work is on media representations of Afghani women. Sedef discussed the shrinking spaces for dissent and feminist discussions of race, nation and gender in Canada, and the problems posed for democratic politics in this era of the ‘war on terror’. Amina discussed her work with women in Pakistan and the complexities they negotiate between faith, law and equality. Zool spoke about some of the complications of immigration proceedings in Canada brought by new legislation on detentions, deportations, the right to legal counsel and profiling of Muslims. Sunera discussed

media representations of Muslims in Canada and the ways they limit political debate amongst feminists and other social justice activists. Working TV has web casts of both panels: <http://workingtv.com/main3.html>

The workshops convened at Harbour Center on May 12th and 13th. We had forty participants, plus a number of undergraduate and graduate students from SFU and UBC who sat in on the sessions. Four workshops were held over two days. Participants were asked to discuss several case studies on the topics of Qu’ranic hermeneutics, media representations of Afghani women, the Sharia debates in Ontario and the uses of torture in the ‘war on terror’. The workshop conveners provided case study materials, presentations with background information, and concluding remarks at the end of each day. Besides the workshops, we had a speaker each

morning. Raana Rahim, family services lawyer in Toronto, discussed a number of her cases which involved families from Pakistan and social services that operate from prejudicial assumptions, exacerbated by the post-911 context of heightened bigotries against Muslims and people perceived to be Muslim. Shahina Siddiqi of Islamic Social Services in Winnipeg, presented on the institution of Sharia law in Canada and her support for the idea. She is a mediator and community advocate who works with community-based Sharia cases and argued that the laws are consistent with principles of equality as outlined in the Charter and other Canadian law.

The workshop participants and the topics we covered are not the usual fare for a gathering on gender, race and war. The fact that we centralized Islam in our discussions is unique, and having a mix of secular, political, academic, activist and devout women together challenged everyone at some level to stretch beyond comfort zones and to speak on different and perhaps more inventive grounds. Given the volatility of the topics, the diversity of participants, and the necessarily tense encounter between politics and religion, the symposium was a highly successful experiment that gave each of us much to consider in future feminist work. The full conference report is posted on the department website: www.sfu.ca/ws



Women's Studies Advance

On Saturday, September 9th, 2006, the Women's Studies department held its Advance at Harbour Centre. The Women's Studies chair, Mary Lynn Stewart asked for guidance in a request for new faculty, which will come soon this year, and distributed the statement of need from our latest three year plan. The meeting decided to add to the list of reasons, the lack of availability of any senior faculty in the next few years, and to focus on feminist theory and gender studies, in both cases with a general statement about the ability to teach another field in WS.

Helen Leung then distributed an outline of recent changes to the undergraduate curriculum and of courses that have not been taught by regular faculty for several years. Her suggestions about mounting WS 207 as a distance course and for making distinctions between WS course that count towards the GDST Minor, and GDST courses, were accepted. She asked members to identify areas that are not well represented and got the following suggestions: Public policy, perhaps more focused as in Law and Health or Human Rights, Activism, perhaps focused on Women and Poverty, and

theme courses, possibly Women or Gender and the City, which several of us could teach. One suggestion was to talk with Jen Marchbank about courses in her program at Surrey. Other suggestions were to look into renaming the methods course, perhaps New Methodologies, and to look at what other WS programs are doing. Lara offered to revive her course, women and social work. Jackie is thinking about a course on poverty.

Marilyn Macdonald raised issues about the number of graduate students we can accommodate, noting that we have twenty-eight graduate students, and funding for graduate students. There was a general agreement that we need more scholarships and various suggestions were made about how to do that. One suggestion that can be implemented soon is to invite the Advancement Officer to a department meeting.

Moninder Bubber then reported on library developments and distributed two handouts, asking faculty and students to respond to the questions on the one about Research Support for WS. After lunch, Habiba Zaman reported on strategies to recruit high school and college students, as well as



Graduate students and Faculty

graduate students. The list was considerable and will require assistance to identify all contact points. A research assistant might be employed to identify these contacts, but so far no one has volunteered to do the actual work of contacting. Suggestions included a funky brochure, a poster with tear-offs, and spicing up the web-page, possibly with videos. Mary Shearman offered to look into using "myspace" to publicize the program; Sarah Berry promised to do a survey of undergraduate students in WS, as to why they are taking WS courses.

Kate Braid then described her courses and tentative plans for a conference on women in the Trades and Technology, which she would like to hold early in the spring, possibly April.

Beth Pentney acted as the facilitator for the graduate students, who had eight issues: consistency of supervision and more funding, including for conferences, were the major ones. Faculty agreed to two changes: regular progress reports, and initiating a meeting with a new student under their supervision within two weeks of her/his arrival. Funding had been discussed earlier, but Mary Lynn and Lara said that they would offer a SSHRCC workshop again. A request for greater clarity about expectations in the Ph.D. program elicited Mary Lynn's description of expectations for the comprehensives. Other issues discussed briefly included a desire for a professional development series, which they agreed to organize and faculty implicitly agreed to facilitate; and improvements in their assigned computer room. A start might be painting the room. The meeting was then adjourned.

Women's Studies 30th Anniversary

Marjorie Griffin Cohen



Women's Studies at Simon Fraser University celebrated its 30th anniversary on February 10th with a conference on the theme of *Transformations: The Politics of Women's Studies*. The planning committee chose this topic mainly because we wanted to focus on changes that are occurring in Women's Studies and how issues of power have been and continue to be central to what we do.

When WS began as a program in 1976 the ignorance in academic studies about women – half of humanity – was profound. Women were never central to the subject matter of courses, and our issues and experiences were not even peripheral to the vast majority of them. Women as a subject could claim almost no space in the teaching and research in the academy.

Women's Studies happened because feminists made it happen – and in that way WS is highly unusual in academic life: it is closely

linked to a social movement – the feminist movement and this makes what we do in the university, and why we do it, different.

Feminism is not now and never has been homogeneous: not in its origins, in its recent past, or its present. Similarly, approaches to WS cover a huge span of ideologies, interests, objectives, and spaces. Feminism also has never been a comfortable movement, mainly because we are constantly challenging each other as new ideas and groups disrupt what we already think we know, and as we challenge our society to think more broadly. It is in this tradition that WS transforms in the university. What we wanted to capture in the conference are the new ideas that arise from both within the university, the wider feminist community, and the students who help shape the directions of our program.

The conference was organized around three main themes: Opportunities and

Challenges (Research & Teaching), Academic Activism, and Battles & Triumphs (Women's Studies in the Universities). The panelists included professors and students from the department, and people from other universities.

I would particularly like to thank those who worked with me on the organizing committee. These were Lara Campbell, Marilyn Macdonald, Leah Allen, and Amanda Shaw. It was an inspiring day and a chance to have in-depth discussions about what is before women's studies in the future and how we want to work to shape new ways to understand women's experiences.

I would also like to thank the students who participated in the essay contest. The winners were Madeleine Elson and Sonja Boon. The day of celebration and analysis was capped by the lecture, in the evening at the Vancouver Public Library, by Leslie Feinberg.

“we wanted to focus on...how issues of power have been and continue to be central to what we do”

Founder Speaks at WS 30th Anniversary

Andrea Lebowitz, one of the founders of the Women's Studies Department, participated in the conference commemorating the 30th anniversary of the department. In a presentation entitled "Surviving the Establishment of Women's Studies," she recollected some of the trials and tribulations of getting the de-

partment started. One of the most humorous anecdotes concerned the presentation of the program for final academic approval at senate on a hot July evening in 1975. While a rare electrical storm raged outside, the sound and fury without was matched by the rhetoric within. One senator opined that giving "these women" a

program was akin to letting prisoners teach in a prison education program. That was a show-stopper! But despite the polemics, the program easily passed through senate and began with its first course in Spring 1976. The rest is history as they say.

On the evening of the conference, Andrea also ad-

dressed the audience present for the Maggie Benston Lecture. In her remarks she highlighted some of Maggie's contributions to the development of Women's Studies and emphasized that Maggie always combined her academic pursuits with her social commitment.

Essay Contest Winners: "Why Women's Studies"

As a part of the 30th Anniversary of the Women's Studies Department at SFU, a contest was held for all WS and Gender Studies majors, minors, and students enrolled in WS and GDST courses and all WS graduate students to submit a 1,000 word essay or artistic equivalent (photo essay, painting, poetry) on "Why Women's Studies". Two prizes were awarded: one undergraduate submission, Madeleine Elson, and one graduate submission, Sonja Boon. Here are the contest winners:

Women's Studies Sonnet Series

Madeleine Elson

Sonnet I: Introduction

A while ago, a friend, he questioned me:
 "Why do you study women's history?
 The subject's long outdated, I should say,
 As feminism's not required today!"

I knew this statement to be false- senseless,
 But failed to pinpoint why t'was so amiss.
 I promptly pledged my great resolve to find
 The answer to this problem on my mind.

The course of action that I soon would take
 To right my friend's extravagant mistake
 Would be to interview wise women who
 About my topic knew a thing or two.

With these concerns I would accost none other
 Than my Grandma and my own sage Mother.

Sonnet ii: Grandma's Story

"When I was young," my Grandmother began,
 "Society declared my role - 'Woman.'"
 "Have children! Clean and cook!" It ordered me,
 "For you are destined to matrimony."

"I couldn't pay for university,
 Which limited my options drastically.
 I worked a part-time shift at 'Linden's Threads' -
 They fired me on the day that I was wed.

That moment on I vowed to find a way
 For my five daughters to have their own say.
 A right to choose their paths, fulfill their dreams
 Of travel, school, of pride. Of self-esteem!

Although there's been much progress since my time,
 Our freedom fight has yet more hills to climb."

Sonnet iii: My Own Sage Mother

Reflecting on my question thoughtfully,
 My Mother spoke of changed mentality:
 Of women's rights, hard won, but worth the fight.
 Her generation freed from Grandma's plight.

"Well, scientific research played a role
 Developing wide use of birth control.
 In Canada, in nineteen eighty-eight,
 Abortion bans, the courts did dissipate.

New room to move where laws had once been stiff,
 Provided us the choice of when or IF
 To start a family. This gave us space
 To follow our desires at our own pace.

Though of our rights, I've seen improvements strong,
 The quest for equal status must surge on!"

Sonnet IV: Conclusion

My data gleaned, my notes were now complete,
 I found that friend who'd sent me on this feat.
 Once safely he was cornered, I explained
 To him, the crucial knowledge I had gained.

"Two female relatives of mine shared stories
 Which help me to explain 'Why women's studies?'
 Although their tales are differing in ways,
 Both witnessed weighty triumphs in their days.

But carefully they chose to emphasize
 Importance that upon the future lies."
 "Aha!" he interjected "So, despite
 Diversity, through hope, women unite!"

"That's it!" I cheered, "Our goal is as you see-
 To celebrate our own identities."

We are the Thing Itself...

Sonja Boon

This project began as a visual response to the written work of Virginia Woolf; in particular, as a response to two autobiographical pieces: "Reminiscences" and "A Sketch of the Past" both of which were published posthumously in the collection *Moments of Being: Unpublished Autobiographical Writings*. My response is intimate and personal; I do not claim to present myself as a visual artist and this 'work' was originally never intended for 'public consumption.' Rather, it is a reflection both of how I read Woolf and equally, how Woolf reads me; what I mean to say is that it is also a meditation on who I am as a result of reading Woolf. Strictly speaking, I guess, one would call this a collage. I prefer, however, to engage with Woolf's own terminology and look at this as an assemblage of "moments of being" - serendipitous flashes of insight, recognition and understanding as they emerged out of a reading. And it is these moments of being which form the backdrop for my musings on the question at hand: Why Women's Studies?

It was, after all Virginia Woolf who famously called for (£500 and) a room of our own. For Woolf, that room contained her writing and, more significantly, perhaps, her press, a venture which gave her the freedom to publish on her own terms. "I'm the only woman in England free to write what I like," she writes, "The others must be thinking of series and editors" (*Writer's Diary* 81). It was a room which delighted in the intellectual abandon of the Bloomsbury crowd and it was, equally, a room infused with melancholy, harbouring within it the ghosts of her past: family members whose presence was ever near, whose activities and eccentricities were constantly evoked, and whose memories tugged at the edges of her consciousness.

What, in turn, might our room look like? What kind of furniture does it

contain? Do we keep it neat and tidy, or are there dust bunnies in the corners? And how do we choose to decorate it? Do we emphasize the muted colours, traditional stylings, and homogenous approach of the Canadian House and Home design team? Or do we opt for a more eclectic approach in which the paraphernalia of contemporary pop culture rubs against well-thumbed cultural critiques, all of which are haphazardly piled on a sagging chintz sofa covered with East Indian cotton? What kind of space is it?

Ours, I would suggest, is an argumentative space; a constant and continuous juggling of ideas, a jostling for room; a decidedly less-than-ladylike elbowing of thoughts, ideas and actions and a sometimes cacophonous multiplicity of voices: anger, passion, joy, liberation, commitment and activism. It is our source of pride: a vantage point from which we can survey both the distance we've traveled and from which we can plan the next steps on our journey. It is a space that we colonize, most assuredly, but a space that we wish to colonize on our own terms.

At the same time, however, ours is an uncertain space, an angst-ridden endeavour governed both by the fierce desire to be heard and equally, by a sense of unspoken longing for the comfortable unities of the Western philosophical tradition. In that sense, I would argue that Virginia Woolf's philosophy captures the essence of Women's Studies: it represents both our fear and our secret, guilty desire; our promise and our curse. Just like Virginia Woolf herself, we too are suspended at a point of perpetual in-betweenness, looking back towards a nostalgic past sometimes coloured in rose, longing for that which never was and a unity that, perhaps, can never fully be, and, at the same time, marching boldly forward, glorying in the infinite possibility of the as-yet-

undiscovered.

In that sense, ours is also a space defined by our sorrows; marked by absence and silence, by the voices and memories of those who were never heard. "What reality can remain of a person who died forty-four years ago at the age of forty-nine, without leaving a book, or a picture, or any piece of work – apart from the three children who now survive and the memory of her that remains in their minds?" writes Virginia Woolf, "There is the memory; but there is nothing to check that memory by; nothing to bring it to the ground with." (85). It is a space criss-crossed with ribbons of black: for Virginia Woolf's mother, Julia Stephen, and for her stepsister Stella; for all angels in houses who seek, with the silent swishing of skirts, to cajole, to encourage, to support...for all angels who perish in the realization of their duties. Ours is a space black with the ink from the Women's Studies inkpot, for while the angel "died hard" ("Professions" 286), she continues to exist within all of us.

We are, as Virginia Woolf observes, the thing itself. We've got our room; we've even furnished it and we regularly invite our friends over for tea. Ours has become a comfortable home filled with laughter, camaraderie and spirited conversation. But every now and then, one of our friends brings in someone who doesn't speak like we do, who looks a bit different and who smells funny. It is up to us to decide how we deal with our discomfort: will we, in succumbing to our illicit desire for canonicity, deny another's voice, or will we find a way to include them, inviting them to join us on that lumpy chintz sofa covered with Indian cotton?

Transitioning to Inclusion

Byron Lee



On February 10, 2006, Vancouver was privileged to have Leslie Feinberg give a talk about the intersection of identities, about acknowledging oppressions – particularly those against trans-gendered individuals, and about building solidarity amongst different communities. Feeling inspired by this, a group of Women's Studies graduate students, faculty, and members of the community met to put his words into practice. More specifically, this group questioned whether or not SFU's Women's Studies department was inclusive of trans-gendered individuals, both in its community and in the community at large.

Rather than telling the department what to think,

or recreate a sensitivity training module, we chose to approach the subject of trans-inclusion by giving ourselves the chance to assess where the members of the department stood with regards to understanding the need for trans-inclusive measures. We organized a meeting with members of the department – faculty, associated faculty, and interested graduate students – on April 19, 2006, to explore some of the issues that we would need to address should the department opt to create policy, or promote a particular position. During this meeting we explored and reacted to hypothetical case studies, and reviewed current actions towards policies of trans-inclusion in academic departments across Canada.

While policy was not made at this meeting, a new sense of awareness and recognition of the need for discussion about trans-

inclusion was achieved. For SFU's Women's Studies department, we recognized that even in our own space, trans-gendered individuals are often rendered invisible. As a department that hopes to recognize marginalized communities, it is our responsibility to be aware of the challenges that are faced by those usually silenced as well as the challenges that we create for those that do not fit into the status quo. And the lack of policies from this meeting is not discouraging – in fact, it was the acknowledgement that we need time to develop a statement that can be seen as encouraging. The department did call for a subcommittee to work on creating a statement for the department, one that would be meaningful, not simply put in place and never practiced.

Personally, I walked out of that session feeling mixed. It felt like we were moving in a direction that

would hopefully raise awareness, but at the same time, I realised that there is so much that I do not know, that I unknowingly and unintentionally do to leave people out. Rather than thinking about this upcoming policy as serving a group of people that I view as rendered invisible, I realise that this would be a policy for me, to snap me into remembering that those "invisible" are already in front of me, talking to me, and working with me. I may be able to identify individuals, but do I really acknowledge them? And before I write myself into a psychoanalysis-inspired subject to everyone else's object, and without spinning into a web of guilt from all of my past insensitivities, I feel hopeful from what has happened. From Leslie's words to complicated and sometimes uncomfortable and confusing discussions, I think that we've got something good going on.

A Canadian Marriage Denied

Sue Wilkinson

My time as RWWP (2002-2004) coincided with the historic period during which the Canadian courts opened up marriage to same-sex couples. On August 26, 2003, I married my long-term lesbian partner, Celia Kitzinger. Since returning to England, we have been involved in a landmark High Court case to have our Canadian mar-

riage recognized in the UK. In July 2006, we lost our case. Our marriage was declared null and void in our home country.

For two years after our return to England, our marriage had no legal recognition at all - unlike the marriage of any heterosexual couple married overseas, which would automatically have been recognized as a

marriage in the UK. Then, in December 2005, with the implementation of the new Civil Partnership Act, our marriage was automatically - without our consent, and against our wishes - converted by the state into a civil partnership.

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Celia, Sue and Peter Tatchell (of the lesbian and gay campaigning group, OutRage!, whose members protested outside the court on July 31st)

Participatory Action Research Generates Solutions

Rebecca Scott

Linking individual and collective experience through collective analysis, the participatory action research model (PAR) involves all parties relevant to the issues at hand in continual and active discussion, examination and reflection, which leads to ideas for change. Particularly, PAR is co-researched by and for oppressed groups, and as such, is emancipatory. On April 8th, 2006, PAR was in full form at the *Asian Immigrants in BC Workshop*.

The workshop, organized by the Philippine Women Centre (PWC),

SFU Women's Studies, and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), was held to explore the preliminary findings of a research project co-investigated by Habiba Zaman of the SFU Women's Studies department, and Cecilia Diocson of the Philippine Women Centre, entitled "Asian Immigrants in BC: What does Government Restructuring Mean for Immigrants in the Labour Market?" This project has sought to document the impact of labour market restructuring on recent Asian immigrants, specifi-

cally Filipino immigrants, in the BC labour market, through both a survey and in-depth interviews. It is part of the larger CCPA Economic Security Project, funded by SSHRC/CURA and the Vancouver Foundation.

The over 60 participants at the workshop, which included Filipino community members and participants from the interviews, union representatives, academics, representatives from non-profit organizations and representatives from the provincial and federal governments, were asked to de-

velop policy alternatives and solutions to the problems identified in the research. Moving from sharing their experiences, to analysis, to policy recommendations, the participants made recommendations that showed the true strength of the PAR model in developing solutions with grassroots origins.

Habiba Zaman, Cecilia Diocson and I will soon be authoring a report of the research findings, which will include the policy recommendations outlined by participants.

A Canadian Marriage Denied Cont'd

(Continued from page 16)

While offering legal recognition of committed same-sex relationships, civil partnership is a different institution from marriage - a separate institution for same-sex couples only, while marriage is reserved for heterosexual couples only. Separate is not equal.

We were determined to challenge this discrimination. With the support of the national human rights organization, Liberty, we mounted a legal test case,

seeking a declaration of the validity of our Canadian marriage as a marriage (and not as a civil partnership) in the UK.

Our lawyers argued that the failure to recognize the validity of our marriage constitutes a breach of our rights under the European Convention on Human Rights: in particular, the right to respect for private and family life; the right to marry; and the prohibition of discrimination. Our case was heard by Britain's most senior family court judge,

Sir Mark Potter, on June 6-8th 2006. His judgment was handed down on July 31st.

We lost. Our legal Canadian marriage was ruled invalid as a marriage in the UK. The judge agreed that we are treated differently from a heterosexual couple, and he agreed that this constitutes discrimination. But he said that this discrimination is justified in order to protect the traditional definition of marriage as between a man and a woman, primarily to produce chil-

dren.

Denying our marriage does nothing to protect heterosexual marriage. It simply upholds discrimination and inequality. The struggle for equal rights will continue - but in Britain, we must still look forward to the day when there is equal access to marriage for same-sex and different-sex couples, as in Canada.

Further information about our case is available on our website:

<www.equalmarriagerights.org>



Feminism & Psychology: Special Issue on Feminist Psychology in Canada; Edited by Sue Wilkinson August 1, 2006, Volume 16, No. 3

In August 2006, the journal *Feminism & Psychology* (edited by Sue Wilkinson, RWWP 2002-4) published a Special Issue on Feminist Psychology in Canada (Volume 16, number 3). This issue was commissioned while Sue was at SFU. It was guest-edited by Sherry Bergeron, Charlene Y. Senn and Carmen Poulin, with Meredith Kimball acting as book review editor. The issue provides an exciting 'snapshot' of some key strands of contemporary Canadian feminist psychology, including articles on gender conformity and non-conformity, depression, smoking, identity, therapy and counselling, and the impact of feminism on psychology.

Honouring Honoree: Long Time Staff Member Retires

Andrea Lebowitz



Honoree Newcombe, one of the founders of Women's Studies, retired after a forty year career at SFU. Honoree arrived at the university as a history student. She quickly became involved with the Women's Caucus, a Vancouver feminist organization which be-

gan at SFU, and she helped to edit the *Pedestal*, the newspaper of that organization. Next she participated in a non-credit WS course held at a local library near campus. From there she joined the group that was putting together a proposal for a Women's Studies Program at SFU. Indeed, she was one of the signatories of the submission. As this wended its way through the various university committees, she also became involved in the establishment of a staff union, AUCE, on campus. Both the WS program and the union, composed mainly of female staff, came

to fruition in the mid 1970's.

By this time, Honoree had graduated and was working as a staff member, first in the Library, then in the Dean of Graduate Studies department and finally in the English Department where she eventually became the Departmental Assistant. The Women's Studies program included staff representation on its steering committee and, throughout her career, Honoree participated in this capacity. She also served as a teaching assistant in WS. As Marjorie Cohen commented, "Honoree always was able to

add the perspective of university regulations and personnel to the department's deliberations." Her contribution to Women's Studies continued throughout her career.

Honoree lived through the foundation of SFU and its development over the first forty years. But more than that, she helped to shape the university, particularly with reference to female students and staff. We wish her a happy retirement where many new adventures lie ahead. It is the University that will be the poorer for her going.

Notes on Retirement

Meredith Kimball

After teaching in Women's Studies and Psychology for 28 years, I retired from SFU in 2004. For many of those years I taught a course in Psychology, Adult Development and Aging. As a part of that course I lectured on people's experiences of retirement. Now that I have been retired for two years, it occurred to me that it would be interesting to examine how my own experience of retirement matched or did not match the research on retirement. I have been fortunate in having good health and enough income to do the things I want to do which are the strongest predictors of positive adjustment to retirement and I certainly can

agree that these factors are key to enjoying retirement. Beyond adjustment there has been research that shows a diversity of ways in which people experience retirement. One model I taught proposed four different models of retirement: 1) *Transition to Old Age* with the emphasis is on slowing down, putting work behind one, and introspection; 2) *New Beginnings* in which the emphasis is on starting a new phase of one's life, engaging in new activities, and becoming in some ways the person one has always wanted to be; 3) *Continuation* where maintaining pre-retirement activities is key sometimes with a different emphasis such as devoting

greater time to a hobby, changing jobs, or developing a new career; and 4) *Imposed Disruption* with the focus on an abrupt and undesired break from work and feelings of loss of a valued part of oneself (Hornstein & Wapner, 1985).

As with all systems that impose categories on people's experiences, most people do not fit neatly into one category and I am no exception. However, activities or aspects of my experience fit each of these categories. I have certainly welcomed the slower pace of retirement, the chance to escape the constant stress that accompanies work, and the time to introspect and review my life. As one friend put it: "I

do most of what I used to do, only now I do in three days what I used to do in one." I am as busy as I want to be and a lot less stressed than when I worked. In terms of new beginnings I have taken up quilting, which was something I always wanted to do, but did not have the energy to do in any systematic way when I worked. I joined the Vancouver Quilters' Guild and for the past year have volunteered with a branch of the VQG, the Pumpkin Seeds, a group of about 20-30 women who make quilts for children's hospitals, hospices, and women's shelters. I've read quilting books, taken classes, and made sev-

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Notes on Retirement cont'd

eral quilts. I find that quilting has taken the place of research in my life. It requires many of the same skills of planning, working on a long-term project, and problem solving that doing research involves. And in both activities there is a product in the end. I have also found that I enjoy traveling much more than when I was working. Now that I do not have to work up to the last minute before I leave on a trip and can take a few days to rest when I return, travel is a welcome new addition to my life.

I am also continuing many of my pre-retirement activities. I found that I missed writing. Although I have not wanted to take up any major research project, I have begun to write and publish book reviews which I find very satisfying both for the writing involved and for the chance to keep up with developing theories and research in Women's Studies. I have very much enjoyed going to academic talks both at SFU and UBC. I chose academics partly because there were so many interesting talks to go to and then found I seldom had the

time to attend any of them. Now I can. I also have been involved in helping to organize a neighborhood patrol which requires many of the administrative skills I used at work. Before I retired, I tried to keep physically active, walking and swimming a few days a week. Since retirement I have enjoyed having more time for physical exercise and have added snow shoeing, weight training, and yoga to my exercise activities. Because I retired voluntarily and early, I did not experience it as an 'imposed disruption'. However, it was

a disruption and I have missed two things that work gave me: the easy availability of a social world which included a wide range of intelligent and interesting people, and an environment in which to demonstrate competence. I have been able to build opportunities for these into my life, but I have had to think about and work at doing so. And I still sometimes miss how easy work made all of this and certainly miss many individuals with whom I had regular contact.

“Because I retired voluntarily and early, I did not experience it as an ‘imposed disruption’.”

Older, but Faster

Happy 50th birthday year to Professor Cindy Patton, who marked this threshold with a very strong performance in the 50-54 female age group. In April, she ran the Boston Marathon, placing 252/838 in the “veterans” (50-59) with a time of 4:04:24. The Boston Marathon is the “pinnacle” marathon event and requires meeting time qualification standards (fewer than 10% of people completing marathons qualify). It is important to note that

women were not allowed to run marathons until the 1970s, when two women “crashed” the Boston Marathon using ambiguous names to register. One of these women was tackled on the race course by the race director. Extending her “fit at 50” plan, she took up triathlon and she placed first in the 50-54 age group in the Sugoi BC Provincial Triathlon Race Series.

Professor Patton is co-investigator with Professor Scott Lear in Kinesology on

a study of the Vancouver Sun Run, a mixed quantitative/qualitative study of participants' experience training for and running in the event. The pilot study shows dramatic differences in women's versus men's past experience with sports, interest in take up structured leisure activities, and especially, in their approach to competition. Women's Studies students Brian Richter and Leah Allen served as ethnographers on the study last spring.



Patton takes 2nd place in age group in the gruelling Khatsahlano Road Race on November 12, 2006. The 16.6 km race goes from sea level up and over the highway in West Vancouver, requiring two gaining nearly 200 meters in elevation over 3kms.

“Women were not allowed to run marathons until the 1970s...”

SFU WOMEN'S STUDIES STAFF

The Staff in the SFU Women's Studies Department keeps the department running efficiently. The following individuals make up the Women's Studies staff:

Roberta Rogers Departmental Assistant & Undergrad Advisor



Roberta Rogers is the new Departmental Assistant and Undergraduate Advisor who joined us on May 1, 2006. Roberta has been

with SFU nearly ten years. Previously, Roberta worked at the SFU Vancouver campus (Harbour Centre) and has enjoyed moving to the hill. Prior to taking this position, Roberta worked in Continuing

Studies for 7 years, working for various programs such as Extension Credit, the Seniors Program, the Opera Program, the Arts Downtown, and Integrated Studies. Roberta is a SFU alumnus, receiving a Bachelor of Arts (Political Science Major, Extended Minor in History) including some courses in Women's Studies.

The role of the Departmental Assistant is to manage the budgets for the

department and the Ruth Wynn Woodward endowment, advise undergraduate students on various Women's Studies majors, joint-majors, and minors about their program requirements, work with the Undergraduate Chair on curriculum design and revisions, and provide organizational support for all of our community events such as the SFU Open House.

Lisa Siew Secretary to the Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair

Lisa Siew is a recent addition to the Women's Studies department. She is currently working on her Undergraduate degree and will graduate in Spring 2007 with a Bachelors of Arts degree (English Honours with a minor in Publishing). She has been working on-and-off at SFU for about seven years in various departments such as

Continuing Studies and the Executive MBA program.

In her role as the Secretary to the Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair, Lisa assists the Ruth Wynn Woodward Endowed Chair, the Department Chair and the Departmental Assistant in the provision of departmental outreach

initiatives, which includes preparing posters and flyers to publicize outreach events. She is also responsible for developing and maintaining the departmental, professorial and event web pages and for coordinating the production of the departmental annual newsletter.

Christine Goodman Chair's Secretary & Graduate Secretary



On February 2nd, 2007, I will be retiring from the department and from the university. In mid-April, I will begin the first of my adventures by bus and foot. First, I fly to England to visit my

mother. From there, I fly to Toulouse, make my way to the French-Spanish border to the beginning of the Camino Santiago de Compostella, and then I will walk west along the Camino, the length of the Pyrenees, to the city of Santiago de Compostella, the northwest corner of Spain. In Santiago I will have a pedicure and recover from the walk by drinking red wine and eating tapas, and visiting Finisterre. Finisterre figured in my childhood from the BBC Radio shipping forecast; Finisterre, the end of the earth. I was fascinated and intrigued. I'll return to the Spanish-

French border by bus along the coast of northern Spain, through Bilboa and San Sebastian. I expect this to take six to eight weeks. Then up the west coast of France and back to England.

My other planned adventures are less exotic. I'll take the Midnight Train to Georgia from Manhattan, stopping on the way to visit the Sea Islands off the coast of the Carolinas. Travel by bus along Route 66 from Chicago to St. Louis, and then take local buses and ferries down the Mississippi, through Delta Blues country to New Orleans.

After that, who knows?

It has been a long time since I have had this kind of adventure. The last was twenty-three years ago when my eight year old son and I traveled across North Wales by bus, staying in hostels, climbing small mountains and visiting

medieval castles. We walked up and down every narrow, stone, spiral staircase in every castle, and were amazed that soldiers had managed them while wearing chain mail, carrying swords, bows and arrows, and tubs of boiling oil.

I am looking forward, with almost uncontainable excitement, to the prospect of living at least for a while without a schedule. I have not retired from paid work for rest of my life. I will in time have to find another job for a few years. But, for the next year I will have adventures, play tennis, design and make things – all kinds of things, run, swim, read and smile benevolently on all that I behold. And, eventually in my old age, instead of playing bingo, I will finish my Math degree.

FACULTY RESEARCH

Lara Campbell



Photo by Greg Ehlers

My current research is focused on the politics of antiwar resistance in 1960s North America. Approximately 100,000 Americans, a majority of whom were female, immigrated to Canada between 1964-1973, many of whom

arrived in protest against the Vietnam war. I am undertaking a study of the gendered nature of draft resistance, looking at the crucial roles that American women played in initiating immigration and building community in Canada, and analyzing the role Canada played in the transnational movement of bodies across borders. Draft resistance and antiwar

activism in Canada were gendered social movements, shaped by the influx of Americans, by nationalist tensions surrounding critiques of American political hegemony in Canada, and by the development of a Canadian women's liberation movement which critiqued the subordinate position of women within radical activism.

Marjorie Griffin Cohen



Photo by Greg Ehlers

I am currently heading a large five-year research project on the economic security for vulnerable populations. This involves twenty academic and twenty-

three community-based researchers and many students from Women's Studies at Simon Fraser University.

Furthermore, I am also engaged in two other research projects. One deals with gender distinctions in the work of young people between 15 and

19. The other deals with North American electricity integration.

Research Grant: Principle Investigator for the Economic Security Project, funded by the SSHRC Community-University Research Alliance grant. \$1 million.

Helen Hok-Sze Leung



Photo by Greg Ehlers

I am in the process of completing my book entitled *Undercurrents: Queer Culture and Post-colonial Hong Kong* (under contract with UBC Press). I will be editing a special issue on "Chinese Cinema in Inter-Asian Con-

texts" for the new *Journal of Chinese Cinemas*, as well as completing an article on

Hong Kong's "local queer theories," for a special issue of *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*.

Graduate Supervision:

Pei-Ching Chen, graduated Spring 2006. M.A. Extended Essays: "Women's Studies and the Women's Movement in Taiwan" and "Lesbianism in Mainstream Cinema." Currently, Pei-Ching is working in Taiwan and applying to doctoral programs in the U.K.

Leah Allen, graduated Summer, 2006. M.A. Extended Essays: "Textual Origins of Corporeal Imperialism: Anti-masturbation Texts in the Eighteenth Century" and "National Negotiation: Towards Feminist Post-nationalism in Theory and Practice." Leah has started her Ph.D. in the Literature Program at Duke University, U.S.A.; she was also awarded a SSHRC doctoral fellowship.

Jen Marchbank



Photo by Greg Ehlers

'Mail Order' Brides in North America: Causes, Experiences and Policy Responses.

The majority of academic and journalistic attention on the issue of 'mail order' brides focuses upon the potential for women to be exploited in this

trade. It is vital that protective policies are developed to prevent the violation of women. However, my research seeks to understand this phenomenon more widely, exploring the reasons why women choose to become 'mail order' brides, their experiences coming as brides to North America, their husbands' experiences and reasons for seeking a bride in this way to inform potential policy.

This project is in its first phase which includes identification of existing knowledge, data, laws and case studies. I presented on this at the Surrey Campus Grand Opening which received a fair degree of media attention. To date articles have appeared in the *Metro*, the *Globe and Mail* and *The Province*. I have also done radio interviews for CBC and a number of local radio stations across Canada.

FACULTY RESEARCH

Jacqueline Levitin



Photo by Greg Ehlers

I am currently in post-production of an experimental documentary titled *Mahjong and Chicken Feet* (2006), where I use my family's history in Harbin, China to explore memory and history and the relations between China and her 'others.' When complete, I will attend to the festival screening side of things. Simultaneously, I am working to fund the video, *Kiran Bedi – Changing India From the Inside*, on India's Joint Commissioner of Police Training's use of meditation techniques with prisoners, guards and police. In the more academic arena, I will

soon go into full gear working again with women in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES). Given a SSHRC grant to do this research, I will follow the women I filmed in 2003 when I made the video *Building Bridge: a Housing Project for Women*. This time, however, I will bring the information to an interactive web site where the women participants can expand on their own experiences of the filmmaking process and the viewer and student can find links to articles and other information to give a portal on daily life in the DTES and the issues raised by the neighborhood. In teaching, I have undertaken a new course for the

School for the Contemporary Arts on the Science Fiction Film. A number of my students have become interested in women's roles in the SF film.

Research Grants:

SSHRC Standard Research Grant – \$123,202 (April 1, 2006-March 31, 2009)

Graduate Supervision:

I have been supervising two of our PhD and two of our MA students, as well as serving on a committee of an Anthropology student. None, however, have been completed.

Mary Lynn Stewart



Photo by Greg Ehlers

In the academic year 2005-2006, I applied for and received a SSHRCC small grant to do exploratory research on a new research topic, women journalists in France, 1900-1950. The research trip convinced me that this topic was too broad and persuaded me to study, instead, feminist reporters on fascism and colonialism, 1906 – 1954. The

initial stage of research will focus on the first Frenchwoman who was roving foreign correspondent, Andrée Viollis, from her initiation into reporting in England and in the world's first feminist daily newspaper, *Le Fronde*, in France, to her mounting criticism of colonialism, culminating in early and widely-read critiques of France's conduct in Indo-China/Vietnam in the late 1940s/early 1950s.

Part of this research—on Viollis's interest in colonial bodies (health,

working conditions, and incarceration, more than size, shape and color of skin) in the colonies, but complete avoidance of real issues involving treatment of former colonials in the hinterland, France—may be incorporated into a collaborative research project on Bodies In and Out of Place. The collaborative project is a joint effort with Lara Campbell, Helen Leung, and possibly Jen Marchbank in Women's Studies.

Habiba Zaman



Photo by Greg Ehlers

I am currently involved in a project titled "Asian Immigrants in BC: What does Government Restructuring Mean for Immigrants in the Labour Market?" This research is an outcome of a SSHRC-funded Community University Research Alliance project titled Economic Security. I also received a grant from the Vancouver Foundation. The objectives of this research are threefold: first, to review the changes to the *Employment Standards*

Act (ESA) that have had the greatest impact on economic security of immigrants in the labour market. Second, to show the impact that the changes have had on overall security in terms of wages, working conditions, job security, ability to access adequate and safe housing and access to transportation, as well as how these factors have compromised immigrants' ability to fully participate in society. Third, to recommend policies necessary for immigrants' economic survival in light of the barriers and issues revealed in this study.

Supervision:

- * External member Blanca Yovira Salvatierra (MA in Latin American Studies) "*Promotoras* in Nicaragua: Community Development, Women, Participation and Empowerment" (2005).
- * Supervised Jennifer Jarvis' undergraduate research project in East Vancouver "An Evaluation of the Client Satisfaction of Crabtree/Sheway Housing" (2005).

ASSOCIATE FACULTY RESEARCH

Arlene McLaren

During the past year, I have been working on several projects. I am currently conducting research with migrant and immigrant farm workers. I am beginning research on traffic safety discourses and practices and their implications for mothering.

Research Funding

SSHRC Community University Research Alliance (CURA) Grant: CCPA/SFU

Economic Security Project: Re-Defining Public Services in British Columbia: Chal-

lenges to Economic Security & Alternative Possibilities

Institutions of Academic Co-Investigators: SFU, UBC, UNBC, UVic. 2004 – 2008; Total Funding: \$1,000,000.

Sub-Project title: The Changing Policy Context in BC and its Impact on Migrant and Immigrant Farm workers

Co-Principal Investigators: David Fairey (Trade Union Research Bureau);

Mark Thompson (University of British Columbia); Glen MacInnes (BC Federation of Labour); 2006-2007; \$41,760.

SSHRC Standard Grant:

Traffic Safety as Discourse and Practice: A Critical Analysis of the Construction of Parental Involvement in the Management of Risk at the Site of the School
Principal Investigator: Arlene McLaren; 2006 - 2009; \$48,256.

SESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR

Cathy Bray

Graduate Supervision:

* Women's Reflections On Learning Fertility Awareness: Barriers, Encouraging Factors, Effects, and Motivations (MAlt Major Project) Rose Yewchuk (Royal Roads University), 2006

* Student Leadership Development: The Contribution of Project-Based Learning. (MAlt Major Project) Sandra Cocco (Royal Roads University), 2006

* Community-based programs: The importance of assessing the needs of the community in program planning

(MAis Major project) Judith Ann Fiala, (Athabasca University), 2006

* Multidisciplinary Leadership Development In Oncology Healthcare: A Qualitative Case Study (MAis Major project) Paula Langenhoff (Athabasca University), 2006

PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Publications

Bray, Cathy (refereed journal article). "Watching the Whale Watchers: Leisurely Informal Learning Online" *UCFV Research Review: Teaching and Learning Online*, January 2006 <http://journals.ucfv.ca/ojs/rr/article-PDFs/bray.pdf>

Burtch, Brian (2007, in press). "Oppression", entry in *Routledge International Encyclopedia on Men and Masculinities*, edited by Michael Flood, Judith Kegan Gardiner, Bob Pease and Keith Pringle (London and New York: Routledge).

Burtch, Brian (2006). "Education, Law, and Social Justice." In A. Oduaran and H.S. Bhola (eds.), [Ch. 5], Hamburg, Germany: Kluwer (Springer) and UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE). *Widening Access to Education and Social Justice: Essays in Honour of Professor Michael Omolea*, pages 83-94.

Burtch, Brian (2006). "Further Education and Higher Education: Transfer Links between Colleges and Universities in Canada." In M. Osborne & J. Gallagher (Eds.), *The Extra-University – how Cinderella could get to the Academic Ball: The Role of Vocational Education and Training Colleges as providers of Higher Education – A Review*. Leicester: The National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE).

Burtch, Brian (2005). "Review of further education/higher education links in Canada". In J. Gallacher & M. Osborne (Eds.), *A contested landscape: International perspectives on diversity in mass higher education*. Leicester: National Institute for Adult and Continuing Education (NIACE), pages 47-62.

Burtch, Brian and Dunlop, C. (2005). "An Integrated Studies Approach to Mature Learners in Canada: Programmes in Liberal and Business Studies, and Justice & Public Safety Leadership." In *Conference Proceedings, Volume 1: What a Difference a Pedagogy Makes – Researching Lifelong Learning and Teaching*, University of Stirling, Scotland, June 24-26, 2005, pages 137-144.

(Continued on page 24)

PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from page 23)

Campbell, Lara. "Respectable Citizens of Canada: Gender, Maternalism and the Welfare State in the Great Depression." In *Maternalism Reconsidered: Mothers and Method in Twentieth-Century History*, eds. Sonya Michel et al. Oxford and New York: Berghahn Books, 2006 (in press).

Campbell, Lara. "We Who Have Wallowed in the Mud of Flanders: First World War Veterans, Unemployment, and the Development of Social Welfare in Canada, 1929-1939." Reprinted in *Readings in Canadian History: Post Confederation*, eds. R. Douglas Smith and Donald B. Smith. Thomson-Nelson, 2006.

Campbell, Lara - Book review: Leslie Robertson and Dara Culhane, "In Plain Sight: Reflections on Life in Downtown Eastside Vancouver." *BC Studies* (Spring 2006)

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Electricity Restructuring Dirty Secret: The Environment," in *nature's revenge: Reclaiming Sustainability in an Age of Corporate Globalization*, ed. by Josee Johnston, Michael Gismond, & James Goodman (Broadview, 2006), pp. 73-95.

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Privatization: A Strategy for Eliminating Pay Equity in Health Care," with Marcy Cohen, in *Social Reproduction*, eds. Kate Bezanson and Meg Luxton (Kingston/Montreal: McGill-Queen's Press, 2006) pp. 117-144.

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Why Canada needs a National Energy Plan," *The CCPA Monitor*, Vol. 12, No. 8, (Feb 2006), pp. 1, 12-14.

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Use the surplus to benefit women," *Vancouver Sun*, Feb. 16, 2006. p. A17.

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Surplus presents opportunity," *The Daily Courier* (Kelowna), Mon 20 Feb 2006, Page: A9

Frampton, Caelie. *Sociology for Changing the World: Social Movements, Social Research*, Fernwood, 2006. Edited by Caelie Frampton, Gary Kinsman, Andrew Thompson and Kate Tilleczek. For more information visit www.changingtheworld.tranzform.ca

Leung, Helen Hok-Sze. "Uncertain Triangles: Lesbian Desire in Hong Kong Cinema." Eds. Tineke Hellwig and Sunera Thobani. *Asian Women: Interconnections*. Toronto: CSPI/Women's Press, 2006. 185-202.

Leung, Helen Hok-Sze. "Queer Matters, What Else Matters?" *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, Volume 6. Number 2, 2005. 303-305.

Levitin, Jacqueline. "Postmodern Diasporic Identities and Communities in the Work of Mina Shum," *Great Canadian Film Directors*, George Melnyk, ed. Submitted for publication by University of Alberta Press.

Levitin, Jacqueline. "*Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon, Hero, and House of the Flying Daggers*: Interpreting Gender Thematics in the Contemporary Swordplay Film – a View From the West," *Asian Cinema*, 17:1 (Spring/Summer 2006), 66-183.

Levitin, Jacqueline. "Mina Shum." *Talking Heads*, George Melnyk, ed. Submitted for publication by University of Alberta Press.

Marchbank, Jen. (2006) 'Views and Perspectives of Women's Studies: a survey of women and men students' views and experiences of Women's Studies', *Gender and Education*, vol 18, no 2, March, pp 157-182, co author.

Marchbank, Jen. (forthcoming 2006), 'Strange Bedfellows: feminist pedagogy and information technology', in P. Cotterill, S. Jackson & G. Letherby (Eds.) *Challenges and Negotiations for Women in Higher Education*, Kluwer.

Marchbank, Jen. (2006), 'Gender', in I. Marsh, (Ed.), *Sociology: Making Sense of Society*, 3rd Edition, London, Pearson, co author.

McLaren, Arlene. 2006. *From Support to Isolation: The High Cost of BC's Declining Home Support Services* (with Marcy Cohen et al.). Vancouver: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - BC Office.

McLaren, Arlene. 2005. *Abolishing Mandatory Retirement: What are the Safeguards?* (with Margaret Manery). Vancouver, BC: Columbia Institute.

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PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from page 24)

Patterson, Natasha. "Monica Lewinsky", "Angela McRobbie", Patterson, Natasha. "Oprah Winfrey". Contributor. *The Women's Movement Today: An Encyclopedia of Third Wave Feminism*. Leslie Heywood, Ed. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2006.

Stewart, Mary Lynn. Refereed article, "Copying and Copyrighting Haute Couture," *French Historical Studies*, 28, 1 (Winter 2005).

Stewart, Mary Lynn. Completed and sent the manuscript, *Democratizing Haute Couture, Dressing Modern Frenchwomen, 1919-1939*, to Johns Hopkins University Press, which has sent it out to readers.

Zaman, Habiba. 2006. *Breaking the Iron Wall: Decommodification and Immigrant Women's Labor in Canada*, Lanham (Maryland): Lexington Books (A Division of Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group).

Zaman, Habiba. 2006. Book Review: "When Women Come First: Gender and Class in Transnational Migration," Sheba Marian George. Berkley: University of California Press, 2005. *Labour*, 279-281.

Conferences, Papers and Academic Presentations

Boon, Sonja. "The Case of the Missing Mother: Revisiting Rousseau's Mom," for the Association for Research on Mothering (Toronto, Canada), October 2006.

Boon, Sonja. "Constructing the Good Wife: Did Suzanne Necker Write?" for the panel "Women's Biographies" at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (Halifax, Canada), October 2006.

Boon, Sonja. "The Marquise Takes the Veil: Madame de Pompadour and the Harem Paintings at Bellevue," for the panel "Women, Ambition and the Terms of Recognition" at the annual meeting of the American Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies (Montréal, Canada), March 2006.

Bray, Cathy. Paper Presentation: "Labour pains: Marxist-feminism, Rugby and Revolutionary Change." The North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Vancouver, November 1-4, 2006.

Campbell, Lara. "'Love Guerillas' and 'Liberationist Shit-chicks': Gender and Vietnam war resisters in Canadian antiwar activism," American Studies Association, October 2006.

Campbell, Lara. "Rethinking Second Wave Feminism through Antiwar Activism," Canadian Women's Studies Association, May 2006.

Campbell, Lara. "Gendered Citizenship: Unemployment and Relief Activism in the Great Depression," Labouring Feminism Conference, University of Toronto, September, 2005.

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. Organized "Imagining Public Policy to Meet Women's Economic Security Needs" - October 13-15, 2005.

Leung, Helen Hok-Sze. "Sex and the Postcolonial City." Panel on "Sex and the City." International Conference on *Cinema at the City's Edge: Film and Urban Space in East Asia*. University of Washington, April 28-30, 2006.

Leung, Helen Hok-Sze. "Neither Global Gay Nor Ethno Queer: Reflections On Hong Kong Culture." Panel on "Unthinking the Global/Local in Queer Asia." Association For Cultural Studies *Crossroads* Conference. Istanbul Bilgi University, July 20-23, 2006.

Levitin, Jacqueline. Presentation and discussion of *Building Bridge: a Housing Project for Women*, Society for Applied Anthropology, Vancouver (April 2006).

Levitin, Jacqueline. "Re-imagining Women in the Margins," *Downtown Eastside Vancouver: Representations, Communities And Conversations*, Society for Applied Anthropology, Vancouver (March 2006)

Levitin, Jacqueline. "Probing History and Memory: Navigating Between the 'Document' of Documentary and the Personal Experimental Film." Visible Evidence XIII Conference, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (August 2006)

Marchbank, Jen. (July 2006), "'Mail Order Brides' in Canada: Policy Responses", Center for Women's Policy Studies, Washington, DC.

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PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from page 25)

Marchbank, Jen. (March 2006), 'Women's Studies, the UK Experience', Transformations, 30th Anniversary Conference, SFU Women's Studies, Vancouver.

Marchbank, Jen. (Sep 2005), 'Working Internationally: Working Interdisciplinary', Plenary Panel, British Sociological Association Summer School, funded by Economic and Social Research Council.

McLaren, Arlene. September 2006: RIIM Research Retreat, Vancouver, BC. Parental Sponsorship: Whose Problematic? A Consideration of South Asian Women's Immigration Experiences in Vancouver for Informing National Debate.

McLaren, Arlene. December 2005: BCGEU Health Bargaining Conference, Burnaby, BC. Shouldering the Burdens: The Impact of the Restructuring of the BC Home Support System on Clients, Community Health Workers, and Family Caregivers

McLaren, Arlene. December 2005: Continuum of Care Working Group, Vancouver, BC. Shouldering the Burdens: The Impact of the Restructuring of the BC Home Support System on Clients, Community Health Workers, and Family Caregivers

McLaren, Arlene. November 2005: Graduate seminar, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, SFU. Crash!: Traffic Safety Meets Sociology (with Sylvia Parusel)

McLaren, Arlene. October 2005: Imagining Public Policy to Meet Women's Economic Security Needs, Vancouver BC. Where's the Care: Re-conceptualizing the Boundaries of Public and Private in Community-based Home Support Services.

McLaren, Arlene. October 2006: Organized the Munro Lecture (with Jon Driver), SFU Harbour Centre. Keynote speaker: Professor John Urry, Mobilities and Networks

McLaren, Arlene. October 2006: Organized the autoConsequences Symposium: Automobilitization and its Social Implications. SFU Harbour Centre.

McLaren, Arlene. May 2006: Organized a session on Auto-mobility and Society at the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association, York University.

Patterson, Natasha. " 'Sisterhood Sins': Confronting Female Victimization in *America's Next Top Model*." Console-ing Passions International Conference on Television, Audio, Video, New Media, and Feminism. Milwaukee, Wisconsin. May 27, 2006. This paper was presented as part of a panel titled, "Framing the Victim: Narratives of Victimization on Reality TV," which was put together by Natasha, Beth, and another SFU grad student. Natasha also chaired the panel.

Patterson, Natasha. "Earth Mothers, Ghetto Girls, and the Fairy God-Model: Exploring constructions of race and gender in *America's Next Top Model*." Society for Cinema and Media Studies International Conference. Vancouver, BC. March 3, 2006.

Patterson, Natasha. "Distance Learning Pedagogy: Challenges and Possibilities for Women's Studies." Transformations: The Politics of Women's Studies, Women's Studies 30th Anniversary Conference. Simon Fraser University. February 10, 2006.

Patterson, Natasha. Presented as a guest speaker on "From 'Girls' to 'Grrrls' and Back Again: Politics and Pleasures of the Third Wave," for Dr. Lara Campbell's Introduction to Women's Issues in Canada course, September 2005.

Stewart, Mary Lynn. Presented one conference paper, "Attitudes Toward Aging in the Feminine Press, 1919-1929," to the Western Society for French Historical Studies Conference at Colorado Springs, Colorado, in Oct. 2005.

Zaman, Habiba. May 2006: Presented a paper titled "Immigrant Women as Agents of Change: Formal and Informal Networks" at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences: Canadian Women's Studies Association/Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Meetings, York University, Toronto.

Zaman, Habiba. May 2006: Chaired a session titled "Urban Policy Analysis" at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences: Canadian Women's Studies Association Meeting, York University, Toronto.

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PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from page 26)

Zaman, Habiba. May 2006: Workshop: Gender, Race, Islam and the War on Terror: A Community Dialogue (SFU Women's Studies & RACE), SFU Harbour Centre and Vancouver Public Library. Moderator two times: Plenary Session, SFU Harbour Centre & Panel Presentations, Vancouver Public Library.

Zaman, Habiba. April 2006: Organized a day-long workshop titled "Asian Immigrants in BC" at Wosk Centre, Vancouver; 65 participants attended.

Zaman, Habiba. March 2006: National Metropolis Conference, Vancouver, BC. Presented a paper titled "Economic Security and Impacts of the Employment Standards Act on Immigrants in BC"

Lectures/Talks

Campbell, Lara. "Remembering December 6th," SFU Women's Caucus, National Day of Action and Remembrance on Violence Against Women, December 2005.

Campbell, Lara. "Feminism and the Role of Canadian Women in History", Canadian Federation of University Women, October 2005.

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Electricity in the Continental Energy Market," North American Research Centre, Legal Research Institute, Mexican National Autonomous University, May 18, 2006. [Invited plenary speaker]

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Economics: New Gendered Trends, National and Transnational," June 1, Canadian

Political Science Association, Congress: York University, June 1st. (commentator for panel)

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Bringing Class Back In," Plenary Roundtable, Canadian Political Science Association, Congress: York University; June 1, 2006. [Invited plenary speaker]

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. "Canadian Energy Politics in the Shadow of the American Empire." The Institute for European Studies and St. John's College, UBC, March 13, 2006. [Invited single person event]

Cohen, Marjorie Griffin. International Studies Association – Discussant for panel on Human Welfare and Human Security, March 25, 2006. San Diego.

Stewart, Mary Lynn. Local talk: "Dressing and Being Modern in the Fashion Press," to the University Women's Club of Vancouver, 7 May 2006.

Stewart, Mary Lynn. Local talk: "Hybrid Feminism in the French Fashion Press, 1919-1939," to the Women's Studies Seminar, Nov. 2005.

Zaman, Habiba. April 2006: Invited speaker, Bengali New Year and Rabindra-Nazrul Celebration, organized by Pro-bashangla, Douglas College, New West.

Community Activity

Bray, Cathy: 1500 Haro St condo association emergency preparedness committee, 2006.

Bray, Cathy: Adult literacy volunteer, Lord Roberts Adult High School 2006.

Women's Studies Faculty:

Cathy Bray	Mary Lynn Stewart
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Lara Campbell	
Marjorie Griffin Cohen	
Helen Leung	
Jacqueline Levitin	
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CELEBRATING WOMEN IN TRADES



A CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN IN TRADES & BLUE COLLAR WORK

CONFERENCE DATE: April 20-21, 2007

LOCATION: SFU Graduate Segal School of
Business & SFU Vancouver Campus

Hosted by the SFU Women's Studies Ruth Wynn Woodward Chair, the goal of this conference is to bring together tradeswomen in order to encourage networking and retention of this small but valuable part of the skilled labour force. Details to follow.