The 18th annual Honors and Awards Ceremony for the Center for Women's Studies was held on April 17, 2004 in the Rhododendron Room in the WVU Mountainlair. This ceremony celebrated women's studies students, scholarship and award recipients, faculty associates, and the Center for Women's Studies' activities.

Katherine Karraker, the Interim Director of the Center during Barb Howe's spring semester sabbatical, welcomed the audience and reviewed the year's activities at the Center. She highlighted the establishment of the major in women's studies, pointing out that one student graduated with the major in December and that five more will graduate in May.

Joan Gorham, Associate Dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, greeted the audience on behalf of the College. She discussed the importance of women's studies to a liberal arts curriculum, and reiterated the College's support for the Center and its activities.
The program then proceeded to the honors and awards part of the ceremony. Dr. Karraker pointed out that all the monetary awards granted are made possible through the support of the donors to various women’s studies funds (see page 10). The outstanding senior and outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant also received white women’s studies stoles, which Marlene Robinson, the Center’s former program specialist, designed especially for the program. Women’s studies majors received a purple stole. The stoles are in gold, purple, white, and green, as these colors reflect American women’s 2-century-long struggle for full citizenship on and off campus. Purple, white, and green were carried by late 19th-century suffragists, while purple, gold, and white were the colors carried by their 20th-century successors, until passage of the 19th (suffrage) amendment in 1920. Green and white symbolize the Equal Rights Amendment, and green is the universal symbol for ecological feminism.

The award presentations were as follows:

**Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Women’s Studies Senior**

![Photo by Infinite Lens Studio
Elizabeth Engelhardt with Erin Prize](image)

**Erin M. Price** was the first person to officially register as a women’s studies major last spring. She is also the first person to complete two degrees as a women’s studies major, for she is receiving a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in visual art in addition to her Bachelor of Arts degree in women’s studies. One of Erin’s strengths is her work as an activist on behalf of social justice issues. She is a co-founder of the Creative Arts Student Action League, a member of the WVU Council on Sexual Orientation, a board member for Caritas House, and an active member of Female Equality Movement (FEM). She has also been a disk jockey for U92 (WVU radio station) for the past 3 years.

Erin has an interest in becoming a photographer for National Geographic, and she wants to work toward equality for women in predominantly male fields.

**Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Women’s Studies Graduate Teaching Assistant:**

![Photo by Infinite Lens Studio
Elizabeth Engelhardt with Heather Frederick](image)

**Heather L. Frederick** is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Political Science and has served as a teaching assistant in both women’s studies and political science. She has done an exemplary job at teaching an introductory course in women’s studies and has co-taught a new course on women in movies. Heather’s background in gender and political issues has been a clear asset to her teaching in the women’s studies program and has allowed her to combine her own interests and to illustrate to her students how women’s issues relate to many other areas.

**Carrie Koeturius Scholarship for Returning Women Students:**

The Carrie Koeturius Scholarship for Returning Women Students is named after a former Morgantown activist for women’s issues who came to finish her bachelor’s degree in social work. This scholarship assists women whose educations have been interrupted. There are two recipients of the award this year.

**Stephanie Brock** is a junior sociology major who plans to continue on to graduate school to earn a master’s in social work. Her education was interrupted by marital problems, but she now considers herself to be in control of her life. She hopes to eventually help others who are dealing with difficult life situations, particularly women and children.

**Fati Zomba** is a sophomore business major from Burkina Faso, which is a small country in West Africa. Her education was interrupted by family financial difficulties. She plans to eventually return to her country to help fight against poverty and economic stagnation, and is particularly interested in working with women in the field of agro-economics.
Sally Lowther Norris Showalter Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Related Disciplines:

Kelly Smith is a senior biometric systems and computer engineering major with a 3.67 grade point average. Upon discovering that there are only 39 women out of 600 students in the Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at WVU, she took on several projects both support the women in the program and to try to recruit additional women to engineering by visiting girls in high school. She is also highly active in a number of other extracurricular activities, including serving as the founding president of the Student Society for the Advancement of Biometrics. One of her letter writers describes her as “making her presence felt as a woman as well as a student leader” and states that he is “certain that our department will be changed for the better as a result of her work on behalf of women engineering students.”

Winifred South Knutti Graduate Scholarship in Women’s Studies:

Katharine Antolini is a doctoral candidate in history who has also earned a graduate certificate in women’s studies. As a graduate teaching assistant in history, Katherine has strived to “incorporate women’s history into ‘mainstream’ American history survey classes.” She also has been studying the history of motherhood, motivated in part by her own experiences caring for her son with autism. Her doctoral dissertation supervisor, Dr. Michal McMahon, writes that in Katherine’s teaching she is “as innovative and varied in approach as she is effective,” and that he expects that she will “make solid contributions to the world of scholarship and teaching.”

Velma Miller/WV Alliance for Women’s Studies Graduate Scholar Award:

Muriel Yeboah is a doctoral candidate in geography whose interests lie in “exploring the connections between human geography, development, and feminist scholarship.” She plans to use this scholarship to help fund her travel to her home country of Ghana to undertake field research for her dissertation on poor urban women workers and their coping with changing geographies of the city of Accra, Ghana. She also has been involved in community volunteer work related to social justice issues. Her dissertation advisor, Dr. Ann Oberhauser, states that Muriel is “a wonderful attribute to the geography program and is well qualified to represent both the Center and the WV Alliance for Women’s Studies through this award.”

Graduating students were then recognized. Jamie Baxter, who graduated in December, attended the ceremony and was presented with her stole. The five students who will be graduating in May were asked to comment on what women’s studies means to them and to describe their future plans. Other students who were completing women’s studies course work were also acknowledged. The names of all of these students are listed below:

2003 – 2004 BACHELOR DEGREE CANDIDATES WITH WOMEN STUDIES MAJOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Advisor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jamie Baxter</td>
<td>Ashley Lawson</td>
<td>Sarah Pederson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Price</td>
<td>Anna Rachel Terman</td>
<td>Mary Wendekier</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WOMEN STUDIES COURSES COMPLETED
Teresa Miller (not yet graduating)

The officers and members of Iota Iota Iota (Triota), the women’s studies honorary, and of Female Equality Movement (FEM), the women’s studies activist group, were then recognized. The officers of these groups are listed below:

Advisor to FEM - Dr. Elizabeth Engelhardt
President – Elizabeth Harless
Vice President – Anna Rachel Terman
Treasurer – Crystal Hoover
Secretary – Roxanna Bailey

Advisor to Triota – Dr. Anna Elfenbein
President - Anna Rachel Terman
Vice President - Elizabeth Harless
Secretary – Nikki Conklin
Treasurer – Brittany Benson

Faculty associates who had received awards or honors during the past year were also recognized. A list of these faculty associates follows:

Suzanne Gross, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Student Services, School of Nursing – Mary Catherine Buswell Award for Outstanding Service to Women.

Helen Lang, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Geology and Geography – American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Scholarship Foundation 2003 Honorary Award.


Ann Oberhauser, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Geology and Geography – Elected to serve as a National Councilor for the Association of American Geographers in 2003.

Julie Hicks Patrick, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Psychology – Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teacher Award – Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Award for Research Team Scholarship.

Maryanne Reed, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Journalism – WVU Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Janice Spleth, Ph.D., Professor, Foreign Languages – WVU Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching
Dr. Karraker concluded the ceremony by thanking the many individuals who contribute to the strength and vitality of the women’s studies program at WVU. These include everyone who contributes financially to the program, our teaching assistants, our graduate assistant for program development, our work-study students (names of these individuals are provided elsewhere in this newsletter), and our many faculty associates. Special thank-you’s were given to Cathy Jasper, the Center’s Administrative Associate, for all her work in preparing for the ceremony, to Judith Gold Sützel, founding director of the Center, and Duane Nellis, Dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, for their ongoing support of the Center, and to Elizabeth Engelhardt, Assistant Professor in Women’s Studies, for her many contributions to women’s studies. Best wishes were conveyed to Dr. Engelhardt as she leaves WVU for a new position at the University of Texas at Austin. The ceremony concluded with photos, refreshments, and congratulations to all for their outstanding accomplishments.

ACTIVISM ON CAMPUS, COURTESY OF FEM
By Anna Rachel Terman – Vice President

Photo by Infinite Lens Studio
From Left to Right: Elizabeth Engelhardt, Elizabeth Harless, Anna Rachel Terman, Roxana Bailey, Crystal Hoover, Erin Price, Jessi Kalvitis, Jaci Gonzales.

The Spring semester catapulted the Female Equality Movement into a whirlwind of organizing. A visit by Eleanor Smeal set an exciting tone for the semester, and we have been busy living up to her inspiring words and advice ever since. She told us that five people is enough to change the world, and our dedicated FEM members have been trying to do just that through our spring semester events.

Our first big event was the Vagina Monologues that are performed annually by student actors. This year, FEM treasurer Crystal Hoover kicked off the Vagina Monologues with an art show titled Arts and Healing: Women and Violence in the Mountainlair art gallery. Paintings by a sexual assault
survivor were displayed alongside an interactive setup where attendees could write down their comments and thoughts. These comment pages were then set up at Eiesland Hall so people could add to them before and after the show. The *Vagina Monologues* performance was a big hit and continues to grow in popularity on campus every year. The ticket sales racked up over $3700, all of which was donated to the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center (RDVIC) in Morgantown, the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information Services (WWFRIS), the national *Vagina Monologues* campaign helping the missing and murdered women of Juarez, Mexico, and our own Take Back the Night.

Our next focus was our annual Take Back the Night event. This year FEM secretary Roxanna Bailey headed up the organizing and brought together many campus groups to help raise awareness about violence and rape. This year FEM decided to broaden the focus of Take Back the Night to include all forms of gender and sexual-related violence in the wake of a hate crime that occurred in downtown Morgantown against a homosexual student. The community gathered on April 8th on the Mountainlair plaza to hear speakers talk about experiences and issues surrounding violence. The crowd then marched along High Street. This is always a special event for the community, and FEM appreciates everyone who supported Take Back the Night, especially Men Against Rape and Violence (MARV).

A week later on April 15th, we gathered with members of NOW for “Unhappy Hour” at Gibbes. This event raises awareness for the wage gap between men and women. Women currently make around 70 cents for every dollar men make (less for African American or Latina Women), and the Unhappy Hour at Gibbes marks this inequality. After Gibbes we headed to a rally in preparation for the March for Women’s Lives. This rally brought together all the marchers from the Morgantown community to inspire anticipation for the march that was 10 days away.

Finally! The March for Women’s Lives arrived on April 25th, and our delegation was ready to take on Washington when we met at 6 a.m. for a bus ride to Washington, D.C. The excitement grew as our delegation was selected to march near the front of the procession following the VIP and celebrity marchers. Our community delegation marched with hundreds of thousands of people from across the country in support of the pro-choice movement and reproductive health issues for women in the U.S. and around the world. Our alliance with the Feminist Majority Foundation (one of the main sponsors of the march) really paid off as we were able to join with so many others who are fighting for the same issues as FEM. Marching was exhilarating and rewarding for all those who were able to come.

FEM had a fantastic year, and we can’t wait to continue our work next fall when we will be organizing with the Feminist Majority for the “Get Out Her Vote” campaign. We at FEM hope more people become involved next semester for the exciting political season ahead. FEM would also like to thank the community support for our events this year, particularly those who sponsored marchers. Finally, a special thank you to our advisor, Dr. Elizabeth Engelhardt, who always guides us in the right direction.

**DIRECTOR’S COLUMN**

By Katherine Karraker, Interim Director

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Interim Director of the Center for Women’s Studies this semester while Barb Howe has enjoyed a much-needed sabbatical leave. I find it hard to believe that the semester is nearly over! I’d like to reflect a little on what I have learned during this short time about women’s studies at WVU.

I have known both Drs. Barbara Howe and Judith Sitzel for many years, and have been aware for some time that there is a Center for Women’s Studies at WVU. However, a little over a year ago when I agreed to fill in for Dr. Howe, I had only a vague idea of what the Center actually did or how it was organized. I began paying more attention to the many e-mail messages and flyers that I, and other faculty associates, regularly receive, and I started attending more of the events that were sponsored and cosponsored by the Center. This semester as well I have tried to attend as many events as I could fit into my schedule. I have been extremely impressed with the sheer quantity and diversity of activities that are facilitated by support from the Center. One can stay quite busy and learn a great deal about women’s issues simply by attending these many events. Some of my recent favorites include talks by Eleanor Smeal and Amy-Jill Levine, and the *Vagina Monologues*. I have also enjoyed attending the meetings of the Council on Women’s Concerns, the Fireside Chats, and various other events and activities. Besides the information I have gained from attending these events, I have also learned that there are many people at WVU who are interested in women’s issues. I am a little concerned about the age distribution of attendees at some (but certainly not all) of the events, where it seemed that middle-aged women were more strongly represented than any other demographic group. We need to continue to encourage college women and men of all ages to attend all of these events!

Despite my sense that college students were underrepresented in the audiences of some of the women’s studies sponsored events, I also learned that there is a strong core of students at WVU who are clearly committed to activism to advance women’s rights. These students effectively organized three busloads of people who attended the March for Women’s Lives in Washington, D.C. on April 25, as well as organizing other activities throughout the year.
Because I provided advising for students in the various programs available in women's studies (undergraduate major and minor, Regent's Bachelor of Arts Area of Emphasis, graduate certificate and Women's Studies-Directed Master of Arts in Liberal Studies), I also learned a great deal about the topics and courses that constitute women's studies. I remember asking Dr. Howe some time ago how one determined if an area of study fit within the definition of women's studies. The answer, at WVU at least, is that women's studies is defined very broadly, encompassing just about any topic that addresses women, gender, or other types of diversity. I am convinced that students who major or minor in women's studies at WVU necessarily receive a broad and liberal education, in part because women's studies does not simply exist within its own focused department, but because the women's studies courses that students take are spread across a multitude of disciplines.

Finally, I have learned that a very small unit on campus can accomplish a great deal. With only two faculty members, an administrative associate, and several graduate assistants and work-study students, the Center for Women's Studies manages to make its presence felt, provides a forum for a variety of women's studies-related events, and provides the organization for the multidisciplinary study of issues related to gender and diversity.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Center's continuing successes this semester and who helped me with the day-to-day details of running the Center. Cathy Jasper, our administrative associate, answered all my questions and ran the office with efficiency and cheer. Will Karigomba managed our website, publicity, and event planning. Dr. Elizabeth Engelhardt and our teaching assistants, Constanza Charbonette, Heather Frederick, Brie Frey, and Amanda Ray, introduced many WVU students to women's studies through their teaching of the Introduction to Women's Studies course. Our work-study students, Lian DeLeon, Jessi Kalvitis, Theresa Miller, Nicole Raach, and Molly Rager, helped keep the office running and added a freshness and vibrancy to the atmosphere in the Center.

In closing, I would like to thank Dr. Howe for giving me this opportunity to learn more about women's studies at WVU. I would also like to wish Dr. Engelhardt well as she moves on to a new position at the University of Texas at Austin. She will be missed. As I return to my position in the Department of Psychology, I look forward to staying in touch with the many individuals who make women's studies an active and visible component of life at WVU.

THE JOY OF GIVING by Deborah Miller, J.D., Director of Gift Planning

Photo by WVU Photographic Services

WVU's Class of 2004 included a total of six students who had earned a degree in women's studies. One graduated in December and the other five in May. That's a true milestone to celebrate!

The progress that the women's studies program can make in the future is important and is directly linked to its sources of funding. Each of us has the potential to impact the program through choices we make.

In addition to current support, one valued choice is to include a gift provision for the women's studies program in your will or revocable trust. When providing for loved ones' future needs, you can ensure that even more progress for the women's studies program is possible too.

Providing the wording of "to the West Virginia University Foundation, Inc. for the benefit of the Center for Women's Studies in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences" to your estate planning attorney will make your gift happen. You may consider leaving a percentage of your estate for the women's studies program as a way to be fair to all.

What can your gift accomplish? These are the special needs of the program: funds for graduate student research and teaching, discretionary program support, and supplementation of the Velma Miller Fund for social justice efforts or of the Judith Gold Stitziel Endowment for Excellence in Women's Studies Teaching and Learning. All are useful choices.

Without a doubt, your support of the Center for Women's Studies can be a source of true progress for many!
CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN STUDIES COMMUNITY

Joan Browning received the Mountaineer Spirit award from the West Virginia Women's Commission.

Julie Hicks Patrick has been promoted to Associate Professor of Psychology with tenure.

The Center for Women's Studies congratulates Katherine Karraker on her promotion to full Professor of Psychology!! Well deserved!!

Ruth Kershner has been promoted to Associate Professor of Community Medicine.

Dean Duane Nellis has been appointed Provost at Kansas State University.

Photo by Infinite Lens Studio
Dean Duane Nellis

Dean Duane Nellis spent 17 years at Kansas State, progressing from assistant professor of geography to professor and head of the department, and then to senior associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He was the first director of Kansas State's Institute for Social and Behavioral Research. In 1997 he accepted a post as dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences at West Virginia University. He was named Kansas State’s provost in 2004.

AN EVENING WITH ELEANOR SMEAL
By Anna Rachel Terman

The Female Equality Movement and the Center for Women's Studies started off the 2004 spring semester with a guest lecture by Eleanor Smeal on January 29th. Ms. Smeal is the Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF) president, an organization that she founded in 1987. The FMF is dedicated to women's equality, reproductive health, and non-violence, and is the national organization with which WVU FEM is affiliated. Ms. Smeal has also been the president of the National Organization for Women, and has been a leader in the fight for women’s rights in the U.S. and abroad for over 30 years.

A reception was held in E. Moore Hall before the lecture for students, faculty, and the public to have a chance to chat with Ms. Smeal. She also directed many questions to us about Morgantown, WVU, and the political climate on campus. As the snow started to fall, everyone made their way to the auditorium at Eiesland Hall to hear what Ms. Smeal had come to say. The issues that Smeal covered in her speech ranged from reproductive rights in the U.S. to women’s rights in Afghanistan. At times, Ms. Smeal’s expansive knowledge of women’s issues took her into what seemed to be tangents on issues like Title IX and the wars in the Middle East. Still, Ms. Smeal always brought each fascinating tangent back to focus on her main goal: recruiting people from all over the nation to participate in the March for Women’s Lives in Washington D.C. on April 25th. She told the audience that the original name for the march had been the March for Choice; however, the name had been changed to include a broader range of reproductive health issues. Ms. Smeal centered on the desperate situations concerning reproductive health not only in the U.S., but also all over the world. Her passionate lecture conveyed to the WVU audience the immediacy of the situation involving the Global Gag Rule and U.S. state restrictions on access to abortion.

Ms. Smeal entertained many questions from the audience, answering all of them at length. Her lecture inspired the Morgantown community to become active in the pressing issues she addressed, and to organize a delegation to travel to Washington, D.C. for the March for Women’s Lives. It was truly a highlight to have such a charismatic and knowledgeable woman visit WVU.

ELIZABETH ENGELHARDT
The Center for Women's Studies bids farewell to Elizabeth Engelhardt and gives her our best wishes in her new position. She can be contacted at the Department of American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

SPRING 2004 EVENTS

- March 10 – Fireside Chat. “Sociodemographic
Characteristics of the Oldest Old and their Contributions to Informal Networks (family, friends and neighbors).” Dr. Bei Wu.

- March 29 – Mom’s Turn to Learn Day. Morgantown Mall. Co-sponsored with the Council for Women’s Concerns.
- April 17 – Honors and Awards Ceremony. Center for Women Studies.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2004

Anyone interested in forming a feminist book club to read and discuss books together can contact Barbara Howe.

There will be a Women’s Health Policy Conference in Morgantown on December 7 and 8, 2004, at the Radisson Hotel. The tentative theme is “Exercising Your Rights, Your Mind, and Your Body.” It is open to anyone interested in the topic of women’s health policy.

WOMEN AND CREATIVITY CONFERENCE

From October 13 to 15, 2004, Morgantown will be alive with the sounds and sights of women artists, writers, and thinkers as we celebrate Women and Creativity 2004: Examining the Past/Composing the Future.

Design by Eve Faulkes

The conference will be headquartered at Morgantown’s newest hotel, the Radisson, and on Wednesday afternoon, following registration, participants will be able to take a mini-tour of local galleries arranged by Arts Monongahela, Inc. To complete the tour, there will be a reception at the Monongalia Arts Center. Wednesday evening, the conference will open with a keynote address entitled “The Artist’s Search for Voice: Synthetic Structure or Organic Utterance” by Libby Larsen. An acclaimed composer who has written for major orchestras and ballet and opera companies, she also holds a seat on the National Endowment for the Arts’ music panel and has served as composer-in-residence with the Colorado Symphony. Larsen will be coming to Morgantown before the conference as the 6th Women’s Studies Resident in Honor of Judith Gold Stitzel. During that time, she will be meeting with students and faculty, particularly in the College of Creative Arts. This is the first time that the Center for Women’s Studies has had a resident involved with the arts, and it is proving to be a wonderful opportunity for cross-disciplinary cooperation. Following Larsen’s keynote address, there will be a reception and the opening of an exhibit of works by Blanche Lazzell at the Mesarios Galleries in the Creative Arts Center. Lazzell was a pivotal figure in the history of American modern art who was born in 1878 in Maidsville, West Virginia.

Concurrent sessions will be held on Thursday and Friday at both the Radisson and WVU’s Creative Arts Center. On Thursday, the West Virginia Humanities Council is providing support for a session on the process of creative writing and one on “My Life as a Writer.” Through the council’s “History Alive!” program, participants will have an opportunity to meet Emily Dickinson (played by Debra Conner). On Friday, the emphasis will shift to women’s creativity in historic communities, featuring Arthurdale, the first federal New Deal New Town; Prickett’s Fort, a reconstructed late-18th-century refuge fort; and Fort New Salem, a reconstructed early-nineteenth-century frontier community; the West Virginia Humanities Council is also providing funding for this session. Details of the other presentations on writing, art, music, theatre and dance can be found on the Center for Women’s Studies website at www.as.wvu.edu/wmst.

On both Thursday and Friday evenings, the Morgantown community is invited to join participants at the Lyell B. Clay Concert Theater at the Creative Arts Center. On Thursday evening, the WVU Symphony Orchestra will present its fall concert, featuring works by women composers, including “Still Life with Violin” by Libby Larsen with WVU faculty member Laura Kobayashi as soloist. On Friday, the Division of Theater will present a special performance for conference participants of one of their fall productions. Details are not yet available, but they plan to feature a woman playwright.

All conference participants will be invited to share their creativity in a project called “Who are you? You are creative!” With instructions and materials provided, all participants will have the chance to decorate a quilt square in any way they choose. The squares will then be mounted to form a quilt which will be on exhibition during the conference week at the Monongalia Arts Center.
On Saturday, participants will have the opportunity to visit local historic sites such as Arthurdale and Picketts Fort, visit galleries and artists' homes for demonstrations, go sight-seeing, and just enjoy the fall foliage of the Appalachian mountains. There may be a special program related to the conference at the Metropolitan Theater on Saturday night.

A large number of women's studies faculty associates have been involved in the planning for this conference along with representatives from the College of Creative Arts, WVU Council for Women's Concerns, Arts Monongahela, Inc., Monongalia Arts Center, Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Morgantown community. This represents one of the ways in which the Center for Women's Studies carries out its mission to serve the entire university community. Financial support for the conference has been provided by the deans of the College of Creative Arts and the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of English and Center for Women's Studies, and from private donors through the good offices of Ruby de la Matta.

This will be WVU's third decennial conference focusing on women and creativity but the first with a national focus. The 1984 and 1994 conferences, while local, shared the same mission as this 2004 edition, i.e., we need to recognize the talents and achievements of a compelling, creative group of people, who just happen to be women.

Information on registration for the conference can be found at our website www.as.wvu.edu/wmst or by calling 304-293-2230 ext. 1150.

WOMEN'S STUDIES GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Heather Frederick
I will be defending my dissertation in the Political Science Department late this summer. It is entitled, "Women's PACs: Their Motivations, Strategies, and Impacts." I have greatly enjoyed teaching Introduction to Women's Studies and the Blockbusters: Women and Film class this year. I received the Outstanding GTA in Women's Studies Award and was the keynote speaker for the West Virginia League of Women Voters state council meeting. I presented research papers at the Northeast Political Science Association Conference in November in Philadelphia and at the Southern Political Science Association Conference in January in New Orleans. Next year, I will be a Visiting Assistant Professor of Women's Studies at WVU.

Amanda Ray
This has been an interesting year and final semester. It is my last and I miss it already. I have learned a lot over the past 5 years while teaching WMST 170 Introduction to Women's Studies. The best part has been and will always be the sense of accomplishment I received when a student came up to me during or after the semester and thanked me for helping them to do something they never thought they could do or for helping them to see things differently. Knowing that these students are now out there working for change and are changed themselves because of their experience in women's studies is an incredible feeling to be a part of especially as a young, feminist activist. In addition, each of these classes of students has changed me, helped me to grow as a person and as a teacher, and I am grateful to them and to the Center for Women's Studies for giving me this opportunity.

WOMEN STUDIES MAJORS AND GRADUATES

Ashley Lawson
The space that the Center for Women's Studies takes up physically within the university is rather small: simply a few rooms in a building at the bottom of the hill. The way that space is used, however, should make the University take note. Because within this tiny space is more energy, more compassion, more intelligence, and more sheer will than you will find in even the biggest department here at WVU. Luckily, before I graduated, I found out first hand. I could have just been an English major, graduating in four years crammed full of literary knowledge, but I can guarantee that the college experience would not have been the same. Women's studies, for me, is a lifestyle, a challenge, and a gift. It is a way to speak, a way to think, and, most importantly, a way to act, act out, act broadly, act swiftly and act with conscience. Women's studies has given me an education, yes, but it has also given me a voice.

Valetta Shuppe
Over the weekend of May 1-2, Valetta Shuppe went to artillery school at Jackson's Mill. At the reenactment she was at the last weekend of April, she trained on a Civil War era 3" ordnance rifle and was accepted into the battery. After the artillery school, she will be a member of the National Civil War Artillery Association as a gunner for Carpenter's Battery, 5th Va. Stonewall's Brigade. She'll train on the Confederate side and then switch to the Union side and is now a nationally certified Civil War gunner with a card and papers that state that she can serve on any piece as gunner positions 1-6. It's unusual for a woman to be a gunner, so congratulations, Valetta, on continuing to forge new paths for women.
Thank you, Friends of Women’s Studies!

Gifts totaling $8015.00 were received November 3, 2003 through April 30, 2004 for general program support, scholarship and award endowments or funds, and special events. Persons honored and families of those honored by memorial gifts are apprised of gifts that honor them or loved ones. IMO = in memory of, IHO = in honor of, GIK = gift in kind.

Women’s Studies Program Support
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Jennifer Mary Coyle
Marian Jensen
Katherine Karraway
Marjorie McDiarmid
Helen T. Waters

Women’s Studies Difference Fund
Jane Yohe Cooley

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Carrie Koetarius Scholarship for Returning Women Students
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Women’s Studies Residency Endowment
Debbie Miller

Center Staff (2003 – 2004)

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Barbara Howe, Director, barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu, 293-2339 ext 1155
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