



REFLECTION, RESILIENCE, & RESTORATION

40 YEARS OF WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES
AT UNC CHARLOTTE



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AT UNC CHARLOTTE

SPRING 2024

A ZINE CREATED BY STACI BATCHELOR

M.A. Student in History and Women's and Gender Studies
Carver/Cloninger Fellow 2023-2024

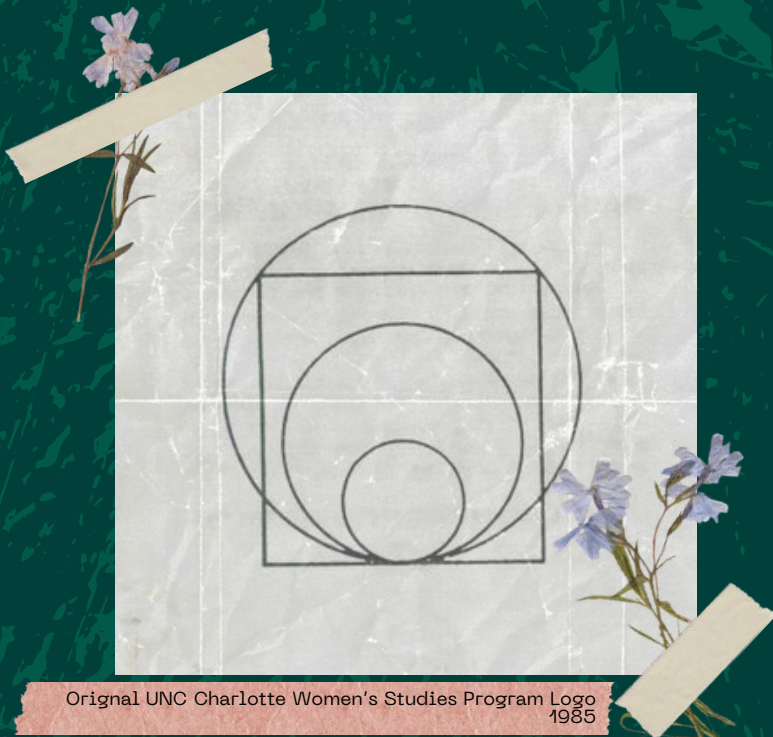
COVER ART

Artist: Zoe Turner, Undergraduate Art Major in Print Media
Title: *Witches Watching*

ABOUT THE PROJECT

In 1984, Ann Carver along with a team of committed faculty members founded the Women's Studies program at UNC Charlotte. As of Spring of 2024, the program is officially 40 years old.

In commemoration of this achievement, Dr. Sonya Ramsey coordinated the Ann C. Carver/Susan Cloninger Fellowship and 40th celebration event. The fellows have created a collection for Women's and Gender Studies in Atkins Library, a oral history documentary, and a public digital history exhibit in the form of a zine that encompasses the celebration's theme: **Reflection, Resilience, and Restoration.**



Original UNC Charlotte Women's Studies Program Logo
1985

DIRECTORS

Committee Chairs - 1975-1983

Julianne Shaffer: 1975-1976

Anne Carver: 1976-1978

Robin Fischer: May 1978-Dec. 1978

Mary Liston & Dr. Tom Forrest: Dec. 1978 - 1979

Susan Cernyak & Dorthea Lakin: 1979-1980

Joan Tillotson, Charlotte Hoffner, Sue Perry: 1980-1982

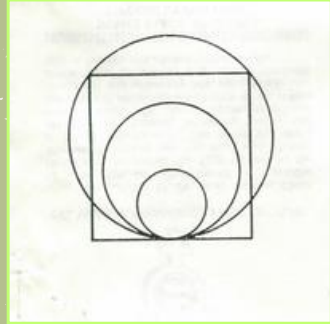
Ann Ronchetti: 1982-1983

Ann Carver: 1983

PROGRAM DIRECTORS - 1984-2024



ANN CARVER 1983-1986




JULIA BLACKMELDER 1986-1987



SHELLEY CRISP 1987-1988



LORINE GETZ 1988-1992

1942-2023 



LAURA KAPLAN: 1993-1999



LORI VAN WALLENDAEL: 2000-2004



CORAL WAYLAND: 2004-2008



JENIFER HARTMAN: 2009-2013



KATIE HOGAN: 2013-2018



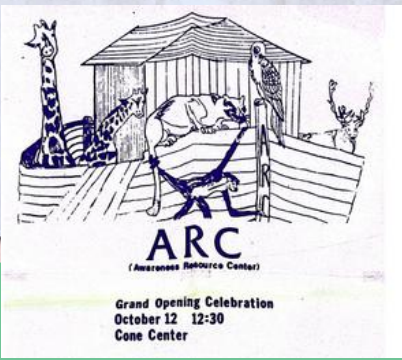
JANAKA LEWIS: 2017-2021



SONYA RAMSEY: 2021-PRESENT



THE WOMEN'S STUDIES COMMITTEE



In the early 1970s, the number of female students was growing substantially at UMC Charlotte and there was a desperate need for better support for women in a male-centered institution.

At this time, the group was titled the Women's Studies committee and was officially formed in 1975 based on the recommendation of an "ad hoc" committee made up of higher administration.

The committee had become popular amongst faculty and was appointed by Provost Frank G. Dickey to expand its membership. During this time, the program had the goals of creating academic opportunities based on women's scholarship and providing better resources for women on campus.



1/5/77

Dr. Colvard:

Dr. Ann Carver brought this by to invite everyone in this office to attend. She especially wanted you to be aware of the Center. It's not just for women.

Did you know?

Ann Carver was actually head of the committee for a year in 1976 before founding the program later in 1984. During her term in 1976, she established the Awareness Resource Center (ARC) which was a small lounge created to disperse women's resources and lecture series. ARC officially opened March 17th, 1977.



Despite the lack of support on campus, women at UNC Charlotte still created their own methods of sharing resources and support to one another through various means at the committee's beginnings.

"Women's Resource Guide" 1976
Created by students of "Surviving Female" course.

WOMEN'S



Resource Guide

"A SISTER-SENSE"

Unknown Author.

Pamphlet on safety advice for women.



A SISTER-SENSE



UNCC
WOMAN

"UNCC WOMAN" Newsletters,
Women's Studies
Committee, 1980s.



W
O
+
M
A

"Women's Studies: a guide
to resources at Atkins
Library"
Created by Ann
Ronchetti, 1982



a guide
to resources at
atkins library

women's
studies

A what??? A-SISTER-SENSE!!!

- Educating each other
- Helping others to help themselves
- Helping others to help yourself
- Reaching out to friends, acquaintances and strangers when they need help
- Having a sense of sisterhood on the suite/floor/room/building where everybody cares about what's going on around us
- Looking out for each other/not being apathetic
- Being participants rather than observers
- Being assertive concerning your own rights and the rights of others
- Taking the initiative
- Becoming aware of our rights as women as persons
- Being aware/S-WARE

UNCC
WOMAN
+ JANUARY 1983

UNCC

"Last Spring, a number of women students came to me expressing (a) their frustration that to cope continuously with being a woman in a male-oriented and controlled institution and (b) their awareness of an urgent need both to develop coping skills and to at least begin to locate, analyze, and synthesize the information in various disciplines now offered by and about women in individual discussions...So this letter is a call for **HELP...I (and the women students at UNCC) need your help.**"

-Memo from Ann Carver regarding her class, "Surviving Female"

October 1975

The foundations of Women's Studies can not be discussed without the role of the Black Studies program (now known as the Africana Studies department).

During this period of time, the United States Women's rights movement was facing a racialized split. White feminists were not fully supporting the needs and rights of black women. Black feminists began breaking away from the larger feminist movement due to discrimination and lack of representation.

As the Women's Studies committee was beginning their work, their goal from the beginning was to work in collaboration with Black Studies in various ways to avoid mirroring the problems of the ongoing Women's Rights movement.



WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Third Session, Saturday, 4/13, 12:00-1:30 pm

Glenwaters International Women's Day Luncheon and Woman of the Year Awards

INA MAE BEST, TEXTILE WORKER, BLACK WORKERS FOR JUSTICE.
"JOBS WITH JUSTICE: SOUTHERN WOMEN FIGHT BACK."

Our keynote speaker for the International Women's Day Awards Luncheon is Ina Mae Best of Goldsboro, NC. She is a textile worker, a mother and grandmother, and church usher.

For 18 years Sister Best worked as a cloth inspector at the Goldtex plant, where she was an excellent employee. In those 18 years, Ina Best was never late to work, never received a written reprimand about her work. In 10 years she never missed a day of work and for 6 years she never took vacation time. On July 16, 1990, she was fired from Goldtex for "poor work."



Snippet from 1991 Conference Brochure, Luncheon and Woman of the Year Awards Session.

The Woman of the year award was established in 1979 as a part of Charlotte's International Women's Day celebration. The purpose of this award is to honor women who give back to their community and seek out to help others that are typically unsung heroes.



DR. BERTHA MAXWELL-RODDEY

FOUNDER OF AFRICANA STUDIES AT UNC CHARLOTTE
SUPPORTER OF WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

1930 - 2024

Dr. Bertha Maxwell Roddey was a local civil rights activist whose actions were monumental for the Charlotte community. After being a teacher and principal in Mecklenburg county, she joined the College of Education at the university in 1970. With support from Ann Carver, she founded the Black Studies program as well as the National Council for Black Studies. She also went on to institute the Afro-American Cultural Center (now known as the Harvey Gantt Center) with Mary Harper.

On March 21st 2024, Dr. Maxwell-Roddey passed away peacefully in her home. The day before her passing, she was reunited for the final time with her close friend Dr. Ann Carver in light of the Women's and Gender Studies program 40th celebration.



IT'S OFFICIAL: WOMEN'S STUDIES AT UNC CHARLOTTE

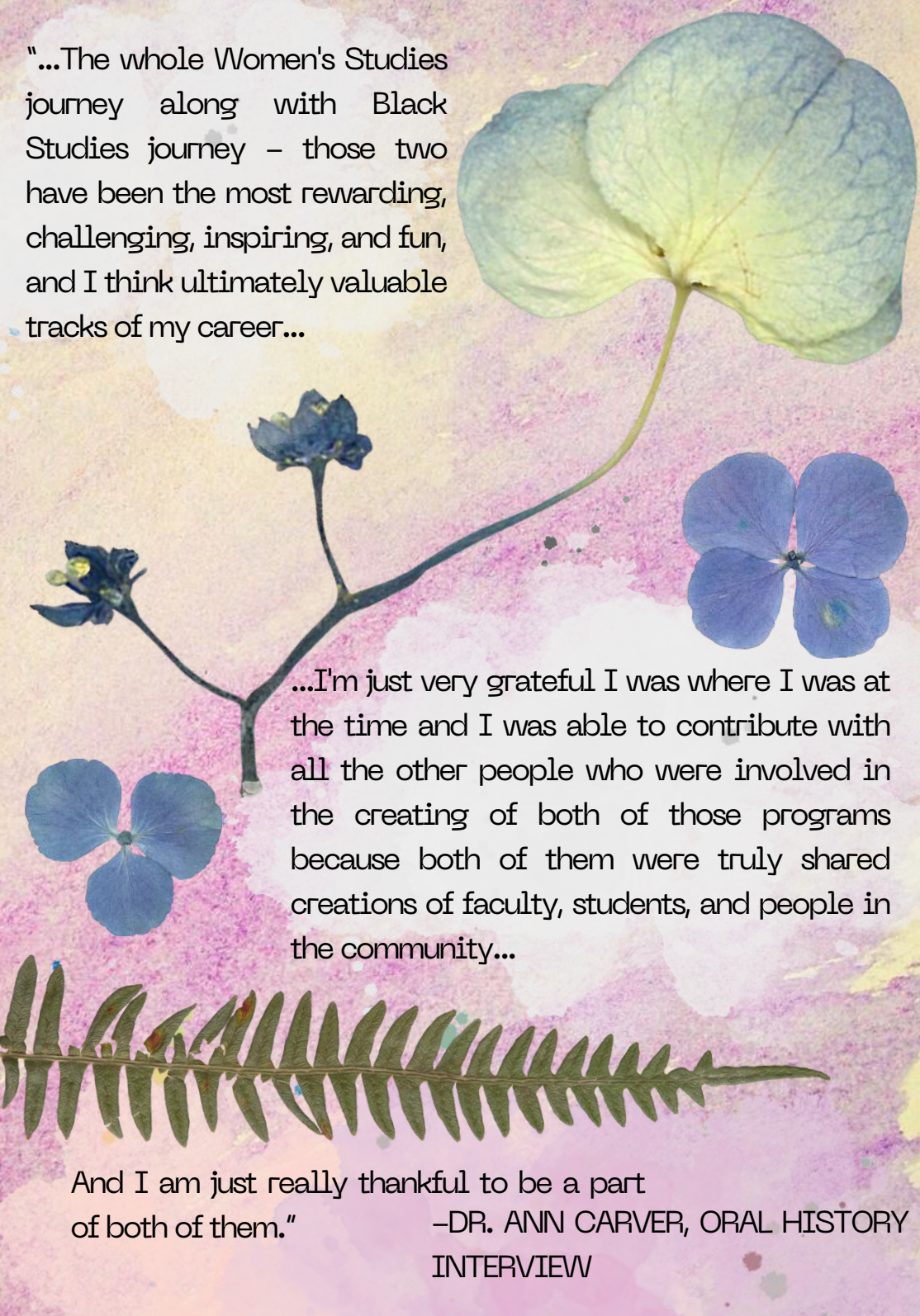
The Women's Studies Committee finalized a proposal for the creation of an academic program at the university in 1979. It begins by outlining the need for the program. The two basic needs outlined are:

“(1) programming that recognizes the equal value of women's experience and accomplishments, with an interdisciplinary approach and (2) needing a program to meet the needs of women at the university including but not limited to resources, services, and an environment which facilitates their academic growth.”



On November 10th, 1983 the proposal for the concentration in Women's Studies was approved and officially became a course of study at the university starting spring 1984. The committees advising Women's Studies would also split into two separate committees: The Women's Studies Advisory Committee which focused on the program and the Women's Resource Committee which focused on resources. The two committees still collaborated as the years progressed.

"...The whole Women's Studies journey along with Black Studies journey – those two have been the most rewarding, challenging, inspiring, and fun, and I think ultimately valuable tracks of my career...



...I'm just very grateful I was where I was at the time and I was able to contribute with all the other people who were involved in the creating of both of those programs because both of them were truly shared creations of faculty, students, and people in the community...

And I am just really thankful to be a part of both of them."

—DR. ANN CARVER, ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

1985 & 1986: TWO YEARS OF FIRSTS

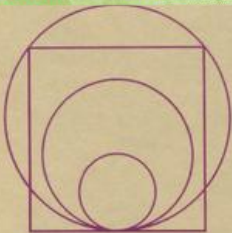


1985

- **First Annual Women's Herstory Month**
 - The first annual Women's Herstory month event in March 25th-29th 1985. The theme is, "Living Well is the best revenge" and hosted a keynote event celebrating Civil Rights Pioneer, Septima Poinsett Clark, daughter of a slave who was involved in civil rights work.
- Name change
 - In the spring semester of 1985, the Women's Studies concentration name was changed to the Women's studies minor under Interdisciplinary Studies.
- First program Brochure
- First iteration of Essay contest
 - The first iteration of an essay contest for the Women's Studies program is announced by the Women's Resources Committee. The winner is said to be announced at the brown bag luncheon on April 17th 1985. The award is \$50.

First iteration of Women's Studies Brochure, 1985.

Shared both information regarding Women's Studies offerings and Women's Resources on campus.



WOMEN'S HERSTORY WEEK

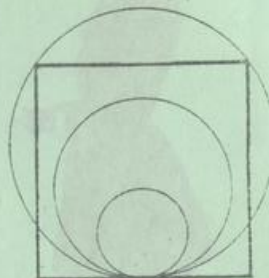
LIVING WELL IS THE BEST REVENGE

*Brochure from first Women's Herstory Week, 1985,
"Living Well is the Best Revenge"*

Welcome to the 1st Annual
WOMEN'S HERSTORY WEEK
Sponsored by the UNCC
Women's Resource Team

The Women's Resource Team is committed to:

- providing campus programming relevant to women
- increasing awareness of women's issues, particularly on campus
- publicizing and supporting women's programs sponsored by university and community groups, and
- serving as a liaison between the university and the community



Women's Studies

The University
of North Carolina
at Charlotte

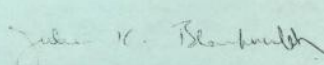
UNCC WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1986

Welcome to the first issue of UNCC Women's Studies Newsletter. Through the Newsletter, the Women's Studies Program hopes to keep the University community, the Metrolina community, and Women's Studies programs elsewhere informed about our activities. We also wish to publicize special programs and research opportunities relevant to women's issues. Please send any items for the Newsletter to Kim Prichard, editor, Department of Mathematics, UNCC, Charlotte, NC 28223.

Women's Studies is looking forward to the opening of the interdisciplinary programs office next spring. UNCC's interdisciplinary programs, including American Studies, Gerontology, Honors, and Women's Studies will share a suite of offices in the renovated Kennedy Building. A temporary office in Winingham will house the programs from January until the Kennedy offices can be occupied.

In closing, let me thank Kim Prichard, Mary Howard, and Mayme Webb for their fine work in putting together our first issue.


Julia Blackwelder
Women's Studies Coordinator

NOTICE!



The date
for Women's Week
has been
changed to March 24-28, 1986.



Snippets from the first Women's Studies newsletter, January 1986 issue.

1986

• National Endowment for the Humanities Grant

- National Endowment for the Humanities Grant is awarded to the Women's Studies program in the amount of \$131,965. The NEH grant project application and execution was led by Julia Blackwelder and Stan Patten. The application titled, "Incorporating Cultural Pluralities and Women into the Curriculum". Up to 1986 year, it is the 2nd largest ever awarded. The grant was used to revise current standing Women's Studies courses.

• First Annual Arts and Sciences Conference

- The first every Annual Arts and Sciences Conference took place January 25th, 1986.

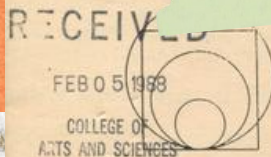
• Initiation of Women's Studies Newsletter

- Dr. Blackwelder creates the first official newsletter under the Women's Studies program. In its beginning, it has two issues annually.

WOMEN IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES CONFERENCES

This conference took place annually and focused on the scholarship of Women. The following were conference themes from 1986-1991:

- 1986 - First Conference Incorporating Women and cultural Pluralism into the Curriculum
- (Topics include: Women in Art, Women in History, Women in Latin America, Heath, Eastern societies, dance presentation, strategies for women's success Religious studies, Women minorities in education - source is
- 1987 - Women in the Contemporary South
- 1988 - The Politics of Womanhood
- 1989 - Profiles of Women Hidden in History
- 1990 - Women's Bodies, Women's Lives
- 1991 - Women and The(ir) Environment
 - Joint conference between the Women's Studies program and the Southeastern Women's Studies Association (SEWSA).



THE POLITICS OF WOMANHOOD

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

and

CELEBRATION OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

sponsored by

UNCC Women's Studies Program
International Women's Day Committee

March 4-5, 1988

at

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Bonnie E. Cone University Center



PROFILES OF WOMEN HIDDEN FROM HISTORY

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT
CALL FOR PARTICIPATION AND PAPERS
THE POLITICS OF WOMANHOOD
Third Annual Conference on Women in the Arts and Sciences and Celebration of the Eleventh Annual International Women's Day
sponsored by
International Women's Day Committee UNCC Women's Studies Program
March 4 - 5, 1988
at
The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

RECEIVED DEC 18 1988 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
CALL FOR PAPERS
JOINT CONFERENCE
THE SOUTHEASTERN WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION
-and-



DR. LORINE GETZ

PREVIOUS DIRECTOR OF WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

1942 - 2023

Dr. Lorine Getz was a scholar known for her research in both women and religious studies. In her life, she taught in several places beyond UNC Charlotte including Ohio, Canada, and Massachusetts. Dr. Getz was also a well-known scholar in the American Academy of Religion.

Dr. Getz passed peacefully May 22nd, 2023. The Women's and Gender Studies program at UNC Charlotte is grateful for the passion and work she put into the program.



CAMPUS WOMEN CLIMATE SURVEY



In the spring of 1988, members on campus concerned for the well-being of women began discussions and meeting in regards to a Campus Climate Survey for Women. The Steering committee was headed by Mary Dawn Bailey.

A little over a year later, the report was published on September 25th 1989 and officially titled, "Report of the Steering Committee on the Campus Climate for Women". The report included statistical information on women representation on campus, experiences of women, and recommendations for solutions and improvements the campus could make to better support women.

Below are some of summary points made by the report:

- 12% of higher administrative people are women
- 39% growth in female faculty during 1980-88, however 60% were non-tenure track roles
- Women on campus were 3x likely to witness harassment on campus than men
- Over 80% of both women and men students did not know what UNCC sexual harassment policy was
- 10% staff said they had been victim of sexual harassment by someone from campus
- 12% of female students they had been sexually harassed by another student



Overall female student confidence was lower than men

- Female staffers in clerical roles were dissatisfied with LACK OF advancement opportunities
- The report shares various comments from female students on sexist comments made by faculty and instructors

Some of the recommendations made were a Women's Center and more resources allocated to affirmative action. In the same year, a proposal for a Women's Center was created with the support of Barbara Goodnight. However, this request was not successful.

GUEST SPEAKERS

In the past 40 years, the program has been fortunate enough to host empowering speakers with diverse backgrounds on various topics important to Women's and Gender studies. This include but are not limited to Nikki Giovanni, Gloria Steinman, bell hooks, Jennifer Baumgardner, and Patricia Hill Collins.



Nikki Giovanni, Mountain Home Air Force Base. Public Domain Photo, 2008.

Gloria Steinman event
2010 Flyer, "Feminism:
Four Decades Later"



Nikki Giovanni is an American poet and writer. Her work primarily focuses on Black lived experience. She spoke in the Women's Studies lecture series in 1978, before the program was instituted. Some of her famous works include *Black Judgment* (1968) and *Those Who Ride the Night Winds* (1983).

Gloria Steinem is a social-activist and journalist best known for her leadership in the United States second-wave feminist movement. In 2010 she came to UNC Charlotte to do a feminism retrospective talk titled, "Feminism: Four Decades Later."

Women's & Gender Studies &
the Feminist Union Present...



GLORIA STEINEM
Feminism: Four Decades Later

Monday, March 1, 2010
7pm McKnight Hall

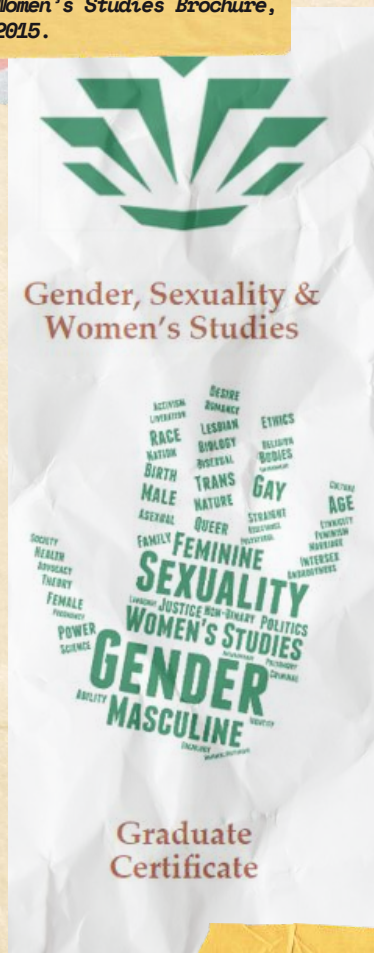
co-sponsored by the Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund, the Office of Women's Programs, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the Distinguished Speakers Forum, the Multicultural Resource Center, the Department of Sociology, the Center for Professional and Applied Ethics

GRADUATE LEVEL: GENDER, SEXUALITY, & WOMEN'S STUDIES CERTIFICATE

*Gender, Sexuality, and
Women's Studies Brochure,
2015.*

Since the initial days when the program was just beginning, graduate level work was a goal of the program. Though a few graduate Women's Studies courses were offered in the first decade of the program, an official graduate study committee was formed in 1997 with the purpose of expanding available offerings for graduate students. One of the first 6000-level courses that came out of this committee was "Feminist Theory and Its Applications".

Ten years later in 2007, a Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies graduate certificate was approved and began as a course of study in 2008. Dr. Coral Wayland was the inaugural coordinator for the graduate certificate.



GRADUATE COORDINATORS



CORAL MAYLAND
2007-2008



JEN HARTMAN
2008-2009



KATHERINE STEPHENSON
2009-2015



SONYA RAMSEY
2018-2020



ELISABETH PAQUETTE
2020-2023

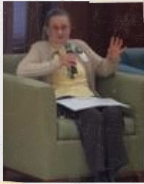


KENT BRINTWALL
2015-2018
2023-PRESENT

WGST IN THE PRESENT

The UNC Charlotte Women's and Gender Studies program celebrated its 40th Anniversary on March 21st, 2024. Alumni, faculty, staff, students, and community members gathered to hear student testimonials on the impact of the program. Following this, previous directors of the program gathered in front of the campus community to discuss the program's past, present, and future. Dr. Ann Carver concluded that the program and its students were, "a dream come true."

Left page images: Photos from the Women's and Gender Studies 40th celebration event featuring faculty and students.



Right page images: Collage of event and course files for Women's and Gender Studies from Dr. Elisabeth Paquette papers, dated 2015-2023



Race, Gender, and Prison Abolition

PHIL 4990/5050 & WGST 4050/5050

Spring 2018 - Tuesdays 5:30-8:15PM

Dr. Andrea J. Pitts



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
STUDENT UNION 340

Resource Fair
10am - 12pm

Breakout Sessions
Each Hour

Co-sponsored by: Conferences, Reservations, and Event Services
Counseling Center • Gen-X • Girls Rock Charlotte
Office of International Programs • Student Involvement

Facebook icon | Multicultural Resource Center UNCC | Instagram icon | @mrcunc | Twitter icon | mrc.unc.edu | Phone icon | 704-687-1111

{WEMOVE}

FEMINISMS INTERROGATING WHITE SUPREMACY



Keynote Speaker
ASH WILLIAMS

TUESDAY
APRIL 3
POPP MARTIN
STUDENT
UNION 340

Resource Fair
10am - 12pm

Keynote
12 - 1pm

Breakout Sessions
1:30 - 2:45pm
3:00 - 4:30pm

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"OUTSPOKEN" PRESENTS



JULIO SALGADO

AM A QUEER ARTIST OF COLOR AND I'M STILL ALIVE



@JULIO1983



@JULIOSALGADO83



JULIOSALGADOART.COM

SPONSORED BY:

CHANCELLOR'S DIVERSITY CHALLENGE FUND / ALLIANCE FOR FULL ACCEPTANCE
45th FAMILY FUND / WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES PROGRAM
COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES / PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT
CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL AND APPLIED ETHICS



"OUTSPOKEN" PRESENTS

SAMRA HABIB

Just me and Allah:
Spirituality as a radical tool

Wednesday
November 7

7:00pm
McKnight Hall
Cone University Center

"Just me and Allah"
Photography Exhibit
Tuesday, November 6
3:00pm-5:00pm

For more information contact
Dr. Terri Rhodes, trhodes@unc.edu, or
Dr. Erica Lennon, ericallenon@unc.edu

Sponsored by:
Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund, 45th Family Fund



MONDAY,
OCTOBER 16
7PM
McKNIGHT HALL

KEYNOTE SPEAKER DR. BETTINA LOVE

ABOLITIONIST TEACHING: WHAT CAN & WHAT CAN'T
HAPPEN WITHOUT BLACK FEMINISM

340 GHI • 6PM



WHY WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES?

"In October of 2023, I went to Special Collections for the first time to conduct research on archived documents related to the founding of the Women's and Gender Studies Program at UNC Charlotte for the Carver/Cloninger fellowship. As I sat at one of the tables in the Dalton Reading Room at Atkins Library and combed through various correspondence, flyers, and meeting minutes, an overarching question came to mind: 'Why are we doing this?' *Why are we doing this?* What makes commemoration and memory work worth doing? *Why are we doing Women's and Gender Studies? ...*"

Submission to Ann Carver Essay Contest, 2024
Staci Batchelor

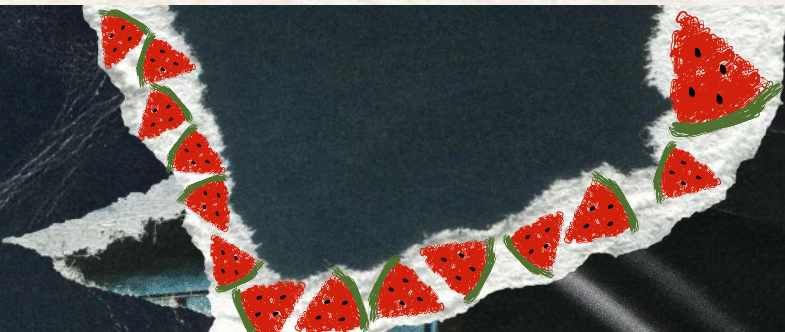


W G S T



“...I think many people’s answers to these questions would vary, but would ultimately have the same underlying theme. In relation to the history of Women’s and Gender Studies, in general, there will always be some sort of powers at play that do not want women and gender-nonconforming individuals, racial minorities, LGBT+ folks, disabled people, and other marginalized identities to not learn about themselves, their pasts, and their accomplishments. It makes having the existence and commemoration of a Women’s and Gender Studies hold these “crevices of power” Katherine McKittrick refers to in her book, *Demonic Grounds* against those who diminish its value or do not want such a space to exist. The more marginalized people know, the more they have the ability to resist...

There is power in memory work, commemoration, and remembrance, all of which I have learned about and utilized in Women’s and Gender studies. It ultimately informs me that the scholarship I do is valuable, worth doing, and sharing with the community.”



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr. Sonya Ramsey

I give you my utmost gratitude and thanks for coordinating the fellowship and selecting me for this project.

Dr. Tina Shull

Thank you for your significant collaboration, guidance, and support on this project.

Joy Davis

My thanks for being the best co-fellow and your extraordinary vision.

J. Murrey Atkins Library Special Collections Staff

We are so grateful for **Katie Howell, Adreonna Bennett, Tina Wright, and Dawn Schmitz**. Joy and I could not have done this fellowship without your guidance.

Debarati Dutta

My personal appreciation for Debarati, who came in to support my fellowship work in the Spring 2024 semester and who also brings light wherever she goes and to whomever she meets.



SOURCES



Primary Documents were sourced from J. Murrey Atkins Library, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Collections Utilized:

Ann Carver Papers

Academic Affairs Faculty Governance Records

Academic Affairs Vice Chancellor subject files

Academic Affairs, Academic Planning and Curriculum records

Business Affairs Vice Chancellor subject files

Chancellor (Dean W. Colvard) Records, 1964-1979

Chancellor (E.K. Fretwell) Records, 1966-1989

Chancellor (James H. Woodward) Records, 1985-2007

Collection of UNC Charlotte brochures and printed materials

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences records

Cone University Center records

Elisabeth Paquette Papers

Graduate School Dean's Office Records

J. Murrey Atkins Library records

Multicultural Resource Center records

Office of Assessment and Accreditation records

Office of Public Relations records


Student Affairs Vice Chancellor records, 1970-2012

UNC Charlotte photographs collection

University Publications--Newsletters

Dean of Students Records

Another product of the Carver/Cloninger fellowship was the creation of the WGST oral histories of past directors and affiliated faculty. Information from the oral histories were also included in this project. The oral history portion of the fellowship was coordinated by Joy Davis.





"What we do is more important than what we say we believe."

-bell hooks