



# YEAR IN REVIEW ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012



**CENTER** for  
**WOMEN'S**  
& **GENDER**  
**STUDIES**

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## CENTER FOR WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES

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<b>Director</b> Susan Sage Heinzelman	<b>Performing Justice Project</b> Dr. Megan Alrutz, Theatre and Dance Lynn Hoare, MFA, Voices against Violence Victoria Dominguez, CWGS Emily Freeman, Theatre and Dance	<b>Graduate Student Assistants</b> Amelia Koford Tynisha Scott
<b>Associate Director</b> Kristen Hogan		<b>Student Office Assistants</b> Paepin Goff Lisa Le Andrea Zarate
<b>Senior Administrative Associate</b> Pat Heisler	<b>Inspire Facilitators</b> Juan Portillo Jennifer Sapio Ashley Boynton	The University of Texas at Austin Center for Women’s and Gender Studies The University of Texas at Austin 116 Inner Campus Dr. Stop A4900 Austin, TX 78712-1257 Phone: (512) 471-5680 Fax: (512) 475-8146 <a href="http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs/">www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs/</a>
<b>Academic Coordinator</b> Alma Jackie Salcedo	<b>NEW Leadership Texas</b> Harmony Eichsteadt - Coordinator Corie Cooper - Grad Assistant Christine Adame-Intern Ellen Denzer-Intern Paepin Goff-Staff	
<b>Program Coordinator</b> Nancy Ewert		
<b>Embrey Women’s Human Rights Initiative</b> Kristen Hogan - Project Director		

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Cover Photos: Clockwise from top: Participants of the NEW Leadership™ Texas summer institute, Photo by Andrea Zarate; CWGS Performing Justice Project at the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, AISD; Dr. Radhika Balakrishnan, Executive Director of the Center for Women’s Global Leadership at Rutgers University, as part of the CWGS EWHRI Speakers Series and the CWGS Graduate Student Conference Keynote; CWGS Graduate Student EWHRI International Scholars: Namita Kohli, Ece Saltan, Danielle Yu Wang, and Juan Portillo, Photo by Megan Jackson; WGS Faculty Affiliates: Dr. Pauline Strong, Dr. Dana Cloud, Dr. Christine Williams, and Dr. González-López. Photo by Megan Jackson; 2012 Graduating Class, Photo by Ryan Miller, Courtesy of LAITS;

# STUDENT AND ACADEMIC NEWS

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## ENROLLMENT

- Undergraduate Majors - 52
- Master's Program - 19
- Portfolio Program - 50 (estimate)

## GRADUATES

- 16 Undergraduates received their Bachelor's of Arts
- 8 Masters Students received their Master of Arts
- 2 Dual Degree Students received their Master of Arts/Master of Information Science

## NEW COURSES

- Gender Development, Media, and Human Rights, Fall 2011 Faculty: Becky Bigler, Psychology
- Sex and the Russian City, Spring 2012 Faculty: Tatiana Kuzmic. Slavic Studies, and Jennifer Beer, Psychology
- Women for Sale? The Economic, Social, and Political Proposition of Human Trafficking, Spring 2012 Faculty: Noël Busch-Armendariz, Laurie Cook Heffron, Social Work, and Bruce Kellison, Business

## FACULTY AFFILIATES

306 faculty from various schools and colleges

## CWGS STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The CWGS student organization is open to both undergraduates and graduates. The goal is to create community and resources for those studying or interested in WGS. The organization plans socials, networking, honor society implementation and interest building, relation with the center, service opportunities, get to know others in the program and find advice on classes and paths.

## HONORS SOCIETY

Although not active at this time, the national honor society, Iota Iota Iota is open to students in WGS or any student with a strong interest in Women's and Gender Studies that meet the academic standards (3.0 GPA).

## EVENTS

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- Faculty Development Program Participants presented 6 lectures throughout the Fall.
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 9 film screenings or plays throughout the year
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 5 book presentations
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 40 talks, lectures, presentations and art exhibits from UT and the community
- Sponsored or co-Sponsored Conferences/Symposia including:
  - 8th Annual Conference on Comparative Literature and Literacy Studies (English)
  - Workshop on Slavery and Sexuality in the US and Caribbean (GSA)
  - (Dis)Locating Justice, CWGS's 19th Annual Emerging Scholarship Conference
  - English Department Symposium: "Surface Symptom and the State of Critique"
  - Gender Symposium (History)
  - The State of Lesbian Feminist Social Justice
  - NEW Leadership™ Texas (CWGS)
  - Women's Human Rights: Performing Justice Project @ Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders (CWGS)

## CWGS FACULTY AND STUDENT SUPPORT EVENTS

- The Rape, Abuse and Incest Network (RAINN) Day Event (Sept.)
- Promotion and Tenure Panel (April)
- CAB Meetings (Fall and Spring)
- Steering Committee (Fall and Spring)
- CWGS Spring Reception (May)



*Panel discussion  
POLITICS BECOMES PERSONAL:  
The Fight for Women's Health in Texas*

# STUDENTS

## Congratulations, Class of 2012!

### Women's & Gender Studies, Bachelors of Arts Degree:

#### May 2012

Teri Joanna Adams  
Jacqueline Marie Artis  
Julie Diane Bolanos  
Arturo A. Chapa III  
Lauren Renee Cozart  
Victoria Rose Haring  
Erica G. Hernandez  
Megan Elizabeth Jackson  
Alexandra Autumn Messenger  
Wanjira Murimi  
Megan Ann Susong  
Riley Edward Toliver  
Andrea Zarate

#### August 2012

Mary Louann Murphy  
Farah Nawaz Shalwani  
Keeshia Reyes Sison



Class of 2012

Photo by Ryan Miller, Courtesy of LAITS

### Women's & Gender Studies, Masters of Arts Degree

#### May 2012

Katherine Briggs  
Amelia Koford  
Lorena Siller  
Danielle Yu Wang

#### August 2012

Lydia Crafts Putnam  
Kristin Krenz  
Jennifer Morris  
Juan Portillo  
Tynisha Scott  
Beck Wise



WGS MA Students

Photo by Megan Jackson

## AWARDS

The 2012 Annual Spring Awards reception was held on May 8 in GEB 4th floor Conference Room.

Awards and our award recipients were:

- The Undergraduate Cynthia Walker Peña Scholarship: **Julie Bolanos**
- The Lora Romero Memorial Undergraduate Award for Interdisciplinary Research in Race, Ethnicity, and Gender: **Wanjira Wurimi**, *"The Construction of the 'Disposable' in the Disposable Woman"*
- The Ellen Clarke Temple Graduate Award: **Lizeth Elizondo**, *"Till Death Do Us Part?: Cohabitation and Broken Brothals in the Northern Spanish Colonial Borderlands 1680-1778"*
- The Dissertation Fellowship Award: **Lynn Selby**, *"The Collective Dimensions of the Ethic of Care: Women's Political Subject-Making in Martissant, Haiti"*
- CWGS MA Thesis Awards:
  - Amelia Koford**, *"'Strong Views About What You Call Things': How Disability Studies Scholars Interact with Information Classification Systems"*
  - Lorena Siller Urtega**, *"Ni Domesticas Ni Putas: Sexual Harassment in the Lives of Female Household Workers in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon"*
- The Lucia, John, and Melissa Gilbert Teaching Excellence Award: **Gloria González-López**, Associate Professor of Sociology and CWGS Affiliate Faculty.
- Contributor of the Year Award: **Edmund "Ted" Gordon**, Chair of the Department of African and African Diaspora Studies.



*Dr. Lisa Moore presenting the Teaching Excellence Award to Dr. Gloria Gonzalez-Lopez.*



*Dr. Ruramasai Charumbira presenting the Dissertation Award to Lynn Selby.*



*CWGS Director Susan Heinzelman presenting the Contributor of the Year Award to Dr. Edmund "Ted" Gordon.*



*Amelia Koford presenting the Peña Scholarship Award to Julie Bolanos.*

### **CWGS MA STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS**

Ece Salton  
Tynisha Scott  
Rebecca Wise

### **STAFF AWARD**

**Alma Jackie Salcedo** received recognition from the UT Graduate Coordinator Network (GCN); she received the GCN Scholarship to attend the National Association of Graduate Admission Professionals Conference.

### **FACULTY AFFILIATE AWARDS**

- Dr. Christine Williams, Chair of the Department of Sociology, received Distinguished Feminist Lecturer Award from SWS (Sociologists for Women in Society).
- Dr. Rebecca Rossen, Department of Theatre and Dance, received \$6,000 NEH summer research grant.
- Dr. Noël Busch-Armendariz, Director of the UT Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, School of Social Work, is appointed co-editor-in-chief of AFFILIA: Journal of Women and Social Work.
- Shane Whalley, Education Coordinator at the UT Gender and Sexuality Center, won the Texas Exes Teaching Award for the School of Social Work .

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARDS**

Texas Women's History Foundation, a CWGS Community Partner, was honored for its "Texas Women's History Moments" (which aired on KUT) by the National Council on Public History (NCPH) for its "Outstanding Public History Project Award," and The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) for a Leadership in History Award of Merit.

# EMBREY WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE



*From Left: Structural oppression diagram created by members of the Project Group on Teaching Critical Approaches to Women's Human Rights; Dr. Radhika Balakrishnan, Executive Director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers, in our Speakers Series in connection with the CWGS Graduate Student Conference; Dr. Megan Alrutz, Theatre and Dance, and Lynn Hoare, MFA, Voices Against Violence, creators of the Performing Justice Project; Dr. Nicole Guidotti-Hernández, American Studies, and Dr. Christen Smith, Anthropology, engage in the Faculty Dialogues series.*

"I imagine a just world without stereotypes, sexism, or racism. Where everyone is equal, but is also different. A just world isn't perfect, but it does have many communities that help each other through everything. My role in the creation of a just world is raising awareness. Speaking up, not stepping down."

- High School Student in CWGS Performing Justice Project @ The Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, 2012

This year the CWGS Embrey Women's Human Rights Initiative (EWHRI) continued to foster an educational culture for gender and racial justice. Active CWGS EWHRI projects during 2011-12 include:

**International Conference:** 5-6 October 2012 we bring you Rethinking Power & Resistance: Gender & Human Rights from Texas to the Transnational. Organized by activist scholars and community organizers across Austin, this international, dual-language conference will create new partnerships for gender and racial justice work.

<http://powerandresistance2012.wordpress.com/> (& Facebook)

**Performing Justice Project:** This year we expanded the influence of the Performing Justice Project by creating a new partnership. We worked with 13 students at The Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, AISD. Megan Alrutz (Assistant Professor, Theatre & Dance), Lynn Hoare (Theatre for Dialogue Specialist, UT Voices Against Violence), and Kristen Hogan (Project Director, CWGS Embrey Women's Human Rights Initiative) sustained the leadership of this project, facilitated the development of the graduate students as teachers, and are weaving what we have learned this semester into the model for next year.

After creating their performance, the students convinced the Principal and Associate Principals to schedule the performance for a school assembly with all of the more than 600 students at the school. The students would like to take the performance around to other schools; we are working to build this into the curriculum and to share with the young women strategies for continuing this work on their own.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7iOugSQeyS4&feature=plcp>

**Signature Courses:** We recruit faculty to develop and teach new UT first-year Signature Courses on gender and racial justice. In 2011-12 our faculty developed and taught 3 new courses; each of the courses enrolled the maximum, 30 students. This year, a total of 90 first-year students took courses on gender and racial justice.

- Gender Development, Media, and Human Rights, Fall 2011  
Faculty: Becky Bigler, Psychology
- Sex and the Russian City, Spring 2012  
Faculty: Tatiana Kuzmic, Slavic Studies, and Jennifer Beer, Psychology



# INSPIRE: EMPOWERING TEXAS WOMEN LEADERS

Since 2009, the *Inspire* program has served as UT's signature leadership program for women undergraduates. *Inspire* is a three-year program (sophomore to senior).



We have three cohorts simultaneously developing skills necessary to become leaders so that they will achieve the highest levels of attainment in their chosen fields. By bringing students together from different schools, areas of interest, ethnicity, and life experiences, they explore the value of diversity and how to successfully communicate across cultures. *Inspire* allows young women to experience the freedom of working together in a female-friendly environment that supports their needs while also learning the skills needed to succeed in co-educational situations.

Opportunities that the program offers are:

- Community service/leadership development
- Mentoring and networking
- Internship/career assistance
- Attending leadership conferences

The program inspires and supports students in the classroom, on campus, and in community leadership roles. Students will develop skills applicable to diverse social settings: critical thinking, public presentation, group motivation, and negotiation. The participants build leadership skills by engaging in community service, and working with other young women in supportive and interdisciplinary environments. Moreover, they learn directly from the experiences of successful female mentors drawn from both the academy and the community.

## Sophomores



*Sophomores at Improv Class*

As the cohorts before them, the sophomores attended and participated in the six-week improvisational course. During improv the students learned to go beyond their comfort zones and explore their creative talents in building relationships, interact with others, think quickly on their feet, engage in team-building, public speaking, and develop fast-paced problem-solving skills. During our bimonthly meetings we invited Drucilla Tigner from Planned Parenthood to talk about female health and sexuality as well as SafePlace representatives, professors, and attorneys. For the group project this year they composed and illustrated a book, *Inspiring Stories*, a collection of personal and original stories meant for middle school girls.

## Juniors

Each student in this cohort was provided with extensive training, advising, and guidance to write a scholarly paper for presentation at an academic conference. Conference paper topics include, *The Resourcefulness of Single Mexican American Mothers Who send their Children to College: An Oral History*; *The Fluidity of Gender And Questions About Race: A case study of Storm, the "Gender Neutral" Canadian Baby*; *Unraveling the Gendered Nature of Fan Fiction*; *Identity Construction Of Mixed-Race College Students*. We encouraged and assisted the students to find mentors and they were able to meet with professors who guided them through the research process.

## Seniors

Congratulations to our first graduating class of *Inspire*! This graduating cohort of seniors was the first class of students to complete all three years of the *Inspire* program. For this reason, they shaped much of the curriculum. The seniors began working with freshman mentees, and the idea of paying it forward and sharing what they've learned with potential future *Inspire* students really seemed to resonate with them. The workshops they put together, including "Surviving College 101" and a "Diversity Round Table" discussion, were incredibly well thought out and well executed. The senior project was a collaborative journal they created ended up being a wonderful vehicle to commemorate their experience, and to share their experiences in *Inspire* with other students.



*From left: Inspire students at a weekend workshop; Zilker Park Fall Retreat; Breakfast with Coach Jody Conradt; 2012, Diversity and Leadership Conference, Zilker Park Fall Retreat; cover photo of “Inspiring Stories”.*

**Group Activities**

The Fall Retreat at Zilker Park

The Rape, Abuse and Incest Network (RAINN Day) Event

Two weekend workshops with topics on Professional Development and Healthy Relationships

Co-hosted with CWGS the screening of the HBO documentary “Gloria: In Her Own Words”.

Had breakfast for legendary women’s basketball coach, Jody Conradt.

Our end-of-year party was hosted by Community Advisory Board member Linda Aaker at her home.

**Conferences**

2012 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, College Park, Maryland and Washington, DC

2012 Diversity and Leadership Conference, Dallas, TX



*Jenni, Caroline, Danielle, and Christine at the 2012 Diversity and Leadership Conference in Dallas.*



*Jennifer, Asmani, Veronica, and Jessica at the 2012 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, College Park, Maryland and Washington, DC*

# NEW LEADERSHIP™ TEXAS



The NEW Leadership™ Texas summer institute was held from June 17-22, 2012. The institute included nearly 50 speakers and the venues included 9 different buildings on campus, as well as a field trip to the Texas State Capitol and City Hall.

The NEW Leadership™ Texas program offers students an opportunity to develop the skills necessary to become effective political leaders and establish networks with like-minded peers and successful political women. During the six-day residential program, students learn from educators in the field of women and politics, are mentored by women public leaders with a variety of roles in politics and policy-making, and participate in hands-on skills building workshops. NEW Leadership™ Texas encourages participants to embrace their own leadership abilities

and to consider politics and the public sector as they plan their careers.

Students met with speakers such as State Representative Senfronia Thompson, State Senator Letitia Van de Putte, Mayor Annise Parker of Houston, City of Austin officials, such as Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr and Police Monitor Margo Frazier. They attended workshops including public speaking, diversity, and leadership styles.

These students were exposed to women in a variety of roles in the public sphere, learned about women's political participation, explored ideas about leadership and politics, and participated in hands-on skills building exercises. The residential nature of the program creates an intensive learning experience that cannot be replicated with a series of one-day programs. Students, staff and resident faculty (women political leaders who stay for the entire program) lived together in dormitory rooms during the NEW Leadership™ Texas program.



*Participants during the week long NEW Leadership™ Texas summer institute  
Photos by Andrea Zarate*

## NEW Leadership™ Texas Demographics

Twenty-seven students attended from 13 universities and colleges across Texas. Ages ranged from 18 – 41 years old.

Race and Ethnicity	Students	Colleges Represented	Students
Asian and Pacific Islander	2	Baylor University	2
Black	4	Houston Community College	1
Caucasian	7	Prairie View A&M University	1
Hispanic	14	Northwest Vista College	1
Native American	1	Texas A&M University	1
		Texas State University	1
		University of Mary (ND)	1
<b>Political Affiliation:</b>		University of Houston	4
Democrat	17	UNT Dallas	1
Independent	5	UT Austin	7
None	1	UT Brownsville	3
Republican	2	UT Dallas	2
Undecided	3	UT San Antonio	2

## Applying to the 2013 NEW Leadership™ Texas

At NEW Leadership™ Texas, you will:

- Meet successful women leaders;
- Develop leadership skills;
- Learn how to make change through politics;
- Network with diverse, dynamic women.

## Who should apply?

- Undergraduate women enrolled in any Texas college or university for 2012-2013, or are graduating in May 2013;
- Texas residents attending out-of-state schools;
- All majors are welcome;
- Women of color and non-traditional students are encouraged to apply.

NEW Leadership™ Texas is a partner with the NEW Leadership™ Development Network (NLDN) based at the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University. NLDN is a national partnership dedicated to expanding political knowledge and participation among college women.

The Development Network is CAWP's initiative to establish NEW Leadership™ programs at colleges and universities across the United States. Since 1999, CAWP has been working with educational institutions across the country to help them plan and initiate NEW Leadership™ programs on their home campuses.

The Development Network currently includes 21 colleges and universities serving women in 25 states. To date, more than 3500 college women have participated in regional NEW Leadership™ programs.



# FUND RAISING

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## Grants Awarded

- Reynolds Foundation awarded two-year grant
- Embrey Family Foundation continued grant support for the Embrey Women's Human Rights Initiative and NEW Leadership™ Texas.

## Endowment

- Continued fund raising for the Jody Conratt Excellence Fund in Equity and Leadership

## Donations received from:

- UT Department for Diversity and Community Engagement
- Individual
- Businesses and Corporations

# OUR FALL 2012 M.A. COHORT

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Patena Key received her B.A. in English Literature with a minor in French Studies from Dartmouth College. During her undergraduate career she compared traditional canonical literature against the narratives of marginalized groups within the United States and France. While studying these narratives, Patena also learned more about ex-patriotism, exile, and compartmentalization within pre-Civil Rights era society and also noticed the same patterns within more contemporary literature. This interest sparked her to research the effects of travel and migration on race, gender, sexuality and identity within the American Micro-Narrative through the analysis of works by James Baldwin, Toni Morrison and Ruth Ozeki. Patena also spent her time at Dartmouth writing short stories and commentaries for Untamed, a feminist paper, and volunteered as a panelist for Women of Dartmouth, a yearly women's tribute. She also studied and served as an assistant at L'Université Lumière Lyon II

in Lyon, France. Currently, she is an active member at Cathedral of Hope (UCC) in Dallas and volunteers as a secretary for a multi-cultural faith group called Coat of Colours. Patena is enthusiastic to continue dissecting the cross-sections between race, gender, class and sexuality at the University of Texas. In her spare time, she cooks, crochets and drives fast. She enjoys all of these endeavors with a loving partner, dog and cat.



Monica Lozano was born and raised in San Jose, CA. Monica spent her undergraduate career attending the University of California at Davis, where she received her Bachelor of Arts in Women and Gender Studies, minor in Religious Studies. While in her undergraduate career Monica was involved in Mujeres Ayudando la Raza, a women's support group and community service based organization for Chicanas/Latinas at UC Davis. Here she discovered her passion for working with diverse populations and giving back to her community. Monica organized a full day event for local migrant farm workers that

included food, clothing, hygiene products and education on supporting their children in school. Since graduating from UC Davis, Monica has focused her work children with Autism, babies affected by developmental delays or disabilities, as well as her current work with children and families in crisis. At her current employment Monica has created multiple trainings on topics such as a father's role in child rearing, trauma in infants and reflective practice. She is also currently leading a team that organizes and audits charts to be in compliance with Medical protocol for the county. Monica will be receiving a dual degree in Women and Gender Studies and Information Science while

attending the University of Texas at Austin. She is interested on how culture, gender, and immigration status affect immigrant populations and their access to local libraries. In her spare time, Monica practices Therapeutic Yoga and Krav Maga, as well as enjoys hikes and reading books by the ocean.



Nicole Murphy grew up in Chicago raised by her single mother. She was the first person in her family to go to college and she attended Beloit College, a small liberal arts school in southern Wisconsin, graduating in 2010 with a B.A. in Women's Studies. She is an alumnus of Student Support Services, a federally funded TRIO program for first generation, low income or minority students aimed at student retention. After graduating, Nicole worked for Beloit College Upward Bound, another federally funded TRIO program. Her research is invested in and grounded by her background as a first generation and low income student, her work in the field of

Women's Studies and her work for pre-college TRIO programs. Nicole's work focuses on the education system in the United States and its failure to address the needs of our country's students using a feminist lens, understanding of identities and international scope. She believes the malleability and critical self-reflecting eye of Women and Gender Studies combined with an examination of successful international empowerment models could offer viable solutions to the education crisis in our country.



Austin Rodenbiker was raised in the suburbs of Omaha, Nebraska. His high school was surrounded on three sides by corn fields. After high school, he moved to Milwaukee to pursue a bachelor's degree at Marquette University. Austin took a somewhat nonlinear path in his undergraduate education, starting in civil engineering and graduating with a double major in Women's and Gender Studies and Writing-Intensive English. His four years at Marquette found him active in creative communities, participating in feminist and queer events in and out of school, and collaborating with faculty and administrators to establish a gender resource center on campus. These years instilled in him a desire for trans- and interdisciplinary scholarship, as well as a slight appreciation of cheap beer.

Austin's plans for academic inquiry focus on the questions: What are the hermeneutics we can apply to queer bodies? What spaces can queer bodies act upon? Or within? Particularly, he is interested in acts of visibility/invisibility among LGBT-identifying people. These acts center around the closet, public performativity, and secret keeping. He is excited to explore how queer bodies create and maneuver spaces through these acts.

Austin loves Toni Morrison and strong coffee. His Netflix account says he enjoys "Witty TV Shows Featuring a Strong Female Lead," which he supposes is relatively accurate. He's pretty jazzed to be living in a city that has the same name as him.



Alana Varner is pursuing a dual Master's in Women's and Gender Studies and Information Studies. She received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a minor in Gender and Women's Studies from the University of Arizona. As an undergraduate, she worked as a librarian's assistant in the University of Arizona's Special Collections Library and served as an executive officer in the school's VOX: Voices for Planned Parenthood chapter. After graduation, she moved to Los Angeles to work at Ms. magazine where, among other things, she helped to organize a digital database for the magazine's archive. Alana's academic interests include transnational feminisms, critical race studies, chicana/o studies, latina/o studies, indigenous studies, and borderlands history. She would like to do more in-depth research on state-sanctioned violence, its

aftermath and treatment in historical records, and the roles that race, class, gender and sexuality play in the curation of archival materials. Alana believes that in order to bridge the gap between practice and theory, active engagement in community issues is necessary. She has been an activist with various groups in Arizona and California that focus on immigrant rights, reproductive health, and Ethnic Studies. She is excited to be a part of the academic community at UT Austin, and to learn about the historical and social issues that affect the city of Austin.