



Year in Review Annual Report 2012 - 2013



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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Student , Academic, and Community News.....	2
Graduates.....	3
Events.....	4
Awards.....	5
Faculty Development Program.....	5
INSPIRE, Empowering Texas Women Leaders	7
NEW Leadership™ Texas.....	8
Fall 2013 M.A. Cohort.....	9
Development.....	10

CENTER FOR WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES

Director Susan Sage Heinzelman	Performing Justice Project Dr. Megan Alrutz, Theatre & Dance Lynn Hoare, Voices against Violence Patena Key, CWGS	Graduate Student Assistants Victoria Dominguez Michael Pascual
Associate Director Kristen Hogan / Mollie Marchione	Meg Greene, Theater & Dance Tameika Hannah, Community Artist	Student Office Assistants Devon Rooks Lisa Le Candy Sanchez Sian Paulin
Senior Administrative Associate Pat Heisler	Debbie Esquenazi, Documentary Producer	
Academic Coordinator Alma Jackie Salcedo	INSPIRE Facilitators Juan Portillo Jennifer Sapio Ashley Boynton	The University of Texas at Austin Center for Women’s & Gender Studies The University of Texas at Austin 2505 University Ave. Stop A4900 BUR 536 Austin, TX 78712 Phone: (512) 471-5680 Fax: (512) 475-8146 www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs/
Program Coordinator Nancy Ewert	NEW Leadership Texas Nicole Murphy - Graduate Assistant Corie Cooper - Graduate Assistant Nora Al-Adwani - Undergraduate Intern Ainee Athar - Staff	
Embrey Women’s Human Rights Initiative Kristen Hogan/Mollie Marchione - Project Director		

Cover Photos: Clockwise from top: TOOFly painting created at the CWGS “Re-Thinking Power and Resistance” Conference closing event, and given to the non-profit Mamas of Color Rising for their benefit; Graduate students presenting at the Emerging Scholarship in Women’s & Gender Studies Conference; 2013 Graduating Class; Dr. Mary Braunagel-Brown after receiving the Contributor of the Year Award; WGS Graduate Students; INSPIRE Students with CAB members at the end-of-the-year party at the Littlefield Home; Participants of the NEW Leadership™ Texas summer institute.

STUDENT, ACADEMIC, AND COMMUNITY NEWS

ENROLLMENT

- Undergraduate Majors - 45
- Master's Program - 15
- Portfolio Program - 60 (estimate)

GRADUATES

- 7 Undergraduates received their Bachelor's of Arts
- 7 Masters Students received their Master of Arts
- 1 Dual Degree Student received the Master of Arts/Master of Information Science

NEW COURSES

- UGS 303 Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Human Rights: Law, Literature, and Culture; Neville Hoad
- UGS 303 Sexual Violence and War; Pascale Bos
- UGS 302 Gender in the Contemporary Muslim World; Sofian Merabet
- UGS 303 Human Rights Activism: Mexico/Central America; Hector Dominguez-Ruvalcaba

FACULTY AFFILIATES

- 306 faculty from various schools and colleges

CWGS ALUMNI NEWS

- Andrea Zarate, a 2012 WGS graduate, has made a documentary called "Susana Almanza: The Life of an Activist"

CWGS MA STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

- Natalie San Luis
- Namita Kohli
- Nicole Murphy

STUDENT AND STAFF NEWS

- Jackie Salcedo, Academic Coordinator at CWGS, earned her M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration this spring.
- Zoey Lichtenheld is the recipient of an Unrestricted Endowed Presidential Scholarship. Zoey is a WGS double major with Communications (Journalism)

FACULTY AFFILIATE AWARDS

- Dr. Sarah Dooling won the Hamilton Book Award
- Dr. Noël Busch-Armendariz was highlighted in an article in the Austin American-Statesman, "Ignorance about rape abounds," and she will also participate in Leadership Texas this year.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARDS/ACHIEVEMENTS

- Nancy Baker Jones (CWGS Community Advisory Board member), whose chapter-bio of Ruthe Winegarten has been published in the UT Press book, *Writing the Story of Texas*, edited by Patrick Cox and Ken Hendrickson.
- The Ruthe Winegarten Memorial Foundation for Texas Women's History (RWF) won the "Outstanding Public History Project Award" from the The National Council on Public History (NCPH) and the Leadership in History Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH).



CWGS staff member Jackie Salcedo, (center) with WGS MA graduate Rae Rozman (l), and Katya Kolesova at the Spring Commencement, May 18.

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

As an interdisciplinary academic unit, we have always attracted Honors students from other departments and Plan II who were double or triple majors. We have recently added a WGS Honors Thesis Program to the 12-14 Undergraduate Catalog. Several students have already chosen to move from the 10-12 catalog to the 12-14 catalog, after meeting with the WGS Undergraduate Advisor. We will continue to select promising students, and advise them to select the Honors Degree Option and engage actively in promoting the WGS Honors Society: Iota Iota Iota. We will also require Honors students to attend a publishing workshop offered by the WGS Librarian and strongly encourage them to submit their thesis to the UT Digital Repository (UTDR) for the Center for Women's and Gender Studies.

Our first cohort Honors Thesis graduates completed the following in Spring 2013:

- Brianna Guidorzi*, *When Expectation Does Not Meet Reality: Discordant Childbirth Narratives among Austin-Area Women*
- Jenny Kutner, *This Is What We Do: Postfeminism and the Third Wave in Contemporary Women's Fiction*
- Natalie San Luis, *Livin' No Limits: Representations of Wealth and Methods of Transgression in Hip Hop*
- Kelsey Thompson*, *Ayn Rand vs. Ethics of Care: Capitalist Economics and Women on Welfare*

*Published to UTDR and can be found here: <http://repositories.lib.utexas.edu/handle/2152/20099>

GRADUATES

Congratulations, Class of 2013!

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

Rebecca Danelle Besaw
Brianna Mae Guidorzi
Angela Poleth Hinojosa
Jenny Megan Kutner
Natalie Blair San Luis
Keeshia Reyes Sison
Kelsey Lauren Thompson

Women's & Gender Studies, Masters of Arts Degree

Nicole Ann Arteaga
Victoria A. Dominguez
Namita Kohli
Ekaterina S. Kolesova
Michael Aaron Pascual
Rachel Beth Rozman
Ece Saltan



Class of 2013

EVENTS

- Faculty Development Program participants presented 5 lectures throughout the Spring.
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 3 film screenings or concerts throughout the year
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 18 talks, lectures, presentations and art exhibits from UT and the community
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 7 conferences/symposia including:
 - Rethinking Power & Resistance: Gender & Human Rights from Texas to the Transnational Conference (October)
 - Community Mural for Mamas of Color Rising (October)
 - 20th Annual Emerging Scholarship in Women's and Gender Studies: The Feeling Body-Feeling the Body (March)
 - CWGS & HRDI Video Archive Launch: Rethinking Power & Resistance: Gender & Human Rights from Texas to the Transnational (April)
 - NEW Leadership™ Texas (June)
 - Abriendo Brecha (February)
 - Food for Black Thought (September)



Explore UT

CWGS FACULTY AND STUDENT SUPPORT EVENTS

- Promotion and Tenure Panel (April)
- CAB Meetings (Fall and Spring)
- Steering Committee (Fall and Spring)
- CWGS Spring Reception (May)
- Explore UT (March)

CWGS Conferences:

“Rethinking Power and Resistance” Conference Engages Community Collaborators in Gender and Human Rights Issues



Nearly 200 people attended the fall 2012 conference, “Rethinking Power and Resistance: Gender and Human Rights from Texas to the Transnational Americas,” a project of the Embrey Critical Human Rights Initiative at the Center for Women's & Gender Studies.

The conference, held Oct. 5-6, 2012, at the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, was a collaborative effort among activist faculty, students and staff, social justice organizers, and community members who engage in and question the use of human rights language to address issues of gender justice.

20th Annual Emerging Scholarship in Women's and Gender Studies Conference



The theme of the 20th Annual Emerging Scholarship in Women's and Gender Studies Conference, held on March 21 -22, was “The Feeling Body.” Affect is an emerging new direction in feminist theory, generating fascinating conversations around the role of the body and feeling in producing knowledge. How are other disciplines writing about and engaging with affect? How might this new direction shift how we think about the role of the body in academic research? The panelists examined these topics, exploring the ways in which the body shapes knowledge.

AWARDS

2013 Award Recipients:

Cynthia Walker Peña Scholarship in Women's & Gender Studies
Rebecca Besaw, BA Student, Philosophy/Prelaw/WGS

The Lora Romero Memorial Award for Interdisciplinary Research in Race, Ethnicity and Gender
Brandon Robinson, PhD Student, Sociology
"The Beauty of Online Dating": Quotidian Practices of Sexual Racism on a Gay Dating Site

Ellen Clarke Temple Award in the Study of Women in History
Chyna Bowen, PhD Student, History
From Slave to Convict: Criminalized Women of the Antebellum South

Women's & Gender Studies Dissertation Fellowship
Zazil Elena Reyes Garcia, PhD Student, Communication Studies
Women politicians in political cartoons: A comparative analysis between Mexico and the United States

Women's & Gender Studies MA Thesis Award
Victoria Dominguez, WGS
Between the Borderlands of Life and Death: A Spiritual and Intellectual Journey Towards Developing Conocimiento

Lucia, John, and Melissa Gilbert Teaching Excellence Award in Women's & Gender Studies
Dr. Rebecca Rossen, Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre & Dance, College of Fine Arts

Contributor of the Year
Mary Braunagel-Brown



From Left: Associate Director Mollie Marchione, Brandon Robinson, Victoria Dominguez, Rebecca Besaw, Rebecca Rossen, Director Sue Heinzelman, and Zazil Garcia at the CWGS Awards Reception on May 6.



WGS Graduate Students, Namita Kohli and Victoria Dominguez

Faculty Development Program



Dr. Lyndon K. Gill, an assistant professor in the African & African Diaspora Studies Department, received his Ph.D. in African-American Studies and Anthropology (with a secondary field in Studies of Women, Gender & Sexuality) from Harvard University. He has held postdoctoral fellowships at Princeton University's Center for African American Studies and in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Anthropology and Center for Africana Studies.



Dr. Kelly McDonough is an assistant professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Her research focuses on Latin American Colonial Literatures and Cultures with an emphasis on Mexican and Indigenous Studies, specifically Nahuatl language and culture. Her current book project, "Reading and Writing Nahuas: Mexican Indigenous Intellectuals from the Colonial Period through Today" (The University of Arizona Press, First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies, 2013) challenges the commonly held assumption that indigenous intellectual activities in Latin America ceased or decreased dramatically with the advent of the European conquest and colonization.



Dr. Roxanne Schroeder-Arce, an assistant professor in the Department of Theatre & Dance, was previously a faculty member at Emerson College in Boston and California State University Fresno. She received her M.F.A. in Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities from UT Austin. Her research interests include multi-cultural theatre education and Latino/a theatre for young audiences. Schroeder-Arce is also a director, performer and published playwright.



Dr. Omise'eke Natasha Tinsley, an associate professor in the African & African Diaspora Studies Department, studies same-sex desire in Caribbean literature. She is the author of "Thieving Sugar: Eroticism Between Women in Caribbean Literature" (Duke University Press). Her next project is the monograph, "Desiring the Blue Lagoon: Sea Crossings and Fluid Identities in Caribbean Literature," which focuses on contemporary Caribbean authors. She is also venturing into fiction writing, with a novel in progress about women shipbuilders in World War II.



Dr. Lisa Thompson, an associate professor in the African & African Diaspora Studies Department, is the author of "Beyond The Black Lady: Sexuality And The New African American Middle Class" (University of Illinois Press, 2009), which received Honorable Mention in competition for the Gloria E. Anzaldúa Book Prize from the National Women's Studies Association. Her scholarship has appeared in Theatre Journal, Theatre Survey, "Finding A Way Home: A Critical Assessment of Walter Mosley's Fiction" (University Press of Mississippi, 2008), and "From Bourgeois to Boogie: Black Middle- Class Performances" (Wayne State University Press, 2011). She is also the author of several plays including "Single Black Female" (Samuel French, Inc., 2012), which has been produced throughout the U.S. and Canada.

New Associate Director Appointed



CWGS welcomes Dr. Mollie T. Marchione, who joined the Center staff as Associate Director, effective Jan. 7. She is the Graduate Adviser and Lecturer in the BA and MA programs. She is also the Project Director for the CWGS Embrey Critical Human Rights Initiative. Marchione received her Ph.D. in history from the University at Albany, SUNY, and taught U.S. women's history and other history courses for four years at The College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York, before moving to Austin in 2004.

She was most recently Director of Communications for the UT Austin School of Social Work where she had worked since 2007, and was previously the school's Director of Development. In addition, she has extensive professional experience in writing and editing publications, planning events, and managing constituent relations.

New Home for CWGS

On June 10, we moved to Burdine Hall, 536. More office space and a large reception area, plus delightful new neighbors: the Department of Religious Studies, Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies, and the Center for Mexican American Studies.



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).

A Great Year for INSPIRE!

The future of INSPIRE has never looked better. We are running at full capacity with 3 cohorts (sophomores, juniors, seniors) simultaneously working on skills that will help these students achieve the highest level of attainment in their chosen field. We are thrilled to have the new Mary Braunagel-Brown Excellence Fund that will help support our students in the program (please see the \$25,000 dollar-match opportunity below).



At the CWGS Emerging Scholarship Student Conference in March

During the 2012-2013 academic year our students wrote and presented their research papers; attended the National Conference for Women Student Leaders in Baltimore; and interned, mentored, and volunteered at Casa Marienella. We had 3 seniors graduate in December 2012 and one in May. We enjoyed a retreat at Zilker Park, potluck dinners, and an end-of-the year reception at the Littlefield Home. Our students participated in various UT organizations including the Orange Jackets, Texas 4000, and Student Government. Some also worked at the Texas State Capitol, secured national scholarship awards such as the Truman Scholarship, and visited nations across the globe through Study Abroad opportunities.



Sophomores on a spring field trip to the South Congress Food Trucks



Juniors at the National Conference For College Women Student Leaders (Baltimore, MD, May 31- June3)

Mary Braunagel-Brown Excellence Fund for Young Women's Leadership



Mary Braunagel Brown

UT alumna Dr. Mary Braunagel-Brown established an endowment to support women undergraduates selected for INSPIRE. Dr. Braunagel-Brown is also matching gifts, dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of \$25,000, to be added to Excellence Fund. This excellence fund supports students selected for INSPIRE Leadership, the university's signature leadership program for women undergraduates directed by CWGS.

"I support this program," says Braunagel-Brown, "because the world will simply be a better place when UT women — particularly first-generation college students, those from underrepresented groups, and those pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math-related fields — have the skills and confidence to reach their potential."

NEW LEADERSHIP™ TEXAS

NEW Leadership™ Texas is a six-day residential program that gives college women the knowledge and skills to become effective leaders in politics, public policy, and public service. It is held every summer at the University of Texas at Austin. This year, 21 college women joined us from 16 universities and colleges across the state! Read below for highlights from the week.



At the Texas State Capitol

Lulu Flores, Jennifer Kim, and Mavis Knight served as our FIRs this year. They stayed in the San Jacinto Residence Hall all week with students and staff, and were available to advise students all week.

NEW Leadership™ participants spent Monday, June 3 touring the Texas State Capitol and Austin City Hall. At the Capitol, students were able to watch the special House session convene and they met with State Representative Donna Howard along with a panel of Capitol staffers. A Resolution was passed for NEW Leadership™ Texas which was signed by Speaker Joe Straus. At Austin City Hall, the students met with several leaders in Austin local government. A proclamation was issued making June 3, 2013 NEW Leadership™ Texas Day in Austin Texas!

We were honored to have Carole Keeton Strayhorn join us for a reception and give the keynote address to our students and guests. She discussed the importance of women going into public service as well as her amazing career. Carole's resume is full of "firsts"—first woman president of the Austin School Board, first woman president of Austin Community College Board of Trustees; first and only woman Mayor of Austin, and the only mayor elected by the citizens for three successive terms. Elected to statewide office four times; Carole was the first woman elected and reelected Texas Railroad Commissioner and the first woman elected and reelected as Texas Comptroller.



The Honorable Carole Keeton Strayhorn speaking with students before her address



Political Action Project

Throughout the week, students learned about their leadership styles, diversity and social justice, public speaking, networking, managing their message, and advocacy in workshops and panel discussions. Students also worked in groups to research the topic of School Choice/School Vouchers, culminating with a mock legislative hearing on this issue. Students represented legislators, advocacy groups, lobbyists, and the press.

We appreciate the support of the Embrey Family Foundation as well as H-E-B and Mr. Gatti's Pizza.



Fall 2013 M.A. Cohort



Natassja Gunasena finds herself in Tejas by way of Minnesota by way of Dubai by way of Sri Lanka. She graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead with a B.A in English and Gender Studies, and wants to use her graduate work to explore the intersections of transnational queer women of color identities with pop culture and social media. To this end she currently runs a Tumblr blog which engages pop-culture from a critical race and gender perspective while collaboratively generating racebent, queer-inclusive interpretations of popular culture. She is much indebted to the writings in “This Bridge Called My Back”, and the work of Chicana feminists in particular, for furnishing a legacy of transnational and transcultural work within which to locate herself. In her spare time she enjoys bicycling, becoming addicted to TV shows, and writing supernatural romance featuring women of color.



Wanjira Murimi entered the University of Texas at Austin as an undergraduate pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Human Biology. While a student in the College of Natural Sciences, her exploration of diversity and anti-oppression activism became apparent when she co-founded the Multicultural Students in Natural Sciences student organization and was an active participant in the African Student’s Association. She later chose to pursue her interests academically by switching to the Women’s and Gender Studies major. As a WGS major she co-founded the Women’s and Gender Studies Student Organization and was an organizer and panel presenter at the Feminist Action Project Conference in 2012. Wanjira graduated the University of Texas at Austin in 2012 with a Women’s and Gender Studies degree with a minor in English and a certification in European Studies.



Kaitlyn Newman is a proud daughter, sister, friend, community organizer, and anarcha-feminist who hails from Brooklyn, NY (and grew up on the Connecticut shoreline). Prior to pursuing her MA at CWGS, she worked as a strategist at Purpose, a strategy consulting firm committed to innovating on, and sharing, best practices in digital mass mobilization and public engagement with progressive organizations. During her recent partnership with the American Civil Liberties Union, Kaitlyn spent her days reading lengthy memos and the headlines about some of the scariest and most deadly practices of the surveillance state (government spying, the use of drones, protester repression) and developing online campaigns to combat them. Kaitlyn studied Political Science and Peace Studies at the University of Connecticut, where she focused on the role of social movements in international post-conflict scenarios and spent one precious summer studying in the Lake Victoria basin of East Africa. She currently serves as a proud Advisory Board Member and antiracist ally at the Black feminist organization Black Women’s Blueprint. In her (rare) free time, she sings, travels, cooks, crochets, and carries the possibility of a new world in her heart.



Leila Grace Pandey had plans to go into the fashion industry and was ready to accept a scholarship at one of the top fashion schools in America before she decided that she felt more comfortable staying in Southern California with her family. She followed her older brother’s footsteps and attended Loyola Marymount University, a local Jesuit university, where she was a double major in English with an emphasis in creative writing and Women Studies. Leila Grace was drawn to these academic disciplines as a result of listening to her mother’s stories and experiencing her own. She graduated magna cum laude in 2012 and took on a job teaching reading comprehension to elementary school students. It was at this job she realized that she was still enamored with academia and decided that she ultimately wants to become a professor one day in order to inspire and empower other young women of color. Aside from reading women of color literature and feminist theory, Leila Grace spends her time writing vignettes and poems, conversing with her feminist and creative writing blogging cohort, consuming donuts and pho, critiquing fashion trends, rolling her eyes, going on jogs with her dog, Detective Munch, and struggling/enjoying her life as a boy crazy patriarchy hater.

DEVELOPMENT

Grants Awarded

- Reynolds Foundation for INSPIRE
- Embrey Family Foundation continued grant support for the Embrey Critical Human Rights Initiative and NEW Leadership™ Texas.

Endowments

- Mary Braunagel-Brown Excellence Fund for Young Women's Leadership created by UT Alum Mary Braunagel -Brown for INSPIRE
- Continued fund raising for the Jody Conradt Excellence Fund in Equity and Leadership