

WOMEN'S & GENDER RESOURCE CENTER

2020-21



The mission of the Women's and Gender Resource Center is to promote and foster gender education and equity by providing resources, sponsoring events and educational opportunities, and encouraging conversation and dialogue. Practicing an intersectional approach, the WGRC values collaboration and partnership as it works toward equity and social justice.

DEAR WGRC FRIENDS AND ALLIES—

I write to share our annual newsletter as the country continues to struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic. The College transitioned to remote learning in the Spring of 2020 and remote learning continued during Fall 2020. In Spring 2021, the College adopted a hybrid model, bringing cohorts of students to campus at different times during the semester.

Despite this challenging landscape, the Women's & Gender Resource Center hosted 40 programs with 27 different cosponsors this year. Highlights included our monthly Faculty Research Lunches (in partnership with the Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies department), a discussion of a chapter of Sexual Citizens: Sex, Power, and Assault on Campus, several partnerships with The Clarke Forum for Contemporary Issues, our annual Love Your Body Week, and Take Back the Night. All our programs were remote, except for our Womxn's Retreat.

We usually hold our annual Womxn's Retreat for a day and a half at the College Farm and welcome students, staff, and faculty. COVID restrictions prohibited that. However, we were able to hold a modified version for a small group of students, observing all COVID precautions and using a tent on Morgan Field. The two student organizers offered activities that included painting small flowerpots and planting mint sprigs in them, a reflective writing activity, a mindfulness session, and a yoga/movement workshop—and, of course, lunch and snacks.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment, we cosponsored with the Clarke Forum a talk by Dr. Cathleen Cahill, Who Was A Suffragist: A More Diverse View. We also facilitated a Clarke Forum Tertulia on Celebrating 100 years of the 19th Amendment and the Suffragist Movement with Professor Amy Farrell.

Dickinson, of course, has its own stories relating to the fight for women's suffrage and Malinda Triller-Doran and Jody Efron helped us learn about some of it. For example, in 1911, the Suffrage League of Lloyd Hall was established. In 1912, progressive students formed the Dickinson Equal Suffrage Club. That same year, Dickinson women were seen at a suffrage meeting at the Courthouse wearing "Votes for Women" buttons.

The former president of the College, Dr. George Edward Reed, was quoted in 1914 saying that he would parade with the suffragists if he was "the only man in line." In 1914, President Noble spoke in favor of women's suffrage at a National Women's Suffrage Day event hosted by the Equal Suffrage Club.

DESERVES A CARNEGIE MEDAL

Dr. George Edward Reed, former president of Dickinson College, says he will parade with the Wilmington suffragists if he is "the only man in line."

Our theme for this year's Gender Week was Gender and Politics. Events included a film discussion of *The Man Card: White male identity politics from Nixon to Trump*, a research-in-progress talk by Sophie Ackert '21 entitled *Do Women of the Two Major Parties Campaign Differently in Regard to Gender?* and a keynote cosponsored with the Clarke Forum on *The Representation of Women in the U.S. Congress* presented by Dr. Kira Sanbonmatsu from the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) at the Eagleton Institute of Politics of Rutgers University.

The Inclusivity in STEM planning committee organized several events this year, including a panel featuring four Dickinson alumni on Graduate School in STEM: Perspectives from Dickinson Alumni, a talk on Rebooting the SySTEM: Educational Updates for a New Age presented by Jamie Teeple from Educational Studies, a cosponsored Clarke Forum talk by Kelsey Hightower entitled From McDonald's to Google and a book discussion about Caroline Criado Perez's award-winning book Invisible Women: Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed for Men.





The WGRC hosts Witness the Power, which is designed to raise awareness of women's athletics and our women student-athletes on campus. Because the fall season was canceled and the spring season did not permit spectators, this initiative was fairly passive this year. We usually distribute hats and pins with the WTP logo for spectators to wear around campus and when they attend games and meets and we publicize these events in the WGRC e-newsletter. We are eager to resume this initiative in the fall!

We supported faculty professional development this year by participating on the Ready for Spring emergency remote teaching team, the Ready for Fall team, and the second Ready for Spring team. These teams were led by Noreen Lape in the Writing Center and included an interdisciplinary group of faculty and academic technology staff. I also organized and facilitated a faculty study group on inclusive pedagogies where 10 faculty members and 4 administrators gathered for three days to learn from a range of external and campus experts.

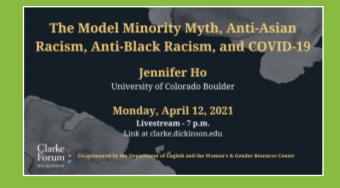
I was so honored when I was inducted into Wheel and Chain as an honorary member this spring.

I feel so fortunate to continue to work on diversity, equity, and inclusion issues as we strive to build a truly inclusive campus. I look forward to being back in community with students, staff, and faculty in the fall. Thank you for your support of the WGRC's programs and initiatives!

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The Women's and Gender Resource Center would like to thank the other members of the Office of Equity and Inclusivity for their collegiality, partnership, and support: Rabbi Marley Weiner at the Asbell Center for Jewish Life; Cody Nielsen at the Center for Spirituality and Social Justice; Todd Nordgren at the Office for LGBTQ Services, and staff at the Popel Shaw Center. We are very grateful for the administrative support of Kim Sallie, with additional help and assistance from Lori Loudon and Angelica Mishra. Thanks also go to the academic departments, campus units, and student organizations who collaborated with us and supported our programs.

Our gratitude to WGRC student workers Sophie Ackert, Julia Kagan, Ellen McInnes, Lizzy Parry, and Maddy Smith. We rely on our student workers to help create, organize, and staff programs and events; write blog posts; design marketing materials; and maintain our Instagram page. Working remotely, they continued to excel in their contributions to the WGRC. They infuse the work of the Center with a wide variety of skills and talents along with their commitment to gender equity.