

Dickinson

WOMEN'S & GENDER RESOURCE CENTER

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 encouraging conversation and dialogue.



**WGRC Spring
2016 Report**

Dear WGRC friends:

I am so pleased to have joined the Dickinson community in January 2016 as the Director of the Women's and Gender Resource Center. It has been an enriching and satisfying experience to begin to know my colleagues and students, and to learn more about the campus and community. We've had a busy semester of programming, events, and activities, and I will be planning more for the future. We'll also be considering possible initiatives in women's leadership, exploring male identities, and healthy sexualities.

In my role as the WGRC Director, I sit on the President's Commission for Women. I will also serve as the PCFW representative on B.E.R.T., our Bias Education and Response Team. Leveraging my past experience as a Fulbright Scholar and as an interviewer with the Fulbright Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I've agreed to serve as a Fulbright Program Advisor to assist our Fulbright applicants as they prepare their applications. I was glad to be asked to join the Trans Advocacy Committee and also served on the Search Committee for our incoming Director of Experiential and Outdoor Education. I was thrilled and honored to be invited to speak at the Wheel and Chain Shared Visions Dinner in May. Tara Fischer, Audrey Eisenberg and I were each asked to speak on the theme of "I shine because you shine," which allowed us to talk about the individuals and communities who have helped us succeed.

The WGRC Director is a hybrid administrator/faculty position, and I will teach one course each semester in the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. I had the good fortune to cover the last three weeks of a course for a faculty member going out on parental leave this semester, which was a wonderful opportunity to see our students in a classroom setting. In the Fall, I'll teach WGSS300: Feminist Perspectives and Theories.

I am so pleased that Dean Bylander brought me to Dickinson as part of her Division of Student Life and Diversity Team and look forward to making a contribution to our efforts to build inclusive excellence across campus.

Donna M. Bickford, Ph.D., Director, Women's and Gender Resource Center





"The whole fight to reduce violence against women is within the fight of reducing (all) violence period."
- Rula Ghani, First Lady of Afghanistan and Women's Rights Activist



"Hell hath no fury like a drag queen scorned."
- Sylvia Rivera
U.S. LGBTQ activist



"The biggest sin is sitting on your ass."
- Florynce "Flo" Kennedy
U.S. Civil Rights Activist

To kick off **Women's History Month**, we collaborated with the Popel Shaw Center for Race & Ethnicity and the Prevention, Education, and Advocacy Center for an Unsung Women of Color campaign. This involved informational social media posts about the selected women, along with a button and poster campaign, and a library display. Jessica Grounds presented the Women's History Month keynote lecture, which was cosponsored by the Department of Political Science.

Cosponsored by the Women's and Gender Resource Center and the Political Science Department

Gender and the 2016 Election

Wednesday, March 30, 2016
7:00pm in Denny 317

The 2016 election is a historic one for women. Hillary Clinton as a candidate in the Democratic primary. Carly Fiorina as a former candidate in the Republican primary. Equal pay, parental leave, and economic equality are all issues on the campaign trail. Jessica Grounds, an expert on women's political leadership, will discuss the importance of this election for women, the changing demographics of women voters, and other relevant trends and data. There will be an opportunity for dialogue and Q&A.



The Spring 2016 semester started off with a snow storm that dropped approximately 30" of snow on Carlisle and delayed the start of classes. Thanks to all the Dickinson staff who worked to make the campus safe for us.

In **February**, the WGRC cosponsored the Clarke Forum-hosted Wesley Lecture with Sandra L. Steiner Ball '84, the first woman bishop of the United Methodist Church's West Virginia Conference. We joined other units in the Division of Student Life and the Popel Shaw Center for Race & Ethnicity (PSC), to bring to campus Dr. Chase Catalano and Dr. Barbara Love for a series of workshops focused on building cultural awareness and capacity. The entire Landis House Collective hosted Love@Landis, an event full of food, fun and frivolity to celebrate Valentine's Day. February 18 brought the Kickoff Soirée for Love Your Body Week. As part of LYBW, we co-hosted Hair Journals with Hillel and the PSC, which provided an opportunity to explore the politics of hair and cultural standards of beauty. The keynote event was a spoken word performance by storyteller Kimberly Dark, co-hosted with the Clarke Forum. We closed out February by partnering with the International Business & Management Department, Athletics, and Student Life & Campus Engagement for a screening of the ESPN documentary *Branded*, which focuses on the ways women athletes are marketed.

March brought two programs in the Faculty Research Lunch series we co-sponsor with the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department (WGSS): "Stout Girls and Golden Eaglets: Or, Why Should We Care about the Girl Scouts of the USA?" with Dr. Amy Farrell and "My Social Justice Journey: Literature, Feminism and Human Trafficking" with our new director, Dr. Donna Bickford. In addition to beginning Women's History Month

with the Unsung Women of Color campaign, the WGRC co-sponsored, with the Italian Department and WGSS, a screening of *We Want Roses Too (Vogliamo Anche Le Rose)*, a film which discusses the '60s and '70s sexual revolution and feminist movement in Italy. Along with the PSC, Academic Advising, and the Office of LGBTQ Services we hosted a Clarke Forum Salon discussion on the fluidity of identity. The highlight of our Women's History Month programming was a lecture on Gender and the 2016 Election by Jessica Grounds, cosponsored with the Political Science Department. Grounds, an expert on women's political leadership, discussed the importance of this election for women, the changing demographics of women voters, and other relevant trends and data.

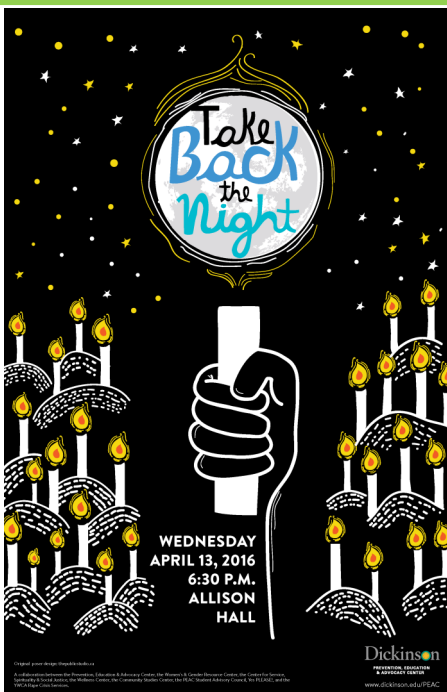
April was another month full of activities. The final event in our Faculty Research Lunch Series was "War Neuroses: disability, identity, and American psychiatry in World War I" with Dr. Wendy Moffat. We also partnered with the Clarke Forum and the Departments of Sociology and Italian Studies to present David Paternotte's lecture, "From the Vatican to Madrid, Paris and Warsaw: 'Gender Ideology' in Motion." To build student skills in salary negotiation, we brought to campus the AAUW Start Smart workshop, which was cosponsored by the Career Center and the Dickinson College AAUW chapter. In this interactive workshop, students learned about the gender pay gap and engaged in many activities, including creating a budget and practicing a salary negotiation. With the support of the local AAUW chapter, and the local chapter of Moms Rising, Dickinson's AAUW chapter and the WGRC tabled on Britton Plaza to commemorate Equal Pay Day and help spread awareness about gender pay inequity. WGRC student worker Ella Wiley played a lead role in organizing this event.

Also occurring in **April** was the inaugural Senior Community Recognition Ceremony. Cosponsored with International Student Services, the PSC, and the Center for Service, Spirituality and Social Justice, the ceremony honored the contributions of seniors from historically underrepresented groups and international students. As part of her WGSS internship, senior Caitlin Doak offered the campus a number of initiatives related to menstruation. We were pleased to cosponsor a Sustain It Workshop on Menstruation Justice, along with the Center for Sustainability Education and the Wellness Center. We closed out the semester with a Landis House Collective study break: Comfort Food@Landis.

Throughout the semester we highlighted our **Witness the Power** campaign, a project designed to show support for women's athletes by wearing a WTP button around campus and to women's athletic events. Two women soccer players assisted WGRC student workers in staffing a table in the HUB during a button distribution event. The WTP button was designed by WGRC student worker Elaine Hang.

The WGRC participated in multiple events related to issues of sexual violence. We partnered with the Prevention, Education, and Advocacy Center (PEAC) and multiple other campus offices to screen *The Hunting Ground*, a 2015 documentary dealing with issues related to campus sexual assault which premiered at Sundance and has been screened at the White House. Prior to the main campus screening, we offered a private screening for faculty and staff to help prepare them to discuss these issues with students. We also facilitated a screening of the film in one of the residence halls for students who were not able to attend the main screening. And, we joined PEAC and the Title IX office to train faculty and staff about how to respond effectively to student disclosure of sexual violence.

During **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** in April, with PEAC and many other campus groups, we cosponsored Run for Hope, a 5K run/walk to benefit the YWCA Rape Crisis Services. There were also multiple events for Take Back the Night. Prior to TBTN, we participated in a Teach-In to help educate the campus about the history of Take Back the Night and to provide an opportunity for student groups to share their anti-violence projects and initiatives. Dr. Crystal Leigh Endsley, an assistant professor of Africana Studies at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice and spoken word poet, gave a talk at the library about her work exploring the connections between spoken word and social justice. At the evening TBTN event, several courageous student survivors shared their stories. Dr. Endsley then gave an inspiring keynote performance, which was followed by the TBTN March and Vigil.



The Women's and Gender Resource Center would like to thank the other members of the Landis House Collective for their collegiality, support, partnership and vision: Vincent Stephens at the Popel Shaw Center for Race & Ethnicity; Kelly Wilt at the Prevention, Education, and Advocacy Center; Erica Gordon at the Office for LGBTQ Services; and Donna Hughes at the Center for Service, Spirituality and Social Justice. Thanks also to support staff at Landis, including Kim Wampler, Kim Sallie, Becca Feldman, Deanna Dorangrichia, Caitlin Cluck and Ann Rhoades, who provided administrative and logistical support for WGRC activities. We are grateful to the academic departments, campus units, and student organizations who collaborated with us and offered support for our programs.

WGRC student workers Elaine Hang and Ella Wiley helped us organize and staff programs and events. Ella was also responsible for the majority of our beautifully-designed event posters this semester.

