During the month of March, the Women’s Resource Center celebrated Women’s History Month. WRC volunteers coordinated events celebrating amazing women who have created history. The events ranged from feminist movie nights to WRC information tables with freebies including safer sex supplies. The largest event that the volunteers programmed was Feminist Takeover Tuesday.

Feminist Takeover Tuesday was eight hours long on March 11th. The event included readings, videos about feminist achievements and theory, and information tabling. Students and volunteers read from numerous feminist works including the Declaration of Sentiments, “Ain’t I a Woman,” as well as writings by Victoria Woodhull and Gloria Steinem, and poems by Adrienne Rich. Students also read original work and a Riot Grrl Play.

NEW HAMLINE TRIOTA MEMBERS

The academic honor society for the field of women’s studies, Iota Iota Iota (or Triota), is an organization that encourages and supports scholarship and excellence in women’s studies. Triota is named for the ancient goddesses, Innana, Ishtar, and Isis, who represent passion, truth, and life. To be a part of Triota, a student must be a junior or senior, have a GPA of 3.0 or above, and have taken at least 12 credit hours in approved women’s studies courses. We at Triota would like to formally introduce our newest members. Congratulations seniors Amanda P., Colette H., Emily K., Jaime K., Rachel P., and Junior Laura K. All of you will be inducted as members of the Omicron chapter of Iota Iota Iota at Hamline University.

To encourage and support those working hard in women’s studies, this semester Triota members will be working on their act of kindness project. The act of kindness is a project done every year to show appreciation to faculty and staff at Hamline who are not regularly recognized for their hard work in support of women students. Even though we have not decided on what our act of kindness will be this year, we are all excited to show support for our advocates who make our time at Hamline University better.

The University of St. Thomas had an exciting new opportunity to celebrate Women’s Studies this year! Dr. Michele Berger from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (current vice president of the National Women’s Studies Association; author of Workable Sisterhood, The Intersectional Approach, and Transforming Scholarship) will come...
to St. Thomas to help us strengthen our program. She will meet with faculty and students in Women’s Studies on May 1 and give a public lecture that evening. She will conduct a workshop on May 2 for junior and senior Women’s Studies majors and minors on how to speak to potential employers (and others!) about their work in Women’s Studies.

The Women’s Studies program at UST is cosponsoring an initiative called Empower Hour at the Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex on campus. Empower Hour is a weekly time when the exercise equipment is available to students not at ease working out in an open exercise room. The idea is to reduce objectification of students’ bodies and provide a more comfortable exercise setting (especially for women and GLBTQ individuals).

UST Women’s Studies minor Melissa Seymour has had her third book, on Barbra Streisand, published in the Female Force comic book series. Her earlier books were on Melinda Gates and Gloria Steinem, the latter called “seriously amazing” in the Huffington Post. Melissa has also received an offer to write a book about the Edna Adan University Hospital—and its founder, Edna Adan Ismail—that serves women and children in Somaliland. Seymour will give a talk about her work and hold a book signing in the Luann Dummer Center for Women on April 11. The day before her talk and book signing, she will be awarded the university’s Sister Pat Kowalski Women’s Leadership Award from the University Advocates for Women and Equity.

On March 6, Haleh Esfandiari of the Woodrow Wilson Center spoke on “The Women’s Movement in Iran and the Middle East.” As a longtime expert on Iranian politics and a prominent scholar and public intellectual, Dr. Esfandiari is an outspoken advocate for human rights and women’s rights. In addition to her public lecture, she met privately with Women’s Studies students and spoke of her own experience of being imprisoned and held in solitary confinement in Tehran’s notorious Evin Prison, as well as the current and changing situations of the region from an international feminist perspective.

UST students sponsored several events focused on women and gender issues this spring. The Day of Silence to draw attention to the silencing of GLBTQ individuals will be held on April 10 (followed by a Night of Noise celebration). A Clothesline Project and Take Back the Campus rally and march to draw attention to issues of sexual violence is scheduled for April 24. And on May 9 will be a Mother’s Day Reception to celebrate the diversity of motherhood; it includes a stimulating panel discussion led by moms of various identities.

Augsburg College

Augsburg will be hosting Carlos Andres Gomez in April 2014 as our WRC convocation speaker. Gomez has been featured on The Melissa Harris-Perry Show and is a nationally-renowned spoken word artist and anti-violence activist who authored Man Up: Reimagining Modern Manhood. Gomez’s presentation will encompass a variety of presentation styles, including poetry, personal anecdotes, and analytical discussions of gendered violence. This event is sponsored by the Augsburg Women’s Studies program, the Women’s Resource Center, and Augsburg Against Gender Violence.

ST. CATHERINE UNIVERSITY

BROWN BAGS AT THE WOMEN’S CENTER: The Women’s Studies Program, the Critical Studies of Race and Ethnicity Program, and the Abigail Quigley McCarthy Center for Women continued their joint program of Brown Bag lunch discussions and presentations this semester.

On Friday, February 14, Pa Der Vang, Ph.D., School of Social Work; Hui Wilcox, Associate Professor, Sociology, Women’s Studies, and Critical Studies of Race and Ethnicity; and Panyia Kong, Nursing and Sociology senior, presented a talk entitled, “The Power of Knowledge: Hmong Women, Food, and Critical Hmong Studies.” Dr. Vang discussed her study titled “Hmong Women and Empowerment.” She interviewed 12 Hmong women about their empowerment work with other Hmong women. Her study participants identified the importance of being able to navigate
women’s roles in both American and Hmong culture. Dr. Wilcox presented a paper she co-authored with St. Kate’s student Panyia Kong, “How to Eat Right in America: Power, Knowledge, and the Science of Hmong American Food and Health.” Through analysis of published articles, they concluded that mainstream scientific discourses are rooted in Eurocentric epistemology and have constituted Hmong Americans as subjugated Others.

On Thursday, March 20, 2014, Colleen Mary Carpenter, Associate Professor of Theology presented “The Abundant Life: Eating Humanly in a Hungry World.” She discussed the relationship between human beings and the world around us, a relationship that has always been important in theological reflection: what is our place in creation, and what kind of life best honors that place? Today, as 1 billion people around the world face devastating hunger, what can we say theologically about the fact that human beings must eat to live—and some of us eat much better than others? This reflection on food, eating, and the desire for abundance is part of a larger project entitled “Is the Earth Holy?” that examines what it might mean for our increasingly ecologically devastated planet to be thought of as sacred.

International Women’s Day: In conjunction with the Justice Commission of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Consociates, the Minnesota Haitian Cultural Center, and the Multicultural and International Programs and Services at SCU, the Women’s Center celebrated International Women’s Day 2014 with a program, “We are one woman inspiring change, a day of prayer for peace.” The Roboday Dance and Drums and SCU international students were featured.

St. Kate’s Violence Prevention Collective presented the work of this year’s biennial art competition winner, Sharita Dickerson, a studio art major at SCU. Her art focuses on the impact of violence on children; her sculpture piece was on display from March 17-21 in the Coeur de Catherine, where those who have experienced violence were invited to add to the composition by sharing their stories in the forms of letters, pictures, or memorabilia.

Alumna Speaker: The English and WOST departments will welcome alumna Reshmi-Dutt Ballerstadt back to St. Kate’s to speak to students and lecture on her latest work: “Can the Terrorists Speak: Trauma, Testimony and the Genre of 9/11 Literatures.” Professor Dutt Ballerstadt teaches in the Department of English & Creative Writing at Linfield College in Oregon where she also coordinates the Gender Studies Program. She will speak on Thursday, April 10 at 6 pm in CDC 372. All are welcome.

Alumna returns: Rebecca MacDonals, Women’s Studies and Critical Studies of Race and Ethnicity graduate in 2007, has returned to St. Kate’s to help the Women’s Center by documenting the many unique and interesting activities that happen there and the many unique and interesting people who work and attend events there. MacDonald is a multi-media specialist with her own production firm, bfresh productions. Her contract includes documenting both student associations (the Hip Hop club, the Muslim Student Association, the Anti-Violence Collective, the Feminist Theory Class) and many Women’s Center events, including the Annual Women’s Center and Women’s Studies Award Ceremony to be held on April 23, 2014, an event that honors leaders and scholars on campus.

Don’t miss the ACTC Women’s Studies Undergraduate Conference!

Friday April 11th @ Augsburg

Our keynote speaker will be Richa Nagar author of Playing with Fire: Feminist Thought & Activism Through Seven Lives in India

Everyone Welcome! Free Food!
ACTC Women's Studies Classes

AUGSBURG COLLEGE

WST 201
WST 281/481
AIS 208
REL 205
SOC 231
SOC 265

Foundations in Women's Studies
Topics: Girls, Culture, and Identity
Topics: Girls, Culture, and Identity
Native American Women and Film
Family Systems: Cross Cultural Perspectives
Women and Religion

HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2014:
BIOL 1150 B1
BIOL 1150 BB
HIST 3800
LGST 3540
REL 3430
SOC 1330
SOC 5330
WSTD 3500
WSTD 3750
WSTD 5900

LAB: Biology of Women
Biology of Women
Topics in Gender History: Homosexuality in Britain
Family and Gender Issues In Law
Feminist/Womanist Theologies
Women, Men and Society
Sex and Sexuality: An American Perspective
Topics in Women's Studies: Engendering Justice

Senior Seminar

ST. CATHERINE UNIVERSITY

COMM 1000
BIOL 1120
BIOL 1120
BIOL 1120
ECON 1121

WOST 2050
COMM 2051
ENGL 2290
ENGL 2290
PHIL 2400
ENGL 2450
SOWK 2910
WOST 2994
WOST 2994
PSYC 3050
COMM 3070
HIST 3460
COMM 4600

Introduction to Communication: Women and Social Change
Biology of Women with Lab
Biology of Women
Biology of Women - Lab 1
Biology of Women - Lab 2
Economics of Social Issues

Foundations In Women's Studies
Media, Culture and Society
Women and Literature: Fictional Female Detectives
Women and Literature: Scarlet Letters
Philosophy and Women
Language in Society
The Anatomy of Violence
Topics: Women and Politics

Topics: Migration, Citizenship and Community
Psychology of Gender
Gender and Rhetoric
Women in Greece and Rome
Leadership and the Art of Persuasion

UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

COJO 328
ENGL 341
THEO 431
BIOL 106
BIOL 106
BIOL 106
COJO 220
HIST 116
MUSC
SOCI 251

Communication of Race, Class, and Gender
Literature by Women: Celebrity in the Victorian Era
Women in the Early Church
Women, Medicine, and Biology
Women, Medicine, and Biology (lab)
Women, Medicine, and Biology (lab)
Interpersonal Communication
African American History in Global Perspective
Jazz in America
Race and Ethnicity

TR 3:25-5 pm
TR 3:25-5 pm
MWF 9:35-10:40 am
TR 5:15-6:45 pm
T 7-9 pm
R 7-9 pm
MWF 10:55-noon
MWF 9:35-10:40 am
TR 3:25-5 pm
MWF 12:15-1:20 pm