NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Our formal transition from the Gender and Women’s Studies Program to the Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies Institute was carried out with the help of some very high profile programming and consolidated time from and effort by the members of the incoming and outgoing curriculum and majors committees, who solicited courses, monitored their compatibility with the Institute’s criteria and structures, drafted forms and front matter for the catalog. This has given the Institute a robust start and set up the terms for a stable future. As the Institute’s co-director for this academic year (Frances Hasso will take over while I am teaching in Oberlin’s London Semester this spring), I am enormously grateful for all the help the various committee members have given.

In our rationale for the Institute structure, we had promised programming that would create and build a community that would come together to pursue different, but also overlapping agendas, around gender, sexuality, and feminist studies. In support of this commitment we organized a workshop for all current and future affiliate faculty offering or planning to offer courses in GSFS. Our first social event was a reception for internationally known feminist scholar, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, who came to Oberlin at the end of the last academic year to receive an honorary degree at Commencement. We followed this with our inaugural lecture by another internationally known feminist scholar at the beginning of the fall semester: bell hooks on A Culture of Place: Search for Sustainability. She also participated in two panel discussions on her work, one organized by the Center for Teaching Innovation and Excellence (CTIE), Teaching Critical Thinking: Valuing Diversity, and the other by GSFS, Feminist Clarity: Race and Gender Together. The success of all the events stemmed from significant collaboration between African American Studies; Asian American Alliance; Baldwin Cottage; Center for Teaching Innovation and Excellence (CTIE); Creative Writing Program; Dean's Office; English; Fairchild Co-op; History; Leading Edge (Humanities & Social Sciences); Multicultural Resource Center (MRC); Oberlin Peace Activists League; Office of Communications; Politics; President's Office; Third World Cooperative; Sociology; Vietnamese Students Association. They provided both extensive material and other kinds of support, underscoring not just the network of pedagogical and political interests that connect the GSFS to the college at large, but also GSFS’s identity as site of cross-disciplinary, interdisciplinary, transnational encounters.

This kind of cultural work requires intellectual and material support. And while we have been fortunate in garnering this support for GSFS in its first year, we appeal to all who feel tied to and have been supportive of the Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Institute to continue to support it enthusiastically.

Anuradha Dingwaney Needham
Longman Professor of English
Director, Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies

GRADUATES OF 2008

ASSIATOU, Diallo
BENSON, Rachel
GREEN, Sara

LEWICKI, Krista
LOWENTHAL-SAVY, Stephanie
PRIETO, Teresita

WALDRON, Vanna
WYNN, Lesley

Congratulations to the students who graduated with a major or minor in Gender & Women’s Studies this past academic year. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.
Phyllis Jones Memorial Award

The Phyllis Jones Memorial Award was established through gifts from students, colleagues, and friends of Phyllis Jones (1945-1982). This annual award recognizes and honors student work in areas related to Phyllis Jones’s interests: women writers, minority women, women in the community, and the integration of personal and professional goals for women. The Spring 2008 recipient was as follows:

**RACHEL MADRIS**
*Major: Gender and Women’s Studies*

**Project Title:** Constitution (in)Action: GIBT Activism in Post Apartheid South Africa  
**Project Description:** My research paper aims to explore individuals’ personal experiences with the disconnect between South Africa’s progressive constitution, which protects same-sex marriage, and the general negative social attitudes surrounding GLBT rights issues in South Africa today. I assert that because many political leaders have condemned homosexuality as fundamentally “un-African” South African society has viewed GLBT rights movements as western and “other” which has contributed to the marginalization of the queer community. This paper focuses on the personal narratives of members of the Durban Lesbian and Gay Community Health Centre and GLBT individuals at the University of KwaZulu-Natal to interpret the strategies used by this organization and individual activists to bridge the gap between promises laid out in the constitution and South Africa’s current social reality. This topic deserves significant academic exploration because without a complete understanding of the current social-political disconnect in South Africa, basic human rights will continue to be withheld from certain groups, such as the GLBT community. My paper engages with many lesbian and trans women who are very much a minority in the South African community, and whose voices are not often heard. I think that this paper focuses on one of Phyllis Jones’s interests, which is bringing women’s stories which have been not been made visible to the foreground.

Leah Freed Memorial Prize

The Leah Freed Memorial prize is awarded to support student research, creative work, performance, or other academic projects. Awards are granted to help defray costs of deserving student projects. Competitions for the award are held every fall semester for work to be completed during that academic year. The Fall 2008 recipients were as follows:

**LINDSAY DUPERTUIS**  
*Major: Art History*

**Project Title:** Painted Cassoni in Private Spaces  
**Project Description:** This project centers on an artwork in the Allen Memorial Art Museum collection: Apollonio di Giovanni's "Battle between the Athenians and the Persians" of 1463. This painting, which was once the front panel of a chest (cassone), was made in Florence for the marriage of Caterina Rucellai and Piero Francesco Vettori. Stylistically, it is an interesting object of study because it looks so Gothic at a time when the Renaissance was thriving. Historically, it is interesting because it is embroiled in a dense web of connections that include important figures of quattrocento Florentine art, culture, and politics. Despite this, painted cassoni have often been overlooked by past scholars because they are pieces of furniture. Instead of hanging on the wall, they sat low on the ground and held possessions that the bride brought to her husband's house. The paintings themselves have been considered "decorative" and even "primitive". I argue that cassone paintings rightfully belong in the narrative of Renaissance art; they held a prominent place in a couple's bedroom, which was one of the household's most important spaces. Part of my paper will be a synthesis of existing research on cassoni, focusing on how they were valued by their owners in comparison to other art objects and how Apollonio di Giovanni fit into the art world of fifteenth century Florence. I will also include an analysis of the Oberlin panel, which will discuss the subject matter as a commentary by the bride's father, Giovanni Rucellai, to the new branch of his family.

**KATHERINE LAUTH**  
*Major: Anthropology*

**Project Title:** Resistance in the Hills: Intersections of Gender, Sense of Place, and Activism in Southern West Virginia  
**Project Description:** The coal industry has dominated West Virginia’s natural and cultural landscape for the past 150 years. Since the development of the railway system, outside interests have exploited the state’s land and people to gain
control of the region's rich coal reserves. Technology has accelerated the process of extraction and decreased the need for human labor, most recently with the practice of mountaintop removal (MTR). Infiltrated water supplies and dust caused by blasting have led to increased health problems for coalfield communities, and the environmental damage is threatening the region's subsistent way of life. The majority of the population is directly or indirectly dependent on the coal industry for income, making opposition uncommon. However, there are environmental justice groups organizing against MTR, and the majority of the activists involved are women. There are several reasons for this trend, ranging from the practical to the political. Women's social roles are more often confined to the home, giving them more time to interact with community members and organize. In addition, more women, and especially single women and widows, are not reliant on the industry for their livelihood. Similar to women's participation in other environmental justice movements, many activists claim that their roles as mothers and caretakers call them to activism. This project examines why women have organized in greater numbers than men, considering the gendered social roles of Appalachia, women's relations to the coal industry, and senses of place.

AMANDA SHUBERT
Major: English

Project Title: Diaspora and Identity: The Baghdadi Jews of Mumbai and Kolkata
Amanda was awarded the Leah Freed Prize but had to turn it down in light of the tragic events in Mumbai.

EMMA ANDERSON
My name is Emma Anderson, and I am one of the student representatives for GSFS. I'm a senior GSFS major with a minor in computer science. My particular interests in GSFS include queer and LGBTQ studies, and studies of monuments and memorialization. My hobbies include contra dancing, baking bread, and speaking Swedish (which I learned when I spent a semester abroad in Stockholm last year). I am currently working on an Honors project in GSFS investigating the lives and narratives of LGBTQ youth. I have received the Cemelli grant for this project, and have been doing primary research this semester, interviewing LGBTQ-identified college students about their experiences in high school.

RACHEL MADRIS
My name is Rachel Madris and I am a senior GSFS major and African American Studies minor and one of the GSFS department representatives. It's been thrilling to be a part of the transition from GAWS to GSFS, and think that the new GSFS institute has revitalized the community's interest in Gender, Sexuality and Feminist scholarship. Following bell hook's visit to campus I've had many students approach me to ask questions about the new institute and express their interest in hearing more speakers on GSFS related topics. To me, the most exciting change in the major lies in the choices students now have. Since GSFS is inherently intersectional (in that it is impossible to discuss issues of gender and sexuality without also talking about race and class) it makes a lot of sense
for the major and minor requirements to be spread out over a diverse range of departments. Students now can now pick from a wide range of classes in various departments that focus on gender, sexuality and feminism, thus putting the idea of intersectionality into practice. However, I do think it is still important for majors and other Oberlin students to take classes within the institute because it is there that students will study the feminist frameworks that will inform and enhance the work they do in other departments. I am excited to graduate as one of the first Oberlin students to have the GSFS major on my transcript, because while I often get many quizzical looks when I tell people what my major is, or comments such as “well, that’s mouthful!” and “what on earth is that? What do you plan on doing with that?” those questions and strange looks leave the door open for me to explain exactly what I have learned from my major in my time at Oberlin. After graduation I plan to teach in a New York City public school, and I know that the feminist and intersectional frameworks I use to critically examine the world will be invaluable when I leave Oberlin.

**Sarah Lyons Chase**
I am Sarah Lyons Chase, a third year and double major in Religion and GSFS. Most of my scholarship has been at the intersection of those two subjects within both majors. If I could I might just say that I major in Feminist Spirituality. The way that I have found gender, sexuality and feminist issues so prevalent in religions goes to show how applicable GSFS is to everything that we study. I am really excited about the changes that have been happening and are happening in the department, it is a great time to become involved in the major. See you in class.

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**Alumni News**

It’s always a pleasure to know what our alumni have been up to since their days at Oberlin College. If you would like to be included in following newsletters, you may contact us via e-mail at linda.pardee@oberlin.edu or via snail mail at 10 N. Professor Street, Rice 116, Oberlin, OH 44074. Here are updates from some of our alumni, who were also asked to comment on the significance of awards they may have received or honors projects they undertook while students at Oberlin.

**Lizzie Ehrenhalt** (’05) graduated from the University of Michigan in April of 2008 with a master's degree in Archives and Records Management and a graduate certificate in Museum Studies. In September of 2008 she accepted a grant-funded position as a collections assistant at the Minnesota Historical Society, and continues to work part-time in the PR department of the Walker Art Center. She lives in the Seward neighborhood of Minneapolis with her girlfriend of two and a half years.

**Michaela Ferrari** (’07) After moving to San Francisco in October, 2007, Michaela worked for a year at the National Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Addictions - Bay Area (NCADA-BA), as a youth educator. Since then, she has been working at ANSIRH (Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health), a part of the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health at the University of California, San Francisco. The project she is working on is an eight year study of unintended pregnancy and its effects on women's lives. Michaela is thoroughly enjoying working on a project that is so critically important to women's lives and in an area of research that she is extremely passionate about. She is also loving San Francisco, especially with the addition of some wonderful Obies this past year.

**Elena Foshay** (’98) is currently living in San Francisco with her partner and working as a researcher at the Apollo Alliance, where she focuses on policies and economic development strategies that will create good jobs in the clean energy economy. She just found all her old women's studies textbooks and thesis in a box at her parents' house, and is now trying to figure out where to put them.

**Victoria González-Rivera** (formerly Victoria González) (’90) I am starting my third year as a tenure-track professor in the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at San Diego State University. At SDSU I teach courses on colonial Mexican history, feminist theory, and Chicana and Chicano history. My book, *Before the Revolution: Women's Rights and Right-Wing Politics in Nicaragua, 1821-1979* is forthcoming from Penn State University Press. While I continue to write about Nicaraguan history, my new research project, titled "Heteromothernities," deals with ideologies of motherhood and breastfeeding along the U.S. Mexico border, the place I have called home for the last 9 years. My new project has been influenced by my experiences with my own children, particularly my third (and last) child, Paulo, now 2. Being a mother of a child with multiple medical...
conditions and so-called "invisible disabilities" has helped me understand motherhood in a more complex way. This understanding will be useful as I seek to address some of the links between class, motherhood, and breastfeeding among Mexican-origin populations in the U.S. Southwest.

**Nina Hasen** ('88) is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin Center for Women's Health Research. My research focuses on the disparities in early onset breast cancer between African American and White women. I use animal models to explore hypotheses about how the chronic stress associated with racism might alter gene expression. I earned my PhD in Zoology in 2007; my dissertation was on the role of chemical communication in maternal behaviors. I've lived in Madison, WI for about 17 years, where I've been "alloparenting" a son and, more recently, co-habitating with a retired racing greyhound.

**Maggie Keenan-Bolger** (Gender and Women's Studies/Theatre 06') is currently living in Brooklyn, New York. Soon after arriving in Brooklyn, she and 4 other Oberlin grads started a theatre company called 4th Meal Productions. 4th Meal's aim is to create and foster new work and empower young actors, writers, and interdisciplinary artists to take their creative lives into their own hands. Along with producing their monthly web series, *The Gifted Girls* (find it on *YouTube!*), 4th Meal remounted a theatrical piece Maggie started as a GAWS/Theatre project her senior year at Oberlin at the New York International Fringe Festival. The play, *From the Inside, Out* worked to dispel myths and create awareness surrounding self-injury, a rarely talked-about issue among men, women and trans people in society. The play was a hit and is now planning a tour to a number of high schools and colleges in the New York area. If you know of a school interested in hosting a performance or for more details visit 4th Meal's website at www.4thmealproductions.org.

**Maggie Knoke** ('95) After Oberlin I spent several years in nonprofit management and as a funding grantor to nonprofits. I left to pursue my MBA at the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Business in 2000. Since graduate school I have been at Target Corporation, first as a financial analyst and now managing a team of project managers working on complex, high-visibility strategic business intelligence projects for Finance clients. I recently served several years on the board of directors at the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault. I blog about career development strategy, tactics, goals, success & angst at Open-Source Career, http://mfkblog.wordpress.com/. Please stop by; I’d love to hear from you!

**Sara Lovelady** ('93) I work as a freelance writer for the natural/organic foods industry, have settled down in Ashland, Oregon with my honey Dune and our 2 cats, and just bought my first house! I’ve learned from Dune that the feminist movement needs to expand beyond simply addressing the hardships women face to also address how gender conditioning harms men and keeps them cut off from themselves. So I’m glad to see the program has changed from Women’s Studies, the name in my day, to Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies. Trust Oberlin to keep evolving.

**Lauren Mizock** ('03) is in her fifth year of a Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program at Suffolk University in Boston, MA. She completed her dissertation in October 2008 entitled, "Cross-Racial Research Dyads: The Role of Race in the Research Process." This research examines the impact of racism on the researcher-participant relationship and the resulting data that is collected. While applying for predoctoral internship to complete her Ph.D., she is working as an individual psychotherapist and teaching full-time at Emmanuel College in the Psychology Department. Lauren is looking forward to drawing from her wonderful experience in the Women and Gender Studies Department to teach Psychology of Gender in the spring semester. In her spare time she has been knitting socks, practicing meditation, and celebrating Obama’s win. Email her at lauren.mizock@suffolk.edu.

**Marian Potter Salmon** ('00) My husband Mike and I welcomed our daughter Brynja Elizabeth on February 15, 2008. Big brother Sven, only 13 months older, loves his "bebe" and is very kind and helpful. I continue to work full time as Executive Director of the New York Section American Water Works Association, an educational non-profit association for professionals in the tap water industry, and am in my ninth year with the association. We live in Syracuse, New York.

**Jenny Sandler** ('07) I am currently living and working near my hometown in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. I am employed by a local domestic violence non-profit agency. It is fascinating to see conflicting versions of feminism(s)
and social justice paradigms working themselves out in my daily life. I work as a healthcare systems educator. Mainly I teach and facilitate discussion on domestic violence for nurses at local hospitals. As an agency, we are working towards "cultural change" and it is incredible to feel like a part of the process. At times it is very satisfying work, and at others, it could not happen at a more frustratingly slow pace! Either way, it is very rewarding to be able to use concepts from my studies at Oberlin every day at work.

**Eva Schlesinger ('87)** My first chapbook, *Remembering the Walker and Wheelchair: poems of grief and healing*, was published by Finishing Line Press and is available from www.finishinglinepress.com. My next chapbook, *View From My Banana Vanilla Villa*, will be published by Dancing Girl Press later in the year. I hope all is well with everyone. Email contact: bananafish_croissant@world.oberlin.edu.

**Eva Seligman ('06)** is completing the second year of her Peace Corps service in Romania, where she works as an English Teacher in a high school in the city of Galati. She also serves as the head of the Education sub-committee on the Gender and Development Board, a committee comprised of Romanian and American men and women dedicated to examining and addressing gender issues in Romania. This December she helped organize and facilitate a one-day Gender and Education workshop for Peace Corps Volunteers in Romania.

**Retsu Takahashi ('92)** Our little family moved to Seattle, WA. We had a baby girl in September, and named her Neve Saya. Our first daughter, who has a keen interest in lost pet signs, turns three in January. As their mama prepares to go back to work full time, I'm gearing up to be the stay-at-home parent, with a side of freelance illustrating. Long range plans include sleep.

**Megan Thompson ('01)** graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in May 2008. She is currently clerking for Judge Schuman on the Oregon Court of Appeals, and will be clerking for Judge Goodwin on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals beginning September 2009. If you would like to contact Megan her email address is: megan.thompson@gmail.com.

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**Faculty News**

**Ann Cooper Albright**, *Professor of Dance and Theater*, is happy to report that Girls in Motion [www.oberlin.edu/girlsinmotion] is thriving in its fifth year of operation as an after school program at Langston Middle School using mentors from Oberlin College. Last spring, Ann introduced a new service learning course Moving into Community which helped students realize similar programs in a variety of venues. In addition, GAWS seniors Rachel Benson and Stephanie Lowenthal-Savvy worked for Girls in Motion as part of their GAWS practicum. The program has expanded and there is now a six-week Girls in Motion at Prospect in the spring and a affiliated program called Boyz in Motion. Look out for their dance-off right after the big parade in May 2009.


**Joyce Babyak**, *Associate Professor of Religion*, is currently working on two articles, entitled, "Christian Nonviolence and Practical Pacifism: Finding Conceptual Space for Dialogue Among Christians, Jews, and Muslims," and "Same-Sex Unions: Insights from an Ethics of Active Acceptance." She recently presented papers on these topics at the Society of Christian Ethics and the Conference of Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church, respectively.
Pam Brooks, Associate Professor of African American Studies, has published a new book entitled, Boycotts, Buses, and Passes: Black Women's Resistance in the U.S. South and South Africa [UMass Press]. A collaborative book project with her father Owen Brooks, a Mississippi Freedom Movement veteran, is currently underway. In addition, Ms. Brooks plans to continue her comparative/transnational work in African American and Black South African women's histories.

Ana Cara, Professor of Hispanic Studies, will be presenting a paper titled "From Canzone Napoletana to Tango Criollo" on a panel on Hybridic Formations in Sound at a New York conference: "Neapolitan Postcards; The Canzone Napoletana as Transnational Subject," March 19-21, 2009. The conference is sponsored by the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, Cuny, USA, and the International Centre for Music Studies, Newcastle University, UK, in collaboration with the Archivio Sono Della Canzone Napoletana, Rai, Italy. Her paper is part of a larger tango book project. In April she has been invited to teach a mini-course in the Comparative Literature Department at the University of Cordoba, Argentina on Caribbean Literatures, Arts and Cultures.


Eric Estes is an Associate Dean and Director of the Multicultural Resource Center. In addition to his affiliation with GSFS, he is also a faculty member in Comparative American Studies and History. This past year, he was awarded an Oberlin Shansi Faculty in Asia Grant. In May-June, he gave two university-wide lectures titled “U.S. Presidential Politics as Identity Politics” and “Diversity and Inclusion in U.S. Higher Education” at Shanxi Agricultural University in China. He also gave a talk titled “Negotiating Identity Politics and Dominant Cultural Narratives” as part of a panel on the U.S. presidential election at the 2008 Summer Institute for the Study of the United States for China University Faculty at Beijing Foreign Studies University. Eric teaches several courses including “Bodies in Play: Athletics, Identity, and Culture in America” and “Meanings of the Memorial Arch” (with Professor David Kamitsuka).

Jennifer Fraser, Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology, received the Ph.D. in Musicology from University of Illinois in 2007. Her research amongst the Minangkabau in West Sumatra and Jakarta, Indonesia, explores how musical practice both informs, and is informed by, issues of ethnicity, cultural politics, commercialization, gender, and Islam. The Minangkabau are a fascinating cultural group to study given that they are one of the largest surviving matrilineal groups in the world, yet also devout Muslims. West Sumatra, moreover, is one of the few places in Indonesia where women—in some villages at least—are the only performers of a ceremonial gong ensemble. She is currently working on an article entitled "Women on Stage: Sex Appeal, Porno Lyrics, and the Male Gaze in Islamic West Sumatra, Indonesia" that looks at shifting gender dynamics and aesthetic frames as women become the primary vocalists in a genre performed for predominately male audiences throughout the night and the tensions that surface in a society where Islamist politics and moral consciousness are on the rise.
Jennifer teaches the ethnomusicology curriculum at Oberlin, including intro classes, Music and Media, Music and the Politics of Identity (a GSFS elective), and area courses in the musics of Indonesia, India, and the Balkans and Middle East. She also directs the Central Javanese gamelan ensemble and West Sumatran gong ensemble.

**Meredith M. Gadsby, Associate Professor of African American Studies,** continues to enjoy her membership on the GSFS Program Committee. Ms. Gadsby will teach African Diasporic Literary Theory this semester, a course which examines the international dialogues on the nature and evolution of literature written by Black peoples. Special attention will be paid to Black Feminist Literary Criticism, The Harlem Renaissance, Negritude, and the Black Arts Movement. Ms. Gadsby continues her tenure as President of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers. Her book *Sucking Salt: Caribbean Women Writers, Migration, and Survival,* has received outstanding reviews in *African American Review* and *Callaloo,* two of the preeminent refereed journals on Africana Literatures.

Ms Gadsby is the recipient of an Oberlin College Curriculum Development Grant, which she will use, in collaboration with The Department of African American Studies, to develop an intermediate research methods seminar for African American Studies majors. This course will be bridge between AAST 101 Introduction to Black Peoples and the focused independent research required for Senior Seminar. In addition, Ms. Gadsby has been recently appointed to the Oberlin Public Library Board of Trustees.

**Frances Hasso, Associate Professor of Sociology,** received a fellowship from the Social Science Research Council to attend the February 2008 SSRC inaugural conference on Inter-Asian Connections, in Dubai, UAE, where she presented a paper titled, "Transnational 'Invasions' and Emerging Selves and Desires." In May, she traveled to Cairo, Egypt to complete fieldwork for an ongoing book project. In June, she was in a residency fellowship to work on the book project at the Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World (ISIM), Leiden, The Netherlands. In September, she presented an invited paper titled, "Empowering Governmentalities rather than Women...." at the International Conference celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Centre for Contemporary Middle East Studies, Syddansk Universitet, Odense, Denmark. She was nominated and elected to a two-year term on the Sally Hacker Paper Prize committee of the Sex and Gender Section of the American Sociological Association. Recent publications include: "Empowering Governmentalities rather than Women: The Arab Human Development Report 2005 and Western Development Logics," in *International Journal of Middle East Studies,* 41 (February 2009), 63-82; and "Situating Women and Gender in Militarization, War, and Partition," Book Review Essay in *Journal of Women's History,* vol. 20, no. 4, (winter 2008), 171-176.

**Margaret Kamitsuka, Associate Professor, Religion Department,** has served on the Advisory Council of the GSFS from its inception, working on the Curriculum Subcommittee. She is an advisor for GSFS majors and is interested in working with GSFS affiliate faculty who wish to incorporate new trajectories for the study of gender, feminism, sexuality into their existing and new courses. She teaches courses in gender and religion and methodologies in religious studies. Her monograph, *Feminist Theology and the Challenge of Difference,* was published by Oxford University Press in 2007 (abstracts of the book’s chapters are available at Oxford Scholarship Online: http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/search/results/1). She is currently editing an anthology titled, *The Embrace of Eros: Bodies, Desires, and Sexuality in Christianity.*

**Wendy Kozol, Professor of Comparative American Studies.** Starting in fall 2008, Wendy Kozol has joined the core faculty of Comparative American Studies where she continues to teach courses in visual culture studies and feminist theories and methodologies. Wendy recently published an article in *Peace Review,* titled "Visual Witnessing and Women's Human Rights" (January 2008).
PABLO MITCHELL, Associate Professor of History and Comparative American Studies, is the author of Coyote Nation: Sexuality, Race, and Conquest in Modernizing New Mexico, 1880–1920, which was awarded the 2007 Ray Allen Billington Prize by the Organization of American Historians. In 2008, he was honored as an "Emerging Scholar of the Year" by Diverse: Issues in Higher Education magazine. His current project, West of Sex: The Making of Latino America 1900–1930, further explores Latino sexuality. After completing this work, Mitchell is interested in studying how sexuality and Latino history intersect with the history of American medicine, and he hopes to offer courses on that research in the next few years.

ANURADHA DINGWANEY NEEDHAM, Longman Professor of English, who is currently working on a monograph on prominent India film maker Shyam Benegal, presented a truncated version of her first chapter on "(Nation-)State, Woman, and Realism in Shyam Benegal films" at conference on Postcolonial Theory and the Hit of the Real at New York University. Her comments on Gayatri Chakravarty Spivak’s Influences: Past, Present, Future appeared in the Forum on Conference Debate in Publications of the Modern Language Association of America in January 2008. As first director of the GSFS Institute, she organized the Institute’s inaugural lecture by bell hooks. In Fall 2008, she got a chance to teach an entire course on Salman Rushdie—an opportunity she has looked forward to and nurtured for a long time.

MEREDITH RAIMONDO, Assistant Professor of Comparative American Studies, continues to publish on cultural representations of HIV/AIDS and will be developing new courses in health studies and queer theory with the support of a curriculum development grant in 2009–2010.

Upcoming publications:

ANN SHERIF, Associate Professor and Director of East Asian Studies, looks forward to advising GSFS majors and minors, especially those with an international focus. Her book Japan’s Cold War: Literature, Media and the Japan in Postwar Japan will be published by Columbia University Press in spring, 2009. She is starting a new project on Leftist and progressive publishers in modern Japan.

DONORS

The Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Institute is extremely grateful for the generous contributions made by the following individuals over the last year.

JULIE BEICKEN ('03)  SALLY MCCONNELL-GINET ('59)
HOLLY FECHNER ('85)  KEVIN MILLS ('83)
CAROLYNN FISCHEL ('64)  REBECCA MORROW ('94)
LORI GINZBERG ('77)  MARYSHA KATZ ('85)
PAULA GOLDSMID ('64)  THOMAS SWARTELE
MARYASHA KATZ ('85)  RICHARD ZASLOW
SHERRI LEVINE ('85)

Thank you for your support. Your generous contributions enable us to schedule and sponsor events both on and off campus, benefiting the Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies majors as well as the entire student body at Oberlin College.
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Programming and student fellowships in the new Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies significantly rely on the contributions of alumni and friends. Such contributions of whatever amount facilitate the growth and vitality of gender, sexuality, and feminist studies at Oberlin College for majors and students throughout the college. We hope you can make such a contribution. The following URL allows you to do so directly and online: [http://www.oberlin.edu/giving](http://www.oberlin.edu/giving) When you reach this page, click the “Give Online” link on the left. Donations will be directed to the new GSFS Institute if Option “c. Other” is chosen and “GSFS Institute” is typed in the empty box to the right. Thank you.