

# Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

SPRING 2018

NEWSLETTER

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BGSU COLLEGE OF Arts and Sciences

## Director's Letter

May 2018

This year marks a milestone for the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies program at BGSU—We celebrated our 40th anniversary in 2018 as the first Women's Studies program approved within the state of Ohio with a series of events, programs, and special projects.

Our theme #ThisIsWhat40LooksLike was seen in graduate student work in the Women's Studies archives (online here [https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ws6800\\_archiveproject/](https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ws6800_archiveproject/)), in student's oral history interviews (online here [https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ws6800\\_interview/](https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ws6800_interview/)), and in essays and art projects about the impact of Women's Studies featured at our WGSS Research and Art Symposium on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Feminist Theory students created felt panels that detailed their feminist tool kits for a table runner ala Judy Chicago that were featured at our symposium. We hosted Susan Brownmiller who gave a terrific talk about the history of second wave feminist activism.

You can view our 40<sup>th</sup> celebration slide show online [https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ws6800\\_interview/6/](https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ws6800_interview/6/). Here's to another 40 years of WGSS @BGSU. We think you will agree that 40 looks great on us!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Fulmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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## ALUMNI PANEL By Nicole Cordier

As part of Women's History Month and our #ThisIsWhat40Looks Like celebration, BGSU hosted an alumni panel on March 14. Women's Studies alumni discussed their experiences at BGSU, which included inspiring classes taught by professors like Julie Haught, Mary Krueger, Sarah Smith Rainey-Smithback, and Jeannie Ludlow. They also talked about feminist organizing and a profound introduction to intersectionality that they have applied to diverse careers in public policy, higher education, social work, youth development, and sexual assault prevention.

**"You can do anything with the liberal arts and a Women's Studies degree."**

**-Beth Trecasa, Class of 1999**

Beth Trecasa graduated from BGSU in 1999, she currently works as the Chief Operations Officer and Assistant Dean For Strategic Initiatives for the College of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University.

**"I took a Women's Studies course with Julie Haught that changed my life."**

**-Emily Carroll, class of 2006**

Emily Carroll, public policy analyst and researcher; president of Janus Analytics, LLC. Carroll credits the Women's Studies program and the amazing group of women in her cohort with her introduction to politics, her passion for women's issues, and her commitment to creating a better system of policy and programming through the use of objective evidence.

**"Women's Studies set me up for everything I've done in my life."**

**-Emily Resnik, class of 2007**

**Resnik** currently works as a clinical social worker at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center. She is a Board Member of the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence and is President of the Board for the Ohio River Valley Clinical Social Work Society.

**"Women's Studies gave me the confidence I needed to stand up. Don't underestimate what Women's Studies can do for you. It gives you options."**

**-Emily Carroll, class of 2006**

**Julia Strange** livestreamed with us from D.C.(?). Since she graduated from BGSU in 2003, she has worked in gender-based violence prevention for over twelve years.

Currently, she works as a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program Analyst.

**Mell DePew**, Class of 2005, currently works as the Youth and Family Director at the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne—Parkview Family YMCA. She is a youth development champion with over eleven years of experience working with at-risk youth. She also founded the MOVE: Teen Summer Series program.

**Jessica Blumerick**, Class of 2015, currently works as an assessment manager at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She brings in the critical and creative thinking skills, research and analytic skills, and overall better awareness of my environment and community that WGSS taught her.

BGSU Alumni activists include (from left) Emily Carroll, Jessica Blumerick, Emily Resnik, Beth Trecasa, Mell DePew, Ellen Lassiter Collier, and Julia Strange (on screen).



## AFFILIATED FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

### Vikki Krane

A Sport Management professor and Graduate Coordinator within Bowling Green State University's College of Education and Human Development, Dr. Vikki Krane's experience as an academic first consisted of mainstream quantitative work surrounding themes in psychology and athletics. However, after exposure to feminist and qualitative methods, Dr. Krane found Women's Studies provided a language to describe her personal experiences and professional interests more accurately. Today, Dr. Krane is recognized as an accomplished feminist qualitative researcher. On February 6, 2018, I spoke with Dr. Krane about her experiences within Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies and her time as the Women's Studies director overseeing the program's thirtieth anniversary at BGSU in 2008. Discussing the evolution of the campus's culture of inclusion, the introduction of resources such as the Women's Center to BGSU, and the administrative support extended to faculty, Dr. Krane's account provides a historical consideration of the progression of feminist theory in academic spaces and a testament to the professional and personal applications of Women's Studies. What became especially clear is the Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies program's attention to community, collaboration, and taking care of one another. What follows is an excerpt from the interview. The rest can be found on Scholarworks.



### Interview Excerpt:

**So, looking back to your time as a director, I think what were you most proud of—something you accomplished during that position or what were you most proud of about the office itself, I guess?**

Dr. Krane: I guess, I mean, I came into the position—I'd been affiliated with Women's Studies for quite a few years and it sort of felt like that was my community even though it wasn't my own department. It was so interdisciplinary. That's where the feminist people were, and even though they weren't sport people we all spoke the same language. We all had the, you know, we all came together, and when things around campus were going crazy—which, there's always something going on—you have like-minded people to either commiserate with, or plan with, or celebrate with depending on what was going on. And so that kept me going, that brought me into the group and kept me wanting to be a part of the group, and obviously the academic support in terms of just talking ideas and being able to share our research with one another was huge. When I became director I wanted to continue that sense of community, and that really was a big part of what I focused on—a community with the students, the grad students, as well as the faculty. That's really been at the heart of Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies all along: taking care of the people involved. We're all coming at this from a place of oppression and privilege and we all have our points of both, but we all need support moving forward and supporting each other. I think just continuing and building on that sense of community was huge, and watching what the people around me were able to accomplish in terms of faculty doing their research, the graduate students doing their work and getting jobs, the undergrads going on to do some amazing things, to me that was the best part of it all. It was always about all the people.

### How do you think your affiliation with the Women's Studies department impacted your work and your professional interests?

Dr. Krane: It was huge because, again, it gave me that academic community to share my feminist ideas with. This is going to sound funny—I came from an academic background where I had no Women's Studies classes, I had no qualitative research classes, and now I'm known as a feminist qualitative researcher. It's kind of funny, I came here with no academic background in those areas, and I just started reading and moving my research more and more into feminist qualitative work. Having people to share these ideas with and to let me know 'No, you're not crazy, that's actually the way we do things. We interpret things the same way,' was huge. As a young scholar it really gave me a feminist home.

## Fall Reception Celebrates Faculty Contributions

In September, we welcomed new women and non-binary faculty to the university as well as celebrated the achievements made by our current women and non-binary faculty. This annual reception, co-organized by the WGSS program and the Women's Center recognized the important contributions women and nonbinary BGSU faculty make with their excellence in research, teaching, and service as educators, mentors, and scholars. This year, we celebrated 33 new women/nonbinary faculty (of all ranks), one who received tenure, four who have been promoted to lecturer, four promoted to senior lecturer, seven who have achieved promotion to associate professor, and seven promoted to full professor. Congratulations to all! ♦



## Susan Brownmiller Visits Bowling Green

By Nicole Cordier



To celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we invited Susan Brownmiller to be our keynote speaker. Brownmiller is an author and feminist activist, best known for her groundbreaking book, *Against Our Will: Men, Women, and Rape*, which helped modernize attitudes toward rape and placed it in the broader context of pervasive gender oppression. In 1995, the New York Public Library selected *Against Her Will* as one of the 100 most important books of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Brownmiller worked at Newsweek, ABC-TV News and as a freelancer for the *Village Voice*. She organized the *Ladies Home Journal* sit-in in 1970, and helped organize the New York radical Feminist speak-out and conference on rape in 1971. Her other books include: *Shirley Chisholm*, *Femininity*, *Waverly Place*, and *In Our Time: Memoir of a Revolution*. Brownmiller gave a talk the night before the Research Symposium and then held a Roundtable discussion during the symposium. During her talk, she discussed her experiences as an activist during the era of second wave feminism. "When we did consciousness raising, we found these truths for the first time," she said. During consciousness raising sessions, they "were on the verge of discovering new truths. It was like spontaneous combustion." At the roundtable discussion, moderated by Dr. Kimberly Coates, Brownmiller talked about current struggles in the feminist community, such as the #metoo movement and transgender rights.



## 2018 Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies #ThisIsWhat40LooksLike Essay and Art Contest Winners

Students were asked to submit art and essay contest submissions based on a prompt asking what Women's Studies means to them. The results were incredible. Winners were asked to talk about their work at the WGSS Symposium. Pictures can be found on the next page.

### Winners List:

#### Graduate Art Contest:

First Place: "The Feminist with the Incorrect Name" by Kristin LaFollette

#### Undergraduate Art Contest:

First Place:

"He Said, She Said" and "Average Size" by Emerald Batty

Second Place: "What we Feel," by Noah Eblin

Third Place: "Hey, Honey," by Stephanie Carol Werth

Honorable Mention:

"I'mpact," by Alexis Rubertino

"Segmented Body," by Erin McKenna Drake

"Belladonna," by Rachel Sykes

#### Graduate Essay Contest Winners:

First Place:

"Midwifery as Metis: Embodied Knowledges in Childbirth in Ancient Greece," by Lauren Salisbury

Second Place:

"Nina Simone and the Curse of Metis and Medusa," by Triauna Carey

"Tehran to Miami: The Queer Performance of Migration," by Mohamedreza Babae

Third Place

"The Answer in my Body," by Charnell Peters

Honorable Mention:

"Consent as After Birth," by Lena Ziegler

Below: Kristin LaFollette presenting



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Lauren Salisbury



Charnell Peters



Noah Eblin, talking about the process of making "What We Feel"



Mohamedreza Babae

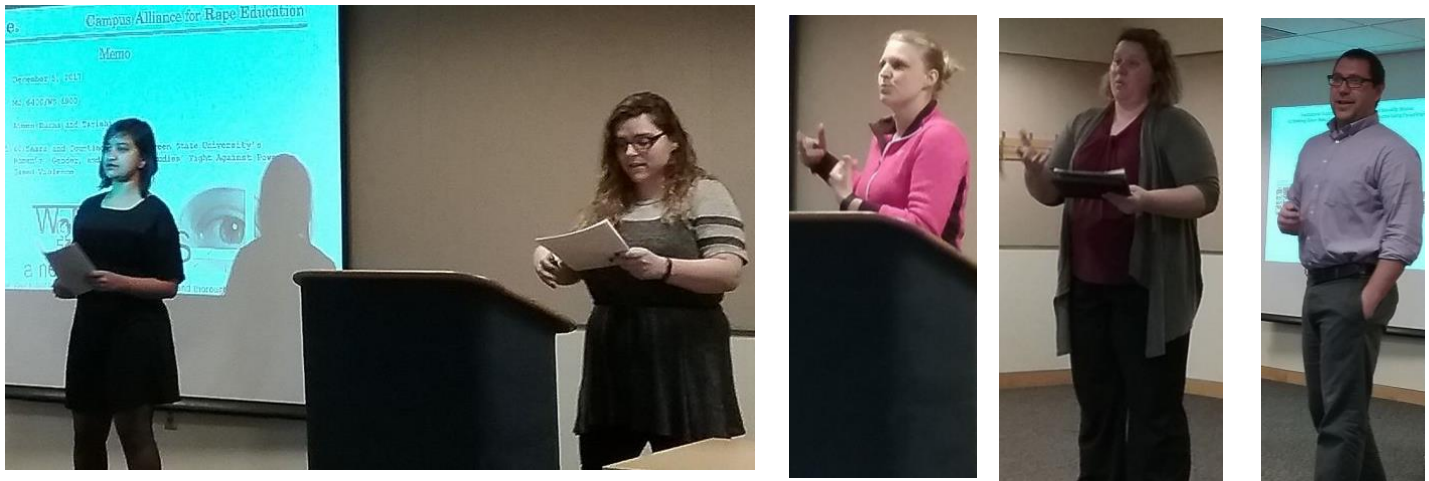


Triauna Carey



Every birthday needs a birthday cake! Happy birthday WGSS!

# 2018 Women's, Gender, and Sexuality #ThisIsWhat40LooksLike Student Archive Presentations



From left to right: Tarishi Verma and Aimee Jean Burns presenting “40 years and counting: BGSU WGSS fight against power-based violence”; Jordan Conrad presenting “Institutional support of WGSS @BGSU: A historical perspective using found poems”; Kim Ennis and Tanja Vierrether presenting “Women Studies Oral History and Archive Presentation.”

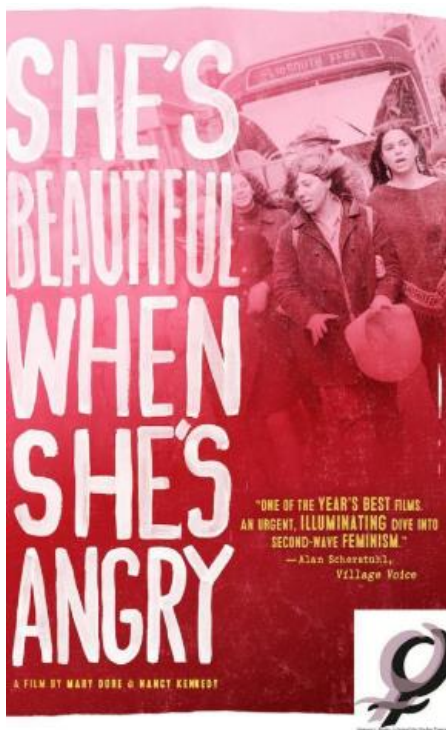
## Craftivism Projects



# Highlights from Women's History Month Events 2018



Pictured above and below, our documentary showing of "She's Beautiful When She's Angry"



Pictured right and above, pictures from our Women's Voices Read-a-thon; Students and faculty were invited to read poems and other writings written by women



Below: 20<sup>th</sup> annual "Bring Your Favorite Female Coach/Professor/Mentor to event"



# Graduate Student Accomplishments 2018

## Kristin LaFollette

### Ph.D. student in English/Rhetoric & Writing

- In October, her poetry manuscript *Body Parts* was selected for the grand prize in the 2017 GFT Press Chapbook Contest. They published the chapbook on March 22, 2018.
- Received first place in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Art Contest for her artwork, *The Feminist with the Incorrect Name*.
- Her article, "The Opposite of the Skeleton Inside of Me': Women's Poetry as Feminist Activism," was published in a special issue of *Art/Research International: A Transdisciplinary Journal* (Volume 3 Issue 1) on poetry and social justice.

## Graeme John Wilson

### Doctoral Candidate in School of Media and Communication

- Presented at the 2017 NCA and 2018 PCA Conferences
- Had two book reviews, two peer reviewed essays, and a book chapter accepted for publication
- Received Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies

# Faculty Accomplishments 2018

## Radhika Gajjala

- Published *Online Philanthropy: Connecting, microfinancing, and gaming for change* (2017). Lexington Press, Lanham, MD.
- Co-edited special issue—Elerdin, C, Editor, Risam, R, and Gajjala, R (2018). First Monday special issue on Digital Labor
- Speaker at Kennesaw State University's Year of India Program, February 23, 2018. Title of talk: Philanthropy 2.0 and Digital Subalternity
- Invited Workshop for conference on "Pop Culture in/as Speculative Resistance", February 16, 2018 at Wayne State University on "Feminist making: Techne and Episteme examined through Handspinning"
- Presenter in Plenary panel "*Can the Subaltern Speak? – Thirty Years Later*"
- Monday Night Seminar on Topic "Spinning the Global with Textile Media" at the McLuhan Center, Toronto, CA (October 2, 2017)

## Sandra Faulkner

- Published *Real Women Running: Running as Feminist Embodiment* (2018, Routledge)

## Emily Aguilar

- Recipient of the Equality Award from Equality Toledo (The award says, "In honor of your dedication, service, leadership, and advocacy to the LGBTQ community, Awarded this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 2017.")
- Emily Aguilar and Roxanne Schroeder-Arce. "Youth Identities in Process: Learning Through Indigenous Arts." *Nakum Journal*. Print. 2017

## Melissa Kary Miller

- Published "Mothers and the Media on the Campaign Trail" in *Mothers and Others: The Role of Parenthood in Politics*, Melanee Thomas and Amanda Bittner, eds., University of British Columbia Press, 2017.
- Delivered Distinguished Faculty Lecture in the College of Arts and Sciences in the fall of 2017, entitled "Battle of the Sexes: Who Knows More About Politics?"
- Winner of Faculty Senate Award for Outstanding Community Engagement (this will be announced on Monday, April 9)

## Allie Terry-Fritsch

- In addition to four keynote and invited research lectures delivered at research institutions across the country, Dr. Terry-Fritsch has published three articles that address the cultural representation of and artistic interventions of Renaissance women in Early Modern Europe in the 2017-18 academic year:
- Allie Terry-Fritsch, "Embodied Temporality: Lucrezia Tornabuoni de'Medici, Donatello's *Judith*, and the Performance of Gendered Authority in Palazzo Medici, Florence." in *Gendered Temporalities in the Early Modern World*, ed. Merry Wiesner-Hanks. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2018 (forthcoming).
- Allie Terry-Fritsch, "Review: Giancarla Periti, *In the Courts of Religious Ladies: Art, Vision, and Pleasure in Italian Renaissance Convents*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2016." *Seventeenth-Century News*, Spring 2018 (forthcoming).
- Allie Terry-Fritsch, "Animal Trials, Humiliation Rituals, and the Sensing of the Criminal Offender in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe." in *Visualizing Sensuous Suffering: Pain in the Early Modern Visual Arts of Europe and the Americas*, eds. Heather Sexton Graham and Lauren Kilroy-Ewbank. Leiden: Brill Press, 2018, 53-81.



# Faculty Accomplishments 2018

## Angela Ahlgren

- Completed my manuscript, *Drumming Asian America: Taiko, Performance, and Cultural Politics* (Oxford, 2018). The book is set to ship on April 24, 2018.
- Chaired and co-organized the Great Lakes Theatre Scholars Symposium 2018 on January 20, a one-day event of theater history presentations by invited scholars from the Great Lakes region

## R.G. Cravens

- Added Sexuality & Politics to the curriculum in the Department of Political Science, approved for Sexuality Studies minor
- Chosen for a Wikipedia Education Foundation Fellowship in conjunction with the Midwest Political Science Association
- Article titled “The Politics of Queer Religion” forthcoming this year in the journal *Politics & Religion*.

## AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE:

Since Women’s Studies was introduced in 1978, the program has evolved to become the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program at BGSU. Today’s program provides the same thoughtful, interdisciplinary studies as the original curriculum and continues to make a difference in the lives of our students. By making a gift to the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program at BGSU, you can provide opportunities to current and future students. Please consider a gift to our program foundation account: Account #301217

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