From the Director...

It was the goal of justice for women which motivated my activism, as well as that of thousands of others, when we first organized the Women's Liberation Movement in the early 1960s. Low pay for women workers, violence against women on the streets and in their homes, educational and occupational discrimination, denial of the right to abortion, and the sexual degradation of women in the media fired our outrage. We believed that if we could demonstrate that women were unfairly treated, there would be a massive outcry for change.

The terrain on which we fought was that of ideas. Through our writings, discussions, and demonstrations we argued for our beliefs. The dialogue we initiated and the struggle for justice it represents still continue; we have not yet been fully victorious. But there is substantial evidence that, over the last two decades and a half, our arguments have in fact succeeded in changing what people believe, concerning justice for women. The free exchange of ideas has been critical in helping us to change people's minds as well as their practices.

Of course, not everyone has been willing to listen. Feminist beliefs about justice are threatening to many. Women's Movement activists were—and today still are—ridiculed, belittled, censored, and even attacked for their ideas. Through it all, however, the Women's Movement as a whole persists in this belief that a free and open dialogue concerning women will continue to result in increased justice for women. Raising consciousness - offering people a new way of seeing and understanding themselves and their world - continues to be a central component of the Women's Movement.

Some, however, find it difficult to sustain their commitment to open dialogue in a situation where the ideas expressed are believed to be injurious to women. Fairness, however, requires that these ideas, too, be afforded a respectful hearing. For example, the position which advocates restricting the abortion rights of women is one which I, along with most feminists and a majority of Americans, believe to be both unjust and dangerous. Nonetheless, this point of view should be included as part of the dialogue concerning ideas of justice for women.

The group representing the anti-abortion position on Colgate's campus calls itself Respect Life. They have asked me, as Director of the Women's Studies Program, to facilitate their participation in our Center's discussion of women and gender issues. Since this student group is seriously committed to addressing issues which are a critical part of the ongoing dialogue concerning women, I have responded positively to their requests to list their events in our newsletter, to make our meeting space at the Center available to them, and to promote a broad exchange of ideas on the subject of reproductive choice and other issues.

The belief in justice which fires a commitment to feminism demands that all ideas be considered in our ongoing struggle to create a more humane society where women are accorded the dignity and right to self-determination they deserve. Even though the anti-abortion position is that of only a small minority on Colgate's campus, we must deal with them justly by protecting their right to state their point of view. As Anna Quindlen writes in the New York Times of October 7, 1992:

"In the fight to keep women free it is important to remember this: freedom of speech is the bedrock of it all. Silence is what kept us in our place for too long. If we now silence others, liberty is false."

Joan D. Mandle, Women's Studies Program

Spotlight on the Faculty

The Women's Studies Program welcomes Professor Felicia Ekejiuba to Colgate. She will be teaching in the Sociology and Anthropology Department, as well as in the Women's Studies Program.

Professor Ekejiuba comes to Colgate after spending two years helping rural Nigerian women develop a cooperative method of farming. With a grant from the Ford Foundation, she researched the extent to which rural Nigerian women would embrace the cooperative movement in their farming businesses. She found that constraints such as language, external contacts, and a lack of experience with bureaucratic processes were serious problems

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Center for Women's Studies Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm and Sunday-Thursday 8:00-10:00 pm
Faculty Spotlight

Nigerian women had to overcome in effectively utilizing government agencies, banks, and foreign help organizations. She organized and helped the women purchase farm processing machinery for milling cassava, corn, beans, and for cracking palm kernels. While at Colgate, Professor Ekejiuba plans to write about her experiences working with these women.

Professor Ekejiuba’s class on Anthropological Perspectives on Women is being offered during both the Fall and Spring semester. In it, students discuss the ethnography of women in Africa. Professor Ekejiuba explores issues of the subordination and empowerment of women by emphasizing the intersection of race, gender, and social class in understanding women’s lives.

After receiving her Ph.D from Harvard in 1976, Professor Ekejiuba returned to Nigeria as an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. There she pursued research on a book which reconstructs the history and culture of an Eastern Nigerian ethnic group, the Aro. Promoted to the rank of full Professor in 1986, Professor Ekejiuba received a Fulbright Grant as a Scholar in Residence at SUNY Farmingdale. Her most recent professional experience has been as Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Nigeria.

We are pleased to be able to learn from Professor Ekejiuba’s research and experiences. Join us in welcoming her to Colgate this year!

AIDS: Crisis in Our Community

An estimated one million people are HIV positive. In the ten years from June 1981 to June 1992, reported AIDS cases numbered 230, 179, while in the last year alone 47,457 new AIDS cases were reported. There is no cure for AIDS. Our best defense is education; knowing how to prevent infection and how to cope with HIV/AIDS when it does strike.

In response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the Center for Women’s Studies is offering a program entitled “AIDS: Crisis in Our Community.” On November 4th, beginning at 7:30 pm in the Chapel, a panel of speakers will discuss their personal experiences with AIDS. Among the speakers will be Wendy Modeste, a person living with AIDS and a member of the HIV Positive Advisory Board for the National Minority Council, and Jane Balin, a member of the Sociology/Anthropology Faculty who has researched community reactions to the AIDS/HIV crisis. A reception in the Chapel basement will follow the program.

This discussion marks the beginning of a series of Center sponsored fundraising events to benefit the Central New York AIDS Task Force and Hospice of Central New York. Student groups on campus, in conjunction with the Center, will be organizing a raffle and a basketball tournament with prizes donated from local restaurants and businesses.

All events are part of Sexual Health Awareness Week being coordinated by the Sexual Crisis Resource Center.

Spring Women’s Studies Courses

The following is a list of the courses that will be offered for credit in the Women’s Studies Program during Spring Semester 1993. Look for these and other Women’s Studies Courses in the Spring Course Booklet.

Many of these courses can be applied towards a Women’s Studies major or minor. Women’s Studies is an interdisciplinary program which examines the human experience with a special emphasis on the diverse roles of women. The program focuses on the critical place of gender in our understanding of ourselves and our world. For more information on the Women’s Studies major and minor, please stop by the Center for Women’s Studies.

- COMP 347: Language and Gender; Sandra Jamieson
- EDUC 412: Women in Education; Jo Anne Pagano
- ENGL 306: Writing and Society in the American Renaissance; Linck Johnson
- ENGL 440: Family Viewing: Twentieth Century Narratives of the American Family; Karen Chandler
- ENGL 442: Bloomsbury: Virginia Woolf and E.M. Forster; Jane Pinchin
- ENGL 473: Wharton and James; Sarah Wider
- GREEK 224: Women in Antiquity; Jody Pinault
- POSC 316: Politics of Sex and Gender; Amy Fried
- RELG 334: Women and Religion; Wanda Warren Berry
- RELG 412: Major Religious Authors: Rosemary Radford Ruether; Wanda Warren Berry
- SOAN 311: Women and Social Change; Joan D. Mandle
- SOAN 315: Gender and Culture; Michael Peletz
- SOAN 371: Anthropological Perspectives on Women; Felicia Ekejiuba
- UNST 202: Introduction to Women’s Studies; Joan D. Mandle
- UNST 201: Psychology of Women; Staff
- UNST 241: Women in Science; Vicky McMillan
- UNST 302: Women’s Lives in Biography and Autobiography; Sarah Wider
- UNST 402: Senior Seminar: Women and Social Change; Joan D. Mandle

Internships!

The New York State Assembly offers students paid internships in Albany with the Legislature. The program provides college juniors and seniors with academic and hands-on experience in the State Assembly. Colgate gives three to four academic credits to students enrolled in the internship.

If you are interested in applying for this internship, see Virginia Dosch in the Career Planning Center.
Fall 1992 Calendar

October

28 Wednesday
Brown Bag Lunch
Speaker: Professor Joan Mandle
12:00 pm; Women’s Studies Classroom.
Coffee, tea, and dessert provided

Dept. of Art and Art History
Visiting Lecturer Series
Carrie Mae Weams, Photographer
4:30 pm; Ryan Rehearsal Room, Ryan Studio Center.
Co-sponsor: Center for Women’s Studies

10 Tuesday
Feminist Reading Group
12:00 pm; Center for Women’s Studies Classroom.
Coffee, tea, and dessert provided

11 Wednesday
Brown Bag Lunch
Veteran’s Day Topic
“Women Working Towards Peace”
Speaker: Professor Carol Rank, Peace Studies
12:00 pm; Center for Women’s Studies Classroom.
Coffee, tea, and dessert provided

Dept. of Art and Art History
Visiting Lecturer Series
Dorthea Rockburne, Painter
4:30 pm; Ryan Rehearsal Center, Ryan Studio Center.
Co-sponsor: Center for Women’s Studies

November

Sunday
Self-Protection Workshop
3:00-6:00 pm; Clark Room.
Pre-registration required

2 Monday
Marc Hershman will read from her book, Tales of the Master Race
12:00 pm; 105 Lawrence Hall.
Co-sponsor: Center for Women’s Studies

3 Tuesday
ELECTION DAY!
Exercise Your Right to Vote!

4 Wednesday
“AIDS: Crisis in Our Community”
7:30 pm; Chapel.
Reception to follow in the Chapel basement

9 - 13 Monday - Friday
A raffle and basketball tournament to raise money for the Central New York AIDS Task Force and Hospice of Central New York. Events are all part of Sexual Health Awareness Week.

17 - 20 Tuesday - Friday
Food and Clothing Drive for Local Battered Women’s Shelters
Non-perishable food and toiletry items will be collected door-to-door and can be dropped off and the Center for Women’s Studies.

25 - 29 Thanksgiving Recess

December

1 Tuesday
Feminist Reading Group
12:00 pm; Center for Women’s Studies Classroom.
Coffee, tea, and dessert provided

2 Wednesday
Brown Bag Lunch
Topic to be announced
12:00 pm; Center for Women’s Studies Classroom.
Coffee, tea, and dessert provided

11 Friday
Free Film Series
“Hannah and Her Sisters”
7:00 pm; Center for Women’s Studies. Refreshments

17 Tuesday
“Legal Implications of Domestic Violence”
7:00 pm; Center for Women’s Studies Classroom.

*Disclaimer: events included on this calendar, not sponsored by the Center for Women’s Studies and the Women’s Studies Program, are not necessarily endorsed by the Program.
The Center for Women's Studies presents

"AIDS: Crisis in Our Community"

Speakers will discuss how the AIDS/HIV epidemic is touching our community and ways you can help to prevent the spread of HIV.

Wednesday, November 4, 1992
7:30 p.m.
Colgate Memorial Chapel
Reception to follow in Chapel basement.

The Center for Women's Studies presents

"Legal Implications of Domestic Violence"

Keynote to start food drive for battered women's shelters.

Tuesday, November 17, 1992
7:00 p.m.
Center for Women's Studies Classroom
(Dodge House, 1st Floor)

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Free Self-Defense Workshop

The Center for Women's Studies is sponsoring a free self-defense workshop on Sunday, November 1st, beginning at 3:00 pm in the Clark Room. If you would like to participate, please fill out the form below and return it to the Center for Women's Studies, Dodge House by Wednesday, October 28th.

Name: ___________________________
Box #: __________________________
Phone #: _________________________

___ Yes, I would like to attend the self-defense workshop on November 1st.

___ I would like to attend a self-defense workshop, but I will be unable to participate on November 1st.

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Help With Job Hunting

To provide students with help job hunting, the Center for Women's Studies will sponsor several career-related workshops and presentations. The first is scheduled for November 12th, at 7:00 pm, in the Center for Women's Studies. Among the presenters will be Carole Robinson ('83), Publicity Director for MTV. This program, which is being co-sponsored by the Career Planning Center, will provide information on life in the working world and tips on job hunting and career planning.

In addition to programming, the Center is compiling a Career Planning Guide. This guide will serve as a resource for students looking for work in fields related to women's issues. It can also be used by women and men interested in pursuing internships. The booklet will complement the resources available in the Career Planning Center.

Information in the guide includes contacts in organizations that work for women's rights, tips from alumnae on career fields that are promising for women, and details on resume writing and interview techniques. The booklet will also contain information regarding grants and fellowships available for post-graduate research and study.

Please stop by the Center for Women's Studies and ask for our resources on career planning and internships.

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Opportunities!

The Women's Studies Program at SUNY Binghamton is sponsoring an undergraduate conference in Women's Studies. The conference is planned for Friday, March 26, 1993. Students doing work and research on women and gender issues should consider submitting abstracts of their work to the Conference Committee. Papers from all disciplines are being accepted and can be sent to Women's Studies, SUNY-Binghamton, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000. Call 607-777-2815 for more information or stop by the Center for Women's Studies!