From the Director. . .

The term is coming rapidly to an end, and it is hard to believe how quickly things have been moving. There has been a great deal happening both on campus and off and I have decided to write a bit about that. I have been struck with how busy everyone on campus is and am wondering if we need to be “less busy” and more “wide awake.” By that, I mean we need to use some of our time to pay attention to what is happening around us. Many of us were interested in the results of the elections and I particularly was interested in what I read about the women’s vote. For example, in an article in The Boston Globe, (Oct. 18, 1998) Jennifer Burton, a Democratic consultant was quoted as saying that they [candidates for office, especially women] have “to be message-deliverers because women voters have moved on to connect with the issues.” As we think about being more “wide awake,” I think we should connect with issues both on and off campus in a deliberate way.

One way to do that is to vote. I was surprised by how many students reported that they had not voted in the last election. Many issues of particular importance to women (welfare, child care, and other social issues are just some) need legislative attention and not voting is making sure these issues don’t get addressed.

Another way to be wide awake is to go to an event on campus that is new to you and which helps you learn about something new. At the Brown Bag Lunches at the Center for Women’s Studies this term, we have been invited to think about welfare issues, gender equity in family work, the politics of race and gender, health issues, environmental issues, and work in refugee camps among other ideas. All these ideas have important connections to the way we live our lives.

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November

17 TUESDAY
Brown Bag Lunch Series
Professor Clarice Martin
Department of Philosophy & Religion
Womanist Spirituality: Walking As a Form of Radical Resistance
Center for Women's Studies
11:30 am

18 WEDNESDAY
BODY IMAGES: Conversations on Cultural Images, Media Images, and Health Images
A panel discussion with Bridget Bokovitz, Lynn Schwarzer, and Denise Taliaferro
Center for Women's Studies
7:30 pm

20 FRIDAY
Student Health Fair
3 pm- 4 pm: Self-defense seminar
5 pm- 6 pm: Yoga session
And many, many more exhibits!
Hall of Presidents
3 pm- 6 pm

21 SATURDAY
Colgate's First Women's Diversity Conference: Am I My Sister's Keeper?
The Center for Women's Studies & The ALANA Cultural Center
9 am- 4 pm

23 MONDAY
Reel Women Free Film Series, Foxfire
Center for Women's Studies
8 pm

25 WEDNESDAY- 29 SUNDAY
Thanksgiving Break- Enjoy!!

December

1 TUESDAY
Brown Bag Lunch Series
Professor Helene Julien
Department of French Romance
Languages and Literatures
Christiane Rochefort: Autography and Feminism
Center for Women's Studies
11:30 am

1 TUESDAY
World AIDS Day
Candlelight Vigil

3 THURSDAY
Denmark Study Group Interest Meeting with Professor Ulla Grapard
Center for Women's Studies
4 pm

3 THURSDAY
Kwanzaa Cultural Dinner
Frank Dining Hall
5:30 pm

7 MONDAY
Reel Women Free Film Series, Sarafina, starring Whoopi Goldberg
Center for Women's Studies
8 pm

8 TUESDAY
Brown Bag Lunch Series
Professor Susan Cerasano
Department of English
title TBA
Center for Women's Studies
11:30 am

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Seeking the irresistible?
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the weekly agenda only when the topic seems particularly provocative or relevant to one's course of study. Throughout the semester, we've had faculty, staff, and alumni from the areas of education, geology, art & art history, philosophy & religion, sociology & anthropology, health science, economics, and theater & english present their work and share their passions with us at Brown Bags. The interdisciplinary structure of the Brown Bag Lunch Series is probably its truest strength; there is bound to be something for everyone within each semester's schedule of topics. (Of course, its convenient time of occurence surely helps.) And although we cannot all make it to all Brown Bags, remaining aware of these discussions every week can enable us, in the spring, to attend those that we find irresistible.

In fact, figuring out what each of us finds most irresistible on the social and intellectual landscape of college life may be one of the most important processes one can go through and take seriously while at Colgate. To determine what, in the world, each of us are passionate about means that we must confront (at least) two crucial components of this exciting and life-changing discovery that education brings.

First, we must traverse the landscape, venturing to new places and attending unfamiliar pro-

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Any reading of Colgate This Week or The Sampler shows how many events we can attend and in some way how busy we can be, but I think that choosing one or two new things to do each week and then giving yourself some deliberate time to think about what you have learned would be a very good idea and might contribute to our ability to be wide awake.

Thanksgiving break approaches, and we know that soon finals will follow. Everyone will get more and more "busy." So, as we all deal with our various kinds of work, let's take some time to be wide awake. In the spirit of doing something new, I will suggest only a few things which represent the variety of activities on campus in the next few weeks:

**December 3:** Chronicle of a Genocide Foretold

**December 4 and 5:** Student Musical Theater

**December 7:** H. Guyford Stever, "Enabling the Future: Linking Science and Technology to Societal Goals."

**December 11:** Carol Shields' Reading at Living Writers

Each of these might give you a new idea, a new way to be wide awake in our world. Education is about opening our minds, it is about living in the world, about opening our eyes and being wide awake.

Kay Johnston

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The **Allegorical Athena**

Colgate’s gender issues magazine, pushes those who read it to think about social issues that affect everyone. This publication, produced and written by Colgate students, includes poetry, art, short stories, and photography that address topics that inform the lives of both men and women. Currently in our fourth year, **Allegorical Athena** is a forum which we hope will make the invisible social powers that shape us visible to the Colgate community. We are currently accepting submissions and encourage any interested students to contribute. You can send submissions to Box J 1377 or bring them to the Center.

Karen Lichtenberg '99
Corinne Mescher '00

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**Seeking the irresistible?**

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...grams that may initially make us feel uncomfortable, out of place, or simply ignorant. Forsaking a sense of security in order to encounter possibility, however, is where the journey to discovering the irresistible- or locating one’s passion(s) in and about the world- begins.

The second component involves the negotiation, or struggle, between the unavoidable time constraints that characterize college (and especially Colgate) life and the desire to seek out the irresistible social and intellectual experiences that await each of us. This is a valuable skill to develop and maintain even beyond one’s years at Colgate. And without a doubt, each of you will be posed with this challenge as the spring approaches and the events calendar is filled.

Many different “awareness weeks” and “history months” fall in the spring calendar months, and surely, events surrounding these themes will come about. For instance, February is Black History Month, and March, Women's History Month. Also in February is Love Your Body Week, and Central New York's Second Annual LGBT Conference. And there's more: March is also the month of International Women's Day, Sexual Violence Awareness Week, and Africana Women's Week. In April, Poverty and Welfare Awareness Week is a topic we focus on and so is prevention of child abuse during its given week in April.

These spaces are designated not as the only times to discuss and seriously ponder these issues and recognize inequities. Rather, they force us to focus on them while we simultaneously develop our own specific passions in connection with the various social problems that pervade our world. Ultimately, discovering the irresistible in the face of unlimited possibilities (and yet limited portions of time) is perhaps the most important task for each of us to confront as we venture toward the spring semester.

Molly Talcott
Breast Cancer Awareness Month Was a Success!

Breast Cancer Awareness Month was, without a doubt, a shining success. We would like to thank the faculty, staff, and students who participated in Colgate’s second annual Lee National Denim Day on October 9, sponsored by the Center for Women’s Studies. We succeeded in raising a record high (for us) of $578! The money was donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which is the largest private funder of breast cancer research and education in the country.

The Brown Bag Lunch on Tuesday, October 13 proved educational as Linda Maynard and Jan Steates from the health center hosted a workshop, emphasizing the importance of breast health and demonstrating how to perform breast self-examinations on model breasts. We all learned important information that may one day save our lives.

If you missed Breast Cancer Awareness Month and would like more information, come to the Center for Women’s Studies to pick up informational pamphlets and pink ribbons. The threat of breast cancer is something to be aware of not only during the month of October, but throughout a woman’s entire life.

Suzanne Lowell ’00

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Report on the FMLA Voter Registration Drive:

With many senatorial and gubernatorial races this fall, members of the FEMINIST MAJORITY LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE felt that our group should encourage Colgate students to vote in the ‘98 elections. Young voters- especially those of college age- frequently do not vote. In an attempt to change this situation on Colgate’s campus, we sponsored a voter registration drive. We offered generic registration forms that could be sent into any state in the U.S., and we provided information on absentee ballots. Students responded to what turned out to be a worthwhile project. We were able to obtain absentee ballot information for about 200 interested students, and we registered approximately 35 to vote.

The FEMINIST MAJORITY LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE meets on Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm in the Center for Women’s Studies. For more information, stop by the Center.

Ginny Haizlip ’01

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POLITICAL OUTREACH E-MAIL UPDATE

Register to receive timely information on women, politics, and current events.

Name: ____________________________________________
Class Year: _____________________________
E-Mail Address: __________________________________

For more information, call x7156.

Please return this form to the Center for Women’s Studies. Place it in the suggestion box on the table.