# women's NEWS studies NEWS

Colgate University Women's Studies Program

Fall 1999 Vol. 10 No. 1

#### From the Director...

Welcome to the Academic Year 1999-2000. It is my pleasure to once again welcome our new Program Assistant Karen Zaidberg to Colgate and especially to the Women's Studies Community. Karen comes to us full of energy and programming for the year is already taking shape.

I want to call your attention to two events which are coming up this term. Next month on October 28 Ann Lane, a former Director of Women's Studies. will be here to speak at a Brown Bag and an evening lecture. Ann has written a biography of Charlotte Perkins Gilman and her Brown Bag talk will be focused on that topic. evening lecture will focus on the subject of the book she is currently working on. The topic is "'Consensual' Relations in the Academy: Gender, Power, and Sexuality." Also, Nel Noddings will come to campus on November 11. Her topic will be "Schools and Social Justice." I am looking forward to both of these talks and urge you to put these dates on your calendar. Nel Noddings' title brings me to the topic of social responsibility.

At all of our Brown Bags we try to make connections between the intellectual work that people do and the way they live their lives. The topics we have presented have drawn from the Hamilton Community, research of faculty members, or work that students have done off campus. We have always attempted to connect that work to other aspects of people's lives. It is often tempting to separate work from play and other aspects of one's life; it is especially tempting to disconnect intellectual work from daily activity. Instead I think that the variety of ways we spend our time are intimately connected. At the first Brown bag two weeks ago, I talked about how my research contributes to my thinking about feminism and activism. I talked about my research in moral development and how that research informed my activism. One of the (continued on page 3)

## CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

Hours Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm Sunday - Thursday 6:00pm -10:00pm

#### Thinking About Home; Notes from the new kid on the block

Greetings! My name is Karen B. Zaidberg and I am the new Program Assistant at the Center for Women's Studies. I graduated in May from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, with a double major in Sociology and Women's Studies. My work has focused primarily on issues arising from the intersection of popular culture and feminism. While at Smith, I was active in student government, residential life, and campus organizing. I am originally from New York City.

I come to Colgate fresh out of college, which affords me a wealth of perspectives. I am still close to what it means to be a student: living in an intellectual community and competing in a rigorous yet rewarding academic environment. I can still pull an all-nighter. Yet I feel distant from students here in part because my college experience was single-sex. I feel very lucky to have experienced life at a women's college, for a variety of reasons. Most of all, the community of women at Smith was stimulating and empowering. Sometimes it inflates my expectations of others. I want everyone to be as prowoman and feminist as my companions at Smith, but often that's unreasonable. I'm learning that change is the pebble, not the mountain.

Along those lines, I've been thinking lately (continued on page 3)

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 1999

All events are free and held at the Center for Women's Studies, unless indicated otherwise

#### September

#### 27 MONDAY

On The Table Discussion Series Women in Combat: Should women be allowed on the front lines? 7 p.m.

#### 28 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series Cherrie Moraga Conversations with Cherrie Moraga 11:30 a.m.

#### 29 WEDNESDAY

Women of Color Film Series \* Special Day and Time \* The Color Purple 7:30 p.m.

#### October

#### 4 MONDAY - 8 FRIDAY

Voter Registration Drive 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **4 MONDAY**

Reel Women Film Series
Serving in Silence: The Grethe
Cammermayer Story
In Celebration of LGBT Awareness Week
8 p.m.

#### **5 TUESDAY**

Brown Bag Lunch Series Professor Margaret Darby Writing Department Sarah Paxton: A Victorian Angel in the House? 11:30 a.m.

#### **6 WEDNESDAY**

Anne Timmons

Off The Wall: The Life and Times of
Charlotte Perkins Gilman
Brehmer Theater
7:30 p.m.

#### **8 FRIDAY**

Lee Denim National Breast Cancer Day
Donate \$5 to the Susan G. Komen Breast
Cancer Foundation and wear jeans to
express your support for the cure.

#### FALL BREAK, 9 Saturday - 12 Tuesday

#### 17 SUNDAY

Women of Color Film Series *Bhaji on the Beach* 8 p.m.

#### 18 MONDAY

On The Table Discussion Series The Glass Ceiling: Are women still held back? 7 p.m.

#### 19 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series Maureen Fox and Diane Ryan Community Action Program for Madison County Community Action: Everyone's Call 11:30 a.m.

#### 21 THURSDAY

National Young Women's Day of Action Events TBA

#### 25 MONDAY

Reel Women Film Series Fast Food Women 8 p.m.

#### **26 TUESDAY**

Brown Bag Lunch Series Workshop on detection and prevention of breast cancer, in celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month 11:30 a.m.

#### 28 THURSDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series
\*Special Day and Location\*
Ann J. Lane
Writing About Charlotte Perkins Gilman
The Ho Lecture Room, 105 Lawrence Hall
11:30 a.m.

#### 28 THURSDAY

Ann J. Lane 'Consensual' Relations in the Academy: Gender, Power, and Sexuality
The Ho Lecture Room, 105 Lawrence Hall 7 p.m.

#### 30 SATURDAY

Day trip to Seneca Falls RSVP and ?s x7156

#### November

#### 2 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series Jennifer L. Greer '00 Women in the Balkans: Bodies as Battlefields, Souls Made Brave 11:30 a.m.

#### 8 MONDAY

Reel Women Film Series *Fried Green Tomatoes* 8 p.m.

#### 9 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series Professor Denise Taliaferro Department of Education *TBA* 11:30 a.m.

#### 11 THURSDAY

Nel Noddings Schools and Social Justice 27 Persson Hall 7:30 p.m.

#### 15 MONDAY

On The Table Discussion Series The Future of Feminism: Has feminism become obsolete? 7 p.m.

#### 16 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Professor Gary Urton
Department of Mathematics
Numerical Ontology and Arithmetic
Practices among Women Weavers of
Highland Bolivia
11:30 a.m.

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#### From the Director...

(continued from page 1) ideas I discussed with the students was how we are activists in our daily We talked about how activism is not only political action and being part of large scale movements, but also speaking up in our day-to-day interactions. Sometimes it takes courage to point out unjust comments or to disagree with the ideas of our friends or colleagues. Yet, I think speaking out and interrupting injust and hurtful ideas is a way to be an activist everyday. research helps me think about how I am responsible to the people I know as well as those I do not know. My feminism is informed by the intellectual work I do. I enjoyed talking with the students and the faculty about how what they learn and think about informs the way they define themselves as feminists and activists. I hope that is one of the things you think about as you move through this year.

As usual, stop by the Center to talk with Karen or me about ways you want to get involved. I look forward to this year.

Kay Johnston

#### Notes from the new kid...

(continued from page 1) about home. In her essay, "Identity: Skin Blood Heart," Minnie Bruce Pratt talks about Assistants, each of whom has home not as a physical space but as unique and interesting ideas about a perceptual realm. Home is a state of mind and a state of being, she suggests, a place where people know her and where she understands how to behave. For each of us, home means different things, but the underlying spirit of the place remains the same. Home is where we go when we just need to be.

What is a feminist? How does Colgate define Feminism? Does feminism or a need for feminism still exist? Why are so many negative connotations associated with the label of feminist?

The Colgate Society of Feminists, formerly known as the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, is dedicated to addressing these questions and others, especially on Colgate's campus. The CSF is also dedicated to giving feminism a better name and working toward the feminist ideals stated in our Constitution as "social, political, and economic equality for all women." We are made up of a variety of members, both men and women. We see the women's movement as not only a political movement, but also a social movement. Social movements, in order to succeed, need to change existing beliefs of the society at large. So, how do we go about changing society's negative attitude towards feminism? Our group hopes to make a difference here at Colgate, and in the surrounding areas, by educating people about existing women's issues, campaigning for human rights, promoting nonviolence, and calling attention to the continued need for feminism.

Some plans for the year include celebrating National Young Women's Day of Action in October, participating in the World Expo in November, sponsoring the On The Table discussions, re-establishing the Email Outreach, and initiating many other educational campaigns.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Colgate Society of Feminists, our meetings are held in the Center for Women's Studies weekly on Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. Feel free to contact either Ginny Haizlip (vhaizlip) or Heather Weisser (hweisser) if you have any questions regarding the Colgate Society of Feminists.

My home is feminism and a community of women. The Center gives shape to my home at Colgate. It offers me opportunities for activism, for thought, for community, and for reflection. We have planned diverse and exciting events and activities for the year, and I challenge each of you to take part in some way. There is also a wonderful staff of Student feminism and activism. The SAs are incredible, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for everything that they've done so far and for welcoming me so graciously. Come by the Center soon and see what's new this year. Dare to find your home with us.

Karen B. Zaidberg

Allegorical Athena, Colgate's Gender Studies Magazine, is seeking submissions! Share your art, writing, or photography. Send submissions to Corinne (CB #L3119) or Jess (CB #V5142).

Contribute to the Women's Studies Newsletter!!! Wanted: announcements of upcoming events, book and film reviews, op-ed pieces, and anything else! Deadline for the second newsletter: Nov. 5. Submit today! Drop them off during the day to 107B, or contact Karen at 7156 (email: kzaidberg).

# Reel Women Film Series 1999-2000

October 4

Serving in Silence: The Grethe Cammermayer Story

October 25 Fast Food Women

November 8
Fried Green Tomatoes

November 22 What's Love Got To Do With It

> December 13 Thelma And Louise

> > January 24 Antonia's Line

February 14
The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love

February 28 Norma Rae

March 6 A League Of Their Own

> March 20 The Joy Luck Club

> > April 10 Housekeeping

**April 24** Jupiter's Wife

May 8 Girls Town

All films are FREE and will be shown at 8 p.m. at the Center for Women's Studies

### Women Of Color Film Series 1999-2000

\*Special Day and Time \*
September 29 at 7:30 p.m.
The Color Purple

October 17 Bhaji on the Beach

**November 21**Double Happiness

December 19 Set It Off

January 30 The Women of Brewster Place

> February 20 Fire

March 26
Waiting to Exhale

**April 16**The Pillow Book

**May 7** Brincando el Charco

All films are shown on Sundays at 8 p.m. at the Center for Women's Studies

Movies have always been a form of popular culture that altered the way women looked at the world and reinforced how men intended to keep it.

Marjorie Rosen