



UAHuntsville

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWS

Spring, 2012

Volume 22, Number 2

You may like to know that...

- YOU can help change the world! Find out more on page 2.
- You may read more about Women's Studies spring events on our website at www.uah.edu/womensstudies

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"Charged Up For Change! EXPO" Returns!



Building on our successful event in 2010, the Women's Studies Program is bringing back "Charged Up For Change! EXPO" on **Wednesday, March 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.** in the University Center. EXPO brings together local individuals and groups who create positive social change in diverse and unusual ways. The purpose of EXPO is to help students and others see all the creative ways they can use their interests and talents to make the world better.

EXPO will involve many exhibitors featuring creative projects, hobbies, or actions that promote social service and change. Exhibits may highlight any form of positive change that makes a local or global impact: recycling programs and green energy; handcrafted products; athletic activism for a cause; humanitarian uses of science and technology; local food; performance art of all types, visual arts, writing, web-based action; health and wellness; animal care and

advocacy; childcare, tutoring, and mentoring. Individual projects are welcome as are community interest groups, grassroots collectives, established volunteer organizations, student clubs, alternative businesses, and more.

EXPO provides a venue for networking and features local musicians, performance artists, refreshments, and door prizes. EXPO is organized by a diverse group of

(continued on page 3)

New Network Launched for Non-traditional Women Students

The Women's Studies Program and UAHuntsville Office of Student Affairs launched the new "Charger Adult Women Students Network" with a student mixer on January 12. Over refreshments, non-traditional women students shared their personal stories, discussed their unique challenges and concerns, and brainstormed ways to develop as a community.

Women's Studies faculty and staff became aware of the need for more support and mentoring for

non-traditional women students as we carried out our AAUW Campus Action Project in 2010. We approached Regina Hyatt, UAHuntsville's new Dean of Students, about possible collaborations, and she lent the enthusiastic aid of her office.

This was an exciting kick-off event to what we hope will become a strong source of support for our students. Pictured here are five student participants: Jan Dye, Re-



gina Head, Loran Farrow, Lynette Gough, and Deanna Nicholas.

For more information, contact Dr. Molly Johnson at (256) 824-2566 or molly.johnson@uah.edu.

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWS

Message from the Women's Studies Director



Dr. Molly Johnson,
Women's Studies
Director

Friends of Women's Studies!

On behalf of the Women's Studies Program, I am pleased to announce our exciting spring events. First and foremost is the return of "Charged Up For Change! EXPO" on Wednesday, March 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m in the University Center. We look forward as well to several Coffeehouse Writers Series events and to the Huntsville Feminist Chorus spring concert on Saturday, March 31 (see next



page). We are also eager to see how the new Charger Adult Women Students Network, recently launched by Women's Studies and the Office of Student Affairs, develops over the semester.



I would also like to report on a busy fall semester, which included four Coffeehouse Writers Series events and two public lectures on the



history of childbirth by visiting historian Dr. Judith Walzer Leavitt. We collaborated with the UAHuntsville Career Development Office to host a \$tart \$mart salary negotiation workshop on campus in early November, developed by the WAGE (Women are

Getting Even) Project, funded by a grant from the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and supported by the Huntsville chapter of AAUW and

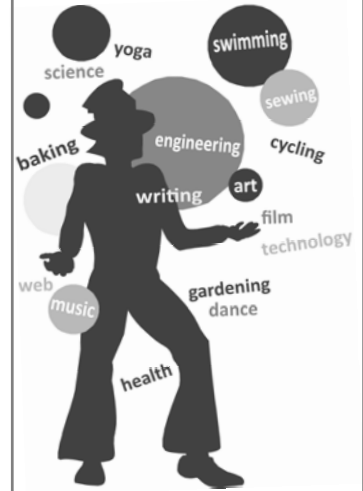
the Women's Economic Development Council (WEDC). Twenty-five students participated in the workshop, led by the WAGE Project's Annie Houle, and sixteen faculty, staff, and members of the community received training in how to facilitate future workshops for students.

The Women's Studies Program thanks all of you, as always, for your enthusiastic support of Women's Studies at UAHuntsville. Special thanks to those of you who made contributions to Women's Studies and to the Rose Norman Women's Studies Award for Scholarship in Action this past year. We are presently raising funds to support "Charged Up For Change! EXPO," and we would appreciate any contribution you might be willing to make to support this exciting event. EXPO creates an important venue for individuals and groups who make positive social change to network and share their work with students and the wider community. EXPO is a truly unique and important event in the greater Huntsville area!

Please remember to check out our new website at uah.edu/womensstudies and to "like" "Women's Studies at UAHuntsville" on Facebook to keep up to date on Women's Studies news and happenings before the next newsletter goes out in the fall!

All the best,
Molly Wilkinson Johnson
Associate Professor of History
Director of Women's Studies

HOW CAN YOU HELP CHANGE THE WORLD?



Women's Studies needs YOUR help supporting "Charged Up For Change! EXPO," a community fair featuring...

- ▶ Creative projects, hobbies, and actions that promote social service and positive change.
- ▶ Individuals, community interest groups, grassroots collectives, established volunteer organizations, student clubs, alternative businesses, and more.
- ▶ Local musicians, actors, dancers, and performance artists.
- ▶ Refreshments, door prizes, and creative surprises.

If you would like to make a donation, please fill out the form on the back page and designate your gift for "Charged Up For Change! EXPO."



Top: Annie Houle presents strategies for wage negotiation. Middle: Student attendees at \$tart \$mart. Bottom: Dr. Judith Walzer Leavitt discusses the medicalization of childbirth.

Coffeehouse Writers Spring Series Features Local Poets

Women's Studies and the Salmon Library are continuing the popular Coffeehouse Writers Series with programs featuring local writers reading their work. All programs last about an hour and are held at the Salmon Library art gallery near the ChargerBrew coffee shop.

Friday, February 17, 6:30 p.m.
"Rhythms of Dysfunction: Family Poems by Marylyn Coffey and Nick Wilbourn."

Friday, March 9, 6:30 p.m.
"She Speaks," poetry by Ruth Braswell, Katina Walton, Lena Sledge, Kimeko Farrar, Symonia Montgomery, and others. Their anthology *She Speaks* is available on Amazon.com.

Tuesday, April 17, 6:30 p.m.
The Coweeta Poets, reading from individual members' chapbooks, such as Susan Luther's *Blessed Are the Cheesemakers*, and from their

group chapbook, *Something More Solid Than Earth*. The poets are Susan Luther, Rosemary McMahan, Margaret Vann, Erin Reid, Debbie West, Rose Norman, Susan Guthrie, Monita Soni, and Evelyn Hurley.

Admission is free and open to the public. For information, contact Marylyn Coffey at (256) 824-6114 or email coffeymt@uah.edu.



Huntsville Feminist Chorus Spring Concert: All You Need Is Love!

The 17th Huntsville Feminist Chorus (HFC) spring concert honoring Women's History Month, will be **Saturday, March 31, 7:30 p.m.**, in Chan Auditorium of the Business Administration Building. The concert, themed "All You Need Is Love," offers an evening

of songs that empower women, this year celebrating the healing and transformative power of love. The program will range from popular songs like the Beatles hit to the 16th century madrigal, "Love Learns by Laughing." HFC was formed in 1993 and sang its first

UAHuntsville concert in March, 1996. The concert is free and open to the public. Women's Studies will host a reception following. For more information call the Women's Studies Program Office at (256) 824-6190.



The Huntsville Feminist Chorus at their 2011 Winter Solstice Concert.

Historian to Discuss Mesopotamian Women

Women's Studies is supporting the North Alabama Society of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) in bringing Dr. Allison Thomason to UAHuntsville. Thomason, a specialist in the art of the ancient Near



East and an Associate Professor in the Department of Historical Studies at Southern Illinois University, will give two public lectures on **Monday, February 13.**

Her first lecture, "Women and Material Culture in Mesopotamia," at **2:20 p.m.** in Wilson Hall 168, will touch on how women, especially those of the royal courts, created and consumed textiles, jewelry, perfumes and other im-

portant objects from the luxury world. She will explore how women were patrons of arts in this typically patriarchal society and how many women were literate and had access to wealth and power. Her second lecture,

"Banquets, Baubles, and Bronzes: Material Comforts in Neo-Assyrian Palaces," at **7:30pm** in Wilson Hall 001, will explore the luxurious surroundings of the ancient royal courts and the decoration of Neo-Assyrian palaces.

Both lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. Lillian Joyce, President of the North Alabama Society of AIA, at lillian.joyce@uah.edu.

"EXPO" (cont.)

UAHuntsville faculty, staff, and students, as well as community groups including the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Huntsville branch and the Girl Scouts of North Central Alabama. Entertainment is coordinated by Anna Sue Courtney of the Flying Monkey Arts Center. EXPO is sponsored by the Women's Studies Program, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Diversity, the Global Studies Program, and the Women's Studies student club.

EXPO is free and open to the public. For registration information and exhibitor guidelines, visit www.uah.edu/expo or call (256) 824-6190 or email molly.johnson@uah.edu.

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WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWS

AAUW Huntsville Branch News: Spring 2012

By Rose Norman

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is a nationwide network of more than 100,000 members and donors, 1,000 branches, and 500 college/university institution partners. The Huntsville branch is one of the most active in Alabama, and UAHuntsville is a university partner, which means that all our students (including men) may join the national organization as e-members for free. AAUW's mission to promote equity for women and girls through research, education, advocacy, and philanthropy, makes it a natural partner for the Women's Studies Program. The Huntsville branch provides travel scholarships for college women to attend a national leadership conference, supports student AAUW organizations, and has won several national AAUW grants to fund campus events.

Student Travel Scholarship

Each year, the Huntsville branch offers travel scholarships to assist undergraduates at UAHuntsville, Oakwood, and AAMU to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), held near Washington, DC, in June. Women's Studies assists in selecting UAHunts-

ville students for these travel scholarships and has supplemented AAUW funding to send two or more students to the conference.

Student Organizations

AAUW provides national support for AAUW student organizations on college campuses, as described online at www.aauw.org/about/join/colleges/students.cfm

Fellowships and Grants

UAHuntsville and AAUW have partnered on several programming grants, most recently one for \$tart \$mart, a wage negotiation workshop held on campus last November, and likely to be repeated through UAHuntsville Career Services next year.

Upcoming Programs

The Huntsville branch welcomes students to attend monthly branch meetings, typically held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 301 Drake Ave., Huntsville.

February 7, 5:30 p.m., Alabama's Controversial New Immigration Law: What does it mean for women and girls?

March 9, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Breaking Through Barriers luncheon, "Walking the Tightrope: Women in Leadership,"

Carrabba's Italian Grill, Parkway Place Mall. Proceeds are used to send local college women to NCCWSL. Speaker: Sarah Savage, Executive Director of Leadership Huntsville-Madison County. Tickets are \$30 and are available from branch members. People are encouraged to donate tickets so that students can attend, or simply to donate money toward the NCCWSL travel scholarships.

April 3, 5:30 p.m., School Report Card. Superintendents of education for the three local school districts (Huntsville City Schools, Madison City Schools, Madison County Schools) will report on the state of education.

May 1, 5:30 p.m., Generational Diversity. How GenX differs from those born at the Millenium, and both differ from Baby Boomers.

All programs require advance reservations through Lois Guendel at herb.guendel@knology.net or 256-880-8643. Members are glad to donate the cost of student dinners.

For more information on AAUW activities, contact Rose Norman at rose.norman@uah.edu.



Laura Webster (left) received the 2011 Huntsville Woman's Club Scholarship.

Huntsville Woman's Club Scholarship Awarded to Student

The Huntsville Woman's Club offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a UAHuntsville student from the College of Liberal Arts or the College of Nursing. Preference is given to a returning student in need of financial aid.

The 2011 scholarship was awarded to **Laura Webster**, a nursing major. The application deadline for the upcoming year is February 29, 2012. Women's Studies is grateful to the Huntsville Woman's Club for continued support of UAHuntsville women students.

For scholarship details and application information, visit our website www.uah.edu/womensstudies or contact Women's Studies director Dr. Molly Johnson at molly.johnson@uah.edu or (256) 824-2566.

Women's Studies Featured Faculty: Dr. Alanna Frost

Dr. Alanna Frost did her graduate work at the University of Louisville, earning her degree in Rhetoric and Composition in 2008. To gather data for her dissertation, "Literacy Practices in a First Nation's Community: Women Writing Culture," Alanna spent time in the British Columbia community of Nazko, where her grandmother was the first non-native school teacher, and interviewed women of the Dakelh Nation about the writing they do for language and cultural preservation projects. This experience is reflected in the course design of the "Native Women's Literature" class that Alanna taught in spring 2011.

In one of her most recent publications, "Literacy Stewardship: Dakelh Women Composing Culture," Alanna challenges an important term in literacy studies, "sponsorship," which refers to those agents who sanction and support literacy programs and events. By offering evidence of Dakelh women's use of both standard schooled-literacies and their own traditional Dakelh rhetorics, she suggests "literacy stewardship" as an important addition

to scholarship in order to describe those literacies engaged by community members for which they draw on traditions unrecognized by dominant literate practice.

Alanna directs the composition program at UAHuntsville and has continued her literacy studies in classroom research at the high school and college levels. Last fall, she and Dr. Philip Kovacs worked with the freshmen class at Hazel Green High School. After facilitating teachers' use of a socially networked classroom platform, Alanna and Philip worked with their students, who completed self-directed reading and writing projects. In addition to the Hazel Green work, Alanna conducted research on the EH 100 program at UAHuntsville which is the "basic writing" course offered to those whose test scores indicate that they would benefit from additional writing support. Although pursuing seemingly disparate investigations—First Nations' women, high school students, and basic writers—Alanna connects her interest in understanding the literacy practices that community members bring to their work and

the classroom in order to both value those literacies and help participants better learn to write for school-genres.

Alanna is UAHuntsville's corporate representative for the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and she is very excited about being the faculty advisor for POWER, the Women's Studies students organization, which Jonathan Barnes and Morgan Justice will be breathing new life into this semester! When she is not at school, Alanna likes to play Ultimate and has been involved with the Huntsville women's team for the past 10 years. In addition to travelling to tournaments throughout the southwest, what Alanna likes best about playing an intense game that uses a frisbee is that it was created as a sport which values a diversity of players and skills. In coed games, women have always been as valuable as men; in women's game, brand new players are welcomed and their progress cheered.



Dr. Alanna Frost, Assistant Professor of English (on right)

Women's Studies Course Offerings Fall 2012

BYS	318 01	Vertebrate Reproduction	TBD	Stallsmith	PHL	202 03	Introduction to Ethics	TR	2:20-3:40	Heikes	
CM	330 01	Nonverbal Communication	TR	12:45-2:05	Scroggin	PY	330 01	Nonverbal Communication	TR	12:45-2:05	Scroggin
ED	430 01	Applied Multiculturalism	MW	2:20-3:40	Kovacs	PY	406 01	Psychology of Women	MW	2:20-3:40	Carpenter
EH	493 01	The Victorian Novel	TR	2:20-3:40	Early	SOC	105 01	Intro. to Cultural Anthropology	MW	12:45-2:05	Sitaraman
HY	390 01	Women in Modern Europe	MW	2:20-3:40	Johnson	SOC	105 02	Intro. to Cultural Anthropology	MW	3:55-5:15	Sitaraman
MGT	462 01	Employment Law for Managers	TBD	Gramm	SOC	206 01	Marriage and Family	MW	2:20-3:40	Finley	
PHL	202 01	Introduction to Ethics	MW	12:45-2:05	Wilkerson	SOC	206 02	Marriage and Family	TR	11:10-12:30	Terrell
PHL	202 02	Introduction to Ethics	TR	12:45-2:05	Martine	SOC	306 01	Sociology of Gender	W	5:30-8:20	Finley

Course offering schedules are not final. For changes, see the official UAHuntsville schedule of classes at www.uah.edu/cgi-bin/schedule.pl

Become a Friend of Women's Studies!

Friends of Women's Studies (FWS) is an organization of people who support the UAHuntsville Women's Studies Program. The goals of FWS include:

- Supporting community involvement in Women's Studies events
- Sponsoring cultural activities and events that honor and empower women
- Supporting women scholars, artists, and performers
- Fostering discussion of issues affecting women's lives

Annual Contribution (October 1 – September 30)

- \$10-24 Individual \$25-49 Family \$50-99 Matron \$100-249 Sponsor
 \$250-\$499 Sustaining \$500 Lifetime Contributor \$1000 Benefactor

I would like to contribute to the "Rose Norman Women's Studies Award for Scholarship in Action." \$

I would like to contribute to "Charged Up For Change! EXPO." \$

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