

Southwest Institute for Research on Women

REGIONAL NEWSLETTER Fall 2015

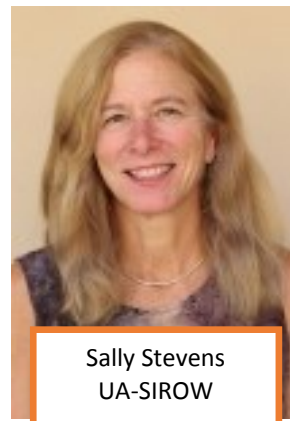
Covering gender & women's studies & research institutes in Arizona, New Mexico, Northwest Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Nevada, Wyoming and Utah

Greetings from the University of Arizona—Southwest Institute for Research on Women

I hope you are having an enjoyable and productive fall semester. At SIROW, we are busy with new project start-ups, disseminating results from our national cross-site and other evaluations, and providing much needed services (and evaluation) at SIROW's new off-campus site for LGBT young adults. We are very pleased to have Dr. Jadwiga Pieper Mooney join us as the new Head of the Department of Gender and Women's Studies (GWS). She brings a great deal to both GWS and SIROW including her research, scholarship, teaching excellence, leadership and genuine enthusiasm for the field!

SIROW is looking forward to the next Southwest Regional Heads and Directors Meeting which will take place January 29th and 30th in Las Vegas! If you are the chair or head of an academic women's studies program or research institute located in the southwestern U.S. and wish to attend, please contact Harrison Apple at happle@email.arizona.edu.

—Dr. Sally Stevens, UA-SIROW

**Jadwiga Pieper Mooney: New Head of GWS at University of Arizona**

The Gender and Women's Studies Department at the University of Arizona has a new leader: Professor Jadwiga Pieper Mooney. Dr. Pieper Mooney has taught at the University of Arizona since 2004 in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, offering a wide variety of courses on Latin American History as well as Global and Comparative History. She employs various approaches to teaching Modern Latin America - with a focus on such themes as 'peace and violence,' 'resistance, rebellion, and revolution,' the environment, and 'women who break the rules.' Her interdisciplinary teaching style reflects her own research interests which include human rights, women's rights, gender equity, and notions of inclusion and exclusion in the making of modern nations.

Dr. Pieper Mooney received her Ph.D. in History from Rutgers University in 2000

and has since written extensively on reproductive rights, forced sterilization campaigns, transnational women's activism, and the forging of global feminisms in the post WWII era. Her research covers broad movements as well as individual's strategies to defend specific rights, such as the right to health and health care. Her first book, *The Politics of Motherhood: Maternity and Women's Rights in Twentieth-Century Chile* (Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2009), presents a study of citizenship rights in Chile through the lens of gender analysis.

Currently, Dr. Pieper Mooney is writing the biography of the Chilean physician Benjamin Viel – using his life as a way to discuss the complex relationships of power that contributed not only to the making of public health systems in Chile and the Americas, but also to the experiences of people - of citizens who may

have access to health and health care, or who may not. Reflective of her dynamic ability for analyses and storytelling, she situates the story of health and rights within larger debates about citizenship rights in the modern world.

Dr. Pieper Mooney has long been an associate of GWS, and we are thrilled to have her working even more closely with the Department and SIROW.



-Harrison Apple UA-GWS

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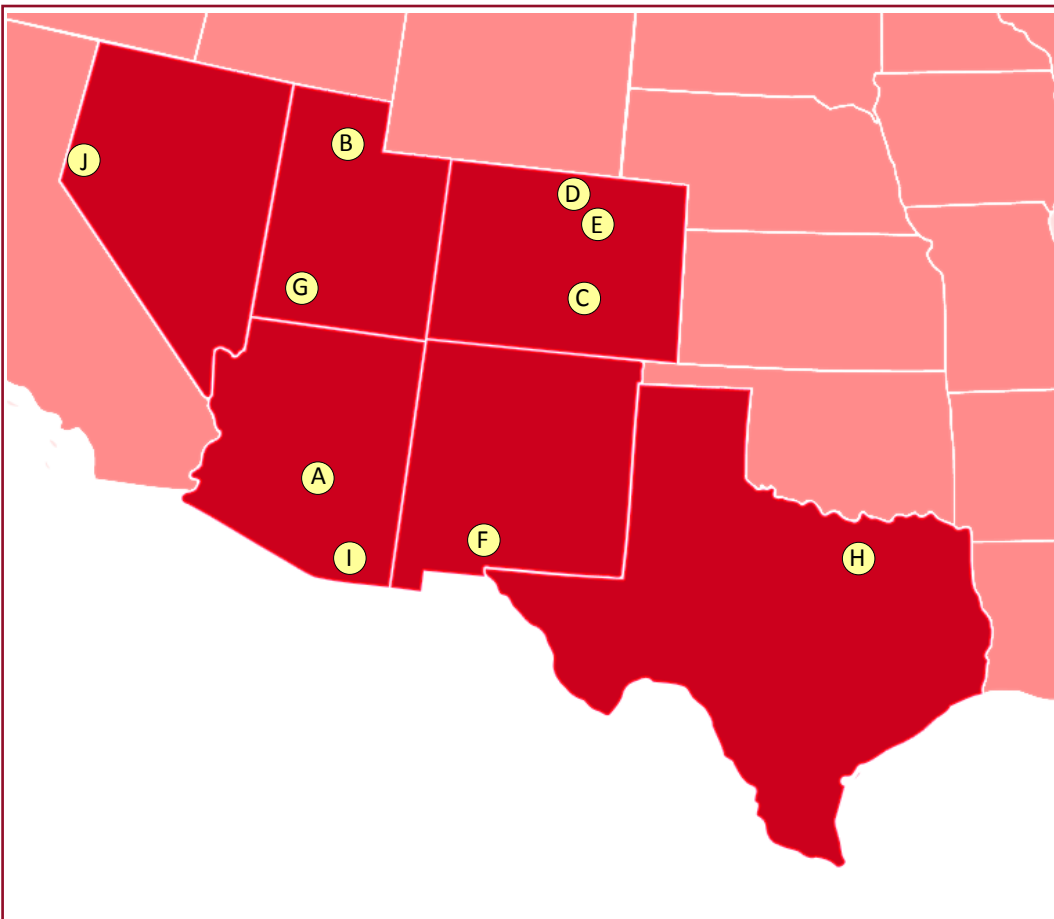
The Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW), established in 1979, is a regional research and resource institute within the Gender and Women's Studies Department at the University of Arizona. The SIROW region includes Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Wyoming, and Northwestern Mexico.

SIROW Mission:

To develop, conduct, and disseminate collaborative outreach, education, intervention, and research projects of importance to diverse groups

SIROW Goals:

- ◇ Engage in collaborative feminist research focusing on topics pertinent to the lives of women and families.
- ◇ Develop and conduct outreach and participatory action research on a wide range of mental and physical health, legal, employment, education, and diversity issues.
- ◇ Examine and support women's contribution to literature, the arts, and Southwest heritage.
- ◇ Advocate for women and families by linking researchers with community organizations and policy makers.
- ◇ Identify, illuminate, and disseminate research on women, family, and gender differences.



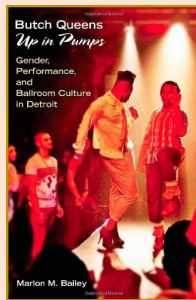
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Arizona State University Launches MA Program Welcomes New Faculty

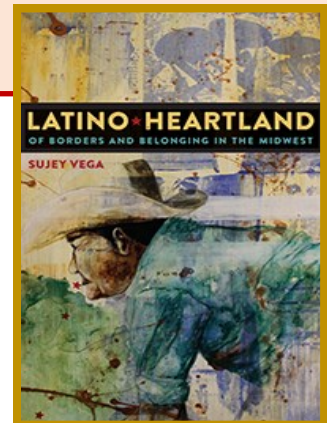
ASU launched its new MA in Women and Gender Studies (WGS) this Fall, with a cohort of 6 students. The WGS MA program is a 30-hour program with both a thesis and applied project options for a culminating experience. Students have access to the core faculty in WGS, as well as the breadth of knowledge in justice, human rights, and ethnic studies that exists within the faculty of the School of Social Transformation.

-Lisa Anderson, ASU Women and Gender Studies



We are also excited to announce the arrival of **Dr. Marlon M. Bailey** as a new faculty member in WGS. Dr. Bailey comes to us as an associate professor with tenure, and broadens the research profile of the program in sexuality and masculinity studies. Dr. Bailey's book, ***Butch Queens Up in Pumps: Gender, Performance, and Ballroom Culture in Detroit***, a performance ethnography of Ballroom culture, was published by the University of Michigan Press in 2013. It was awarded the Alan Bray Memorial Book Prize by the GL/Q Caucus of the Modern Language Association, and was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Book Award in LGBT studies. Dr. Bailey has published essays in *Feminist Studies*, *Souls*, *Gender, Place, and Culture*, *The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Social Services*, *AIDS Patient Care & STDs* and in several book collections.

In other book news, Dr. Sujey Vega published her first book, *Latino Heartland: Of Borders and Belonging in the Midwest* with NYU Press in July.



Last, but certainly not least, our very own Dr. Sally Kitch, distinguished scholar, professor and director of ASU's Institute for Humanities Research, has been named to the position of University Professor, reporting to Provost Mark Searle. As University Professor, Dr. Kitch will continue her excellent research on sustainability issues in the humanities, as well as continue advising doctoral students in Women and Gender Studies.





Brigham Young University Women's Studies Program

In 2016, BYU will celebrate its 25th anniversary of the Women's Studies minor. We plan to celebrate this milestone throughout the year with various events and displays. This semester, there are 87 students taking women's studies classes and more than 40 declared minors in the program. This past school year, 15 people graduated with a Women's Studies minor. The minor has expanded to include elective classes about women in many disciplines and covering many areas of the world, including Women in Science, Medieval European Women Writers, Pan American Women Writers, Women and the Book, and Women in Asia.

The Women's Studies Colloquium, which is held every other week, has included such interesting topics as, "Preparing Teachers to Teach other People's Children," "Margarethe von Eckenbrecher, a Settler in the Former Southwest African Colony," "The Life Course Effects on Women of Early Sexual Experiences," and "Women in the Public Sphere in Africa."

The Women's Studies Honor Society inducted a dozen new members into the group and has planned several events, including a guest lecture by Dr. Valerie Hudson on *Sex and World Peace*, a discussion on Feminisms, and a Care Week Service Activity, co-sponsored by the Anti-Human Trafficking Club to promote the sale of slave-free chocolate on campus. The honor society members are a group of dedicated students who seek to support each other and to increase awareness of gender issues around campus.

On November 5-6, 2015, the BYU Women's Studies Program sponsored its fifth annual Fall Conference. This year's theme was "Pioneering Women in Fields of Knowledge," and the conference featured sessions on women philosophers, women in Africa, women in archaeology, Mormon women's history, and new responses to violence against women.

- Dr. Valerie Hegstrom, Director of Women's Studies at BYU

(Photo by Peter de Schweinitz) Four of our Women's Studies graduates at our annual luncheon held in their honor talk about what the Women's Studies program has meant to them and about their plans and dreams for the future.

Dr. Heidi R. Lewis

**Convening the first meeting of the
New National Women's Studies Association Feminist Media Studies Interest Group**

The *new* National Women's Studies Association Feminist Media Studies Interest Group is committed to intersectional and transdisciplinary approaches to examining media, especially interpreting the myriad meanings and ideologies generated by media texts. We are concerned with how gender, sexuality, race, class, citizenship, and other social, cultural, and political markers are constructed in media (vis-à-vis hegemonic and counter-hegemonic texts) and the relationships between these constructions and identity, including the multidimensional impetuses for and implications of these constructions. Finally, we examine the various ways in which audiences revise, resist, reject, and reproduce these constructions as they develop their subjectivities. Heidi R. Lewis, Founding Chair, convened the first meeting on Saturday, November 14th at the 2015 NWSA Conference in Milwaukee.

-Dr. Heidi Lewis, Assistant Professor of Feminist and Gender Studies at Colorado College and Founding Chair of New NWSA Feminist Media Studies Interest Group



**COLORADO
COLLEGE**



The 2015 NWSA Conference took place at the Milwaukee Hilton Hotel and Conference Center from November 12th



National Women's Studies Association
Leading the field of women's studies in educational and social transformation

Colorado State University



The Digital Storytelling Project at the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research aims to develop an archive of feminism and feminist movements at CSU and the greater Fort Collins area. Our first digital story will be produced in Spring 2016 by one of our graduate certificate students, Tammy

Mathews, who is completing a master's degree in the Department of Journalism. Tammy will produce a 5 minute digital story on Dr. Harriet "Patsy" Boyer, one of the first faculty at Colorado State University to teach a Women's Studies course. Patsy Boyer was responsible for numerous endeavors that CSU now claims in support of women and gender concerns and was instrumental in creating various venues for the production and dissemination of feminist knowledge. We are excited about this first story, which we will upload to our website at www.womensstudies.com.

-Dr. Caridad Souza, Director of the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, Colorado State University

The Women and Sustainability Workshop at Colorado State University is a project of The Women's Studies Project on Teaching, Curriculum, and Scholarship. In June 2014, Dr. Gillian Bowser led a workshop to explore feminist curricular and pedagogical approaches to sustainability. Participants designed digital stories that explored gender and sustainability research questions and methodologies related to their area of interest. The workshop's goals were 1) to deepen participants' knowledge of feminist pedagogies and methodologies; 2) to increase the visibility of the experiences of under-represented populations in our society and encourage inclusion of intersectional identities in pedagogical and curricular efforts; and 3) to create an environment of support for faculty interested in networking with likeminded individuals.

Guest Speakers included

- Dr. Ulrike Gretzel, Professor of Tourism Management, University of Queensland-School of Management) "Women and Leadership."
- Dr. Diane Husic, Chair of the Department of Biology, Moravian College, Pennsylvania: "International caucuses and the role of advocacy and policy in gender and sustainable development."
- Dr. Ruth Alexander, Professor, Department of History and Chair of Public Lands Center, Colorado State University: "History of women and leadership issues."

Two outgrowths of the workshop include an undergraduate and graduate course on Women and Sustainability as well as a new initiative in the planning stages called Feminist Forum on the Planet. Stay tuned.

Mothers Under Fire: Mothering in Conflict Areas

Edited by Tatjana Takševa and Arlene Sgoutas



July 2015

384 pages \$34.95

ISBN 978-1-926452-17-3

Mothers Under Fire: Mothering in Conflict Areas examines the experiences of women mothering in conflict areas. The aim of this collection is to engage with the nature and meaning of motherhood and mothering during times of war and/or in zones experiencing the threat of war. The essays in the collection reflect diverse disciplinary perspectives through which scholars and field practitioners reveal how conflict shapes mothering practices. One of the unique contributions of the collection is that it highlights not only the particular difficulties mothers face in various geographic locations where conflict has been prevalent, but also the ways in which mothers display agency to challenge and negotiate the circumstances that oppress them. The collection raises awareness of the needs of women and children in areas affected by military and/or political violence worldwide, and provides a basis for developing multiple policy frameworks aimed at improving existing systems of support in local contexts.

Mothers Under Fire: Mothering in Conflict Areas is an excellent and welcome contribution to the study of gender and conflict, and in particular the impact of conflict on mothers and mothering. Through different disciplinary perspectives, first person interviews, and historical and contemporary cases across geographic regions, this book convincingly demonstrates how mothers have agency in times of conflict and post-conflict.

—Kristen P. Williams, Clark University

Mothers Under Fire takes a new and refreshing look at the various ways the maternal can and does serve as a resource for peacebuilding. The range of articles is broad and nuanced, offering an important imaginative resource for practitioners as well as scholars.

—Susan St Ville, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame

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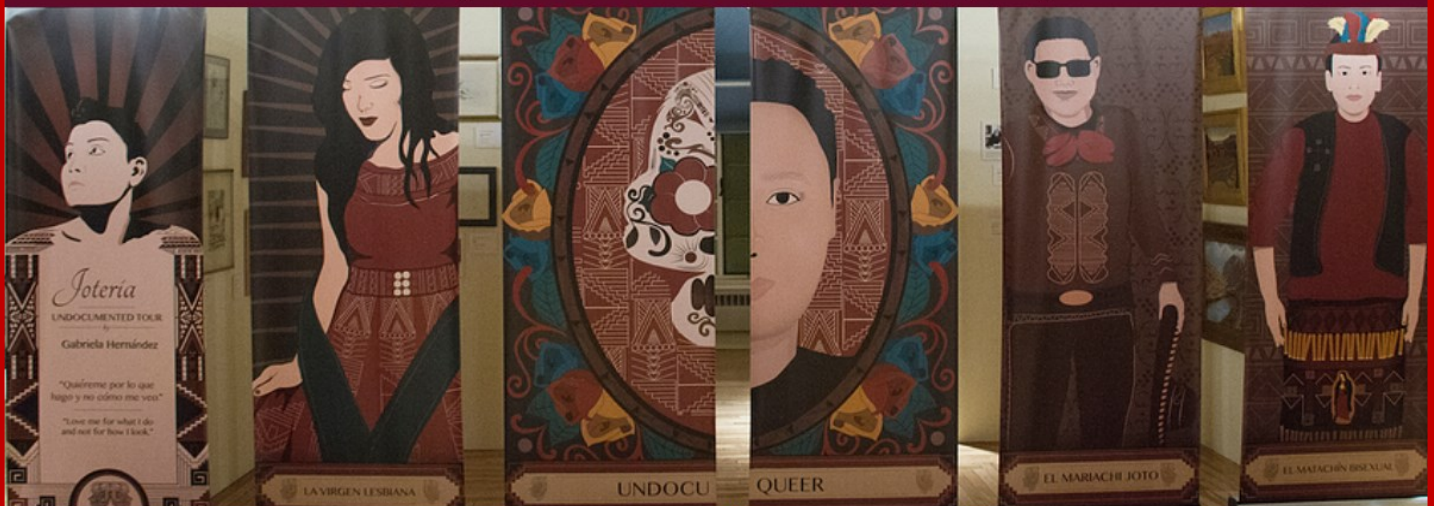
Upcoming Social Justice Symposium at New Mexico State University

Women's Studies faculty Dr. M. Catherine Jonet and I have been working with a committee to plan the annual J. Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium for Spring 2016 (March 22-23). The theme will be Social Justice for LGBTQ* Identities in the Borderlands. The conference will be made up of a poetry reading by **Verónica Reyes**, a keynote address by **Jennicet Gutiérrez**, an art display by Albuquerque-based artist **Gabriela Hernández**, featured addresses by scholars such as **Siobhan Somerville**, **Karma Chávez** and the editors of *Queer Brown Voices*, **Uriel Quesada**, **Letitia Gomez**, and **Salvador Vidal-Ortiz**. The conference will also include panels and a poster session featuring scholars, activists, and human rights advocates.

This symposium will focus on the very important issues regarding lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender identities in the Borderlands region. It seeks to examine the detention of LGBTQ* people who attempt to come to the U.S. in order to seek asylum with emphasis on the detaining of trans women in men's facilities. The symposium will also engage with the issues facing Latino/a LGBTQ* people who face racism and marginalization within and outside of the LGBTQ* community. The further precarity faced by undocumented LGBTQ* people is also central. Their undocumented status, in addition to racial and sexual and gender identity, places these individuals at greater risk for violence and marginalization. The experiences of and issues facing LGBTQ* people in the region will be featured alongside these other important areas of focus.

-Dr. Laura Ahn Williams, Director of the Women's Studies Program, New Mexico State University

12th Annual J. Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium



**Social Justice for LGBTQ*
Identities in the Borderlands**

**SAVE THE DATE!
March 22 & 23, 2016**

Nepali Migrant Women: Resistance and Survival in America



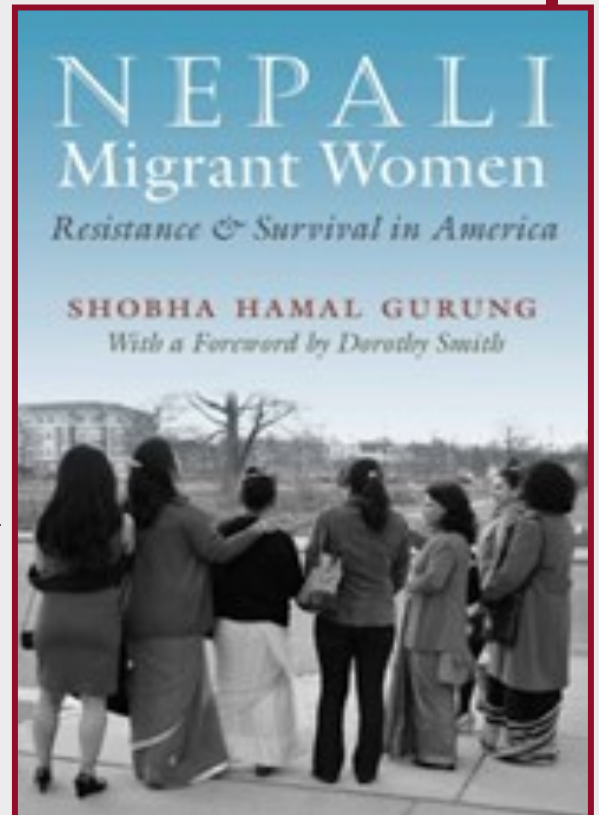
This book offers readers insights into the lived experiences of Nepali migrant women. It connects these insights to the broader issues of gendered labor, transnationalism, and women's agency and empowerment. One of the main elements of the book is to showcase how Nepali women constantly connect and reconnect with transnational communities, both in Nepal and in the U.S., through investing in social and cultural capital. The book illustrates that women's agentic participation in diasporic networks and activities and in global civic engagement enabled women to survive exploitative working conditions, thrive 7,800 miles from their communities in Nepal, and shine on a transnational stage. The book documents how middle-class Nepali women strategically took advantage of wage and status differentials between the United States and Nepal to improve their own lifestyle and contribute to their communities.

Author Hamal Gurung offers insights about the particular work experiences of transnational workers embedded in a pan-coethnic market. This distinguishes the book from previous literature about workers who work for employers of another ethnicity and from studies of workers in a coethnic labor market. The cultural similarities and historical and current status differences between Nepali workers and Indian employers creates unique tensions for these workers. The book also adds a new dimension to existing understandings of the term "transnationalism." It shows how these women were not just investing in themselves or their families—they were doing community-building work based on a sense of moral obligation and social responsibility. While these women were connected to formal transnational organizations such as NGOs, their community-building work also took place at an interpersonal level. Thus, this book bridges studies of transnationalism from above and transnationalism from below to reveal the rich forms of participation that may occur right in the middle of transnational space.

For the Nepali women migrants in this book, the effects of their civic citizenship, agency, and empowerment were far-reaching, transcending global boundaries.

Nepali Migrant Women: Resistance and Survival in America can be ordered on the web through the Syracuse University Press, or by calling Longleaf Services Inc. at [800-848-6224](tel:800-848-6224)

-Shobha Hamal Gurung, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Southern Utah University



Political Kinship through Print Culture in 20th century Feminism: TWU's Agatha Beins Awarded Barnard Library Research Fellowship

Dr. Agatha Beins received a Barnard Library Research Fellowship to analyze the interconnections and distinctions between feminism of the 1970s and the 1990s. Take for example her analyses of the use of Wonder Women in the 1970s feminist newspaper *Sister*... *"Wonder Woman practically leaps off the page bearing a speculum in one hand, as she claims, 'With my speculum I am strong! I can fight!'* This image appears in July 1973 on the cover of the Los Angeles feminist newspaper, *Sister*, and twenty-five years later it reappeared on the cover of the feminist zine *vaginal teeth*, published in 1998 in Leeds, England. The reiteration of this image suggests a political and aesthetic kinship between these two moments in feminism, which belies the dominant narrative of twentieth-century feminist history that places 1970s feminism ("the second wave") in opposition to 1990s feminism ("the third wave").



I analyze the interconnections and distinctions between feminism in these two time periods through their ephemeral publications. For example, taking control of the means of production, feminists in the 1970s and 1990s published their own periodicals on their own terms. Writers in both decades also articulate the power and importance of self-representation, situating their publishing projects in relation to and in response to the mainstream media landscape. Topically, both sets of publications overlap as well: authors grappled with issues related to gender, sexuality and embodiment; labor and capitalism; popular culture; and racism, classism, and homophobia within feminism. And zines and feminist periodicals embody an aesthetic that conveys the urgency of their politics and the political values of their creators. Content is prioritized over a professional or refined appearance, as is the commitment to a do-it-yourself ethic and giving non-experts the chance to be writers, editors, and publishers.

I have spent almost the past decade researching feminist periodicals from the 1970s, so I am familiar with this genre of publications. In order to conduct in-depth research about zines I plan to draw upon the Barnard Zine Library's rich and vibrant collection of feminist zines. Thus, I am very grateful to have received a research award to support this project and can't wait to spend a few weeks immersed in these exciting ephemeral publications."

-Dr. Agatha Beins, Texas Women's University

Films for the Feminist Classroom

We are thrilled to announce that the latest issue of *Films for the Feminist Classroom* (FFC), published through the Department of Women's Studies at **Texas Woman's University**, is now available at <http://ffc.twu.edu>. This issue of FFC includes an exciting special feature that addresses a topic many educators confront in their teaching, namely violence. Departing from our usual focus on documentaries, "Film and Violence" highlights primarily fictional films produced through the mainstream film industry. **Special feature editors Dr. Shilyh Warren and Merry Jett, both affiliated with the University of Texas at Dallas**, have curated a collection of essays that does the important work of theorizing violence in film, while also analyzing specific films that instructors may use in a classroom.

In addition to a focus on film and violence, this issue highlights film reviews about a range of topics. While one review builds on the ideas discussed in the special feature—exploring the social, historical, and political contexts of honor killings—most address different facets of cultural production and the politics of representation. Films about art and artists, popular media, sports, native communities, and Judaism offer insight into the different ways individuals and industries navigate and produce their visions of gender, race, religion, sexuality, nationality, and indigeneity.

Films for the Feminist Classroom welcomes proposals for film reviews, film festival reviews, special features, and lesson plans that include film or video. You can find our call for proposals at http://ffc.twu.edu/call_4_proposals.html, or you can contact us at ffc@twu.edu for more information.



AnaLouise Keating releases a new edition of *Light in the Dark*

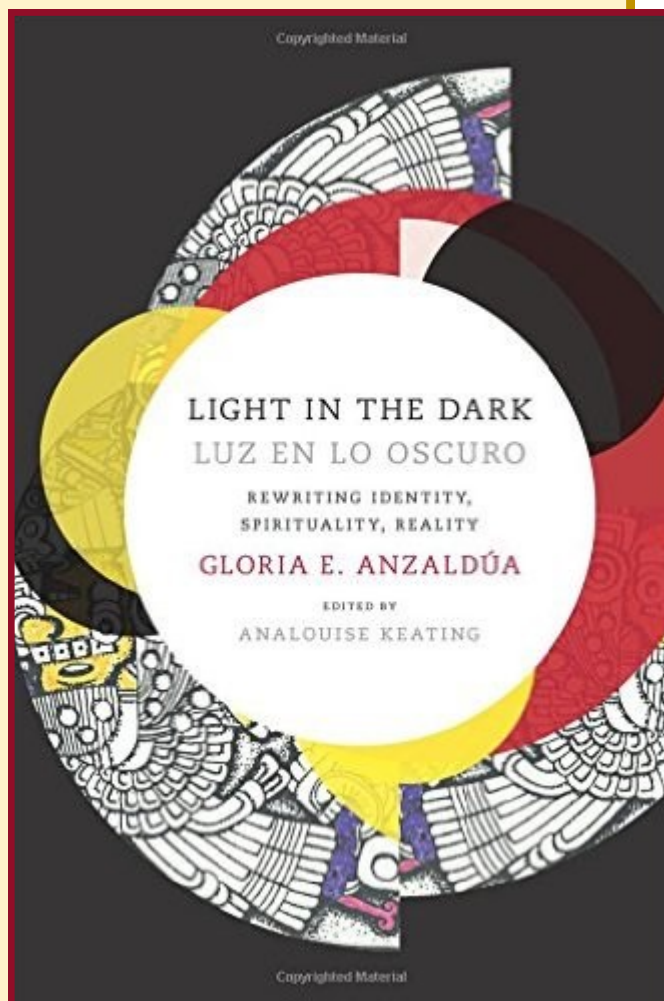
AnaLouise Keating, Professor of Women's Studies and Director of the Ph.D. program in Women's Studies at Texas Woman's University has edited Gloria Anzaldúa's *Light in the Dark: Rewriting Identity, Spirituality, Reality*, published in October 2015 by Duke University Press.

A key figure in the creation of academic Border Studies, Anzaldúa (1942-2004) was an internationally acclaimed independent scholar, cultural theorist, creative writer, and social-justice activist who has made lasting contributions to numerous academic fields, including Chican@ studies, composition studies, feminism and feminist theory, literary studies, queer theory, and women's studies.

Light in the Dark represents the culmination of Anzaldúa's mature thought and the most comprehensive presentation of her philosophy. Focusing closely on aesthetics, ontology, epistemology, and ethics, *Light in the Dark* investigates a number of related issues, including the artist-activist's struggles; imagination as an embodied intellectual faculty which, with careful attention and specific strategies, can effect personal and social transformation; the creative process; and alternative methods of individual/collective identity formation.

Light in the Dark also contains important developments in Anzaldúa's theories of nepantla and nepantleras, spiritual activism, new tribalism, nos/otras, conocimiento, autohistoria, and autohistoria-teoría, as well as additional insights into her writing practice and her intellectual and physiological experiences with diabetes. It will enable readers to draw new insights and provocative connections between Anzaldúa's landmark text, *Borderlands/La Frontera*, and her later writings. An important contribution to recent work in the renewed interest in materialist theories and philosophies, *Light in the Dark* demonstrates what some scholars have long assumed: Anzaldúa is a provocative philosopher of the highest caliber, weaving together mexicana, chicana, indigenous, feminist, queer, tejana, and esoteric theories and perspectives in ground-breaking ways.

-Dr. Analouise Keating, Texas Women's University





Addressing Gender Issues in Burma

SIROW is honored to play a key role in the project, *Developing a Sustainable Seafood Industry for Burma* (also known as Myanmar). This project, funded by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), aims to move Myanmar's seafood sector towards an industry that mixes capture fisheries and aquaculture along with improved processing and marketing capabilities to meet global standards of sustainability, equitability, profitability, and food safety. The project is led by Dr. Kevin Fitzsimmons (Director of the University of Arizona's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences International Agriculture Programs and Professor of Soil, Water, and Environmental Science), and involves faculty and researchers from multiple University of Arizona departments.

SIROW's Dr. Josephine Korchmaros and other SIROW researchers are collaborating on the project's special emphasis on reaching women with training and outreach programs. The goal is to address gender issues that impact the project's ability to reach women, in order to ensure gender equality in the project's participants and benefits.

To shape and guide this special emphasis, SIROW is working to ensure that Myanmar women's views are represented in the project's decision-making process. The project team is using multiple strategies to facilitate participation and engagement of women in Myanmar in the project activities and in the Myanmar seafood and aquaculture industry. For example, the project team has directed many of the project

workshops and university collaborations towards labor areas in which women are disproportionately represented in Myanmar. In addition, they have directed efforts to encourage women faculty members in Myanmar to be members of the core of University faculty and extension specialists with skills and knowledge to assist fishers, farmers, and processors. The project team will continue to work towards engaging Myanmar women throughout the duration of the project.

Dr. Korchmaros and the rest of the SIROW project team are also assisting with the monitoring and evaluation component of the project. The goal is to continually improve the project's implementation and activities, and assess the impacts of the project.

SIROW is excited to be a part of such a timely multidisciplinary effort to strengthen Myanmar's capacity for economic development and sustainability!

For more information, contact Dr. Korchmaros at jkorch@email.arizona.edu



Women feeding soft-shell crabs at a private fish farm in Yangon district in Myanmar.



University of Arizona project team in front of project offices located in the Myanmar Fisheries Federation building: Dr. Jean McLain (UA Water Resources Research Center and Department of Soil, Water, and Environmental Science); Ms. Julianne Hammink (UA Center for English as a Second Language); Ms. Linda Chu (UA Center for English as a Second Language); Dr. Kevin Fitzsimmons (UA College of Agriculture and Life Sciences International Agriculture Programs and Department of Soil, Water, and Environmental Science); and Dr. Josephine Korchmaros (SIROW).

A New Masters Program and more at the University of Nevada

The Gender, Race, and Identity Program (GRI) at the University of Nevada- Reno houses Women's Studies, as well as Ethnic Studies, Holocaust, Genocide, Peace, and Religious Studies. We presently offer a graduate certificate in Gender, Race, and Identity, and are in the process of launching a new Masters program. In addition to our core of dedicated faculty, GRI has over forty affiliated faculty associates.



-Dr. Jen Hill, Chair of Women's Studies and Director of GRI

Jen returned from a year participating in the Rice Seminar of the Rice Humanities Research Center to resume as Chair of Women's Studies and Director of GRI. Next fall she will be teaching with the University Study Abroad Consortium (USAC) in Lyon, France.



Deborah Boehm, Interim Chair and Director last year, is on sabbatical leave, spending part of the year as a Residential Scholar at the University of Arizona School of Anthropology as she researches immigration detention and its effects on families. Her book, *Returned: Going and Coming in an Age of Deportation* is forthcoming in Spring of 2016 in the California Series in Public Anthropology, University of California Press.



Emily Hobson is completing her first book, *Lavender and Red: Liberation and Solidarity in the Gay and Lesbian Left*, for the University of California Press. Her research was funded in part by the Joan Heller-Diane Bernard Fellowship of CUNY's Center for LGBTQ Studies (CLAGS) and drew on archives and interviews in the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, New York City, and Nicaragua.



Kyle Jackson joins us this year as an Instructor. He recently earned his PhD in Political Studies from Queen's University, focusing on queer politics and citizenship in Jamaica and Canada. His most recent publication, "Queering Jamaica: Sexual Citizenship in State and Societal Spaces" appeared in *Praxis: Journal of Gender and Cultural Critiques*.



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