

SOUTHWEST INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN REGIONAL NEWSLETTER FALL 2017

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

Dear Regional Partners,

We send this newsletter with warm holiday wishes and appreciation for another semester of teaching, research, and service in the books! It has been an eventful fall semester at UA SIROW. This past summer, our director, Dr. Sally Stevens, passed the torch after 13 years of outstanding leadership. Luckily, two longtime UA SIROW researchers Dr. Josephine (Jo) Korchmaros and Claudia Powell have taken over Sally's directorship duties and we are lucky to have Sally continue her work as a SIROW Research Professor. Long committed to the SIROW mission and goals, Jo and Claudia, will no doubt continue to grow the scope and depth of SIROW's work!



Both Jo and Claudia are looking forward to meeting the regional partners this winter at our upcoming annual **Southwest Regional Gender and Women's Studies Summit**. This year's meeting will be co-hosted by University of Arizona SIROW and Texas Tech University Women's and Gender Studies. It will take place on the Texas Tech University campus in **Lubbock, Texas** on **January 26th and 27th**. This annual event provides the invaluable opportunity to dialogue about institutional successes and future goals as well as creatively brainstorm solutions to the challenges we face. We are stronger together and we have much to discuss this year. Many directors and heads have already registered and we look forward to seeing you there!

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With the continuing shift in national and local politics, gender and women's studies remains an inspiring place to work, research, and teach. Our region's departments, programs, and institutes continue to take strong stands in support of women's rights, gender equality, and democracy grounded in diversity. In this newsletter you'll find some highlights on recent and upcoming events, as well as awards, accolades, program updates and a spotlight on our new directors.

We wish you a happy and healthy holiday season!

-Stephanie Murphy (UA SIROW)

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The Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW), established in 1979, is a regional research and resource institute collaborating with 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.

Directors' Spotlight

Jo Korchmaros, Director

Where are you originally from: Wisconsin

What was your undergrad/grad field of study: Social psychology with a graduate certificate in quantitative research methods.

Name a few SIROW projects are you currently working on:

Bridges to Wellness: An infrastructure and capacity-building project to deliver and sustain prevention services to reduce the onset of substance abuse, HIV, and Viral Hepatitis among system-involved minority youth ages 13-17 in Pima County, Arizona.

Pregnant/Postpartum Women & Youth Substance Abuse Treatment National Cross-Site Evaluation: A national cross-site evaluation to assess the effectiveness of substance abuse treatment for pregnant & postpartum women and adolescent /young adults.

Multi-site Examination of the Effectiveness of The Seven Challenges for Adolescents: An examination of the effectiveness of The Seven Challenges in reducing substance use, mental health-related issues, and recidivism among adolescents.

Favorite outside-of-work activity: Spending time with my son exploring the world.

If you were a vegetable...: Broccoli

If you could have one superpower...: The power to heal



Claudia Powell, Associate Director

Where are you originally from: Albuquerque, NM

What was your undergrad/grad field of study: Special Education/Educational Policy

Favorite SIROW project to date: Too hard to choose one! The ANCHOR Project which served LGBTQ+ identified young adults experiencing homelessness and a project with the Pima County Attorney's Office for which I chair the Pima County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board. I have learned so much from each of these projects and they each offer something meaningful to our community and its members.

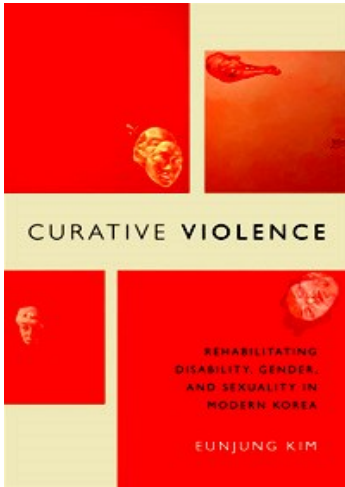
Favorite outside-of-work activity: Spending time with my family, watching my kids play sports, listening to live music, visiting various vineyards and wineries, running, reading historical fiction.

If you were a vegetable...: I would be a Hatch green chile pepper. Native to New Mexico, spicy, flavorful and makes everything taste better!

If you could have one superpower...: I thought about this and decided to opt out of a superpower. I'm not sure how it might affect the balance of the universe and I think our current society is about as off balance as I can take! :)



Fall 2017 Events

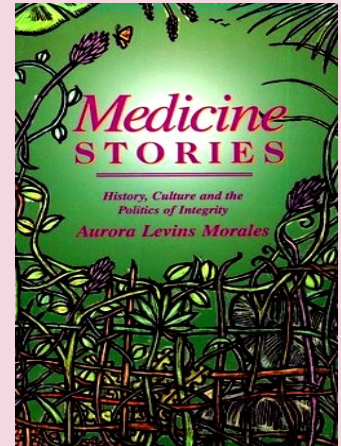


Feminist Disability Studies Lecture at the University of Utah

On November 13th, University of Utah's School of Cultural and Social Transformation and its Gender Studies and Ethnic Studies Divisions hosted Dr. Eunjung Kim (Associate Professor, Syracuse University) to speak about her recent book, *Curative Violence*. *Curative Violence* just won the 2017 National Women's Studies Association Alison Piepmeier Book Prize, an award bestowed to honor feminist disability studies scholarship. Dr. Kim's talk entitled, "Curative Violence: Representing Transnational Military Violence, Disability, and Sexuality" examines a direct link between cure and violence that appears in the representations of disability, Cold War imperialism, and sexual oppression in South Korea.

Northern Arizona University (NAU) Continues Women of Color/Queer People of Color Series

On November 28th and 29th, NAU Women's and Gender Studies and the Ethnic Studies Programs hosted Latina feminist writer Aurora Levins Morales. The program featured readings and a workshop with Levins Morales, whose work focuses on generational trauma and collective healing through storytelling. She shared selections of her soon to be newly re-released book, *Medicine Stories: Essays for Radicals*. In her own words, "First published in 1998, *Medicine Stories* is a collection of essays on the work of building social justice. The original eighteen essays examine trauma and oppression, historical memory, language, identity, nationalism and ecology, sustainable activism, and the deepest meaning of solidarity."



Exciting Schedule of Events at Metropolitan State University (MSU) Denver

On October 18th, The Institute for Women's Studies and Services co-sponsored a campus rally and march titled, "Dear Survivor, Title IX Rally." The rally shed light on recent federal attempts to rescind Title IX protections on college campuses. On October 27th, the Institute co-sponsored MSU Denver's annual Women in STEM Conference titled, Intersectionality in STEM: Supporting All Voices. This fall, the institute also partnered with University of Colorado Denver's Center for Identity and Inclusion on a variety of events, including a monthly series titled, "Split Stories". "Split Stories" creates a space for students, staff, and faculty who identify as biracial or multiracial to gather and discuss pressing issues.

Paromita Vohra Visits University of Colorado Boulder WGS

On November 12 and 13th, University of Colorado Boulder Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) Department hosted Paromita Vohra as its 2017 Women and Gender Studies Activist-in-Residence. Vohra, a well known Indian feminist documentarian, writer and multimedia activist, explores urban life, popular culture and gender issues throughout her work. During the residence, she hosted a series of events, including a workshop on digital activism, a student forum, and a public lecture on feminist advocacy and art.



Utah State University Continues Undergraduate Women's Leadership Initiative



Utah State University's Center for Women and Gender (CWG) continued its leadership development workshop series which doubled in size this fall semester. This competitive program was developed for undergraduate women who may not yet see themselves as leaders, but have a sense of their career goals. The CWG Women's Leadership Initiative focuses on developing leadership self-efficacy for emerging leaders through activities including discussing current leadership research, moderating speaker panels, participating in a mentoring program, attending networking events, and ending the year with a graduation luncheon. The session themes include, "Who is a leader? Where is your place in the leadership world?", "Values and goals, barriers and overcoming them", and "Self-presentation and self-branding", "Leadership etiquette", "Effective communication", and "Networking."

Fort Lewis College Talks and Walks

The Fort Lewis College Student Wellness Initiatives Office, WellPAC, Title IX Office, and the Exercise Science Departments (organized by Gender and Women's Studies Professor Emily Houghton) sponsored the fourth annual "Light Up the Night Glow Run" on Friday, September 15. Over 200 people participated, learning about important sexual assault prevention initiatives and resources, gathering as a community, and having fun.

Also, on October 9th, Dr. Carolina Villarroel gave the keynote address for the campus Real History of the Americas/Indigenous People's Day events. Dr. Villarroel is the Brown Foundation Director of Research, Arte Público Press at the University of Houston. Villarroel's talk, "(W)Righting History: U.S. Latinas/os in the U.S.," was followed by a workshop focused on digital humanities databases.



Program Updates

UT Austin launches its LGBTQ Studies Program

University of Texas (UT) Austin Center for Women's and Gender Studies announced the launch of their new LGBTQ Studies Program that has been years in the making! The



The University of Texas at Austin
LGBTQ Studies

LGBTQ Studies Program will operate under the auspices of the Center for Women's & Gender Studies and builds from the foundation established by the LGBTQ/Sexualities Research Cluster, which has provided programming and support for faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates since 2004. The inaugural Director of the LGBTQ Studies Program will be Dr. Ann Cvetkovich, Professor of English and Women's and Gender Studies. As part of its launch the program will host a symposium event titled "Queer Camaraderie" on January 26th and 27th, 2018.

Colorado State University (CSU) Establishes WGS Bachelor Degree

CSU Women's and Gender Studies new degree program was recently featured in campus news. Kate Simota of CSU External Relations wrote, "Women's Studies has been offered at CSU for 40 years – as an interdisciplinary minor, an undergrad certificate, and a graduate certificate – and now, in fall 2017, it's available as a bachelor's degree. The bachelor of arts in Women's and Gender Studies is housed in the Department of Ethnic Studies in the College of Liberal Arts."

Name Change at Texas Tech University (TTU)

TTU is pleased to announce that they have received official approval to change their department name to Women's and Gender Studies. Department Head Charlotte Dunham reported, "The new name is a better reflection of our focus on gendered society as well as issues faced by women."

Tenure and Promotions at Texas Woman's University

Two faculty members in the Department of Multicultural Women's and Gender Studies at Texas Woman's University--Agatha Beins and Danielle Phillips Cunningham--were awarded tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Congratulations to them!

New WGS Master's Degree Program at UNT

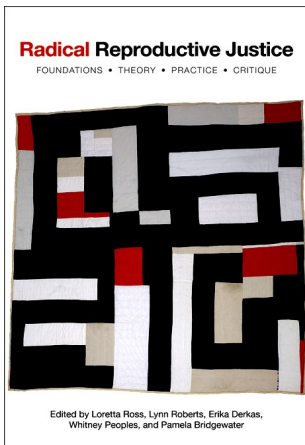


College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Women's & Gender Studies

The University of North Texas (UNT) Women's & Gender Studies Program now offers a master's degree in Women's & Gender Studies. Students take approved courses offered through the program and through other departments. To be awarded a master's degree in Women's & Gender Studies, students must complete at least 30 hours of graduate coursework. All students are required to complete WGST 5100 (Feminist Theory), WGST 5400 (Gender & Human Trafficking), and WGST 5800 (Gender & Globalization) as part of their master's program at UNT. In addition to these nine (9) hours of required coursework, students select additional courses approved for WGST credit. In addition to scheduled courses, all students will fulfill one of three exit options: a thesis, an internship/fieldwork, or a special project.

Awards and Publications



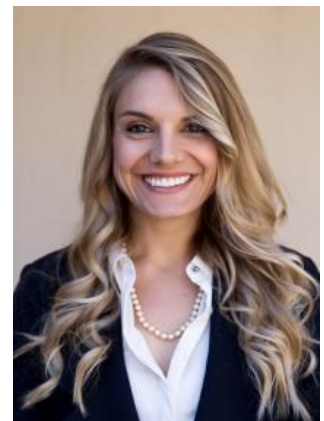
Congratulations to **Dr. Erika Derkas** from **New Mexico Highlands University** on her new co-edited publication titled, *Radical Reproductive Justice: Foundation, Theory, Practice, Critique* (Feminist Press). From the publisher's website, "this anthology assembles two decades' of work initiated by SisterSong Women of Color Health Collective, creators of the human rights-based "reproductive justice" framework to move beyond polarized pro-choice/pro-life debates."

Dr. Mary Romero, Professor of Justice Studies and Social Inquiry and affiliate of Women and Gender Studies at **Arizona State University**, received the American Sociological Association Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award in honor of her use of scholarship and teaching in service of social justice.



This October, **Dr. Tomi-Ann Roberts**, Professor of Psychology and Feminist and Gender Studies at **Colorado College**, will begin her two-year term as President of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research (SMCR). According to campus news, "SMCR is an organization comprised of researchers in the social sciences, the natural sciences and the humanities, health care providers, policy makers, health activists, artists and students who share an interest in menstrual and ovulatory health." Dr. Roberts was elected as President due to her experience as an internationally-recognized leading scholar in the social psychology of emotion, gender, and reproductive health.

University of Arizona SIROW researcher and doctoral candidate in Public Health, **Libby Valdez**, was recently awarded a prestigious National Institutes of Health funded Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award from the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities. Valdez will use the award to fund her ongoing research that explores social and political factors influencing adolescent substance use patterns and behavioral health for residents living in the US-Mexico border region. Congrats Libby!



Upcoming Events

University of Nevada, Las Vegas will host the **National Education for Women's Leadership NV Conference** on June 4-9th, 2018. The conference provides an award winning program for leadership development. Any college student enrolled in a Nevada college or university is eligible to apply. Costs will be covered by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada. Conference organizers are currently accepting applications for paid Faculty-in-Residence to assist with programming. Faculty applications are due by **January 31st, 2018**. For more information, follow this link: <https://www.unlv.edu/wrin/educational-outreach/new-leadership>



Feminist Border Arts Film Festival



The **Gender & Sexuality Studies/Department of Interdisciplinary Studies at New Mexico State University** will sponsor the 3rd annual Feminist Border Arts Film Festival. The event brings together domestic and international short films that explore topics connected to gender, sexuality, race, class, disability, diaspora, migration, transnational and environmental issues, and other social justice perspectives and experiences. According to festival organizers, feminist border arts is “a practice that challenges the limits of conventional representation through telling stories from the edge; threshold visions from the margins that create new ways of seeing, that visualize underrepresented ways of knowing.” Films selected for inclusion in the festival will be featured at a

live screening event at New Mexico State University that is free and open to the public. Submissions are due by **March 05, 2018**. For more information, follow this link: <https://genders.nmsu.edu/film-festival/FeministBorderArtsFilmFestival>. To submit a film, follow this link: <https://filmfreeway.com/FeministBorderArtsFilmFestival>

Texas Tech University Women's and Gender Studies Program is pleased to announce their **Annual Conference on the Advancement of Women**. This year's theme focuses on the contributions of Latinas in our communities and in our scholarship. The conference will feature two outstanding keynote speakers, artist and political activist Favianna Rodriguez and scholar and writer Norma Cantú. The Conference will be on Friday April 20, 2018 in Lubbock with other events to be announced in the coming weeks. The deadline for paper or panel proposals is **February 23, 2018**. For more information, follow this link: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/wstudies/call_for_papers_and_panels.php





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