

REGIONAL NEWSLETTER Spring 2016

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

SIROW Heads and Directors Meet in Las Vegas!

This past January, 28 representatives from Gender and Women's Studies programs across the southwest convened in Las Vegas for the largest SIROW Heads and Directors Meeting to date! Attendees came from 21 schools in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas and Utah. We're grateful to all of the attendees for sharing their time and knowledge, but we'd also like to express specific gratitude to Joanne Goodwin and Tamara Marino of University of Nevada – Las Vegas (UNLV) and Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) for their generous support of the event proceedings, and an excellent presentation of the MAKERS project: Women in Nevada History. We would also like to thank Jen Hill and the University of Nevada Reno for their generous financial support.



SIROW attendees pose for a picture after the Saturday discussion

**28 representatives from
21 Programs across the
Southwest**

**Arizona, Colorado,
New Mexico,
Nevada, Texas, and Utah!**

Top: Jen Hill, Lorraine Bayard de Volo, Anita Revilla, Shobha Gurung, Lydai Huerta, Emma Bailey, Deborah Boehm, Joanne Goodwin, Gina Nunez, Chris Talbot
Bottom: Jackie Salcedo, Alicia Giralte, Sally Stevens

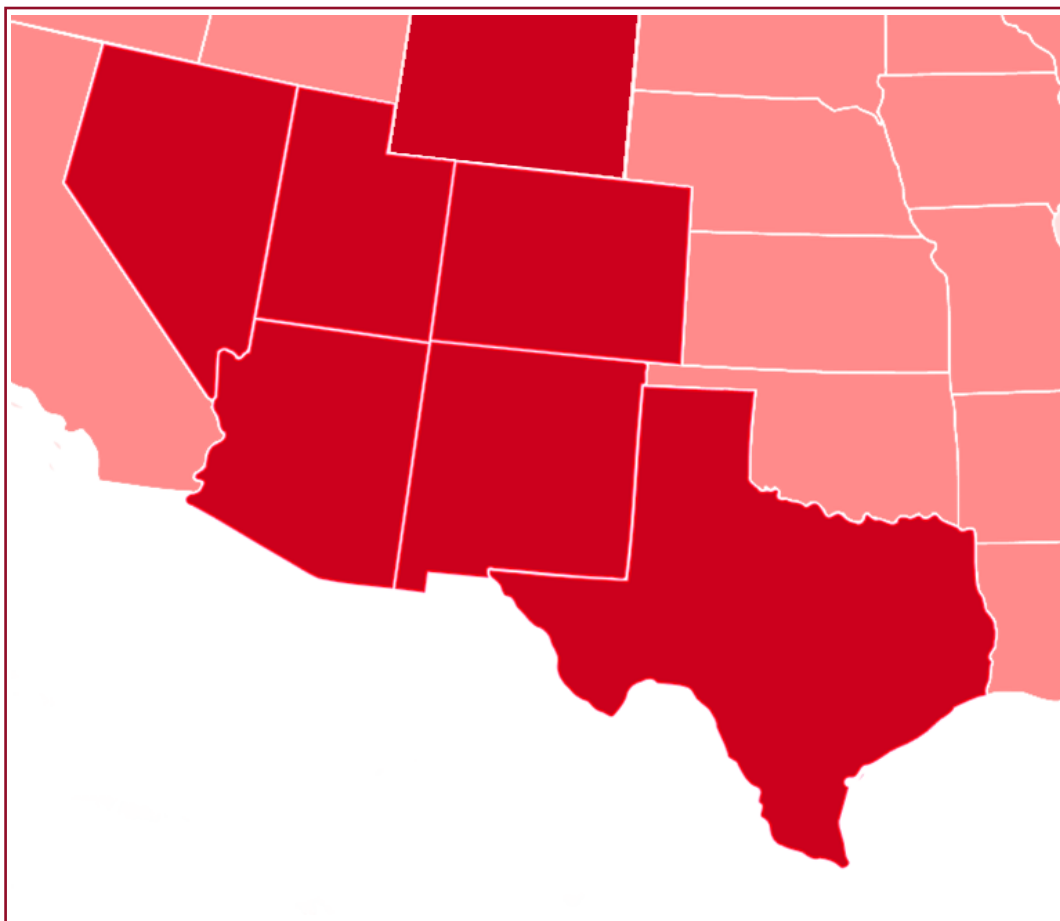
Over the weekend of January 29th and 30th, attendees enjoyed social dinners, formal presentations, and open discussion to share their experiences, successes, and challenges from programs of all sizes. Representatives from varied programs – ranging from undergraduate concentrations, to well established masters and Ph.D. programs – contributed to rigorous discussion of the state of Gender and Women's Studies programming. Topics included (1) mentoring students for graduate study, (2) crossing the academy/activist divide, (3) building new programs and degree offerings, (4) as well as challenging our own participation in oppressive and patriarchal patterns of higher education.

By the close of Saturday's discussion, we had agenda set for next year with particular interest in support for 1st generation college students, graduate student quality of life, budget challenges, and the question of when to grow programs despite increasingly limited resources. In terms of addressing the needs of southwest programs and building a network of support among the region's educators, we couldn't be much happier with the turnout and outcome. As the semester comes hurdling to a close, we're already looking forward to the next one in 2017. Hope to see you there.

-Harrison Apple UA—GWS

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Spring 2016**

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.

Thank You SIROW Regional Partners

Arizona State University (Tempe, AZ)

Brigham Young University (Provo, UT)

Colorado College (Colorado Springs, CO)

Colorado State University (Fort Collins, CO)

Colorado State University, Pueblo (Pueblo, CO)

Eastern New Mexico University (Portales, NM)

Fort Lewis College (Durango, CO)

Metropolitan State University (Denver, CO)

Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, AZ)

New Mexico State University (Las Cruces, NM)

NM Highlands University (Las Vegas, NM)

Prescott College (Prescott, AZ)

Regis University (Denver, CO)

Southern Utah University (Cedar City, UT)

Texas Tech University (Lubbock, TX)

Texas Women's University (Denton, TX)

University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ)

University of Colorado (Colorado Springs, CO)

University of Colorado, Boulder (Boulder, CO)

University of Colorado, Denver (Denver, CO)

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Las Vegas, NV)

University of Nevada, Reno (Reno, NV)

University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM)

University of North Texas (Denton, TX)

University of Texas, Austin (Austin, TX)

University of Texas, El Paso (El Paso, TX)

University of Texas, Arlington (Arlington, TX)

University of Utah (Salt Lake City, UT)

University of Wyoming (Laramie, WY)

Utah State University (Logan, UT)

Utah Valley University (Orem, UT)

Western New Mexico University (Silver City, NM)

Brigham Young University celebrates 25th Anniversary of the Women's Study Minor!

Written by Connie Lamb

The Brigham Young University Women's Studies Program sponsored several events during Women's History Month of March 2016. The international cinema showed two films on women, *Girlhood* and *Feminism Inshallah*. Several lectures were given on various topics including civil rights, racial issues, history of the LDS Relief Society, and experiences of Latina Relief society members. Two exhibits were available for view during the month, a small display on the history of Relief Society with materials from the BYU Library Special Collections and a large exhibit about Rose Marie Reid, a famous swimsuit designer and producer. A unique event was the Library Hymn Sing: Hymns by Women, a presentation and sing-along for the 26 attendees.

The 6th annual BYU Women's Conference will be held in November and will focus on the history of the Women's Studies Program at BYU. It is the 25th anniversary of the WS minor which was started in 1991 under the direction of the Women's Research Institute. The WRI was established in 1978 and was in charge of Women's Studies activities until 1999 when the program became a separate entity with funding from both the College of Humanities and the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences. The conference will include past directors of the Women's Studies program and various celebratory events.

Winter Semester Colloquium talks included topics on "Transatlantic Austen Fandom", "Sexualization of Women in Lyrics of Popular Music", "cohabitation and the Well-Being of Children in Developing Nations", "LDS Latinas in the Phoenix area", "A Chosen Exile: A History of Racial Passing in American Life", and "Clan governance, State Peacefulness, and Women's Subordination". Students enrolled in the Colloquium class introduce the speakers, and provide responses.

Publications and Digital Humanities at Women's & Gender Studies University of Texas at Arlington

Written by Sonja Watson

Dr. Sonja S. Watson, Director of Women's & Gender Studies and Associate Professor of Spanish at UT Arlington will publish, "Expanding Definitions of Caribbean Identity through Contemporary Panamanian Fiction by Melanie Taylor Herrera," in a special forthcoming edition of the *Cincinnati Romance Review* on "Circum-Caribbean Poetics". The article deals with changing definitions of black female identity and issues in contemporary Hispanic Caribbean fiction.

The Women's and Gender Studies program at UT Arlington received a start-up grant to develop a digital archive on women in North Texas. The "**Multicultural Women's Historical Archive in North Texas**" will feature biographical information on women in North Texas, which is comprised geographically of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and surrounding areas.

Colorado College Feminist and Gender Studies Alumni published on The Feminist Wire

From Colorado College Feminist and Gender Studies website

Two Colorado College (Colorado Springs) alumni have been published on the peer-reviewed online website *The Feminist Wire*. *The Feminist Wire* aims to provide socio-political and cultural critique of anti-feminist, racist, and imperialist politics pervasive in all forms and spaces of private and public lives of individuals globally.

Jazlyn Andrews ('17 Feminist & Gender Studies major with a Race, Ethnicity, & Migration Studies Minor) was published in February of 2016 on the Feminist Wire. Her article "Emerging Feminisms, (F)act of Blackness: The Politics of Mixed Race identity." In the article she writes "through an examination of the 2014 film *Dear White People*...I examine how the 'tragic mulatta' construction makes it acceptable for mixed race women to become sites for White men to explore their fears of, and fascinations with, an eroticized Other. Such a practice perpetuates an investment in a black-white binary that essentializes mixed race people to 'either/or' rather than 'both/and,' which maintains the property value of, and investment in, Whiteness. Importantly, the construction of, and reliance upon, a black-white binary erases mixed race identities and functions to mitigate the threat we pose to blending the color line."

Visit the Feminist and Gender Studies webpage for more information: www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/feministandgenderstudies/



Regis University Celebrates

On March 11, Regis University hosted a public talk with Shirin Ebadi. Ebadi's talk entitled "Women, Faith, and Human Rights," expands on her work which earned her a Nobel Peace Prize in 2003.

Ebadi, who currently lives in exile in Britain, has established many non-governmental organizations in Iran including the Defenders of Human Rights Center, and the One Million Signatures campaign for Equality, a campaign demanding the end to legal discrimination against women in Iranian law.

Ebadi is a guest of Regis University's Institute on the Common Good in conjunction with Peace Jam, a Denver-based international education leadership organization that held a co-current week long conference with middle and high school students from across the state to present their ideas and programs for community improvement.

University of Utah Celebrates Women's Week

University of Utah's Office of Equity and Diversity, Directed by Susie Porter and Kim Hackford-Peer, celebrated Women's Week between March 21st and 25th with a lectures and film screenings.

Wendy Davis served as the keynote speaker. Her speech "The Political Body" addressed needs for reproductive justice and access to health care for minority demographics in the United States. The sneakers in the post were worn by the Forth Worth, Texas Senator while she stood for a 13-hour filibuster defending women's reproductive rights from Senate Bill 5.

The week included a screening of the documentary *No Más Bebés*. The documentary follows the story of immigrant mothers who sue county doctors, the state, and the United States government fighting a history of coerced sterilizations in the 1960s and 1970s.



University of North Texas groups gather wide support to bring Edyka Chilomé to Speak on Art & Activism

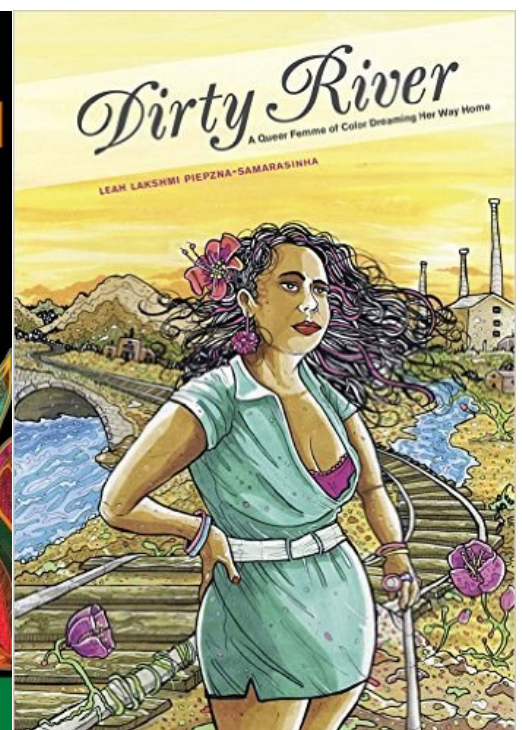
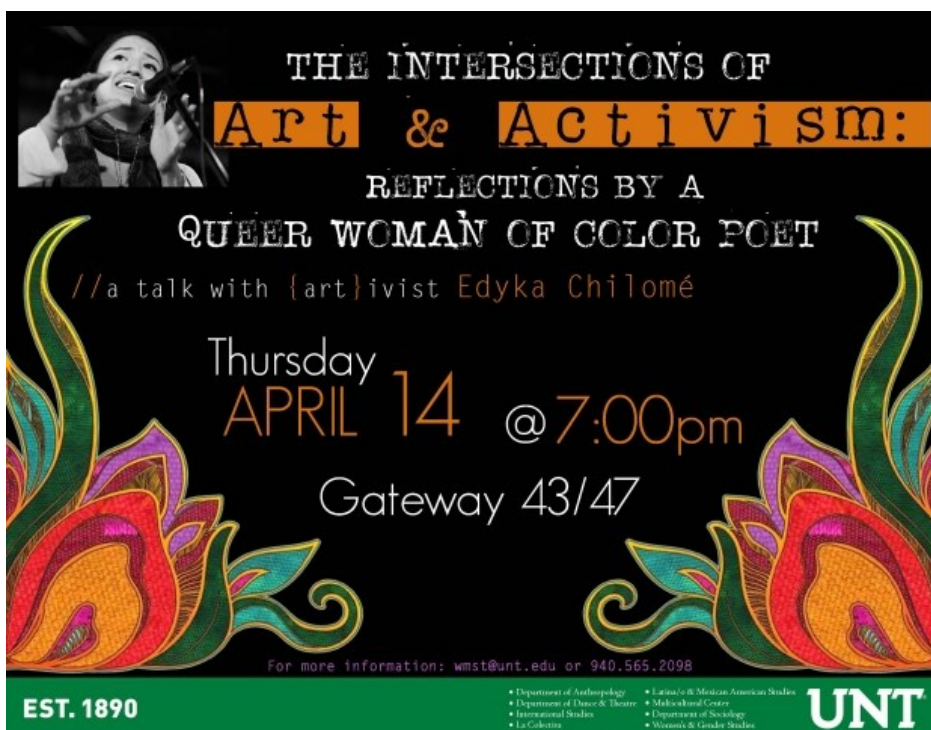
The Women and Gender Studies Program, in co-sponsorship with the Multicultural Center, Latina/o and Mexican American Studies, the Department of Dance & Theater, the Department of Anthropology, International Studies, Department of Sociology, and La Colectiva—a mutual mentoring program for women of color at UNT, invited Edyka Chilomé, a queer woman of color poet, to speak on the intersections of Art & Activism.

From the UNT Women and Gender Studies website, “Unapologetically reclaiming the stage as a place for healing and protest, performance artist and poet, Edyka Chilomé, reflects on the need to offer the world intersectional narratives. Speaking from her experience as an indigenous Xicana and Central American queer woman, Edyka Chilomé offers her perspective on transformation and activism as a culture producer from the margins. From street protests to professional theater productions and literary publications, Edyka shares the ways she has reclaimed her people’s ancient traditions of resistance as scribe, story teller, and spiritual {art}ivist.”

Associated Students of Northern Arizona University bring Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha to read from *Dirty River*

On February 22, ASNAU invited Leah to perform an interactive, performative reading from her book *Dirty River*. From ASNAU and Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, “The book is all about feminism of color, queer South Asian community, mixed race, survivorhood, 90s punk of color community and organizing, becoming disabled and finding and making disabled crazy community, queer of color partner abuse and the way out, and lots more...”

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha is a queer disabled femme writer, performance artist and educator of Burgher/Tamil Sir Lankan and Irish/Roma ascent. She is the author of the Lambda Award winning *Love Cake*, *Dirty River*, *Bodymap*, and *Consensual Genocide* and co-editor with Ching-in Chen and Jai Dulani of *The Revolution Starts at Home: confronting intimate violence in activists communities*. Her writings on femme of color and Sri Lankan identities, survivorhood, and healing disability and transformative justice have appeared in anthologies: *Octavia’s Blood*, *Dear Sister*, *Letters Lived*, *Undoing Border Imperialism*, *Stay Solid*, *Persistence: Still Butch and Femme*, *Yes Means Yes*, *Visible: A Femmethology*, *Homelands*, *Colonize This*, *We Don’t Need another Wave*, *Bitchfest*, *Without a Net*, *Dangerous Families*, *Brazen Femme*, *Femme*, and *A Girl’s Guide to Taking Over the World*.





Wagatwe Wanjuki speaks at Metropolitan State University

Now in its 25th year, the Bridge speaker event is the annual tradition of an influential African-American woman being invited to speak on educational issues and topics at Metropolitan State university—Denver. The Bridge Speaker is a dedicated African American woman who speaks about her work and impact on our society and thereby to symbolize the bridge between Black History month in February and Women's History Month in March.

This year's Bridge Speaker was Wagatwe Wanjuki, who spoke on February 25th about her work to transform campuses nationwide by addressing the unsafe conditions for minority students, with emphasis on rape culture. Wagatwe Wanjuki is a nationally known writer and activists based in New York City. For more information please visit her website and social media accounts at: www.wagatwe.com

UNMOVED:
THE PARADOXES OF DISAFFECTION AMONG
UNDOCUMENTED QUEER IMMIGRANTS

Martin F. Manalansan IV
Associate Professor of Anthropology and Asian American Studies
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
author of *Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the Diaspora*

Focusing on a household of undocumented queer immigrants living in a cramped apartment in New York City, the presentation "feels" its way through their everyday narratives of pathos, exuberance and disaffection as they navigate precarious conditions and seemingly impossible plights.

This is an ethnography of affect that works through and "feels out" a vernacular map of subaltern queer life as constituted by mess and impossibility while buttressed by a scaffolding of longings, aspirations and hope.

Thursday, February 11, 2016
5:00pm-6:30pm
HALE 230

This event is co-sponsored by the Department of Women & Gender Studies, LGBTQ Studies Program, Center for Asian Studies, Department of English, Department of Anthropology, and Department of Ethnic Studies.

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Women and Gender Studies program co-sponsors visiting lecture by Dr. Martin Manalansan

The Department of Women and Gender Studies with the LGBTQ Studies Program, the Center for Asian Studies, the Department of English, the Department of Anthropology, and the Department of Ethnic Studies, co-sponsored a visiting lecture from Dr. Martin Manalansan of University of Illinois—Champaign Urbana.

Dr. Manalansan's February 11th lecture, "Unmoved: the Paradoxes of Disaffection among undocumented queer migrants, focused on the everyday narratives, pathos, exuberance, and disaffection of a household of undocumented queer migrants living in a cramped apartment in New York City, as they navigate precarious conditions and seemingly impossible plights. From the talks description, "this is an ethnography of affect that works through and 'feels out' a vernacular map of queer subaltern life as constituted by mess and impossibility while buttressed by a scaffolding of longings, aspirations, and hope.



New Mexico State University presents The Feminist Border Arts Film Festival

The annual Feminist Border Arts Film Festival, organized and hosted by the Women's Studies Program and the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies at New Mexico State University took place April 18th 2016 featuring short films (under 15 minutes) by students and professional filmmakers from the U.S. and abroad, that address gender roles and identity, sexuality, race, class, transnationality, dis/ability, and other categories of identity difference.

All films are eligible to compete for a \$300 juried prize and an Audience Choice Award.

This festival defines "feminist border arts" as a practice where boundaries are constantly refigured and limits are always challenged. The films that make up this festival provide perspectives from the edge, never from the center. The festival actively spotlights films that resist familiar images of highly stereotyped groups often seen in contemporary mainstream popular culture. It instead presents films that seeks or create new images and new ways of seeing.

Inaugural Lagarde Cátedra at University of Texas—Austin

From the University of Texas—Austin Center Women's and Gender Studies -

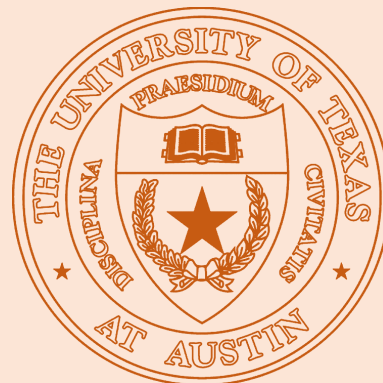
"On the occasion of International Women's Day, March 8th, the Tereza Lozano Long Institute for Latin American Studies (LLILAS) Benson, and the Center for Women's and Gender Studies held the inaugural "Marcela Lagarde y de los Ríos Cátedra (Program) for the Study of Gender Violence." An Address by Dr. Lagarde was followed by daylong programming focused on the theme, *Feminism in Contemporary México*."

This Cátedra is formed by a network of six universities: The University of Texas — Austin, UT El Paso, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Autonomous University of Juárez, Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology (CIESAS), Autonomous University of Aguascalientes—and one research center, Fundación Guatemala.

LLILAS Director Charles Hale and CWGS Director Sue Heinzelman were joined by Dr. Judith Langlois, Executive Vice President and Provost, *ad interim*, for an official signing ceremony formalizing the university's participation in the Cátedra that will be held once a semes-



Photo from CWGS website featuring WGS majors meeting Dr. Marcela Lagarde y de los Ríos. From left to right: Roseanne Carreon, Edaly Cardenas, Dr. Marcela Lagarde, Amadeus Miranda, and Steph Salazar.



University of Arizona—SIROW Publishes Final Report!

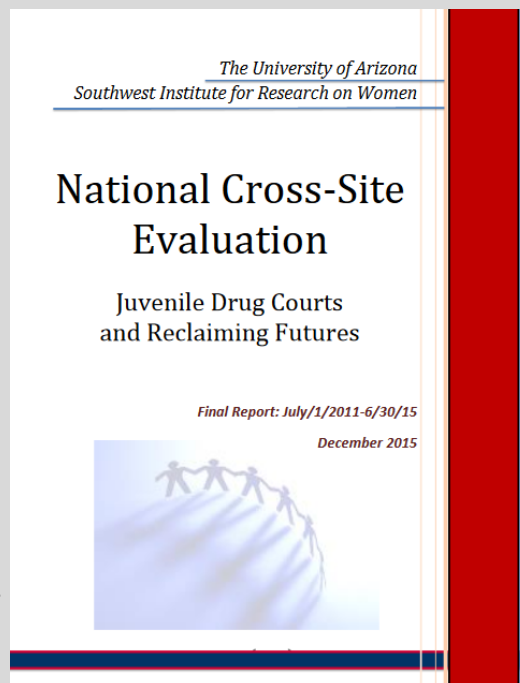
The University of Arizona – Southwest Institute for Research on Women has published a Final Report on findings from their "*Juvenile Drug Court/Reclaiming Futures National Cross-Site Evaluation*". This national evaluation was funded in 2011, by the Office on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention through an interagency agreement with Library of Congress (LOC) and included five sites located in various regions in the United States.

The overarching goals of the evaluation were to: expand on previous evaluations of the integration of Juvenile Drug Court: Strategies in Practice (JDC:SIP) and Reclaiming Futures (RF); describe how implementation of the integrated JDC/RF model actually occurs; and determine what factors contribute to improved outcomes. More specifically, the JDC/RF National Cross-Site Evaluation: (1) focused on describing the process of the integration and implementation of JDC:SIP and RF; (2) assessed the influence of the implementation of the integrated JDC/RF model on the system; (3) evaluated the services provided by the JDC/RF programs; (4) evaluated the cost effectiveness of JDC/RF programs; and (5) assessed the potential for replication of the integrated model.

We invite you to review the findings detailed in the Final Report which can be found on SIROW's website under the "Research & Action" heading. Or use the following link

http://sirow.arizona.edu/sites/sirow.arizona.edu/files/National_Cross_Site_Evaluation_JDCRF_Final_Report.pdf

Forthcoming in June, 2016, a special issue of *Drug Court Review* will be published on the "*Juvenile Drug Court/Reclaiming Futures National Cross-Site Evaluation*". The special issue, which is guest edited by Sally Stevens, Josephine Korchmaros and Alison Greene, includes an introduction, five peer reviewed articles and two commentaries. Stay tuned for this informative publication!





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