Greetings Regional Partners and Supporters,

Congratulations on another semester in the books!

Last month on April 11th and 12th, SIROW hosted the 2019 Southwest Regional Gender and Women's Studies annual partner meeting in Tucson, Arizona!

Sixteen heads and directors of gender and women's studies programs from throughout the Southwest traveled to Tucson for the meeting. Representatives hailed from the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, Colorado College, University of Northern Colorado, University of Colorado Boulder, Regis University, University of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of Nevada Reno, University of North Texas, University of Texas El Paso, Texas Tech University, Texas Woman's University, Southern Utah University, and University of Wyoming!

At the meeting these innovative administrators discussed their visions for the growth and sustainability of the field of gender and women's studies and brainstormed ways to further strengthen the regional partnership that SIROW has facilitated for 40 years. We had focused dialogue on best practices in teaching, the value of our interdisciplinary programs within our institutions, and intellectual collaboration across the region. The collective knowledge and experiences of the group supports these leaders in a myriad of ways.

In addition to a productive business meeting, our participants enjoyed their time at the historic Hacienda Del Sol resort in the foothills of Tucson's beautiful Catalina Mountains. Many members were also able to attend SIROW's 40th Anniversary Celebration dinner where they appreciated the opportunity to meet SIROW's local affiliates and partners and commemorate four decades of research and advocacy in the service of women's advancement and gender equity.
Yet again, we were reminded of the vibrancy of gender and women's studies in the Southwest and the unique position we hold as researchers and teachers to advocate for our students, colleagues, and communities. With this renewed spirit, the attendees departed with excitement and enthusiasm about what the next year holds in store!

Sincerely,
Stephanie Murphy
Assistant Research Social Scientist
SIROW

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2019 Southwest Gender and Women's Studies Regional Meeting Attendees

Back row (L-R): Alicia Re Cruz, Chris Talbot, Lindsey Feitz, Heidi Lewis, Elizabeth Smart, Claudia Powell, Jen Hill, Erin Winterrowd, Debbie Boehm; Middle row (L-R): Naomi Fertman, Agatha Beins, Susan Dewey, Lisa Anderson, Shobha Hamal Gurung; Front row (L-R): Stephanie Murphy, Lorraine Bayard de Volo, Jo Korchmaros, Eneri Rodriguez

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SIROW Celebrates 40th Anniversary!

By: Stephanie Murphy, Assistant Research Social Scientist, SIROW

University, community, and regional partners all came together on April 11th, 2019 to celebrate SIROW's 40th anniversary!

As part of our mission to "develop, conduct, and disseminate collaborative outreach, education, intervention, and research projects of importance to diverse groups," SIROW has built and sustained long lasting, mutually beneficial relationships with academic and advocacy groups in Tucson and beyond. SIROW is a leader among research institutes of its type and has become an exemplary model for applied research that has an immediate impact in the community. We have had over 100 current at the local, national, and international collaborators at any given point in time, including many not-for-profit organizations serving marginalized groups, such as mental health and substance use treatment providers, as well as organizations in the fields of medicine, law, family services, education, homelessness, and workforce development.

Over one hundred allies, collaborators, friends, family members, and other supporters came out to celebrate our 40th anniversary. Before dinner, attendees enjoyed interactive games based on some of SIROW's programming activities as well as live music from the John E. White Elementary School Mariachi Band.
Prior a lovely dinner and dessert, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Dean J.P. Jones III gave an address that reviewed SIROW's contributions to the University of Arizona and local community over the last four decades. Afterwards, current director Dr. Josephine Korchmaros and Assistant Director Claudia Powell spoke about the legacy of leadership that came before them and presented distinguished awards to former directors Dr. Myra Dinnerstein, Dr. Jan Monk, and Dr. Sally Stevens.

The celebration ended with a special visit from four time MOTH Storytelling Competition winner and creative non-fiction educator, Molly McCloy. She told an hilarious personal story about a zany camping trip that had the audience rollicking with laughter. Then, she guided attendees through a short storytelling activity that prompted more discussion and laughter all around. A few brave individuals elected to share their stories with the audience, which was also a real treat!

All in all, the 40th Anniversary Celebration was a great success! So many attendees came out to support SIROW's legacy and on-going work. SIROW staff members felt proud to see the broad reach of our organization as well as the impact our research and advocacy has had on so many lives around Tucson and beyond. We look forward to many more years doing community engaged, applied research to create a more equitable world!

Program Spotlight:

The University of Wyoming Gender and Women's Studies Department offers an undergraduate major, undergraduate minor, and a graduate minor in the field of gender and women's studies as well as an undergraduate minor in the field of queer studies.

The department prepares students to build critical thinking, oral and written communication, research, and client advocacy skills through a variety of coursework as well as internship and study abroad opportunities.

See below for some recent departmental highlights. To hear more from the faculty and
students, see this video

Wyoming Pathways from Prison (WPfP)

A number of UW GWST faculty participate in the Wyoming Pathways from Prison Program (WPfP). WPfP is a trans-disciplinary and trans-professional statewide collaborative that aspires to support currently and formerly incarcerated people in navigating the waters of higher education and life more generally. WPfP has four central objectives: [1] provide no-cost college credit, in partnership with Wyoming community colleges, to incarcerated people; [2] engage in valuable service to the state of Wyoming; [3] mentor UW students in teaching and leadership; [4] provide students with valuable real-world experience through teaching and assistance to the Department of Corrections.

Through receipt of grants from Microsoft Philanthropies, the Wyoming Humanities Council, and private donors, WPfP has offered courses in English, Theater, Psychology, Philosophy, Mathematics, and Peer Tutoring to hundreds of incarcerated students. WPfP hosted a national conference, the Symposium on Transformative Education in Prison and Beyond, in winter 2019 with guests from the United Kingdom, Germany, New York, California, and many other locations.

WPfP received the Correctional Education Association’s Austin MacCormick Award for best practices in correctional education that can be implemented nationwide (2017), the University of Wyoming’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award for community collaboration (2017), the University of Wyoming’s Marvin Millgate Award for Community Engagement (2018), and was nominated by the Wyoming Department of Corrections in 2018 for both the National Criminal Justice Association’s Outstanding Program Award and the American Correctional Association’s Innovation Award.

- Susan Dewey, Director, Gender & Women’s Studies

UW GWST Students Come Together in Memory of Matthew Shepard

October 2018 marked the 20th year since the murder of Matthew Shepard. As a subcommittee of the Shepard Symposium on Social Justice, the Matthew Shepard Memorial Group sought to carry on his legacy through building connections, speaking about social justice in intersectional and contemporary contexts, and encouraging dialogue and courageous conversations. I co-chaired this committee with Dr. Emily Monago, Chief Officer of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

While I learned many invaluable lessons and ultimately came to make some of the strongest connections, given an option, I would always choose to have Matthew home,
back safely, and alive. Remembering a murder and honoring a legacy was often a difficult balance to find, but through co-chairing I was able to give more back to the community than I ever could have imagined. “He continues to make a difference,” reads Matthew’s memorial bench on campus, and the Memorial continues to have an impact. It truly is a legacy of compassion, community, and hope.

- Jess Fahlsing, Graduating Senior in Gender and Women’s Studies (B.A.) and Psychology (B.S.)

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Program Spotlight:

The Texas Tech University Women’s and Gender Studies Program offers an undergraduate minor and a graduate certificate in the field of gender and women’s studies.

The program provides feminist-centered curriculum where students can examine the cultural and social construction of gender, explore the history, experiences and contributions of women to society, and study the influences of gender on the lives of women and men.

See below for some recent program highlights and visit their very active twitter feed @TTUWGS for more news and updates!

Dr. Sharp Finishes First Academic Year as Director of WGS at TTU!

Elizabeth Sharp, Ph.D. became the new Director of Women’s & Gender Studies at Tech University (TTU) in August 2018. She is a Professor of Human Development and Family Studies. She is the past-interim Vice President of Diversity Equity & Inclusion, the past-chair of the President’s Gender Equity Council, and co-founder of the Women’s Faculty Writing Program and co-founder of the Women Full Professor Network at TTU. As a scholar-activist, she incorporates intersectional feminist framings in her research to focus on ideologies of romance and families and how these cultural ideologies interface with gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, and socio-economic class. Her work has been published in human development and family studies, sociology, psychology, and family therapy journals and cited by media worldwide, including the New York Times, the Toronto Star and Women@Forbes, and her work with choreographers and dancers.
TTU WGS Welcomes First Visiting Assistant Professor, Dr. Jocelyn Scott!

Dr. Jocelyne B. Scott earned her Ph.D. and M.A. in Gender Studies from Indiana University and holds B.A. degrees in French and International Relations from Bucknell University. Dr. Scott's ethnographic dissertation, "Friendship on Sorority Row: Ritual, Privilege, and Activism," engages with the broader cultural conversation depicting sorority women as bodies—bodies for men's sexual consumption, binge-drinking bodies, and hazing/hazed bodies. Her research interests are rooted in feminist and queer theory, critical race theory, qualitative research methods, popular culture, social justice, and the politics of homosocial communities and queer kinship formations.

TTU WGS Hosts 35th Annual Conference on Women!

On April 25th-27th, we were delighted to host over 80 presenters from across the United States and our region for our 35th Annual Conference on Women, held each year on the campus of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX.

A central thread of the conference highlighted a variety of creative ways of putting feminist thought into practice. Our opening performance, “Healing in the Arts,” featured undergraduate students who closely analyzed and translated their life experiences and stories into art.

Using creative and groundbreaking practices and inspiring thousands of people, the conference keynote speakers also drew on storytelling and art to promote social justice.
We were honored to host Mily Treviño-Sauceda Executive Director of Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, trained in Chicana/o Studies and Women’s Studies, and Jamia Wilson Executive Director of the Feminist Press (CUNY), trained in Communications and Humanities & Social Thought.

Our closing workshop, “The Power of the Collective”, hosted by both Elvira Carvajal and Mily Treviño-Sauceda, also featured art as a medium for organizing, healing, and creating sustainable social change.

- Tricia Earl, Program Manager and Academic Advisor, Women’s and Gender Studies

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