

# BALL STATE Women's & Gender Studies Program



Volume 4 March 2022

## Note from the Director

Almost two years ago to the day, President Mearns announced that all classes must immediately transition to virtual learning, owing to the rapid spread of COVID-19. I recall feeling overwhelmed by the sudden transition. Many colleagues and students felt that way, too.

When a friend recently shared lines from the poet Antonio Machado, they certainly seemed resonant: "Traveler, there is no path, the path is made by walking." In these two years, we have walked through this pandemic on paths we have created, individually and together. The experience has often felt disorienting, exhausting and sad. It has also revealed persistence, creativity, generosity, gratitude and resilience.

I am grateful for the faculty, staff, and students in Women's and Gender Studies who have continued stepping forward onto new and emerging paths. Our faculty adapted their teaching with creativity and patience. Our Graduate Assistant, Betsy Kiel, overcame the abrupt cancellation of Women's Week in spring 2020, designed an online Women's Week in 2021,

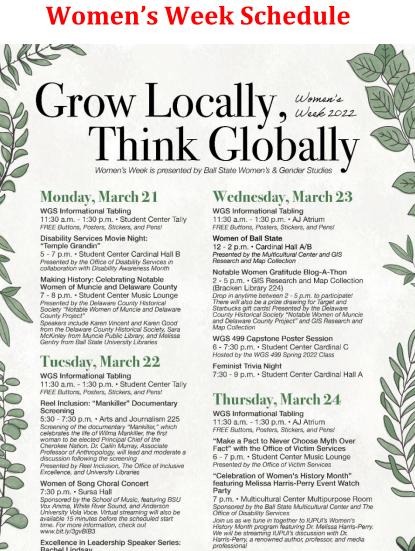


Dr. Elizabeth Agnew, Director

and has organized a wonderful slate of inperson events for Women's Week 2022.

In August 2021, we were fortunate to hire Tiffany Flowers as our new administrative coordinator. Her amazing organizational and creative skills are extending the groundwork established by former director Dr. Lisa Pellerin, and by Betsy Kiel. I am also grateful for our professional advisor, Tareq Robin, who has helped to create paths responsive to the needs of students during the pandemic.

Our students' continued steps toward realizing their goals inspire and impress me. Many WGS students have earned Dean's List recognition and scholarship distinctions (page 7). Others' successes may have been more personal and less visible. We honor them all! WGS scholarships for 2022-23 will soon be awarded. We invite nominations (page 5). Our walk continues!



Excellence in Leadership Speaker Series: Rachel Lindsay 7:30 p.m. • Pruis Hall

7.30 p.m. Fruis Hall Presented by Excellence in Leadership and the Office of Student Life. Sponsored by Housing and Residence Life, Women's & Gender Studies, the Multicultural Center, CCIM, and Inclusive Excellence Rachel Lindsay is an attorney, media host, and podcaster, best known for her groundbreaking turn as the first African American lead on ABC's The Bachelorette

For event details, visit fb.com/bsuwgs or bit.ly/bsuwomensweek

Questions or concerns? Contact WGS at 765-285-5451 or wgs@bsu.edu

## Friday, March 25

DIY Poster Day! Period Product and Toiletries Drive for Cardinal Kitchen 12 - 5 p.m. • University Quad

Stop by anytime to design and create your own Feminist Postert WGS will provide paper, card stock, markers and other art supplies for you to create your masterpiece! Participants will be asked to bring one unopered package of period products (gads, tampons, etc) or other tolleties (shampoo, condiner, paper products, etc) to donate to Cardinal Krichen!

Ball State Women's Week and WGS want our events to be as accessible as possible. If you need an accommodation to fully participate in any event(s), please contact wgs@bsu.edu

You can learn more about the schedule of events for each day at bsu.edu/was/womensweek



A heartfelt thank you to the following people whose historical documents and research helped me build and fact check the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary timeline: Courtney Jarrett, Kim Jones-Owen, Julee Rosser, & Sharon Seager Tiffany Flowers

This was a time of excitement and pioneering. The field of women's studies was emerging and our early supporters were plunging into academic readings and research.

The first Women's Studies course. ID 210. was offered in spring of 1972 and taught by Betty Newcomb, Sharon Seager, and Mary Vogel.

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#### ID 210 Syllabus

Image courtesy of BSU Digital Media Repository In 1974 the Women's Studies Committee was formed and work on the development of a minor started the following year with Althea Stoeckel as chair.



Dr. Althea Stoeckel and Mr. Ross Johnson, then the university archivist, examining documents, circa 1970s

Photo courtesy of BSU Digital Media Repository

# 1970s

The first Director. Michael Stevenson, was appointed in 1988. He was preceded by formidable Women's Studies committee chairs dating back to 1982 such as Sharon Seager, Julia Mitchell, Leslie Caplan, and Jan Holmes.



Eleanor Smeal, former National Organization for Women president, spoke during the first Women's Week programming Image courtesy of BSU Digital Media Repository

The first Women's Week programming was held in April of 1984. Celebrating women's history month in March has become a hallmark of the WGS program.



Darlene Mathis-Eddy Photo courtesy of BSU Libraries

The Women's Studies minor was approved in 1980 with Darlene Mathis-Eddy serving as the first academic advisor.

Program Directors that cemented our foundation at the University starting in 1991 were Irene Goldman, Sharon Seager, and Kim Jones-Owen.



Dr. Irene Goldman presents, "The Feminist in the Classroom," 1992

Photo courtesy of Women's and Gender Studies Archives

The program acquired new office space in NQ 115/115A in 1994 and NQ 114 in **1997**. The most recent move to **Burkhardt Building** room 108 occurred in 1999.



Intern and Former Administrative Coordinator Rachel Chalmers in the North Ouad Office, 1996 Photo courtesy of Women's and

Gender Studies Archives

Focus on expansion of program and budget. Reorganizing structure of governance. Facilities and staffing were upgraded.

1980s

# 1990s

A decade of Institutionalizing. Increases in participation, minors, activities, facilities, and staff. The internship program expanded.

The program was renamed and re-organized in 2009 to its current name of Women's and Gender Studies with Dr. Julee Rosser serving as Acting Director.



Program Brochure, 2004 Image courtesy of BSU Digital Media Repository

The Women's Studies major launched in 2



Left to Right: Anne Szopa, Kim Jones-Owen, Betty Newcomb, and Sharon Seager, 2002

Photo courtesy of Women's and Gender Studies Archives

In 2001 the program had one full-time director, one fulltime administrative coordinator, one part-time secretary, and an average of seven undergraduate interns.



A new Director, Dr. Lisa Pellerin, was appointed in the summer of 20

Under the leadership of then Graduate Assistant Ashleigh Bingham our yearly promotional poster line was launched in 2014.

**GENDER** ROLES WHEN YOU **CAN HAVE** PIZZA ROLLS

WHY HAVE

Promotional Poster, Spring 2015

Image courtesy of WGS

Our largest graduating class of majors (10) and minors (29) occurred in Spring **2018**.



Spring 2018 Class Poses with Dr. Pellerin after ceremony

Photo courtesy of WGS

# 2010s

The 2000s through present day has been a period of immense transition and growth. Our digital footprint increased awareness and program interest. Each new Director helped shape the identity of the program. The pandemic challenges us to remain flexible and forward thinking.



Our first full-time, non-tenure line faculty member, Rachael Smith, was hired in July 2019.



Gloria Steinem speaks during her moderated Women's Week conversation Photo by Rachael Smith

In **2019**, Gloria Steinem returned to speak during Women's Week. She also was a key speaker in 2002.



Original promotional button for Women's Week 2002

Photo courtesy of WGS

# 2020s

Raised \$841 during our final The Vagina Monologues presentation ending a decades-long tradition in February 2020.



Lay Austin performs during "The Vagina Monologues" in Pruis Hall, 2013 Photo by Taylor Irby with Daily News



Dr. Pellerin ended her time as Director in summer 2020 Dr. Elizabeth Agnew was appointed as the new director.



Women's Week Poster, 2021 Image courtesy of WGS

First fully virtual Women's Week programming in **2021**. The theme centered around the question,

# What's with all the name changes?

The title of our program has undergone considerable discussion and revisions over our 50-year history!

- The Women's Studies Committee was formed in 1974
- In **1988** the program was renamed the Program for Education and Research on Women and Gender
- The title was changed in **1989** to Women and **Gender Studies**
- The program's name reverted to the original name of Women's Studies in 2001
- The program was renamed after a re-organization in 2009 to its current title of Women's and Gender Studies



Women's Studies Keychain Photo courtesy of WGS



The last surviving Women and Gender Studies mug in the office Photo courtesy of WGS

WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES

# Betsy Kiel: Exceptionally Accomplished

Betsy has been an integral part of our office since 2017 when she first served as an intern and teaching assistant while completing a Bachelor of Science in Women's and Gender Studies. During this time, she assisted with the planning of Women's Week, completed student secretary duties, and trained under our former Graduate Assistant, Dr. Ashleigh Bingham.

Betsy graduated with her bachelor's in the spring of 2019 and continued on to obtain a double Master of Arts in Sociology and Political Science. Her tenure as a graduate assistant began in 2019 and her time with us has been nothing short of remarkable.

She manages a wide range of responsibilities such as program recruitment for our major and minor, event planning for our yearly Women's Week festivities, oversight of our social media, and design and distribution of our marketing materials. In addition, she also teaches one of our introductory sections, WGS 210, supervises internship students, and mentors a graduate assistant in training who will assume her position full-time in the fall.



Betsy speaks at our Open Mic Night event to promote Trans visibility, November 2021 Photo by Kinsey Reese



Betsy leads a lecture discussing Rosie the Riveter during her spring WGS 210 course Photo by Tiffany Flowers

Simply put, Betsy is incredible and other people have noticed too. Her most recent recognitions include Graduate Assistant of the Year (2021) and a Disability Services Access Award (2022).

Outside of the Women's and Gender Studies office, Betsy also works part-time in the Office of Disability Services as an Office Assistant. She has volunteered in a graphic design capacity for various campaigns since 2020 and formerly served as Outreach Chair for Muncie Resists from 2020-2021.

We are so thankful for her service and excited to follow her journey as it unfolds. We also look forward to celebrating all her achievements during the upcoming spring graduation ceremony in May where she will cross the stage for both master's degrees! To further honor her dedication to our program and to the field of Women's and Gender Studies, we asked her to reflect on her experiences and to share how she will take it with her as she moves on to professional employment.

- How has your academic training with WGS and in your master's programs deepened your understanding of women in the world?
- during the spring semester of my sophomore year that I was drawn to the program and its core values, and wanted to switch to a major in Women's & Gender Studies. Taking the more advanced courses in the major, such as WGS 310: Queer Women in Media, WGS 410: Feminist Theory, and WGS 499: Capstone allowed me to deepen my understanding and articulation of complex gender and intersectional issues in a real-world context.
- What refined critical lenses for thinking about gender, sexuality, intersectionality, etc. have you developed?
  - Through both taking, and subsequently teaching, WGS courses, I've developed and honed my ability to use my "feminist lens," a method by which I've learned to read and critique anything from academic theory to novels to news articles. Using your feminist lens involves examining a piece of literature or media by considering the entire sociopolitical context related to gender, race, sexuality, economics, etc. Being able to critique with a feminist lens has opened up a new world of academic and political criticism that has made me a stronger academic and will eventually help me as I transition into the workforce.
- In what way has your outlook (on any topic/area) changed the most as a result of your time with WGS?
  - I've been lucky throughout my years in WGS to be mentored by some of the most amazing women on campus, and some of the most important lessons I've learned came from them. First, I've learned that every person and project situation will be different and learning to meet people where they are at and roll with the punches is a pivotal skill to have. In short, aside from the practical skills I've picked up in this program, I think I've gained some really important insights on how to best be a mentor, leader, and advocate through my time in WGS, which I will cherish forever.

# **Spring 2022 Scholarship Reminders**

### Muriel and Irene Goldman Scholarship

**Application Required** 

Preference will be given to those demonstrating financial need.

# \$1,500

#### Applicants must:

- Have a declared Women's and Gender Studies
- major or minor at Ball State University
- Be enrolled full-time
- Hold sophomore or junior standing at the time of application
- Have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point

## Andrea Lauren Scamihorn **Memorial Scholarship**

**Faculty Nomination Required** 



#### Nominees must:

- Have a declared Women's and Gender Studies major or minor at Ball State University
- Have demonstrated a passion for activism (e.g. whether in service of the WGS program or with a community organization)
- Hold freshman, sophomore, or junior standing at the time of nomination

## Anne Pieroni Szopa Scholarship in Women's Studies

Faculty Nomination Required

Preference will be given to first-year students.



#### Nominees must:

- Have a declared Women's and Gender Studies major at Ball State University
- Have taken and passed WGS 210: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
- Hold freshman, sophomore, or junior standing at the time of nomination
- Have at least a 3.0 grade point average

## **Outstanding Women's Studies Student Award**

Faculty Nomination Required



#### Nominees must:

- Have a declared Women's and Gender Studies major or minor at Ball State University
- Have demonstrated academic excellence in academic performance, campus activities, and/or community service
- Have at least a 3.0 overall grade point average

Deadline: Friday, April 1, 2022 at 5:00 PM EST

Students: Submit Muriel and Irene Goldman applications to wgs@bsu.edu Faculty: Submit nominations via Qualtrics form

# **Course Schedules**

## **Summer 2022**

All Listed Course Offerings Are Online

#### Women's & Gender Studies Core

WGS 210 Introduction to WGS

#### **Humanities and Fine Arts Electives**

**ENG 490** Literature and Gender

#### Social and Biological Sciences Electives

ANTH 241 Gender, Sex, and Sexuality
CJC 211 Race, Gender, and Crime

CJC 332 Victimology

PSYS 324 Psychology of Women SOC 235 Sociology of Gender



Photo courtesy of Ball State University

# **Fall 2022**

#### Women's & Gender Studies Core

WGS 210 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies 6 Sections offered, 2 Online WGS 220 International Women's Issues TR 11-12:15, TR 12:30-1:45

WGS 410 Feminist Theory MWF 1-1:50 (Pre-req: WGS 210; SO/JR)

WGS 499 Women's and Gender Studies Capstone 1 Online (Special Permission)

## **Humanities and Fine Arts Electives**

CC 302 Women in Antiquity MWF 10-10:50
ENG 217 Intro to Queer Literature and Queer Theory TR 12:30-1:45
ENG 490 Literature and Gender MWF 10-10:50

## Social and Biological Sciences Electives

Race, Gender, and Crime **CJC 211** MWF 9-9:50, 1 Online CJC 332 Victimology TR 9:30-10:45, 1 Online **CPSY 360** Interrelational Aspects of Sexuality TR 9:30-10:45, 2 Online HSC 261 Health, Sex, and Family Life MWF 1-1:50, 1 Online HSC 372 Women and Health TR 12:30-1:45, 1 Online **PSYS 324** Psychology of Women MWF 11-11:50, 12-12:50

PSYS 326Psychology of DiversityT 6:30-9PSYS 377Psychology of Sexual BehaviorTR 2-3:15SOC 235Sociology of Gender1 Online





# WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

One Ball State Day Tuesday, April 5, 2022

# Congratulations!

The following students are recipients of the University's inaugural Top 100 Student Awards:

Kimberly Ingold Lauren Szymczak Olivia Vincent

#### The following students made the Fall 2021 Dean's List:

Briyah Badgley Rachel Bailey

Shawn Battleday

Hailey Beaty

Asia Bennett

Makenna Bottorff

**Emily Cole** 

Ally Crumley

**Emily Cunningham** 

**Emily Fouche** 

Madi Garrett

Taylor Gillespie

Jack Gillespie

Delia Hernandez Guerrero

Kaitlyn Herrenbruck

Kimberly Ingold

Jacquel Jones

Rae Keeler

Kylie Leavitt

Monet Lindstrand

Brianna Lopez

Gabrielle Mark

Annabelle McCammon

Nico Meisner

Anna Meister

Madison Miller

Kylie Norton

Sarah Olsen

Tailer Pangallo

Jazmin Powell

Gayle Radwick

Payten Romig

Aster Rye

Victoria Sills

Lauren Szymczak

Olivia Vincent

Grace Wagner

Lily Weidenbach

Jane Worley

Blake Wright

Kathryn Zavala

## **Scholarship News**

Emily Cole — a legal studies & pre-law student with a minor in women's and gender studies has been named a finalist for the Truman Scholarship! The Truman Scholarship is awarded to juniors who intend to pursue careers in public service and who want to create systemic change. Approximately 60 recipients will be announced in mid-April, at <a href="https://www.truman.gov">www.truman.gov</a>.

Brianna Lopez — a psychology student with minors in philosophy and women's and gender studies has made it to the semi-finalist round for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program for an English Teaching Assistantship in Bulgaria!

Sarah Olsen — a freshman Honors College student, with majors in political science, journalism, and telecommunications and a former minor in women's and gender studies has been awarded a <u>Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship</u> for study abroad during spring and summer 2022! She will study political science and international relations in **Athens, Greece**, for five weeks in summer 2022.

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#### Make a Gift

It continues to be a critical time for funding in the humanities. For the Women's & Gender Studies Program to continue to offer the very best in undergraduate education it is essential that we are able to support innovative teaching, research, and special events. Please consider a gift to the Ball State Women's and Gender Studies Program.

#### To contribute by mail, send a check to:

Ball State University Foundation

2800 W. Bethel Ave.

Muncie, IN 47304

Memo Line: Women & Gender #044040

Online donations:

https://connect.bsu.edu/SciencesHumanities-Give

Select Women's Studies Fund

For more information contact:

Tiffany Barnes

Director of Development, College of Sciences & Humanities

765 205 7052

765-285-7053