

Women's Resource Center



"The Museletter" May/Summer 1999

SCOTT-WILLCOXON HALL, 351-1492

Carissa Renee Carter, Editor

Get A Move On!!

By Carissa Renee Carter
Museletter Editor, WRC

OK, I know what all you readers must be thinking. . . You women at the Women's Resource Center need to be getting a move on. Well, we are. Within the past few weeks, we have not only provided the campus with wonderful programs such as Dining with Dykes, WomanTalk, and the Women's Recognition Banquet (which attracted 187 nominees and over 250 attendees), but we have also been hauling box-load after box-load into our beautiful (and purple) building. Ouch! That is a lot to accomplish within a three week period, and that is part of the reason for our two "mini-Museletters."

Now that things are starting to settle down (kind of), we are now open for

the campus to visit. Let me just take a few seconds to explain what we have to offer here at Scott-Willcoxon. First of all, the Women's Resource Center has always been a shelter for women to come and escape. Not only do we have an amazing staff, but we also provide many services to both women and men on campus. We have a library equipped with hundreds of books pertaining to many issues involving women. Such topics include . . . feminism, women in religion, gender issues, leadership, education, psychology, and many essays and novels. Wow, you could use the library for those term papers due at the end of the semester. We also have many articles and women's issues informational packets.

Besides the resources

our library provides, we also offer our facility to student groups and those in need of a meeting place for free. Yep, we're definitely not into the bureaucratic system most of the university is into. We just want to offer great programs, friendly faces, accessible researching materials, our facility, and mounds of chocolate. Before the end of the semester, we will be sponsoring WomanFest, WomanTalk, Take Your Daughters to Work Day, and A WRC Movie Night, so we are continuing with our plethora of programming.

So we hope to see more students passing through here. We are always ready to help and to offer a chocolaty smile.

Faculty/Staff Nominees

Tammy Alexander
Alma Azama
Traay Baldo
Diane Bassett
Connie Beard
Nancy Berg
Lesli Bleknell
Juli Bond
Susan Bromley
Genie Canales
Silvana Carlos
Diane Christiansen
Joan Clinefelter
Peggy Cowan
Jeanette Crooks
Cheryl Crouch
Cherise DeKraai
Cad Denney
Colleen Denzin
Hedy Red Dexter
Marianne Dingee
Dee Ann Dummett
Besky Edgerton
Phyllis Endicott

Kathy Ensz
Trish Essobar
Kathy Fahey
Priscilla Faleon
Rosemary Fri
Jennifer Frost
Joyce Gerstenberger
Jane Graff
Arlene Greer
Keyleigh Gurney
Jerri Hansok
Julie Hanks
Jean Hawkins
Beth Hellwig-Olson
Vicki Hernandez
Pamela Hewitt
Janle Hinds
Joonok Huh
Faye Hummel
Merna Jacobson
Karen Jennison
Judy Jones
Nancy Karlin
Nancy Kauffman

Cheryl Kent
Rita Kiefer
Ginny Kinnick
Peggy Kinsey
Dana Kusjanovic
Therese Laek
Barb Lowenbach
Sally McBeth
Sharon McMorrow
Mary Meisner
Martha Merrill
Jean Meyer-Scott
Jeanne Miller
Shellagh Mogford
Melanie Moore
Jean Sebober Morrell
Marilyn Mowitz
M. Sean O'Halloran
Diana Podoin
Sandy Pope
Betty Powers
Ann Quinn-Zobesk
Lori Rapp
Ann Ratcliffe

Cyndi Raymond
Wendy Rieh-Goldsemidt
Ruthie Rookwell
Ann Rose
Rosann Ross
Yvonne Siu Runyan
Josie Sanchez
Ronna Sanchez
Elaine Schmidt
Leanna Sohranz
Dee Sohriner
Sally Shaw
Lia Softas-Nall
Theresa Solis
Donna Steffins
Nancy Turner
Cindy Vetter
Georgette Vigil
Melanie Wilson
Roxie Willson
CeCe Wira
Karie Yoshioaka

Student Nominees

Kimberly Allen
Rianne Arlington
Carrie Aug
Rosenna Bakari
Linda Beeler
Laura Bell
Thais Berglund
Michelle Blaak
Jen Boland
Christina Borega
Tabitha Bradley
Jennifer Brinson
Lissa Buyeke
Carissa Renee Carter
Nancy Connell
Taria Corners
Crystal Corsey
Jennifer Curtin
Gina Dody
Laura Duggan
Lizzy England

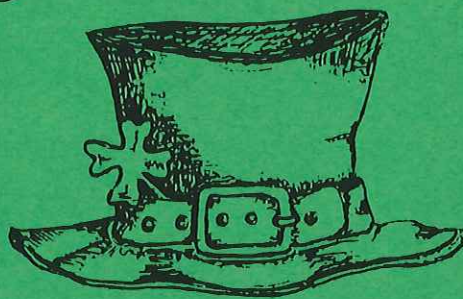
Vanessa Ewing
Monica Forbes
Barbara Francis
Katie French
Sally Fryar
Lori Gibson
Jen Gilbert
Ambrette Gilkey
Angela Goei
Miesha Gulley
Janel Haw
Kristin Hau'oli Heil
Tiffany Helmick
Cody Hicks
Bridget Houlihan
Megan Howe
Hilary Hungerford
Megan Hunter
Patriela Hunter
Lisa James
Anjelique Johnson

Kim Killion
Amy Kretschmer
Andrea Law
Allisa Lyles
Christy Malara
Lorie Mannon
B.J. Martin
Christy Meek
Aimee Merritt
Brina Milton
Summer Mitchell
Kristine Musiek
Sue Mylykangas
Laura Nealon
Jennifer O'Hara
Sarah Parker
Kendra Pender
Kim Poast
Tera Porterfield
Patty Roberts
Katrina Rodriguez

Christine Rogers
Sara Rose
Isalah Rounds
Kelly Rulon
Stacy Sax
Barbara Scott
Taneil Scott
Kathryn Skulley
Niya Smith
Leslie Stafford
Allison Stanalift
Angie Stanalift
Melissa Sterbenz
Me-Me Stewart
Stephanie Taylor
Theresa Tiedemann
Lynn Tokumine
Mikki Tomlinson
Judy Torres
Alisha Trotter
April Yates

Women's Resource Center

"The Museletter" March 1999



McKee 539, 351-1492

Carissa Renee Carter, Editor

happens,
cope.

I am here for you!

My girlfriends
are my best friends

As a woman,
I tend to feel.....

Come on Women, Let's Talk

by Megan Hunter
Staff Associate, WRC

It's WomanTalk Time! We presented our first guest ever, Dr. Nancy Turner, director of the Assault Survivor Advocacy Program (ASAP). Dr. Turner started off her talk with giving the audience a choice of topics: 1. Violence Against Women 2. Women and Anger. Our group decided to talk about anger and how our society does not allow women to be angry.

Depression is caused by individuals who are unable to express/acknowledge their anger, thus they turn it inward. Women have a higher rate of depression than males. This is because every institution in our society (education, religion, government, etc.) conspires not to allow women to express and handle their anger.

Women in our society are expected to handle anger by: 1. Always being forgiving and not allowing herself to get angry (grin and bear it) or 2. Becoming hysterical, crazy. If a woman responds in the second fashion, she will most likely hear things from her co-workers, family, or friends like: "You're not being professional...." "You're acting like a bitch," or "You're much too

sensitive." These responses discount women because they are perceived as overreacting and having personal problems which they do not know how to deal with. The above responses also are used to make women feel guilty and "put" women back in their place.

Women are also thought to be immature, unhealthy, and counterproductive if they express anger in any way. This is conveyed to them with such statements as "get over it," or "your perception is off." If a woman tries to talk with an individual about something which is angering her by saying, "I feel this" then that statement can be turned around and manipulated to let the woman know her perception is off, and she is just misreading things.

Women need to let their anger be heard. First, women need to recognize they are angered by something. If a woman is not able to resolve feeling angry, then she might begin to feel rotten and down. Take responsibility for your anger and let people know you are dissatisfied. Then, use anger to change the problem, or save anger for when you need it to change other things.

Women Remember, . . .

1. You have the right to be angry!
2. Anger is good!
3. You have the right to choose

when you address issues that anger you.

4. If you stifle anger, you might stifle your dream.
5. Don't allow yourself to be discounted if you are an emotional person.
6. Respond to the "put you in your place comments"; example: "Just because I am crying does not in any way invalidate what I am telling you."
7. Anger dies when we give it up or let it go.
8. Anger is like lightning; let it course through your body and make you stronger. You can use it, store it for later, or let it dissipate into the ground.
- 9 "Dammit, don't let them shut me up."

WomanTalk was formed out of a day-long retreat last semester for women students. It was decided there was a need for a discussion group on women's issues for the UNC campus community. The next WomanTalk will be Wednesday March 3, 1999 from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. at the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center (GLBTRC), Turner Hall, Room 20. Linda Beeler, the director of the GLBTRC, will be presenting "I Don't Know Why They Call Them Gay. I've Never Met a Happy One."

Women's Resource Center

"The Museletter" April 1999



Scott-Willcoxon Hall

Carissa Renee Carter, Editor and Angela Goei, Co-Editor

Female Genital Mutilation Forum Enlightens

Sara Rose
Staff Associate, WRC

What a turnout! Last month's Female Genital Mutilation Forum, presented by the WRC for International Week, was a huge success with around two hundred people in attendance. The chosen speakers offered wonderful insight into a topic that is often not spoken about freely in the United States and in many Western cultures, thought to be too appalling to discuss. But with the direction of moderator/facilitator Sean O'Halloran, an Associate Professor in Counseling Psychology at UNC, the speakers worked past this taboo subject and opened many eyes to the practice and the cultural implications that go with it.

The first speaker was Ghidey Ghebrehenes, a graduate student in Nursing at UNC. She is a native of Eritrea, Africa, where she formerly worked in the healthcare profession and often dealt with FGM. She explained some of the terms associated with different types of procedures and explained some of the medical

complications that can result from the different procedures. Ghidey emphasized that prenatal and maternal healthcare are very important to decrease the practice of FGM.

We next heard from Susan Erickson, a vivacious doctoral candidate in Anthropology at the University of Colorado-Boulder who has done extensive research on the topic of FGM. She explained that she had first been exposed to FGM when she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Sierra Leone, Africa, and spent two years with the Mende people and later wrote an award-winning Master's thesis on FGM. She explained the procedure to have many cultural implications that Americans and people of other cultures do not understand. Susan explained that the social pressure for this procedure to occur to young girls among the Mende people is very intense and by not having the procedure done, many young women risk social ostracization and are not considered "marriageable," which to a Mende woman means

difficulty for survival.

The last speaker, Ellen Moore, is a co-coordinator of Amnesty International USA's Urgent Action Program based out of Boulder, and shared some of the work that her organization has been doing to try to stop the procedure of FGM. She explained that Amnesty International advocates to the governments of these countries allowing the practice of FGM appealing for legislation to deter it and emphasizing education about the maladies that can result from the procedure.

The forum ended with questions from the audience that sparked even more discussion among the speakers about the issues surrounding FGM in the United States and Colorado. Concerns were raised about the current state legislation on the table that would ban the procedure to be done in Colorado. Those who attended claimed to have been enlightened about the topic both generally and as a local concern.

Mathematics Herstory

When Sophie Germain, a budding 18th-century French mathematician, was first developing her talent for the subject, her family took extreme measures to prevent her from studying math at night. They stopped heating her room and would confiscate her clothing after she was in bed. Thankfully, her family relented after finding her asleep at her desk and wrapped in blankets.

Sophie was not alone, as many other women throughout history who wanted to study mathematics faced major challenges. (Ms. Lissa Buyske's article in last month's

Museletter recounted how long it took for the significant accomplishments of Ada Byron to be recognized.)

UNC mathematics major Casey Sidwell will explore this topic in a presentation "The Herstory of Mathematics: Accomplishments and Obstacles of Notable Women in Math History" on Thursday, April 8 for UNC Research Day.

The paper began as a project for the Women's Studies 100 course Sidwell took last fall. The faculty sponsor of the talk is Dr. Larry Lesser, who has incorporated gender awareness into his mathematics history course and has utilized Dr. Melanie Wilson's resources to enhance a graduate

mathematics education panel and to help link an introductory statistics course to the Sociology of Gender course.

Sidwell's presentation will be accessible to a general undergraduate audience and she will provide useful resource handouts for attendees.

Sidwell will provide an introduction to some of the earliest female mathematicians and will facilitate some interesting discussion about why there were so few. The exact room and time was not known at press time, but can be looked up in the Research Day program.

As the semester and academic year wind down, think of the WRC! You can donate books research materials, plants, artwork, and other items to our new building! Call for pickup 351-1492.

Where's the "Beefy" Degree?



Uncovering the ugly under-belly of what is considered "higher-education."