

Volume IV, Issue #1

September 2017

WRC TODAY

Women's Resource Center Newsletter



Welcome Bears!

By: *Caitlin Ortis and Allie Berger*

Hey, Bears! We are so excited to be a few weeks into a brand new academic year, and we are ready to continue to fight for gender equity on Campus! Whether this is your first semester here at UNC, or you are a returning student, we want to welcome you to campus! We've got some amazing events planned for the upcoming year, and we can't wait to see you there.

We are excited to start the semester with some new (and returning) staff members and are going to change things up a bit, starting with the look of our newsletter! Our new Graphic Design Specialist Faith is super amazing and excited to keep our newsletter looking fresh! My name is Caitlin and I am the Current Events and Social Media Specialist and am excited to be providing you with fun and educational content for the newsletter. In this day and age where technology and social media is infused into our daily lives, it is important to keep current on social issues related to gender justice and feminism. While we intend to have a fun and upbeat newsletter, we will also be focusing on issues related to gender, as we cannot provide adequate support to our campus community if we are not paying attention to what's going on around us, both on and off campus.



-Caitlin Ortis, *Current Events & Social Media Specialist, WRC*

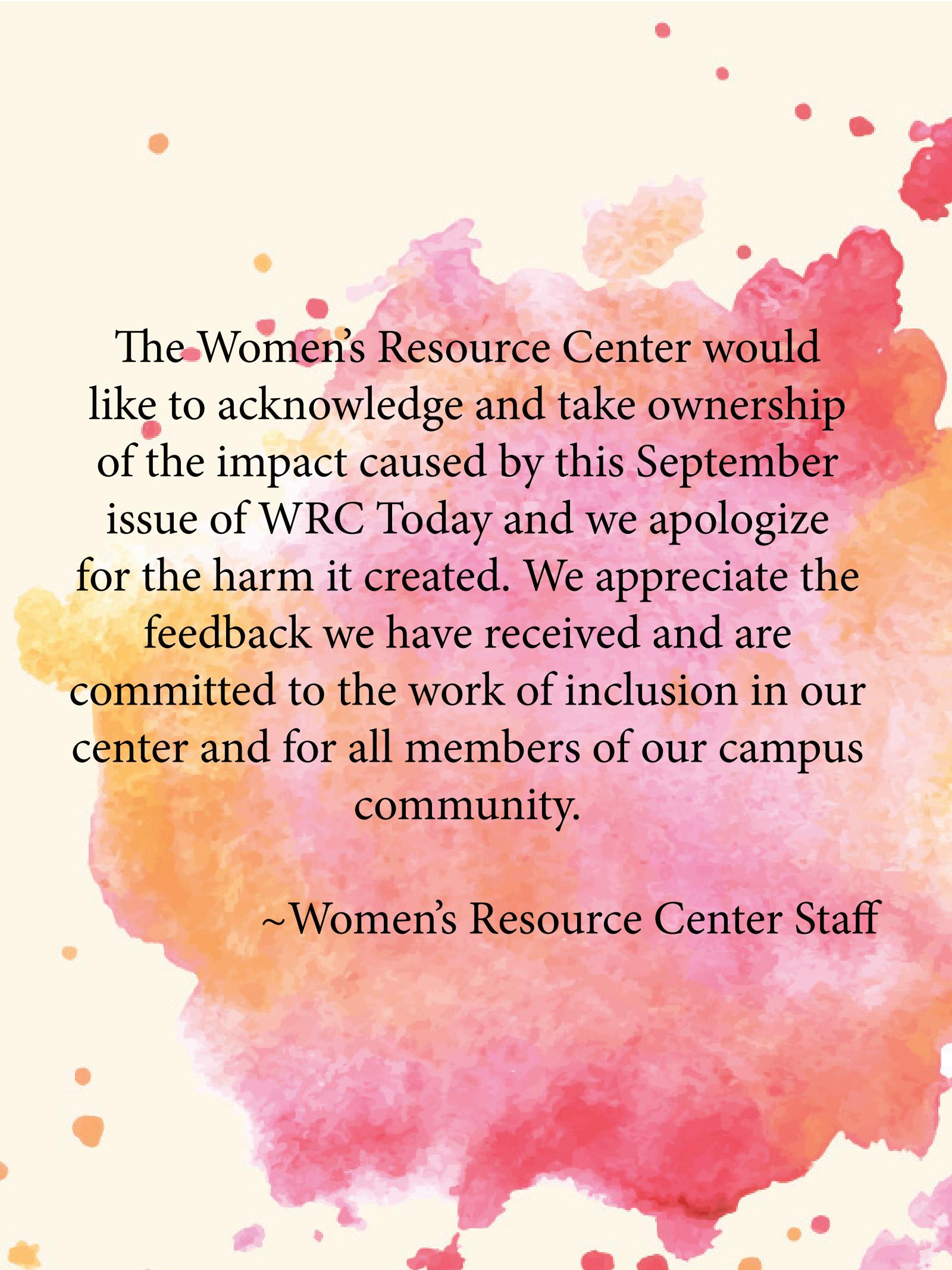
Hello friends! It is with delight and excitement that I introduce myself to you! My name is Allie Berger (she, her, hers), and I am one of the new graduate assistants at the Women's Resource Center. Our mission here is to honor gender as a central identity and to engage critical women's and gender issues, while challenging systems of inequity and advocating for change at the University of Northern Colorado. Within the walls of Scott-Willcoxon Hall, you will find a variety of resources and opportunities to connect in solidarity as we resist systemic violations of our rights.

This semester, please join us on November 8th, 2017 for the Annual Inaugural Conference on Gender Justice and Feminism where we will explore contemporary and historical women's and gender issues, intersectionality within feminism, and identify avenues toward reflection, awareness and empowerment. Additionally, I welcome all students to join us in bi-weekly Consciousness Raising Groups, starting on September 20th, 2017. During these groups, I hope to meet and learn from all of you as we come together and develop our awareness surrounding women's and gender equity. Furthermore, I encourage you to take note of and share our "Because lactating looks like this..." and "I need feminism because..." campaigns as you wander through campus.

The Women's Resource Center operates under the division of Equity and Inclusion in collaboration with the 7 Strong Cultural and Resource Centers. The reason I note this is that at our center, you and your story are valued across each and every one of your unique identities. We are committed to social justice and the disruption of oppression that occurs at both micro and macro levels. As we navigate the complex environment that is our campus and as we face the inevitable challenges this year will bring, know that you are welcome, valued, and celebrated at The Women's Resource Center.



-Allie Berger, *Graduate Assistant, WRC*



The Women's Resource Center would like to acknowledge and take ownership of the impact caused by this September issue of WRC Today and we apologize for the harm it created. We appreciate the feedback we have received and are committed to the work of inclusion in our center and for all members of our campus community.

~Women's Resource Center Staff



student- voices

Welcome to the Student Voices section of the WRC Today! The Student Voices section of the WRC Today began in Spring, 2016. We collaborated with the Gender Studies program to feature written pieces by students to distribute in the newsletter. Student voices began as a space for students on campus to be able to discuss various topics relating to women's and gender issues, have their voices be heard, and to get various perspectives on these topics. When initially launched, the Student Voices section was not open for all students on campus to submit pieces.

While the purpose of Student Voices continues to be offering a space to heighten gender consciousness (being aware of what it means to have a gender identity and to navigate life from a place of gender), we decided to open up the section to allow all students on campus to submit not only written pieces, but also visual art, self-reflections, poetry and much more. If you want to join the Women's Resource Center in heightening gender awareness at the University of Northern Colorado, then submit your piece to us! Topics can vary anywhere from identity and intersectionality to injustice and gender.

If you are interested in submitting a reflection or piece (e.g. short story, poetry, visual art, etc.) to be featured in our monthly newsletter and online content, submit to, or for more information, contact Emily Hedstrom-Lieser at emily.hedstromlieser@unco.edu.



A view from the Gender Studies program: Women Are a Force

By Shyla Mars

The most feared person in today's society besides a black man is an independent woman. The thought of a women that thinks for herself, demands equal pay, doesn't want to get married and have children has shaken the society. The thought of a women becoming so independent is world domination! (Sarcasm.) I don't know if it's an issue of fragile masculinity, the fear of the death of patriarchy, or society just being used to women being complacent, but either way, this idea becoming a reality is a real fear for some people. Well, too late! It's already happening and I couldn't be happier. The fact that "independent women threaten the social order" is ridiculous and frankly quite sad.

In my Gender class we read about the "Ideal Woman" and how media perpetuated what it was to have that title. Media is everywhere. It's in our jacket pockets, in our classrooms, everywhere we turn. Since media heavily influences everyone, including women, it has a strong hold us. I personally can't fathom why women that triumphed in areas around birth control and education "still felt it necessary to adhere to the domestic ideal as much as possible in order to maintain their identity as a "good woman, mother, and wife."

In a documentary we watched women talked about the introduction of birth control into society and how they felt so liberated, but they still felt the need to be the model housewife. I don't understand. Complacency and conformity were words synonymous with "Ideal Woman" unlike intelligence and independence. I could not have lived back in those times; I am way too radical, plus being a black woman on top of that! Shoot, with my passion and tenaciousness I probably wouldn't have lasted. I think of how wild it must be for the older generations to see the opportunities and rights that we are awarded now and I only wish they could have basked in what I am currently doing.

We as women today are a force to be reckoned with.



My name is Shyla Mars and I am a junior at UNC majoring in Criminology with a minor in Africana Studies. I am a Diversity Mentor of Harrison Hall, a Peer Counselor for the Office of Financial Aid, and the President of the club Black Women of Today. I plan on joining the Air Force as an officer.



Annual Conference on Gender Justice and Feminism

November 8, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
UC Ballrooms

The Inaugural Conference on Gender Justice and Feminism offers an opportunity for all UNC students, faculty, and staff to engage contemporary and historical women's and gender issues, explore intersectionality within feminism, and identify avenues toward reflection, awareness and empowerment. Previously titled the Women's Conference over the last 7 years, the Annual Conference on Gender Justice and Feminism provides the same unique conference experience with a new name that encompasses all that this conference has to offer. Join us in creating space for awareness, reflection and community.

Registration

August 21 - October 20
Register online at
www.unco.edu/womens-resource-center



UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Women's Resource Center

Any person requesting disability accommodations for this event please contact 970-351-2289 at least 3 business days in advance.



The César Chávez Cultural Center Presents...

National Hispanic Heritage Month

2017 EVENT SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

Homesickness Presentation

6pm at the César Chávez Cultural Center

Are you feeling out of place at UNC? Join us at the César Chávez Cultural Center, our home away from home.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

16 de Septiembre

12-2pm at the César Chávez Cultural Center

Join us in celebrating Mexican Independence Day. Free food, music, entertainment, and giveaways. A perfect event to learn new things and hang out with friends.

El Movimiento

4-6pm / 4:30pm Featured Speaker

J.A. Michener Library

Join us for the Exhibit Celebration! Free and open to the public.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

Family Visit

11:30am at the César Chávez Cultural Center

Invite your family to UNC campus for a fun afternoon, and time to answer any questions or concerns they may have.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

Juana Bordas Reception & Lecture

6:30-8:30pm in the UC Longs Peak Ballroom

Please join us for a reception and a lecture from Juana Bordas where she will discuss the celebration of Latino Culture, Contribution and Leadership. There will also be an opportunity to purchase her book "Salsa, Soul, and Spirit". Co-sponsored by Hispanic Women of Weld County.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

UNC Women's Soccer VS Univ. of Idaho

7pm at Jackson Stadium

Visit us while we table and enjoy the soccer game!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

Dolores Huerta Film Screening &

Discussion

7pm in Michener Library, Lindou Auditorium

Join us for the screening of the Dolores Huerta movement! We will have guest speakers discussing the movement as well as issues regarding Migrant Workers today. In collaboration with the International Film Series.

For questions please contact the
César Chávez Cultural Center at 970-351-2424

Any person requesting disability accommodations for this event
please contact 970-351-2289 at least 3 business days in advance.



UNC

César Chávez
Cultural Center

Si Se puede!

Meet the Staff!

This year in the Women's Resource Center and Stryker Institute for Leadership and Development, we are so excited to have new and old faces in our office! We can't wait to get to know the new Bears on campus, but for now, let's get to know the WRC/SI staff! In order to get an idea of who we are, I asked everyone some questions. Check out their answers below!

- How do you take your caffeine?
- Favorite Color
- If you could have any super power, what would it be and why?

Yvette Lucero-Nguyen

Director



- I like my caffeine in an iced chai tea latte
- Various shades of blue
- I would like to have a superpower that gives me the ability to extract all the hate from this world so that we can all exist as we are and everyone would be met with kindness and respect.

Emily Hedstrom-Lieser

Associate Director



- Black Coffee (almost always iced)
- Turquoise
- If I had a superpower, it would be to freeze time. To soak in the beautiful moments, and the time with my babies in each life stage, for just a bit longer. If I could have any gift, it would be to experience life in the present, without the worry of the future or the heaviness of the past.

Sarah Aragon

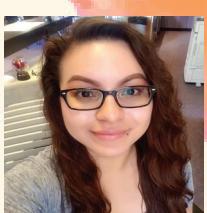
Leadership Coordinator, Stryker Institute for Leadership Development



- Intravenously if I could! Haha, daily and with intent!
- I don't have a favorite, I love purple and teal right now :)
- If I could have a superpower I would be a mermaid, because mermaids :)

Luz Sosa

Office Manager & Programmatic Support Specialist



- Any type of coffee is great!
- Pink and all shades of pink.
- If I could have any super power it would be to time travel. I would love to be able to go and change certain negative situations. Additionally, I would like to see what the future is like.

Allie Berger

Women's Resource Center Graduate Assistant



- Iced coffee with a splash of cream!
- Green
- I wish that I could breathe underwater, because 95% of the ocean is unexplored and it would be so cool to discover something new!



Courtney Caston

Women's Resource Center Graduate Assistant

- With way too much sugar and creamer.
- Hot Pink
- Invisibility so I can infiltrate and listen in on evil groups, bring them to their demise, and help the marginalized people of the world!



Noemy Rodriguez

Graduate Assistant for the Stryker Institute for Leadership Development

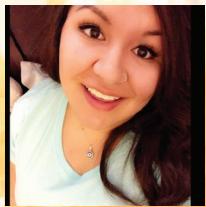
- Lots of creamer/milk and sugar
- Royal Blue
- The superpower I wish to have is the ability to fly! I feel like it would make it a lot quicker for me to get to my destinations without having to sit in traffic!



Abigail Schleppenbach

Program Specialist

- Iced Coffee!!!!!! (All year round) ;)
- Mustard yellow
- Fly!!!! Because I want to travel the world and not have to pay so much money for it.



Amalia Vasquez

Stryker Support Specialist

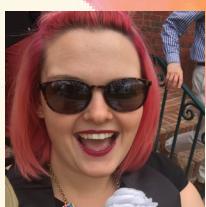
- I do not drink coffee or a lot of soda. But, I enjoy drinking Arizona green tea.
- Mint Green
- My superpower would be teleportation because I love to travel. Also, it would be nice to just wake up and show up to class in a matter of seconds.



Balkissa Boukary

Program Specialist

- I take my caffeine by drinking coffee
- My favorite color is mustard yellow
- My superpower would be to be invisible when I want to.



Caitlin Ortis

Current Events & Social Media Specialist

- Any type of coffee ranging from black to the most sugary, creamy latte you can order
- My favorite colors are purple and grey
- If I could have any superpower, it would be to be able to absorb other people's powers or skills – not take them away, but mimic them. That way, I can have all of the super powers!



Faith Lyons

Graphic Design & Marketing Specialist

- Coffee with unsweetened almond milk and some sugar or cold brew.
- My favorite color is turquoise.
- My super power would be to move mountains...