

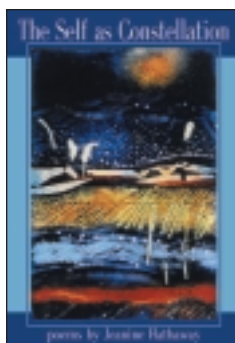
# Center for WOMEN'S STUDIES

## Celebration Will Honor Jeanine Hathaway

On Saturday, April 14, Jeanine Hathaway will be the guest of honor at a reception celebrating the publication of her latest book, a collection of poems entitled *The Self as Constellation* that won the 2001 Vassar Miller Prize in Poetry. The public reception will be held at 2:00 PM in the Suderman Room (entrance C) in the WSU Metropolitan Complex, 29th and Oliver, and will include a reading by Hathaway, associate professor of creative writing in the WSU English Department.



Although her poems have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies, *The Self as Constellation* is Hathaway's first published book of poetry. She is author of *Motherhouse*, an autobiographical novel, and writes a monthly column for *The Wichita Times*.



The cover of Jeanine Hathaway's new book features artwork created by local enamelist, writer and Community Council member Linda Gebert.

Hathaway teaches cross-listed classes with Women's Studies and has been a featured writer in the Center's Words By Women Series. The reception is sponsored by the WSU English Department and the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

## "Parallel Lives" Play and Party On May 4 Promise A Good Time for a Good Cause

In the opening scene of "Parallel Lives," two female angels are busy designing the world. Afraid of the jealousy that women's ability to bear children will spark, the angels try to "take the shine off" childbirth by suggesting potential down-sides like "I know, let's make it messy" and other absurd-sounding ideas that turn out to be true.

Local actors **Liz Willis and Jean Ann Cusick** will play the leads in "Parallel Lives," a hilarious comedy about women and their take on life, death and the struggle between the sexes, on Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 PM in WSU's

**Wilner Auditorium.** Dick Welsbacher is the director and Joyce Cavarozzi assistant director. The performance is a benefit for the Words By Women Series endowment campaign.

Tickets are \$10 and \$50 for priority seating, and include admission to the "Parallel Party" at WSU's Edwin A. Ulrich Museum immediately following the play. (*The Ulrich Museum is located across the street from Wilner Auditorium.*) The "Parallel Party" will include refreshments, a cash bar and musical entertainment. Tickets are available in advance at the WSU Fine Arts Box Office, 978-3233, and at the door.

"Parallel Lives" was written by Kathy Najimy and Mo Gaffney and won two Cable Ace awards and an Obie Award. It has received rave reviews across the country. Variety dubbed it "...a romp with a feminist sensibility; it's humor for a post-Lily Tomlin generation... Above all,

"Parallel Lives" is a smart, provocative show."

"We're celebrating the success of our fundraising campaign," said Dorothy Miller, chair of Women's Studies. "We're ready to laugh and have fun with this play

and party, and raise additional funds too."

The comedy features two actresses playing 11 different characters, including "middle management" supreme beings assigned the project of creation; a college "valley girl" coed on a date in a gay restaurant; and a drunken cowboy in a country western bar.

The stars of "Parallel Lives" are two actresses well-known to Wichita's theatre-going audiences. Liz Willis' most recent performances include the senator's wife in "Born Yesterday" at the Crown Uptown Theatre, Alice B. Toklas in "Gertrude Stein

*continued on page 7*



starring in

## Parallel Lives

SPRING  
2002



Jeanine Hathaway's poetry collection, *The Self as Constellation*, is divided into two thematic sections: the first part explores spirituality and significant relationships with God, family, friends and oneself; the second section focuses on a third-century hermit woman who has gone to the desert to pray after converting to Christianity. The book will be published in April during National Poetry Month and is available at Watermark Books and Cafe, 4701 E. Douglas, [www.watermarkbooks.com](http://www.watermarkbooks.com).

# Women's Studies FACULTY ACTIVITIES

**Dr. Dorothy C. Miller, chair**, associate professor, recently had a chapter published in the book *Building on Women's Strengths: A Social Work Agenda for the Twenty-First Century* (Haworth Press, 2001). Her chapter is entitled: "What is Needed for True Equality: An Overview of Policy Issues for Women." In February, she spoke about the 1960s War on Poverty on a panel of speakers at a local conference, "From Complacency to Passion: The 60s and How They Changed America."

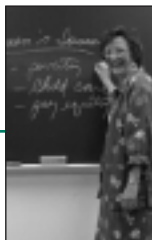
This semester Dr. Miller served (along with two Women's studies Advisory Board members — Gracia Toubia and Kris Wilshusen) on the Kansas Advisory Board of the Institute for Women's Policy Research for their project, "The Status of Women in Kansas." She also served on the Search Committee for a new dean of the Fairmount College of Arts and Liberal Sciences.

On the national level, Dr. Miller continues as membership chair and governing council member for the National Women's Studies Association.

An article on Sally Corbin, wife of former WSU President Harry Corbin, by **Dr. Gayle Davis**, associate professor of Women's Studies and associate vice president for academic affairs, appeared in *Presidential Partners, First Ladies of the University*, edited by Jim Rhatigan, which was recently released by the WSU Foundation. She also has a forthcoming article in the festschrift dedicated to Dr. Ramon Powers, retiring executive director of the Kansas State Historical Society. The article is entitled *Diary Material: Signs of Perfect Womanhood and Personal Artistry*.

On March 13, Dr. Davis presented her slide lecture "Frontier Quilts and Diaries" to University United Methodist Church Women in Wichita.

Dr. Davis continues her service to the Kansas State Historical Society,



sitting as immediate past president of the board of directors on the Society's executive committee, as co-chair of the development committee and as a member of the publications committee. Davis also is a member of the KSHS editorial advisory board, and has recently completed her work as co-chair of the search committee for the next executive director.

As part of her administrative role at WSU, Dr. Davis attended the Central Association of College and University Business Officers in St. Louis in February. In March, she took part in the induction ceremonies for new members of the WSU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi by introducing nine new faculty into the honorary society.

In November 2001, **Dr. Deborah Gordon**, associate professor, attended a one-day conference, "Women in Islamic Societies in a New Era of Globalization." Sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of California-Berkeley, the conference allowed Dr. Gordon to interact with leading scholars in Middle Eastern Women's Studies.

In February 2002, Dr. Gordon presented a paper, "*We Can't Move: Postmodernity from the West Bank*," at the 11th Annual Cultural Studies Conference at Kansas State University. She discussed the dilemmas for feminist social movement as the Oslo Accords brought new pressures on Palestinian society to build a nation-state within an expanded foreign military occupation. In April, Dr. Gordon travels to University of Kansas to present a paper for the Gender Studies colloquium, sponsored by the KU Women's Studies program. In September, she will present a paper at the World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies in Mainz, Germany.

Dr. Gordon chaired the Center's annual Women's History Month program and continues to serve on the L.A.S. College Curriculum Committee. In January, she was nominated for a teaching award by WSU's Academy for Effective Teaching.

**Dr. Carol Wolfe Konek**, professor, has been home recuperating from surgery. She sends her regards to friends, colleagues and students who have sent cards and made phone calls of support.

**Dr. Ramona Liera-Schwichtenberg**, associate professor and graduate coordinator of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program, was honored as a plenary speaker at the September 2001 conference on Visual Rhetoric at Indiana University. At the conference she presented a paper entitled "*Fashioning Difference and the Power of the Visible: Latina Looks in Fashion/Beauty Advertising*." At Wichita State, Dr. Liera-Schwichtenberg participated on the panel "Beyond Killing us Softly" for the Student Government Organization and the student group, Women's Studies Scholars and Allies.

Dr. Liera-Schwichtenberg organized a faculty-student reception for the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program, is a member of several thesis committees and continues to work on the College Council and the Faculty Senate.

## "Vagina Monologues" Sells Out In Wichita!

In spite of frigid temperatures and fierce winds, a sell-out crowd packed Wilner Auditorium on February 9 to see a performance of the ground-breaking play "Vagina Monologues," co-sponsored by the WSU Theater Department and the Center for Women's Studies. WSU joined more than 500 college campuses presenting the play on or near Valentine's Day as part of a world-wide effort to focus on the importance of ending violence against women.

Directed by Joyce Cavarozzi, associate professor of theatre, "Vagina Monologues" featured WSU students as well as Wichita actresses and reflected women's experiences, thoughts, feelings and frustrations about — yes — their vaginas.

The event raised more than \$3,000 for the Wichita Women's Crisis Center and Safe House. An additional \$200 was sent to V-Day headquarters in New York to assist women in Afghanistan.

Many thanks and congratulations to Joyce Cavarozzi for her work and dedication creating an entertaining and moving evening for Wichita's theatergoers.

# From the Director

by Dr. Dorothy C. Miller



Women's Studies seems to have been in a constant state of change since the fall. Our secretary, Mary Smith, who was with us for six years, retired in December. All who knew her will remember Mary's ability to fix almost anything smoothly, her friendliness, and most of all her kindness. The office is still in good hands, though, via the hire of Barbara Fly, our new and capable secretary, who also has been with the university in other capacities.

Meanwhile, Professor Carol Wolfe Konek is still at home recovering from the brain surgery she had in November. We are eager to see her back in the office, which permeates with her warmth and wisdom when she is here. Carol is scheduled to teach in the fall, and we are sending her "good vibes" to speed her recovery.

In the coming fall semester, the department will experience another change, albeit temporary. I will be on sabbatical, working on a book manuscript on care and public policy (My thesis is that we need more of the former in the latter!). Dr. Ramona Liera-Schwichtenberg will be interim chair in my stead. When I return in January, it will be Ramona's turn to have a sabbatical for the spring 2003 semester.

Perhaps the biggest change pending is that we will be saying at least a partial farewell to Lee Starkel, who is stepping down from the Women's Studies Community Council Advisory Board this spring. Lee has served as paid staff and consummate volunteer on this board since its inception in 1990. She has been involved with the advertising, marketing, and most of the "nuts and bolts" of probably every single community event we've sponsored over the last 20 years. Although Lee will still be around to do the Women's Studies newsletter and chair the Words by Women Series campaign, we will miss her intense involvement.

## Giving To Campaign Is Rewarding

A fundraising campaign to endow the Words By Women Series (formerly known as the Kay Closson Women Writing Series) was officially announced in October during the 2001 series that featured readings by Jane Hamilton, Maxine Clair and Patricia Traxler. Six months later, the campaign has raised approximately 50% of its \$130,000 goal in cash and pledges. Presented as part of the Center for Women's Studies' annual programming since 1981, Words By Women is Wichita's longest running literary series. Two donors explain why they are willing to support the series financially:

*"The Words by Women writing series is one of the few ways the community has to hear writers. When the authors speak, they give the audience so much more about the whys, whens and whos of their book — they also share the feelings. For those of us who love to read, this series is a wonderful experience."*

Kelly Callen, president, Edmiston Oil Company, & Women's Studies board member

*"Last year, the Words by Women Series provided me with an opportunity to meet and listen to one of my very favorite authors (Jane Hamilton) and introduced me to an important new voice (Patricia Traxler). The series is an asset and treasure for Wichita State and for the Wichita community."*

Ted Ayres, general counsel & associate to the President, Wichita State University

Anyone interested in supporting the Words By Women Series is encouraged to call Women's Studies at 978-3358.

# Women's Studies COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

as of  
March 29

Virginia Ablah  
Mary Aikins  
Erla Alexander  
June & Phil Allen  
Gladys Alley  
Martí Farha Ammar  
Jessica Ayres  
Joyce Bachus  
Robin Bair  
Carolyn Beckett  
Don & Shirley Beggs  
Joan Beren  
Boots Bergman  
Emily Bonavia  
Margot Breckbill  
Helen Brewer  
Martha Buford  
David & Linda Butler  
Peggy Caine  
Katherine & Kenneth Camarco  
Mary Campuzano  
Wendy Carpenter  
Joyce Cavarozzi  
Clifton Square  
Carolyn Conley  
Elvira Crocker  
Patricia Daniels  
Sally Dewey  
Jill Docking  
Shelley Endsley  
Mary Estes  
Jim & Sara Farley  
Betty Fiedler  
Susan Fischer  
Geraldine Flaharty  
Gloria Farha Flentje  
Jack Foht  
Nola Fouston  
Judith Frick  
Charlotte Friedman  
Ann Fugate  
Justus Fugate  
Josephine Fugate  
Sharlene Garrett  
Bud & Toni Gates  
Linda Gebert  
V. Jane Gilchrist  
Kathleen Glenn-Lewin  
Shirley Glickman  
Mary Harmon Goodman  
Cathy Green  
Geraldine Hammond  
Mardi Hammond  
Phyllis Hampel  
Jeanine Hathaway  
Annabelle Haupt  
Katherine Hawkins  
Dorothy Heidebrecht  
Mrylliss Hershey  
Christina Hesse  
Edla Hilts  
Marlene Hoglund  
Ellen Horn  
INTRUST Bank, N.A.  
Sharon Iorio  
Pam Irish  
Bruce Jacobs

Melanie Jenney  
Colleen Kelly Johnston  
Frances Kentling  
Lorine Kieler  
Elizabeth King  
Ruby & Tom Kirk  
Marilyn Klaus  
Jana Konek  
Ruby Kuhns  
Kay LaGree  
Pat Lehman  
Diane Leisy  
Wanda Levy  
Gerald Lichti  
Treva Lichti  
Beth Lindquist  
Harry Litwin  
Maxine Longstaff  
Sally Luallen  
Suzanne Luginbill  
Estela Martinez  
Valeria Martinez  
Layna McCabe  
Susan McKnight  
Emily McReynolds  
Kathleen Mellor  
Barbara Melzer  
Cindy Mines  
Marnie Morland  
Dona Frank Morris  
Peg Morrison  
Rhita Muci  
Susan Nelson  
Molly Mellor Nespor  
Trix Niernberger  
Arlene Orlandi  
Phyllis Peete  
Susan Peters-Snyder  
Marlene Phillips  
Nan Morgan Porter  
Katie Pott  
Lucynda Raben  
Jan Randle  
Susan Rector  
Barbara Ritchie  
Myrne Roe  
Sara Rogers  
Brigitte Roussel  
Sandy Rupp  
Linda Ruzich  
Dick Ryan  
Georgia Schell  
Jan Scoggins-Waite  
Shoko Sevart  
Denise Curry Sherman  
Jack Silvers  
Anita Skeen  
Beatrice Skeen  
Sara Sluss  
Virginia Smith  
Vicki Stamp  
Vicki Sandell Stangl  
Lynn Stephan  
Linda Stewart  
Patricia Stoeber  
SUSAN'S Floral  
Lynn Talbott  
Marian Teall

B.D. Tharp  
Kathryn Thiessen  
Elwood Thornton  
Sylvia Thorson-Smith  
Helen Throckmorton  
Randa Toubia  
Patricia Traxler  
Mary Umansky  
Fern Van Gieson  
Kathy Van Saun  
James VanSickle  
Marni Vliet  
Elizabeth Vornold  
Gerald Walsh  
Dorothy Walters  
Rosetta Walz  
Watermark Books & Cafe  
Elaine Webster  
Betty & Dick Welsbacher  
Virginia White  
Katie Funk Wiebe  
Diane Wilborn  
Norma Williams  
Caroline Wilson  
Linda Winter  
Carol Wohlford  
Lee & Nancy Woodard  
Patricia Wyatt-Harris  
Jo Zakas

## Women's Studies COMMUNITY COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARD

Jan Rathbun *President*  
Nita Mark *Vice President*  
Anna Anderson  
Sarah Bagby  
Tami Bradley  
Kelly Callen  
Jane Deterding  
Carla Eckels  
Jessica Evans  
Martha Garcia  
Ivonne Goldstein  
Bonnie Bing Honeyman  
Janet Lloyd-Williams  
Terri Moses  
Vicky Reiff  
Lee Starkel  
Gaye Tibbets  
Gracia Toubia-Stucky  
Sherrie Williams  
Kris Wilshusen  
Sheryl Wohlford

FACULTY  
Dr. Dorothy Miller *Chair*  
Dr. Gayle Davis  
Dr. Debbie Gordon  
Dr. Carol Wolfe Konek  
Dr. Ramona Liera-Schwichtenberg

WSU FOUNDATION  
Cathy Green



The Women's Studies Community Council was created in 1990 to support the Center's efforts in the classroom and in the community. To request a membership brochure or to be added to the mailing list, call the Center for Women's Studies at (316) 978-3358.

# COURSE OFFERINGS

## Summer Pre-Session

classes run May 28- June 7

### Hollywood Melodrama

Sec 04932 9:00-1:30 Daily  
Pre-session May 28 - June 7

**WS 480A** 3 cr hrs

R Liera-Schwichtenberg

Provides stylistic, literary, cultural and historical background on this cinematic form that has long been called a woman's genre. Specific focus on "women's film," "family melodrama" and movies that highlight women's positions within the domestic sphere. Also explores the use of textual and Freudian analysis by feminist film critics to study the Hollywood melodrama. Includes several movie screenings.

## Summer 2002

classes begin June 10

### Assertion Training for Women

Sec 04887 8:30-4:30 Sat  
1st session June 22 & 29

**WS 150C** 1 cr hr

MT Cupp-Criss

Class meets at WSU Westside Center, 7011 W. Central

Examines barriers that exist to assertive behavior and teaches women to develop assertion skills. Considers today's social changes and how these create a need for women to be assertive in their lives.

### Ethnic Group Women in America

Sec 04896 9:50-12:00 Daily  
1st session June 10-July 5

**WS 240** 3 cr hrs

ML Sanchez

Examines the lives of contemporary women of color and low income white ethnic women. Cross-listed as Ethnic Studies 240

### Women in Society: Social Issues

Sec 04905 9:50-12:00 Daily  
1st session June 10-July 5

**WS 287Q** 3 cr hrs

KF Gillium-Harris

Considers women's efforts to claim their identity through the examination of historical, legal and social perspectives. Considers recent laws relating to women; contemporary issues such as rape, day care and working women; and theories of social change.

### The American Male

Sec 04914 7:30-9:40 Daily  
1st session June 10-July 5

**WS 316** 3 cr hrs

RR Matson

Examines the male role in America from various sociological perspectives. Cross-listed as Sociology 316

### Psychology of Women

Sec 04941 9:50-10:50 Daily  
2nd session July 8-August 2

**WS 534** 3 cr hrs

S Hargrave

Examines various psychological assumptions, research and theories of the roles, behaviors and potential of women in contemporary society. Cross-listed as Psychology 534 PREREQUISITES

## Fall 2002

classes begin August 24

### Assertion Training for Women

Sec 14221 8:30-4:30 Sat  
Sept. 7 & 14

**WS 150C** 1 cr hr

MT Cupp-Criss

Class meets at WSU Westside Center, 7011 W. Central

Examines barriers that exist to assertive behavior and teaches women to develop assertion skills. Considers today's social changes and how these create a need for women to be assertive in their lives.

### Rape Information/Prevention

Sec 14230 8:30-4:30 Sat  
Sept. 21 & 28

**WS 150J** 1 cr hr

SA Endsley

Class meets at WSU Downtown Center, 127 N. Market

Explores the cultural myths and stereotypes about rape. Primary focus is on accurate information.

### American Woman in Popular Culture

Sec 14239 12:30-4:30 Sat  
Oct. 5-Dec. 7

**WS 190G** 3 cr hrs

SA Endsley

Class meets at WSU Westside Center, 7011 W. Central

Examines how women of various races, classes and ethnicities are represented in a wide variety of popular media. Encourages critical analysis of why and how these popular representations are politically and socially significant in shaping society's perceptions of "the American woman."

### Women in Society: Social Issues

Sec 14248 9:30-10:20 MWF  
Sec 14257 7:05-9:45 T N

**WS 287Q** 3 cr hrs

KF Gillium-Harris

MT Cupp-Criss

Considers women's efforts to claim their identity through the examination of historical, legal and social perspectives. Considers recent laws relating to women; contemporary issues such as rape, day care and working women; and theories of social change.

### The American Male

Sec 14266 9:30-10:20 MWF

**WS 316** 3 cr hrs

RR Matson

Examines the male role in America from various sociological perspectives. Cross-listed as Sociology 316

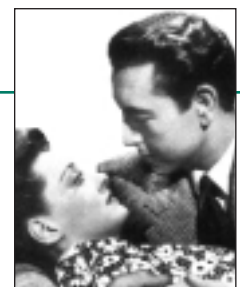
### Human Sexuality

Sec 14275 7:05-9:45 T N

**WS 340** 3 cr hrs

EM Barrett

Provides a forum for information and discussion on topics relating to physical, psycho-social and cultural components of human sexuality. Cross-listed as Sociology 340



# COURSE OFFERINGS

Fall 2002

classes begin August 24

## Women & Dependencies

Sec 14284 11:30-12:20 MWF  
Mar. 26-May 9

Examines dependencies on substances and processes (alcohol, street and prescription drugs, eating disorders and dysfunctional relationships) in their social and personal context. Provides information about women's dependencies and their relationship to constructions of gender. Examines theories of treatment and recovery in relation to feminist theory and women's roles in co-dependency.

**WS 345** 3 cr hrs  
KF Gillum-Harris

## Chinese Women

Sec 14293 12:30-1:45 MW

Explores the historical movements that have changed women's lives in the recent history of China. Topics include the abolition of foot-binding, the socialist and communist revolution and the current economic transformation from socialism to capitalism. Special attention given to the Chinese cultural specificity in the meanings of sexuality, motherhood, work, bodies and reproductive issues.

**WS 380D** 3 cr hrs  
X Lu

## Incarcerated Minority Women's Issues

Sec 14302 5:30-8:20 TTh N  
Oct. 17-Dec.12

Examines various social and cultural issues faced by women of color incarcerated in American prisons. Cross-listed as Ethnic Studies 381

**WS 380I** 3 cr hrs  
M Sanchez

## Motherhood

Sec 14311 7:05-9:45 W N  
Class meets on WSU campus

Sec 14320 1:00-4:30 Sun  
Class meets at WSU Westside Center, 7011 W. Central

Examines the meaning of mothering and motherhood, its function in society and how it affects women. Studies mothering expectations, images, roles and its relationship to feminism.

**WS 380Z** 3 cr hrs  
JL Ayres

JL Ayres

## Women in Society: Cultural Images

Sec 14329 9:30-10:45 TTh  
Sec 14338 11:00-12:15 TTh

Analyzes the roots of ideas about women in society and women's responses to those ideas as they have attempted to define themselves. Explores images of women in literature, art, myth, philosophy, religion, psychology, education, politics and other cultures.

**WS 387Q** 3 cr hrs  
DA Gordon  
DA Gordon

## Women's Global Issues

Sec 14347 12:30-1:45 TTh

Explores women's issues from a global perspective in relation to policies approved by the International Women's Decade conferences of the United Nations. Emphasizes understanding the impact of nationalism, race, class and cultural values in creating obstacles to women's full participation in society and considers strategies for achieving full human rights for women. PREREQUISITE

**WS 391** 3 cr hrs  
CW Konek

## Women & Reform in History: 1830-Present

Sec 14392 8:30-9:20 MWF

Traces women's involvement in various social reform activities in the United States that eventually led to work toward equal rights and improved conditions for women. Cross-listed as History 512

**WS 512** 3 cr hrs  
GR Davis

## Feminist Film Criticism

Sec 14401 2:00-4:40 W

Examines the historical development of feminist film theory and criticism of the classical Hollywood film, with a special emphasis on film noir such as "Double Indemnity," "Mildred Pierce" and "The Postman Always Rings Twice." Readings include Women in Film Noir and The Bride Wore Black. Applies methods of feminist film analysis to the representation of women in film. PREREQUISITE Cross-listed as English 580

**WS 523** 3 cr hrs  
R Liera-Schwichtenberg

## Psychology of Women

Sec 14410 12:30-1:45 MW

Examines various psychological assumptions, research and theories of the roles, behaviors and potential of women in contemporary society. Cross-listed as Psychology 534 PREREQUISITES

**WS 534** 3 cr hrs  
S Hargrave

## Directed Readings

1-3 cr hrs Arranged

Designed for students who wish to pursue special readings or research projects not covered in regularly scheduled coursework. Instructor's consent required prior to enrollment.

**WS 570/870**  
staff

## Gender, Race & Knowledge

Sec 14446 4:30-6:45 M

Examines the impact of gender and race on knowledge (understanding of objects, people, events and activities). Assumes that gender, race and knowledge are socially constructed categories. Focuses on white masculinist beliefs that motivate and effect the practice of academic disciplines.

**WS 586** 3 cr hrs  
DA Gordon

## Leadership Techniques for Women

Sec 14455 2:00-4:40 W

Discusses group and individual theories and strategies of leadership for women. Cross-listed as Communications 635

**WS 635** 3 cr hrs  
CW Konek

## It's easy to register at WSU!

- by mail: write to the WSU Office of Admissions, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260-0124, (316) 978-3085
- on the WSU website: [www.wichita.edu](http://www.wichita.edu)
- in person at the WSU Admissions Office, 111 Jardine Hall
- in person at WSU Downtown, 127 N. Market; WSU Westside, 7011 W. Central; or WSU Southside, 4501 E. 47th St. South
- by phone: (316) 978-6500 — current students only

5 CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES



In the **Women and Dependencies** class, students read *Can't Buy My Love: How Advertising Changes The Way We Think and Feel* by Jean Kilbourne, an internationally recognized expert on the images of women in advertising. In her book, Kilbourne examines the dangerous side effects of advertising and how it creates a climate of denial that allows various kinds of addictions to flourish.

# The Materials of Women's History

by Gayle Davis

Women have often been encouraged to engage in various domestic arts such as sewing and decorative stitchery, personal writing such as family correspondence and diary-keeping, music and other creative forms that serve to enhance their own and their family's lives. Studies of these types of material culture, personal writings and performance produced in a family have been tremendous boons to the study of women's history. Thanks to Mary Werner, painting instructor in Art and Design at Wichita State, I have recently been introduced to an astounding, rich collection of just such family history materials.

Mary has told me that creativity just "bubbled out" of her grandmother, Ruby Enns Wiebe. There could be no more apt description. Ruby kept a conventional personal diary, and when she was a young girl, she used sketchbooks for drawings of her family's routine and special occasions.

As a married adult and mother of five children, she further expressed her creativity by making domestic decorations, embellishing her recipes with drawings, and in general approaching the everyday materials of her life with an eye toward beauty and creative imagination.

For her youngest child Lorna, Mary's mother, she kept a birthday book in which she wrote an entry on Lorna's birthday to recap the past year of Lorna's life. She didn't settle for mere description, though, choosing instead to write from Lorna's perspective and in her voice until Lorna was old enough to begin keeping the birthday book herself. The later entries included a current five-and-dime store photo machine portrait of Lorna, and frequently a swatch of fabric from the clothing she wore in the picture.

Ruby also made a notebook documenting garments she had made for Lorna, including a hand drawn sketch of each item of clothing and a piece of the cloth from which it



Each year, Ruby Enns Wiebe of Newton made a birthday book filled with photos, fabric scraps and illustrations for Lorna, her youngest daughter.

was made. She wrote where and on what occasion Lorna received the clothing, again, as though she were writing from her child's viewpoint.

As the children grew older, Ruby turned from her personal diary and Lorna's books to focus

her creative endeavors on the production of the *Wiebe Weeklies*, a home-produced weekly newspaper. She produced the *Weeklies* from the late 1930s to the mid 1970s for her family's enjoyment.

Complete with masthead, headlines and illustrations, Ruby combined traditions of newspapers, scrapbooks, and journals to give tangible form to the Wiebe family experiences. Each issue of *Wiebe Weeklies* is two to four pages long and written in 8.5x 11 spiral notebooks. The contents included articles she wrote about family activities, poems, illustrations clipped from magazines, swatches of fabrics

and sketches of her sewing projects as well as other items of family interest, all decoratively arranged and enhanced with Ruby's drawings or border designs.

The *Weeklies* now fill an entire chest of drawers in the Newton, Kansas, home of Alvera Wiebe Schmidt, Ruby's sister, who graciously opened her collection to me for an afternoon of intriguing reading. Taken together, the collection of notebooks reveals an intimate understanding of this close-knit family and the particular concerns and values of the woman who produced the *Weeklies*. More than conventional journals or scrapbooks can accomplish alone, Ruby's format integrates both narrative and material evidence, resulting in insights into the biographical facts as well as the emotional content of life's developments for the Wiebes.

It is this sort of untapped resource that can lend delight and fullness of meaning in the study of family's and women's history. I look forward to further exploration of these treasures.

# Plaza Heroine Histories Heard on Radio

During March, listeners of KMWU FM89, WSU's public radio station, were treated to excerpts from 20 histories of women honored in the Plaza of Heroines. Co-sponsored by KMWU and the Center for Women's Studies, the two-minute spots aired three times each weekday in recognition of National Women's History Month.



The written tributes were submitted by donors who honored the women in the Plaza. The radio spots documented the lives of 20 Kansas women who have excelled in business, health care, aviation, sports, literature, education, music, fine arts, politics, journalism and community service as well as playing vital roles in the lives of their families, friends and neighbors.

Heroine histories featured on KMWU during March were: Manira Farha Aboussie, Beth Alexander, Judy Bell, Camilla Cave, Kay Closson, Laura Cross,

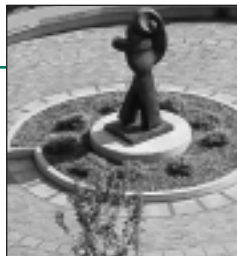
Ada Roberts (top), Carol Wolfe Konek and Maxine Walters are three of the 20 heroines whose histories were heard on KMWU during March.

Donna Dilsaver, Sylvia Hatfield, Carol Wolfe Konek, Nita Mark, Arneatha Martin, Valeria Martinez, Anna Jane Michener, Minnie Miller, Louise Porter, Ada Roberts, Myrne Roe, Mary Chance VanScyoc, Maxine Walters and Margalee Wright.

Reading excerpts from the histories were several members of the Women's Studies Advisory Board: Anna Anderson, Sarah Bagby, Martha Garcia, Ivonnie Goldstein, Bonnie Bing Honeyman, Jan Rathbun, Vicky Reiff, Janet Lloyd-Williams and Kris Wilshusen.

"Sharing these stories about heroines honored in the Plaza was a new and interesting way to highlight women's history," said Luanne Stephens, KMWU producer, who recorded and edited the spots.

"We appreciate KMWU's innovative efforts to highlight women's history," said Dorothy Miller, Women's Studies chair.



# “Sacred Space”: A Campus/Community Project

by Linda Cory, Women’s Studies major

I am working on “Sacred Space: A Collaborative Exhibition,” a project to promote understanding and tolerance. The world needs more so I’m doing my part in the research and assisting the departments involved in this incredible and imaginative endeavor. I’m excited to share the following information:

“Sacred Space” is a multimedia exhibition of works of art created by more than 50 students working together in collaboration. It is on exhibit at WSU’s Edwin A. Ulrich Museum of Art April 4 through August 6. Our goal is to promote cross-cultural, inter-faith dialogue and awareness of our endangered natural environment.

On the walls of the enclosed garden are painted portals (doorways) inspired by the religious architecture of eight world religions: the five major religions — Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and Hinduism — and three indigenous religions and cultures — Native Americans of arctic and sub-arctic North America, Tukanoans of the Amazon rainforest of South America and Ashanti of Ghana in western Africa.

The portals frame murals of endangered animals and habitats from around the world. In the center of the garden is a carpet painted to look like marble and mosaic flooring. The overall design is a labyrinth pattern that serves as a symbol of the journey from the everyday world to the world of spirit. Visitors are invited to walk the labyrinth path in “Sacred Space.”

Thousands of paper birds and animals hang from the ceiling, made according to the Japanese art of paper folding called origami. In Japan, there is a tradition of folding 1,000 paper cranes as a gift for someone in special need of healing. The cranes and other animals in “Sacred Space” are offered as a prayer for the healing of our endangered environment.

As part of the collaborative aspect of “Sacred Spaces,” seventh grade art students from Holy Cross Lutheran School are contributing the origami animals. Their art educator Jennifer Walterscheid is conducting origami workshops at WSU and at the Towne West field studio.

Northeast Magnet High



School students are collaborating on the labyrinth. Students in Norm Terry’s graphic design class at Northeast participated in an ornamental design competition, while Cheryl Lindstrom’s advanced painting class at the high school worked on the carpet.

The portal designs were submitted by students and alumni of the WSU Decorative and Ornamental Painting certificate program directed by Diane Thomas Lincoln. Faculty in the WSU School of Art and Design judged the 22 maquettes submitted from which eight were selected for exhibit. Teams of volunteers are helping the winning designers build the full scale portals. Students are also designing the garden walls and entryway.

The “Sacred Space” planning committee is made up of volunteers from the WSU Decorative Arts Guild. Co-directors of the “Sacred Space” exhibition are Diane Thomas Lincoln and Kathy Hull. Lincoln is

director and principal instructor of the Decorative and Ornamental Painting program at WSU, principal researcher for the Visual Arts Cultural Heritage Research Project and a widely respected artist, educator and activist. Hull is visual resources curator for the WSU Art History program, a labyrinth designer and a passionate inter-faith educator and activist.

Educational materials and guided tours will be available to help visitors of all ages appreciate the complex issues addressed by the exhibition. Interns are working with WSU Art History professor Annette LeZotte and Angie Miller, education coordinator at the Ulrich Museum, to create a program for educational opportunities for students who visit the exhibit.

To book tours of “Sacred Space,” contact Angie Miller at 978-3664 or via email at [angela.miller@wichita.edu](mailto:angela.miller@wichita.edu). For more information or to offer your support, please contact Diane Thomas Lincoln at [Dglincl1@aol.com](mailto:Dglincl1@aol.com), or Kathy Hull at [kathy.hull@wichita.edu](mailto:kathy.hull@wichita.edu).

For friends and family attending my graduation in May, “Sacred Space” will definitely be on my tour of the Wichita State campus.

Wichita’s public television station, KPTS Channel 8, will air *For Generations: The Making of a Plaza of Heroines at Wichita State University* in September. The hour-long video tells the story of the Plaza, from the original idea through the planning, construction and dedication ceremonies. Check KPTS’s Viewer’s Guide for the date and time for airing.

# “Parallel Lives” continued from page 1

and Companion” at the Wichita Center for the Arts and in “Vagina Monologues” at Wichita State. After earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in art history, Willis taught at WSU and several other Midwest universities. She is now development coordinator at KMUW FM89, the Wichita State public radio station.

Jean Ann Cusick claims that she has worked in every possible area of the theatre: performing, producing, directing, even ticket sales. A graduate from Wichita State University, she helped create the university’s pit theatre and directed during WSU’s first season of summer theatre. Cusick has performed at Wichita’s Crown Uptown Theatre, Wichita Center for the Arts, Naples, FL Dinner Theatre and Walt Disney World Theatre. Over the last 20 years, Cusick has taught drama at Mt. Carmel High School, Bethel College, Wichita Collegiate and at the Wichita Community Theatre. She has a long history with Commedia, and is working on a new show to be performed in June 2002.

“I have wanted to do “Parallel Lives” since the first time I saw it starring the writers, Mo Gaffney and Kathy Najimy,” Cusick said. “I’m looking forward to working once again with director Dick Welsbacher, and to performing for the first time with my good friend, Liz Willis.”

“It seems quite appropriate that “Parallel Lives” — written by two talented female comics — is being presented in Wichita as a benefit for the Words By Women Series,” said Willis. “We are hoping for a big turnout to support the series and to fill Wilner with howls of laughter.”

## Kathy Najimy Well Known for TV, Movie and Stage Roles

If you go to movies or watch TV, then you have seen Kathy Najimy, co-author of “Parallel Lives.”

Her film work includes *Sister Act*, *Hocus Pocus*, *Hope Floats*, *Soapdish* and *The Wedding Planner*. Her television roles include starring opposite Kirstie Alley in *Veronica’s Closet* and in *Chicago Hope* and *Ellen*. On the Broadway stage, Najimy played Mae West in “Dirty Blonde” and performed in the “Vagina Monologues” with Susan Sarandon, Glenn Close, Gloria Steinem and Whoopi Goldberg.



## Nominees Sought For Wing Walker Award

Next spring, the Center for Women's Studies will present the Wing Walker Award to a woman who has demonstrated a history of distinguished service to the Wichita community. This prestigious award, created by the Forum for Executive Women, has been presented to seven noteworthy women: Olive Ann Beech, Nancy Kassebaum, Kay Arvin, Dr. Donna Sweet, Sister Tarcisia Roth, Velma Wallace and Linda Weir-Enegren.

To expand the nomination process, a form has been included in this newsletter. Anyone is welcome to nominate a woman who meets the following award criteria:

- demonstrates an excellence in business, professional, volunteer and/or community service work over a period of at least 10 years;
- possesses a record of extraordinary accomplishments and influence at the local state, regional and/or national levels;

- serves as an outstanding role model for other women to emulate.

"In the past, the Wing Walker Award has honored some of Wichita's most exemplary women, and the Women's Studies Advisory Board plans to carry this tradition into the future," says board member Sheryl Wohlford who is co-chairing the planning committee with Jane Deterding. "We invite the community to thoughtfully nominate women who have made a difference in Wichita, and who have a history of distinguished and extraordinary service to the community."

The deadline for submissions is June 1. The enclosed form should be completed in its entirety.



Kay Arvin



Velma Wallace



Linda Weir-Enegren

## Mothers Find Their Place In the Plaza

The Plaza of Heroines at Wichita State University offers a truly special way to remember and celebrate the women you love and admire on Mother's Day, May 12. Consider giving an engraved tribute in the Plaza as a unique and lasting way to honor mothers, mother-in-laws, grandmothers or any women who is important to your life.

Brick, granite pavers and trees are still available for Plaza of Heroine tributes. An announcement to present to your personal heroine on Mother's Day can be prepared for all orders placed by May 1. Call 978-7161 to receive a brochure.

Wichita State does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Affirmative Action, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, Kansas, 67260-0145; telephone (316) 978-3371.



Wichita State University  
1845 N. Fairmount  
Wichita, KS 67260-0082

**Honor the special women in your life in the Plaza of Heroines at Wichita State University**



To contact the  
WSU Center for  
Women's Studies

tel: (316) 978-3358  
fax: (316) 978-3186  
email: [women.studies@wichita.edu](mailto:women.studies@wichita.edu)  
visit: <http://webs.wichita.edu/wmstudy>