



For Your Information

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

FALL 2006

Institute Activities

- September 12** Women and Music: Looking Back, 5:00 p.m. Looking Forward
Gamble Room Panel Discussion
361 Rush
Rhees
- September 19** SBAI Research Seminar
12:30 - Joan Saab, Art & Art History
2:00 p.m. "The Parental Public Sphere"
540 Lattimore
- September 26** Undergraduate Welcome Dinner
5:30 p.m. with SBAI Curriculum Director
540 Lattimore Professor Sharon Willis
- September 29** Graduate Student Lunch meeting
12:30 p.m. with SBAI Graduate Director
540 Lattimore Professor Sharon Willis
- October 10** Women and Music: Looking Back,
5:00 p.m. Looking Forward
Gamble Room Honey Meconi, Music
361 Rush "Girls in Trouble: Renaissance
Rhees Chansons as Emblems of Morality"
- October 20** SBAI Student and Faculty Associate
Research Grant applications due
- October 24** Women and Music: Looking Back,
5:00 p.m. Looking Forward
Gamble Room Celia Applegate, History
361 Rush "Women, Singing, and Amateurism in
Rhees the Early 19th Century"
- October 30** SBAI Research Seminar
12:30 - Ryan Prendergast, Modern Languages
2:00 p.m. & Cultures
540 Lattimore "Bodies and Politics in Early Modern
Spanish Theater"
- November 8** Janet Heidinger Kafka award
5:00 p.m. ceremony and reading
Hawkins- Jill Ciment, author of *The Tattoo Artist*
Carlson Room (Pantheon Books, 2005)
105 Rush Followed by reception and book
Rhees signing
Free and open to public
- November 9** Lunch meeting for students with
1:00 p.m. Jill Ciment
540 Lattimore
- November 10** Teaching Fellowship applications due

November 14 Women and Music: Looking Back,
5:00 p.m. Looking Forward
Gamble Room David Headlam, Music Theory,
361 Rush Eastman School of Music
Rhees "The Twelve-Tone Language of Ruth
Crawford Seeger"

November 28 Women and Music: Looking Back,
5:00 p.m. Looking Forward
Gamble Room Ellen Koskoff, Ethnomusicology,
361 Rush Eastman School of Music
Rhees "Ethnomusicology"

December 1 Graduate Certificate in Gender &
Women's Studies applications due

December 6 & 7 Submissions accepted for
Sage Art (en)GENDERED: identity, gender & art
Center Juried Exhibition of Undergraduate Art

December 20 Call for Paper deadline for Fourteenth
Annual Gender & Women's Studies
Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference

(continued on page two)

Message from the Director

Welcome to the 2006-07 Academic year. The SBAI is celebrating its 20th year and 20 years of successes with an impressive series of events. As part of the University of Rochester Humanities Project we have organized a special program on "Women and Music: Looking Back, Looking Forward." This program features lectures on women and music by College and Eastman faculty (Celia Applegate, History; David Headlam, Music Theory; Ellen Koskoff, Ethnomusicology; and Honey Meconi, Music) in the fall. The series will continue in the spring with visits by Judith Tick, a renowned scholar of women and music, and Hasu Patel, a famous female sitar player. It will culminate during the Women in Music Festival in March with visits by Margaret Atwood and Tania León. León has set several of Atwood's poems to music and, in addition to an evening discussion between the two, Atwood will participate in the Plutzik Reading Series and León will participate during performances of her work at the Women in Music Festival.

(continued on page three)

Director *continued from page one*

This incredible series of events would have never been possible without the financial support of numerous departments, programs, and both the University and College administrations. I would like to take time to thank President Seligman and the Committee of Department Chairs who supported the "Women and Music" proposal through a Humanities Project grant. In addition I want to express our gratitude to Deans Lennie, Olmsted, and Feldman for their financial and philosophical support. Finally, we extend our gratitude to all of the departments and programs who have made the Atwood and León events possible:

Anthropology, English, German Studies, Linguistics, Modern Languages & Cultures, Music, Philosophy, Film and Media Studies, Visual and Cultural Studies, College Dean's Office, Anthony Center for Women's Leadership, Eastman School of Music Humanities, Women in Music Festival Fund, and the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) College of Liberal Arts, RIT Department of Languages and Literature, RIT Institute Funds, and the RIT Women's Center.

Of course, our 20th year celebrations would not have materialized at all without the dedication and hard work of so many SBAI Associates. I would first like to thank the "2006 Planning Committee" which began planning in 2004: Rachel Ablow, Jonathan Baldo, Sylvie Beaudette, Janet Berlo, Joanne Bernardi, Nora Bredes, Douglas Crimp, Ayala Emmett, Frederick Harris, Karen Mustian, Terry Platt, Joan Saab, Claudia Schaefer, Marni Shindelman, Reinhild Steingröver-McRae, and Sharon Willis.

In addition, the "Music Planning Committee" deserves special appreciation for their work this summer and fall to bring the "Women and Music" program together so quickly and wonderfully: Celia Applegate, Sylvie Beaudette, Ellen Koskoff, and Honey Meconi.

Finally, my deepest thanks to Marilyn Lambert-Fisher and Marty Collier for the fantastic work they do for the SBAI and for all their help planning our celebration events!

Please join us this year in celebrating 20 years of the SBAI!

Susan Gustafson, Director SBAI

Tribute to Brenda Meehan



Sarah Higley, English

Presented "Geheimschrift: Hildegard of Bingen's
'Unknown Letters' in Comparison with Later Models" at
the Medieval Institute Conference

Jean Pedersen, Humanities, Eastman School of Music

Presented "'Bitter Aspects of Our Modern Economy':
Conflicted Representations of Working Women in the
Belle Epoque" at the Society for French Historical
Studies

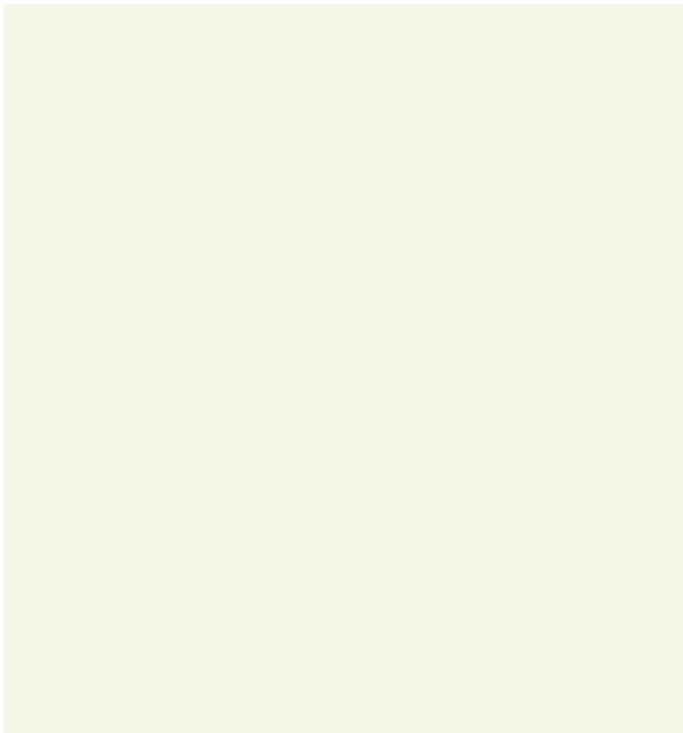
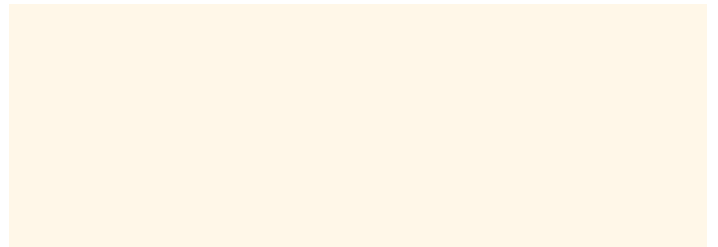
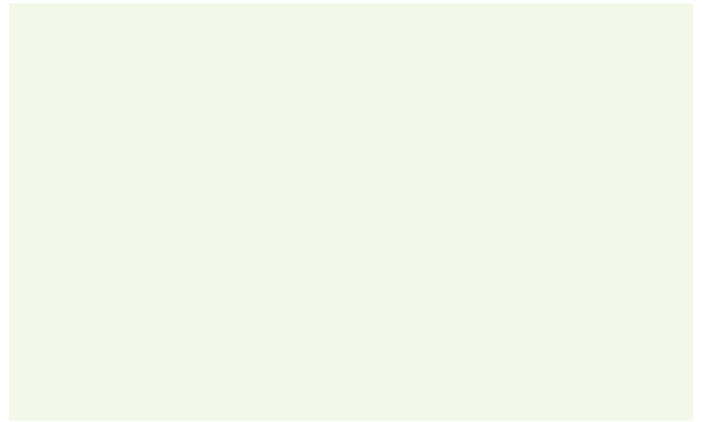
Joan Saab, Art & Art History

blowing. I learned not only about the issues I knew nothing of, but also of issues that I consider myself well informed.

I went to a Fat Politics workshop led by Marilyn Wann, writer of *Fat!So?*, and a woman I've admired for a long time. We have stayed in contact via email and it is really exciting for me to befriend someone whose book had a huge impact on my life.

I really liked keynote speaker Rebecca Walker's idea of openness because she suggested introducing groups, such as conservative women or very religious women, to feminism rather than ostracizing them. Also, she pointed out that the "successful" women who we hold up as role models are often striving for some masculine ideal and there should be a balance between masculinity and femininity. The whole experience helped me learn how important it is to let my guard down once in a while and truly listen to people without getting so defensive. It is so important for feminists to stick together!

In short, I learned so much from this conference and got many good ideas for the Undergraduate Council!
Thank you again for this amazing experience!
Lucia Spinelli '07



- WST 270: Art of the Floating World - D. Pollack
- WST 271 Sex & Gender: 18th Century Representation - S. Gustafson
- WST 273: Japanese Women Writers - J. Bernardi
- WST 296: International Human Rights - J. Pedersen
- WST 340 Writing Women's Lives - J. Berlo
- WST 348: Black Sexual Politics - J. McCune

Student News

Sarah Barkan '07 T5 reports: I was in Auckland NZ last semester and I was planning to go to Australia this semester, but I changed my plans and I am now studying at the University of Ghana in Legon, Ghana.

I am studying abroad as part of my Take Five Program which focuses on Indigenous Cultural Studies. In Auckland I focused on Maori and Pacific Studies and spent a lot of time learning about performing arts within Maori culture as well as some other Polynesian cultures.

During midsemester break all the IES students spent a week in Tonga. I spent Sunday at a feast celebrating a birthday for a little girl in a noble family. The Princess was in attendance, and the entire experience was mind-boggling. The guests from each area brought enough food to cover a row of tables, and in the end it seemed that less than a quarter of the food was eaten. In talking to people I found out that even those not attending a celebration will come together to prepare enough food to make a good presentation knowing that most of the food will come back to them. During a course at UR I briefly studied Tonga, and to be able to go and experience things like a traditional kava party (where as a woman I was allowed to serve kava, but not drink unless I was specifically invited to) was incredibly surreal.

This semester I am taking courses in traditional dance, drumming, traditional religion, and gender studies. I love Ghana, but many days are a struggle as I'm constantly being reminded that as a white person and a woman I am perceived as having a very specific place here, and it's certainly not the same place I see for myself. It's perfectly normal here for a man to come up to me and tell me that I have a nice shape, that he loves me, or that he wants to kiss me. It's difficult to make male friends because I have to figure out who actually wants to be friends and who wants to befriend me as a step towards getting a visa, or because they view white woman as hypersexualized as compared to Ghanaian women.

Raisa Dukas '07 reports: This summer, I interned in the European Parliament in Brussels for Piia-Noora Kauppi, Member of the European Parliament from Finland. Mrs. Kauppi is on several committees including the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee. My responsibilities consisted of administrative tasks, attending meetings on her behalf, drafting legislation, preliminary research, and writing press releases. I also was in Turkey for a week with the

Glocal Youth Parliament (GYP), an international youth parliament committed to solving global problems on a local level.

The GYP has six focus areas: youth political involvement, environmentalism, education/employment, multiculturalism, and peacebuilding. I serve as the Regional Coordinator for North America, which means that I am the liaison between the Glocal Forum (the GYP's parent organization) and all the GYP delegates from North America.

Julianne Nigro '09 participated on a Meliora weekend panel "The Stanton/Anthony Conversations: The Future of Feminism" with ABC News Correspondent Lynn Sherr and others.

Susan Storey '08 reports: This summer, I spent three months living in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness of Idaho. I was part of a volunteer trail crew that consisted of myself, a fellow volunteer, and a ranger. The three of us worked ten days at a time clearing trails throughout the wilderness. This consisted mostly of moving dead trees out of the trail with a cross cut saw or an axe, but also creating new treadwork, clearing brush, and maintaining water bars that allow water to run off the trail. We backpacked along the way and generally moved our camping location every night. I lived without phones, computers, or electricity. Also, I had the opportunity to not only learn about the wildlife in Idaho (the names of birds, trees, flowers, mountains, rivers, etc), but also to live within this wilderness and be able to experience it first hand. I saw wolves, bears, deer, elk, countless different bird species, many other animals and learned how live and be a visitor within their world and environment. It was both an intense and humbling experience that I will always remember.

(See Women's Caucus in Also of Interest on page 10)

GRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVITY

Fourteenth Annual Gender & Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference

December 20 Call for Papers deadline

March 23 Gender & Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference

Teaching Fellowships

The Curriculum Committee is pleased to announce a competition among currently enrolled graduate students at the University of Rochester for the Susan B. Anthony Teaching Fellowship in Fall 2007 and Spring 2008. We are calling for proposals to design and teach Women's Studies 100, Introduction to Women's

Studies, a 2-credit course.

This Teaching Fellowship will offer an award of \$2,500 for an individual graduate student. We hope that students will use their imagination in developing different approaches to the challenge of introducing women's studies and women's issues to undergraduate students. See web site for application requirements. Applications are due **November 10, 2006**.

SBAI Teaching Fellows

Fall 2006

Amy Fenstermaker, English
WST 100 Introduction to Women's Studies
"Who says we can't flow?: Exploring Gender Stereotypes in Rap"

Spring 2007

Hossein Khosrowjah, Visual and Cultural Studies
WST 100 Introduction to Women's Studies
"Women and Film Genres"

Graduate Certificate in Gender & Women's Studies

Students who are enrolled in a graduate degree (Masters or Ph.D.) program at the University of Rochester and non-matriculated students who complete four or more courses from at least two University of Rochester graduate programs are eligible to apply for the Graduate Certificate in Gender & Women's Studies. See requirements at:

www.rochester.edu/College/WST/grad/index.html

Applications are due **December 1, 2006 and March 30, 2007**

Graduate Advisor: Professor Sharon Willis, Modern Languages and Cultures (swls@mail.rochester.edu, 275-7894, 414 Lattimore Hall)

Institute Resources

SBAI resources available to graduate students include research grants, teaching fellowships, dissertation award, Graduate Certificate in Gender & Women's Studies, an opportunity to plan and/or present at the Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, dissertation and reading groups, research seminars, and receipt of this newsletter.

News About Graduate Students

Hossein Khosrowjah, Visual and Cultural Studies, passed his qualifying exams; was awarded SBAI's teaching fellowship to teach Introduction to Women's Studies: "Women and Film Genres" in Spring 07; was awarded George Eastman House's two-year fellowship to be an assistant film programmer at the Dryden Theater, September 06 to May 07; taught an anthropology course "Meaning in Everyday Life" at Eastman School of Music; presented a paper at SBAI's annual conference "Carried by the Wind: Exilic and Diasporic Autobiographies of Iranian Women;" attended Cornell University's School of Theory and Criticism's Summer

Seminar; and is teaching "Film Art" and "American Cinema" courses at SUNY Brockport in Fall 06.

April Miller, English, was awarded the Edward Peck Curtis Award for Teaching by a Graduate and received the Raymond N. Ball Dissertation Year Fellowship. She presented "Where Did All the Romance Go?: The Underside of the Underworld in Tod Browning's *The White Tiger*" at the PCA/ACA National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, and "Outside the City Limits and Beyond the Pale of the Law: Gutter Roses, Gun Molls, and Other Urban Offenders" at the Fourth International Women and the Silent Screen Conference. The latter presentation was sponsored, in part, by a SBAI research grant.

Lucia Sommer, Visual and Cultural Studies, finished her coursework last winter and is currently working on her dissertation prospectus. She edited *Critical Art Ensemble's Marching Plague: Germ Warfare and Global Public Health* (New York: Autonomedia, 2006) which was launched at Eyebeam Art and Technology Center, NYC, in May. Lucia also collaborated with Critical Art Ensemble on the performance and film *Marching Plague*, which received its American premiere at the Whitney Biennial 2006 in March, and was screened at the London Institute of Contemporary Art in July. Filmed on location in Stornoway, Scotland, the film centers on the art collective's recreation of secret sea trials conducted by the British government in the 1950s, and presents a critique of US-UK bioweapons research and the paranoia surrounding bioterrorism. In 2006 Lucia spoke as a representative of the CAE Legal Defense Committee at Eyebeam's "Evening of conversation concerning contemporary warfare: an anti-war event;" at the Newcastle AV Festival, UK; the Sanctuary for Independent Media, Troy; and the Mid-Atlantic Radical Bookfair, Baltimore

Lisa Uddin, Visual and Cultural Studies, is currently researching her dissertation, tentatively titled "Breeding Grounds: American Zoos and the Public Display of Endangered Species." Last fall she taught WST100: "Representing the Family in American Culture," gave a guest lecture on zoo history and aesthetics at York University in Toronto, and co-edited with Peter Hobbs issue no. 9 of *Invisible Culture* on the topic of nature loving. In the Spring, Lisa published her essay "A Gorilla Lover's Discourse" and a book review in the cultural theory journal *Parallax*, and passed her qualifying exam.

Mailing List

Graduate students who are on the Institute's mailing list receive information about opportunities and events. If you would like to be added to the list, send your coordinates to mslf@mail.rochester.edu.

ALUMNI UPDATE

The Alumni Section includes news from undergraduate alumni and those who were associated with the Institute as graduate students.

Rebecca Green '00 is Co-Editor-In-Chief of the *Hastings Women's Law Journal*, which is publishing its 18th volume this year. The bi-annual journal not only publishes cutting-edge legal scholarship; it also includes book reviews, essays on current events, poetry, short stories, and other non-traditional pieces that contribute to social justice. Submissions to the journal can be emailed to: womenslj@uchastings.edu. Find out more information about the journal at: <http://w3.uchastings.edu/wlj/index.html>. Green would love to see pieces from U of R professors and graduates!

Jodi Hirsh '97 is the Pennsylvania State Political Director of Progressive Majority (www.progressivemajority.org).

Joanna L. Mitchell '02, Ph.D., Comparative Literature, started a position as Assistant Professor of Spanish at Denison University in the fall of 2005. She was a member of a SBAI graduate student dissertation writing group, and a 2001 recipient of the Graduate Certificate in Gender and Women's Studies.

Anya Pavlov-Shapiro '03 is attending law school at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She attended the American Civil Liberties Union conference in Washington D.C. in October. Previously she did three years of data management for an international breast cancer study. Find out more information at: studyslj@uchastings.edu. Find out more information at: www.uchastings.edu. U Wa qE Tc Ot31.5 na Previ6.5 I hb014 Tc 0.686 Tw (Jodi Hirsh) 5rectol



críticos: ensayos sobre las políticas de arte y la identidad, was published this year by Akal in Madrid.

Susan E. Gustafson

Applications due November 6
Contact Priscilla Auchincloss (psa@pas.rochester.edu)

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