

Message from the  
Director  
*News, updates, and  
information from  
Director Honey Meconi*

Special Events  
*35th Annual Kafka  
Prize, Rainbow Lecture,  
and more*

25th Anniversary  
Retrospective  
*Leadership, programs,  
and other memories*

Research Grants  
*Faculty, graduate, and  
undergraduate awards*

Activity and Updates  
*News, research, and  
courses of interest*

Outside SBAI  
*Conference, fellowship,  
and scholarship outside  
of the institute*

March 8 - Destination TBA  
Women's History Month Field Trip, co-sponsored by the American Studies Program

March 22  
Graduate Certificate Applications Due

March 22 - 12:00pm - Lattimore 540  
*Focus on the Future* SBAI Research Seminar with Stephanie Li, Assistant Professor of English, "Raping Mother in Zora Neale Hurston's Seraph on the Suwannee."

March 22 - 24  
International Graduate Student Research Conference: "'Failure is Impossible': The Past, Present, and Future of Feminism"

March 23  
Susan B. Anthony Keynote Lecture by Nancy Cott, Director of the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Harvard University

March 26 - 30  
Women in Music Festival

April - Dates and Locations TBA  
LGBTQI Awareness Month Film Series

April 5  
Summer Research Grant Applications Due

April 10 - 12:00 p.m. - Lattimore 540  
*Focus on the Future* SBAI Research Seminar with Ed Brockenbrough, Assistant Professor of Education, on educational experiences of LGBT youth of color at an HIV/AIDS prevention agency

April 11  
Dissertation Award Applications Due

April 12 - 5:00pm - Welles-Brown Room  
First Annual Rainbow Lecture by William Eskridge, Jr., Yale University

April 20  
Undergraduate Research Conference

May 3 - 12:00pm - Interfaith Chapel  
Spring Associates & Affiliates Retreat

May 9 - 12:00pm - Lattimore 540  
*Failure is Impossible Mentoring Series* Publishing Luncheon for Junior Faculty

May 20 Commencement

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we open this year marking our 25th anniversary, we face a great loss: Nora Bredes, director of the Anthony Center for Women's Leadership, passed away on August 18. Almost everyone connected with SBAI knew Nora, an unflagging champion of all women and a peerless role model. Our lives are richer for having known her; she truly made a difference, and she has left her own legacy that we will work to uphold.



I know that Nora was excited about our plans for this coming year, and they are rich indeed, as you will see in this newsletter. Many of you have already seen the exhibit marking our history in Rush Rhees Library, and on September 8 we will formally kick off our year of celebration with a fascinating lecture by University Vice President Paul Burgett on "The Story of Women at the University and Susan B. Anthony's Legacy."

Meliora Weekend will include a luncheon for our alumnae (whether majors, minors, or clusterers - all are welcome!), and we urge you to come join us and share your memories and hopes for the future. Our Faculty Research Seminars this year, in fact, are called "Focus on the Future," as they will feature the scholarship of our gifted junior faculty. Again looking forward, we're starting a new annual lecture that will explore LGBTQI issues; this "Rainbow Lecture" will first take place next April as part of the University's "LGBTQI Awareness Month" that Program Manager Angela Clark-Taylor initiated last year. And our graduate conference has now grown to encompass international participation; this year's theme, in honor of our anniversary, is "The Mother of Us All: Feminism's Past, Present, and Future." These are

just a few of our public events planned for 2011-2012.

We've also created the SBAI "Failure is Impossible" Mentoring Series for graduate students, untenured faculty, and women in STEM fields. Last year Professors Elissa Newport (Brain and Cognitive Science), Janet Berlo (Art and Art History and former Susan B. Anthony Professor), and Celia Applegate (History) generously shared their time and experience with younger scholars. Four luncheons are scheduled this year to discuss grant-writing, publishing, and work/life balance issues. Also up ahead: a beautiful new website by professional graphic designer Michel Godts. Be on the lookout for the changing photo gallery that will anchor our home page!

Finally, we've had changes in the office. Renée Heininger has moved to the English department; they are lucky to have her, and we wish her all success as her career moves forward. But we continue our unbroken streak of attracting superlative individuals to join us. Kaitlin Legg has taken over as SBAI Program Assistant, bringing both academic training in Gender Studies and professional experience in the non-profit world. As I begin my second term as Director, I would like to thank her, Angela, and the many students, faculty, and staff across the University who work together to keep SBAI active and vital.

Best wishes to all for an exciting commemorative year!

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Fall Office Hours: Mondays 12:00pm to 1:45 pm and by appointment at Lattimore 538





## Women's History Month Field Trip

## SBAI Celebrates LGBTQI Awareness Month

The University celebrated its first Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, and Intersex (LGBTQI) Awareness Month last April. Teaching Fellow Kathleen Casey's Keynote Lecture at our annual Undergraduate Research Conference, titled "She Is What She Ain't: Lillyn Brown and the Meaning of Black Male Impersonation," fit perfectly with the month's theme.

We co-sponsored a month-long film series, *Out In Reel*, with the Pride Network, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Allies Special Interest Group at the Warner School of Education, and the Film and Media Studies Program.

## SBAI 25th ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE

### SBAI Directors

The Women's Studies Program at the University officially opened in 1982, and the Institute, originally named the Susan B. Anthony Center for Women's Studies, was created in July 1986 to support the program. Since that summer we have had 11 different faculty members as directors and acting directors.

1986-1987 Barbara Ilardi (Sociology/Clinical and Social Psychology)

Fall 1987 Bonnie Smith (History), Acting Director

Spring 1988 Barbara Ilardi (Sociology/Clinical and Social Psychology)

1988-1990 Bonnie Smith (History)

1990-1991 Bette London (English)

1991-1993 Sharon Willis (Modern Languages and Cultures)

1993-Fall 1994 Celia Applegate (History)

Spring 1995-Spring 1996 Janet Wolff (Art and Art History), Acting Director

1996-2000 Rosemary Kegl (English)

2000-2002 Lisa Cartwright (English)

2002-2003 Susan Gustafson (Modern Languages and Cultures), Acting Director

2003-2007 Susan Gustafson (Modern Languages and Cultures)

2007-2008 Honey Meconi (Music)

Jeffrey Runner (Linguistics), Acting Director

2009-present Honey Meconi (Music)

### Susan B. Anthony Professors

The Susan B. Anthony Professor of Gender and Women's Studies position was established to foster leadership, teaching, and research in Gender and Women's Studies. The following women have held this position.

1987-1991 Mieke Bal (Art and Art History/Visual and Cultural Studies)

Fall 1994 Shirley Chisholm (Public Service)

Fall 1997-Spring 2002 Janet Berlo (Art and Art History/Visual and Cultural Studies)

Fall 2002-Spring 2007 Signithia Fordham (Anthropology)

Fall 2007-2014 Honey Meconi (Music)

The Susan B. Anthony Rockefeller Fellowship  
In 1991 the Institute was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation Grant, which allowed us to host a visiting scholar in residence whose research and work was centralized on the intersection of race, gender and visual culture.

Artist Valerie Maynard was the resident fellow from

SBAI has begun the process of expanding the program to reach other communities. For more information, please visit <http://www.rochester.edu/college/wst/undergrad/sisterhood.html>

#### Two Icons Lecture

Beginning in 2009, SBAI and the Frederick Douglass Institute for African and African-American Studies have co-sponsored this annual lecture which features scholarship on the intersection of race and gender. The lecture honors two icons closely connected to Rochester and the namesakes of our Institutes: Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony. The annual lecture highlights the interdisciplinary nature of the two programs and fosters the exploration of race and gender.

#### Safe Space/Safe Zone

SBAI is proud to be a Safe Space of long standing on the campus. The Dilass atoci The Iro3iuofmyManageci The I andro3iuofmy sisants haveallo beon rainted andaureuradyd toansweci disus(scons bouts Lsbiaon,Gay) 72,y

University of York conference "A Carnival of Feminist Cultural Activism," held March 3-5 in York, UK. Speaking on the "Activist Art" panel, Bailey's argued that "staged drama has profound, untapped potential to subvert patriarchal norms by articulating a new narrative of gender egalitarianism and

masculine violence, and the cultural significance of gendered masquerade embedded in this ironic nature of the heroine."

Lina Zigelyte, Art and Art History

Traveled to Madrid, Spain, to present her work "The Im/possibilities of Legibility: Mapping Queer Narratives of Vilnius" at the LGBT/Queer Studies: "Toward Trans/national Scholarly and Activist Kinships" International Conference. Zigelyte's "socially engaged art project 'Queer Map of Vilnius' uses interactive media and interviews with LGBTQ community of Lithuania's capital Vilnius in order to show what it means to live queer lives in a society where gender and sexuality are still by and large regarded in conservative norms and binaries." Zigelyte aims to "broaden the knowledge about issues pertaining to gender and sexuality in Central and Eastern Europe."

## Undergraduate Students

Jennifer Bratovich, Studio Art

Bratovich's award is for costs related to her Senior Thesis project "Clumsy/Necessary." In the series, which was a Juror's Choice Winner at the 2011 SBAI (en)Gendered Art Show, the artist photographs herself "in the arguably awkward, self-conscious process of putting on or taking off articles of clothing. Garments obscure my face and body, and thus my woman's figure is more or less transformed into a grotesque anthropomorphic form. My central interest lies in the way that both looking and (to quote Mulvey) 'to-be-looked-at-ness' function in this precarious, liminal space. In prolonging these quick and pedestrian transitional moments, I strive to investigate how the gaze is disrupted."

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVITY

### Undergraduate Council

Bimonthly meetings start Friday, September 9. The Gender and Women's Studies Undergraduate Council provides a place for majors, minors, clusters, or anyone interested in Gender and Women's Studies to meet each other, plan related events around campus, and work closely with the faculty. The Council meets bimonthly on Fridays from 2:00pm to 3:00pm in the Starbucks on campus. All are welcome! If you would like to take part in the Undergraduate Council simply come or email [sbai@rochester.edu](mailto:sbai@rochester.edu).

### Vox

Bimonthly meetings starting Wednesday, September 14. Vox is a group of students who organize events that raise awareness and educate others about reproductive health and rights while working in

collaboration with local Planned Parenthood health centers and mobilizing advocates for reproductive rights. The club, a committee of the Women's Caucus, will meet bimonthly on Wednesdays at 7pm in Lattimore 540. If you want to be a part of VOX, stop by a meeting or email [sbai@rochester.edu](mailto:sbai@rochester.edu).

### Undergraduate Student Update

Kirsten Williamson, College of Arts and Sciences, recently went to Nome, AK on a trip for her internship with the Rasmuson Foundation, a local philanthropic non-profit agency dedicated to helping Alaskans. The group focuses on promoting Arts and Culture and improving healthcare. In Nome Williamson visited many institutions, including the new hospital, a radio station, the museum, and the library to promote the goals of the agency.

### Recent Women's Studies Graduate Named As Youth Year Fellow

Andrea Polanski, who graduated with a Women's Studies minor in May, has been chosen as a Youth Year Fellow for the 2011-2012 academic year. The Rochester Youth Year program places recent college graduates from seven regional colleges in community-based organizations to address and alleviate some of the challenges that youth and families in Rochester face



Course Description: This course introduces students to the key concepts in the field of Gender and Women's Studies by considering the roles of race, class, and gender identity on American women's status and experiences in the nineteenth century. The class will explore America's dominant social and cultural norms and the ways women have operated both within and outside of these norms to participate in public life, often creating new ways of exercising control over their own lives and the lives of those around them.

WST 200: Colloquium in Women's Studies

Professor Honey Meconi will teach this course, offered once every academic year.

Course Description: The colloquium explores the diversity of feminist thought and practice in its importance in forming the intellectual grounding in Women's Studies, in its impact on a variety of disciplines, and in its articulation with lives and social practices. The course considers several major systems of feminist thought as well as the experiences of women and

Harvard University. Expect more announcements as planning and programming continues. Please contact Julianne Heck at juliannem4@yahoo.com if you would like to get involved.

## [Graduate Certificate in Gender and Women's Studies - May 2011 Recipients](#)

Catherine Bailey, English  
BJ Douglass, Warner School of Education  
Lauron Kehrer, Eastman School of Music

## GRADUATE STUDENT UPDATE

John Harvard, English, continues his dissertation work, parts of which he has presented in various local venues, as well as at the April 2011 meeting of MELUS in Boca Raton, FL. He also thoroughly enjoyed teaching WST 100 through SBAI this past spring. He is currently looking forward to teaching in the English Department this fall under the auspices of the Dean's Teaching Fellowship, as well as continuing his work teaching and serving as Placement Coordinator in the College Writing Program.

Michelle Finn, History, presented papers at two major academic conferences with funding from SBAI, GOG, and the Department of History. At the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians in Houston, TX, last March, she organized a panel on "American Feminism After Suffrage." In June, she participated in the workshop "Performing Race and Gender on the Body" at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, held at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Finn also attended the annual meeting of the American Historical Association last January in Boston, where she enjoyed a spontaneous lunchtime chat with esteemed feminist historian Joan Wallach Scott. In addition to writing her dissertation, Finn is working for the Eastman Writing Center and looks forward to teaching WST 100, Introduction to Women's Studies, "Sex and Power in Nineteenth-Century America," in the spring.

Genevieve Waller, Visual and Cultural Studies, created artwork for two solo exhibitions. "Targets and Monstrances" was held at the Edward G. Miner Library Gallery at the University of Rochester and "Miss Havisham's Charming Gloom" in the Mercer Gallery Window Project Space in downtown Rochester. She also made work for two group exhibitions, "The Art of Adornment" at the Wichita Art Museum and "She" at the Steckline Gallery at Newman University, both in Wichita, Kansas. Waller also presented a paper entitled "Disco, Camp, Female Singers, and Gay Men" at Making Sense, the 2011 Visual and Cultural Studies Graduate Conference. She was awarded an artist's residency for summer 2011 at Soaring Gardens in Pennsylvania, and was appointed the Graduate Director of the Hartnett Gallery at the University of Rochester for May 2011 to May 2012.

International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education, should be available online soon. These articles are based on Brockenbrough's research on "how black male teachers negotiate their identities and pedagogies in urban, predominantly black classrooms where they are often positioned as more than just teachers, but also as surrogate father figures and role models for black students."

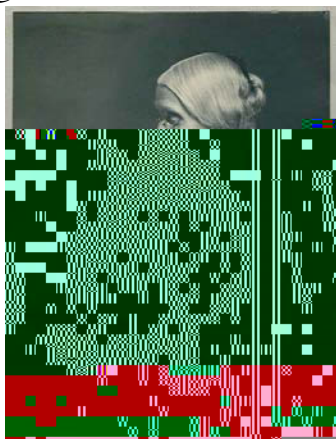
25th ANNIVERSARY LIBRARY EVENT

Where were you when...?

Explore images and artifacts from the Susan B. Anthony Institute at the Rush Rhees Library Anniversary Exhibit, and maybe you'll rekindle some memories of your own! The exhibit runs through December 2011. Let's celebrate the past and envision the future.



*Don't forget to visit the SBA I Blog at*



*<http://blogs.rochester.edu/SBA I>*

**(en)Gendered Art Exhibit**

**CALL FOR UNDERGRAD ART**

**Submission Deadline: Dec 12, 2011**

**The Mother of Us All: Feminism!s Past, Present, and Future**

A call for art will be announced in early November for our annual juried art show.

More information will be posted on SBAI's online events page. Contact the office at [sbai@rochester.edu](mailto:sbai@rochester.edu) or 275-8318 with questions.

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