

Reflecting with Gratitude and Pride

By: Kimmie Garner, WMST Program Assistant

When I arrived at Colgate in August 2011, I couldn't have even begun to imagine the dynamic, challenging, and inspiring discussions and activism that would take place in and expand beyond the Center for Women's Studies. I would like to take my final submission to the Newsletter to reflect on the Center's growth and express immense gratitude for the support I have received that makes the work we do so rich, intersectional, and powerful.

Over the past two years, average attendance at Tuesday Brown Bags has risen from an average of 74 attendees in Fall 2011 to 105 participants in Spring 2013. The Center now offers a feminist film series and hosts a biweekly In the News discussion group. Thanks to generous support from University Studies and the passionate, dedicated staff of the Habitat for Humanity Capital District Office in Troy, Meika and I co-led the Center's first gender-focused alternative spring break experience this semester. Five students of various class years participated in an intensive week of service-learning, visiting Planned Parenthood in Schenectady, serving breakfast at Unity House in Troy, and installing insulation and sheetrock in row houses currently being constructed in Troy.

I would like to thank Meika, Letta, Mary, current and former interns, our campus partners in ALANA, ALST, Athletics, the COVE, the Counseling Center, Dean of the College, EDUC, LGBTQ Initiatives, NCBI, the Network, OUS, Printing Services, Sustainability, the Shaw Wellness Institute, the Upstate Institute, and UNST for providing me with the support to be so innovative and creative in this position. The growth we've experienced has been made possible by your steady guidance and you've truly allowed me to implement programming that puts feminist theory into practice. Thank you for surrounding me with such a dynamic community to make this an incredible first job!

After working for the Upstate Institute this summer, I will head to Missoula, Montana with my partner to begin my Master's in Social Work program at the University of Montana. I will carry the spirit of feminist education and community-building I have absorbed from phenomenal students, staff, faculty, and community members like you with me there and always!

Director:

Program Assistant:

Administrative Assistant:

Interns: Natalie George '13

Kelsey Gibb '13

Che Hatter '13

Christina Liu '13

Xavia Publius '13



In her Brown Bag on Tuesday, January 29th, Lisa Campo-Engelstein, Ph.D., discussed the reasons for why we need a male pill. She broke her talk up into 3 main points:

- 1) Women bear the burden of contraception in terms of finance and side effects. They are involved in almost



Faculty Spotlight: Professor Susan Thomson

Why do you identify as a feminist?

I have not always historically identified as a feminist, but since coming to the United States, issues of feminism have become more salient. There are so many rights in the U.S that women haven't yet gained so I think I've become more politicized since coming to the U.S. But I do identify as a feminist because I believe in the bundle of social justice rights that all gender expressions, all races, all creeds are equal. I really dislike the system in the United States and I find the sharp divisions in society so remarkable.