



WOMEN'S CENTER

What's A Women's Center Anyway?

Jeannie Harvey

Greetings. To our loyal supporters who've wondered where their Women's Center newsletters were - thanks for waiting! To new readers - welcome aboard.

When I started two months ago, I began by asking questions such as: what is the U of I Women's Center; what services have worked well and which ones can we improve; what else can we do to meet the needs of UI students? And, I am still asking.

During the spring semester I plan to continue my queries. You may receive a survey from us. Or, you may be asked to participate in a focus group or other meeting to help us plan for the future.

Looking at web pages of women's centers around the country shows me the Women's Center at the University of Idaho is offering many of the same types of programs and services. For example, most Women's Centers provide a lounge space where students can meet, study, read, etc. They offer luncheon programs with an educational focus. In addition, nearly all the Women's Centers offer programs regarding sexual assault, violence prevention, and other safety and health issues especially pertinent to students.

One area of programming offered by a number of women's centers I am interested in exploring is supporting research efforts on campus. Presently, we offer scholarships for students; but what if we were able to offer assistance for graduate research, ideas for projects and funding on gender issues or other women's issues? What if we offered lunch programs for discussion of theoretical research topics related to gender, women's issues, or other topics? What if we could assist departments by supporting

international women students in conjunction with the International Programs Office, and the International Women's Group? What if the Women's Center newsletter reported on research being conducted by faculty and students, either research related to gender questions or research conducted by women?

I am certain each of you has an idea or two about how the Women's Center can meet the needs of students, faculty and staff. I welcome your input and thoughts. Please don't hesitate to call or email me [jharvey@uidaho.edu].

When I began, I immediately noticed that our staffing structure would not allow me time to focus on goal setting, grant writing and visioning for the center. After reading up on past Women's Center reports, recommendations, and staffing patterns, I discovered additional staff had previously been assigned to the Women's Center. With the support of Student Affairs and Dr. Bruce Pitman, we are very pleased to report that the Women's Center will restructure its current staffing.

• Jill Anderson who has been the Women's Center's "office manager" for the past four years, will now serve as our Education Program Adviser. She will plan noon programs and assist with production of the newsletter.

• We are pleased that Valerie Russo will continue to lead us in the area of Sexual Assault programming and crisis services.

• We will hire a new Office Specialist to help with clerical tasks.

With these staff changes, I plan to spend my time talking with you, other students, staff, and faculty to assess our current services and how to improve them.

I hope to develop partnerships with U of I colleges and departments where Women's Center programming

can help meet strategic plan targets, especially in the areas of recruiting and retaining female students and faculty. These are only a few possibilities.

And, on a liberating note, we'll be celebrating the opening of the Commons not by a move, but with an open house when the fences come down. Then, you'll actually be able to find us. Look for that date sometime in January. Until then, have a safe and happy holiday season.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAMS, PLANS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Valerie Russo, Women's Resource Specialist for Sexual Assault Prevention Education and Crisis Services

I can hardly believe we are coming to the end of the semester. We have been pleasantly busy getting to know our new Director, Jeannie Harvey. We are excited about our plans for next semester and beyond. I have had some time to look at the sexual assault programming that we have been doing and I would like to highlight some of our accomplishments and the kind of programs we are planning to continue.

Last year we sponsored eating disorders awareness week. There is interest on campus for additional programming in this area. I serve as coordinator for the Seattle Eating Disorders Awareness & Prevention Group and have many handouts, brochures, and program materials on the subject. Again this year we will highlight that week with special programming called

A Week for Every Body.

(Continued. See: Programs and Plans, page 3)

After internal deliberations, a column idea to replace the Anti Pasto recipe column was born. "Ask Alex" is a column where we will try to answer reader questions about all types of issues specific to women. Send us your question and we'll do our best to answer it. We anticipate calling on local experts on campus to help us out.

Ask Alex

Dear Alex:

How do I reply to my best friend who wants to know what to do about her boyfriend and their relationship. As far as how he treats her, should she stay. This is hard for me since I do not feel like I am an expert in relationships. Help...

Frustrated Friend

Dear Frustrated:

It is hard when we are asked to give advice. My best advice is not to advise your friend, but to be there for her. Listen and offer support and information for your friend. Sometimes that is all she wants—a good ear and not someone to tell her what to do.

But...if you feel your friend may need additional help, there are places on campus and in our community she can go. The Student Counseling Center (885-6716) provides a variety of counseling services for students who wish to discuss personal concerns. Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse (883-4357) offers crisis services if your friend is afraid of her boyfriend. At the Women's Center you can talk to someone about relationship issues, and get more information on the subject. It is hard to "just listen" sometimes, but listening is a real empowering process that we can all do more of. Good Luck!
Until next time...

Alex

MONEY AND OTHER MATTERS AT THE WOMEN'S CENTER

Jill Anderson, Education Program Advisor

The Women's Center Gifts fund was established to support Women's Center programming efforts, targeting issues relevant to women through guest speakers, concerts, luncheons, and other educational programs. Throughout the years we have shamelessly accepted donations from our friends and supporters. Along with the generous support and assistance from the Office of the Dean of Students, we will continue to bring quality programs and events to the University of Idaho campus and community.

The Burlison Memorial Special Events fund was established by John Burlison as a tribute to his late father, Vern, a devoted Christian concerned with issues of peace and justice in all aspects of his life. John challenges the Women's Center to match, with private donations, his contribution of \$1,200 for special programs and events that could not or should not be funded by regular university money. The spirit of the Burlison fund is that these programs and events should serve to empower otherwise underrepresented communities, such as ethnic, sexual identity or religious minorities. The selected programs might present unpopular or controversial ideas, reaching out to college students and the university community, to promote diverse educational programs.

There are currently two scholarships offered through the Women's Center for single parents and children of single parents. The Shirley Grossman Caldwell Scholarship is

available for undergraduate or graduate single parents, demonstrating academic potential and financial need, who are the primary caretakers of their children. The Agnes Eikum Chase Memorial Scholarship is earmarked for a full-time undergraduate single parent, or child of a single parent, with demonstrated academic merit. There are a total of four awards given, each with the approximate value of \$1,000 per academic year. Applications for academic year 2000 will be available and the deadline for submitting applications will be announced early spring semester.

If you'd like to contribute to any of our funds or scholarship programs, you may do so by sending your check (designating the appropriate fund) to the University of Idaho Foundation, Moscow, Idaho 83844-2301.



I anticipate a great year working with our new director, Jeannie Harvey, and taking on the responsibility of Education Program Advisor. I eagerly solicit your ideas and suggestions for noon programs. If there is a special topic you want to know more about, just let me know. I will try to find someone well-informed and willing to share with the rest of us. Or, if you know someone who'd be a great speaker for the center, send me their name and number. Please e-mail me at jilla@uidaho.edu or call here at the office (208-885-6616). Be sure to check our web site for upcoming events [www.uidaho.edu/~wcenter]

A Great Big Women's Center Thanks to Bruce Pitman and the Dean of Students Office!!!

You'll be noticing a new look to the Newsletter starting with our Millinum edition. We are upgrading all of our software and replacing the computer in the lounge for our work study students. The latter will enable our student staff to assist visitors in finding library materials. A new scanner and color printer will enable us to add pictures and photographs to our newsletter and flyers. We are also inheriting a copy machine from the Dean of Students office. We are grateful for their support.

Last spring we brought a national speaker/comedian to campus whose program focused on difficult, and sometimes humorous, aspects of masculinity. It was very well received. We plan to continue bringing national speakers to address issues of sexual assault awareness. During April we consponsored sexual assault awareness month with activities that we will offer next year including the *Model Mugging workshop*, the *Clothesline Project*, and a play written by Val Russo called "*Why Not, I Bought You Dinner.*" We are looking at other proactive approaches to reduce incidences of sexual assault on campus. In one collaborative effort, I serve as a member of the Latah County Task force, with the goal of developing and implementing a sexual assault protocol for the county.

In addition, I will continue to offer crisis counseling and referrals to students. Any student seeking information or needing assistance can give me a call at 885-6616. Next semester we will be busy with the Health and Safety 311 *Acquaintance Rape Class*. Call me if you have any questions about the class.

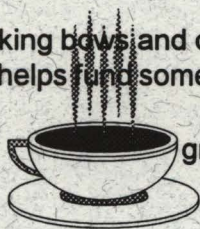
Work Study Words of Wisdom

VIRGINIA KLEIN

The Women's Center is a place for gathering, studying, sleeping, listening to music and enjoying our 1500 book library. It is a great place to find information on any topic ranging from women in history to gardening, health issues, and just plain good books to read. There is always coffee, tea, and hot chocolate and a micro wave to heat up our food.

This month I was busy making bows and decorating holiday wreaths for a craft fair we sponsored in the Vandal Lounge. The sale of wreaths helps fund some of the programs for next semester. We still have a few left here at the Women's Center.

The Women's Center programs are informational; but also fun. The Women's Center is not only for women, men are quite welcome. This is a place where anybody can come by and study or just socialize. So stop on by and have a cup of something with us.



We'll hear from the Women's Center's other Work Study, Kristina Ruiz next time.

Association for Women in Development (AWID), 8th International Forum

Jeannie Harvey

Nearly 1,100 participants from all over the world attended and shared ideas, experiences, and skills to help women and men around the world ensure equality for all people in the next millennium. Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Director of the United Nations Fund For Women (UNIFEM) based in Singapore, spoke of the world's 1.3 billion poor women and wondered who was managing or acting on their behalf in finance, trade and investment discussions. Dr. Heyzer expressed concern about globalization of the criminal network and mafia that had led to increased trafficking of women and children in the sex trade. If women aren't part of creating a vision for the future, they won't be part of shaping the solutions. Dr. Heyzer said we need to strengthen accountability of governments to women and the poor, that checks and balances must include right of children, women and the poor. She ended by saying we need to build partnerships and bridges to include all underrepresented groups in the dialogue to humanize the global economy.

Also a keynote speaker, Marilyn Waring has a Ph.D. in political economy, is a former member of the New Zealand Parliament, associate professor of social policy and social work at Massey University, and a farmer. She is author of *If Women Counted* and *The Three Masquerades: Equality, Work and Human Rights*. Professor Waring discussed how international civil and political covenant are being violated regarding the rights of women and children.

Other workshops I attended included *The Gender Audit: A Process for Organizational Self-Assessment and Action Planning*, *Tackling the Problem of Power in Feminist Praxis*, US Congress Site Visit Orientation and Training, *How Women Scientists are Transforming Development*, and *Funder's Perspectives on the Global Womens Movement*. Each panel included women from different countries and small group work allowed me to get to know women and men representing non-governmental, governmental and educational institutions from around the world.

The goal of the forum was to address justice and equality issues among an international group, "articulating new development paradigms, reversing inequality, building skills, and bringing more voices to the debate," according to Aruna Rai, AWID President. With my background in international work, this conference was an exciting opportunity to assess if the University of Idaho Women's Center can be part of the dialogue toward achieving equality for women throughout the world. I returned to Moscow with a new network and lots of ideas.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND BROWN-BAG LUNCH PROGRAMS WOMEN'S CENTER

Free! Public Welcome 12:30 p.m. Women's Center Lounge Aug - Dec 1999 885-6616

Dec 8 **WEDNESDAY** **SHED A LITTLE LIGHT ON THOSE WINTER BLUES.** Circadian rhythms are associated with the 24-hour cycles of the earth's rotation. The movement from day to night provokes physiological responses, negligible for some, notable for others. *Jeanne Leffingwell* will examine the effects of light on our health, moods, and behavior as we approach the onset of winter. Back by popular demand! 12:30: WOMEN'S CENTER LOUNGE

January **WOMEN'S CENTER OPEN HOUSE.** We'll let you know when the construction fences are coming down--then we'll celebrate! Meet Jeannie Harvey and join the Women's Center staff for punch, cookies and conversation about the Women's Center.

Jan 17 **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY/HUMAN RIGHTS DAY UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO** and **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**
Jan 24 **CELEBRATION.** On January 17 we honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for his work and dedication to civil rights for all citizens. On Monday, January 24, UI students, staff and faculty offer programs and activities in honor of Dr. King. We'll send you more information.

Jan 19 **AN AMERICAN WOMAN IN CHINA.** Join *Mary Furnari*, UI Coordinator for International Students and Scholars for a look at her most recent trip to China. Ms. Furnari lived in China during the 1980's and then again last year. 12:30: Women's Center Lounge

Late **DR. ALAN D. BERKOWITZ ON SOCIAL NORMING PROJECT.** In a collaborative effort with Washington State University, the UI Women's Center will host Dr. Berkowitz for a one-day seminar for faculty, staff and students. We are thrilled to host a session, tailored to our needs, by this national scholar. For more information please call the Women's Center. We'll be sending detailed information in early January.

Jan 26 **HERBAL REMEDIES AND WOMEN'S SELF CARE.** *Sharon Sullivan* grows and markets her own herbal blends locally. Learn some alternative remedies to enhance your natural well-being. 12:30: Women's Center Lounge

Jan 31 **DIVERSITY CINEMA. SUB BORAH THEATER, 7:00 PM.**

February **LOVE YOUR HEART MONTH,** Get your cholesterol tested for a low fee at the Student Health Center. Watch for other activities.

February **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** Look for details involved, call *Dona Walker*, Director of upcoming activities. If you'd like to get information to enhance awareness of Multi-Cultural Affairs at 885-7716.

Feb 12-19 **EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK.** We will provide programs and information to enhance awareness of eating disorders. Look for details of upcoming programs.

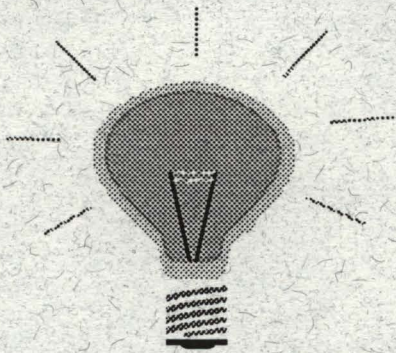
Late **SOCIAL MARKETING THEORIES** *Dr. Charee Boulter* will present a seminar on social norms theories. They will address sexual assault prevention and the influence of these theories in the health promotion industry. **WORKSHOP.** *Dr. Jeanne Farr* and present a seminar on social address sexual assault prevention and the influence of these theories in the health promotion industry. *Date, time, and place TBA.*

Feb 28 **DIVERSITY CINEMA.**
Wednesday **SUB Borah theater, 7:00 pm.**

From all of us at the Women's Center, our 5th annual WomensWorks CraftFair. quality programs to campus. We still have holiday wreaths left. a look.

thank you to our many friends who helped with Your support helps us bring speakers and If you haven't seen one, stop on by and take They are really nice!

Fight those seasonal blues



Jeanne Leffingwell

The Effects of Light on our Health, Moods, and Behavior

Short days and reduced sunlight of winter trigger a change in the brain chemistry among many people. The change may set off a vicious cycle of depression now formally recognized in medical literature as Seasonal Affective Disorder (S.A.D.), the depression and listlessness of the "Winter Blues".

Wednesday, December 8

12:30

Women's Center Lounge

Other Resources

Gender Research on the Web

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has opened its expanding list serve - GENDEV - to other researchers. It began 5 years ago as a consultative group for researchers working on gender and intrahousehold issues. More than 40 countries are represented on the list. Member interests have expanded to gender issues in development as a whole. You can subscribe by sending a message to LISTSERV@CGIAR.ORG. Do not include a subject line and in the text area add only: SUBSCRIBE GENDEV. Web - <http://www.cgiar.org/ifpri/themes/mp17.htm>.

Recent articles and discussions focused on women, land and trees, summarizing research by Agnes Quisumbing, "*Women's Land Rights in the Transition to Individualized Ownership: Implications for Tree Resource Management in Western Ghana.*" Other discussions focused on measuring women's assets, economic roles and statistical problems, and gender equality and biodiversity. The latter discussion focused on linkages, key issues, best practices and other references, including "*Questionable Links: Approaches to Gender in Environmental Research and Policy,*" in Cecile Jackson and Ruth Pearson, eds. **Feminist Visions of Development** (Routledge, 1998), "*Guidelines for Integrating Gender Analysis into Biodiversity Research*" (1998) and "*Resources for Gender Analysis and Mainstreaming*" (1998) both available at www.idrc.ca/research/index_e.html.

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) recently started new research projects on gender and poverty in water management in six countries. The project explores how irrigation development, improvement, and reform can result in gendered poverty alleviation in rural areas of the developing world (page 7, Vol. 5, No. 1, July/99, *GenDev News*, A newsletter on gender and development).

The department of Gender Studies in Agriculture at Wageningen Agricultural University (WAU), the Netherlands, announced new internet resources. One is an online, searchable bibliographic database on gender, agriculture, and rural development with more than 6,000 entries at http://www.sls.wau.nl/crds/bdp_gs.htm. The other is a listing of internet resources on gender, agriculture, and rural development in an international context at http://www.sls.wau.nl/crds/irl_gs.htm.

News from the Center for Women's Global Leadership

The Summer 1999 issue of *Global Center* news includes articles about the upcoming Beijing+5 Review that will take place in New York next spring. The Beijing+5 review will assess how far countries have come in responding to their promises to deal with gender equality issues in their countries. They signed conventions at the United Nations 4th World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, September 1995. Web www.cwgl.rutgers.edu

WEDO News & Views

Women's Environment & Development Organization May, 1999 newsletter included articles and resources of possible interest to students and researchers including "*Dangerous Intersections: Feminist Perspectives on Population, Environment and Development*" (South End Press, 1999), and "*Understanding the Impact of Persistent Organic Pollutants on Women and the Environment,*" Web www.wedo.org

The Women's Center Newsletter is published six times during the academic year. It includes announcements and information about the many services and programs offered by the center to the university and regional communities. There are also items of general interest about women's and men's issues. If you have announcements or information to include in subsequent issues, please let us know. Suggestions for changes, improvements, or additional items are always welcome. Disability access is on the north end of the building through the TAAC. A taped copy of the newsletter is available on request for the visually impaired.

WOMEN'S CENTER

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 JILL ANDERSON Education Program Advisor
 VALERIE RUSSO Women's Resource Specialist
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 Office Hours 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday

Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse 332 - HELP
 is 24-hour help for survivors of domestic or
 violence and sexual assault. 883 - HELP



Women's Center Open House

January

We hope you will join us for a post-construction open house. We'll provide more details in early January. Come and meet Jeannie Harvey, the new Women's Center Director and find out what we have been doing, our plans, and let us hear your ideas.

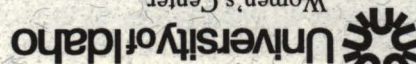
Here's a little background info about Jeannie. From 1994-1999 she was Director of Idaho TRIO AmeriCorps, a statewide national service program. She graduated from the UI with an MS from Resource Recreation & Tourism in the College of Forestry Wildlife and Range Sciences in 1994. Her thesis dealt with gender issues in tourism development in Idaho.

Prior to beginning graduate school, Jeannie worked as Deputy Director for Peace Corps in Kingston, Jamaica from 1987-1991. She worked briefly for Peace Corps in Washington, DC as Training Officer for the Inter America Region. From 1984-1986 Jeannie served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador.

Jeannie speaks Spanish and continues to serve her community. In March, 2000 she will lead a group of students from Portland Community College to Honduras on a Habitat for Humanity Project to help rebuild areas devastated by Hurricane Mitch

address service requested

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