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University
of Idaho



WOMEN'S CENTER ZINE

⟨A.K.A. THE NEWSLETTER⟩

TIME IS LIKE A FREIGHT TRAIN
THERE IS NO STOPPING THE FUN



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Mission Statement

The Women's Center supports students, faculty, and staff at the University of Idaho in striving for gender equity on campus. Since 1972, the UI Women's Center has offered programs, services, and activities that educate, financially support, and help solve real problems to reach equity. Because equity is about all people, our services are provided for everyone in a safe and supportive environment.

Why a Women's Center?

Women's Centers exist because gender equity has still not been achieved in any country around the world. Women still earn less than their male peers, and women of color face an even larger pay gap. Women earn fewer graduate degrees than men and hold only about 26% of tenured faculty positions on American campuses. Violence targeted against women is rampant in America, with more than half a million women reporting assaults by intimate partners, and four women dying each day as a result of domestic violence. We still have lots of work to do!

*Film Series

Come in twice a month for a free afternoon film.

All films start at 3:30 pm in the Women's Center Lounge with free popcorn!

Thursday, December 8th @ 3:30pm
HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS A romantic warrior breaks a beautiful member of a rebel army out of prison to help her rejoin her fellows, but things are not what they seem.



Wednesday, January 18th @ 3:30pm
TOUGH GUISE Tough Guise is the first educational video geared toward college and high school students to systematically examine the relationship between pop-cultural imagery and the social construction of masculine identities in the U.S. at the dawn of the 21st century.



*Laugh Out Loud Series

You'll have something to laugh about once a month, guaranteed.

Wednesday, December 14 @ 3:30pm
SAVING GRACE is a joint effort that will have you rolling in the aisle.



Wednesday, January 25th @ 3:30 pm
MARGARET CHO ASSASSIN

*This is a tentative schedule of events and is subject to change.

Brown Bag Series

it's actually not a lunch, but more of a snacky dinner



SAD Thursday January 12th @ TBA

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) probably affects over 10 million Americans while the milder, "Winter Blues" may affect an even larger number of individuals. The typical symptoms of SAD include depression, lack of energy, increased need for sleep, a craving for sweets and weight gain. Come to the Womens' Center to learn about SAD and how to treat it.

Cheerleader! Wednesday February 8th @ 5pm

Cheerleader! An American Icon by Dr. Pam Bettis is an exploration of how cheerleading represents the nations shifting beliefs about gender sports, entertainment, race, and national identity.



F WORD

Feminizzle

RADIO

PROGRAM

Mondays 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm

The F Word is a Women's Center radio program dedicated to feminists and gender equity through music and discussion.

Our show is about different issues affecting women in our community, both nationally and internationally. We will share interviews from special guests of the Women's Center, information about different groups, and read articles from newspapers, newsletters and magazines. And keeping true to the KUOI 89.3 free form radio, we will introduce listeners to new women musicians and play the ones we might have forgotten all about.



You can also hear us on the web at www.kuoi.com

Women's Mentoring Program Update



As the semester progresses, so does the Women's Mentoring Program and progress it has! After the initial matching process, 25 mentor/mentee pairs were connected and began meeting. Most pairs are meeting informally, over lunch or coffee, and some are even meeting in groups. It's great to see the development and uniqueness of each mentoring relationship. The growth of the program has definitely exceeded the expectations for its first year and this is due to the great individuals involved and all of the brilliant energy and enthusiasm they bring! I remember clearly the excitement and loud ring of chatter that permeated the introductory meeting.

Amidst the direct mentoring and keeping up on the status of mentoring relationships, a lot of crucial aspects of the program are being constantly worked and reworked here at the Women's Center. Most notable, Jeannie Harvey, Debbie Storrs and I met with the vice provost Linda Morris to introduce the Mentoring Program to the administration. The meeting was superb and Linda showed much interest and support for the program! The researchers are also working diligently to make sure the success of the program can be adequately evaluated. Also on this end, the Women's Center

staff and the researchers have submitted proposals and will hopefully be attending the National Women's Studies Conference in Oakland this summer to present the program and research to other passionate women concerned with gender equity. Wow! There is a lot to do and I look forward to the continuation of the school year.

For next semester, the mentors/mentees will be invited to their first group luncheon, so if you're in the program, keep your eyes out for the invitation. And if you are not in the program, remember I am here in the Women's Center (Memorial Gym Room 109) and always willing to talk and get people involved and connected. In addition, online applications will soon be posted on the website www.uidaho.edu/womenscenter and you can always look for more info. on the program in the next Women's Center 'zine!

Jennifer Haylett
jhaylett@sub.uidaho.edu



Calling all Writers and Artists

Write an article for the newsletter about a topic you care about: women and sports, relationship issues, Native American women, Latinas on campus, etc. The article can't be any longer than a page and a half.

If you are interested in creating some art work for the zine, please make sure it is in .pdf format and measures no greater than 5" x 8".

This baby is published three times per semester. For more info contact Amy Sharp at the Women's Center, amysharp@uidaho.edu.

Deadlines for the Articles and Art

**Friday, January 27th,
2006**

(February/March Zine)

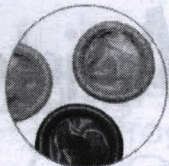
&

**Monday, March 27th,
2006**

(April/May Zine)

You can drop your hard work off at the Women's Center in the Memorial Gym Room 109, or email the good stuff to the editor Amy Sharp at amysharp@uidaho.edu.





CONDOMS

● PUTTING ON A CONDOM

Check the expiration date on the package.

Be careful you don't rip the condom when opening the package

Make sure the tip of the condom points through the ring in a way that will let it roll down.

Put a drop or two of lubricant inside the condom.

Pull back the foreskin, unless circumcised, before rolling on the condom.

Place the rolled condom over the tip of the hard penis.

Leave a half-inch space at the tip to collect semen.

Pinch the air out of the tip with one hand while placing it on the penis.

Unroll the condom over the penis with the other hand.

Roll it all the way down to the base of the penis.

Smooth out any air bubbles. (Friction against air bubbles can cause condom breaks.)

Lubricate the outside of the condom.

● TAKING OFF THE CONDOM

Pull out before the penis softens.

Don't spill the semen — hold the condom against the base of the penis while you pull out.

Wipe any ejaculation of the penis.

Tie a knot at the end of the condom and throw the condom away.

Wash the penis with soap and water before embracing again.

● IF A CONDOM BREAKS

... during intercourse, pull out quickly and replace it. Men should be able to tell if a condom breaks during intercourse. To learn what it feels like, men can break condoms on purpose while masturbating.

... and semen leaks into the vagina during a woman's fertile period, ask a reproductive health clinician for information about starting emergency contraception within 120 hours. EC (emergency contraceptive) is available at UI Health Center and Pullman Planned Parenthood.

● WHERE TO FIND FREE CONDOMS ON THE UI CAMPUS

Office of Multicultural Affairs

TLC Room 230

Open from 8 am to 5 pm

Monday thru Friday

*Condoms are located to your left when you come in through the front door, in a basket under the end table between two chairs

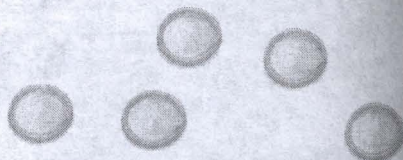
Women's Center

Memorial Gym Room 109

Open from 8 am to 7 pm

Monday thru Friday

Condoms are located in a basket on a table to your right through the front door between two office entries.



You can also get one free Trojan Condom sent to your mailing address by visiting www.trojancondoms.com/freestuff. You will receive your sample in 6-8 weeks.

www.plannedparenthood.org

CONDOM CRISIS DEEPENS IN UGANDA
SHORTAGES SPREAD TO OTHER COUNTRIES
US POLICIES UNDERMINE HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMS

A condom crisis in Uganda is now in its 10th month, and shows no signs of being resolved, reported the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE), endangering Uganda's previously successful prevention efforts.

Condoms have become difficult to find in cities, even for a price, and are unavailable in many rural areas. Reports indicate that in some areas, including those with large numbers of internally displaced persons, people desperate to prevent HIV infection have begun using garbage bags as condom substitutes. Similar condoms shortages and abstinence-only campaigns — including those funded by the Bush Administration — are reducing access to and undermining public confidence in condoms as a tool for prevention of both HIV and unintended pregnancy in other countries as well.

"The crisis in Uganda has been created by the actions — and inaction — of the Government of Uganda and the Bush Administration, the primary donor for HIV/AIDS programs in Uganda, and a major force in undermining effective HIV prevention programs throughout sub-Saharan Africa and Central America," stated Jodi Jacobson, Executive Director of CHANGE. The United States contributed \$137 million dollars to Uganda for HIV prevention and treatment programs under PEPFAR in FY 2005, and will contribute over \$170 million in FY 2006.

The two largest sources of condom supplies in country are the Ugandan government and the U.S. government. Since the mid-nineties, the Government of Uganda has provided condoms free through government health clinics under the brand name Engabu. Condoms provided by the United States have long been sold in Uganda through social marketing programs at subsidized prices. These were further supplemented by smaller stocks from other donors. (See Uganda Condom Crisis, Basic Facts, August 2005, at www.genderhealth.org/uganda.php < /A>.)

In October 2004, the Museveni government issued a nationwide recall of Engabu based on disputed claims that the condoms were of poor quality. Condom supplies were further reduced when the government began requiring that all condoms entering the country, including those from the United States, undergo quality testing after delivery in Uganda, even in cases where pre-shipment quality tests had been performed. All condom stocks in government warehouses were impounded and further shipments of Engabu under the contract held with a German-Chinese consortium were rendered worthless. (See Uganda Condom Crisis, Timeline, August 2005, at www.genderhealth.org/uganda.php < /A>.)

"The government took this drastic step with no back-up plan in place," stated Jacobson, "resulting in a major crisis in the country." And, to make matters worse, she continued, "new taxes and campaigns to discredit condoms have further reduced access to condoms, and undermined public confidence in prevention technologies overall after years of successful efforts to promote safer sex."

"According to the Ugandan Ministry of Health," notes Jacobson, "an estimated 120 million to 150 million condoms are needed per year to meet the basic need for HIV prevention in the country." In a "good" year, according to the MOH, actual supplies would be 120 million condoms. But the past two years have seen rapidly diminishing supplies of and capacity for distributing condoms. "In FY 2004," notes Jacobson, "fewer than 88 million condoms were available for distribution in Uganda." In FY 2005, less than 30 million condoms were available, and these are now gone. "Today," stated Jacobson, "condoms are about as scarce in Uganda as weapons of mass destruction in Iraq."

Having recalled Engabu, the government began levying high taxes on all imported condoms, causing the price of condoms in some parts of the country to increase more than 500 percent. An estimated 32 million Engabu condoms remain in storage, but are virtually worthless because, despite tests confirming the acceptable quality of these supplies, "public confidence in the brand is utterly destroyed."

"The concerted effort to undermine public confidence in condoms — supported in part by U.S. funding — comes at a time when funding for comprehensive prevention programs is undergoing a profound — and dangerous — shift." Anti-condom efforts are being led, for example, by the First Lady of Uganda, Janet Museveni, whose office receives funding under PEPFAR, and by organizations such as the Makerere Community Church, led by Martin Ssempe, another PEPFAR grantee.

Due to shifts in prevention funding under PEPFAR, those at greatest risk are being denied the information and technologies necessary to prevent infection. "For example," noted Jacobson, "adolescents and young adults ages 15 to 24 are at high risk of infection in Uganda, but are no longer included in outreach campaigns intended to promote safer sex." In Uganda, the average age at first intercourse for females is 16.7 years, while the average age at first marriage is 17.8 years of age, a gap of over a year. Sixty-six (66) percent of all males and females ages 15 to 24 (married and unmarried) are sexually active.

Yet with support and pressure from the United States, people in these age groups are no longer eligible for comprehensive prevention programs, and instead are targeted only by abstinence programs. In FY '05, approximately \$20 million dollars of PEPFAR funding went to prevention programs in the country. Of total prevention funds for Uganda under PEPFAR, 76 percent were spent on prevention of sexual transmission, and 56 percent of all funds for prevention of sexual transmission were spent on abstinence-only programs. The other 44 percent of funds for prevention of sexual transmission is highly restricted, according to sources in the field, and may only be used for outreach to sex workers, truck drivers, and people in bars. Billboards supporting multiple approaches—abstain, be faithful, use condoms—have been replaced by those focusing only on abstinence.

These same trends are evident in many countries receiving PEPFAR funding, notes Jacobson. "In Nigeria, for example, 80 percent of PEPFAR funding for prevention of sexual transmission is being spent on abstinence/be faithful programs and large amounts of PEPFAR funds are flowing to "faith-based" groups with no proven track record in public health. In the words of Dr. Richard Tiemoko, an expert on reproductive and sexual health issues in Nigeria, "Pentecostal and evangelical Christians are certainly gaining importance in Nigeria. One has the impression that both U.S. Policy and these emerging religious and cultural fundamentalisms are reinforcing each other to support abstinence only programs."

Similar trends are underway in a number of other countries, including Zambia, where reduced supplies of condoms, and shifts in funding of prevention programs is leaving millions at risk, and Kenya, Namibia, and Tanzania where U.S. funding is indirectly supporting the resurgence of fundamentalist religious movements and undermining effective HIV prevention. Recently, U.S. funding for a successful outreach program to sex workers run by Population Services International in Central America was cut based solely on ideological concerns, and condom social marketing programs have been removed from new PEPFAR guidelines for prevention in Central America and Mexico.

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see?



Andrea Dworkin, addressing a group of five hundred men in St. Paul, Minnesota: "I came here today because I don't believe that rape is inevitable or natural. If I did, I would have no reason to be here ... Have you ever wondered why we are not just in armed combat against you? It's not because there's a shortage of kitchen knives in this country. It is because we believe in your humanity, against all the evidence."

Her humane and resounding words are here, as everywhere else, inspiring and for some time to me they seemed oracular. They called for and spoke to her hope; teeming in her impassioned plea was a vision of men self-redressed and allied with her feminism, and while I do not know how rare the appearance, men that day were granted sincerity, clarity, and faith in a truly radical feminist key. There was a woman, on the frontlines of activism against gynathanatica, femicide, female sexual slavery, willing to speak to men – the gatekeepers, the consumers, the direct beneficiaries of those systems she spent a lifetime working to tear down; and as if men needed another, to those assembled and to those of us hearing her now, it was and is a privilege of unquantifiable proportions. That was over two decades ago, and in light of recent events the words of another radical feminist ring clear as the hourly bells of the UI admin building. "Many men of conscience will turn out for one feminist demonstration every twelve months. They will raise their voices and shout. They will shout louder, in fact, than all the women combined. They will even get into a scuffle with some other men, any other men, hostile bystanders, the police: They will make a noble scene; they will stage a cockfight. Then they will go home and try to get in touch with their feelings for another year."

Pure and simple: To have women and men – feminists – willing (always able) to speak to men, to challenge men, to hold men to a higher standard (and thereby grant men the proposition of being true allies) – for them to look at me and say that "Despite all the keys to all the gates of the androcentric world you "hump" with soldierly perfection all your life without a second thought (or at least one taken seriously), "against all the evidence," we have hope that you can change (or just stop)" – this is a privilege. A privilege like no other.

And there are plenty of feminists who, for every reason imaginable, do not waste their valuable time educating men. Valerie Solanas, for instance, calls for nothing less than the militant Dworkin apocryphally mentions:

"Life in this society being, at best, an utter bore and no aspect of society being at all relevant to women, there remains to overthrow the government, eliminate the money system, institute complete automation, and destroy the male sex." In the sense that the gender binary system is a false dyad, phallogocentric in ensuring the supremacy of penis-bearers, to "destroy the male sex" in the context of eliminating specious notions of gender seems a sensible action to me (even if she meant to be taken literally); yet even Solanas goes on to discuss a role for men in her new vision for the world . And if that were not enough, the radical feminist Mary Daly, arguably among the most gynocentric (i.e., praiseworthy/visionary) radical feminists of our time, drops male readers a hint of her ideas about men's place in her "archaic future" as part of a new "Biophilic Brotherhood" following the collapse of the patriarchy.

I offer a challenge to myself as much as to those men's groups promulgating feminist (or "pro-feminist") credentials to recognize that our function as feminists is to stop: Stop raping, stop battering, stop mythologizing and totemizing and fetishizing and androcentrically philosophizing at the expense of women's industry and creative existence and life. Remember the pitfalls: War came from "men's groups"; Rape came from "men's groups"; torture and abuse and their justifying ideologues came from "men's groups"; and what else are all the prevailing androcentric governments of most nations of the world but "men's groups"? If we do come together, we must, as Stoltenberg says, raise our voices trembling with passionate remorse and compassion unbecomingly "traditional" masculinism, making unambiguously clear that pornographers, women and children butchers, rapists, misogynistic archconservatives, and abusers Do Not Speak For Us. After beseeching the men at the St. Paul conference to give women just a brief respite from rape, to give women a "twenty-four hour truce during which there is no rape," Andrea Dworkin asks them – and us – all who call ourselves allies: "What else could you possibly be here to do? What else could this movement possibly mean?"

Dworkin, Andrea. "I Want a Twenty-Four Hour Truce During Which There Is No Rape." Letters from a War Zone. New York: Lawrence Hill, 1993. p169-170. [Emphasis added].

Soltenberg, John. Refusing to be a Man. (1989). New York: Routledge, 2000. p161.

Solanas, Valerie. SCUM Manifesto. San Francisco: AK Press, 1996. p1. Though thoroughly obsolescent and transitory.

Dr. Daly credits the original idea of a Biophilic Brotherhood to Jeanmarie Rindone in: Daly, Mary. Quintessence... Realizing the Archaic Future. Boston: Beacon Press, 1998. p67-68.

For discussion of this point see the entry on "War" in: Walker, Barbara G. The Woman's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets. New York: HarperCollins, 1983. p1058.

See: Brownmiller, Susan. Against Our Will: Men, Women, and Rape. (1975). New York: The Ballantine Publishing Group, 1993. p14.

Ex., the Marquis de Sade.

If not always strictly in numbers surely in politics, policy, and 'spirit'. Dworkin, p171. [Emphasis added].

James French is a volunteer at the Women's Center and a part of the B.E.A.R. program.

Home for the Holidays

OR

"Guess Who's Not Coming to Dinner?"

by Rebecca Rod, GLBT Program Advisor



Well, Theresa and I had the big family Thanksgiving at our house this year. There were nine of us at the table – my brother Doug and his wife Reedy, Reedy's mother Anne, my nephew Reuben, my brother Mike, my sister Jenny, Jenny's sweetie Al, my partner Theresa, and me. Then there were the six 4-legged companion "cousins" – Phoebe, Sheba, Sophie, Tutti, Ethel, and Harley – padding around the room with noses in the air, waiting for someone to slip with a fork or knife letting a tasty morsel fall to the floor. The nine of us talked, laughed, and ate our way through the 21-pound turkey and traditional side-dishes we'd grown up with, like many of you – mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, dressing, green-bean casserole, jellös green and orange, cranberries, rolls, and rutabaga, mashed and buttery – all topped with gravy! Mmmmm!

I don't know about you, but in our family, after we've had enough time to sate our appetites a bit, we usually take turns saying something we're thankful for, and these offerings can run the gamut from the mundane to the sublime, depending on the degree of reflection of the thanker. However, one thing someone almost always expresses is thanks that we could all be together once again, or just thanks that we have each other. If that sounds kind of corny, it's probably because we're all originally from Iowa. Still, we know we're lucky to have each other and enjoy each other's company, and we probably value it all the more because we're aware that it's not this way for everyone. Growing up gay, I've also experienced my share of Thanksgivings and Christmas holidays on the outside of togetherness.

It doesn't take much of a stretch for me to remember being 19 and in college and the rising sadness I felt as Christmas break started to draw near. I was in love with my first girlfriend and she was going home for the holidays and I was not invited. Of course, noone knew we were sweethearts – we'd already somehow figured that our joy over each other was not something we could not tell anyone about – least of all, our families. And at that time, in that place, we didn't even have our own words for what we were to each other. We were just in love. I

remember watching out of my dorm window while she walked off with her parents, looking back over her shoulder to see me wave, and how long the lonely winter break loomed ahead of me.

Even out of college, when I found myself in a long term relationship, the same sadness would inevitably creep over me with the approach of the holiday – Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter. Linda's mother expected her to be with her own family each time, without any thought to me. Ironically, our families lived in the same town, so there were many late afternoons or evenings that I would get in my car and drive past her mother's house, just to be near where she was or possibly catch a glimpse of her.

Thankfully, over the years, things changed for me. I became more sure of myself and I got into relationships that were less and less closeted. Today, everyone talks to Theresa on the phone when they call me, and nobody even thinks of me without her. But I still know I'm one of the lucky ones.

Just yesterday I spent time on the phone with a gay student who was worn down by spending the Thanksgiving holiday with her parents who hassled her the whole time about being gay while shoving information at her about "straightening" out her life – all this on top of her trying to recover from a broken relationship and deal with the end-of-semester workload. Needless to say, she's glad to be back at school. But what do you think her Christmas holiday will be like?

Yes, things have changed – we see people in gay roles on TV and in the movies, we hear more openly about GLBT issues – for some people, it's even a "no-brainer" that we should be able to marry, adopt children, and have mutual benefits. Wonder of wonders! But, as the old saying goes, "the more things change, the more they stay the same." We cannot let ourselves forget when we say "thanks" for all that we have, or sit surrounded by our loved ones opening gifts, that there is still more work to be done before everyone is able to sit at the table together.

Rebecca Rod
rebeccar@sub.uidaho.edu

FAT CORNER

Source: *Fat! So? Because you don't have to apologize for your size by Marilyn Wann.*

They Called Me Hank

Our culture is so weight-obsessed that even babies aren't exempt. Go to any Hallmark shop and try to find a birth announcement that doesn't have a place to fill in newborn's weight. I dare you. Even at that tender age, weight means something. Underweight babies are cause for worry. Average-size babies fall into a narrow range, from six to eight pounds, labeled "normal-healthy." Then, above eight pounds, folk start to whistle or groan or cluck when they say, "Now, that's a big baby."

When I was born, I weighed nine pounds and seven ounces. I was healthy. I was big. People clucked. My birth weight even inspired my first and most enduring nickname. The story of how I got this nickname is one that my parents have told for as long as I can remember. On my mother's side of the family, there's a traditional name, Henry. When I was born, my father thought I should have the middle name Henrietta, to continue that tradition in my generation. Mom thought that was a great idea. My parents called the North Carolina relatives; including H.M. (the H stands for Henry). When my dear Uncle H.M. got the exciting news of my birth, he said, in that loving-joking Southern way, "At nine pounds seven ounces, that's no Henrietta. That's a Hank!"

From the time I was three or four years old,

I knew I was fat. I don't know how I knew. Perhaps I'd heard the story of my nickname. Perhaps I'd noticed that when adults lifted me they said I was heavy. Perhaps I simply soaked up the knowledge that something made me different and that difference had to do with size. I wondered when other little children realized they are black, or disabled, or different in other ways. I imagine that knowledge comes to us early on. What kind of survival skill is it, that little toddler brains learn the ambient prejudices, even as the toddlers are forming their first words?

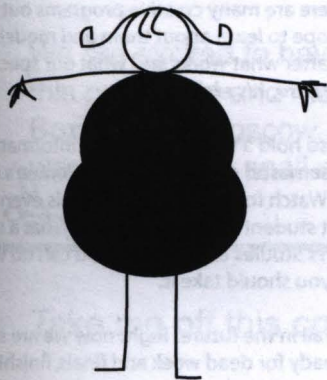
Thanks to my rather unfeminine nickname, I've always known that, even though I was different and would simply never be one of the thin, popular, lace-ruffle-ankle-sock kindergarten girls, I had something else: the swashbuckling, rebellious persona of Hank. I haven't always worn that nickname publicly, but it always comes out at times in my life when I've been at my most adventurous or genuine: when I'm with family, when I entered college, when I started *Fat! So?*. It makes me happy, proud even, when someone calls me Hank. Here's a suggestion for Hallmark. Instead of having a line for weight on birth announcements, offer a space to fill in that infant's nickname instead. It's much more useful information.

Life is too short for self-hatred and celery sticks!

Ask Ms. Sharp....Go Ahead...Ask.

Dear Ms. Sharp,
Can Feminists have a sense of humor?
Signed,
Seriously

The Biggest Loser



I hate me!

before



I no longer have an eating disorder because I no longer eat!

after

Dear Seriously,
Yes, I believe we do. Humor helps during the hard times

The dumbest question you can ask is the one you haven't.
Any questions you want to post, email askmssharp@hotmail.com

A Letter from the Director!



I am not sure how much is left of my mind this month.....there has been a lot of "mind transfer," creative thought, inspiring ideas, and more going on at the UI recently. For example, working groups created nearly 30 proposals for the Strategic Investment Grants. Many brain cells have and continue to work on the Diversity Investment Growth Grants, fondly referred to as DIGG grants. Our proposal is related to "Women's Themes" and includes many wonderful activities for both spring semester and next fall. We also submitted a proposal for supporting doctoral students to go along with the very successful women's dissertation support group that meets every week.

WomensWorks 2005 was very successful. Most artists and crafters said again how warm and festive the ballroom was for the show. Their colorful and original art work was a delight. I would love to have just a little of that creative talent. The food was marvelous - Peruvian, Mexican, and Turkish, not to mention the truffles and brittles. Yum! And the live music really made it perfect for shopping, visiting, and catching up with old and new friends.

Our full complement of staff is strong and making lots of things happen. Rebecca, our new GLBT program advisor helped to create a DVD of Coming Out Stories, voices of local students and staff talking about their own experiences. The DVD is quite powerful and worth checking out from our library. We have a couple of copies available. She also has many new ideas for Safe Zone. Jenn, our AmeriCorps member has a full crew of mentors and mentees in the women's mentoring program, which has succeeded beyond our initial imaginings. We are very excited about the high level of participation. Amy Sharp, the Center's program advisor continues to offer many

exciting programs. Watch for the films, guest speakers, and laughter programs. Also, don't forget to catch the Monday afternoon F-Word Radio program on KUOI, 89.3 FM.

We will be working hard in the next few weeks on a National Science Foundation grant to advance women in science, math, engineering and technology which is due in late January. This program would assist UI in looking at campus climate issues, including recruitment and retention of women faculty, especially women from under-represented groups. We hope to provide supportive activities that might help us increase the number of women in faculty positions who choose to stay at the UI. Some of these services might include expanding women's mentoring, offering workshops for negotiation skills, additional travel money to pay for child care, and more. There are many creative programs out there and we hope to learn about them and model a UI program after what works and what our specific needs are here. It's exciting.

We will also hold a Women's Studies informational day next semester on International Women's Day, March 8. Watch for lots more about this event. We plan to let students and others know what a minor in Women's Studies entails, what you can do with it, and why you should take it.

But that's all in the future. Right now we are still getting ready for dead week and finals, finishing those papers, dreading the presentations and final exams. We wish you all the best in all of your finals. And, we hope you have a safe, fun, relaxing, and holiday full of laughter, sharing, and love. As I always say, there will still be work to do when we get back. We've got lots to do, lots of exciting programs and projects for next spring. Please do get involved. Stop in and visit us. Join a student group or volunteer to work on a program. We love having your energy, ideas, thoughts, and suggestions.

Take good care and happy holidays.

Best, Jeannie

I am full of very useful information and would like to share it with my fellow sisters...

Write an article for the newsletter about a topic you care about - women and sports, relationship issues, Native American women, Latinas on campus, etc. This baby is published three times per semester. Contact Amy Sharp at the Women's Center for more details: amysharp@uidaho.edu

So you read your first issue of the Women's Center Zine (a.k.a The Newsletter) and you want more of this sweet stuff...

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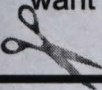
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We are excited to have you on board with us. Please tear this puppy out and mail to the Women's Center P.O. Box 441064 Moscow, Idaho 83844-1064. If you don't want to wait on snail mail, email us at wcenter@uidaho.edu.



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