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Women's Voice, Volume 7, Issue 6, February 2002

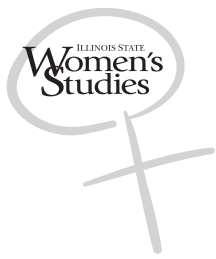
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program
Illinois State University

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Women's Voice

Illinois State University

Volume 7, Issue 6, February 2002

From the Director

Sandra D. Harmon, Acting Director

Dorothy Roberts to Keynote Women's Studies Symposium

Professor Dorothy Roberts of the Northwestern University School of Law will give the keynote address at the Seventh Annual Women's Studies Symposium at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 29, in the University Galleries, Center for Visual Art. Roberts, who also holds appointments as faculty fellow of the Institute for Policy Research and as a faculty affiliate of the Joint Center for Poverty Research at Northwestern, will speak on "Race and the Ethics of Reproductive Technologies." Her talk, sponsored by Women's Studies and MEPPAC, is related to the university theme of "The Leading Edge: Issues in Technology and Society."



Prof. Dorothy Roberts

Reproductive technologies can be a boon or a burden, liberating or coercive. Which they are is often dependent on wealth, race, and government policies. In her book, *Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and the Meaning of Liberty (1997)*, Roberts discusses current reproductive issues of black women in the United States within the context of historic policies and practices controlling black women's reproductive capacities. Those policies have been dramatically different at different points in history. In slavery, slave women's childbearing was manipulated to produce children for the economic benefit of slave owners. In the twentieth century, poor black women faced involuntary sterilizations to further the eugenics movement or reduce welfare roles. Sterilizations often were paid for by federal funds. Today, while growing numbers of people seek new technologies to help them have children, and others use

technologies to prevent conception, controversy still surrounds such issues as the continued efforts to force contraceptive technologies on poor women as a condition of receiving aid and the use of poor, black women as surrogates.

Roberts begins the last chapter of her book, "The Meaning of Liberty," with the question, "If Americans' reproductive decisions are protected by the Constitution, how is it possible that Black women's reproduction has been subjected to so much degradation and intrusion?" *Killing the Black Body*, which outlines a history of degradation and intrusion and suggests a new meaning of the concept of reproductive liberty, earned a 1998 Myers Center Award for the Study of Human Rights in North America. The Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights annually recognizes books that promote increased understanding of intolerance and bigotry and that inspire or suggest strategies and actions to promote greater equity.

Professor Roberts' most recent book is *Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare*, published in December of 2001. She is also the coauthor of casebooks on constitutional law and women and the law. She has published more than fifty articles and essays in books, scholarly journals, newspapers, and magazines, including *Harvard Law Review*, *Yale Law Journal*, *University of Chicago Law Review*, and *The New York Times*. Her influential article, "Punishing Drug Addicts Who Have Babies: Women of Color, Equality, and the Right of Privacy," (*Harvard Law Review*, 1991) has been widely cited and is included in a number of anthologies.

We are pleased to have Professor Roberts as the keynote speaker for the Women's Studies Symposium. ■

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Women's Studies Staff

Dr. Val Moghadam	Director	Sabbatical
Dr. Sandra Harmon	Interim Director	438-7361
Dr. Sophia McClennen	Interim Assistant Director	438-2947
Rozel White	Secretary	438-2947
Dr. Ann Haugo	Instructional Asst. Prof.	438-3955
Katherine Moritz	Graduate Assistant	438-2948
Meghan Smith	Undergraduate Assistant	428-2947
Bethany Struebing	Undergraduate Assistant	438-2947

Visit our website at: <http://www.cas.ilstu.edu/womenstudies>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Studies Symposium Schedule

<p>8:30-8:50 8:50-9:00</p> <p>9:00-9:50</p> <p>Dr. Lee Beier Victor Boens</p> <p>Susan Harsha</p> <p>Christopher Yepsen</p> <p>9:50-11:00</p> <p>Dr. Sandra Harmon Susan Crowe Christy Leigh Eyre Tina Stewart Brakebill</p> <p>Erika Parra</p> <p>11:00-12:15</p> <p>Diane Zosky Kristina Mills</p> <p>Rebecca Yapp</p> <p>Theo W. McCaughey Deborah S. Bertschi</p>	<p>Registration and Coffee Symposium Opening</p> <p>Panel 1: "Fallen Women' or Entrepreneurs? Victorian Representations of Prostitution in the 1850s"</p> <p>Moderator "What Caused Women to Become Prostitutes According to Henry Mayhew and His Co-Authors?"</p> <p>"Prostitutes in Mayhew's London: Victims of Circumstance or Working Women"</p> <p>"Prostitution"</p> <p>Panel 2: Knowing Women through Their Personal Writings</p> <p>Moderator "The Diary of Elizabeth Drinker, Vol. 1" "Anna Howard Shaw: Story of a Pioneer" "The Intersection between Woman's Sphere and Woman's Rights: One Woman's Struggle to Balance the Conflicts between Society's Ideal and Personal Ideal" "Women's Spaces in Postcolonial Writing"</p> <p>Panel 3: Gender Challenges to Social and Academic Paradigms</p> <p>Moderator "Therapy and Religion: Implications, assessment, and treatment when working within the Mormon belief system" "The Contributions of Women and Minority Physicists: Two Profiles" "Living in Dissonance: Power and Sexuality" "Revisiting 'Gender as a Category of Historical Analysis'"</p>
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<p>12:15-1:00</p> <p>1:00-2:00 Prof. Dorothy Roberts</p> <p>2:15-3:15 Dr. Mary Trouille Tara Coburn (Eastern Illinois)</p> <p>Amy Sayre-Roberts (University of Illinois, Springfield)</p> <p>Megan Fitzgibbons (Knox College)</p> <p>3:15-4:15</p> <p>Dr. Sophia McClennen Bridget Fahrner Leah Schreiber Greg Mitchell</p> <p>4:15</p>	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Keynote Address "Race and the Ethics of Reproductive Technologies"</p> <p>Panel 4: Exploring Women's Literature Moderator "The Oppressed Becomes the Oppressor: Women Cycle of Power in Jean Rhys' <i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>" "The Room of Their Own is Haunted: Using the Supernatural as an Instrument of Autonomy and Repression in <i>The Woman Warrior</i> and <i>The House of the Spirits</i>" "The Stitches of Life: An Analysis of Alice Walker's 'Everyday Uses'"</p> <p>Panel 5: Representing Gender in Media and Performance Moderator "Female Subjectivity in Carlos Saura's <i>Cria Cuervo</i>" "Art, Objects, and Eye Candy" "Aunties in the Wings: 18th Century Counter-hegemonic Masculinities and the British Reception of <i>ils Castrati</i>"</p> <p>Closing of the Symposium</p>
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The Women's Project

An evening of 10 minute plays by women (and men) about women (and men) for women (and men) will be held on Monday, March 4 at 10:00 p.m. and Tuesday, March 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the Centennial West Room 301. Admission is free. The plays are produced and directed by Lori Adams and Janet Wilson of the School of Theatre.

For more information contact Janet Wilson at (309) 438-8949 or e-mail her at jmwilso4@ilstu.edu.

Sarah Rhoads Wins Women's Studies Achievement Award

Sarah Rhoads was presented the Women's Studies Achievement Award at the annual College of Arts and Sciences Awards Reception on February 8. The award goes to a Women's Studies senior who has maintained high academic standing as determined by overall grade point average and grade point average within the Women's Studies minor and who has provided service on behalf of women's issues and participated in Women's Studies activities.

Sarah is a senior Biological Sciences Education major with a minor in English Education as well as Women's Studies. This year she is an instructor for a women's reproductive health class for Student Services, a committee member for Sexual Responsibility Week, and an American Red Cross HIV/AIDS instructor. Last year, she presented a paper, "Carey Thomas and the Female Sphere," at the Sixth Annual Women's Studies Symposium.

She is employed on campus as a satellite worker for Classroom Technology and as a supervisor in Braden Auditorium.

Margaret Wakeley Scholarships

The Women's Division of McLean County Chamber of Commerce has established two scholarships of \$2500 each in honor of Margaret Wakeley, the first President of the organization. The awards are intended to honor women who are permanent residents of McLean County planning professional careers.

Before completing the application, please be sure you meet the following eligibility criteria:

- permanent resident of McLean County
- will be a senior in 2002-2003
- enrolled in Illinois State University or Illinois Wesleyan University
- GPA is 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale
- you are a woman preparing for a professional career

Applications may be obtained in the Financial Aid Office or the Women's Studies Office. The application and all original transcripts are **due by Tuesday, April 2, 2002**. Contact Sara Baker, Scholarship Chair, at (309) 268-8035 with questions. ■

WOMEN'S STUDIES FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Faculty News

Dr. Valentine M. Moghadam gave a lecture at Duke University on 30 January 2002 entitled "WID/WAD/GAD and the Global Economy: Conceptual Shifts and Trends in Feminist Approaches to Development and Globalization." On 12 February she gave a work-in-progress presentation at the Woodrow Wilson International Center, where she is on sabbatical leave and has a fellowship. On 27 February she gave a talk at Lehmann College, New York, on women and the state in Iran and Afghanistan, and on 28 February she took part in a panel discussion at New York University on Afghanistan and Central Asia. She is also scheduled to give talks in March.

On 7-8 March she will participate in a conference on women and post-Talebans, Afghanistan at Amherst College; on 23 March she will take part in a panel discussion on Afghanistan at the College of New Jersey, in Trenton; and on 26 March she will give a featured speaker at the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Moghadam also has been invited to a conference in Sri Lanka (2-3 May) on women and post-conflict reconstruction and state-building. And on 3 June she will be the keynote speaker at the conference on Power, Difference and Identity: Linking Local and Global", of the National Curriculum Transformation Project, at Towson State University in Baltimore.

Jerri Andrew, workforce development coordinator for the McLean County Chamber of Commerce and committee member for the Women's Capability Initiative, was featured in the February 2002 issue of *Business to Business*, McLean County's monthly business magazine. The article describes Andrew's personal experiences as well as her aspirations for McLean County. ■

International Women's Day Breakfast

The annual International Women's Day Breakfast, sponsored by the Bloomington-Normal Branch of AAUW and Soroptimists International will be on Saturday, March 9 from 9 AM to 11:30 AM at Eastland Suites, 1801 Eastland Drive, Bloomington. The guest speaker is Jana Edge who will talk about "Russian Women: Heart and Health."

Tickets are \$12 and checks should be made to Soroptimist International and sent to Sandra Little, Soroptimist of Bloomington-Normal, PO Box 414, Bloomington, IL 61702-0414. For further information call Sandra at (309) 438-2595 or Marion Jones at (309) 454-3870. ■

"The Vagina Monologues," V-Day 2002 by avada douglas

With three sold out shows accommodating approximately 1200 people, V-Day 2002 College Campaign/Illinois State University's production of "The Vagina Monologues" by Eve Ensler was considered a great success! The V-Day campaign is designed to get college students to be proactive and active about violence against womyn that is so prevalent in this society and worldwide. The cast of 13 people and a group of 27 coordinators found that being able to educate 1200 people is a phenomenal and empowering thing. This project helps to educate all people about the power and beauty of being a woman. In being tuned to one's body or to one's lover's body, there is enlightenment and a connection that cannot be otherwise achieved. The project proved to be a successful fundraiser for organizations currently working to stop violence against womyn. The proceeds of \$5300 will be divided among local, national and international organizations. Locally, 30% will be donated to Neville House/Countering Domestic Violence, 30% to PATH's Rape Crisis Center and 20% to

McLean County Planned Parenthood. Nationally, ten percent goes to the V-Day Campaign (www.vday.org) to keep the international project running. Internationally, 10% will be donated to the womyn in Afghanistan through the organization RAWA (www.rawa.org). Illinois State, in its second year of putting together this program, joined 530 other universities/colleges world wide to help spread the word and stop violence towards womyn. Working together and continuing the education is the only way to truly win this battle. Until the violence stops! ■

For complete information on our undergraduate and graduate courses, visit our website at:
<http://www.cas.ilstu.edu/womenstudies>.

New Course PHI 340: Philosophical Perspectives on The Politics of Race

With Professor Alison Bailey

We take race for granted in the United States. We usually do not think there is anything wrong with the ways in which people are sorted into different races. In fact, we rarely question the so-called "naturalness" of the very existence of races. We often assume that the physical differences that make up different races have always been thought about in the same ways. Most of us understand racism as a matter of attitude and not as something deeply woven into our social structure. We further assume that, in a good liberal society, that public policy questions are color-blind. Or, that all people of color experience racism in the same way. This course challenges these assumptions.

Philosophical Perspectives on The Politics of Race is designed to explore questions raised by racial categorization throughout the 20th Century. Although the class is framed philosophically, the readings are by necessity interdisciplinary. The first section of the class will ask students to begin unpacking race as a social/political category. We will explore questions such as: What does it mean to be a particular race? How is race tied to issues of privilege and oppression? What does it mean to say that race is a political construction? How should the idea of mixed-race be conceptualized? How do controlling images (stereotypes) influence policy making with racial overtones?

The second part of the course will explore how race and race privilege have been written into American law and public policy. In particular we will examine issues such as whiteness as a property right, affirmative action, reproductive policy (abortion, sterilization, and adoption), environmental racism, reparations to Native peoples and the ancestors of slaves, ties between colonial thinking and the invention of races. In addition, students will be encouraged to think outside the Black/white model of racism and to think through gendered and class-specific dimensions of racial politics.

The class will be run in a lecture/discussion format. Students will be responsible for weekly short reading assignments and a final seminar project of their own choice. Readings may include: *Life on the Color Line: The Story of a White Boy Who Discovered He Was Black*, *Critical Race Theory: A Reader*, and a course packet.

Prerequisites: This course is open to ALL students with permission of the instructor. Women's Studies minors who wish to take the course for elective credit should see Dr. Harmon. ■

An equal opportunity/affirmative action university encouraging diversity.

Women's Voice
Illinois State University
Women's Studies Program
Rachel Cooper 2nd Floor
Campus Box 4260
Normal, IL 61790-4260

For a complete viewing of Women's Studies newly designed website visit <http://www.cas.ilstu.edu/womenstudies>.

**Seventh Annual
WOMEN'S STUDIES
SYMPOSIUM**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2002
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

**UNIVERSITY GALLERIES
CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT 1:00 P.M.

Pre-registration required for free lunch. You may register by returning the adjacent form or sending an e-mail to Rozel White at rwhite@ilstu.edu.

Contact Women's Studies for further information by telephone (309-438-2947)

If you need a special accommodation, please contact Disability Concerns at 309-438-5853 (Voice) or 309-438-8620 (TDD).

**Seventh Annual
Women's Studies Symposium**

Friday, March 29, 2002

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
FOR FREE LUNCH, PLEASE
RETURN NO LATER THAN**

March 26, 2002

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zipcode _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Plan to eat lunch: Yes No

Please detach and mail, e-mail or Fax to:

**Women's Studies Program, Illinois State University, 237 Rachel
Cooper, 2nd Floor, Campus Box 4260, Normal, IL 61790-4260.
Phone: (309) 438-2947, Fax: (309) 438-5104.
E-mail: rwhite@ilstu.edu.**