The mission of the Harvard College Women's Center is to promote gender equity by raising awareness of women's and gender issues, developing women's leadership, and celebrating women who challenge, motivate, and inspire. In alignment with these goals, we centralize resources and offer student-focused programming to strengthen individuals and student organizations. The Women's Center is committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all genders that encourages dialogue and diversity.
Greetings from the HCWC! I’m so pleased to have completed my first year as Director of the Harvard College Women’s Center. As you will see in these pages, 2011-2012 continued a strong tradition of programming and projects focusing on women’s leadership, gender equity, and our motto, “creating community,” for all genders at Harvard.

The student intern staff produced a variety of fantastic events, including an award-winning retrospective on the “coeducational experiment” of the early 1970s, when Harvard and Radcliffe residential life first integrated. Shortly after this event (see the “Residential Revolution,” p. 14), the flood of positive reviews from current Harvard students came pouring in:

“Was awesome to hear the experiences from so many Radcliffe and North House alumni, (and a great reminder of how far everything’s come).”

“That event was AMAZING. I’ve never felt more proud to be living in Pfoho House.”

“One of my favorite bits was coming across the ‘college customs’ section in the students’ handbook for 1941-42 (the Red Book): ‘the first student to marry after graduation will be presented with the Radcliffe China by the other members of her class.’”

I have found our students (of all genders!) eager to learn about Radcliffe history and to speak with Radcliffe alumnae. The Women’s Center views itself as centrally engaged in carrying on the spirit and legacy of Radcliffe College for the undergraduate community at Harvard. As you can see, alumni involvement (p. 30) continues to provide valuable connections across generations of Harvard and Radcliffe students.

This year we undertook a number of exciting partnerships with student groups, including a successful initiative to increase the number of women representatives on the Undergraduate Council (p. 8). Our annual Women’s Week celebration (p. 16-17) was especially noteworthy as an opportunity for student organizations to work together on a shared initiative, and students often remarked to me in conversation how much they enjoyed and appreciated Women’s Week this spring.

Another new initiative that our students pioneered is a weekly blog, authored by HCWC undergraduate interns. You can read an entry from the blog on p. 25 of this report, or peruse all of the blog posts by visiting http://hcwc.wordpress.com. Our “Visibility and Outreach” team (p. 25) was very busy this year bringing the Women’s Center out into the community via the web and other campus projects, ensuring that we’re able to connect with students even if they never visit our (admittedly very nice) physical space in Canaday Hall (p. 6).

We were also fortunate to welcome two graduate student interns to the staff this year. Sarah Elis, our Graduate Intern for Administration, and Sarah Benckart, our Radcliffe Club of San Francisco Graduate Intern for Communications and Outreach, played pivotal roles in supporting the undergraduate interns and the full-time staff. “The Sarahs,” as they’re affectionately known, quickly integrated themselves into our staff community and made valuable contributions in support of our mission.

I am proud and humbled by the impact that HCWC has on the students that we touch each year through our programming, outreach, and internships. The interns, in particular, have the opportunity to develop a strong sense of community and passion around the Women’s Center. As one of our graduating seniors, Eva Gillis-Buck ’12, puts it: “My experience as a HCWC intern keeps me optimistic for the future of women at Harvard. I saw innovations by talented leaders (of all genders!) who work tirelessly together for women’s visibility and gender equality. With the help of the HCWC, I know future students will build upon the work of graduates and emerge as powerful leaders themselves.”

With your support and partnership, I look forward to many more years developing student leaders who “challenge, motivate, and inspire”—at Harvard and beyond.

Gina Helfrich, Ph.D.
Director
Internships at the Harvard College Women’s Center provide 10-15 students each year with the opportunity to develop their skills in discussion facilitation, public speaking, writing, event planning, project management, working with a team, and other basic professional skills. Women’s Center interns learn how to work with people of diverse backgrounds and identities, how to talk about social issues relating to gender and other forms of identity, and the importance of advocating for gender equity and women’s visibility. Our undergraduate interns are responsible for conceptualizing, planning, and implementing all of the events described in the following pages. They play a crucial role in keeping the Women’s Center connected to the wider Harvard College community and serve as “ambassadors” of the HCWC within other communities on campus.

Happy 5th Reunion to the Class of 2007!

Spring 2012 marked the five year reunion for the Class of 2007, the first class to graduate with intern alumni of the Harvard College Women’s Center. One of the first HCWC interns, Jasmine McGlade Chazelle ’07, shares what her time at the Women’s Center has meant to her:

“The women’s center allowed me to raise awareness, become more aware, get my voice heard, and hear the voices of others. I am so proud of the community that has formed in that humble basement location — the people who have come in and out of those doors have created one of the most open-minded, tolerant, and proactive environments on campus. My HCWC co-workers and peers fostered and supported my authentic self while I worked there, and as a result, working for the women’s center in its inaugural year — and specifically getting to produce and direct the 2007 HCWC-sanctioned show ‘In Their Own Words’ — will forever remain one of the highlights of my time at Harvard.”

Since leaving Harvard, Jasmine has pursued a successful career in film. She is producer of 2009’s “Guy and Madeline on a Park Bench” and writer-director of the award-winning film, “Maria My Love,” a 2011 Official Selection of the Tribeca Film Festival and winner of the Best U.S. Feature Film at HBO’s New York International Latino Film Festival.

Lili Behm ‘12 - Reflections on an Internship

During my first autumn at Harvard, I struggled to adjust to college life and living away from home for the first time, as so many of my classmates did. I found the Women’s Center at the very beginning of my first semester, and within minutes of entering the space knew I had found my home: a knot of older students welcomed me in and showed me around, before complimenting me on the pins on my red backpack. In the days that followed, I returned again and again to the cozy space in Canaday Hall’s basement, and, before I knew it, I had become a part of the Women’s Center community.

Community is a vital part of our work at the Women’s Center. I began my intern career as a sophomore, and immediately saw how my friendly presence made every visitor feel welcome. Our mission statement celebrates diversity, dialogue, and women’s contributions, and that mission means that the Women’s Center remains as relevant as ever. We as interns plan each event the Center holds, taking turns leading the planning and facilitation process, and I have tried to structure each of my events so that all attendees feel welcomed and valued and able to speak their minds. Too often at Harvard, the weight of brilliant precedent and historical achievements, as well as peer pressure to act in some stereotyped way, keeps students from giving voice to their thoughts. The Women’s Center turns that on its head. Our mission is to sponsor dialogues that might not otherwise happen, and voices that might not otherwise be heard.

For my senior project, a capstone of each senior intern’s career here, I organized and facilitated a student discussion with three prominent Boston women lawyers. Attendees told me afterwards that they hoped to see more career panels focusing on the unique problems women face in the workforce, for example balancing family and social life with a career that usually pays them almost 25% less than their male co-workers. One student asked what it feels like to be a woman of color in a position of legal power, a question that she said was meaningful to her, and one that she felt comfortable enough to ask.

I am grateful to the Women’s Center for providing me with the skills and leadership I need to pull off events like that discussion. I have learned leadership from my colleagues over the years, all of whom were superb leaders and wonderful role models; helped the Women’s Center disburse financial help to groups who need it through our Ann Radcliffe Trust grant process; met women student leaders by facilitating meetings of the Women’s Cabinet; and enjoyed blogging for the Women’s Center’s blog and managing our Twitter account. These are all career skills, and without the opportunity to intern here for three years, I would probably not have gained them.

Most importantly, the Women’s Center has been my home at Harvard. We provide this sense of community and belonging to many students here who, like I once did, sometimes struggle to feel welcome and comfortable. We are a unique space, shaped by the passions and personalities of every intern cohort. While I will miss my fellow interns and our supportive management team, I know that I leave the Center in capable hands, and I look forward to reading about spectacular events and programs in future annual reports.

Former HCWC Intern Matthews Mmopi ’11 was selected this year as one of 10 Rhodes Scholars from the Southern African region. Matthews will continue his commitment to women’s and gender issues at the University of Oxford next year: “The Rhodes Scholarship, to me, represents an unrivaled opportunity to further my capacity to champion political consciousness and freedom in the world. I would like to examine the role of gender in shaping the political, economic, and social opportunities available to individuals in order to evaluate how African societies can close gender gaps in economic and political participation and access to education and health.”

Matthews credits the Women’s Center with helping to spur his interest in gender issues in Africa. “I believe my studies in economics and African studies coupled with my internship at the Harvard College Women’s Center helped to shape my intended course of study at Oxford. Through these experiences, I examined gender, political, and socioeconomic factors as causes and solutions to Africa’s development problems.” Congratulations, Matthews!
The Women’s Center offers different spaces suited to a variety of needs for students and student groups. Our lounge has couches, armchairs, floor pillows, and a plasma television with DVD player and can accommodate up to 30 people (top left). Our conference room offers a quieter space for students to study and hold meetings (bottom left), and students are welcome to check email at our computer stations and utilize the copier/printer/scanner/fax machine for a small fee per page (bottom right). The Women’s Center also has a full kitchen that can be used by students (top right). These spaces are open to all Harvard students from Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm and Monday to Wednesday, 6-10pm while school is in session.

Student groups often take advantage of the opportunity to reserve space in the Women’s Center, which operates as a “home base” for many student organizations. Thank you immensely for your generosity, encouragement, and support. We appreciate the space you share with us greatly; it is the heart of Athena’s programming and an integral part of our history and development. We benefit every week from your resources, and we cannot express how grateful we are for your work to promote respect for all people.

—Nadia Farjood ’13, Athena Program Co-Director

Fall 2011 Events

Women’s Leadership Conference - August 13-23

Each year, the Women’s Leadership Conference brings together a group of young Harvard women for an intensive week of workshops, panels, discussions, and group bonding just before the fall semester begins in earnest. In 2011, the 24th Annual Women’s Leadership Conference admitted 36 participants who together explored a diversity of topics, including leadership styles, personal finance, resume writing, health and wellness, communications, graduate school, women in politics, public service, and more. The cohort also took time to learn about themselves and one another and to develop a strong bond amongst the group. Student participants spoke highly of their experience and have continued on after the conference to assume leadership roles on campus.

Ann Radcliffe Trust Lecture - August 29

2011’s Ann Radcliffe Trust Lecture, traditionally given during Opening Days for the incoming first-year class, featured Kathleen M. Coleman, James Loeb Professor of the Classics. Professor Coleman teaches popular courses such as Culture and Belief 17, “Institutional Violence and Public Spectacle: The Case of the Roman Games.” Her lecture, “What Do the Romans Have to Offer the Class of MMXV, and Is It Something Nice?” was well-received by students and many were excited to take courses in the classics with Professor Coleman during their time at Harvard.

Women’s Center Open House - August 30

The annual HCWC Open House takes place during Opening Days to welcome the new first-year students arriving on campus. HCWC staff and interns were on hand to answer questions about the space and about student life at Harvard, and to tell new students about the many events and programs offered by the Women’s Center. Visitors enjoyed coffee, tea, and light refreshments while playing board games and getting to know their fellow students in a warm, lively environment.
As part of “Love Your Body, Love Your Mind” week at Harvard, the Women’s Center hosted a conversation on mental health, stress, and self-care at Harvard. Among attendees were representatives from peer counseling groups (Room 13, Contact, Eating Concerns Hotline and Outreach, Response, and Peer Contraceptive Counselors) as well as from the Harvard Foundation for Race and Intercultural Relations, the Student Mental Health Liaisons, and GLOW (Gay, Lesbian, or Whatever). The event began with an activity in which participants used markers to check off “stress statements” posted on the walls of the lounge, marking statements that stressed themselves or people they knew. By the end of the activity, the wall was full of colorful checks, indicating how prevalent these stressors were among Harvard students. Some of the most common stressors included being worried about life after college and feeling overwhelmed by too many extracurricular commitments. Using the wall activity as a starting point, HCWC interns then moderated a discussion on stress at Harvard and encouraged participants to share their personal experiences and wider concerns, including how these issues are affected by aspects of identity such as gender or sexuality. This led to an exchange of students’ personal ideas for self-care and stress reduction, as well as ways to combat the campus-wide norm of stress. The discussion wrapped up with an overview of mental health resources at Harvard, including introductions by representatives of peer counseling and other student groups.

Mind Matters: Stress and Self-Care at Harvard - October 19

To kick off the year, the Women’s Center hosted the sixth annual Women’s Community Fair, put on in collaboration with approximately 30 undergraduate student organizations focused on women’s and gender issues. Each year, the fair brings together representatives from a variety of organizations—including cultural, social, public service, pre-professional, and sports—to forge relationships with other groups, encourage collaboration on future events, and recruit new members from the freshman class. This year, the fair took place in the Cambridge Queen’s Head Pub, located one floor down from Annenberg, the first-year dining hall. Just after dinner, attendees gathered to enjoy candy and desserts and speak with group representatives. All students left with a greater sense of community around women’s and gender issues on campus and a sense of the many possibilities for engagement offered at Harvard College.

How to Campaign for the Undergraduate Council - September 7

This fall the Women’s Center continued a tradition of partnering with the Undergraduate Council to offer a “how to campaign” workshop focused especially on first-year women. This event has become an important intervention into the nation-wide trend, replicated at Harvard, of the over-representation of men in college student governments. At the 50 colleges ranked highest by U.S. News & World Report in 2011, less than a third of student body presidents are women; at Harvard College, in the last 10 years, only one woman has been elected president of the UC (Andrea Flores in 2009). However, 5 of the past 10 UC vice presidents have been women. Thanks to the combined, sustained efforts of the Women’s Center, the Undergraduate Council, and the Women’s Cabinet, outreach and training like the “how to campaign” workshop improved the gender representation on the UC from 25% female in 2010 to 35% female in 2011.

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Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America - September 22

Melissa Harris-Perry is Professor of Political Science at Tulane University, Founding Director of the Anna Julia Cooper Project on Gender, Race, and Politics in the South, an author and columnist for The Nation magazine, and host of her own television show on MSNBC. In collaboration with the Harvard Kennedy School’s Women and Public Policy Program and W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African American Research, this fall the Women’s Center brought Dr. Harris-Perry to campus to discuss her new book, “Sister Citizen.” According to Dr. Harris-Perry, Jezebel’s sexual lasciviousness, Mammy’s devotion, and Sapphire’s outspoken anger are among the most persistent stereotypes that black women encounter in contemporary American life. Hurtful and dishonest, such representations force African American women to navigate a virtual crooked room that shames them and shapes their experiences as citizens. Many respond by assuming a mantle of strength that may convince others, and even themselves, that they do not need help. But as a result, the unique political issues of black women are often ignored and marginalized. The lecture was filled to capacity, and students spoke enthusiastically of Dr. Harris-Perry’s insightfulness and the compelling way in which she makes her argument.
Students from the College and Divinity School came together in the Women’s Center lounge to discuss faith and life at Harvard over plates of delicious Thai food. Attendees first established some ground rules for respectful discussion, including a spectrum-based way of thinking about gender. Then they launched into a discussion about women’s roles and the ability of religions to change to reflect changing times; students shared their own experiences as people of faith at Harvard, a campus most attendees felt to be very secular and in some ways tricky for students of faith to navigate. Some attendees felt that, for example, Biblical passages seemed to constrain women’s roles, while others found Biblical passages inspiring and reaffirming and found strong women in the pages of spiritual texts. Attendees also learned how women can participate in leadership roles in religions without being ordained to preach. By listening and responding to each other, attendees and HCWC interns alike enjoyed the laid-back evening and learned about a variety of faith perspectives.

Let’s Talk about Faith - October 24

Students gathered at the Women’s Center to attend the opening of the Fall Art Show: Modern Day Dandies. The images chosen for the show reflect the trend in fashion known as Dandyism, and represent the way the trend has evolved from its inception in the late 18th century to the runways and editorials of today; the exhibit also showcased portraits of students currently at Harvard whose senses of style have been influenced by Dandyism. To open the show, the students held a discussion focused on fashion at Harvard, facilitated in part by Colin Teo ’12, founder of BooksandLiquor.com, a blog that focuses on fashion at Harvard. Students discussed the way individuals can break those stereotypes by choosing to dress in a certain way. Topics addressed included race, sexuality, socio-economic status, and gender, and many students reflected on the way they as individuals appear to those around them. Students noted the connections between perceived gender and sexuality and the way an individual self-presents; for example, participants were interested in the idea that a man who dresses effeminately is often perceived as weak, whereas a woman who dresses masculinely is often perceived as strong. This observation was linked to the example of politics and the suggestion that often, women who run for public office feel the need to present themselves masculinely in order to be taken seriously (such as Hillary Clinton). Additionally, participants were interested in the existence of sex-specific clothing and the role fashion plays in reinforcing stereotypical gender ideas while also in allowing the individual to break those stereotypes. Following the discussion, a reception for the show was held in which students were invited to discuss the images while contemplating the themes brought up during the conversation.

Spring Rolls & Symbiosis with Naomi Pierce - November 2

Co-sponsoring with the Women’s Initiative in Leadership at the Institute of Politics, Strong Women Strong Girls, Circle of Women, the Radcliffe Union of Students, the Women’s Leadership Project, and The Seneca, Inc., the Women’s Center held a screening of the documentary “Miss Representation,” which explores the role the media plays in causing the public to believe in the incompetence of female leaders and, specifically, what her opinions are concerning the media’s representation of recent women leaders including Sarah Palin and Michelle Bachmann. Attendees were provoked into thinking critically about the media’s problematic representation of women and the way the campus views women running for positions of power on the Undergraduate Council, the student government at Harvard College.

Miss Representation - November 9

Naomi Pierce, Hessel Professor of Biology in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology and Curator of Lepidoptera in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, joined students over Thai food dinner (hence the “spring rolls”) to discuss her work and her life experience. Many students were curious about how she balanced her work and family life, whether she preferred teaching or research, and what her reaction was to (former Harvard President) Larry Summer’s comments about women in science a few years back. She recounted her undergraduate years at Yale where she switched from studying the humanities to the sciences very late in her college career. Dr. Pierce also spoke about the challenges of being a woman conducting scientific research during her time in school, because many people assumed that she would end her research after getting married, so they wouldn’t take her seriously. However, living close to campus allowed Dr. Pierce to balance work and family life, although she admitted that there were challenges. She talked about her love of research as well as her interest in engaging more students in that research. She also disagreed with Larry Summers’ comments, as a woman in science who managed to succeed in her field. She pointed out all the positive changes in the gender balance that have taken place today and encouraged students to follow their passions. Students left dinner having enjoyed the opportunity to interact informally with such a distinguished professor and having learned how she overcame some of the challenges of being a woman in science.

Fall Art Show “Modern Day Dandies” - October 27

Students from the College and Divinity School came together in the Women’s Center lounge to discuss faith and life at Harvard over plates of delicious Thai food. Attendees first established some ground rules for respectful discussion, including a spectrum-based way of thinking about gender. Then they launched into a discussion about women’s roles and the ability of religions to change to reflect changing times; students shared their own experiences as people of faith at Harvard, a campus most attendees felt to be very secular and in some ways tricky for students of faith to navigate. Some attendees felt that, for example, Biblical passages seemed to constrain women’s roles, while others found Biblical passages inspiring and reaffirming and found strong women in the pages of spiritual texts. Attendees also learned how women can participate in leadership roles in religions without being ordained to preach. By listening and responding to each other, attendees and HCWC interns alike enjoyed the laid-back evening and learned about a variety of faith perspectives.
Just in time for House Formals season, the Women’s Center interns, in collaboration with the Undergraduate Council, hosted a workshop-style dance party event where attendees were invited to learn how to get low on the dance floor. Workshop topics included “what to do with your hands,” “rhythm and feet,” “dancing with a partner,” and “booty shaking.” Each workshop was led by one or two student leaders from various parts of campus, including dancers from the Expressions Dance Company. Attendees were also given special wristbands when they arrived, which were used to initiate short conversations between attendees about safe party spaces at Harvard and the social dynamics of gendered dancing. The workshop was a blast, and by the end everyone was dancing with more confidence than when they arrived!

Teach Me How to Dance - November 30

This fall’s Alum-inating discussion featured Lindsay Hyde, ’04, Founder and President of Strong Women, Strong Girls, Inc., a national mentoring program for girls. Lindsay, who graduated with a degree in Sociology and Studies of Women, Gender & Sexuality from Harvard College, came back to campus for dinner and discussion with current undergraduates. She shared her journey as a national leader in public service from starting Strong Women, Strong Girls as a student group at the Phillips Brooks House Association in 2000 to launching it as a nonprofit in 2004. Since then, Strong Women, Strong Girls has continued to grow, spreading beyond Boston to Pittsburgh and Miami. Lindsey also shared reflections on gender in her personal and professional endeavors, how she maintains the energy needed to do the work she does, and her plans for the future. Students left feeling inspired by Lindsay’s entrepreneurship as a recent graduate and her passion for the well-being of young girls. The event was co-sponsored with the Harvard chapter of Strong Women, Strong Girls.

Gamer Grrlz: Gender and Video Games - November 16

In this informal, discussion-based event, students and video game producer Courtney Stanton (organizer of Women in Games Boston) discussed their thoughts about and experiences with gaming and the game design industry (both predominantly and stereotypically male occupations). Images and descriptions of screen shots of video game characters and gamers were displayed on the Women’s Center lounge wall to prompt discussion about video game characters’ gender presentation. Courtney discussed her career path and its rewards and challenges. The majority of the event was casual question and answer discussion about how gender and video games intersect: in the video game industry, the gender of gamers, and video game characters’ gender. After the event, the exhibit of screen shot images and descriptions of video game characters were moved to the Maxwell Dworkin lobby, home to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Computer Science Department, where they remained on display from November 30–December 8. The discussion was co-sponsored by the Harvard-Radcliffe Science Fiction Association and Women in Science at Harvard-Radcliffe.

Science, Blogging, and Feminism with Kate Clancy ’01 - November 9

Kate Clancy, ’01, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Illinois, studies the evolutionary medicine of women’s reproductive physiology. Dr. Clancy graduated with a degree in Anthropology and Studies of Women, Gender & Sexuality from Harvard College in 2001. Currently, she writes about her field, the evolution of human behavior, and issues for women in science at her Scientific American blog, Context and Variation. Dr. Clancy met with students to discuss her career as a scientist and science blogger, to answer questions, and to discuss how she combines her feminist interests with her scientific research. Students were inspired by the way that Dr. Clancy manages to pursue her scholarly interests both within the academy and in the more public arena of her blog. The discussion was co-sponsored by the Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality and the Department of Human Evolutionary Biology.
Spring 2012 Events

The Residential Revolution: The History of Gender and Pforzheimer House Student Life - February 15

In honor of the 375th anniversary of Harvard College, the Women's Center collaborated with Pforzheimer House to produce an event that discussed the process leading up to, implementation of, and subsequent steps of co-education residence between Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges. Drawing upon archival documents, alumni experiences, and other University documents, the event reminded current Harvard undergraduates of the activism that was responsible for the dynamic Houses that they now inhabit. The “coeducational experiment” had its beginnings in 1969, was implemented in 1970, and solidified in the following decade.

Visitors were encouraged to handle the displayed Radcliffe yearbooks whose years ranged from the 1910s to the 1950s. One alumna was particularly excited to find her mother within the pages. After perusing the archival materials and enjoying one another's company, current Harvard students and Harvard and Radcliffe alumni gathered to hear from a panel of alumni who themselves participated in “the experiment.” The presentation was lively and enlightening as it touched upon funny anecdotes as well as somber recollections of the Harvard/Radcliffe experience of the 1970s. The evening concluded with a tour of Pforzheimer House (formerly North House) in the Radcliffe Quad as students brought alumni through their old living quarters. Alumni were enthusiastic to see their old rooms as they swapped stories and shared the history of the building with its current student residents.

Pforzheimer student residents praised the event as the best they had attended in the House. Student co-organizers Suzanna Bobadilla ’13 (HCWC intern) and Matthew Chuchul ’13, both residents of Pforzheimer House, were featured in an article in the Harvard Gazette as well as in Harvard Magazine about the event, and in May the pair were announced as winners of the 2012 Cynthia Wight Rossano Prize in Harvard History for their work on “The Residential Revolution.” The historical displays from the “Residential Revolution” are now permanently installed at Pforzheimer House, affirming the value of Radcliffe students of the 2012 Cynthia Wight Rossano Prize in Harvard History.

$Start $tart $mart Salary Negotiation Workshop - February 24

In partnership with the Office of Career Services, the Women's Center was proud to offer our annual Start $tart Salary Negotiation Workshop. This workshop educates students about the gender wage discrepancy in America, including the unfortunate fact that women make, on average, $0.77 per each $1.00 a man is paid. Over her working lifetime, a woman will earn on average $1 million less than a man simply because of her gender. The Start $tart workshop taught pre-professional Harvard women to research what a job is worth and assertively negotiate initial salaries, raises, and benefit packages. Students left feeling empowered to head out into the professional world and advocate for themselves, helping to close the gender wage gap in the process.

Sheryl Sandberg TED talk: Why We Have Too Few Women Leaders - February 28

The Women’s Center supported undergraduates Izzy Evans ’14, Beverly Pozuelos Reyes ’12, and Preetha Hebbar ’12 in arranging a discussion of women and leadership in the professional world. The event began with a screening of a 2010 TED talk by Sheryl Sandberg HBS ’95, COO of Facebook, in which she analyzed the gross lack of female representation in corporate leadership positions. After viewing the clip, Izzy, Preetha, and Beverly facilitated a discussion about the problems raised in Sandberg’s speech. Students discussed Sandberg’s explanations for the low numbers of women in leadership roles and her suggested solutions: “sit at the table,” “make your partner a real partner,” and “don’t leave before you leave.” The discussion concluded with a collective brainstorm of how to implement similar principles for women in the Harvard College campus community.

How to Talk to Your Doctor - March 26th

In conjunction with the inaugural Sex Week at Harvard, the Women’s Center partnered with Sexual Health Education and Advocacy throughout Harvard College (SHEATH) and the Radcliffe Union of Students (RUS) to put on an event about how to talk to your doctor about sex and sexual health. Panelists included Dr. Bruce Churchill, Nurse Practitioner Kate Luethy, and Nurse Practitioner Nina Meltzer of Harvard University Health Services, who answered questions from Harvard students ranging from “What does my doctor mean when she asks if I’m sexually active?” to “What is an IUD?” Stefanie Boltz from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy was present to introduce students to bedsider.com, a helpful resource with information on contraception. Hosted in the Adams House Junior Common Room, the event was attended by students of various genders and sexualities; students and health practitioners alike left the discussion feeling more comfortable talking together about sexual health.
Women’s Week 2012: March 4-9

The sixth annual Women’s Week was organized by the Harvard College Women’s Center, the Women’s Cabinet, and the Seneca, Inc. Women’s Week is an annual week-long celebration of women and women’s history in conjunction with International Women’s Day in March. All Women’s Week events are student-initiated and student-run. This year’s Women’s Week was particularly well-received, and benefited from a fantastic creative publicity effort by the Women’s Week Steering Committee. The Kick-Off Party included a “flash mob” dance to the song “One Girl Revolution,” a Women’s Week cake, and the chance to fill out cards stating what Women’s Week means to each student.

Women’s Week started out with a career panel featuring Harvard alumnae who had followed their passions into professions outside of “typical” Harvard career paths of consulting, finance, or medicine. Conversation focused on how to do what you love as a full-time job and re-defining “success” as a Harvard grad. Events during the week included: a discussion of gender in young adult novels, featuring a panel of women authors; a showing and discussion of “The Purity Myth,” a documentary film about cultural attitudes towards women’s sexuality; a panel conversation about the role of women in post-conflict development; a workshop on shaping a successful career; a discussion of feminism and contemporary hip-hop; a panel of “first” women leaders of prominent coed Harvard student organizations; the Spark Award Banquet, honoring a phenomenal woman professor in science; the third annual Feminist Coming Out Day, a photography exhibit filled with portraits of on-campus feminists followed by a “coffee house” with spoken word poetry and music; and a discussion with Megan White Mukuria ’99, a philanthropist and entrepreneur.

Women’s Week 2012 offered Harvard students of all genders multiple opportunities for discussion and celebration of women’s lives at Harvard and beyond.
Tales of the Waria - April 5th

In partnership with the Office for BGLTQ Student Life and the Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, the Women’s Center brought Kathy Huang ’01, noted filmmaker, back to Harvard to screen her newly released documentary, Tales of the Waria. The word “waria” is a combination of two Indonesian words: “wanita,” which means “woman,” and “pria,” which means “man.” This film follows the stories of four waria, openly transgender Indonesian women, and documents the challenges that they face, the adversity that they overcome, and the love that they seek in this largely Muslim country. By witnessing the waria’s journeys for love, intimacy, and acceptance, students were presented with a transnational understanding of gender and culture that challenges the Western understanding of Islam as an oppressive religion and complicates Western ideas concerning Islam and the East. After the film, Kathy Huang received questions from students on her experiences producing, directing, and filming this documentary and on her experiences living in Indonesia among the waria and their friends and families.

Aluminating with Megan White Mukuria ’99 - March 9

Women’s Week 2012 drew to a close with a visit by Megan White Mukuria ’99, founder and CEO of ZanaAfrica in Kenya. “Zana” is the conjunction of two words in Swahili, which together signify “crafting tools for sustainable education.” This enterprise seeks to reduce girls’ absenteeism from schools by providing them with sanitary pads to mediate their menstrual periods. Megan’s presentation was in many ways a fitting culmination for the events of Women’s Week because it focused on a woman with an unconventional career path—a social entrepreneur—who is focused on a woman with an unconventional career path—a social entrepreneur—who is making a difference in a developing country. Megan’s presentation was in many ways a fitting culmination for the events of Women’s Week because it focused on a woman with an unconventional career path—a social entrepreneur—who is making a difference in a developing country.

The Inter-Conference: Engaging Interdisciplinary Intersex Perspectives - April 7

Undergraduates, professors, graduate students, and intersex specialists came together at the “Inter” Conference at Harvard College, which united U.S. leaders in intersex medical science, scholarship, advocacy, media, and support groups to engage in dialogue. The conference consisted of a series of interdisciplinary panel conversations and break-out sessions featuring members, parents, and young adults from U.S. support groups for intersex/DSD (disorders of sex development) individuals. Leaders of the field attending the conference included author of Fixing Sex, Katrina Karkazis PhD/MPH; Anne Tamar-Mattis JD, Executive Director of Advocates for Informed Choice; and Lizzie Reis PhD, author of Bodies in Doubt.

This unique forum fostered dialogue on important issues in the lives of individuals with intersex conditions/DSDs, including: teaching sex and intersex conditions, transforming patient/family/doctor communication, developing interdisciplinary/group collaboration, promoting medical ethics in intersex/DSD care.

The event was initially proposed by Miriam Muscarella ’12, a finalist for this year’s Women’s Leadership Award. As someone with an intersex condition herself, Miriam approached the Women’s Center with the idea to host the conference as a means of promoting activism around a gender issue that does not yet have widespread awareness or understanding. Working closely with HCWC interns, Miriam was able to make her idea a reality. The Women’s Center was pleased to serve as a forum for action and activism that allows Harvard students to bring their ideas to fruition and to practice the skills necessary for developing strong leadership.

Co-sponsors of the conference included: Harvard Bioethics Society, Harvard Pre-Medical Society, Harvard Queer Students and Allies, Harvard School of Public Health’s Women/Gender and Health Group, and the Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality.

“I Object!” Making a Career in Law or Policy Work for you! - April 10

Harvard students gathered in the Advising Programs Office’s conference room for an interactive panel discussion about women in legal and policy careers. Students heard from three top woman lawyers in Boston: Hemmie Chang (Partner, Foley Hoag LLP), Kanamie Chang (Attorney, Emerging Enterprise Institute), and Abim Thomas (Chief Deputy Counsel for Gov. Deval Patrick). These women have achieved great success in their careers in a legal field that retains its glass ceiling for women’s advancement. They answered questions about trying to balance career and family and/or social life; taking time off between college and law school; grappling with law school loan debt; and experiencing gender discrimination on the job, among other topics. Students left the event with valuable insights for young women planning careers in law and policy.
Implosions: A Gathering for Adrienne Rich - April 12

With the passing of Adrienne Rich ’51 this spring, a small group of students gathered in the Women’s Center lounge to honor her life and creative legacy by reading her words. A Radcliffe alumna, Rich was outspoken on issues of race, class, gender and sexuality, and her work has transformed the lives and thinking of many readers. The event, which was co-sponsored by the Office of BGLTQ Student Life and the Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality, had an intimate feeling as many students shared how they first came across the writings of Adrienne Rich and talked about how she inspired them.

Gender Research Colloquium - April 16

“The Medea Project: Reimagining the Social World in the Theater”
Sabrina Gharib Lee ’12 (Social Studies)

“Clarissa’s Attic: The ‘Room of One’s Own’ in Woolf’s Mrs. Dalloway”
Spencer Lenfield ’12 (History & Literature)

“The Forgotten Rainbow of AIDS Activism: People of Color and the Vitality of Social Movements”
Victor Yang ’12 (History of Science)

“Exploring and Valuing Australian Intersex Experiences”
Miriam Boyd Mucarella ’12 (Studies of Women, Gender & Sexuality)

“Gendered Knowing and Being in Rural North India”
Mihir Chaudhary ’12 (Social Studies)

Eva Gillis-Buck ’12 (Human Developmental & Regenerative Biology / Studies of Women, Gender & Sexuality)

The third annual Undergraduate Gender Research Colloquium provided a platform for undergraduates who have conducted original research related to themes of gender and/or sexuality to share their work and engage in a wider academic dialogue with the Harvard community. The colloquium featured presentations that incorporated diverse thematic, disciplinary, and methodological commitments. The colloquium provides a unique opportunity for students to share their senior project research in an interdisciplinary environment.

Swap ‘Til You Drop - May 2

Swap ‘Til You Drop is our annual clothing swap, hosted in the Women’s Center, in which students bring clothing to exchange with one another. Those that wished to purchase items, rather than exchange them, could do so for the “steep price” of one dollar per item. Held during Reading Period, the swap was well-timed, with students packing up their rooms and moving boxes of clothes into storage. Rather than throw that old shirt into the “toss this away” pile, students were able to place items into the “donate this and help someone out” pile. Attendees enjoyed a homemade brunch, complements of HCWC staff, and shared excitement over great clothing finds. The three-hour event filled the Center with laughter and smiles, promoting our mission of “creating community.” All clothing that was donated but not exchanged, along with all proceeds raised by one-dollar donations, was given to the Bread and Jams shelter in Cambridge, MA.

Visitas: A Candid Conversation on Life at Harvard - April 21

When students admitted to the Harvard College Class of 2016 visited campus as part of the College’s April Visitas weekend, the Women’s Center hosted “Candid Conversation” in order to provide prospective students with a sense of what life at Harvard is really like. To this end, the Women’s Center invited representatives from a variety of student organizations to speak candidly about their experiences at Harvard and to answer questions posed by the eager “prefrosh.” The Women’s Center was packed wall-to-wall with interested students, and conversation never lullled as prefrosh eagerly learned all they could from the current students, who shared the diverse experiences they have had while at Harvard. Because of this event, the admitted students learned about the Women’s Center and the work we do, as well as the fact that Harvard is home to a great diversity of students who embody a variety of interests, backgrounds, and experiences. As an extra bonus, several prefrosh decided to commit to Harvard after this event. Go Crimson!

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The Women's Cabinet is composed of representatives from women's- and gender-related student groups on campus and meets bi-weekly in the Women's Center for leadership development, networking, knowledge sharing, and group problem-solving. Women's Cabinet members review grant applications for the Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund and play a central role in coordinating Women's Week in the spring.

Active members of the 2011-2012 Women's Cabinet were: The Association of Black Harvard Women; the Athena Program; Contact Peer Counseling; Delta Gamma; Harvard Consent, Assault Awareness, and Relationship Educators; Harvard Jewish Women's Group; Harvard University Women in Business; International Women's Rights Collective; Kappa Kappa Gamma; Latinas Unidas; the Organization of Asian-American Sisters in Service; Peer Contraceptive Counselors; Queer Students and Allies; the Radcliffe Choral Society; the Radcliffe Union of Students; Response Peer Counseling; Sexual Health Education and Advocacy throughout Harvard College; Smart Woman Securities; the South Asian Women's Collective; Styleta; the Seneca, Inc.; the Undergraduate Council; the Women's Initiative in Leadership at the Institute of Politics; and the Women's Leadership Project.

The Women's Leadership Conference

Each year, the Women's Leadership Conference brings together a group of about 30 young women for an intensive week of workshops, panels, discussions, and group bonding just before the fall semester begins in earnest. Topics touch on leadership styles, personal finance, resume writing, health and wellness, communications, graduate school, women in politics, public service, and more. Participants speak highly of their experience and often go on to lead women's groups on campus.

“Attending the Women’s Leadership Conference motivated me to be more assertive and to take more of an active role in everything I do, whether it’s speaking up in class or seeking out extracurricular and summer opportunities. Each day, I learned from the amazing and diverse group of women who led informative and inspiring workshops, but I found that I learned as much, if not more, from conversations and examples set by the other conference participants. In just six days, I made lasting friendships, reflected on where I see myself in 5 or 10 years, and learned the leadership skills that will help me get there. I couldn’t think of a better way to start the year.”

—Rachel Neiger, Women’s Leadership Conference 2011 co-chair

Women’s Cabinet

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The Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women’s Center Community Fund

The Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women’s Center Community Fund was created in the pioneering, independent spirit of Ann Radcliffe, who, in 1643, established the first scholarship fund for Harvard College and for whom Radcliffe College was named two-and-a-half centuries later. The ART/WCCF is primarily funded by the Houghton Endowment, which was established by a gift from Maisie K. Houghton ’62 and James R. Houghton ’58. Grant applications are reviewed by a rotating subset of members of the Women’s Cabinet, along with 2-3 Women’s Center interns. Grants are awarded to student groups to fund projects that support the visibility of women, encourage dialogue about gender, and promote women’s leadership at Harvard College.

The Harvard College Women’s Center awards an average of 35 ART/WCCF grants to student initiatives annually. Currently, we are able to fund about 50% of the requests we receive each year. In 2011-2012, a total of 27 grants totaling $14,166 were awarded to 22 different student groups. Here is what some of the recipients had to say about the significance of receiving an ART/WCCF grant:

Project Funded: Smart Woman Securities Comp Process
The Smart Woman Securities Seminar Series is an intensive ten-week program through the fall semester, where students gain knowledge about markets, develop analytical and research skills, and learn about the SWS investing principles. Participants attend weekly 1.5 hour seminars comprised of lectures, workshops, simulations, and other programming taught by invited professors, experts in the field, industry professionals, or SWS Mentors. These meetings provide SWS members with the opportunity to research and formulate investment opinions for a variety of companies. At the end of the ten weeks, students are expected to present an investment recommendation and report on the stock. At the end of the comp, all members are invited apply to go on a one day career exploratory trip to New York (around 30 students are accepted) to visit companies in finance and meet with specific women’s resources and options for pregnant students at Harvard College and a comprehensive resource page for women in science, technology, engineering, and math—the culmination of an HCWC senior project by our intern Eva Wolk who has done innovative theatre work both at Harvard and within the professional world. Additionally, the executive producer, co-music director, stage manager, set designer, costume designer, and technical designer are all women who are passionate not only about women’s issues but also about utilizing theater and other mediums of art to engage in a dialogue about gender roles in our society and the relationship between men and women.

“We were one of the few this semester that contained substantial feminist roles, and we believe that we were able to highlight the progressive, proto-feminist views that Twelfth Night conveys. Our success was mostly attributed to our hardworking cast and staff as well as our various sponsors.”
—Andrew Shindi, Hyperion Shakespeare Company, ART/WCCF February 2012 Grant Recipient

Women’s Center Visibility & Outreach
This year a subset of HCWC interns worked together as the “Visibility and Outreach” team for the Women’s Center. The function of this committee is to engage the wider campus community and beyond in dialogue about women and gender issues, as well as to publicize the mission and activities of the Women’s Center to the Harvard College community. The Radcliffe Club of San Francisco Graduate Intern for Communications and Outreach, along with four of our undergraduate interns, managed the web presence of the Women’s Center and worked very hard to create additional opportunities for students and community members to engage with us and with one another.

Women’s Center Visibility & Outreach

Project Funded: A Production of Twelfth Night by Hyperion Shakespeare Company
In 2011-12, “V&O” interns created online space for student engagement with women’s and gender issues through four web portals: the HCWC website, a staff blog, Facebook, and Twitter. Thanks to weekly posts by the undergraduate interns, our new blog has generated over 3,300 views, including readership in over 44 non-U.S. countries. Updates to our Facebook page keep the more than 450 “fans” of the page up-to-date on HCWC happenings, and our Twitter account’s 200+ followers interact with us via short “tweets” and “re-tweets” of our postings. Additionally, our staff has ensured that the Women’s Center website is structured to provide online access to women’s history at Harvard, including an online catalog of the women’s history at Harvard-Radcliffe Library, updated and digitized by one of our undergraduate interns, Suzanna Bobadilla ’13. The website centralizes information on signature Women’s Center programs, such as our two mentoring programs and the Women’s Leadership Award, and a variety of resources for students, including a Women’s Center-created brochure of resources and options for pregnant students at Harvard College and a comprehensive resource page for women in science, technology, engineering, and math—the culmination of an HCWC senior project by our intern Eva Gilles-Buck ’12.

Another creative endeavor we are proud to unveil this year is a short video about the Women’s Center featuring voices from our community. The video, which is now featured prominently on our website, was the brainchild of intern Chava Kenny ’12, who filmed and edited it herself as a senior project for the Women’s Center. We invite you to check out Chava’s video by visiting us on the web at http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu
Radcliffe Mentor Program

Now in its 27th year, in 2011-12 the Radcliffe Mentor Program (RMP) matched 126 student participants with alumnae mentors of Harvard and Radcliffe for career exploration and conversations about life after graduation. Pairs met two to three times per semester to discuss career development, work/life balance, graduate school preparation, and other related topics. Mentors range from the classes of the late 1960s to the class of 2010. Approximately 200 mentors are available each year to be matched with undergraduates, 98% of whom are women.

Each year, the program hosts two events: a kick-off in October and a career conversation brunch in February. The fall kick-off was, as always, a celebratory gathering of both new and returning pairs, focusing on beginning (or renewing) their plans for a meaningful mentoring relationship. The “Career Conversations” event, held in the spring, offered a chance for mentees to learn from the many mentors in attendance about their approach to work/life balance, how to keep relationships strong while pursuing a career, and how they managed unexpected events in life, among many other topics. Mentors and mentees both commented on how much they enjoyed being able to speak with other RMP participants and get to meet new people and hear their stories.

Throughout the year, mentors and mentees pursued a variety of activities together, including shadowing at the mentor’s workplace, reversioning resumes and cover letters, attending lectures, concerts, and plays together, or just meeting for coffee at a local café. The emphasis of the program continues to be driven by the pairs themselves—their needs, goals, and mutual interests.

The program strives to support students through the fostering of significant relationships outside of the “Harvard bubble.” If you or someone you know are an alumna and live within 50 miles of Boston, please consider joining the program! Visit us on the web to sign up for a mentor profile: http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu/rmp

A group of current and former Radcliffe Mentors help to administer the program through participation on the RMP Steering Committee. We are especially grateful for the contributions of our 2011-12 Committee members: Rina Bloch ’78, Liz G. Henry ’01, Nancy Hershfield ’82, Norma Markson ’54, Essence McGill Arzu ’04, Sue Miller, MAT ’62, Lindsey Morse ’05, Emma Previtali, Bunting ’96, Jade Reichling ’09, Bea Rogers ’68, Luisa Stigol CSA ’65, Bunting ’70, Lisa Wong ’79, and Lynne Worth ’74.

We know that alumnae participation as a mentor makes a difference in the lives of students. One of our 2011-12 student mentees had this to say about her Radcliffe mentor: “I think that having my mentor to speak to was extremely valuable to me in terms of thinking about my future. My mentor, with much more experience in the workforce than I, had tons of advice to share about her good and bad choices throughout college and beyond. One of the most meaningful conversations we had occurred at the Starbucks in the Garage for our last meeting of the year. We were talking about my interests versus my future career options, and I noted that I enjoyed fashion but couldn’t see myself working in the industry. When my mentor asked, ‘Why not?’, I didn’t have a real answer. We spoke about not discounting our interests and passions, because those are likely the subjects that will culminate into careers we love. I value this honest conversation even today, and believe that I will continue to do so in the future.”

Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (WISTEM) Mentor Program

The Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (WISTEM) Mentor Program matches undergraduate women studying the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) with graduate student women earning advanced degrees in those fields at Harvard. These year-long relationships support students in exploring different academic paths, career possibilities, and graduate programs, with the ultimate goal of increasing the pipeline of women interested in STEM careers, which have historically been male-dominated. In 2011-2012 we experienced exponential growth in the WISTEM program with 110 undergraduate participants (nearly double last year’s 60 undergraduate participants). This year we undertook an in-depth analysis of the program, and our findings were very encouraging. One second-year mentor (studying astronomy) wrote, “This program was my first exposure to mentorship as a defined and purposeful relationship. I have people in my life who act as mentors in some capacity, but realizing that these are important relationships was necessary for me to put meetings and advice into the proper context. I also think I’ve been more willing to accept mentorship from older scientists and to reach out to the students with whom I interact.”

Our end-of-year survey, answered by 99 participants, approximately half of whom were mentors and half mentees, provided an encouraging picture of the impact of the program. We noted a number of positive outcomes for WISTEM program participants: 90% of respondents indicated that they planned to continue studying or pursuing professional opportunities in a STEM field, 20% reported an increased sense of belonging in their field of study compared to when they first joined WISTEM, and over half (55%) feel like their participation in WISTEM made a positive impact on the climate for women in STEM. Even more encouraging, 55% of respondents indicated that their WISTEM mentoring relationship had motivated them to seek out other, informal mentoring relationships, thereby advancing the network of support amongst women scientists, engineers, and mathematicians.

Perhaps the best testament to the effectiveness of WISTEM comes from undergraduate mentees in their own words:

//If we can’t see it, we can’t be it. Seeing mentors and role models in the field makes us more confident in our own abilities! It also makes women more comfortable, and helps them feel like they belong more in these fields."
—Class of 2014 WISTEM mentee

//Because there are so few women in STEM (relative to men), it is important to have women who are available to mentor and guide younger female students in order to prepare them for the unique challenges that will need to be faced. WISTEM offers the guidance, mentorship and support for young female students in the sciences to succeed."
—Class of 2015 WISTEM mentee
HCWC People

The 2011-2012 Staff of the Harvard College Women’s Center

Undergraduate Interns:
Lili Behm ’12, Suzanna Bobadilla ’13, Bradley Craig ’13, Eva Gillis-Buck ’12, Nyamagaga Gondwe ’13, Keith Grubb ’13, Nur Ibrahim ’13, Chava Kenny ’12, Bex Kwan ’14, Lindiwe Rennert ’14, Adrienne Slaughter ’13

Graduate Interns:
Sarah Benkert HDS ’12, Radcliffe Club of San Francisco Graduate Intern for Communications and Outreach
Sarah Ellis HKS ’13, Graduate Intern for Administration

Staff:
Bridget Duffy, Administrative Coordinator
Catherine Espaillat, WISTEM Mentor Program Coordinator
Gina Helfrich, Director

Class of 2012 Interns

Eva Gillis-Buck
Eva was one of four seniors to win a Harvard Cambridge Scholarship. She will be the Charles Henry Fiske III Scholar at Trinity College at the University of Cambridge, England, for 2012-13, studying gender and science.

Lili Behm
Lili will enroll at Northwestern Law School in Chicago, Ill. in fall 2012. She plans to pursue a career in law or public policy and aspires to one day be elected to public office.

Chava Kenny
Chava will work at a startup next year called CommonPlace, which aims to connect local communities and build civic engagement. She hopes to eventually work in the nonprofit sector, focusing on youth and education.

Administrative Staff

Dr. Gina Helfrich
Director

Gina Helfrich, Ph.D. leads the HCWC’s work to support and promote gender equity and women’s leadership at Harvard. She supervises the Center’s staff and generally endeavors to improve the experience of women and to support diversity and community at Harvard. Gina also holds an appointment as a Lecturer for the Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Harvard, teaching courses such as “Gender, Race, and Ethics in the 21st Century.” She publishes and presents on topics including feminist theory, implicit bias and pervasive stereotyping, the development of solidarities across identity groups, and the importance of including all genders in the struggle to end sexist oppression.

Bridget Duffy
Administrative Coordinator

Bridget Duffy works with the staff and interns to ensure that the Women’s Center runs smoothly. She is responsible for all operational aspects of the Center, handling the HCWC’s financial and logistical needs, managing reservation of meeting spaces, and coordinating the Radcliffe Mentor Program. A Boston native, Bridget joined the HCWC staff shortly after its founding the fall of 2006, following a decade working in the administration of alternative medicine schools in Cambridge and Watertown, MA.

Dr. Catherine Espaillat
WISTEM Mentor Program Coordinator

Catherine Espaillat, Ph.D. is the program coordinator for the WISTEM Mentor Program, which pairs female graduate students and undergraduates for mentoring relationships to support women in science, technology, engineering, and math. She is a National Science Foundation Astronomy & Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellow at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. Catherine’s scientific research focuses on the formation of planets around baby stars. She is also very interested in issues of gender and race, particularly their impact in the STEM fields.
Alumnae Involvement

The Women’s Center continually strives to create opportunities for alumnae/i engagement and to facilitate interactions between current Harvard students and Harvard-Radcliffe alumnae. We were especially pleased to celebrate Harvard’s 375th anniversary this year by bringing together current Harvard undergraduates and alumnae/i of Radcliffe and Harvard at our “Residential Revolution” event in the spring.

Each year, the HCWC opens its doors to alumnae/i returning to campus for Radcliffe and Harvard class reunions. In May 2012, we were pleased to welcome the Class of 1962 to the Women’s Center for their 50th reunion. If you are looking for a comfortable space to meet with fellow classmates, relax in-between reunion events, or to sit down for a quick cup of coffee or tea, we are happy to accommodate you! Please contact the Women’s Center for additional information on available dates and additional services we can provide, such as assistance in booking space around campus or arranging time to speak with current undergraduates.

The Women’s Center also maintains ongoing relationships with a variety of active alumnae groups. The Alumnae and Friends of Radcliffe Club Shared Interest Group (SIG) promotes intergenerational connections among graduates of Radcliffe College and other members of the Harvard community who share a bond to the former Radcliffe College. Together, the Radcliffe SIG and the Women’s Center honor alumnae/i Jane Opel ’50 each year through giving an award in her name to a member of the 10th reunion class. This year’s Jane Rainie Opel Award winner is Lucy Stackpool-Moore ’02, honored for her work on stigma and discrimination relating to HIV. For more information about the Radcliffe SIG or to join, contact Mary Carby AB ’74 by emailing RadcliffeSIG@gmail.com.

The Committee for the Equality of Women at Harvard, founded in 1988 by a group of concerned Radcliffe alumnae, meets regularly at the Women’s Center to discuss how to increase the number of tenured women faculty and to promote equity for all women at Harvard. The CEWH was pleased to speak with a number of undergraduate students this year about their experiences at Harvard and their perceptions regarding gender equity and women’s issues for current students. Members of the CEWH also generously support the Women’s Center through financial contributions. For more information or to join, email cewh@world.std.com.

The Radcliffe Club of San Francisco, despite their physical distance from Cambridge, maintains a close relationship with the Women’s Center and provides very generous support to our programs, including funding for our Graduate Internship for Communications and Outreach, which is named in their honor. For more information, visit http://www.radcliffeclubsf.org.

If you or others you know are alumnae/i of Radcliffe or Harvard, we invite you to be part of our community! You are welcome to attend any of our events, which you can find out about by joining our weekly email list. The Women’s Center also maintains an “Alumni & Friends” email list that provides updates on life at the HCWC two to three times per year. To join either (or both!) of our email lists, visit us on the web (http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu) or email us (hcwc@fas.harvard.edu).

Thank You to Donors

The Harvard College Women’s Center is grateful for the financial support of friends and alumni who have donated to us over the years. Since our founding in 2006, over 200 individuals have strengthened the Women’s Center by donating funds in support of our mission. These contributions have allowed us to better devote our resources to promoting gender equity and women’s leadership at Harvard; facilitating student conversation, reflection, and activism; and highlighting women’s visibility and achievement in diverse areas. The HCWC extends sincere thanks to the following supporters for their financial contributions over the past six years:

- Georgiana Lewis Anderson AB ’55
- Julie Anderson ’71
- Ann Warner Arlen AB ’55
- Joan Riddell Baer AB ’58
- Janet Titus Bagg AB ’55
- Linda Johnson Barnhart AB ’55, MAT ’72
- & Robert Barnhart AB ’54, MBA ’58
- Patricia Worthington Bartlett AB ’55
- Vaughan Barton AB ’55, MAT ’56
- Eleanor Batchelder AM RAD ’61 & Earle Batchelder EDM ’62
- Rachel Z. Ritvo AB ’72, GSA ’73 & Steven M. Beckman AB ’72
- Katherine Gordon Beckwith AB, GSA ’45
- Nancy Brezowsky & Reinier Brezowske III AB ’62, PHD ’70
- Soma Behr AB ’61 & William Behr
- Phyllis Yood Beineke AB ’55
- Talah Werhner Bellin AB ’55
- Diana Nylund Bennett AB ’55
- Arlene Bernstein AB ’61
- Ann Besber Scott AB ’55
- B. Lee Bird, Esq AB ’40, LLB ’48
- Alison Lord Boeckmann AB ’61 & William F. Boeckmann
- Joan Bolker AB ’60, AM MAT ’62, EDD ’75
- Patricia Gerald Bourne AB ’61
- Sarah C. Brett-Smith AB ’73
- Janet Dyer Bridgham AB ’58
- Ann Fitchard Brogan AB ’55
- Margaret Huiskamp Burdick AB ’55
- Susan Hilles Bush AB ’55, AM ’57, PHD ’68, BF ’77
- Joan Czanazelli AB ’55
- Carolyn Hanley Carollo AM RAD ’55 & John Carollo AB ’54
- Cynthia Chace-MacNiel AB ’53
- Barbara Callahan Cook AB ’55 & Donald Cook AB ’55, SM ’58, PDM ’69
- Joyce Yagla Corey AM RAD ’60
- Amy Cohen Corwin AB ’64
- Vicki Beaver Cox MAT ’60
- Lisa Cronin Wohl AB ’64
- Linda DeWitte AB ’63
- Susan Diamond AB ’60
- Jane Dempsey Douglass AM ’61 & Gordon K. Douglass
- Eleanor Derby Drachman AB ’55
- Elinor Dulit, MD AB ’53
- Ruth Else Chodorow ’73
- Peter F. Davis AB ’57
- Harriett M. Eckstein AB ’55
- Angela Brown Fischer AB ’60
- Joanna Koehler Fischer AB ’55
- Sarah J. Forsman AB ’76, MAT ’80
- Nancy McDougall Fry AB ’55
- Elinor Fuchs AB ’55, BF ’86
- Sarah Fuller-Lessard AB ’61
- Grace Gabe ’85
- Marina Oreiflice Gaffney AB ’55 & John Gaffney Jr. AB ’55
- Carol LoCascio Gilbs AB ’50
- Margaret Chandler Gilmore AB ’68, JD ’89
- Anne C. Goldberg AB ’73
- Leonor Lobo Gonzalez AB ’55
- Regina Gittes Greenspun AB ’53, AM ’57 & Nathaniel Greenspun AB ’51, AM ’53
- Judith Seder Grunebaum AB ’57 & Henry Grunebaum AB ’48, MD ’52
- Elizabeth Swisher Hale AB ’55
- Anne Hamilton AB ’61
- Gena M. Haugen AB ’09, MBA ’13
- Jane Clarkson Henderson AM RAD ’55
- Eva Neubauer Jacob AB ’55, AM ’59
- Susan Myers Jacobs AB ’55, EDM ’67
- Angela Karikas AB ’74
- Alice Bee Kasko AB ’62, PHD ’70
- Jane Gerot Kaufman AB ’55 & James M. Kaufman
The Harvard College Women's Center Needs Your Support!

Your support allows the Women's Center to carry out our mission and to enrich students' experiences at Harvard. Nearly 60% of the Women's Center's annual budget comes from the support of alumni and friends in the form of endowed funds or individual gifts. Two different gift funds enable our work:

**The Fund to Support the Harvard College Women's Center** supports current-year operating expenses. This fund is used to augment educational programs and events, to sustain our two mentorship programs, and to support student internships, in addition to other needs.

**The Radcliffe Trust** supports student projects and student organizations that promote women's leadership on campus, raise women's visibility, and address the significance of gender in society.

To make a donation to the Women's Center, visit us online: [http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu/support](http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu/support)

Or, tear off this page at the perforation, fill out the reverse side, and mail it with your check to:

Harvard College Women's Center
Canaday Hall B Entry
Cambridge, MA 02138

Please make checks out to “Harvard College.” We will send you a gift acknowledgment promptly and inform the Harvard Alumni Association of your generous support. All donations to the Harvard College Women's Center are tax-deductible and eligible for Harvard College Fund class credit.

**Support Our Work**

**CORPORATIONS/TRUSTS**

- The Ann Radcliffe Trust
- Jewish Community Federation - San Francisco
- Sagan Foundation
- Ropes & Gray
- Committee for the Equality of Women at Harvard
- Radcliffe Club of San Francisco
- The Minneapolis Foundation
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**Anne Marbury Wyatt-Brown, PhD AB ’61**

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Lisa Woodward
Opportunities to Support the Harvard College Women's Center:

$50  - Covers the cost of keeping the Women's Center open for student use for one night during the academic year

$100 - Supports one small discussion-based event in the Women's Center lounge

$250 - Supports one large panel discussion or film screening event on campus

$500 - Funds one semester of meetings and leadership training for the Women's Cabinet

$1,000 - Covers the cost of one Radcliffe Mentor Program or WISTEM Mentor Program event for all mentors and students participating in the program

$2,000 - Supports one undergraduate student internship at the HCWC for one year

$2,500 - Supports one graduate student internship at the HCWC for one year

$5,000 - Covers the cost of our annual Women's Week celebration in March

$7,500 - Supports the annual Women's Leadership Conference, attended by approximately 30 Harvard women undergraduates

$10,000 - Funds one full year of student-led event programming at the HCWC

$15,000 - Allows the HCWC to fund 100% of the Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund grant requests we receive for one academic year

$20,000 - Allows the HCWC to replace all old computers and student workstations with up-to-date technology

$25,000 - Covers the cost of all supplies and operational expenses for the office for one year

I want to support the important work of the Harvard College Women's Center. Enclosed is my contribution of $_____________. Please apply my donation to the following fund:

☐ Fund to Support the Harvard College Women's Center (Please note “Fund #331400 - HCWC” in the memo line of your check.)

☐ Ann Radcliffe Trust (Please note “Fund #331402 - ART” in the memo line of your check.)

Name (please print): _________________________________________________  Class year:  ___________
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I want to receive occasional updates via the HCWC Alumni & Friends email list:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Harvard College Women’s Center  
Canaday Hall B Entry  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 495-HCWC  
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