



Harvard College Women's Center 2009-2010 Annual Report

H C W C

creating community



HCWC 2009-2010 Report



The 2009-2010 staff of the Harvard College Women's Center. Front row, L to R: Administrative Coordinator Bridget Duffy, Andrés Castro Samayoa '10, Kelsey LeBuffe '10, Matthews Mmopi '11, Chava Kenny '12. Back row L to R: Program Coordinator Régine Isabelle Joseph '01, Becky Martinez '11, Lili Behm '12, Director Susan Marine, Alice Laramore '11, Devin Smith (Lesley University) '10, Morgan Haven-Tietze '10, Ridhi Kashyap '10. Not pictured: Rachel Gholston '11, Eva Rosenberg '10, Assistant Director Gina Helfrich.

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For the most up-to-date information about the Women's Center and our upcoming programs and events, please visit our website at <http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu>

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Harvard College
Women's Center

Creating Community

The mission of the Harvard College Women's Center is to promote awareness of women's and gender issues and to support contributions by women that challenge, motivate, and inspire. By centralizing resources and offering original programs, we empower students and student organizations to achieve their visions in pursuit of these goals. The Women's Center is committed to creating a welcoming environment that encourages diversity of perspective, experience, and values.

Reflections on our “Senior” Year

This year, I was reminded of how true it is that four years at college flies by. We just celebrated the end of our ‘senior’ year, which means that we’ve made it through one full “Harvard student Life Cycle.” That realization brings with it a great deal of satisfaction of what we’ve accomplished, as well as greater awareness about work that remains to be done. But it also makes us happy to know that starting this fall, every student at Harvard will have had a College experience that included a Women’s Center, from beginning to end.

This year has provided us with many insights about why our work is important and how best to meet student needs in doing it. We continue to feel one of the most important roles we can play is to help students see connections between their academic and personal experiences here, as well as to embrace their own agency in fashioning a self-determined life. This year, we’ve been fortunate to learn from exceptional faculty, like Marjorie Garber and Glenda Carpio, how one’s passion for learning and inquiry can form the foundation of a satisfying professional life. In our commitment to encouraging students to couple analysis with action, feminist leader Kim Gandy brought her unique insights about how women in politics are portrayed in the media, which was meaningfully balanced with politico Terry McAuliffe’s insights about why it matters for women to run for — and win — elective office. Challenging students to consider the role of advertising in shaping women’s self-concepts and speaking up for yourself in the salary negotiation process were highlights of spring. Through these experiences, we’ve evolved into a place where students can relax and enjoy both socializing and quiet time, and where they can also ask hard questions of themselves and each other, toward the goal of building a Harvard (and a world beyond) where women’s experiences matter and where gender is constantly and deeply explored and deconstructed. Striking a balance between these two priorities is the daily joy of our work, and like the phenomenal seniors in the class of 2010 (see p. 32), we’re ready to move into our next era with enthusiasm.

Please know that you, too, are an important part of our community, and do stop by when you’re in Cambridge. Your ideas and energy are always welcome here!

Warmly,

Susan Marine, Ph.D.
Director, HCWC

Greetings! I was delighted to join the Harvard College Women’s Center staff this January as the new Assistant Director. Prior to my arrival in Cambridge, I completed my Ph.D. in Philosophy with a Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies from Emory University (Atlanta, GA) in 2009. While in Atlanta, I spent a year as graduate fellow at the Center for Women at Emory and also taught as an adjunct professor at Morehouse College.

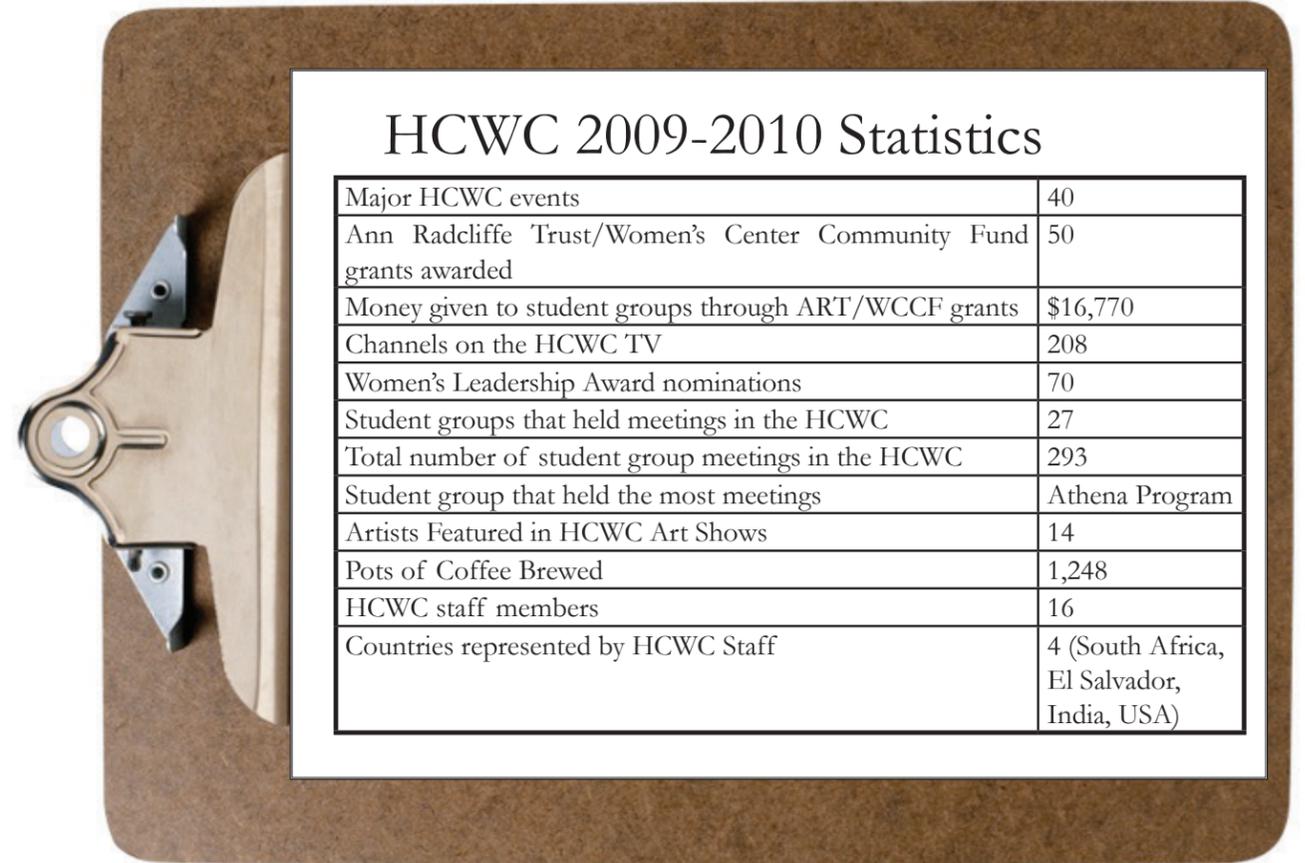
I have felt so warmly welcomed by the community here at the Women’s Center — everyone made me feel right at home, and it has thankfully been an easy transition to a new place. It has been my honor and privilege to work closely with our student interns, a group of extremely warm, bright, and committed individuals. I cannot stress enough how much the Women’s Center relies on our undergraduate intern staff and their energies and efforts. Our interns serve as the face of the Women’s Center — they are the welcoming presence that anyone entering our space is most likely to first encounter. They work hard to do outreach and make connections around campus that bring us into partnership with other communities; it is their creativity and imagination and later their commitment to rolling up their sleeves that brings so many wonderful events to life. I derive a deep sense of satisfaction from assisting them in realizing their vision and helping to develop their leadership skills through their work at the HCWC.

Now that I have a full spring semester under my belt, I eagerly look forward to the fall semester and to welcoming a new cohort of student interns to our team. One of my personal goals for the coming year is to increase our efforts at centralizing resources on campus and bringing communities together. The Women’s Center plays a unique and crucial role in its ability to forge new relationships and build community on campus, and I aim to help extend our network through outreach to additional communities.

As we enter our fifth anniversary year, it is my hope and expectation that the Women’s Center will continue to be a strong and visible presence on campus. I invite you to visit us at any time and to participate in one of our many events and programs in 2010-2011!

Best wishes,

Gina Helfrich, Ph.D.
Assistant Director, HCWC



HCWC 2009-2010 Statistics

Major HCWC events	40
Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women’s Center Community Fund grants awarded	50
Money given to student groups through ART/WCCF grants	\$16,770
Channels on the HCWC TV	208
Women’s Leadership Award nominations	70
Student groups that held meetings in the HCWC	27
Total number of student group meetings in the HCWC	293
Student group that held the most meetings	Athena Program
Artists Featured in HCWC Art Shows	14
Pots of Coffee Brewed	1,248
HCWC staff members	16
Countries represented by HCWC Staff	4 (South Africa, El Salvador, India, USA)



Members of the HCWC staff celebrate the 2009-2010 End of Year Dinner



HCWC Intern Becky Martinez ‘11 (right) chats with newly-published author Noni Carter ‘13 (left)

Fall 2009 Events

HCWC Open House - September 10th



Susan Marine, Director, and Devin Smith, an HCWC intern, relax with a game of Connect Four at the fall Open House.

Every year in early fall, the Harvard College Women's Center invites all students to visit our space and learn about the resources provided by the Center. It's a great opportunity to ask one of the student interns about funding for student organizations through the Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund; ask Bridget Duffy, Administrative Coordinator, how to reserve our space for meetings; or get to know the space in a relaxed atmosphere by chatting and playing board games with our staff. The Women's Center Open House is a great event to learn more about our programming throughout the year and a wonderful opportunity to meet the interns and staff!

Women's Community Fair - September 30th



The Harvard College Women's Center, in collaboration with the Seneca, Inc., brought together over 35 student organizations in the Lowell House Dining Room with the purpose of inviting students to explore women's communities on campus. The student organizations present at the event were women's and gender-related organizations as well as other student groups encouraging women to join their organizations. The Women's Community Fair is an ideal event for all students to learn about their campus and find the activities they would like to explore in the fall.

Terry McAuliffe - October 6th

Website Building Workshop - September 17th

Student organizations on campus often maintain a web presence, and when new leadership is elected or appointed, the need arises for instruction in how to build and maintain a website. Rares Pamfil, an undergraduate upperclassman, led a three-hour workshop aimed at familiarizing individual students with the fundamentals of website building. The event sought to help student groups raise their online visibility at Harvard. The workshop provided a fun and interactive learning environment – and free pizza – in which to move towards these goals. Using the software Dreamweaver, whose features are also applicable to other platforms, students used their



personal laptops to learn programming and how to design a website. The workshop was booked to capacity at the Student Organization Center at Hilles, with a high representation of leaders of female student groups, especially those participating in the Women's Cabinet. An overwhelming majority of participants requested similar workshops in the future that will help them to hone additional leadership skills.

What will it take for more women to engage in the political process as candidates and elected officials? To get to the heart of this critical question, the Women's Center and the Institute of Politics co-sponsored a lunch discussion with Terry McAuliffe, former chair of the Democratic National Committee. McAuliffe raised over \$535 million during his tenure there, mostly through leading the organization in adopting a grassroots mentality — building an extensive voting roster and developing a strong, direct-mail donor list. McAuliffe brought his particular brand of candid, engaging political acumen to the Women's Center to discuss one of the most pressing issues of the moment. How, in the wake of Hilary Clinton's loss to Barack Obama in the democratic primary, can we see a brighter future for women in politics? McAuliffe reminded the group that strategy is everything — knowing the voters and knowing the pitfalls that can come when a candidate is caught off guard by an issue.

McAuliffe advised that preparation and planning are the key to more wins for women — and knowing (and combating) the standard tricks that opponents will relentlessly use to undermine women's credibility. McAuliffe's position on the future of women in politics was optimistic, and he encouraged every woman in the room to consider running for office. As McAuliffe headed off to his next speaking engagement at the Institute of Politics, he rallied the group around the commitment that they could, and would, change the world!



Art Show: Sunny Side Up - October 8th



The theme of our fall art exhibit, "Sunny Side Up," was maintaining positivity in the face of hardships. The art show opened with a diverting and delightful performance of Cole Porter's "It's De-Lovely," sung by the Harvard Din & Tonics. Shortly after, Linda Ugbah '12 gave a short dramatic monologue about a young Hutu girl named Ai who survived the Rwandan Genocide. The audience was silent for a long while after Linda's heartfelt and emotive delivery, as they all absorbed the gravity of Ai's situation. Attendees were then invited to take their time examining the art on display. The exhibit displayed a myriad of art media, from charcoal paintings to ink drawings to Japanese-style collages to photography. At around 5:30pm, there was a Q&A session, which allowed people to ask the artists about their artwork and the stories behind them. Finally, to close the opening day, the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College sang a moving Negro spiritual entitled "Hold On."

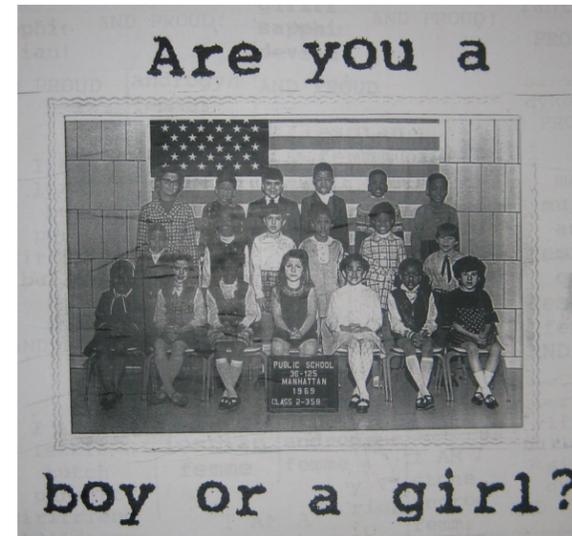


The Women's Center extends special thanks to the student artists whose work was exhibited at the fall art show:

Esmerelda Nunez '10, Paul Wang '10, LeRenzo Tolbert-Malcom '11, Terrell Woods '11, Laima Zvidra '11, Matthews Mmopi '11, Chava Kenny '12 and Ekene Obi-Okoye '12.

At left: The Harvard Din & Tonics sing their rendition of "It's De-Lovely" at the Sunny Side Up Art Show Opening.

Art in Action: Produce, Provoke, Resist! October 13th



The Women's Center and the Carpenter Center partnered to introduce students to the artist collective, Fierce Pussy, and their fabulous work. Over dinner, the four members of the Fierce Pussy artist collective (Nancy Brooks Brody, Joy Episalla, Zoe Leonard and Carrie Yamaoka) discussed their activist artwork, sharing pictures and stories of their participation in AIDS activism and gay rights in New York City in the 1980s. Fierce Pussy, a collective of queer women dedicated to creating public art and direct action addressing issues of lesbian identity and visibility, addressed issues of gender and sexuality at Harvard and beyond in a packed HCWC lounge. They offered strategies for radical political organizing and collective art production, inciting students to think about how they can directly involve themselves in activist work in unique forms.

Following the dinner discussion, the artists worked side-by-side with students in a site-specific installation in the Carpenter Center and the Sackler Museum. This rare opportunity to work hands-on with the artists allowed students to engage directly with some of the most experienced and influential women artist-activists at work today. *Art in Action: Produce, Provoke, Resist!* was the first collaboration between the Carpenter Center and the Women's Center, a relationship that we look forward to continuing.



A packed audience at the HCWC listens to the members of artist collective Fierce Pussy talk about their artwork and activism.

Kim Gandy: Women in Politics - October 20th



Photograph courtesy of the Harvard University Institute of Politics

The Women's Center invited Kim Gandy, a 2009-2010 Fellow at the Institute of Politics and former president of the National Organization of Women (NOW), to talk about the portrayal of female politicians in contemporary media. Gandy hosted a short presentation and interactive discussion that centered around clips from television, radio and print media, with a focus on current politicians such as Hillary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi, and Michelle Obama, among others. The event required no prior knowledge of politics, encouraging all students to share their unique perspectives, and was very well attended. As Ms. Gandy regularly appears in print, television, radio and internet media, she was able to provide a personal perspective on the enormous impact the media have on women's lives. Under her direction, NOW continued a decades-long commitment to media issues, such as expanding women's opportunities in the broadcast industry, increasing news coverage of women's issues, and improving the portrayal of women and girls in advertising and all media.

Bodies in Doubt: An American History of Intersex October 21st

The Women's Center welcomed Elizabeth Reis, author of *Bodies in Doubt: an American History of Intersex*, to discuss her research with the Harvard community. Reis is an associate professor of women's and gender history at the University of Oregon, where she teaches classes about women's history, the history of sexuality, and sex and medical ethics. Though her expertise is in history, Reis ably broke down her book's scientific and medical terminology. Intersex conditions are complex medical conditions that involve intermediate combinations of physical features that usually distinguish female from male bodies. One example Reis cited is Turner's Syndrome, in which girls lack one X chromosome and often have non-functional ovaries. The discussion took place over lunch, so participants enjoyed fresh sandwiches and other refreshments while they learned about intersex conditions and how the scientific and medical establishments have dealt with intersex patients.



Women on the Bench - October 28th

In light of the nomination of Justice Sotomayor to the Supreme Court earlier in 2009, the Harvard College Women's Center organized a panel with three pioneering women legal professionals to stimulate discussion on the experiences and challenges faced by women leaders in the law. The panel, held in the Fong Auditorium, featured three women involved with the law in different capacities, including a judge, an associate at a law firm and a legal academic, enabling them to speak to the diversity of careers that can arise out of a legal education. The three panelists were Justice Sydney Hanlon of the Massachusetts Court of Appeals, Essence McGill Arzu, Associate at Foley Hoag LLP, and Jacqueline Bhabha, Jeremiah Smith Jr. Lecturer at Harvard Law School and the Director of the Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies. The discussion was moderated by Taylor Kline, a third year student at Harvard Law School and the President of HLS's Women's Law Association.



Given the widespread interest in the law among undergraduates, the panelists talked about their unique experiences as women in the field, what led them to their path, different roles and opportunities available in the law, and even shared their views on the implications of Justice Sotomayor's election to the Supreme Court and the dearth of women judges. The speakers reflected on ongoing issues women are facing as leaders in law and the way they are creating and approaching solutions. The discussion was both intimate and insightful, commencing with each panelist describing her experiences, followed by an hour-long question and answer session.

Tacos and Feminism - November 4th



Tacos and Feminism was a fun, informal dinner discussion held here in the Women's Center where students participated in a make-your-own taco bar and conversation about what feminism is and means to them. The conversation addressed a variety of topics, including the changing consciousness of feminist identity in the third wave, the place of feminist thought and ideology on Harvard campus, why some people will not use the label "feminist" but believe in its ideals, and how to incorporate feminist pedagogy into both social and academic settings.

Alix Dobkin - November 9th



Folk musician Alix Dobkin plays her guitar for a Women's Center audience.

Early in the semester, the Harvard College Women's Center was filled with folk: both people and music. Alix Dobkin, the first woman to produce an album by, for, and about lesbian women, came to speak to a group of students and faculty. Having just published the book *My Red Blood*, Dobkin read several excerpts about her adventures in Greenwich Village, what it was like to grow up a communist, and her coming-out experience. She gave her listeners the inside scoop about the folk music scene, including details about her encounters with people like Bob Dylan and Bill Cosby. Listeners were curious to know how it felt to be a female—especially a lesbian—folk singer, and Dobkin fielded questions about her experience. She also brought along her guitar and played a few songs, including “Amazon ABC” and “The Woman in Your Life.” At the end of the evening, everyone in the room was singing along.

Deviant Bodies - November 19th



A crowd gathers to listen to the “Deviant Bodies” panelists discuss women's health policy and practices.

This past November three women with unique backgrounds in women's health engaged in a panel discussion entitled “Deviant Bodies” with students of the college. The panelists were Mary Ruggie, Adjunct Professor of Public Policy at the Kennedy School, Carole K. Hooven, a lecturer in anthropology and human evolutionary biology, and Mary Ellen Galante, a Cambridge-area midwife. The topics of discussion covered biological differences between the sexes, health care policy, alternative birthing methods and controversial guidelines over mammogram coverage. This event allowed students to be engaged in discussion with experts in various fields of women's health and to ponder the implications that different policy, scientific and cultural understandings of the female body have on the types of health-care available to women in the U.S.

Lioness: A Documentary - November 12th

As part of a tribute to Veteran's Day, the Women's Center hosted a screening of *Lioness* (Room 11 Productions, 2008). Directed by Meg McLagan and Daria Sommers, this award-winning film tells the story of the first women in U.S. history who, despite regulations forbidding women to serve in combat positions, participated in direct ground combat during the Iraq war. The film takes a compassionate, unflinching look at soldiers, veterans, and military leadership doing their best to secure America's interests overseas, and the regulations and legislation currently in place that limit their actions. The screening served as the basis for an informal discussion about the issues affecting American women in the armed forces, including service restrictions, the “Don't Ask Don't Tell” policy, and health impacts on women veterans. Harvard women who are in the ROTC enriched the conversation by sharing their own experiences and perspectives. *Lioness* and the discussion it inspired at the Women's Center join a wider national conversation surrounding the Women Veterans Bill, which was subsequently ratified into law in May 2010.



Image courtesy of <http://lionesthefilm.com>

Will the Real Professor Marjorie Garber Please Stand Up? - December 1st

In December, the Women's Center hosted the fifth in a series of dinners designed to encourage students to get to know their professors outside the lecture hall. Professor Marjorie Garber, William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of English and of Visual and Environmental Studies (VES), as well as Chair of the VES Department and Director of the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, was our featured “Real Professor.” She spoke with students and answered their questions about her life and interests while everyone enjoyed delicious Indian dishes. Garber discussed her experiences at Harvard and her varied interests. As a professor whose books are widely acclaimed, Garber's insights about balancing life and work were especially welcome to the student audience. Her recent books include *Patronizing the Arts*, which explores how patronage influences the reception of art, and *Shakespeare and Modern Culture*, which emphasizes how entwined Shakespeare's canon is with modern life. Garber has written about subjects ranging from cross dressing to dogs, and she spoke about her efforts to ensure that her books, while still scholarly and engaging, are accessible to general readers. Throughout the evening, Garber discussed life as a woman academic and talked about encouraging other women to advance their academic careers.

Gina Glantz: Pizza & Politics - December 3rd



Photograph courtesy of the Harvard University Institute of Politics

Institute of Politics fellow, Gina Glantz, was invited to the Women's Center for a well-timed discussion on public policy, grassroots organizing, and women's rights. Glantz provided much insight into her personal and professional trajectory as the Chair of the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, the co-founder of the consulting firm Fowler Hoffman (formerly Martin & Glantz), and a longtime Senior Advisor of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Glantz shared her experience at the picket line, on the campaign trail, and within the boardroom advocating for women's and workers' rights. She encouraged students to reflect critically about community building and civic engagement. Glantz also answered students' questions about grassroots organizing within the immediate context of debates on national health care reform and its implications for women's health. The informal conversation continued well beyond the scheduled lunch hour, much to the delight of its participants.

RELAX! - December 7th



Students enjoy a relaxing time in the HCWC during Reading Period.

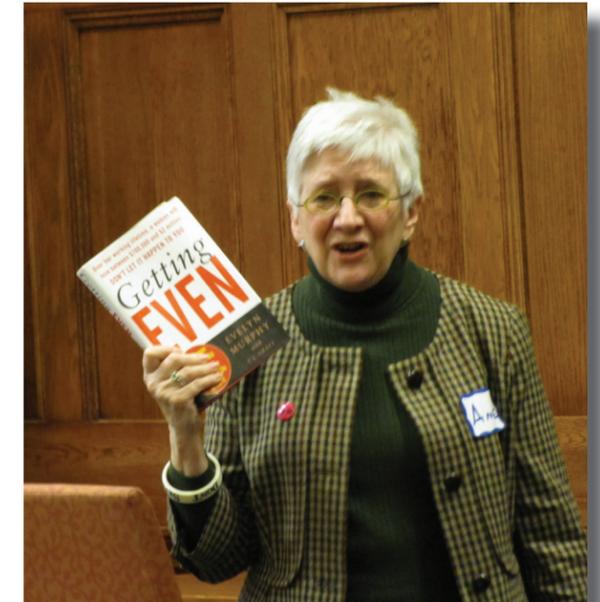
With reading period underway, students gathered in the Women's Center for a night of de-stressing fun at RELAX! The lounge was decked out with holiday lights and various craft stations. In one corner, an intern worked the button making machine, which turned student-created designs into round, laminated buttons. On another table, brightly colored pipe cleaners were twisted into tiny chenille animals. Near the kitchen, students frosted and decorated delicious sugar and chocolate chip cookies with fun holiday designs. Other creations included friendship bracelets and holiday cards. The hit of the night was Shrinky-Dinks, sheets of plastic which could be colored on and shrunk in the oven to create small trinkets and charms. The flashback-to-middle-school themed crafts brought back memories of easier days. In the end, students left with handfuls of crafts, holiday spirit, and smiling, stress-free faces!

Spring 2010 Events

\$tart \$mart Salary Negotiation Workshop

February 2nd

Annie Houle of the Wage Project brought the \$tart \$mart Salary Negotiation workshop to Harvard this February. Houle educated 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 she is a woman. The \$tart \$mart 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. In the face of persistent undervaluation of female workers, Houle's solution was optimistic and practical: Negotiate to get even!



Noni Carter '13 Book Reading - February 17th

One February evening, a group of students and faculty gathered in the Strauss Common Room for a book reading of *Good Fortune*, by Noni Carter '13. Attendees were greeted with books, cupcakes, and warm beverages, but the real treat was listening to Carter speak about the process of writing a novel and becoming a published author. Noni's passionate readings of excerpts of *Good Fortune*, published in January 2010, left the audience enthralled. She later answered questions ranging from how she met the President of Simon and Shuster, her publishing house, to the process of editing the story. Near the end of the event, Noni signed copies of the books for students and spoke individually to attendees while others snacked and discussed the event.



Noni Carter '13 reads from her best-selling novel, *Good Fortune*.

The event was cosponsored with the Freshman Dean's Office, The Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations, and the Association of Black Harvard Women, and spearheaded by the Harvard College Women's Center, in the tradition of proudly supporting the endeavors of young women on campus and providing a venue to highlight their many accomplishments.

Pixel Perfect? (Re)Drawing the Lines of Beauty February 25th



Students respond to digitally altered images by writing messages on an installation at the HCWC.

Pixel Perfect? was designed to focus on the portrayal of women in the media, particularly the use of photoshop to digitally alter images. The event featured Lowell House tutor R.J. Jenkins, a Ph.D. candidate and teaching fellow in the English department, as moderator. R.J. began the presentation by exploring the historical roots of the “real” and the “ideal” and then focused on contemporary images seen in advertisements, magazines, and the media. After the presentation, students were encouraged to interact with the installation of digitally altered images on the wall by drawing and writing messages on them. Students enjoyed “graffiti-ing” the installation, responding to problematic or troubling images as well as positive aspects of the photos. This creative response was followed by a discussion on issues of body image, the nature of reality, the responsibility of advertisers, and potential solutions to the ever-growing phenomenon of Photoshop. R.J. moderated the discussion, providing challenging questions and thought-provoking responses to student comments. Students remained even after the event officially ended, eager to continue the discussion and share their opinions.

Queer People of Color Discussion - March 1st

A diverse group of 20 students came to the HCWC for our event on queer people of color. Nathalie Galindo '07 and Adaora Asala, members of QWOC+ (Queer Women of Color and Friends) Boston, led a discussion on the experiences and identities of queer people of color, and representatives from the co-sponsoring organizations BlackOut and Queer Students and Allies offered their thoughts on life at the College. We grappled with topics like membership in queer and ethnic student groups, intra-community differences, and how to find common ground. Attendees left with some ideas about how to move forward and a sense of optimism about changing the campus culture for queer students of color.

At Right: Students discuss the experience and concerns of queer people of color at Harvard College.



At Left: Nathalie Galindo '07 (left) and Adaora Asala (right) moderate a discussion with students.



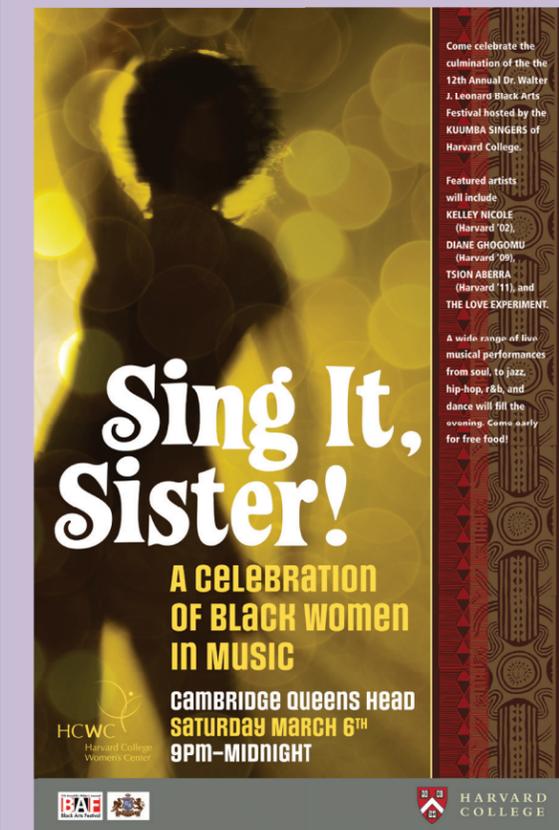
Survivors: Haitian Women Past, Present, and Future - March 3rd

Haitian speakers gave informative presentations on the history, culture, and current status of Haiti post-2010 earthquake. The speakers included Suzy Magloire-Sicard, poet, asset management analyst, university lecturer, and Haitian storyteller and Mona Dorsinville-Phanor, physician by training and president of the Haitian Association of University Women. The speakers gave special attention to the history of women, Haitian society's evolving view of women and girls, and the consequences of the loss of three major Haitian feminist activists in the earthquake. Overall, the evening provided a poignant look at Haitian culture, Haitian women, and the prospects for Haiti's future. The event was co-sponsored with the Harvard Caribbean Club, Harvard Haitian Alliance, Latinas Unidas, and the Association of Black Harvard Women.



Suzy Magloire-Sicard and Mona Dorsinville-Phanor discuss the status of women and girls in Haiti post-2010 earthquake.

Sing It, Sister - March 6th



The 12th annual Dr. Walter J. Leonard Black Arts Festival, presented by The Kuumba Singers, culminated with “Sing It, Sister,” a musical showcase. The Harvard College Women's Center worked with the BAF committee to celebrate Black women in music through this evening of art and entertainment. There was a wide range of live musical performances including soul, jazz, hip-hop, R&B, and dance. The Cambridge Queen's Head Pub came alive with vibrant performances by students and special guests. It was a special return for alumnae Kelley Nicole '02 and Diane Ghogomu '09 who graced the stage as two of the featured artists. The beautiful singing voice of undergraduate TSION Aberra '11 pervaded the space when she took the stage. The evening also featured a performance by The Love Experiment, a local neo-soul hip-hop group. Attendees enjoyed free food, great music, and dancing throughout the evening.

Haitian Prime Minister Breakfast - March 25th

In early January, 2010, Former Prime Minister of Haiti, Michèle Pierre-Louis, was planning an exciting and invigorating semester as a Resident Fellow at the Institute of Politics — then her beloved nation was decimated by an earthquake. Two months later, she made it to Cambridge to connect briefly with students, joining Women's Center staff and interested students for brunch hosted with the Institute of Politics. Her main goal in making the trip was to begin helping members of the Harvard community learn what was happening 'on the ground' — and what is most needed from the world community in this moment.

According to Pierre-Louis, women have a particularly crucial role to fill in rebuilding Haiti's future, both in the international relief picture and as local civic leaders. Pierre-Louis spoke of the critical challenges that faced Haitian women before the quake — such as lack of equal access to primary school as well as college — and the very recent repeal of outdated laws addressing domestic violence. She maintained that these challenges must not go unchecked while the country attends to the business of building basic infrastructure. In a recent *Huffington Post* column, Pierre-Louis opined, "Somehow I see a sense of pride emerging in Port-au-Prince. Pride in our self-reliance. People say we must dig ourselves out. Literally. Community leaders have been playing an important role trying to help get citizens organized and keep them safe." She encouraged those in attendance to pay attention to the ways that Haitian relief is organized and coordinated, and to watch for the media's central role in exposing some of the more pressing problems. Students left with a sense of the daunting task and the vital need to stay apprised of (and to support) Haitian women's voices and activism in the midst of the enormous challenges for Haiti that lie ahead. The Prime Minister will return in the Fall of 2010 to resume her IOP Resident Fellowship and expressed eagerness to participate in HCWC activities at that time.



HCWC Interns Matthews Mmopi '11 (left) and Rachel Gholston '11 (right) pose with former Prime Minister of Haiti, Michèle Pierre-Louis (center).



"Haiti, Our Hearts Are With You" Art Show March 25th

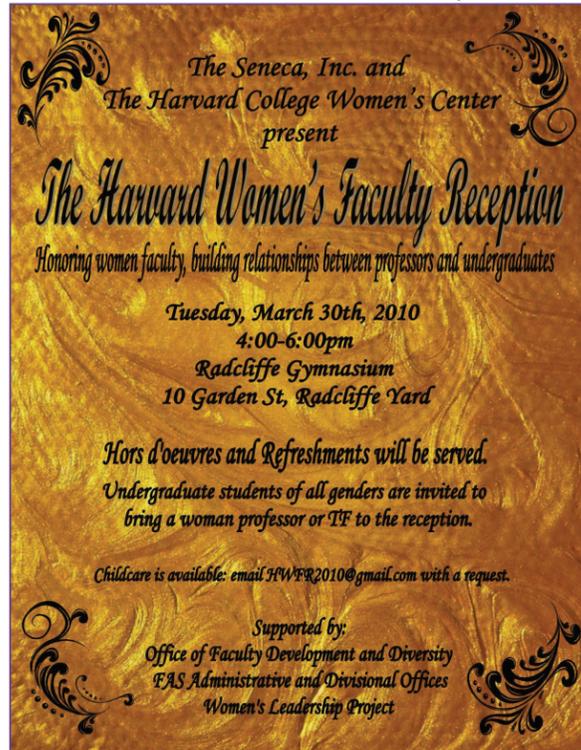
The title of the 2010 HCWC Spring Art Exhibit was "Ayiti, Kè Nou Avèk Ou," which translates to "Haiti, Our Hearts Are With You." The art show was also aptly subtitled: "Expressions of Oneness." Following the 2010 Haitian earthquake and its dreadful aftermath, the interns of the Women's Center decided that this year's spring art exhibit would be dedicated to Haiti and the Haitian Diaspora as a symbol of solidarity and as a testament of commiseration.

The exhibit opened at 6pm on Thursday, March 25th, at the Women's Center. Former Prime Minister of Haiti, Madame Michèle Pierre-Louis, and many members of the Haitian community in Boston attended the opening. The Harvard College Women's Center collaborated with the Haitian Artists Assembly of Massachusetts to bring in art from Harvard students and local artists from the Haitian community. A total of 17 pieces were showcased in the lounge of the Women's Center. Participating artists included Dauphin Jean, Joseph M. Chéry, Charlot Lucien, Linda Ugbah '12, Vicki Yeh '12, Herrissa Lamothe '12, Matthews Mmopi '11, and Esmerelda Nunez '10. Harvard sophomore and native of Haiti, Herrissa Lamothe, performed an old Haitian folktale. Herrissa explained that the story was one which had been passed down from older to younger generations of the women in her family for as long as her family tree can be traced. Moreover, Haitian artist Jean Dauphin was able to relay many interesting stories behind his works, which all shared the common theme of evocations of beauty and resilience in women. The opening day concluded with a performance from the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College. They sang a well-known song called "Khumbaya," arranged by the Soweto Gospel Choir. The song captured the very essence of "Expressions of Oneness" and brought many audience members to tears.



The 2010 Spring Art Show received great reviews from the Harvard community and continued until the end of April 2010. The staff of the Harvard College Women's Center would like to thank Dauphin, Joseph, Charlot, Linda, Vicki, Herrissa, Matthews, and Esmerelda for using their creative talents to show solidarity and compassion for Haiti and the people affected by the 2010 Haitian earthquake.

Women's Faculty Reception - March 30th



The Harvard College Women's Center partnered with The Seneca, Inc. to inaugurate the Women's Faculty Reception, a gathering where undergraduate students could get to know women faculty members in a more informal setting than the classroom. Undergraduate students were invited to bring a favorite woman professor or teaching fellow, or simply a teacher who they would like to get to know better, to the reception at Radcliffe Gymnasium. Delicious hors d'oeuvres were arranged at tables around the gym, and faculty and students mingled with one another for the better part of two hours. One of the most popular aspects of the reception was the candy bar favors with trivia notes attached, listing "fun facts" about the history of women faculty at Harvard-Radcliffe. The reception was a resounding success, and many attendees expressed the hope that the event will become an annual tradition.

Have Your Cake and Eat It, Too - March 31st

This event was a workshop on healthy, intuitive eating styles. It was facilitated by Rivka Simmons, a local psychotherapist, public speaker, and founder of the program *Have Your Cake and Eat It Too! A Gentle Approach to Food, Your Body, and Yourself*, which helps people make peace with food and their bodies. Within two hours, the workshop gave the participants strategies to recreate their original, healthy relationship to food, to listen to and trust their body's hunger signals, and to eat the foods they love without guilt. It also taught them how to respond to emotional eating and to treat themselves and their bodies with respect. Held in the Women's Center lounge, the event was intimate. Over a delicious dinner and, of course, cake, the participants came closer to letting go of their own mental weight around eating or simply learned strategies for lifelong healthy eating.



Consuming Religion - April 6th



On Tuesday, April 6th, 2010, Taylor Lewis Guthrie, M.Div '10 and Tiffany L. Stanley, M.Div HDS '10 joined us in the Women's Center lounge for a discussion on faith and today's youth. Taylor and Tiffany focused on the rising popularity of Biblezines, colorful devotionals for teenage girls inspired by mainstream glamor magazines. Bringing together students from the College and the Divinity School, the conversation focused on how these products construct normative ideals of young people's morals, sexualities, and behaviors.

Undergraduate Gender Research Conference April 16th

This spring, the Harvard College Women's Center, in collaboration with the Queer Students and Allies, organized a first-of-its-kind interdisciplinary conference for undergraduate scholars working on themes of gender and sexuality. This project was conceptualized and undertaken by one of our interns, Ridhi Kashyap '10, as her senior project. The event generated much enthusiasm among student scholars and activists, as suggested by the wide range of abstracts submitted for presentation, as well as superb attendance at the event with over sixty attendees. The conference was held in the evening in the Thompson Room of the Barker Center. It comprised two panels with four students on each panel, drawing on different disciplinary perspectives as varied as sociology, psychology, linguistics, and folklore and mythology. The first panel was entitled "Gender and Sexual Identities: Interdisciplinary Perspectives," and the second one "Gender and the Social Environment: Contexts and Experiences." Students on the first panel showcased research on how identities of gender and sexuality are investigated, interpreted and constructed within psychological, sociological, and linguistic perspectives. The second panel highlighted the complexities of gendered experiences in different social contexts, bringing in themes as wide-ranging as the experience of virginity in America, fertility decision-making by mothers in rural China, and women's empowerment and HIV prevention in Tanzania. The panels were followed by productive question and answer sessions. The success of the event underscores the importance of these types of platforms in showcasing research as well as generating student dialogue around gender and sexuality.



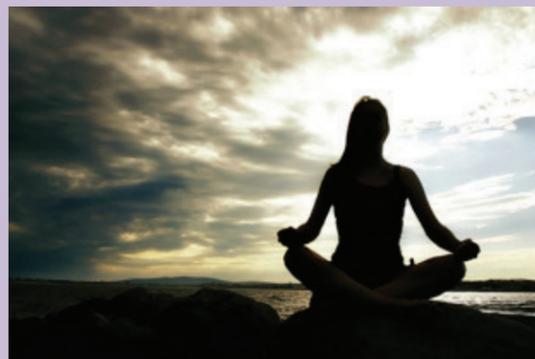
Masculinities Lunch Discussion - April 21st

The Women's Center hosted a lunch discussion on masculinities with the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR) and Harvard Men Against Rape (HMAR). The event was designed as a follow-up for an OSAPR event the night prior in which prominent men's studies scholar and sociologist Michael Kimmel discussed his book *Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men*. Several students who had attended Kimmel's talk joined the HCWC and Seth Avakian, Prevention Specialist for OSAPR, to debrief over pizza. For an hour and a half, the lounge was filled with lively and thought-provoking discussion about "the perilous world where boys become men" and the implications of masculinity in a contemporary landscape. We look forward to many HMAR and OSAPR co-sponsored events to come!

Will the Real Professor Glenda Carpio Please Stand Up? - May 3rd

Will the Real Professor X Please Stand Up? has become a tradition at the Harvard College Women's Center. The *Professor X* dinner series aims to give students a chance to interact with an accomplished professor in an informal discussion setting. The spring semester's faculty guest was Glenda Carpio, Professor of African and African American Studies and of English and American Literature and Language and Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies. Professor Carpio's wit, spirit, and good humor made it a pleasure to become better acquainted with her. Carpio kicked off the evening by showing video clips of female comedians and encouraged students to analyze their content. She generously shared many of her life experiences, including beginning her teaching career in Compton, California, where she taught English to eighth-graders through the Teach for America program. Having recently received tenure at Harvard for her work on "black humor" and "dark satire," Carpio shared her thoughts on the value of humor in academia and her experiences mentoring undergraduates. She spoke of the importance of not limiting scholarly study to areas of 'high' culture, and encouraged undergraduate women to bring their whole selves to academia. The evening provided insight into the career path and life of one of Harvard's most successful female professors, and inspired and motivated the Harvard undergraduates present to pursue their passions.

Meditation Group



Continuing a tradition from past years, the Women's Center hosted a bi-weekly meditation group this year, led by Susan Yao '09-'10. The meditation group has been a valuable resource to students who are interested in mind-body techniques to deal with stress and to live more mindfully. The meditation group has always sought to remain nondenominational in order to be as inclusive as possible. Exercises are usually from Buddhist traditions, but students do not have to be Buddhist to participate. The focus was on sitting meditation with some variation in exercises, such as using a meditation CD to guide meditation.

The Naked Ladies Brunch - May 2nd



The Naked Ladies Brunch has become a much-anticipated tradition at the HCWC. The fourth annual event attracted a large and diverse crowd of undergrads who came to enjoy a delicious free brunch and a fun clothing swap. Students bring their used clothing that they don't wear anymore to swap with others. Everyone has a great time picking out "new" clothes and eating Bridget's famous crême-brulé French Toast. The rest of the clothing that is not claimed by students is donated to a local charity. This year, with the help of our co-sponsor Freeze Magazine, we were able to collect 14 large bags of clothing to be donated to Bread and Jams, a homeless shelter in Cambridge.



Above Left: Students browse for "new" clothes.



Below Right: Administrative Coordinator Bridget Duffy and her trusty spatula take a break from serving up crême-brulé French Toast.

Internship Reflections

by Alice Laramore '11

On my first day of Women's Center training, the whole staff sat down around a map and, one-by-one, put sticky notes on each of the places that we had traveled over the summer. Some people stuck notes on London and Senegal, on New York and California, and some even stuck notes on the great city of Cambridge. As we went around the circle and told stories of our summers, we began to build the community that I've come to appreciate so much over the last year.

This community is reinforced by so many different aspects of the work that takes place in the Women's Center. As a physical space, the Center is a home not only to me and other interns, but also to students from all different corners of campus. There is always someone cuddled up with a cup of tea and a book in the lounge or studying with a group in the conference room. As an intern, I have the responsibility to get to know our visitors and it is perhaps my favorite part of the job. It is fun to observe the diversity of the groups who meet in our space and to befriend the members who often come in early to pour a cup of coffee before their meeting starts. These few minutes of conversation have become integral to my work at the Center because they give me the chance to learn about other students and what matters to them most.

Planning Women's Center events this year has been a great growing experience for me. From brainstorm to clean-up, I feel invested in each event that the Center sponsors. This year, I got the chance to work on events that are close to my heart and my interests, like hosting folk singer Alix Dobkin, and events on topics that I have less experience with, but learned a lot from undertaking with a team of interns who have more background in the topic. I developed skills in poster design, event planning, and team building that not only turned out successful events but also applied directly to other parts of my life like academics, social justice organizations, and even working on publicity for my a cappella singing group.

I feel incredibly lucky to be part of a community that honors each of its members, from people who spend hours every day in the Women's Center to people who have only set a foot over the sill once. In a staff meeting, one of my fellow interns, Ridhi Kashyap '10, gave us this advice: "view every experience that makes you uncomfortable as an ethnographic one." To turn that advice on its head, I'd say that I've found this year a study in ways to make people comfortable even while introducing them to new subjects and pushing them to challenge their own assumptions, and I've learned the most from other people making my growing experience safe. I've found that the beauty of my internship experience at the Women's Center is the people who I had the opportunity to meet and work with, and I'm convinced that it is those people, plus the many who haven't yet ventured down our stairwell, who will continue to make the Women's Center a unique and remarkable community.

Alice Laramore '11 is a History and Literature concentrator.



From left to right: Matthews Mmopi '11, Alice Laramore '11, Chava Kenny '12, and Tara Venkatraman '11 celebrate at the 2010 Women's Leadership Awards.

HCWC Programs

The Women's Cabinet



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. The purpose of the Cabinet is to provide a space for women leaders on campus to meet for networking, support, and leadership development as well as to promote issues and concerns of Harvard women. Along with the Women's Center and the Seneca, Inc., the Women's Cabinet plays a central role in organizing Women's Week each spring (see page 18). Members of the Women's Cabinet also review grant applications for the Ann Radcliffe Trust and determine how best to allocate those funds.

Active members of the 2009-2010 Women's Cabinet were: the Association of Black Harvard Women, the Athena Conference, FemSex, Freeze College Magazine,

Latinas Unidas, the OSAPR Student Alliance, Queer Students and Allies, the Radcliffe Pitches, the Radcliffe Union of Students, Smart Woman Securities, the Seneca, Inc., Strong Women Strong Girls, Students for Choice, Women in Business, and the Women's Leadership Project.

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 Ann Radcliffe Trust addresses issues of importance to Harvard women.

The Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund 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, which makes grants to student groups to fund projects and events that support the visibility of women and women's issues within Harvard College.

In 2009-2010, a total of \$16,770 was awarded on the basis of 50 individual grant applications. Examples of projects funded by the Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund this year are: a lecture by feminist-vegetarian writer Carol Adams, author of *The Sexual Politics of Meat*; the Latina Empowerment and Development (LEAD) Conference; a transgender film series; a performance of the play *The Heidi Chronicles*; the National Women in Business Summit; a panel on exploring careers in the sciences; the Radcliffe Rugby Football Club's international tour; a performance by the Harvard College Middle Eastern Dance Company; and the 35th Anniversary Celebration of the Association of Black Harvard Women.

25 Years and Growing Strong: The Radcliffe Mentor Program



Charles William Eliot, former President of Harvard, once said of Radcliffe, “let us have the College which Elizabeth Cary Agassiz asks for, and let us hope she will train up in it women like herself.” In the pioneering spirit of Agassiz’s legacy of supporting young women to excel, the Radcliffe Mentor Program continues to engender strong relationships between Harvard students and the alumnae who preceded them. The Harvard College Women’s Center is proud to be the home of the Radcliffe Mentor Program. This year, the program — which matches undergraduates with alumnae of Harvard and Radcliffe for career development, personal support, and networking — turned 25. In 2009-2010, 158 students were matched with a mentor, ranging in age from the class of 1956 to the class of 2008.

The kick-off in October was a celebratory gathering of both new and returning pairs, focusing on beginning (or renewing) their plans for a meaningful mentoring relationship. Throughout the fall, the HCWC provided mentors and mentees with food for thought about meeting together via our regular newsletter — this year in an online format. In addition to suggested activities, each newsletter featured a different mentor’s life story as inspiration for students and mentors alike.

Throughout the year, mentors and mentees pursued a variety of activities together, including meeting to

review the mentee’s resume, shadowing the mentor at her workplace, and attending lectures together, both on- and off-campus. Some pairs took in concerts and plays as well, or simply met in a local café for coffee and conversation.

The “Career Conversations” event, held in February, was an opportunity for mentees to meet other mentors, as well as to connect with their own. In the ever-popular round robin format, mentees visited tables where different clusters of mentors answered questions about their work, striking a balance between work and family, and keeping one’s hobbies and avocations in one’s life after college. Cynthia Piltch, founder of the Radcliffe Mentor Program, kicked off the morning’s activities with a moving account of how the program started and what it has meant to mentors and mentees over the years — a way for Radcliffe and Harvard women to create social and professional networks, and also to be part of each other’s joys and life challenges.

As we head into our next quarter-century of the program, we hope to build more opportunities for mentor/mentee interaction, both in-person and online, and to continue to present more and more students with the opportunity to have a Radcliffe mentor.

Science Mentor Program

The Science Mentor Program serves women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) at Harvard University. We match undergraduate students with graduate students in a related field of study. The SMP graduate student mentors serve as a source of support and experience to younger students. This occurs primarily through one-on-one mentoring. Mentors and mentees meet over coffee, lunch, and dinner throughout the academic year and are encouraged to discuss classes, research, and graduate school. In 2009-2010, SMP matched about 40 mentor-mentee pairs.

In addition to one-on-one personal mentoring, SMP hosted a series of events throughout the academic year to provide participants with important information for navigating the STEM fields as well as an opportunity to interact with other SMP students. Our first event of the year was the Fall Kick-Off where mentors and mentees met for the first time and were oriented to the program. In December, we held a Summer Research Workshop to inform undergraduate students about different summer research opportunities, and we had a counselor from the Office of Career Services on-hand to provide one-on-

one consulting. In February, mentors and mentees attended the SMP Spring Luncheon. The main event of the luncheon was a faculty panel composed of four women at different stages in their academic and industry careers who gave attendees an idea of why they entered the sciences; panelists also answered questions from the audience. In April, mentors and mentees relaxed at our SMP Study Break where everyone enjoyed free massages and had the opportunity to discuss different stress-relieving strategies to help during the stressful final examinations period.

As indicated by feedback on evaluations completed by SMP participants, the program is effective and the vast majority of respondents are very satisfied with their experience. Next year we will continue our efforts to extend participation in the program to more and more students as we enter the tenth year of the SMP.

Dr. Catherine Espaillat
Science Mentor Program coordinator
National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow

Off the Page and Into the World: Women’s Studies Course (WGS ABL-96)

“Is the work that I do social change, or social service?” This question was the theme of the activity-based-learning women’s studies course, instructed by Susan Marine this year for the second time. Students in WGS ABL-96, “Off the Page and Into the World,” spent the semester examining the purpose and meaning of the social change work in which they participate, applying theories of change, organizational development, and feminist praxis to their projects.

This year, a new format was attempted which yielded great results. Students were required to obtain an internship in a community agency which serves women, girls, or LGBT individuals/communities, or they were able to fulfill their six hour weekly time commitment in the context of the public service work they were already engaged in, principally through the Phillips Brooks House Association. Seven students chose this route and created meaningful projects within two different public service organizations — Strong Women, Strong Girls (which engages middle school girls in learning about the life histories of exceptional women in history and creating projects that reflect these lessons) and the Athena Project (a weekly mentoring program and conference

for local high school girls). Two students in the course pursued projects at local agencies — the Center for New Words and the Cambridge Commission on the Status of Women.

Throughout the semester, students in the course considered questions about how social change work happens and whose voices and interests are served by it. Funding and accountability structures were also scrutinized, and students were encouraged to critically analyze the ways their organizations do or do not meet the tenets of their mission statements. Alternative visions of theory to practice were explored and created, with an emphasis on addressing the problems that continue to face what some have called “the non-profit industrial complex.” In the words of one student, “I’m trying to look more truthfully at the work I do, while also acknowledging that creating change in the world is a slow and steady process and requires even the most committed activist to make some compromises.” In better understanding the rewards and realities of social change, “Off the Page and Into the World” continues to provide a forum for students to think, question, and emerge with a clearer vision of the change they wish to see in the world. 27

Alumnae Involvement in the HCWC

History matters; it gives us a sense of our foundation, of our values, and of what matters from those who have come before. An essential part of our mission at the HCWC is to honor and preserve the histories of the many generations of Radcliffe and Harvard women who were not able to attend a College with a fully flourishing women's center. In this spirit, we continue our efforts to build strong and meaningful bridges between current students, faculty, staff, and alumnae.

Alumnae connections impact the life of the Women's Center in two very important ways. Alumnae giving makes a tremendous difference in what we are able to accomplish each year, by and for our students. These gifts help us to expand the reach of our events and programs and to continue to enhance both the quality and visibility of all that we do. But just as importantly, the presence of committed, supportive alumnae helps us to ensure that today's students — many of whom have no memory of or familiarity with Radcliffe — connect with their history in real and tangible ways.

This year, Susan visited the Radcliffe Club of San Francisco (<http://www.radcliffeclubsf.org/>), the Radcliffe Shared Interest Group business meeting, and the Radcliffe Class of 1955's fifty-fifth reunion during Commencement week, to convene discussions with the women in attendance about the experiences of women at Harvard

and Radcliffe, then and now. Susan also meets regularly with the Committee for the Equality of Women at Harvard (<http://world.std.com/~cewh/>) to discuss our current activities and future prospects for the Women's Center's work. The Women's Leadership Project Alumnae Network Executive Board partners with us each year to support current student leaders in cultivating meaningful leadership development activities. Each of these groups has been exceedingly generous in their support of the HCWC and have provided invaluable insights into what might shape our strategic goals and priorities in the future. Additionally, individual alumnae from other classes and interest groups who have visited the Center this year have also shared ideas with us about what might give our work 'staying power' for generations to come. Through their legacy, the HCWC brings the remarkable achievements of these pioneering women to light for our students and for building future networks of all who care about supporting the exploration of women's and gender issues at Harvard.

All alumnae/i are invited to participate in the life of the HCWC, and encouraged to attend any and all of our events! To join our quarterly e-newsletter for alumnae, please email us at hcwc@fas.harvard.edu. Our deepest gratitude extends to all of our supporters for your time, energy, and generosity.



Susan Marine, HCWC Director (left) and Rosemary Bonnano '55

Women's Leadership Awards



Left to Right: Susan Marine, HCWC Director; Anne Garrels '72; Eva Z. Lam '10; Andrea R. Flores '10

Recognizing and celebrating women's leadership at Harvard, particularly the leadership demonstrated by former and current students, continues to be a priority for the Women's Center. In that spirit, the 13th annual Women's Leadership Awards took place on April 22nd at the Charles Hotel, as over 100 students, administrators and faculty gathered to enjoy a cocktail reception, dinner, and stirring speeches from this year's recipients. The Women's Leadership Award is given to a senior in the College whose leadership has had a meaningful impact on campus and who has set an example that inspires women to assume leadership roles. This year's award recipient was Eva Z. Lam '10, a Rhodes Scholar and former president of the Harvard College Democrats. Honorable mention was given to Andrea R. Flores '10, former president of the Undergraduate Council.

In her acceptance speech, Lam asserted that "leadership is not about catchy slogans, or inspiring speeches, or intimidating your colleagues into doing what you want. I am many things, but I am first and foremost a Midwesterner, and we Midwesterners are nothing if we are not pragmatic. So to me, there is no measure of leadership other than whether you can work with other people to get things done." The staff of the Harvard College Women's Center certainly strives to embody this vision of leadership — working with others to get things done.

The ceremony also recognized the winner of this year's Women's Professional Achievement Award, which goes to an alumna who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in her field. This year's award went to Anne Garrels '72, current contributor to and former senior foreign correspondent for NPR's foreign desk, in recognition of her 23 years of service reporting the news from around the globe and particularly within war zones.

The Harvard College Women's Leadership Awards are made possible through a generous endowment established by a gift from Terrie Fried Bloom '75. The annual celebration of the WLA ensures that we at the Women's Center realize our mission of supporting contributions by women who challenge, motivate, and inspire.

Women's Leadership Project

For the first time since its inception twenty-three years ago, the Women's Leadership Project (WLP) hosted over fifteen events during the academic year. Aiming to provide students with opportunities to reflect on the intersections of gender and leadership, the term-time programming aimed to serve as a complement for the Women's Leadership Conference (WLC), WLP's programmatic cornerstone. WLP's term-time programming was intended to serve as a complement for past WLC participants as well as motivate other members of the community to gain interest in attending the weeklong conference.

Covering a diverse array of interests, this year's Women's Leadership Project discussed a variety of topics, including:

- Verbal and Physical Defense Workshop with Sergeant Amy DiVirgilio, Harvard University Police Department ~October 21st, 2009
- A conversation on the intersections of not-for-profit feminist activism and for-profit organizations with Dina Dublon, Former Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for JP Morgan Chase from 1998-2004. Co-Chair for the Women's Refugee Commission and board member of the Global Fund for Women ~ March 31st, 2010
- BeadForLife Bead Sale, a fundraiser for economic and business assistance for impoverished Ugandan women (co-sponsored with the Women's Initiative in Leadership) ~ April 23rd, 2010

Ways to Get Involved

Attend an Event

Join our weekly mailing list, check out our website (<http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu>), or become a fan of our Facebook page to find out about the many programs and events that happen at the Women's Center. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. People of all genders are always welcome at our events.

Host a Meeting at the Women's Center

Any student, student group, or Harvard office may reserve the conference room for regularly scheduled meetings. The lounge and full kitchen may also be reserved for one-time use depending on availability.

Apply for a Mentor

The Radcliffe Mentor Program connects current Harvard undergraduates with alumnae mentors in a wide variety of fields. If you are an alumna interested in becoming a mentor, please email us at hcwc@fas.harvard.edu. The Science Mentor Program matches Harvard undergrads with a graduate student mentor currently enrolled at Harvard in one of the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, mathematics).

Apply for a Grant

If your student group is interested in organizing a project or event that supports the visibility of women or women's issues at Harvard, please consider applying for an Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund grant. Applications are reviewed 3-4 times per year beginning in October. For more information, please visit our website (<http://hcwc.fas.harvard.edu>).

Join our Mailing List

Receiving our weekly email newsletter is the easiest way to stay up-to-date on Women's Center events and opportunities. Email hcwc@fas.harvard.edu if you would like to be added to the email list!

Co-sponsor an Event with Us

If your student group or office is interested in working with the Women's Center on a project, program, or event that addresses women's and gender issues at Harvard, please email us at hcwc@fas.harvard.edu with your idea. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss a potential partnership.

Hang Out in our Space

The Women's Center is designed to be a welcoming and comfortable space on campus. We invite you to curl up with a book in the lounge, work on a paper on your laptop in our quiet conference room, or sit and chat with your friends and our friendly staff. You can even reserve the kitchen and bake a plate of fresh cookies!

Nominate a Student for the WLA

Anyone can nominate an outstanding leader in the senior class for the prestigious Women's Leadership Award (see page 31). Nomination details will be available through our mailing list in late fall 2010.

Bring us Your Idea!

Let us know if you want to take action on an issue affecting women on campus. The Women's Center aims to be responsive to current events at Harvard, in our community, and in the wider world. We are always open to developing programming in response to a perceived need, such as our events addressing the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

Our Space



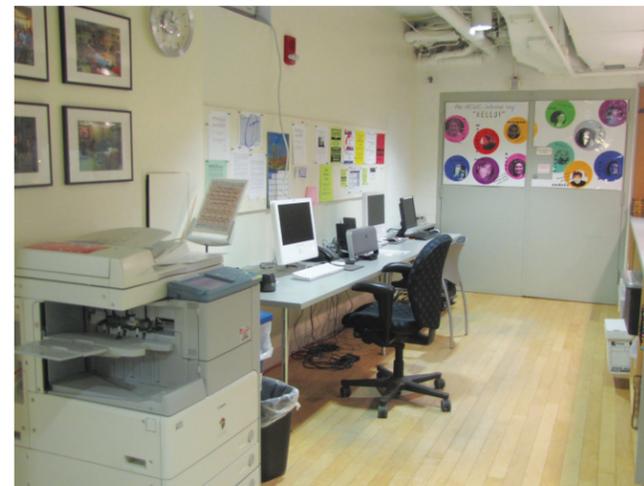
The Women's Center offers different spaces suited to a variety of needs for students and student groups. Our lounge has couches, armchairs, floor pillows, and a plasma television with DVD player and can accommodate up to 30 people. Our conference room offers a quieter space for students to study and hold meetings, 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.

These spaces are normally open to all Harvard students from Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm and Monday to Wednesday, 6-10pm. During the summer, holidays, and January term, the Women's Center is closed in the evenings.

Students or student groups seeking to use the conference room for meetings or the lounge for events should email hcwc@fas.harvard.edu in advance to reserve the space.

The Women's Center also has a full kitchen that can be used by students, but we require you to make a reservation in advance by emailing hcwc@fas.harvard.edu.

We hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities to make the Women's Center's space your own, either by hosting a meeting here or just stopping by to relax.



HCWC People

Student Interns

The undergraduate student interns help staff the Women's Center, plan our events, and publicize the Women's Center's initiatives to the rest of the campus. Their passion and dedication shape our mission and our approach to promoting and supporting the women's community at Harvard. Our interns for the 2009-2010 year were: Lili Behm '12, Rachel Gholston '11, Morgan Haven-Tietze '10, Ridhi Kashyap '10, Chava Kenny '12, Alice Laramore '11, Kelsey LeBuffe '10, Becky Martinez '11, Matthews Mmopi '11, Eva Rosenberg '10, Andrés Castro Samayoa '10, and Devin Smith (Lesley University) '10



The HCWC senior interns of the Class of 2010

A Salute to Our Graduating Interns



Morgan Haven-Tietze
Morgan will work as a freelance writer and singer while seeking a job in LGBTQ activism and/or social justice law.



Kelsey LeBuffe
Kelsey will spend next year traveling the world, as she was a recipient of the Eliot House Finley Fellowship.



Andrés Castro Samayoa
Andrés will remain at Harvard next year as the 2010-2011 Campus Life Fellow, also known as the "Fun Czar."



Ridhi Kashyap
Ridhi will remain at Harvard next year as recipient of a Hauser Human Rights Research Fellowship.



Eva Rosenberg
Eva plans to venture west and join the activist community in San Francisco.



Devin Smith
Devin will work as the Social Media Outreach Coordinator for Boston Partners in Education.

Administrative Staff

Dr. Susan Marine, Director

Dr. Susan Marine directs the Harvard College Women's Center, providing oversight to all aspects of the center's work, with a particular focus on the Radcliffe Mentor Program and alumnae relations for the Center. Susan is also Assistant Dean in the Office of Student Life.

Susan hails from the great state of Indiana but now considers herself to be a New Englander for life. In her spare time, Susan teaches and advises students in WGS.



Dr. Gina Helfrich, Assistant Director

As assistant director, Gina works with the student interns to coordinate the Women's Center's wide range of programs and events. She oversees the Women's Cabinet and the Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund and works closely with the Science Mentor Program.

Originally from Texas, Gina joined the Women's Center staff after earning her Ph.D. in Philosophy and Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.



Bridget Duffy, Administrative Coordinator

Bridget works with the staff and interns to ensure that the Women's Center runs smoothly. She handles the financial and logistical needs of the Women's Center, manages the reservations of the meeting areas, and works with the Radcliffe Mentor Program.

Born in Boston, Bridget became a member of the staff after a decade working in the administration of alternative medicine schools in Cambridge and Watertown, MA.



Dr. Régine Isabelle Joseph, Program Coordinator

In her role as program coordinator, Régine worked with the student interns to develop programs and events in the fall semester. In the spring semester, she served as advisor to the senior interns as they planned and implemented their capstone senior projects for the Women's Center.

Régine hails originally from Haiti. This year she earned her doctorate in French from New York University. Régine is a graduate of Harvard College from the class of 2001.





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