

Celebrating 10 Years



HCWC

Harvard College
Women's Center

Creating Community

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

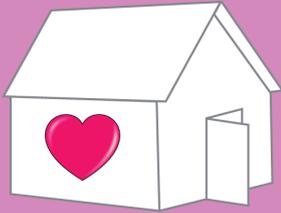
Challenge. Motivate. Inspire.

MEASURING the IMPACT of the WOMEN'S CENTER

During the 2016-2017 Academic Year

SPACE

Held 500+
Events, Meetings & Classes



4,000+ Cups
Coffee, Tea, & Cocoa

Open 50+hrs/wk
Including some evenings

PROGRAMS

800+
Participants of Gender101

98 Pairs
WiSTEM Mentorship

23 Members
Women's Cabinet



RESOURCES



\$14,850 Awarded
Over 3 ART/WCCF Grant Cycles

19 Groups
Funded for Women's Week

\$2,000 in Prizes
Women's Leadership Awardees

REACH

+1790 Likes
New users on Facebook

285 Followers
Added to Twitter

20 Viewers+
Daily on HCWC Website



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Mission

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 students that encourages dialogue and diversity.

Letter from the Director

The 2016-2017 academic year marks the Harvard College Women's Center's tenth anniversary. For a decade Harvard undergraduates from diverse backgrounds and with various perspectives have called the Harvard College Women's Center home. It has served as a space for all students dedicated to the advancement of women to thrive in their advocacy. The Center has been and will continue to be a place for students to explore, highlight, and tackle issues that face all women who identify under the umbrella of womanhood regardless of their race, socio-economic class, religion, or sexuality.

This year we have focused on strengthening our position as a nexus of thought and collaboration for issues related to women and gender. Our pilot discussion series, *Let's Talk*, was a success last year so we adopted it as a part of our weekly programming this year. During the fall and spring, we conducted

Let's Talk programming centered around gendered islamophobia, transnational activism, the importance of women in politics, health care and the politics of race and dating along with a host of other topics. This weekly series also provided students with time to connect with each other and faculty during our mini meditation sessions, *Gender 101* interactive workshops, and "Food and Fascinating Conversation" events where we hosted women faculty members and allowed students to hear about our guests' personal journeys and professional triumphs.

In addition to our *Let's Talk* series, we have expanded our *Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (WiSTEM) Mentorship Program*. WiSTEM encourages undergraduate women to explore how they might make their particular contributions and experience the greatest possible satisfaction in STEM fields by connecting them with women graduate students in STEM. The goal of the program is to help retain women in STEM fields and increase the number of women STEM concentrators at Harvard. Participation in the WiSTEM program more than doubled this year with a total of 98 mentees and 100 mentors. Its programming including engaging events focused on career advancement and strategies to diversify one's approach to STEM professions, including wearable technology and data science.

While the aforementioned work is only a snapshot of what we have accomplished this year, the Women's Center would not have the depth of impact without the tireless effort of our undergraduate interns, the continuous work of our engaged staff, the ongoing investment of alumnae, and the full support of the Harvard College community. On behalf of the staff, thank you for your partnership as we continue to live out our mission to challenge, motivate and inspire.



Naisha Bradley
Director, Harvard College Women's Center



Harvard College Women's Center Director Naisha Bradley

Meet the HCWC Team



Naisha Bradley

Director

Naisha Bradley serves as the Director of the Harvard College Women's Center. Responsible for the leadership of the Center, Naisha's portfolio includes strategic development, operational management, financial planning, program development, and alumnae relations. In addition, Bradley works collaboratively with center affiliated student groups to advise them on strengthening visibility and to assist them in the creation, implementation and evaluation of an array of programming that raises awareness of women's issues and promotes gender equality.



Bridget Duffy

Administrative Coordinator

Bridget Duffy handles the financial and logistical needs of the Women's Center and works with the staff and interns to ensure that the Women's Center runs smoothly. Bridget enjoys meeting the many students who come into the space and is constantly impressed by the variety of discussions that are a part of daily life at the Women's Center. Bridget also serves as the Chair of the Spirit of the College Committee, which allows her and her committee to strengthen the sense of community and camaraderie amongst the various Harvard College departments and staff.



Heidi Wickersham

Program Coordinator

Heidi Wickersham serves as the Program Manager at the Harvard College Women's Center. Heidi supports a breadth of programs including the Women's Cabinet, Woman's Week Programming, and the WISTEM Mentorship Program. Additionally, she creates the HCWC weekly newsletter and coordinates co-sponsorship with affiliated offices and student organizations to collaboratively broaden the reach of the Women's Center in promoting gender equity.



Nicole Black

WISTEM Mentorship
Program Coordinator

Nicole Black coordinates the Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Mentorship Program supported by the Harvard College Women's Center. Nicole matches mentors and mentees and provides ongoing support throughout the program, including organizing meet and greets and career panels. Nicole is currently pursuing a PhD in Bioengineering through the John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and is a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow.

HCWC Internship Program



From top left:

- Ash Asencios '17
- Amalee Beattie '17
- Mido Choi '17
- Nu Xiong '17
- Gaby Germanos '18
- Jessica Jin '18
- Courtney Okwara '18
- Sally Yi '18
- Kate Gehling '19
- Brandi Moore '19
- Jenna Gray '19

The effort of our interns allow the Women's Center to continuously produce mission-driven work as we seek to honor those who challenge, motivate, and inspire.

Photos by
Simone Elise Aduke Abegunrin '18

Senior Reflections

In the application I sent in for this internship three years ago, I wrote, “It wasn’t until I got to college that I began to learn about gender issues, and being aware of them has allowed me to see the world in an entirely new light. I would like to help others, of all genders, to realize their role in advocating for gender equality. Being an intern and part of the Women’s Center would provide me with the opportunity to facilitate some of these discussions through programming and events.”

After three years, I can confidently say that I’ve been able to do this and much more. As an intern, I’ve been fortunate to have been involved in creating opportunities for fellow peers to engage with important social issues, from organizing a panel discussion about gender in sports to inviting female professors into the Center to have conversations with students about their research or career path. I’ve had the opportunity to listen to many inspirational women speak on campus ranging from Melissa Harris Perry to Aung San Su Kyi. I also attended a conference at the White House, where I met other young women who were passionate about advancing gender equity. Throughout this internship experience, I’ve been constantly empowered to take action and advocate for social change.

In addition to the work, what I will miss most about the internship is being part of a kind, smart, and inspiring team of individuals who share the same commitment to creating change. Through collaborating with fellow interns and receiving support from an amazing staff, I have benefited so much from the positive energy of those around me. I consider the Women’s Center to one of the most dependable sources of stability in my undergraduate experience. It has always been there for me. If I’m feeling down about something, I can come to the Women’s Center. If I need to solve a problem, I come to the Center. If I’m looking for laughter and companionship, I come to the Center. On a campus where the majority of organizations and spaces are exclusive, the Women’s Center diverges from this path and provides support, love, and community for so many people.

I have the deepest appreciation for the Center and all that

it does; I know first hand how much effort and dedication it takes to intentionally carve out time and space for inclusive and intersectional dialogue. I am proud that the Center is committed to doing this work and the way it strives to better itself in order to best serve the student community. I leave the Center feeling grateful for the time I’ve had here and I’m confident that it will continue to leave a positive impact on students’ lives.

Nu Xiong '17

As I near the end of this final spring semester of college, I have been reflecting quite a bit on my time at Harvard. I don’t tend to have many regrets in life, but if I had to have one for the past four years it would be not working at the Women’s Center earlier. My co-interns and supervisors, the working environment, and the work that we do at the Center have made my last year one of warmth, care, and passion, and have been a major source of joy for me. What we do at the Center is so impactful to me because it is as much about strengthening relationships internally as it is about furthering our mission of gender equity in the broader campus community. Despite being a new intern this year, I never felt like an outsider or intruder, but was welcomed, affirmed, and encouraged to grow both professionally and personally as a Women’s Center intern. To me, this balancing of care and professionalism in a work environment is a feminist prerogative that I feel very grateful to have witnessed and participated in. Through planning and executing Women’s Week, Let’s Talk events, and more programming with the other interns, I practiced managing large-scale projects, creating collaborative initiatives involving students outside of the Center, and effectively working on a team with a diversity of learning and leading styles. I am going to miss the unique energy of everyone I work with at the Center, but I will carry this experience and skills gained here into all the future work I do.

Amalee Beattie '17

Ann Radcliffe Trust Lecture

During Opening Days, the College's orientation for new students, the Harvard College Women's Center hosts the Ann Radcliffe Trust Lecture. The mission of the lecture is to expose students to a senior female faculty member doing innovative and exciting work that will invigorate them for what lies ahead in their time at Harvard. In doing so, we honor the legacy of Ann Radcliffe and similar pioneers of women's education in Harvard and Radcliffe history. In September 2016, the HCWC welcomed Marcyliena Morgan, Professor of African and African American Studies and Executive Director of the HipHop Archive and Research Institute. Morgan's talk, *If I Ruled the World – Imagined That*, focused on the politics of speech and solidarity in the age of Hip-hop.



A.R.T. Grants

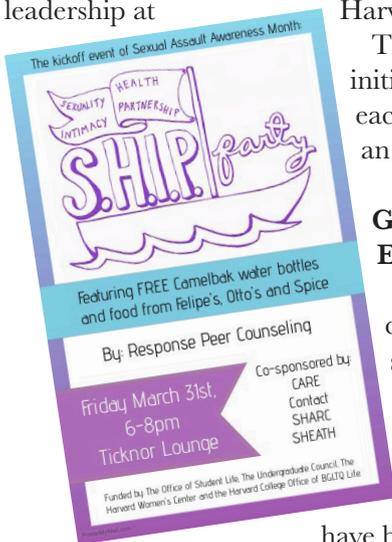
The Ann Radcliffe Trust/Women's Center Community Fund (ART/WCCF) was created in the pioneering, independent spirit of Ann Radcliffe, who, in 1643, established the first scholarship fund for Harvard College and for whom Radcliffe College was named two-and-a-half centuries later. The ART/WCCF is primarily 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, Gender, and Sexuality Student Organizations, along with 2-3 HCWC 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 each academic year. Currently, we are able to fund about 45% of the requests we receive each year. This year we awarded 34 grants totaling \$14,850 to 22 different student groups. Below is an example of the many remarkable projects we supported:

Group: Response Peer Counseling

Event: S.H.I.P. Party (Sexuality, Health, Intimacy, Partnership)

Details: The S.H.I.P. Party is the first annual event by Response Peer Counseling. In the classrooms on the first floor of Boylston there will be themed booths run by Response and other student groups: relationships by Response, sexual health by SHARC, sexuality by Contact, consent by CARE, and sex by SHEATH. Students attending the S.H.I.P. Party can hang out in the main room to watch the movie, eat food, chat, and relax. They can wander through the other rooms to learn about the topics and the groups. This is an opportunity for students to talk about consent, sexuality, and relationships in a relaxed atmosphere, run by their fellow students who have been trained in how to handle these issues.



#WCW! & Appreciations

“I’ve really made it now that I am in the company of other greats like Beyonce!” -Harvard Faculty recipient of #WCW

Our Woman Crush Wednesday (#WCW) campaign continued this year, celebrating women at Harvard and beyond who challenge, motivate and inspire. We highlighted the work of 22 amazing women on our social media this academic year, including students, staff, faculty, alumnae and celebrities who were nominated by students. Our Facebook page is highly active with nearly daily posts during the school year and over 1700 followers, which helped to spread the word about these amazing women.

These public shout outs are another way for the Women’s Center to appreciate the work of others, in addition to our weekly “appreciations.” As a staff we nominate individuals, student groups and offices that we think are doing great work in solidarity with our mission and send them physical certificates of appreciation in the mail. This year we sent over 86 appreciations across Harvard’s campus.

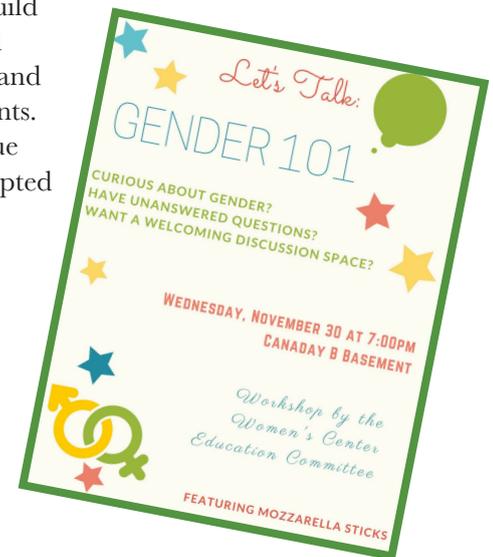


Gender 101

Gender 101 is an interactive workshop facilitated by undergraduate interns that aims to build awareness regarding the diversity of gender identities on campus. Through presentation and discussion, we hope to build the capacity of individuals to recognize and respect all genders and provide tools and ideas for organizations to create more welcoming and inclusive environments. The HCWC facilitates this workshop to highlight the nuance of gender and advance dialogue about the agency people have regarding gender expression and identity. The discourse prompted from these workshops allows us to better understand the diversity that is included under the umbrella of womanhood. This year we facilitated 45 Gender 101 workshops and trained more than 500 members of the Harvard community, including administrative staff at the Harvard Law School and Harvard College, in addition to students involved in single-gender organizations and athletics teams.

“Re-framing it as (cis) gender privilege made me confront how I take certain aspects of my life for granted. As difficult as it may be to be a woman, it must be even more difficult to identify outside the gender binary.”

-2016 Gender 101 Participant



Let's Talk Series

Fall 2016

In its second year, the *Let's Talk* series continued to provide space and build community at Harvard College while raising awareness about women and gender issues. The weekly programming was spearheaded by Women's Center undergraduate interns and highlighted an array of topics this semester, from how women can navigate corporate and political environments to opportunities for students to express themselves through poetry and music.

9.28.16

Challenge, Motivate, Inspire, & Celebrate!

As we proudly begin our 10th year, we invite you to come to the Women's Center to meet this year's interns, check out our space, and get to know how the Women's Center works on campus.

10.5.16

How to Look Corporate AF* *And Fashionable

Cosponsored by The Office of Career Services
Preparing for life outside the halls of Harvard but not quite sure how to navigate your view of yourself with how society believes you should look? Join us for a conversation about how to present yourself professionally while keeping your personal sense of style alive.

10.12.16

Hear Us Speak: Poetry Workshop & Open Mic

Join the Women's Center and Speak Out Loud for a poetry workshop and open mic centered around themes of gender and identity expression. Bring a poem that speaks to you, and get ready to write and share your own poetry if you choose. All genders welcome!

10.19.16

Mindfulness Moments – Mini Meditations and Chair Yoga - Center for Wellness

Mindfulness is about developing the ability to be fully attentive to all of the moments of your life, reducing the amount of time you spend worrying about the future or fretting about the past. A combination of chair yoga, short meditations and breathing exercises, this workshop gives you ways to unplug and recharge.

10.26.16

Are Women Too Smart to Run for Office?

Shauna Shames '01, Ph.D. '14, Author of the forthcoming book *Out of the Running: Why Millennials Reject Political Careers and Why It Matters*, January 2017, NYU Press

11.2.16

Food and Fascinating Conversation with Dr. Glenda Carpio

Designed to facilitate relationships between students and female faculty, this dinner is an opportunity to hear about a female professor's personal journey and professional challenges.

11.16.16

Femmes et Musique Brain Break

Join the Women's Center for an evening of student performances and take a break from the stress of the semester! We will also have coloring books, board games, and a selection of snacks available.

11.30.16

Gender 101: Interactive Workshop

Through presentation and discussion, we hope to build the capacity of individuals to recognize and respect all students and provide tools and ideas for organizations to create a more welcoming and inclusive environment.



FALL
Let's **Talk**
2016



Let's Talk Series

Spring 2017

Continuing the success of the fall, the student interns jumped into *Let's Talk* programming for the spring semester. This semester we not only invited Harvard faculty, Linda Schlossbert, for a "Food and Fascinating Conversation" event, but we also brought back alumae, Brianna Suslovick, to talk about her work in reproductive rights at the state and national level.

02.15.17

Finding Love in 2017: The Politics of Race & Dating

Where can women of color go to find a partner supportive of their racial, sexual, and ethnic identity? We will discuss the idolization of whiteness & how colorism diminishes interracial and intraracial relations between people of color. Come for an open, moderated discussion on race and dating! ~All genders & sexualities are welcomed.

02.22.17

Simple Cooking: Promoting Self Care and Kitchen Safety

Cooking is an essential skill for everyone and we encourage you to utilize our resources to master it before you graduate from your meal plan! We will review food prep basics, reproducing recipes and cooking for community in an accessible and affordable manner.

03.08.17

Let's Watch: Screening of Insecure

Take a break from studying for a tasty brain break featuring snacks such as hot Cheetos, mozzarella sticks, and more! We will be showing 25-minute episodes of hit HBO comedy show *Insecure*. Get ready to relax, laugh, and celebrate the start of spring break.

03.22.17

Food and Fascinating Conversation: Dinner with Linda Schlossberg

Come for a delicious dinner and discussion about women and creative writing, featuring Professor Linda Schlossberg, award-winning writer and the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies for WGS.

03.29.17

Body Autonomy – Navigating Access to and Privacy about Birth Control

As changes are made to health insurance rules and health care laws, join us for a discussion on different forms of birth control, accessing birth control through the HUHS system, and how to work on ensuring your privacy during the process.

04.05.17

Gendered Islamophobia: Exploring Individual Narratives

Cosponsored with the Harvard Islamic Society

In our current climate of both institutionalized and un-institutionalized Islamophobia in America, recognizing intersectional identities is essential if we hope to effectively advocate for justice. Islamophobia is gendered, and affects Muslim women in ways often distinct from the ways it affects Muslim men. Join HCWC for a conversation on issues raised by these intersecting identities.

04.12.17

Transnational Activist Women

What are women activists doing around the world? Look outside the Harvard bubble and the United States to see the work amazing women are doing in their own countries to help secure the human rights of women worldwide.



SPRING
Let's **Talk**
2017



WiSTEM Mentorship Program

The mission of Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (WiSTEM) Mentorship Program is to create and maintain an environment that fosters the growth and development of women students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics communities at Harvard University. WiSTEM encourages undergraduate women to explore how they might make their particular contributions and experience the greatest possible satisfaction in STEM fields. Ultimately the goal of the program is to help retain women in STEM fields and increase the number of women STEM concentrators who persist at Harvard by providing meaningful mentorship opportunities.

WiSTEM provides a valuable opportunity for undergraduate women to take advantage of the practical wisdom of graduate students as a source of information and inspiration. The WiSTEM Mentorship Program also provides graduate students the occasion to share their thoughts about their career decisions and experiences. Mentors can be incredible resources to undergraduates with questions about anything from choosing a concentration to landing their first job to balancing work and family life.

This year the WiSTEM Mentorship Program had a total of 98 mentees and 100 mentors, more than doubling the size of the program from the 2015-2016 academic year with at least 24 participants identifying as first-generation college students. This

year's programming featured monthly newsletters, creation of a WiSTEM Facebook group, mentoring database and resources for mentors, a Hidden Figures movie outing, career panels and mentoring meetups.

The following comments are from the year-end survey of student participants in the 2016-2017 WiSTEM Mentorship Program:

- It was really nice to have a mentor to whom I could ask questions that I could not ask a senior at the college or a professor in a class. My mentor was really helpful with my summer internship search, concerns about choosing a field of study, and really understanding of my schedule. Having similar hobbies and interests was an added bonus that added to my experience with the program.
- I have realized how helpful and enriching a mentor/mentee relationship can be thanks to WiSTEM. It makes navigating your way through life less stressful and more enjoyable.
- I felt more empowered in general to reach out and ask mentors for help. I had no idea people were so supportive.
- The WiSTEM program reminded me of the importance of informal mentoring, and motivated me to seek mentoring from women more senior than me in my field.
- Love that this program exists. I was skeptical signing up, but am so happy that I did.



Women in Innovation Series

To supplement the WiSTEM Mentorship Program, the Women's Center hosted conversations with 17 amazing women from diverse backgrounds in various sectors who participated in either the WiSTEM Career Panel or one of the three Women in Innovation events this year.

The Women in Innovation Series are a themed events where STEM-related conversations are geared towards diversifying undergraduate women's approach to their STEM concentrations. For these events we welcome

nationally recognized Women in STEM who have been innovators in their fields to share their best practices, how they overcame challenges, and what pushed them to re-think success for women in STEM professions.

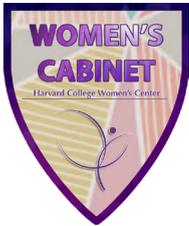
The themes for this year's three Women in Innovation events were data science,

wearable tech, and navigating innovative career paths (see photos to the right). Each of the panel discussions were open to all participants in the WiSTEM program, as well as the general community and were facilitated by undergraduate and graduate participants in the WiSTEM program. Although each conversation focused on a particular theme, all of the conversations ranged in topics, from updates in the science and technology involved in the field, challenges for women in the particular industry, to general career advice for people interested in pursuing careers in nonprofits, academia, or start ups. Students walked away from these events with much more depth and breadth of knowledge regarding the different potential fields of study they could pursue.



Women's Center
STEM
 p Program

Women's Cabinet



The Women's Cabinet is a collaborative board of student leaders from women focused student organizations throughout Harvard College. The goal of the Women's Cabinet is to strengthen and amplify the voices of women students on campus. We work towards this goal by sharing best practices for organizational longevity, providing funding incentives for collaborative programming (only offered to recognized groups) and increasing dialogue amongst women students to build bridges of understanding across areas of interest.

Update from the Executive Co-chairs

The 2016-2017 academic year was an active year for the Harvard College Women's Cabinet, from expanded membership to hosting events and participating in campus-wide activities. Membership in the Cabinet was expanded to include women's athletic teams and social organizations, bringing the total number of active organizations represented to 23. Cabinet co-chairs also drafted and received approval for the addition of two core values to clarify the mission of the women's cabinet, which emphasize intersectionality and a focus on women's issues.

In the fall the Women's Cabinet co-hosted [Blank] Party with The Seneca to organize a social event run by women with the idea that people should feel free to "fill in the blank" with whatever identity, experience, theme, etc. they identify with, in order to include as wide a range of students as possible. The fall semester also saw active meetings, during one of which the Women's Cabinet hosted a discussion with members of the Single-Gender Social Organizations Implementation Committee to incorporate student feedback into the future implementation of the new policy.

Jumping right in to the beginning of the spring semester the Women's Cabinet collaborated with the Diversity Peer Educators to host the Women's Week event, "#HarvardforHer." The event featured a short lecture by Professor Caroline Light about an intersectional history of women at Harvard to frame a discussion on gender identity at Harvard. Students discussed identity and more in an effort to learn about and empathize with experiences of others. As a result of this discussion, members of the cabinet decided to focus on two action items to finish out the year. The first was to collectively endorse the Harvard Hygiene Campaign's initiative to fund menstrual hygiene products in all of the houses and the second was to create a proposal to promote gender equity in classrooms through the President's Taskforce on Inclusion and Belonging Solution Space to kick start a conversation about gender issues that arise in the academic sphere.

Overall it was a very active year, which ended in a smooth leadership transition from outgoing co-chairs, Mido Choi '17 and Emily Zoeffer '17, to the incoming chair Kara Chyung '20.

Executive Co-Chairs



Emily Zoeffer '17



Mido Choi '17

Women of Color Collective

The mission of the Women of Color Collective (WoCC) is to provide a space in which students can come together to discuss the intersections of race, gender, and culture; discuss how these intersections can be further complicated by other facets of identity; and create community. We hope that through the collective, women of color, whether they belong to an affinity group or not, feel like they have a space in the Women's Center and Houses and an increased sense of belonging at the College.

During this year's kickoff event for WoCC on March 23, 2017, students gathered to discuss the burden of representation in communities of color. Participants shared their own experiences of feminism and their intersecting identities at the College and what they would like to see from WoCC. A major theme that came out of the conversation centered around finding community and creating social spaces for women of color to connect on campus. Students brainstormed future WoCC programming with a focus on community building including comments such as "I'd love more opportunities to engage the campus community and amplify voices/perspectives" and "discussing ways WOC (Women of Color) at Harvard are not united and how to change that"



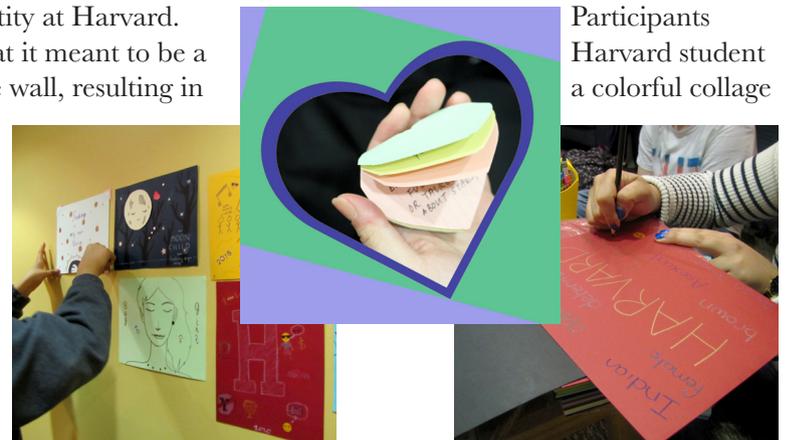
Freshman Representatives

The *Frosh Rep Program* is designed for first-year students to help promote HCWC events, act as a liaison between the HCWC and other first-years, and help the HCWC stay connected to dialogue in the freshmen class related to issues of gender. This year the Frosh Reps hosted three events: "Break 'n' Bake," "Galentines Day," and "Tell Me S'more."

On November 15, from 6:30-8:00 PM, the Frosh Reps hosted the "Break 'n' Bake," an event designed to introduce freshmen to the Women's Center and encourage them to reflect on their identity at Harvard. Participants had the opportunity to create a small poster that represented what it meant to be a to them. They then attached their poster to a larger mural on the wall, resulting in that reflected the multitude of different identities at Harvard.

The Frosh Reps hosted "Galentine's Day," an evening to celebrate love within friendship, on February 17. Students baked and decorated sugar cookies to go with handmade cards as gifts to their friends.

A campfire-themed storytelling event, "Tell Me S'more," on April 20 entailed bonding, and reflection. Students baked s'mores dip and provided other yummy snacks like strawberries, cinnamon pita chips, and pretzel sticks to go with their stories.



Participants
Harvard student
a colorful collage

20th Annual Women's Leadership Awards

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Women's Leadership Awards, over 80 students, administrators, faculty and alumnae gathered at the Charles Hotel to enjoy a cocktail reception, dinner and stirring speeches from this year's recipients. The annual celebration helps the HCWC realize our mission of honoring women who challenge, motivate and inspire. The Women's Leadership Award is given to an outstanding senior each year in honor of their leadership for women on campus, in their communities and in the larger world. The Women's Professional Award is also presented to a prominent professional woman for outstanding contributions to her field. Nominations for the undergraduate award are solicited in late fall each year. Nominees are then invited to submit an application for the award. A committee of faculty, staff and alumnae are convened by the HCWC to review the applications, select finalists for interviews and choose a winner. This year, 51 seniors were nominated for the award. We reached out to all nominees and 24 students took the next step of completing the application, and thus were considered for this prestigious honor.

The 2017 Women's Leadership Award winner, Karen Chee '17, was selected for her efforts in helping to transform Harvard into a more inclusive campus. Her work and leadership in the improv troupe, The Immediate Gratification Players, The Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club and The Signet Society has advanced the Harvard campus community in a way that will have impact for years to come. As a freshman, Karen wanted to work on a sketch comedy show, but none was to be found, so she started SKETCH, a "collaborative SNL-style comedy show that brings together students from all walks of life into its creative process." Already in its fourth year, SKETCH has become one of Harvard's more inclusive comedy cultural traditions. In the tradition of improv, Karen's approach to leadership is based on "yes, and." She has "confidently walked into spaces not built for her, saying "yes" to what exists, "and" then working to make those spaces better. She argues that "leadership is about walking through doors, then turning

around and helping others enter that door too." Karen has established a long list of accomplishments and recognition during her time at Harvard. She was profiled by the Harvard Leadership Magazine, interned with Stephen Colbert, her work was published in both the New Yorker and Huffington Post, and Karen was invited to the White House last fall for the first ever South by South Lawn. According to one of her several nominators, "seeing another student already reaching such incredible heights is an inspiration for us all."

In a break from tradition, the Center was happy to recognize a rising professional for her work and trajectory that continues to motivate others. Natasha Alford, is an award-winning journalist, producer, writer and deputy editor of TheGrio. Her work prompts nuanced conversation about issues related to race, gender, education, politics and pop culture. Alford reported the big and small truths of our society during the rise of #BlackLivesMatter, an effort she details in her 2015 TED Talk, The Courage to Report.

Finally, our 20th annual professional award recipient was Susan Marine, founding director of the Harvard College Women's Center. Susan was honored for her inspiring career trajectory which includes 20 years of experience leading initiatives in higher education for the advancement of women and trans* students of all genders. Marine was not only the founding director of the Women's Center but she also founded the Harvard University Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR) in 2002 and co-created and taught the first course fusing feminist theory with grassroots practice, known as "off the page and into the world," in the Committee on Degrees in Women, Gender and Sexuality in 2007.

The evening ended warmly with closing remarks from graduating intern Ash Ascencios '17. Ash commented on the enormous source of inspiration the recipients provided, as well as reflect on the impact his experience working at the Women's Center over the last three years has had on his life, concluding that over the relatively short history of the Women's Center it has already been a large impact on this community.



Front left to back right: Honoree Karen Chee, Honorable Mention Olivia Castor, Susan Marine, Rising Professional Honoree Natasha Alford, and Naisha Bradley. Back Row: Bridget Duffy and Heidi Wickersham.

Women's Week 2017

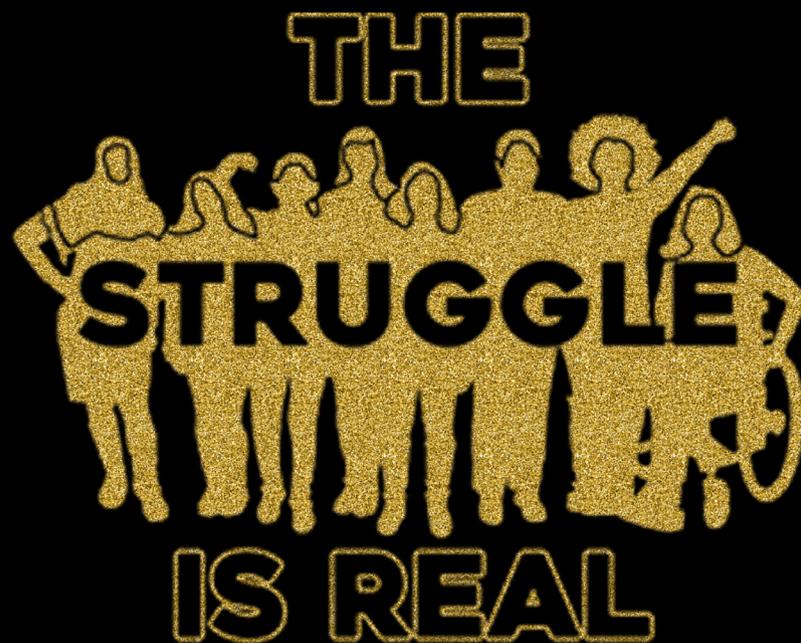
This year was the tenth year the Women's Center has helped coordinate Harvard College's annual Women's Week program. *Women's Week* features events that celebrate women's achievements, explore women's issues and encourage dialogue about the role of gender at Harvard and what it means to be a woman in today's world. This year's theme was "the struggle is real," encapsulating the various themes from the student organizations' event proposals which highlighted gender equality from a broad range of intersecting identities. This year the Women's Center received 19 proposals for Women's Week events, 11 of which made it into the final program. The 7-day program was coordinated by Women Center interns and a 10-student steering committee with collaboration of 19 student organizations, taking place between Feb. 26-Mar. 4.

The programming opened with Radcliffe Union of Students' "Feminist Coming Out Day" in Cabot Café. In the middle of the week, The Harvard Hygiene Campaign hosted an event titled "John Harvard's Period," which consisted of an awareness campaign and petition to supply all of Harvard College residential spaces with menstrual hygiene products. The week's programming concluded on Saturday with "#HarvardforHer," a collaboration between the Women's Cabinet and the Diversity Peer Educators. The event featured a short lecture on the intersectional history of women at Harvard by Professor Caroline Light to frame a discussion on gender identity at Harvard. Students discussed identity, and more, in an effort to learn about and empathize with experiences other than their own.

Overall, organizers of Women's Week built a space of solidarity among women at Harvard College who have a stake in promoting gender equity across campus. Conversations were intimate and participants left engaged and ready to face the challenges of the upcoming year.

The Harvard College Women's Center Presents:

WOMEN'S WEEK 2017



Feb. 26th-Mar. 4th

Join us in a week of programming celebrating women and exploring gender issues through a collection of student organized events

On Facebook @HarvardCollegeWomensWeek

HARVARD COLLEGE WOMEN'S WEEK 2017

8TH FEMINIST ANNUAL COMING OUT DAY!



Hosted by Radcliffe Union of Students

February 26th, 2017
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Cabot Cafe



HARVARD COLLEGE WOMEN'S WEEK 2017

FEB 27 | 3 - 4:30 PM | TICKNOR LOUNGE
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

WOMEN TAKING ACTION

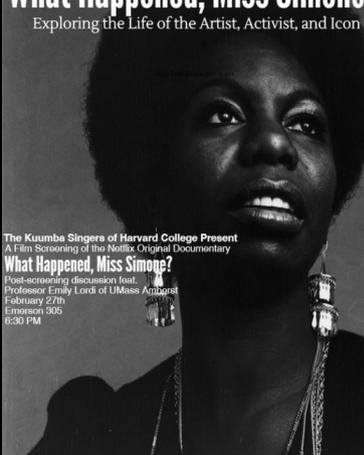


AN OPEN DISCUSSION ON STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE CHANGE

CO-SPONSORED BY THE SENECA, ABHW, AND HIS MUSLIMAT

What Happened, Miss Simone?

Exploring the Life of the Artist, Activist, and Icon



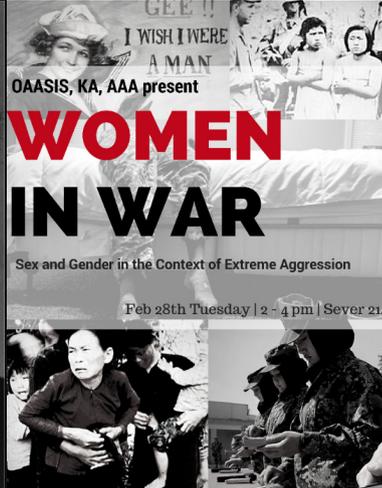
The Kuumba Singers of Harvard College Present
A Film Screening of the Netflix Original Documentary
What Happened, Miss Simone?
Post-screening discussion feat. Professor Emily Lordi of UMass Amherst
February 27th Emerson 305 6:30 PM

AAASIS, KA, AAA present

WOMEN IN WAR

Sex and Gender in the Context of Extreme Aggression

Feb 28th Tuesday | 2 - 4 pm | Sever 214



DEFYING THE DEFINED:

exploring preconceived notions of sexuality



sex-u-ali-t-y n. a person's sexual orientation or preference

2-5pm · march 1
ticknor lounge
food available

presented by **MANIFESTA** magazine

CATCHING THE WAVE

Reception and Tours
March 1, 2017
5-7pm

Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute
3 James Street, Cambridge, MA



In commemoration of Harvard Women's Week join us for a reception and tours surrounding the Schlesinger Library's current exhibition *Catching the Wave: Photographs of the Women's Movement*. View the work of influential feminist photographers who documented the women's liberation movement of the twentieth century.

Calling all student activists! Be part of history!
We are seeking donations of photographs of the recent women's marches. If you would like to donate your photos to the Schlesinger Library, please complete this form <http://tinyurl.com/ncq3ozn>. Your photographs may be added to a "Women's March 2017" collection and be on display during the event.

John Harvard's Period

March 2 / 12-3PM / Science Center Plaza

A Harvard College Women's Week Event
Brought to you by The Hygiene Campaign



HARVARD INTERFAITH FORUM

Women and Faith

An Inter-Religious Panel Discussion



Come join us as we listen to different women from diverse faith backgrounds discuss the intersection of their faith and gender identities in their lives.

Thursday - March 2nd
7:30 pm
Fong Auditorium

Participating Organizations:
Asian American Association Association of Black Harvard Women, Diversity Peer Educators, Gender Inclusivity in Math, Korea Association, Kuumba Singers of Harvard College, Radcliffe Union of Students, Seneca, Harvard College Film Festival, Harvard College Women's Cabinet, Harvard Chaplains, Harvard Interfaith Forum, Harvard Islamic Society Muslimat, Organization of Asian American Sisters in Service, Manifesta Magazine, Schlesinger Library at the Radcliffe Institute, The Hygiene Campaign Club of Harvard

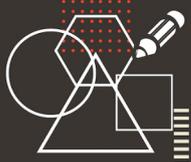
SPONSORED BY THE WOMEN'S CENTER

DISCUSSING THE GENDER GAP IN MATH

TICKNOR LOUNGE, BOYLSTON HALL, HARVARD YARD
WOMEN'S WEEK 2017

SURVEY DATA PRESENTATION BY AMANDA GLAZER, FOLLOWED BY PANEL DISCUSSION

MARCH 3
1 - 3 PM



FEMINIST Visions & Visuals IN FILM

HARVARD COLLEGE FILM FESTIVAL

WHAT: A CANDID DISCUSSION WITH PROMINENT FEMALE FILMMAKERS WHO AIM TO INCORPORATE THEIR IDENTITIES AS WOMEN AND FEMINISTS INTO THE FILMS THAT THEY MAKE

WHEN: MARCH 3RD, 2017
7-9 PM

WHERE: SEVER 113

The Harvard Women's Cabinet and Diversity Peer Educators present

#HarvardForHer

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A WOMAN ON THIS CAMPUS THROUGH CONVERSATIONS AND PORTRAITURE

MARCH 4, SATURDAY
7 PM - 9 PM
FONG AUDITORIUM

All genders and identities are welcome to attend the event.



Peggy Schmertzler Leadership Lecture

The Power of Your Words: Finding Your Most Authentic, Influential Voice with Sarah Hurwitz

The Harvard College Women's Center welcomed over 100 members of the Harvard community, including students, staff, faculty, and alumni to attend the first Peggy Schmertzler Leadership Lecture on Tuesday, March 28, 2017, in the Phillips Brooks House Parlor Room.

This lecture was sponsored in honor of Peggy Schmertzler for her determined and transformative leadership as she worked to advance equality for women at Harvard University. Peggy helped found the Committee for the Equality of Women at Harvard in 1988 and was the organization's first president. She continued working until 2014 to promote the status of female students, faculty, and alumnae at Harvard University. Peggy's husband, Al, was actively involved in sponsoring the event and expressed his appreciation to speaker, Sarah Hurwitz, and Harvard alumnae Joan Baer, Betsy Hatfield, and Acey Welch for their helping to memorialize Peggy's efforts to support women.

In opening, Women's Center Director Naisha Bradley remarked that "Peggy Schmertzler was one of the reasons why there is a Women's Center at Harvard College. A graduate of Radcliffe, at her 35th reunion, Peggy began to inquire about what Harvard was like for women...Peggy was a determined



Peggy Schmertzler

and resourceful leader whose purest intention was to leave this campus better than how she discovered it."

She continued to introduce the guest speaker "We were delighted to honor Peggy's memory and her dedication to empowering women at Harvard with our first leadership lecturer, Sarah Hurwitz." Sarah spoke in depth to a rapt audience about her experiences as White House speechwriter from 2009 to 2017, serving as a senior speechwriter for President Barack Obama and then as chief speechwriter for First Lady Michelle Obama.

In an in-depth Q&A session Sarah took questions from the audience ranging from tips for aspiring speechwriters to how the power of words and finding once authentic voice have been challenged in the current political context. She spoke to the importance of fact checking in her work, and especially in working with the Obamas – if you were to say in a speech that President Obama was going to meet with a politician who was a friend, then fact checkers were indeed tasked to look into the status of their relationship. There were also many laughs as Sarah emphasized the importance "Fact check, fact check, and then fact check some more!" Sarah ended with repeated advice to students and others to make sure to tell a story, not just lines with facts and numbers, but something that is memorable.



Sarah Hurwitz delivers the first Peggy Schmertzler Leadership Lecture to audience of over 100.

Swap ‘Til U Drop

This year we had record numbers participate in our annual clothing swap and donation drive. Over 100 members of the Harvard community visited our space for brunch, music and to exchange lightly used clothing.

In addition to swapping clothes, we donated over 10 large bags of clothing to Boomerangs in Central Square, which is a family of thrift stores owned and operated by the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts.

Adding to the fun was a glorious brunch including Bridget Duffy’s traditional crème brûlée french toast! In total we went through seven dozen eggs and several loaves of bread.



Outreach

In addition to our social media campaigns and events, the Women’s Center engages in outreach to the general student population, especially incoming first year students, through the annual Student Activities Fair at the SOCH in the fall (lower left photo) and by hosting a reception in the Women’s Center during Visitas in the spring semester (lower right photo).



Community Involvement



The Women's Center finds a great benefit in enhancing our work through partnerships with other offices at the College and with faculty, alumnae, and student organizations of all kinds. This year we hosted and co-sponsored events attracting hundreds of student attendees, with co-sponsorship from the following organizations:

Advising Programs Office
Alumnae/i Network for Harvard Women
Asian American Women's Association
Association of Black Harvard Women
Bureau of Study Counsel
Carr Center Sexuality, Gender, and Human Rights Program
Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
David S. Rosenthal Center for Wellness
Eating Concerns Hotline and Outreach (ECHO)
Faculty of Arts and Science Office of Diversity Relations and Communications
Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)
Harvard Black Men's Forum
Harvard Black Students Association
Harvard Alumni Association
Harvard Chaplains
Harvard College Dean's Office
Harvard College Democrats
Harvard College Disability Alliance
Harvard College Office of BGLTQ Student Life
Harvard College Office of Student Life
Harvard College Office of Student Life, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Office
Harvard Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Harvard Dance Center
Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations
Harvard Islamic Society
Harvard Kennedy School

Harvard Undergraduate BGLTQ Business Society
Hispanic Black Gay Coalition
Institute of Politics
International Women's Rights Collective (IWRC)
Mahindra Humanities Center
Office of Career Services
Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR)
Office of the Arts
Office of the Assistant to the President for Institutional Diversity and Equity
Office of the Dean of Harvard College
Open Gate Foundation
Organization of Asian American Sisters in Service (OAASIS)
Phillips Brooks House Center for Public Service and Engaged Scholarship
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Academic Ventures Office
Radcliffe Union of Students
Sexual Health and Relationship Counselors (SHARC)
The Seneca
South Asian Association
Speak Out Loud
Title IX Office
Trans* Task Force
Undergraduate Council
Women and Public Policy Program



Connections with these offices and groups enable us to reach more students and to foster relationships and dialogue across different Harvard communities. Students benefited by learning how the missions of different offices overlap and intersect in both expected and unexpected ways.

Support Our Work

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 operations. This fund is used to augment educational programs and events, to sustain our two mentoring programs, and to support student internships, in addition to other needs.

The Ann 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.

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
\$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 leadership training or skill-building workshop for undergraduate students
\$1,000.....	Covers the cost of the kick-off event for all participants in one of our mentor programs
\$2,000.....	Supports one undergraduate 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 Women’s Leadership Awards Dinner and Celebration
\$10,000.....	Funds one full year of student-led programming at the HCWC
\$15,000.....	Covers 100% of student grant requests we receive for one academic year

To make a donation to the Harvard College Women’s Center, visit us online: <http://hwc.fas.harvard.edu/support> or, cut this page at the perforation, fill it out, and mail it to the address on the reverse side.

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 (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/Affiliation : _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

I want to receive occasional updates via the HCWC Alumni & Friends email list: Yes No



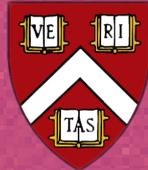
Thank You for your Support!

All donations to the Harvard College Women's Center are tax-deductible and eligible for Harvard College Fund class credit!

Please mail 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.





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