From the Director:

After five transformative years, Dr. Angela Hubler has finished her term as Director of the Women’s Studies Program, and I am honored to serve as her successor. At this moment of transition, as I look back over the 13 years that I have been involved with Women’s Studies at KSU, I am impressed with how far we’ve come:

Faculty: When I arrived in 1997, Angela Hubler was in Women’s Studies only half-time, and Torry Dickinson was in her first year at the university. Angela is now an Associate Professor of Women’s Studies whose leadership has been invaluable in the last decade. Torry is now our first full Professor, lending stature to the program with both her rank and her accomplishments. The arrivals of Valerie Carroll, Shireen Roshanravan, and Gabriela Díaz de Sabatés have doubled our faculty and greatly strengthened our core.

Student Organizations: When I got here, there were no Women’s Studies student organizations. Now, we have Ordinary Women, whose activist heart has been beating strong for over a decade; Women’s Studies Ambassadors, academic emissaries who represent us throughout the university; and Triota, our chapter of the national Women’s Studies Honor Society.

Community Outreach: When I got here, we had no official mechanism for linking with alumni and community, or for departmental fundraising. Now, we have the Women’s Studies Advisory Board, who helped arrange and organize the massively successful lecture by Jill Tietjens, and wowed us all by raising over $8000 to found a scholarship for Women’s Studies students.

Departmental Events: When I arrived, there were few regular Women’s Studies events. Now, we have the Women of Color Film Series, which has brought to campus such important films as “The Life and Times of Sara Baartman” and “Dance Me Outside.” And now we host world-renowned speakers as visitors to K-State. To name just the most recent and the biggest: rising star Maylee Blackwell, who inspired us with both information about and theorizations from *Lideres Campesinas*; and superstar Vandana Shiva, recipient of the Alternative Nobel Peace Prize for her environmental activism.

Women’s Studies Major: When I arrived, we did not have a Women’s Studies Major. Now, we do. We graduated our first majors in 2005, and have since doubled the number of Women’s Studies majors at KSU. In combination with our minor and our graduate certificate, we provide solid and substantial educations to undergrads and grad students. Institutionally, we have arrived.

I am truly excited to be taking up the directorship at this time. I have been involved as an affiliated faculty member since my arrival at KSU, and that involvement – from serving as OW’s advisor for its first decade to teaching Gender Roles and Action Films – has been one of the highlights of my career here. In both my teaching and research, feminism and women’s experiences are central to my work. As a specialist in Vietnamese American literature, I often have the privilege of not only analyzing and interpreting literature by women, but also of introducing new women writers to readers (for example, let me recommend fiction writer Monique Truong and poet Kim-An Lieberman!). Having just completed the compilation of the first comprehensive anthology of Vietnamese American literature in English, I am now beginning new research into the connections between Japanese Americans interned in US concentration camps during WWII and the Native Americans on whose reservations these camps were located. I look forward to working on this project in the intellectually stimulating company of the rest of the Women’s Studies faculty.

2010-11 will be an exciting year. If you’re in Manhattan, please stop by or attend one of our upcoming events. And on behalf of all the faculty, I want to thank Angela for her wonderful leadership as Director. We wish her a refreshing sabbatical this year, and will welcome her return next fall!

-- Michele Janette
Maylei Blackwell

Interdisciplinary scholar-activist and oral historian Dr. Maylei Blackwell gave a public talk entitled, "Líderes Campesinas: Nepantla Strategies and Grassroots Organizing at the Intersection of Gender and Globalization" in April. Her lecture was based on a collaborative ethnography with Líderes Campesinas, a state-wide farmworker women’s organization in California. Dr. Blackwell discussed how campesina organizers create sources of empowerment from their binational life experiences and new forms of gendered grassroots leadership that navigate the overlapping hybrid hegemonies produced by U.S., Mexican and migrant relations of power. She suggested that immigrant women’s organizing challenges the racialized and gendered forms of structural violence exacerbated by neoliberal globalization and serves as an unrecognized source of transnational feminist theorizing.

Jill Tietjen

Jill Tietjen is an author, speaker, and electrical engineer. Her published books include the Setting the Record Straight series, which explores the history of women in accounting, engineering, and professional achievement. She is the president and CEO of Technically Speaking, a national consulting company specializing in improving opportunities for women and girls to have more career options in technology. As the inaugural lecturer for our KSU Women’s Studies Advisory Board Lecture Series, she gave a talk entitled "Women Leaders: The Power of the Women on Whose Shoulders We Stand," charting women’s accomplishments throughout U.S. history.

Vandana Shiva

KSU Women’s Studies hosted world-renowned environmental feminist and global justice advocate, Dr. Vandana Shiva, in October. She gave a public lecture entitled, "Soil Not Oil: Food Security in Times of Global Climate Change," to a packed audience in the McCain Auditorium. Her visit brought together diverse members of the campus and Manhattan community. A month of film showings, reading groups, and brown bag lunch discussions on Dr. Shiva’s work preceded the event. Dr. Shiva’s lecture connected issues of indigenous cultural knowledge, women’s health, poverty, the global food crisis, biodiversity conservation, environmental justice, farmers’ rights in India and sustainable organic farming initiatives across the globe. To continue our connection with Dr. Shiva’s work, the Women’s Studies Program is pursuing possibilities for a study abroad course at Dr. Shiva’s Earth University in Dehradun, India.

Sue Zschoche

KSU’s beloved History professor Sue Zschoche delivered a Manifesto for Women’s History Month. Drawing on the image of the canary in the pocket from Susan Glaspell’s play Trifles, Dr Zschoche reminded us that it is often women who hold the key to understanding what has happened, if we are only willing to listen carefully.

Women of Color Film Series

Since Fall 2008, we have screened over 15 alternative, independent, and international films, including Dirt!, Dance me Outside, Remote Sensing, and The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter. The series exposes students to issues that are pivotal to Women’s Studies and feminism including civil rights, women and labor, human trafficking, environmentalism, globalization, multiple forms of discrimination, transnationalism, and violence. Each film is followed by a panel of experts that challenge the audience to critically think and commit to community activism. Sponsored by Women’s Studies and Women’s Studies Ambassadors.

The Fall 2010 WOMEN OF COLOR FILM SERIES will focus on gender and labor issues starting with the film Salt of the Earth. For more information, dates, and times see the Women’s Studies Events Calendar at www.ksu.edu/WOMST
Upcoming Speakers 2010-11

Susan Bordo

Public Lecture: “The Creation of Anne Boleyn”
Thursday, March 3, 5:30 pm
KSU Union Ballroom

A groundbreaking philosopher and prominent cultural analyst, Susan Bordo has made major contributions to feminist, cultural, and gender studies as well as to psychology, sociology, history, and media studies. Her most well-known book is *Unbearable Weight: Feminism, Western Culture and the Body* (1993), which looks at the impact of popular culture (including advertisements and television) in shaping expectations for the female body, and analyzes disorders such as anorexia, hysteria, and agoraphobia in relation to these representations, seeing them as “complex crystallizations of culture.” *Unbearable Weight* was one of the New York Times’ Notable Books of 1993, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, and received a Distinguished Publication Award from the Association for Women in Psychology.

She has also authored three other books: *The Flight to Objectivity, Essays on Cartesianism and Culture* (1987), *Twilight Zones: the Hidden Life of Cultural Images from Plato to O.J.* (1997), and *The Male Body: A New Look at Men in Public and in Private* (1999). Bordo’s paradigm-shifting interpretation of Descartes earned her a place as a feminist “archetype of wisdom” in Douglas Soccio’s philosophy textbook *Archetypes of Wisdom*. Her numerous articles and books on contemporary culture and the body have been translated into many languages and have been highly influential in many disciplines. She is included as one the six major theorists who have shaped literary studies in Michael Spikes’ *Understanding Contemporary American Literary Theory*, and she is widely credited with having established the field of “body studies.”

She is currently working on a book on Anne Boleyn, and it is on this topic that she will speak in March, in honor of Women’s History Month. Her talk, “The Creation of Anne Boleyn” will trace changing historical ideas about and popular representations of Anne, from early partisan views of her as a religious martyr, to 19th century understandings of her as a victim to a tyrannical Henry, followed by the contemporary “temptress” image (as seen in the TV series *The Tudors* and the film *The Other Boleyn Girl*), up to the most recent interpretation of Anne as a “third wave” feminist heroine for young girls today (Bordo calls this “Viral Anne”).

Professor Bordo is a well-known national speaker, whose lectures are always spectacular, entertaining, and incredibly smart: please join us for her lecture if you are in the area!

Maria Lugones

Public Lecture
Thursday, October 28, 5:30 pm
Town Hall, Leadership Building

Maria Lugones is an internationally renowned feminist philosopher and popular educator whose political work and research focuses on building deep coalitions against multiple oppressions. Professor Lugones will speak about the current divide-and-conquer strategies that prevent solidarity within and across diverse communities of people struggling for better lives in the face of global economic crises. Grounded in over 30 years of political work in Latin America and U.S. communities of color, Lugones’s lecture will expose connections between debates in U.S. multiculturalism, transnational and women of color feminism as well as introduce her current work on the development of what she calls “decolonial feminism.”
Alumni News:

Vickie Choitz (Secondary Major 1998) completed a Master’s degree in Public Policy from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government on a Truman Scholarship. After graduation she worked in Boston area organizations to expand access to education, training, and credentials for lower-skilled, lower-income workers. In December 2009, she began a new job as Senior Policy Analyst with the Center for Law and Social Policy, an anti-poverty policy advocacy organization in Washington, DC. She married Ted Poppitz in 2002 (after 10 years of living together). They have no kids, two cats.

Becky Everley (Major 2005) is currently halfway through her PhD program in Adult and Continuing Education. She really enjoys teaching English to KSU international students. Her second daughter is due in September. Daughter Lilian will be almost four then and is very excited about becoming a big sister.

Libby Fort (Major 2007) writes “I am living in Norton KS with my son Reid, and working in a nursing home as an Activity Director. It’s a hard job playing games all day, but somebody’s got to do it! ;)”

Trisha Gott (Minor 2007) is working with the School of Leadership Studies at K-State as a coordinator of the international service teams and alternative breaks programs. She is also instructing Introduction to Leadership Concepts and collaborating to redesigning the Women in Leadership Course. Gott is focusing much of her work on service learning initiatives locally and globally and is excited to be working with K-State students!

Jessica Haymaker (Minor 2009) is a licensed social worker and a case advocate for The Crisis Center, Inc. at the Junction City office. She lives in Junction City and is still active in Ordinary Women (which is now renamed FIRE).

Michael Hendrickson (Major 2009) works with VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) at the YWCA Metropolitan Chicago Economic Empowerment Services. He finds funds, coordinates donations, and develops criteria for an after-school technology based program for girls on the south side of Chicago, ages 9-14. He also coordinated YWCA-hosted biweekly financial literacy seminars which are free and open to the Chicago public. These seminars involve credit repair and resume improvement. He lives close to Devon St., and has acquired a healthy addiction to Indian and Pakistani food.

Mandy Kary (Minor 2009) will begin a master’s program in Social Welfare at KU this fall.

Summer Lewis (Major 2005) will be in Manhattan, Kansas until early 2011, when she’ll head off to Brisbane, Australia! She has been awarded a Rotary World Peace Fellowship and will begin a master’s degree in International Studies: Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Queensland. She plans to focus her studies on human security, gender, and sustainable food systems.

Pamela S. Ouellette (Secondary Major 1995) writes “I have switched careers—yet again! I am a speech language pathologist, and I am currently the head of the speech department at a facility for adults with traumatic brain injuries. I also do work with children with developmental disabilities. Never a dull day to say the least!”

After another bout of travel fever, Stefani Schrader (Major 2007) landed back in Salina where she works for the Stiefel Theatre - a performing arts theatre. She does everything from help with grants and general marketing and fundraising to help with artists’ requests when they visit and perform. Fun stuff!

Carrie Waide (Major 2010) will be attending law school at the University of Cincinnati in the fall.
Alumni!

Please let us know if you are visiting K-State!

This summer, we were very happy to have Vickie Choitz visit one of our Introduction to Women’s Studies classes and talk about how the policies she crafts at the Center for Law and Policy address the needs of low-income workers.

In the fall, Megan Challendar (Minor 2006), Mary Stolz-Newton (Major 2006), and Christie Meller (Graduate Certificate 2006) shared their insights during a Women’s Studies career panel.

Faculty News:

Anastasia H. Prokos, Chardie L. Baird, and Jennifer Reid Keene published "Attitudes about Affirmative Action for Women: The Role of Children in Shaping Parents’ Interests" in Sex Roles 62(5): 347-360. Chardie was selected to be a member of the 2008-2009 cohort of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation’s Early Work and Family Early Career Scholars program. The goal of the program is to bolster the career progress of new scholars in the area of Work and Family who are expected to be future leaders in the field. As part of the program Chardie attended an invitation-only conference with leading scholars in the area of work and family in New York City in October 2009.

A permanent exhibit of K-State’s first ladies is on display on the second floor of Hale library. The exhibit is based on research by Mickey Chance-Reay, author of Land Grant Ladies: Wives of the K-State Presidents.

During her 2009-2010 sabbatical, Torry Dickinson did archival research at Radcliffe-Harvard, Jackson State, and Duke University relating to the writers Dorothy West and Margaret Walker and to Women Work!, a contemporary working women’s network. She has become re-involved in academic projects relating to Milo Smith, the co-founder of the U.S. Displaced Homemakers movement, which addresses women’s job and school re-entry. In addition, she has joined a collaborative participatory action research project with the Western Institute for Social Research in Berkeley, and with a public school project in Detroit. Here in Kansas, Torry has become an enthusiastic mentor for Girl Scouts Beyond Bars. She also serves on the board of Manhattan’s American Association of University Women.

Check This Out!

Books, films, and websites our faculty love and recommend:

Women’s eNews
A non-profit, independent news service specializing in issues of importance to women.
www.womensenews.org

Sociological Images
Encourages people to exercise and develop their sociological imaginations with discussions of compelling visuals that span the breadth of sociological inquiry.
www.contexts.org/socimages

Democracy Now
A daily TV/radio news program, hosted by Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez, airing on over 800 stations, pioneering the largest community media collaboration in the U.S.
www.democracynow.org

A Single Man
(dir. Tom Ford)
After the sudden death of his partner, an English professor tries to go about his typical day in LA. Based on a Christopher Isherwood novel.

Jubilee
by Margaret Walker
A novel full of archival research and oral history, describing the creation of a commons during and after enslavement, and documenting wild plants and how working people used them for food and medicine.

The Ruptures of American Capital: Women of Color Feminism and the Culture of Immigrant Labor
by Grace Kyungwon Hong
Interweaving discussion of U.S. political economy with literary analyses, Hong challenges the individualism of the U.S. and the fetishization of difference that is one of the markers of globalization.
Faculty News, continued:

Angela Hubler published “Faith and Hope in the Feminist Political Novel for Children: A Materialist Feminist Analysis” in The Lion and the Unicorn (January 2010). After completing a five-year term as director, she is on sabbatical for 2010-2011.

Michele Janette’s anthology of Vietnamese American literature, Mi Viêt will be coming out this year from University of Hawaii Press.


Gabriela Díaz de Sabatés participated in a roundtable discussion with Shireen Roshanravan and Valerie Carroll at the National Women’s Studies Association Conference, "When the intersection is you: Issues for women of color in women’s studies programs," in Atlanta, GA, in November 2009. In March, she was part of a panel presentation at the Middle Atlantic American Studies Association meeting in Lawrence, KS with Valerie Carroll and members of the American Ethnic Studies faculty: "Cross-Pollinating American Ethnic Studies and Women Studies." She gave a lecture on "Inmigración, Igualdad de Oportunidades y Universidad Popular" (Immigration, Equal Opportunities, and a Socially Conscious University" at the Universidad Nacional de Lanús in June 2010.

Sue Williams coauthored Women at Work: Tupperware, Passion Parties, and Beyond, with Michele Bemiller. It is forthcoming Fall 2010 with Lynne Rienner Publishers. Kathryn Feltey, University of Akron, says the book is a "provocative examination of gender inequality…. From ‘parties’ in the US heartland that peddle cookware, fake designer pursers, and sex toys to other examples from around the world, the authors explore the connections between women’s lives as shaped by race, class, gender, sexuality, and global location."

Student News

New internships:
Students are now enrolling in internships for course credit. Our first interns have worked with Planned Parenthood in Lawrence Kansas; Kansas State Representative Judy Loganbill; the Gender Violence Education Center at the University of Denver; and the Hutchinson Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Center. If your organization accepts interns, please let the Women’s Studies Program know.

Laura Logan (Graduate Certificate 2010) will be attending the National Sexuality Resource Center's Summer Institute at San Francisco State University. The Summer Institute is an intensive program that explores "concepts of sexuality and health through a critical analysis of race, gender, sexuality, age, disability and religion," and this summer the focus is on "Sexual Health and Healthy Sexuality: A Socio-Cultural Perspective." She’ll be working on sexual health/healthy sexuality as relates to the intersection of sociology of the body, social control, sexuality, and violence against women.

Shireen Roshanravan
Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies

Shireen has been awarded a postdoctoral fellowship in Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of Oregon for the 2010-2011 academic year. The fellowship supports research and teaching on the intersection of race and gender.

The University of Oregon is host to the Center for the Study of Women in Society and the Center for Race, Sexuality and Ethnicity Studies. Shireen’s research focuses on sexual subjectivity, racial legacies of colonial mimicry, and community formation in the South Asian diaspora.
New Advisory Board Establishes Endowed Scholarship

Under the leadership of Julie Hostetler (Graduate Certificate 2002), an advisory board has been founded to support the mission of the Women’s Studies Program at K-State. In conjunction with an event-filled visit by Jill Tietjen, author of *Herstory: A Timeline of Women who Changed America*, for Women’s History Month, the advisory board raised more than $8,000 for a new endowed scholarship for an outstanding student in Women’s Studies. Over forty friends, alumni, and faculty members contributed to the scholarship. Contributors were invited to a reception with Tietjen at the home of Noel and Kirk Schulz (K-State’s new president). The board plans an ongoing series of lectures by women, and will raise funds to support the series and our new scholarship. We are very grateful to our advisory board and to our donors.

Congratulations to our 2009-2010 graduates!

**Majors:**
Lyla Brooks, Joslyn Brown, Katie Brunsmen, Brett Farmer, Janneil Frederick, Cammie Lehman, Shana Rokey, Alicia Staats, Carrie Waide, Krysten Yates

**Minors:**

**Graduate Certificate Earners:**
Joshua Abrams, Gladys Asiedu, Wendy Barnes, Patrice Farrell, Sagarika Gadgil, Laura Logan, Jennifer Lozano, Kellie Meehlhause, Joshua Pearson, Allison Teeter, Yue Wu

We appreciate the generosity of our Founders:

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You can help!

You can help students in the Women’s Studies Program at K-State receive a great education. Contribute to any of the important funds that support students and faculty. We invite you to contact our development officer today about how you can make a difference. Tracy Robinson, tracyr@found.ksu.edu, 785 532-7568

- **Student Scholarships** ensure that we attract and retain the best students in the state
- **Faculty Excellence Funds** support faculty in teaching and research
- **Flexible Opportunity Funds** for faculty and students enable them to explore new and exciting opportunities in scholarship, teaching, and public service
- **Facility Funds** upgrade buildings and equipment

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**KSU Women’s Studies Program**

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