

## Center for Gender and Intercultural Studies

**September, 2010**

**Volume 1, Issue 1**

### Individual Highlights:

Engage the World	1
Women's History Month, 2010	2
CGIS Faculty News	3
Anarchist Studies Initiative Unveiled	3
"Succeeding as Women in Higher Education" Conference, 2009	4
Infusing Diversity into the Curriculum – Summer Institute	4

### Special Interest Articles:

"Reimagining Girlhood: Communities, Identities, Self-Portrayals" Conference	1
---	---

### Special Note:

CGIS invites alumni to join our newly established Alumni and Community Advisory Board

## Women's Studies Program to Host International Conference on Girlhood Studies

The Women's Studies Program at the State University of New York-Cortland will host an international conference, "Reimagining Girlhood: Communities, Identities, Self-Portrayals" October 22-24, 2010 on the SUNY campus. Women's Studies Coordinator and Conference Creator, Dr. Caroline Kaltefleiter notes, "Participants from SUNY Cortland and other leading universities around the United States will offer papers, artistic presentations, and workshops, alongside participants from Canada, Switzerland, Scotland, Israel, New Zealand, Finland, and Kenya." Kaltefleiter, who is a Media Studies and Girls Studies scholar, underscored the significance of the conference, "It is amazing that for

three days this fall, SUNY Cortland will host premiere scholars whose work is dedicated to advancing the lives of girls globally. Our conference is sure to position our university as a leader in the field and will serve to launch a Girls' Studies curriculum at the college."

Dr. Kaltefleiter notes, modern girlhood is entwined with anxieties about cultural norms and cultural change that are foundational to 'girlhood' and 'girl culture.' Over the last 15 years, Girls' Studies scholarship has gained momentum inside and outside the domain of traditional Women's Studies literature and academia. Dr. Kaltefleiter sees Girls Studies emerging as a site of "intellectual  
(continues on page 2)

## Engage the World - Add a CGIS minor

The Center for Gender and Intercultural Studies (CGIS) has had a successful year in addressing a national need to advance issues of gender equity as well as ethnic, social, and cultural diversity.

To that end, a CGIS minor will help build and enhance our cultural competence – our ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures, which includes our awareness of our own cultural worldview, attitude towards cultural differences, knowledge of different cultural practices and worldviews, and cross-cultural skills.



Developing our cultural competence will result in an ability to understand, communicate with, and effectively interact with people across cultures.

Asian/Middle Eastern Studies (AMES)  
Native American Studies (NAS)  
Latino and Latin American Studies (LLAS)  
Jewish Studies (JST)  
Women's Studies (WST)

## Women's Studies Program to Host International Conference on Girlhood Studies (continued)



Dr. Caroline Kaltefleiter

For more information, visit our conference website at <http://www2.cortland.edu/centers/CGIS/GSC/index.html>

For more information regarding next year's Women's History Month, contact Dr. Caroline Kaltefleiter at [caroline.kaltefleiter@cortland.edu](mailto:caroline.kaltefleiter@cortland.edu).

inquiry and activist pursuit," where girls' voices and agency can be described, shared, and celebrated. Participants will address such topics as: What does it mean to be a girl? How is girlhood defined? How do girls assert their identities in an increasingly mediated and consumerist culture? How do girls negotiate/navigate identities between genders? How are girls and ability portrayed in contemporary society?

The conference will also host a number of live performances. Modern Language Professor and Conference Organizer, Dr. Colleen Kattau notes, "We are fortunate to have three amazing women performing at the conference--Pamela Means, Lenelle Moise, and Vanessa Torres." Pamela Means is an award-winning Massachusetts based, internationally touring singer-songwriter and jazz musician and according to Curve Magazine, "one of the fiercest guitar players and politically-rooted singer-songwriters in the music industry today," Likewise, Vanessa Torres is an exceptional guitarist and songwriter

who has received her numerous honors including the prestigious Emerging Artist Showcase for the 2010 Falcon Ridge Folk Festival. Meanwhile, Lenelle Moise is an award-winning poet, playwright, essayist and nationally touring performance artist. Fueled by the motto "Words rouse worlds," she regularly presents interactive performances and workshops that empower diverse groups of people to creatively speak up and act for social change.

In addition to live performances, the conference includes an art show titled, *Girl*. The show is curated by Martine Barnaby and Jennifer McNamara, professors of Art and Art History at SUNY Cortland. The show will feature eight female artists and will also include a zine exhibition and an artist reception at the Dowd Gallery of Art. Martine Barnaby designed the conference logo. For more information about the conference, contact Caroline Kaltefleiter at [caroline.kaltefleiter@cortland.edu](mailto:caroline.kaltefleiter@cortland.edu) or Colleen Kattau at [colleen.kattau@cortland.edu](mailto:colleen.kattau@cortland.edu)

## Women's History Month – March, 2010

Dr. Caroline Kaltefleiter, Coordinator of Women's Studies and Communication Studies Associate Professor, organized a rich program of diverse speakers for March, 2010

beginning with Dr. Catherine Bertini, Syracuse University, who will also be a featured speaker at the "Reimagining Girlhood" Conference.

## CGIS Faculty in the News



Dr. Lynn Couturier

Dr. Lynn Couturier is currently serving as the president of the National Association of Sport and Physical Education, an organization with approximately 15,000 members. As president, she was a featured speaker on a webinar for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and she hosted a press conference at the National Press Club, which introduced the findings of the CDC report on physical activity, physical education, and academic performance. She was also a primary writer of the *National Standards and Guidelines for Physical Education Teacher Education* book, which was published in October 2009.



Dr. Tiantian Zheng

Dr. Tiantian Zheng, Coordinator of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies and Professor, Sociology/Anthropology, was invited to speak on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 21, 2010, to testify on human trafficking before the Congressional-Executive Commission on China.

Dr. Zheng was a keynote speaker at Stop Traffick International Conference at

Depauw University in Sep. 2010. Zheng has recently published four books: two research-based ethnographic monographs on commercial sex trade, HIV/AIDS, and condom use in China, one edited volume on anti-trafficking and human rights, and one textbook on HIV/AIDS through an anthropological lens. She has also edited one journal issue in *Wagadu: Journal of Transnational Women's and Gender Studies*.

Zheng's book *Red Lights* is the Winner of the 2010 Sara A. Whaley book prize from the National Women's Studies Association for the book published in the previous calendar year judged to have made the most significant contribution to the topic of women and labor.

For more information on CGIS faculty highlights, go to <http://www2.cortland.edu/centers/CGIS/faculty-highlights.dot>

## Anarchist Studies Initiative Unveiled



The Anarchist Studies Initiative (ASI) under the leadership of Dr. Caroline Kaltefleiter will study the role of theory/practice of anarchism in history and contemporary social/political movements such as anarchofeminism, anti-racist politics, queer theories, disability studies, as well as environmental justice and animal liberationism. To that end, it held an inaugural event honoring the legacy of Dr. Howard Zinn, author of the *People's History of the United States*, which attracted an international audience (April 9, 2010). A film on the lives and trial of anarchist immigrants Sacco and Vanzetti was aired on the somber

occasion of the anniversary of their death sentence. Dr. Kaltefleiter has also been tapped to chair the Sacco and Vanzetti Foundation.

ASI will continue to honor them with a symposium every April. Anthony Nocella, adjunct professor of criminology, initiated a *Transformative Justice Book Series* to be published by Arissa Media Group, and it will be co-edited by ASI members Anthony Nocella, Caroline Kaltefleiter, Colleen Kattau, and Mechthild Nagel. Anthony Nocella co-edited two books, *Academic Repression: Reflections on the Academic Industrial Complex* (AK Press, 2010) and *Contemporary Anarchist Studies* (Routledge 2009).

For more information on internships and fellowships, visit: <http://www2.cortland.edu/centers/CGIS/asi/index.dot>

## “Succeeding as Women in Higher Education” Conference – October 23-25, 2009

The speakers' talks can be viewed at <http://www2.cortland.edu/centers/CGIS/swhe/featured-webcasts.dot>

### Center for Gender and Intercultural Studies

Mechthild Nagel, Director  
Corrina Harvey, Secretary  
SUNY Cortland  
P.O. Box 2000  
Cortland, NY 13045

#### Phone:

(607) 753-5784

#### Fax:

(607) 753-5694

#### E-Mail:

[mgs@cortland.edu](mailto:mgs@cortland.edu)

### Anarchist Studies Initiative

Caroline Kaltefleiter

### CGIS Interdisciplinary Minors

Tiantian Zheng, AMES  
Henry Steck, JST  
Susan Kather, LLAS  
Dawn Van Hall, NAMS  
Ellie McDowell-Loudan, NAMS  
Caroline Kaltefleiter, WST

### Grants

Amy Henderson-Harr

### LGBTQC

Kate Coffey  
Aimee Greeley

### We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://www2.cortland.edu/cgis/>

**“Succeeding as Women in Higher Education”** was CGIS’s first national conference devoted to gender equity and succession planning strategies. Sociologist Dr. Sarah Fenstermaker (UC Santa Barbara), gave the keynote presentation on best practices of “doing gender”. Dr. Nancy Zimpher, the first female chancellor of SUNY gave a presentation on a series of “firsts” in her career in higher education. College presidents Lisa Marsh Ryerson M ‘91 (Wells College) and Dr. Debbie Sydow (Onondaga Community College), as well as Dr. Patricia Francis (SUNY Oneonta) and Dr. Dolores Battle (Buffalo State) presented their strategies of overcoming “the chilly climate” in a plenary discussion. Vice-Provost Pedro Cabán

(SUNY Office of Diversity and Educational Equity) shared the role of ODEE, and Cortland professor Ibipo Johnston-Anumonwo addressed a transnational professional woman’s career path. A *Wagadu* volume of best papers is edited by program co-chairs Dr. Anne Burns-Thomas and Dr. Kathleen Lawrence.



## Infusing Diversity into the Curriculum – Summer Institute

Dr. Seth Asumah (Political Science and chair of Africana Studies) and Dr. Mechthild Nagel (Philosophy and CGIS) held a first **SUNY Diversity “Train the Trainer” Institute** involving eighteen faculty from Cortland, Oneonta and New Paltz (in 2009). They will serve as consultant trainers for Oneonta and New Paltz’s Diversity Institutes in Fall 2010. These institutes are funded by SUNY Office of Diversity and Educational Equity

and the Joint Labor Management Committee (SUNY/UUP). For further discussion of the Institute see <http://voice.uuphost.org/content/professional-development-grant-programs-offer-support-uup-members>



## About the Center for Gender and Intercultural Studies

With a board of 27 faculty members and 8 committees drawing about 90 faculty and staff members, CGIS has recast itself with a strong academic and scholarly mission. Within the last year, board members published seven books, received external grants, college research awards and served as program reviewers for Africana and/or Gender Studies departments at Brooklyn College, SUNY New Paltz, and Purchase College. CGIS supports two academic, peer-reviewed online journals (*Wagadu* and *Social Advocacy & Systems Change*); *Wagadu* (Wagadu.org) published Dr. Kathy Kramer’s edition, “The global flaneuse” (Vol.7, 2009) and Dr. Caroline Kaltefleiter & Dr. Nina Zimnik, “Pics and politics: Women’s film and media” (Vol.8, 2010, forthcoming). SASC’s journal can be viewed at <http://cortland.edu/ids/sasc/index.htm>.