

From the Director

Every time I walk into the Center for Women's Studies, I can't help but feel a profound sense of joy. The sunny colors of the fresh new paint and the splendid banner created especially for us by a local quilter, Florence Burke, certainly contribute to it. But more importantly, the people who grace it with their presence are what brings a unique life to this place. Indeed, the Center epitomizes in my eyes what Colgate is striving to be: a place where students and faculty engage in intellectual reflection on a wide variety of issues, challenge our most deeply-rooted assumptions, and endeavor to effect positive change. Whether they are talking about course material, asking questions at a Brown Bag presentation, or creating a display in the Center, they explore new frontiers of knowledge while expressing their commitment to making a valuable mark on the world around them.

The Center is also the place where the fruit of the Women's Studies program's ongoing efforts to welcome a truly diverse group of students and faculty can be witnessed. Diversity is spelled here in terms of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexuality, moral and political choices, socio-economic background, and more. It is manifested through the people who visit the Center, either occasionally or on a regular basis, and

through the different groups housed here, such as SORT or LGBTQ. Women's Studies' commitment to diversity also takes the form of different programs, Brown Bags, and gatherings that are hosted here, of displays in the Center, of books and magazines available in the Library and the Lounge, as well as a very rich and ever-growing list of course offerings. Above all, diversity is for us the dynamic notion, embraced in all humility, that we must constantly question ourselves and challenge our privileges in order to recognize the true beauty of humanity and achieve a more profound understanding of all human potential and achievements.

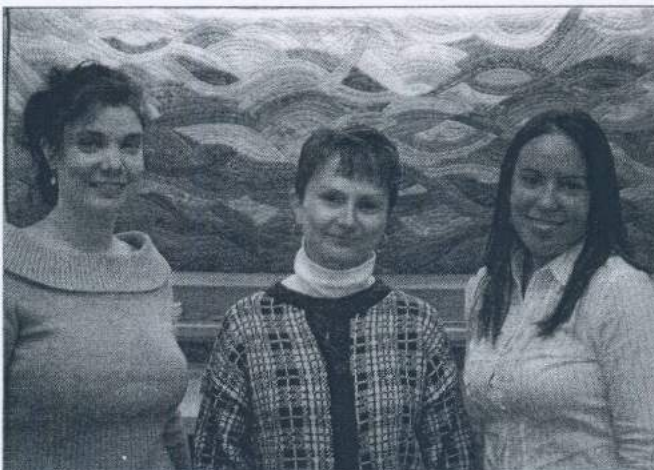
I accepted to become Director of Women's Studies out of personal dedication to a strong program, a welcoming place, and an extraordinarily generous group of people. Every day spent here makes me more grateful for this opportunity.

Hélène M. Julien

Director of Women's Studies

Associate Professor of French and Women's Studies

The Women's Studies Dynamic Trio



Administrative Assistant Alyssa Gazda, Director Hélène Julien, & Program Assistant Tamara Serrano

colgate Inside!

- ¡Hola! from Tamara
- Women's Election Action Day
- Meet our new friends
- Brown Bags WMST style
- Women's Voices Privileged
- Colgate Struck by a Sea of Pink
- Hindu Women Convert to Christianity
- Café con Leche with Dolores Huerta
- Tunnel of Love
- Fall 2005 classes
- Women's Studies Program Faculty

¡Hola! from the New Kid on the Block

During this new year at the Center we have gained not only a gorgeous quilted banner, new carpeting, fresh yellow paint, and cute blue couches, but also a new Program Assistant—me! As a Colgate graduate, class of 2003, I have always felt welcome and at ease in this space, and am excited about the prospect of helping others feel the same way.

A native of the island of Puerto Rico, I came to Colgate a timid, but passionate young woman. After 4 years of Colgate and with the help of amazing women, like Diane, our last Program Assistant, and Marilyn Thie and Meika Loe, my wonderful professors, I learned to value my opinions. I realized that what I believe in and my interpretation of things was just as

valid as that of the person next to me. So I embarked on a Colgate life full of Latino dancing, Women's Studies activism, and meddling in the brain (I majored in Psychology/Women's Studies). As a student I loved working with organizations such as LASO and Sisters of the Round Table, because they both celebrated my identity as a strong woman of color.

Going on my sixth year in Hamilton, this experience as WMST Program Assistant is by far one of my most treasured, most challenging, and most fun times ever. The Center is constantly full of excitement, the faculty are an invaluable resource, and the students are an absolute riot!

This Fall the Center was full of much activity as

National Women's Election Action Day

By: Sarah Sillin '05

On National Women's Election Action Day, or September 18th, a group of students, staff, faculty, and community members gathered in Persson to watch the film *Iron Jawed Angels*. The Center for Women's Studies and the ALANA Cultural Center sponsored the film portraying the efforts of Alice Paul and Lucy Burns in the women's suffrage movement to prompt reflection on the significance of suffrage as the November elections approached. The film opened conversations concerning both the women's suffrage movement and its HBO portrayal continued through a Brown Bag discussion with Linda G. Ford, author of a historical study which gave the film its title.

While I was aware of the Women's Suffrage Movement, the movie made their sacrifices, the physical and emotional challenges they suffered in their protests, jail sentences, and hunger strike much

more realistic. Yet, many of the audience members noted, the movie glamorized their struggle at times, glossing over the complex influences of race and class on political involvement. In her discussion, Ford was able to cast a more historically accurate light on these issues and to raise questions regarding the film's insistence on re-scripting Paul's life as more romantically entangled and less goal-oriented than it is otherwise recorded. Professor Ulla Grapard expressed concern regarding these revisions which, while making the film seem more relevant to women's lives today, also make the film less threatening by



New Faces Around the Center

By: Kellen Myers '07 & Jack Skelton '05

James DeVita is the coordinator of the Office of LGBTQ Initiatives, as well as a Residential Education Coordinator. A Colgate alumnus (class of 2000), James has a BA, majoring in both history and sociology & anthropology. James has coordinated an alumni speaker series and a film series, and he has attended

several LGBTQ-related conferences like *Out for Business* and *Creating Change*. What James loves about his job is that he can "connect directly with students on so many different levels—as a mentor, teacher, and friend." He is working towards his MA in Liberal Studies with a focus in Sexuality and Education,

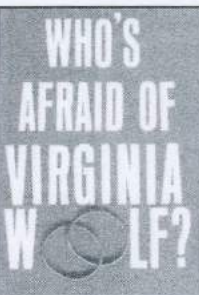


Alyssa Gazda You may have noticed Alyssa if you have stopped by the Center for Women's Studies lately. If she looked familiar, that is because until this year she was filling in for Mary Keys as the administrative assistant for both the Africana and Latin American Studies and the Women's Studies Programs. But now she has set up shop here, and while she has previously worked in administrative positions, she says that she loves working in the Women's Studies Program because "it addresses women's issues on every level." Alyssa lists her interest as pepper jack cheese, horseback riding, swimming, and has a dark past as a sushi



Fall 2004 Brown Bag Schedule

- 9/7** *The Feminist who Lost her Head*
Hélène Julien, Director of Women's Studies, Romance Languages and Literature
- 9/14** *Eating and Body Image Issues on the Colgate Campus*
Dr. Shelly Lear, Dr. Mark Thompson, Dr. Miller, Tina Young, Jackie Upton, and Katie Fedorka '05
- 9/21** *Women of Wall Street: The High Stakes Game of Life and Work*
Xan Parker '91, RISK/REWARD Filmmaker
- 9/28** *Native Lives Beyond Disney: Indian Women as Literary and Visual Artists of the Southwest*
Sarah Wider, English and Sarah Sillin '05
- 10/12** *Inside the Woman Who Kills: Sophie Treadwell's "Machinal"*
Sarah Bay-Cheng, English and Theater
- 10/19** *The Female Voice in the Latin Bolero*
Anne Ashbaugh, Philosophy and Lourdes Rojas, Romance Languages and Literature
- 10/26** *Know Your Options: How to Respond to Sexual Assault*
Dr. Dawn LaFrance, Assistant Dean Noel Bisson, Dr. Miller, Associate Dean Lyn Rugg, Assistant of Campus Safety Gert Neubauer, and Emily Renda '06
- 11/2** *Community Action: The Faces of Poverty*
Marnie Terhune, COVE Director, Maureen Fox and Jean Martin, Community Action Program
- 11/9** *Politics of Power: The "Real" Iron Jawed Angels*
Linda G. Ford, author of Iron Jawed Angels
- 11/16** *Sensory Assault: An Ethics of Violence in 20th Century Drama by Women*
Meghan Brodie, Visiting Colgate Lecturer
- 11/30** *Global Girls: Education in an International Context*
Carolyn Kissane, Visiting Assistant Professor of Educational Studies
- 12/7** *Dangerous Power: Breastfeeding and Maternal Transgression in two Women's Texts*
Lynn Makau, MacArthur Dissertation Fellow in English



On Sunday October 10th, a group of Colgate students, staff, and faculty made a trip to Syracuse Stage to enjoy "Edward Albee's Tony Award-winning verbal slugfest...wickedly witty and brutally truthful look at the illusions and delusions that make or break a marriage". This event was cosponsored by the Sophomore Year Experience and the Center for Women's Studies.

Thanks to Raj Bellani, Dean of the Sophomore Year Experience, for working with me to see this event happen.

Women's Forum

This semester a group of women decided it was time to create a monthly gathering for all Colgate women. Their goal was to make their voices heard and create a space where women could discuss the daily frustrations and excitements a Colgate woman experiences. As a result, the Women's Forum was created.

During the initial meeting titled "Sex and Candy" topics such as the dating scene (or lack thereof), derby days, interracial relationships, and the "hook-up" scene were addressed. During the second meeting titled "The Sequel" the group of organizers hoped to guide the conversation toward topics of "taboo" nature, such as the sexual spectrum, relationships between women of color and white women, and the use of derogatory terms

By: Nique Hill '05

(i.e. Bitch, Slut). Their overall hope is that these dialogue circles will lead to collaborative efforts between various women's groups as well as a better cultural and social understanding of one another. Look out for the Women's Forum coming strong in Spring 2005!

"All welcome, but women's voices will be privileged"

Organizers: Emily Renda '06, Andrea Miller '05, Nique Hill '05, Kate Wood '05 & Jennie Skelton '05

Denim Day

By: Brea Collier '07

On October 8th the Colgate Campus was struck by a sea of pink indicating the huge success of the 2004 Denim Day. The Breast Cancer Awareness Coalition (BCAC) and the Center for Women's Studies co-sponsored Lee's



National Denim Day encouraging the Colgate community to wear denim and pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness month. Throughout the day donations were collected across campus and \$1,632 was raised to be

donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Participating students and staff were invited to the Center for Women's Studies for an awareness celebration and recognition of breast cancers devastating effect. The talents of students were displayed as several individuals and groups performed. Legacy members entertained with a step routine, students read poetry pertaining to their experiences with breast cancer, and the ladies of the Swinging Gates also made appearances. At noon the Center for Women's Studies Lounge was full of lively music, dance, and delicious goodies donated by local merchants. The day was set aside to not only promote breast cancer awareness but to remember those who have lost their lives as well as those who have fought or continue to fight the battle.



Viagra

By: Caitlin Lundquist '06

Meika Loe, an assistant professor of sociology and anthropology here at Colgate, has recently published a new book entitled *The Rise of Viagra: How the Little Blue Pill Changed Sex in America*, which examines the phenomenon, history and vast social implications and consequences of the drug known as Viagra.

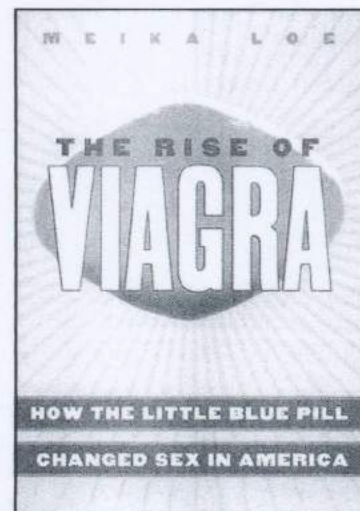
Her main contention is that Viagra has dramatically changed social norms around sexuality, masculinity, medicine, and aging. Loe examines the benefits of the drug along with its downsides, basing her arguments on personal interviews with men, women, doctors, pharmacists, researchers and scientists who are all familiar with its powerful effects.

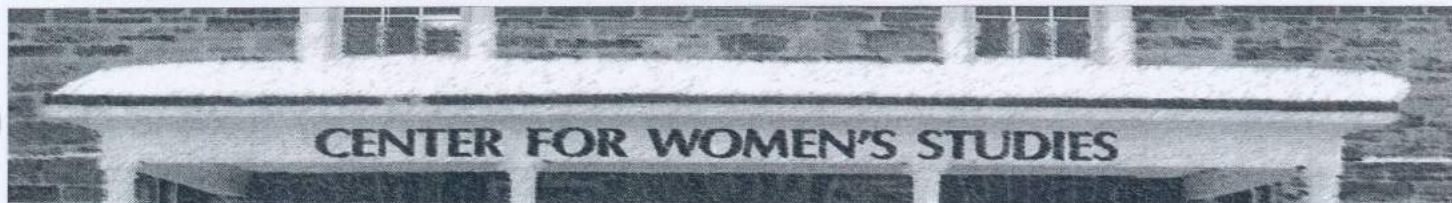
She also attended numerous medical meetings dedicated to defining and managing sexual dysfunction. Social implications surrounding the intro-

"Viagra has dramatically changed social norms around sexuality, masculinity, medicine, and aging".

duction of Viagra into the world are analyzed, including how Viagra reflects and reinforces our efficiency-based quick-fix culture, the social and economic power of the multi-billion dollar pharmaceutical industry, the rise of sexual medicine,

and similar medications such as Levitra and Cialis, and the ongoing search for a female Viagra.





Converting Women

By: Caitlin Lundquist '06

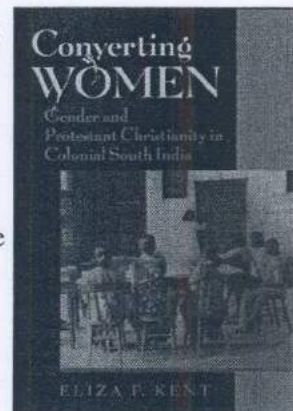
Eliza Kent, a Colgate University assistant professor of philosophy and religion, is the author of a new book titled *Converting Women: Gender and Protestant Christianity in Colonial South India*. Professor Kent has long been fascinated by “how religions change when they are brought to a new geographic area, with its own distinct language, culture, and history.” The focus of her book is on low-caste Hindu men and women who converted to Christianity in large numbers in the late nineteenth century, at the height of British colonial era. In particular, by focusing on the process from the point of view of converts, she argues that conversion to Christianity among women constituted an implicit, and some-

times explicit, critique of the patriarchal elements of Hinduism. As motivation for Indian women to assimilate themselves into the Christian religion and its values, Kent points to their anticipation of

“conversion to Christianity among women constituted an implicit, and sometimes explicit, critique of the patriarchal elements of Hinduism”.

eliminating exploitation by indigenous elites. She also analyzes the relationships between Western female missionaries and Indian women, who were taught to be good, Christian wives and mothers, incorporating Protestant values into

their lives as a means of demonstrating that their community deserved moral appreciation and respect. Interestingly enough, one thing Professor Kent’s study highlights is that “even though female converts to Christianity longed for freedom from the strictures of Hindu society, the expectation that they conform to a new Victorian Christian model of respectable femininity meant that they lost some of their traditional freedom and mobility”.



Café con Leche with Dolores Huerta

By: Anjuli Fernandez '06



On October 14th, 2004, the Center for Women’s Studies hosted a *Café con Leche* gathering with civil rights leader Dolores Huerta. During this lively exchange, a small group of students

and faculty congregated around Huerta to discuss her experiences as the founder of the United Farm workers Movement and Women for Kerry campaign. Dolores Huerta was down with the people engaging in personal conversations. Her warm and open demeanor was more typical of a pro-

fessor, not someone who had been inducted into the Women’s Hall of Fame and awarded Presidential distinctions for her human rights work.

What was more amazing about Dolores Huerta was her wealth of knowledge and energy. At the age of 74, Huerta remains a passionate lobbyist for the rights of migrant laborers and encourages young women to engage in politics. Prior to the presidential elections, Huerta traveled the nation to awaken the consciousness of voters to issues such as abortion, gay marriage, educational funding, the Iraq War, and our budget deficit. After

stating that Halliburton recently fired several workers, Dolores suggested that we read the business section of the New York Times to find out about the injustices afflicting our nation. With her great sense of humor and valuable wisdom, Dolores Huerta empowered those who participated in the *charla* and ignited the Center with a spirit of activism.



Sex Week: Tunnel of Love

The Center for Women's Studies created a Tunnel of Love in support of Sex Week, hosted by the Colgate Activities Board (CAB) Special Events. Sex Week occurred during October 24th-30th, and was organized to help promote healthy sexual behavior across the spectrum and awareness of sexual diseases. Their goal was for various student groups, offices and centers around campus to address the need for a positive and safe sexual environment for all.

The Tunnel of Love was created within the Center for Women's Studies. The tunnel was constructed along the ramp so as to encourage students and faculty to pass through it on their way to class. Various students, Center for Women's Studies employees, and other faculty members went through the Tunnel of Love, and found the information



Monica Nixon, Asst. Director of CLSI

We Adopted a Family!



After facilitating a Brown Bag discussion on community action and poverty, the **Community Action Program for Madison County, Inc.** suggested Women's Studies partake in their Adopt a Family program.

In December 2004 Women's Studies supporters made Christmas possible for a family of five (mom, dad, three children). Mother, Kimber, had been recently diagnosed with Hodgkin's

Lymphoma and was undergoing Chemotherapy.

Along with fighting a deadly disease, the family was suffering the unfortunate events of a car accident and frequent trips to the hospital with a sickly baby. We took it upon ourselves to shine a ray of happiness into their lives. Approximately 30 gifts were donated, making the Women's Studies project one of our many successful efforts of the semester! Thank you to all those who participated!

Clay 8 1/2 years old
Aaron 7 years old
Paul 5 months

By: Abigail Flores '08

inside both informative and fun.

Throughout the tunnel you would find imagery, sexual health facts, and articles that addressed the need to respect yourself and others. The Tunnel of Love was meant to advocate for healthy sexual relationships between ALL individuals, inclusive of all sexual orientations.



Elizabeth (Liddy) W. J. Kang '08

There were many facts posted that addressed the need to be physically and emotionally safe when making a conscience choice of partaking in sexual activities. The tunnel was created to promote respect among all individuals and to encourage people to make healthy, safe, and wise decisions. It's your decision make it a safe one!

Vagina Warriors

Vagina Monologues

'Come Again!'

February 17 and 18, 2005

The Palace Theater

Eve Ensler's show is based on her work in listening to different women's experiences and retelling them through comical accounts, deeply emotional stories and informative rants.

V-Day is a vision: We see a world where women live safely and freely.

V-Day is a spirit: We believe women should spend their lives creating and thriving rather than surviving or recovering from terrible atrocities.

V-Day is a catalyst: By raising money and consciousness, it will unify and strengthen existing anti-violence efforts. Triggering far-reaching awareness, it will lay the groundwork for new educational, protective, and legislative endeavors throughout the world.

Visit www.vday.org for more information!

Women's Studies Courses - Fall 2005

WMST 202	Introduction to Women's Studies, <i>Julien</i>
COMP 347	Language and Gender, <i>Darby</i>
CORE 151	Western Traditions, <i>Martin</i>
EDUC 416	Seminar on Moral Development and Education, <i>Johnston</i>
ENGL 333	African/Diaspora Women's Narratives, <i>Page</i>
ENGL 363	Contemporary Fiction: Tropes of Maternity in World Literature, <i>Makau</i>
ENGL 405	The Brontës, <i>Harsh</i>
ENGL 442	Virginia Woolf & E.M Forster, <i>Pinchin</i>
HIST 212	The Emergence of the Modern Woman, <i>Stevens</i>
HIST 384	Gender, Power and Oral History in Modern Africa, <i>Allina-Pisano</i>
PHIL 360	Philosophy of Feminisms, <i>Thie</i>
RELG 312	The Politics of Early Christian Faith and Literature, <i>Martin</i>
RELG 328	Experiencing Islam, <i>Safi</i>
RELG 405	Sacred Texts: Speech and Silence, <i>Frank</i>
SPAN 474	Contemporary Spanish Theater, <i>Johnson</i>

Study Group Courses

SOAN 307Y	Gender and Modernity, <i>Loe</i>
SOAN 351Y	Native American Women, <i>Moran</i>

Women's Studies Program Faculty

Africana and Latin American Studies

Carolyn Powell

Art & Art History

Mary Ann Calo
Padma Kaimal
Judy Oliver
Lynn Schwarzer
Linn Underhill

Classics

Rebecca Ammerman

East Asian Languages & Literatures

Gloria Bien
Jing Wang

Economics

Ulla Grapard
Jill Tiefenthaler

Educational Studies

Kay Johnston
Carolyn Kissane
Jo Anne Pagano

English

Amy Feinstein
Constance Harsh
Linck Johnson
Deborah Knuth
Lynn Makau
Kezia Page
Jane Pinchin
Emily Sun
Lynn Staley
Sarah Wider

Geography

Maureen Hays-Mitchell
Ellen Kraly

History

Eric Allina-Pisano
Antonio Barrera
Faye Dudden
Jill Harsin
Kira Stevens
Camilla Townsend

Interdisciplinary Writing

Margaret Darby
Vicky McMillan

Jewish Studies

Lesleigh Cushing

Mathematics

Ken Valente

Peace Studies

Margaret Wehrer

Philosophy & Religion

Maudemarie Clark
Rebecca Chopp
Lesleigh Cushing
Georgia Frank
Eliza Kent
Clarice Martin
Omid Safi
Marilyn Thie
Wanda Warren Berry
Jim Wetzel
Political Science
Jessica Allina-Pisano
Tim Byrnes
Anne Pitcher

Psychology

Landon Reid

Romance Languages & Literatures

Anita Johnson
Hélène Julien
Lourdes Rojas
Lyn Rugg

Russian

Nina Gourianova

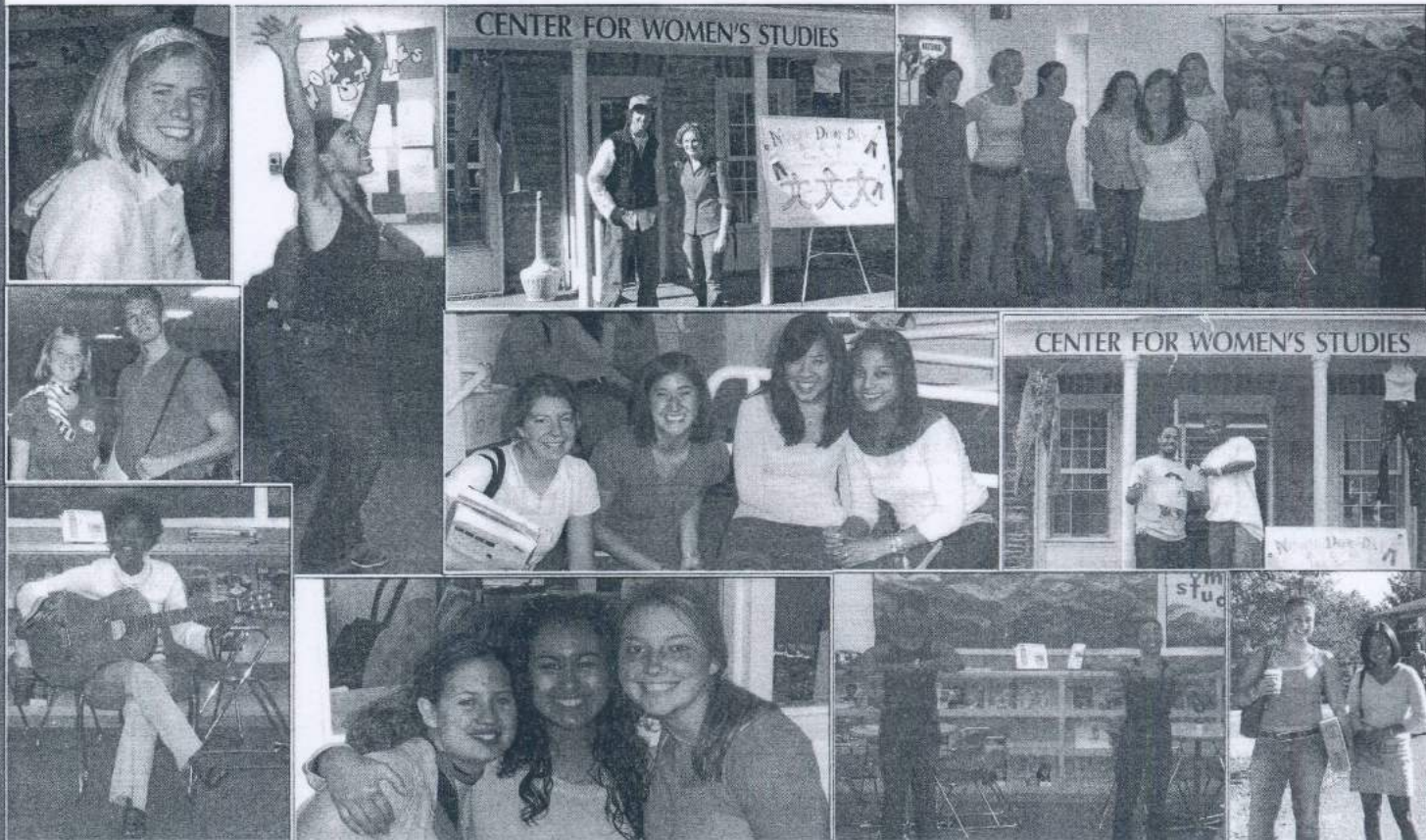
Sociology & Anthropology

Meika Loe
Mary Moran
Michael Peletz
Nancy Ries
Margaret Wherer

Women's Studies

Meika Loe

Colgate Celebrates Denim Day!



the colgate center for
**women's
 studies**

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Hélène Julien, Director
 Alyssa Gazda, Administrative Assistant
 Tamara Serrano, Program Assistant



Please send feedback and
 newsletter ideas to Tamara:
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 315.228.7156

