

### From the Director. . .

The term is coming rapidly to an end, and it is hard to believe how quickly things have been moving. There has been a great deal happening both on campus and off and I have decided to write a bit about that. I have been struck with how busy everyone on campus is and am wondering if we need to be "less busy" and more "wide awake." By that, I mean we need to use some of our time to pay attention to what is happening around us. Many of us were interested in the results of the elections and I particularly was interested in what I read about the women's vote. For example, in an article in The Boston Globe, (Oct. 18, 1998) Jennifer Burton, a Democratic consultant was quoted as saying that they [candidates for office, especially women] have "to be message-deliverers because women voters have moved on to connect with the issues." As we think about being more "wide awake," I think we should connect with issues both on and off campus in a deliberate way.

One way to do that is to vote. I was surprised by how many students reported that they had not

voted in the last election. Many issues of particular importance to women (welfare, child care, and other social issues are just some) need legislative attention and not voting is making sure these issues don't get addressed.

Another way to be wide awake is to go to an event on campus that is new to you and which helps you learn about something new. At the Brown Bag Lunches at the Center for Women's Studies this term, we have been invited to think about welfare

issues, gender equity in family work, the politics of race and gender, health issues, environmental issues, and work in refugee camps among other ideas. All these ideas have important connections to the way we live our lives.

*(continued on page 3)*

### Seeking the irresistible? Keep the Center for Women's Studies in mind...

It is usually the case that during a highly active and relatively warm fall, time seems almost to evaporate, and this semester is apparently no exception. With midterms behind us and final exams creeping up on us, I'd like to spend some time reflecting on both past events and future experiences available to those of us in the Colgate community.

I am more than occasionally told that the Center for Women's Studies is "famous" for the Brown Bag Lunch Discussions we host every Tuesday. Seen in one light, their popularity can be understood through the lens of time: because they occur during the week's common hour- at lunchtime- and because lunch is provided, Brown Bags are consistently well-attended programs. On the other hand, I have seen quite a diverse range of people in attendance from week to week; each Tuesday I discover new faces in the crowd. This leads me to think that while for some, Brown Bags are a regular part of every Tuesday, for many others, they might be added to

*(continued on page 2)*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## NOVEMBER- DECEMBER 1998

### November

#### 17 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series  
 Professor Clarice Martin  
 Department of Philosophy & Religion  
*Womanist Spirituality: Walking As a Form  
 of Radical Resistance*  
 Center for Women's Studies  
 11:30 am

#### 18 WEDNESDAY

*BODY IMAGES: Conversations on  
 Cultural Images, Media Images, and  
 Health Images*  
 A panel discussion with Bridget Bokovitz,  
 Lynn Schwarzer, and Denise Taliaferro  
 Center for Women's Studies  
 7:30 pm

#### 20 FRIDAY

Student Health Fair  
 3 pm- 4 pm: *Self-defense seminar*  
 5 pm- 6 pm: *Yoga session*  
 And many, many more exhibits!  
 Hall of Presidents  
 3 pm- 6 pm

#### 21 SATURDAY

Colgate's First Women's Diversity  
 Conference: *Am I My Sister's Keeper?*  
 The Center for Women's Studies & The  
 ALANA Cultural Center  
 9 am- 4 pm

#### 23 MONDAY

Reel Women Free Film Series,  
*Foxfire*  
 Center for Women's Studies  
 8 pm

#### 25 WEDNESDAY- 29 SUNDAY

Thanksgiving Break- Enjoy!!

#### 30 MONDAY

Professor Jarita Holbrook  
*Cultural Astronomy in Tunisia and Fiji*  
 Refreshments to follow  
 ALANA Cultural Center  
 3 pm

#### 30 MONDAY

AIDS Task Force Spaghetti Dinner  
 The Commons  
 6 pm

### December

#### 1 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series  
 Professor Helene Julien  
 Department of French Romance  
 Languages and Literatures  
*Christiane Rochefort: Autography and  
 Feminism*  
 Center for Women's Studies  
 11:30 am

#### 1 TUESDAY

World AIDS Day  
 Candlelight Vigil

#### 3 THURSDAY

Denmark Study Group Interest Meeting  
 with Professor Ulla Grapard  
 Center for Women's Studies  
 4 pm

#### 3 THURSDAY

Kwanzaa Cultural Dinner  
 Frank Dining Hall  
 5:30 pm

#### 7 MONDAY

Reel Women Free Film Series,  
*Sarafina*, starring Whoopi Goldberg  
 Center for Women's Studies  
 8 pm

#### 8 TUESDAY

Brown Bag Lunch Series  
 Professor Susan Cerasano  
 Department of English  
*title TBA*  
 Center for Women's Studies  
 11:30 am

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### Seeking the irresistible? (continued from page 1)

the weekly agenda only when the topic seems particularly provocative or relevant to one's course of study. Throughout the semester, we've had faculty, staff, and alumni from the areas of education, geology, art & art history, philosophy & religion, sociology & anthropology, health science, economics, and theater & english present their work and share their passions with us at Brown Bags. The interdisciplinary structure of the Brown Bag Lunch Series is probably its truest strength; there is bound to be something for everyone within each semester's schedule of topics. (Of course, its convenient time of occurrence surely helps.) And although we cannot all make it to all Brown Bags, remaining aware of these discussions every week can enable us, in the spring, to attend those that we find irresistible.

In fact, figuring out what each of us finds most irresistible on the social and intellectual landscape of college life may be one of the most important processes one can go through and take seriously while at Colgate. To determine what, in the world, each of us are passionate about means that we must confront (at least) two crucial components of this exciting and life-changing discovery that education brings.

First, we must traverse the landscape, venturing to new places and attending unfamiliar pro-

(continued on page 3)

**From the Director . . .**  
(continued from page 1)

Any reading of *Colgate This Week* or *The Sampler* shows how many events we can attend and in some way how busy we can be, but I think that choosing one or two new things to do each week and then giving yourself some deliberate time to think about what you have learned would be a very good idea and might contribute to our ability to be wide awake.

Thanksgiving break approaches, and we know that soon finals will follow. Everyone will get more and more "busy." So, as we all deal with our various kinds of work, let's take some time to be wide awake. In the spirit of doing something new, I will suggest only a few things which represent the variety of activities on campus in the next few weeks:

**December 3:** *Chronicle of a Genocide Foretold*

**December 4 and 5:** *Student Musical Theater*

**December 7:** H. Guyford Stever, "Enabling the Future: Linking Science and Technology to Societal Goals."

**December 11:** *Carol Shields' Reading at Living Writers*

Each of these might give you a new idea, a new way to be wide awake in our world. Education is about opening our minds, it is about living in the world, about opening our eyes and being wide awake.

Kay Johnston

**Allegorical Athena**

The *Allegorical Athena*, Colgate's gender issues magazine, pushes those who read it to think about social issues that affect everyone. This publication, produced and written by Colgate students, includes poetry, art, short stories, and photography that address topics that inform the lives of both men and women. Currently in our fourth year, *Allegorical Athena* is a forum which we hope will make the invisible social powers that shape us visible to the Colgate community. We are currently accepting submissions and encourage any interested students to contribute. You can send submissions to Box J 1377 or bring them to the Center.

Karen Lichtenberg '99  
Corinne Mescher '00

**Seeking the irresistible?**  
(continued from page 2)

grams that may initially make us feel uncomfortable, out of place, or simply ignorant. Forsaking a sense of security in order to encounter possibility, however, is where the journey to discovering the irresistible- or locating one's passion(s) in and about the world- begins.

The second component involves the negotiation, or *struggle*, between the unavoidable time constraints that characterize college (and especially Colgate) life and the desire to seek out the

irresistable social and intellectual experiences that await each of us. This is a valuable skill to develop and maintain even beyond one's years at Colgate. And without a doubt, each of you will be posed with this challenge as the spring approaches and the events calendar is filled.

Many different "awareness weeks" and "history months" fall in the spring calendar months, and surely, events surrounding these themes will come about. For instance, February is *Black History Month*, and March, *Women's History Month*. Also in February is *Love Your Body Week*, and *Central New York's Second Annual LGBT Conference*. And there's more: March is also the month of *International Women's Day*, *Sexual Violence Awareness Week*, and *Africana Women's Week*. In April, *Poverty and Welfare Awareness Week* is a topic we focus on and so is prevention of child abuse during its given week in April.

These spaces are designated not as the *only* times to discuss and seriously ponder these issues and recognize inequities. Rather, they force us to focus on them while we simultaneously develop our own specific passions in connection with the various social problems that pervade our world. Ultimately, discovering the irresistible in the face of unlimited possibilities (and yet limited portions of time) is perhaps the most important task for each of us to confront as we venture toward the spring semester.

Molly Talcott

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month Was a Success!

Breast Cancer Awareness Month was, without a doubt, a shining success. We would like to thank the faculty, staff, and students who participated in Colgate's second annual Lee National Denim Day on October 9, sponsored by the Center for Women's Studies. We succeeded in raising a record high (for us) of \$578! The money was donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which is the largest private funder of breast cancer research and education in the country.

The Brown Bag Lunch on Tuesday, October 13 proved educational as Linda Maynard and Jan Steates from the health center hosted a workshop, emphasizing the importance of breast health and demonstrating how to perform breast self-examinations on model breasts. We all learned important information that may one day save our lives.

If you missed Breast Cancer Awareness Month and would like more information, come to the Center for Women's Studies to pick up informational pamphlets and pink ribbons. The threat of breast cancer is something to be aware of not only during the month of October, but throughout a woman's entire life.

Suzanne Lowell '00

## Report on the FMLA Voter Registration Drive:

With many senatorial and gubernatorial races this fall, members of the **FEMINIST MAJORITY LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE** felt that our group should encourage Colgate students to vote in the '98 elections. Young voters- especially those of college age- frequently do not vote. In an attempt to change this situation on Colgate's campus, we sponsored a voter registration drive. We offered generic registration forms that could be sent into any state in the U.S., and we provided information on absentee ballots. Students responded to what turned out to be a worthwhile project. We were able to obtain absentee ballot information for about 200 interested students, and we registered approximately 35 to vote.

The **FEMINIST MAJORITY LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE** meets on Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm in the Center for Women's Studies. For more information, stop by the Center.

Ginny Haizlip '01

## POLITICAL OUTREACH E-MAIL UPDATE

Register to receive timely information on women, politics, and current events.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, call x7156.

Please return this form to the Center for Women's Studies. Place it in the suggestion box on the table.