

NORTH SHORE VISIONS

Volume 31, Issue 2

March 2017

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WGSS Nationwide

On January 21, 2017, over three million people around the world marched to support women's rights, dignity, and voices. UMD WGSS students, staff, alums, and faculty were there -- in Washington, D.C., St. Paul, Duluth, Denver, Colorado; Phoenix, Arizona; Traverse City, Michigan; Portland, Oregon; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; San Diego, California; Sacramento, California; Madison, Wisconsin; El Paso, Texas; Austin, Texas; Seattle, Washington; Fargo, North Dakota and undoubtedly more. It was an inspiring and empowering day. Let's keep the momentum going! "The rising of the women is the rising of the race." – from *Bread and Roses*.

Special thanks to Beth Bartlett for compiling these photos.



WGSS Alumn Laura Thielges (and friends) in Washington DC



Photos Page 2:

Clockwise from upper left corner: Molly DeBrock in Sacramento, CA; Alex Carnes in St Paul; Chelsa Nelson-Preble in Duluth; Jessie Heydt in St. Paul; Alyssa & Maren Wood in St. Paul; Larry Knopp in Seattle, WA; Nicki Nanniga in St. Paul; Alexa McIndo in St Paul.

Center of Page 2: Taylor Zare in St. Paul.

Photos on Page 3:

Clockwise from upper left corner: Anne Tower in St. Paul, MN; Cindy Christian in Washington DC; Claire Benton in Denver, CO; Anna Tennis in St. Paul; Kris Simonson in St. Paul; Arielle Schnur in Traverse City, MI; Elizabeth Anderson in Austin, TX; Carly Bjorgan in St. Paul.

Photo Below: Sarah



March is Women's

Hat Party!

Wednesday, March 1, UMD's Garage – Kirby Student Center, 11:00am

Join us in making the popular pussycat hats worn by many during the Women's Marches around the world and marches for Planned Parenthood. Sponsored by WRAC and UMD's Commission for Women

Elected Women Panel 1

Friday, March 3, The Building for Women, 6:00-7:30PM

32 E 1st Street, Duluth MN 55812 Sponsored by the Feminist Action Collective

Elected Women Panel 2

Saturday, March 4, The Building for Women, 1:00-2:30PM Sponsored by the Feminist Action Collective

Feminist Book Club

Monday, March 6, The Building for Women, 5:00PM

Making Waves: A History of Feminism in Western Society Sponsored by the Feminist Justice League

The Feminist Justice League meeting will hold their monthly meeting after book club

"It Happens Here" - Domestic Violence Action Day

Tuesday, March 7; Duluth City Hall; Noon – 1:00PM

Rally, reading of the femicide report, and a postcard writing action. Sponsored by Safe Haven Shelter and Resource Center

International Women's Day Wage Parity Picket & March

Wednesday, March 8, Meet at the MN Power Plaza, 5:00-8:00PM

March 8th is International Women's Day. To recognize this important date and the role of women as workers, the Feminist Justice League will be hosting a symbolic 78 minute strike, followed by a march and discussion. Sponsored by the Feminist Justice League

Feminist Frolic: Feminist Education in the Outdoors!

Saturday, March 11, Meet at the Superior Public Library, 5:00PM

5PM: Labor History Walk – Meet at the Superior Public Library Sponsored by the Feminist Justice League

Sara Deer – Sovereignty of the Soul: Sexual Violence in Native America

Wednesday, March 15, UMD's Kirby Rafters, 4:00-5:30PM Sponsored by WGSS and WRAC

UMD's International Women's Day Celebration

Wednesday, March 15, UMD's Griggs Center, 6:00-8:00PM

Join the Women's Resource & Action Center in our annual celebration of International Women's Day. The theme for International Women's Day is Be Bold for Change. Help us honor women who have been bold for change on both local and global levels. Sponsored by the Women's Resource and Action Center and the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department.

Women's History Month Film Series – *Salt of the Earth* Part 1

Monday, March 20, UMD Cina 110H, Noon-1PM Sponsored by WGSS and WRAC

Women's History Month Film Series – *Salt of the Earth* Part 2

Tuesday, March 21, UMD Cina 110H, Noon-1PM Sponsored by WGSS and WRAC

As we were preparing to print the newsletter, we got this awesome photo from the printers!! Pictured to the right are: Amber Snow and her bestie Becky Nelson. They are both members of the Feminist Action Collective as well!



History Month

Women's History Month Film Series – *Two Days, One Night* Part 1
Wednesday, March 22, UMD Cina 110H, Noon-1PM
 Sponsored by WGSS and WRAC

Happy Birthday Birth Control!
Wednesday March. 22, UMD Garden Room, TBD
 Come celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision on Eisenstadt v Baird, which legalized birth control for non-married couples, by hearing a representative from Planned Parenthood discuss the history of Planned Parenthood, as well as the history of birth control and reproductive rights in the United States. There will be cake to celebrate!
 Sponsored by WRAC

Feminist Action Collective - Meeting
Wednesday, March 22, Building for Women, 7:30-9:00PM

Women's History Month Film Series – *Two Days, One Night* Part 2
Thursday, March 23, UMD Cina 110H, Noon – 1:00PM
 Sponsored by WGSS and WRAC

Women's History Month Film Series - *The Wilmar 8*
Friday, March 23, UMD Cina 110H, Noon-1:00PM
 Sponsored by WGSS and WRAC

Brown Bag Series Film: *She's Beautiful When She's Angry*
Wednesday, March 29th: Kirby Student Center 268; 11:30am

She's Beautiful When She's Angry resurrects the buried history of the outrageous, often brilliant women who founded the modern women's movement from 1966 to 1971. *She's Beautiful* takes us from the founding of NOW, with ladies in hats and gloves, to the emergence of more radical factions of women's liberation; Artfully combining dramatizations, performance and archival imagery, the film recounts the stories of women who fought for their own equality, and in the process created a world-wide revolution. Sponsored by the Women's Resource and Action Center and the Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies

Pro Choice Lobby Day
Wednesday, March 29, 2017

With the Minnesota Legislature gaining a completely anti-choice majority in both Houses we cannot sit back and hope for the best. Let's continue the powerful momentum started this year with the Women's March and fill the Rotunda and stand with our pro-choice allies while opposing any attempt to roll back reproductive rights in Minnesota. In order to schedule your lobby visit you must register at www.prochoiceminnesota.org/lobby-day

Learning from Honduras: Nonviolent Resistance to Land Takeovers through Community Organizing and Coalition Building May 25- June 3, 2017 Participants on this delegation will:

-Meet with Honduran civil society organizations advocating for indigenous, afro-indigenous, and campesino communities -Learn about the effects of neoliberal corporate development projects on these communities - Engage in dialogue and skill sharing with Hondurans to learn how to better organize around similar challenges faced in the U.S.

Cost: \$1000 plus international airfare. Delegation fee covers all meals, lodging, interpreters, and transportation within Honduras. Applications and \$150 deposit due March 25, 2017.

Contact Lyn Clark Peg at 218-348-3048 or carolynpegg@yahoo.com for more information.



Photos page 6, Clockwise from upper left corner: Jen Smith in Portland, OR; Micca Leider in Milwaukee, WI; Elsa Swenson in St. Paul; Julia Conkel in Washington DC; Dawn Mikkelson in St. Paul; Erika Fryklepak in Duluth.



Photo Below: Karin Riggs in Seattle, WA



Photos on page 7, clockwise from upper left corner. Kate Monson in St. Paul; Tessa Hausler in St. Paul; Nic Hackbarth in Buffalo, NY; Lexi Meyers; Hannah Schleder, Caiti Marks, Kenai klaskin, and Emily Knutson in Duluth; Tineke Ritmeester in St. Paul; Beth Bartlett in St. Paul; Mary Cowen in St. Paul; Lexie Generous in St. Paul; and Rose Surma in St. Paul.





From the Department Head

By Sheryl Grana

Wow. What a climate we live in at the moment. As things unfold across the country politically, I know many of you have been participating in marches and other events to project your voices. Such work is one of the core values of our work in Women's Studies. Thank you for your commitment to social issues which impact our current lives and the future. Thank you for the work you have been doing, will do and encourage others to do as well.

We have had a busy semester so far. Our search for a two year position focused around the LGBTQ minor and other WGSS' classes has resulted in the hire of Chloe Diamond-Lenow. Chloe is coming from UC-Santa Barbara, and we are very excited to have her!! She is a dynamic teacher, excellent researcher, and we believe will be a magnet for students to the program. Welcome Chloe!! We continue to work on the merger with the department of Anthropology, Criminology and Sociology. The merger is effective this summer. Next fall we will be a component with the other programs in that department. Our spring community breakfast with community organizations was another morning of lovely conversation and networking. Thank you to all in attendance who shared their time, good conversation and information and yummy food.

Beth Bartlett is on the second semester of her phased retirement and is not teaching, though her activism continues to be felt broadly and deeply. Among her many other community involvements, Beth is active in supporting Standing Rock and Beyond and is collecting frozen baked goods every other week for delivery to the water protectors. If you'd like to bake for this cause, please let the department or Beth know so we can tell you about pick up dates and what is being sought. Again, warm regards and sisterhood for all the work and effort we put into bringing justice to the world and peace to all.

The Feminist Action Collective

A recently-formed feminist community organization, The Feminist Action Collective*, has become active in the Twin Ports regions. The mission states that FAC is: a women's group in support of feminist goals; standing for the issues that our government won't; and lobbying for change and progress outside of the election season. The group meets every other Wednesday 7:30-9:00pm at the Building for Women.*

FAC has three flagship issues and committees. The Perception of Women is dedicated to understanding everyday sexism and the discrimination of women, promoting advocacy, and supporting women leaders and media. The Diverse Not Divided committee works toward effectively crossing opinion lines to promote productive communication; their objectives include learning: compassionate listening, compassionate speaking, strategic communication, understanding and listening, so that we can counteract.

The mission of HOTDISH Militia** to support the Women's Health Center (the only place in northern MN to get an abortion), to educate women and counter misinformation about reproductive rights, and to lobby government when needed. Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/358878614504576/>.

Feminist Action Collective has a Facebook group that is open to new membership. To be added to the group, please email Jamie Ratliff (jratliff@d.umn.edu).

*Meetings are located at an accessible building.

* The FAC, Perception of Women, and Diverse Not Divided meetings are open to all individuals who identify as women and/or non-binary.

** HOTDISH Militia is open to all genders and gender non-conforming individuals.

* People who identify as men are welcome at our public events.

* Childcare is available at our FAC meetings by member volunteers.

**FEMINIST
ACTION
COLLECTIVE**

Moon Landing

by Kate Mensing

The deepest part of the ocean is 7 miles down. It is called Mariana's Trench—an Americanized version of the name Maria Anna, an Austrian queen of Spain, descendant of Joanna the Mad, mother of 2 emperors and 4 queens, slandered for insanity by her husband and locked into a nunnery after his 5th affair.

At age 11, Maria Anna was married to her uncle. Of her five children, only two lived; her last son was born with a tongue so large that he could neither chew or speak. He became king at the age of 3. She continued to rule for him her whole life, dying of breast cancer, her own springs of life poisoned---

Humans have been down Mariana's seven miles exactly four times. The most investigation the US has ever done was to propose burying 70,000 tons of nuclear waste in her depths.

Yet Neil Armstrong flew two hundred thousand miles to the moon in 1962. Five years later, we had mapped the surface of Venus. They say that the first person on Mars is going to be any day now. We look up at the stars for answers, ever expanding our knowledge of the emptiness outside. Space. The first man on the moon died of heart complications, his body drifted too far away from the earth to reconnect

How simple it is for us to look out, to conquer the vast nothingness. How eager we are to climb out of the world that gravity hugs us to, how ready we are to leave our mother, move away from the neighborhood, and forget to send Christmas cards home.

The Colorado River, 1400 miles, and damned up in 30 places; She is considered so crucial to human life that we use her up before she ever reaches the sea, and once she is dry and infertile, she means nothing to us. "Colorado" translates to Blushing, Red, so the Blushing River, The Red River, she hadn't met her salty lover from 1936 until 2014, when every dam was opened up in one small pulse, she licked the ground all the way down to her delta watching life literally spring up wherever she trickled.

There is a reason that we release water from our eyes when we feel something

I love to dance in the rain but I am afraid of swimming.

the pressure that builds up around my chest under water is the pressure I walk around with in my gut. I am afraid of drowning, yet I anchor myself to the bottom of the ocean, I am a Pisces fish- yet I a daughter of the desert, grew up with tumbleweeds and scorpions, but wander along the dust and you will find fossils of starfish, our state dinosaur was the mighty ocean's Ichthyosaurus, now only salt lingers on the land, tears not washed from her face

When the bags under my eyes weren't big enough to hold my tears, I thought better to cancel the storm altogether, rather than watch the lightning burn down the trees.

The day I stopped listening to myself was the day I began to let the words of others teach me about myself.

I am a paper doll, happily dressed by the people I meet who fold the tabs of their labels onto me, not caring if they rip me

I am a dust bowl, I have damned myself I am an astronaut, so good at giving space,
I used to be desperate for closeness,

But two knives cannot spoon
They only dull each other's blades.

We treat each other like dropped apples, avoiding the bruises and stopping before we ever reach the core,
The iron in blood leaks from the shackles around our hearts,

This month, my period starts on a moonless night; I stand naked by my window and look out at the darkness. I wait too long, and feel the warmth of red liquid running down my legs, a mad dash for freedom.

I chastise myself for a second about the blood on the floor; but this is not my own voice upset, but ten others', so I silence the guilt. I can clean this up, easy. I have been cleaning up blood up since my birth; washing it off sheets, floors, panties, off of my face, my thighs, my fingers, my friends.

But tonight, my own Colorado River flows from my uterus, and I let her sing free for a minute before stopping her up again.

UMD Department of Women,
Gender & Sexuality Studies



Women, Gender &
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