

Women's Studies at FSU E-Newsletter

February 2018

Table of Contents:

1. Declare Your Minor!
 2. WMST Spring Graduates
 3. Did you know?
 4. Events
 5. Student Organizations
 6. The Two-Minute Activist
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1. DECLARE YOUR MINOR

The minor in Women's Studies is only 18 credits and allows students with a passion for feminist issues to explore herstories, intersectionality, Black feminist thought, Latina feminism(s), as well as women and art, music, philosophy, politics, health, and more.

To declare your minor, simply email Dr. Earles at jearles@frostburg.edu and include your student number so that you can be officially registered.

You can also visit Dr. Earles in 7 American, Room 302 (next to the Veterans Center). Once you have officially declared a Women's Studies minor, it will appear on your official records and in PAWS, which will assist both you and your major advisor in planning your coursework.

Feminism is about connecting the personal with the political and is open to ALL genders!

BTW... Follow us on Twitter [@fsuwmst](https://twitter.com/fsuwmst) and Facebook [/WMSTFrostburg](https://www.facebook.com/WMSTFrostburg)

2. WMST Spring Graduates

With seven Women's Studies graduates this semester, we certainly have cause to celebrate. Please join me in congratulating the following students who are sure to continue their commitment to feminist scholarship and activism in their future endeavors.

- **Bethany Beeghly**
- **Tessa Brewer**
- **TaLaytha Carter**
- **Kylie Dehaven**
- **Kiana McKay**
- **Candace Scott**
- **Kimberly Scott**

3. DID YOU KNOW?

As we celebrate **Black History Month**, I thought I'd highlight some of the women who fought at the intersection of rights for African Americans, women, and working people. Here they are:

Hattie Canty

Hattie became active in the Culinary Workers Union Local 226 and was elected to the executive board in 1984, the year they staged a 75-day walkout to improve health insurance for casino workers. In 1990, she became the president of the union, and in 1991, the Culinary Workers began the longest labor strike in American history, with a walk off from the Frontier Hotel over unfair labor practices. Six years later, the hotel's new owner settled with the union under Hattie's careful watch.

“Coming from Alabama, this seemed like the civil rights struggle....The labor movement and the civil rights movement, you cannot separate the two of them.”

Velma Hopkins

In the 1940s, Velma Hopkins, a member of Local 22 of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers of America-CIO, led a fight for better conditions for African American workers in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The union challenged R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. to improve conditions for Black workers, who endured segregated work areas permeated by oppressive heat and dangerous tobacco dust. A series of strikes and campaigns led to job security, wage increases, and other benefits.

“I know my limitations, and I surround myself with people who I can designate to be sure it's carried out. If you can't do that, you're not an organizer.”

Lucy Gonzales Parsons

In 1886, Lucy and her husband led 80,000 working people in the world's first May Day parade, which demanded the eight-hour day. After her husband was arrested, along with seven immigrant leaders, during the Haymarket Riot, Parsons became active in the campaign to free the men. She soon became known by anti-union forces as “more dangerous than a thousand rioters.” Lucy actively fought for working people until she died in a fire in 1942.

“Governments never lead; they follow progress. When the prison, stake or scaffold can no longer silence the voice of the protesting minority, progress moves on a step, but not until then.”

Septima Poinsette Clark

Septima participated in a class-action lawsuit that led to pay equity for Black and white teachers. In 1956, she was fired from her job as a teacher after the state passed a statute prohibiting city and state workers from belonging to civil rights organizations like the NAACP. From that point forward, she was an active participant in the civil rights movement, including teaching many workshops and classes that empowered and inspired activists like Rosa Parks. In 1975, she was elected to the Charleston School Board and, the next year, the governor of South Carolina reinstated her teacher's pension.

“My philosophy is such that I am not going to vote against the oppressed. I have been oppressed, and so I am always going to have a vote for the oppressed, regardless of whether that oppressed is black or white or yellow or the people of the Middle East, or what.”

4. EVENTS



The Family Crisis Resource Center (FCRC) is a local shelter dedicated to assisting victims and survivors of intimate partner violence, rape, sexual assault, sexual abuse, child abuse, and stalking, as well as to reduce these crimes in our community.

This 80s Night fundraiser will benefit FCRC and local women. Stay tuned for more details!

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), will be held at the **University of Maryland** from **Wednesday, May 29 – Saturday, June 1, 2019**.

The 2019 program is shaping up to be the biggest, boldest NCCWSL yet! At NCCWSL, students will build their leadership skills across five core learning objectives:

- Leadership development: Develop and strengthen a voice, skill set, and mind-set for leadership
- Professional development: Build a professional tool kit for postgraduate life
- Activism: Learn how, why, and when to take action and be a change maker
- Women's issues: Gain a better understanding of local, national, and global issues and policies affecting women and of AAUW's empowering women
- Identity and diversity: Own personal identities and roles in increasing and supporting diverse voices

Click [here](#) to register or for more information.

5. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of University Women (AAUW)

The Women's Studies program is actively organizing a student chapter of the national organization, AAUW. While student organizations take AAUW's mission to the next level by [raising funds for their organization](#) and planning feminist campus events, they also gain valuable experience and see direct results on their campuses! AAUW student organization members can:

- [Boost their résumés](#) with critical leadership experience
- Gain networking opportunities through [AAUW's leadership programs](#)
- Get [AAUW swag](#) to recruit other student members
- Receive resources and staff support to [create campus programming](#)
- Join a global network of more than 170,000 members and supporters

The best part? Your involvement with AAUW doesn't stop after you graduate! AAUW helps women [continue their education](#) and [prepares them for the workforce](#). The global support network you build with your AAUW student organization lasts a lifetime.

Those interested students should contact Bethany Beeghly at babeeghly0@frostburg.edu!

SPECTRUM

Connect with FSU's LGBTQ student organization on Twitter [@spectrumfsu](https://twitter.com/spectrumfsu). The Club strives to provide a safe space for everyone on campus, to promote equality for everyone, and to make a positive impact on our community for LGBTQ students, faculty, and youths. For more information, contact Vex at sdwilson01@frostburg.edu

SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL

Come share your stories and experiences, take action, raise awareness, and make a difference! The organization focuses on LGBTQ, racial rights/liberation like Black Lives Matter, women's empowerment, and so much more! Connect with them on Twitter [@FrostburgSJ4A](https://twitter.com/FrostburgSJ4A). For more information, contact Tessa at tkbrewer0@frostburg.edu

6. THE TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST

Support the Paycheck Fairness Act!

You've heard the statistics — women working full time in the United States are typically paid just [80 percent](#) of what men are paid, and the gap is even wider for many women of color. Despite federal and state equal pay laws, the gender pay gap persists. But Congressional action can help change this.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would take meaningful steps to update and strengthen the Equal Pay Act of 1963 to help close the gender pay gap, including:

- closing loopholes that have weakened the law over time to allow employers to justify paying workers unfairly,
- creating more robust remedies for those who have suffered discrimination,
- preventing employers from retaliating against workers who discuss or disclose their wages,
- prohibiting employers from relying on salary history to set wages, and
- providing much needed training and technical assistance, as well as data collection and research.

The gender pay gap is persistent and can only be addressed if women have the tools they need to challenge discrimination and employers have the incentives they need to comply with the law. It's time for Congress to make real change for all families by passing Paycheck Fairness Act.

Click [here](#) to take action.

****If you would prefer not to receive these periodic updates and announcements please email Dr. Earles at jlearles@frostburg.edu to be removed from the list****