

# Women's Studies at FSU E-Newsletter

September 2019

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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](mailto: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)**

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### **3. Calendar**

#### **September 6:**

**What** - 2020 Study Abroad Information Session, Berlin!

**When** – 1 p.m.

**Where** – Lane 108

**RSVP** – <https://rsvp.efcollegestudy tours.com/9krxdhn>

#### **October 10-13:**

**What** – Social Justice Summit

**Where** – Camp Allegheny

**Contact** – Robin Wynder [rwnyder@frostburg.edu](mailto:rwnyder@frostburg.edu)

#### **October 17:**

**What** – [MCASA's regional trainings](#) for colleges and universities focus on sexual violence prevention and response on campus, particularly, survivor-centered responses to reports of sexual violence. Registration will be open to campus investigators, police, administration and staff, counselors, students, and advocates.

**When** – 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Where** – Lane 214

#### **October 19:**

**What** – [Therese Fowler](#) Reading

**When** – 7 p.m.

**Where** – Lewis J. Ort Library

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### **2. WMST 2019-2020 Graduates**

With six Women's Studies minors ready to graduate 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.

- **Jessica Cebula**
- **Melissa Clark**
- **Meighan Jones**
- **Tyll Jones**
- **Angela Lowry**
- **Shanna Thompson**

#### **4. DID YOU KNOW?**

During **National Hispanic Heritage Month** (September 15 to October 15), we recognize the contributions made and the important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States and celebrate their heritage and culture.

Hispanics have had a profound and positive influence on our country through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service. They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their community.

Hispanic Heritage Month, whose roots go back to 1968, begins each year on September 15, the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico, Chile and Belize also celebrate their independence days during this period and Columbus Day (Día de la Raza) is October 12.

The term Hispanic or Latino, refers to Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race. On the 2010 Census form, people of Spanish, Hispanic and/or Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin."

Today, 57.5 million people or 18% of the American population are of Hispanic or Latino origin. This represents a significant increase from 2000, which registered the Hispanic population at 35.3 million or 13% of the total U.S. population.

### **Dolores Huerta – Si Se Puede**

Co-founder of the United Farm Workers Association, Dolores Clara Fernandez Huerta is one of the most influential labor activists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and a leader of the Chicano civil rights movement.



Born on April 10, 1930 in Dawson, New Mexico, Huerta was the second of three children of Alicia and Juan Fernandez, a farm worker and miner who became a state legislator in 1938. Her parents divorced when Huerta was three years old, and her mother moved to Stockton, California with her children. Huerta's grandfather helped raise Huerta and her two brothers while her mother juggled jobs as a waitress and cannery worker until she could buy a small hotel and restaurant. Alicia's community activism and compassionate treatment of workers greatly influenced her daughter.

Discrimination also shaped Huerta. A schoolteacher, prejudiced against Hispanics, accused Huerta of cheating because her papers were too well-written. In 1945 at the end of World War II, white men brutally beat her brother for wearing a Zoot-Suit, a popular Latino fashion.

In 1955 Huerta began her career as an activist when she co-founded the Stockton chapter of the Community Service Organization (CSO), which led voter registration drives and fought for economic improvements for Hispanics. She also founded the Agricultural Workers Association. Through a CSO associate, Huerta met activist César Chávez, with whom she shared an interest in organizing farm workers. In 1962, Huerta and Chávez founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), the predecessor of the United Farm Workers' Union (UFW), which formed three years later. Huerta served as UFW vice president until 1999.

Despite ethnic and gender bias, Huerta helped organize the 1965 Delano strike of 5,000 grape workers and was the lead negotiator in the workers' contract that followed. Throughout her work with the UFW, Huerta organized workers, negotiated contracts, advocated for safer working conditions including the elimination of harmful pesticides. She also fought for unemployment and healthcare benefits for agricultural workers. Huerta was the driving force behind the nationwide table grape boycotts in the late 1960s that led to a successful union contract by 1970.

In 1973, Huerta led another consumer boycott of grapes that resulted in the ground-breaking California Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, which allowed farm workers to form unions and bargain for better wages and conditions. Throughout the 1970s and '80s, Huerta worked as a lobbyist to improve workers' legislative representation. During the 1990s and 2000s, she worked to elect more Latinos and women to political office and has championed women's issues.

The recipient of many honors, Huerta received the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award in 1998 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2012. As of 2015, she was a board member of the Feminist Majority Foundation, the Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus of the United Farm Workers of America, and the President of the Dolores Huerta Foundation.

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## **5. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

### **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

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 Dr. Earles at [jearles@frostburg.edu](mailto:jearles@frostburg.edu)**

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### **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](mailto:sdwilson01@frostburg.edu)

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### **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 Dr. Earles at [jearles@frostburg.edu](mailto:jearles@frostburg.edu).

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## **6. THE TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST**

### **Take Action to Support the 2019 Maryland Patient's Bill of Rights**

Last year's [front page story](#) in the *Washington Post* documented the cruel and callous treatment of a Baltimore hospital patient who was discharged into a cold night wearing only a hospital gown and socks. This horrific incident reflects a systemic problem with Maryland hospitals. Why is Maryland, rich in resources compared with many states, ranked so poorly in hospital patient [satisfaction](#) and [safety](#)? One factor is the weakness of Maryland's outdated law to protect patients' rights.

AAUW-MD believes that everyone is entitled to high-quality, affordable, and accessible health care. That's why we're urging you to contact your state legislators to urge them to cosponsor and actively support the Maryland Patient's Bill of Rights (SB301/HB145). This important legislation would require all hospitals throughout the state to communicate patient rights to all hospital patients in a language and manner they understand, and provide training for all medical personnel in patient rights to raise awareness and make those rights a part of the hospital culture.

While all Americans benefit from transparency and consistent patient rights, the issue has particular resonance for women, who make approximately [80 percent](#) of all family health care decisions and are the largest group of hospital patients and primary caregivers. Moreover, women over 55 are the most rapidly increasing demographic of hospital patients.

Click [here](#) to take action.

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