

# GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2017

ISSUE 10

Welcome to the spring 2017 edition of the Gender and Women's Studies Newsletter! We have much to celebrate. Congratulations to our graduating seniors for all of their accomplishments in the last four years. Our hooding ceremony took on new dimensions this year since we had 9 graduating majors, each of whom was hooded by professor of her choice, and 7 minors who received their certificates. The sharing of memories and future plans was truly a tribute to all that we have learned during our time together. We congratulate Kylie Garabed and Kayla Gaughan who were named to the Mary Frances Eder Halpin Award in Gender and Women's Studies at Honors Convocation. We also congratulate Dr. Stacy Davis on her promotion to the rank of Full Professor. She returns to us in the fall and will continue to animate the Department with her zeal and commitment.

In January we had an "All you ever wanted to know about GWS comps and internships" Pizza Gathering where seniors shared with junior and sophomore majors the process and experience of choosing to do the GWS

comprehensive essay. Kayla Gaughan led a lively session on the role of internships in feminist education, not only for engaging in responsible activism but also in learning the skills of professional networking and courtesy.

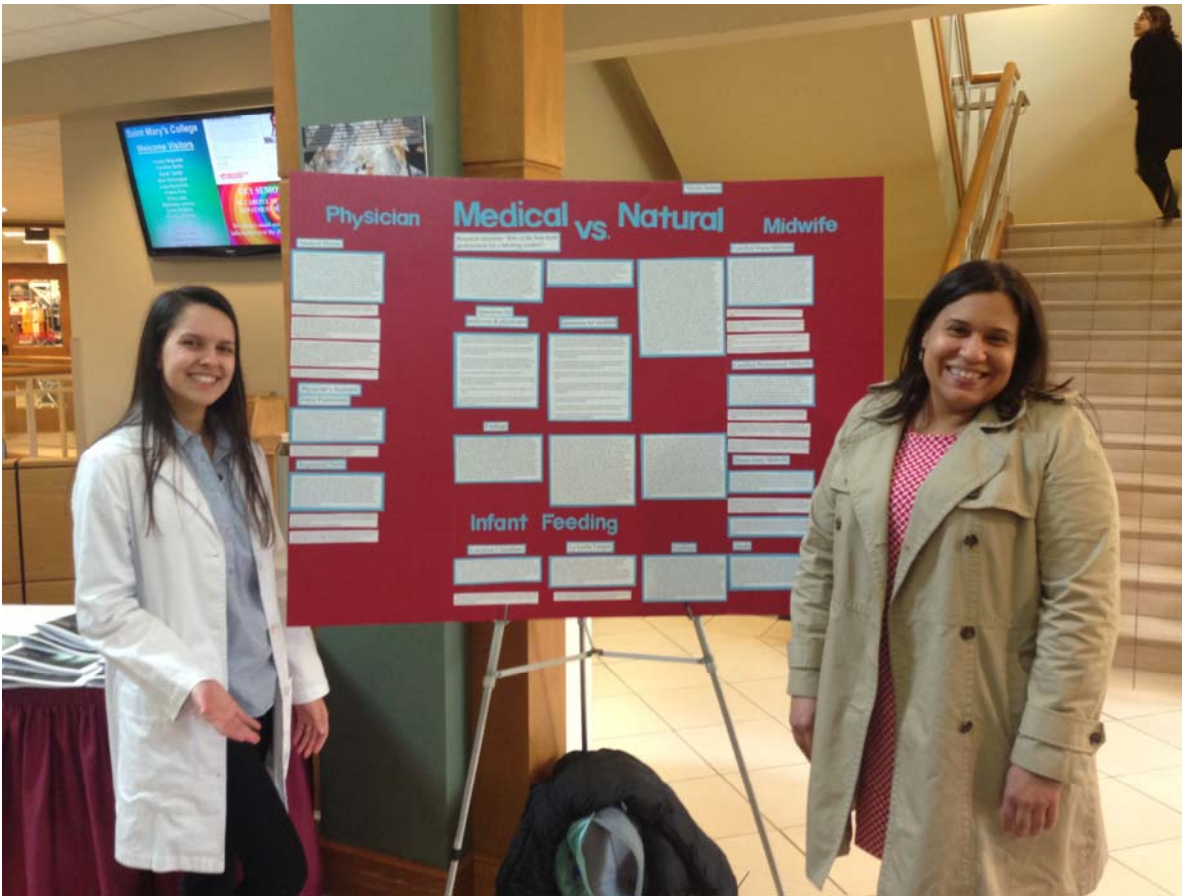
In March, thanks to Dr. Jamie Wagman, we sponsored a Language Matters Workshop led by Dr. Darryl Heller, Director of the South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center and Eli Williams, Executive Director of the LGBTQ Center of South Bend. Sixty-five students, faculty, and staff crowded into Spes 235 and the presentations sparked a deep desire to continue the conversation about all the issues raised as they affect all our lives on campus and beyond.

In April we had the formal presentation of our five comprehensives: Kylie Garabed, Sandra Kay, Giovanna Posselius, Devon Sanford and Annelise Steele. The topics included ranged from Saint Mary's and transgender students to vegan feminism, with emotional labor, the purity ball movement, and hijabistas in between. Double major Elisabeth Desits, who had comped in POSC, commented

"Attending the GWS senior comprehensive presentations opened my eyes to a variety of issues that I otherwise would have been blind to. Each senior's presentation was exceptional. They were experts on their particular subjects and spoke with ease to a captivated audience. Coming away, I feel empowered to continue learning about these subjects!" It was a joy to see the majors bond with each other and to be supported by other students and GWS professors. It was a moment to celebrate what we do well at the College.

As I end my term as Interim Chair, I thank Dr. Davis for all work she did before her sabbatical to make the year possible for me and for her advice whenever I needed it. I also commend Dr. Wagman for all of her initiative and support. My final act is to officially welcome Dr. Bettina Spencer, Department of Psychology, as our incoming Chair. Dr. Spencer has been a vital contributor to the program and she brings energy, organization and creativity to the position. We are delighted that she will be leading us into the future.

Phyllis H. Kaminski, Professor



## Presenters at Symposium

The April 20<sup>th</sup> Saint Mary's College research symposium featured Sistar grant award winners Professor Ann Marie Short and GWS minor Alyssa Santos and their project on birth, "What's Natural in Childbirth and Infant Feeding Options for Mothers?", in addition to GWS major Kylie Garabed's senior comp project, "Are We Ready?: A Look at the Issues Surrounding the Inclusion of Transgender Students at Women's Colleges." Kylie also presented her work at the transgender panel last fall as part of the department's LGBTQ speaker series.





*2017 Gender  
and Women's  
Studies majors'  
senior comp  
presentations,  
April 12, 2017*





*2017 Gender & Women's Studies hooding  
ceremony*

*Stapleton Lounge*

*Le Mans*

*From law school to Capitol Hill, our graduates are going places! We're so proud  
of all of our majors and minors.*