



Empowering women for 30 years!

Womens

September 2008, Volume 31, Issue 1

The monthly newsletter of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

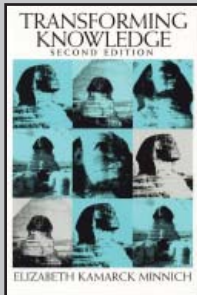


Save the Date!

TRANSFORMING KNOWLEDGE
Lecture & Workshop

Friday and Saturday,
October 3 & 4

Join The Women's Center as we co-sponsor a workshop with renowned education scholar Dr. Elizabeth Minnich on October 3 and 4.



Lecture: Friday, October 3rd, at 3:15 p.m. in Furman 109

Workshop: Friday and Saturday, October 3 & 4. Times and locations for the sessions on Saturday are being confirmed. For more information please contact sarah.tyson@vanderbilt.edu or carolyn.m.cusick@vanderbilt.edu or call (615) 686-3631.

Dr. Minnich is a Senior Fellow at the Association of American Colleges and University. She has been a professor of philosophy and academic administrator at numerous schools including The New School (now Lang) College and Sarah Lawrence College.

These workshops will focus on mentoring and teaching in increasingly diverse communities and institutions, investigating the ways that the history and future of disciplines and interdisciplinary are carried through research and into our classrooms via research interests, curriculum development, and syllabus construction. This workshop is designed for a multidisciplinary audience.

Dr. Minnich was featured as the Women's Center Cuninggim Lecturer in 1992.

It's Time to Vote!! Register Now!

College Students

The Center for American Progress estimates that 65% of a college campus is not registered to vote where they go to school. Of the other 35%, 10% will not register and 25% are already registered. Looking at Vanderbilt, this means that 7, 701 (65% of the combined number of undergraduate and graduate students) could potentially be registered to vote. In this 65% of potential registered voters, some do plan to register and others will need to be prompted to take action. (Of the people registered, 62% will actually vote).

Women

Women's political participation matters. Several national studies including those sponsored by the Institute for Women's Policy Research suggest that, at the state level, women's representation in government increased the likelihood of the passage of legislation that positively impacts women, including the promotion of wage equity, resources for physical, mental and reproductive health and workplace safety (TN Economic Council on Women, 2007). Tennessee ranks 49th in the nation for the status of women in political participation (Institute for Women's Policy Research, 2004). This means that women in Tennessee (compared to women nationally) are unlikely to vote, volunteer for campaigns or run for office. Specifically Tennessee ranks 39th for women's voter registration, 42nd for women's voter turnout, and 41st for women in elected office (IWPR, 2004).

Twenty million single women did not vote in 2004; however, this year brought out a historic turnout of unmarried women in the primaries. making this segment of the population the single largest potential voting block.

According to *Women's Voices, Women Vote* (www.wvvv.org), unmarried women are historically underrepresented in politics; twenty million single women did not vote in 2004; however, this year brought out a historic turnout of unmarried women in the primaries making this segment of the population the single largest potential voting block. In turn, unmarried women help drive voter turnout among both young voters and other women. The largest voting block of 18 to 29-year-olds is unmarried women and the largest voting block among all women is the unmarried female population.

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Visit our website!

vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter

It's Time to Vote!! Register Now!

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(Please Note: The research on unmarried women uses census data to determine the population numbers. It can be assumed that the data does not accurately reflect women who are partnered (same sex or opposite sex) and not legally married. According to the Human Rights Coalition (www.hrc.org), voters who identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual in exit polling typically make up about 5 percent of the electorate — a significant proportion that has made the difference in many close races.)

What Can You Do to Increase Voter Registration on Campus and for Women?

- Requests for a bulk of 250 or more forms can be forwarded to the State Election Coordinator's office.
- Have voter registration forms in your offices, dorms and at organizational meetings.
- Talk about voter registration and its importance at all group, organizational and staff meetings.
- Look for tables hosted on campus by the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, the Vanderbilt Feminists, student political party organizations and the Office of Active Citizenship and Service.
- Invite a member of one of the above groups to come to your dorm, office or meeting to assist in voter registration.
- Use your online social networks to promote voter registration and encourage people to vote. If it is your personal page, you can even endorse candidates and supply information about why you are supporting that person. (Examples of online social networks include Face book, MySpace, LinkedIn, personal blogs, etc.)

Women's VU is published monthly August through May at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

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Visit our website at: www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter

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Deadline for newsletter: Submissions are due on the 1st of the month preceding publication.

VOTING IN TENNESSEE

- **Voter Registration Deadline:** **October 3** (the day by which mail-in forms must be postmarked.) **October 6** is the last day to register in person at county elections commissions.
- **Voter Registration Drive:** Bulk amount of voter registration forms may be obtained from your county elections commission. Return forms to the county commission.
- **Where to Register:** Persons may visit their county elections commission to register in person or they may download a voter registration application from the Tennessee Department of State Division of Elections' website.
- **Early Voting: October 15—October 30**
- **State Election Office Contact Information:** Tennessee Department of State Division of Elections
Website: <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/index.htm>
Phone: (615) 741-7956

VOTING FOR STUDENTS AT VANDERBILT:

- As a college student (graduate or undergraduate), you have the right to register and vote in the county/city in which you go to school—even if you do not intend to reside there permanently. It is a good idea to register and vote here in Nashville so you do not miss the opportunity to vote. If you choose not to register here, please make sure to check with your home state about absentee voting registration and deadlines.
- If you are a Vanderbilt student and reside ON CAMPUS, you will be voting at Eakin Elementary School located at 2500 Fairfax Avenue in Nashville. The Vanderbilt Feminists (and other groups on campus) will be providing shuttle transportation to the voting location day on November 4th. More information about this service will be publicized in October.
- If you do NOT reside on campus, you will need to check your voter registration card or the election commission website for your voting location.

OTHER HELPFUL SITES ABOUT VOTING IN NASHVILLE/ DAVIDSON COUNTY:

- www.nashville.gov/Vote/#
- www.comptroller.state.tn.us/Ig/map/davidson/congress.pdf
- <http://tennessee.gov/sos/election/index.htm>
- <http://tennessee.gov/sos/election/results/2008-02/RepPresidentPrecinct.pdf>
- <http://tennessee.gov/sos/election/results/2008-02/DemPresidentPrecinct.pdf>
- www.comptroller.state.tn.us/Ig/map/davidson/congress.pdf
- www.nashville.gov/Vote/PDFs/Early_voting_schedule_for_NOV_4_2008_election.pdf
- www.votesmart.org/index.htm (great site for researching a candidate's view on an issue and voting records)

Compiled by Stacy Nunnally, director of Gender Matters, a program of the Women's Center that promotes gender equity.

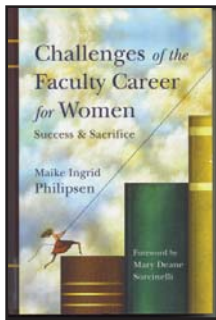


Come Visit the Women's Center Library!

In the Library



Barbara Clarke
Women's Center
Librarian

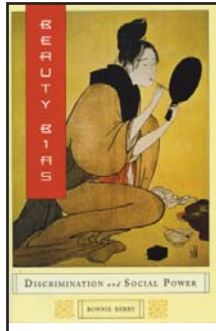


On the first floor of our building is the Women's Center library, which includes over 4,300 books on women's issues, gender, feminism and allied subjects. Our volumes are listed on the Heard Library's online ACORN catalog. The titles in our collection can be easily identified: the owning library is listed as VU-CENTERS and the location is given as WMCTR. With the exception of a small reference collection (books listed as WMCTR-REF) all our books can be checked out by students, staff, faculty and alumni/ae. Books circulate for four weeks and may be renewed online or by calling 343-4849. Our DVDs and videotapes also circulate for four weeks.

Several of our journals, including *European Journal of Women's Studies* and *Feminism & Psychology*, are not available at other campus libraries. Our journals do not circulate but articles may be photocopied.

Arranged in drawers by subject are thousands of newspaper and magazine clippings, as well as newsletters, pamphlets and brochures on a wide variety of topics related to women. This material does not circulate but may be photocopied in the library.

LIBRARY HOURS: The Women's Center Library is open on weekdays year-round from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. For more information, contact Barbara Clarke, Librarian, at 322-4849.



Among the many new books received over the summer are:

Philipsen, Maike Ingrid & Bostic, Timothy. *Challenges of the Faculty Career for Women: Success and Sacrifice* (Jossey-Bass, 2008).

Deer, Sarah; Clairmont, Bonnie et al. (eds.). *Sharing Our Stories of Survival: Native Women Surviving Violence* (Altamira Press, 2008).

Valenti, Jessica. *He's a Stud, She's a Slut and 49 Other Double Standards Every Woman Should Know* (Seal Press, 2008).

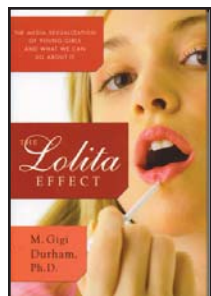
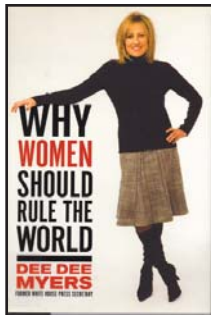
Myers, Dee Dee. *Why Women Should Rule the World* (Harper, 2008).

Lahiri, Jhumpa. *Unaccustomed Earth* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2008).

Berry, Bonnie. *Beauty Bias: Discrimination and Social Power* (Praeger, 2007).

Hogshead-Makar, Nancy & Zimbalist, Andrew (eds.). *Equal Play: Title IX and Social Change* (Temple University Press, 2007).

Durham, M. Gigi. *The Lolita Effect: The Media Sexualization of Young Girls and What We Can Do About It* (Overlook Press, 2008).



Women's Studies Resources

In addition to the Women's Center Library, the central library at Vanderbilt, the Jean and Alexander Heard Library, has a wealth of information and resources for women's research. Due to some temporary staffing changes this year, **Amy Stewart-Mailhiot** is the Women's & Gender Studies librarian for the upcoming academic year, although many of you may be familiar with Melinda Brown, the Women's Studies bibliographer. For more information on their resources, please refer to the website:

<http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/central/women.html>

Of the many online resources available, one in particular that has been recently added to their collection that might be of interest would be the *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*, a new online resource. You can learn more by going to the library's database page and searching for the title.

The library includes hundreds of bibliographies and statistical databases, as well as information on employment, financial aid, women's journals, and women's organizations. If you have questions about the resources or need assistance, please contact Amy Stewart-Mailhiot at (615) 322-6734.



September 2008

denotes Project Safe programming



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i> IMAGE 4pm, Sarratt, 208	3	4	5	6
7	8 <i>Book Group, 5:15pm-6:15pm</i>	9 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i>	10	11 <i>Vandy Moms 11:30am-12:30pm</i> Women's Faculty Organization Reception for New Women Faculty, MCWC, 4-6pm	12	13
14	15	16 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i>	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i>	24	25	26 <i>Vandy Moms "Go Green!" 11:30am-12:30pm</i> <i>Please note special mtg date, MCWC</i>	24
27	28	29 <i>Creative Life Planning Group, 11:30am-1:00pm</i>	30			

For details and descriptions of each group, please refer to page 5. Unless specified, most groups meet at the Women's Center.

Save the Date!



WALK AS ONE (with Vanderbilt University)

An event sponsored by CommunityNashville (formerly the National Conference for Community and Justice of Middle Tennessee) to bring the community together to stand against prejudice and to stand for unity and tolerance. The Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center is excited to be a collaborative partner for this walk that promotes unity in the community and encourages students, staff and faculty to form teams to join us at the walk. As an added bonus, the walk immediately precedes the kick-off of the Celebration of Cultures sponsored by Scarritt Bennett and Metro Parks. You can walk as an individual or as a team.

Date: October 4, 2008; Registration opens at 8 a.m.; walk begins at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Centennial Park (close to the airplane and train in the park)

To register a team or individual or for more information

about the event, please visit <http://WalkAsOne.kintera.org/communitynashville/vanderbilt> or contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT



Take part in this night of healing. Join Project Safe at the Vanderbilt University Margaret Cuninggim Women's

Center in a community rally and march against domestic and sexual violence. The event will feature displays of the "Clothesline Project," a keynote speaker, music, and an opportunity to join with others to stop violence against women.

Date: October 13, 2008; 7 p.m.

Location: Walk will originate on the Vandy campus on Olin Lawn and end at Centennial Park.

For more info, contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu



September Calendar of Events

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

(Events listed by dates and include events, programs, and series for which the Women's Center is solely responsible or for which we are a major sponsor or collaborator.)

WOMEN'S FACULTY ORGANIZATION RECEPTION FOR NEW WOMEN FACULTY

The Women's Faculty Organization (WFO) is OPEN to faculty women at ALL levels. The WFO is active in recruiting and mentoring women faculty, and in advocating for all women at Vanderbilt University. This reception welcomes new women faculty to Vanderbilt and provides a venue at the beginning of the academic semester for women faculty to come together in a casual setting. Invitations will go out via e-mail. However, if you do not receive one, just e-mail to let us know you are coming.

Date: September 11, 2008; 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Location: The Gallery, Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center (VU)
For more information, contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu

REGULAR GROUPS AND MEETINGS

(Groups listed alphabetically and are all sponsored or co-sponsored by the Women's Center. Unless specified, most groups meet at the Women's Center.)

BOOK GROUP

Meets the second Monday of each month; 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

What/Who: The book group is open to new members at all times and is for anyone who loves to read. You can find a list of books being read on our website (www.vanderbilt.edu/womenscenter).

Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center,
For more information, contact Jane Du Bose at jdubose@bellsouth.net or Carmen Gherman at cggherman@yahoo.com.

CREATIVE LIFE PLANNING GROUP

Meets every Tuesday; 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

What/Who: A group for all dedicated to living life intentionally and creatively. Free and open to everyone and is usually attended by women between 40 and 90 years of age.

Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
For more information, call 322-4843.

IMAGE GROUP

Meets weekly (except during Vanderbilt student breaks); please contact images@vanderbilt.edu to find out when this group is meeting.

Who: Free and open to any students interested in these issues.

What: IMAGE is an organization dedicated to supporting positive body and self-image issues in the Vanderbilt community. It provides a forum for interested community members to advocate the adoption of healthy body-image concepts and the reduction of eating disorders.

Date/Location: Tues., Sept. 2, 4 p.m., Sarratt, Rm. 208

For more information, contact images@vanderbilt.edu.

L.I.F.E. (Lessons Inspiring Female Empowerment)

Please e-mail us to get meeting dates and times for the fall semester.


Who: Free and open to any students interested in these issues.

What: L.I.F.E is group dedicated to mentoring young girls and women on a variety of issues important to them. This group will work with a group of teen girls in the Nashville community covering topics such as economic empowerment, girls' and women's health, self-esteem,

leadership and more.

Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
For more information, contact ashley.walker@vanderbilt.edu.


MEN PROMOTING A SOLUTION (MPAS)

 Meets every other week (except during Vanderbilt student breaks).

Who/What: A group of men dedicated to creating awareness about violent crimes against women and eliminating those crimes through social change.

For more information, contact bryan.r.adams@vanderbilt.edu to find out when the group is meeting this semester.

PEER EDUCATORS OF PROJECT SAFE

 Meets weekly (except during Vanderbilt student breaks).

Who/What: Peer Educators are students trained to facilitate workshops that promote discussion and encourage understanding of violence against women.

Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
For more information, contact justine.e.chess@vanderbilt.edu or kathleen.e.adams@vanderbilt.edu to find out when the group is meeting this semester.

SUPPORT GROUP

 Meets weekly

What/Who: A support group for women who are survivors of domestic/dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. This group meets weekly at a confidential location; all information shared is kept confidential. For more information, contact kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu or 322-3774.

VANDERBILT FEMINISTS

Meets weekly (except during Vanderbilt student breaks).

Who: Open to all students of any gender.

What: A student group concerned about women's issues on campus, and promoting equality between genders.

Where: The Gallery at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
For more information, please contact erica.d.santiago@vanderbilt.edu or amy.l.gillard@vanderbilt.edu to find out when the group is meeting this semester.

VANDY MOMS

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month; 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

What/Who: Open to all mothers of any age, partnered or single. This is a fun support network that provides advocacy for moms in the Vanderbilt and larger communities. It also provides programming to inform, empower and enrich.

Vandy Moms "Go Green!": On Sept. 26th, the Vandy Moms will feature **Professor Teresa Van Hatten-Granath** from Belmont University discussing her most recent project, www.GreenBagLady.org. Teresa hand makes fabric bags and gives them away to people for free in exchange for a promise to use the bag instead of paper or plastic. Each bag is numbered and documented on the site. **Date/Time: Friday, Sept. 26th; 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Please note that this is a different day from our usual meeting time.**


For more info, contact misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu or call 343-4367.

Community Events and Volunteer Opportunities

NASHVILLE NOW (NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN) meets the 4th Monday of the month at the First Unitarian Universalist Church located at 1808 Woodmont Blvd., Nashville, 37215. Each meeting features networking and refreshments beginning at 6:30 p.m. and meetings run no later than 8:30 p.m. These meetings are open to members, friends and those seeking more information. For additional details, contact cynthianashnow@aol.com or 615-269-7141.

Nashville CABLE meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. For more information, contact nashvillecable.org

Take Back the Night Volunteers Needed

 Volunteers are needed for the *Take Back the Night* event sponsored by Project Safe on October 13th. Volunteers are needed to help with logistics on the evening of the event including set-up, clean-up and other duties throughout the event. To sign up to volunteer for this event, contact stacy.nunnally@vanderbilt.edu. For more details about *Take Back the Night* or other Project Safe programs, contact vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu or kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu.

Save the Date! Sunday, October 26, 2008

Attendees at the 2007 Tennessee Women's Economic Summit expressed an overwhelming interest in learning more about political and legislative processes. This year we're offering a half-day workshop with great speakers to answer your questions about local and state politics. The Tennessee Economic Council on Women announces

Everyday Politics for Everyday Women, a legislative advocacy workshop to be held in Nashville on October 26, 2008, the day *before* the **5th Annual Economic Summit for Women**.

Time/location: 12:30-4:00 p.m., Marriott Nashville Airport Hotel
For more information and registration information, please visit www.tnwomensummit.org

Nashville Habitat for Humanity Women Build

The build runs from Sept. 13th through October 5th. Get your hands dirty while working on a good cause! Starting Sat., Sept 13 through four consecutive weekends, Nashville Habitat for Humanity will be constructing a home in Nashville predominantly built by women! They need all kinds of skills—if you're good with power tools or an avid DIYer—this is a job for you! All levels of skills are needed. This women-built house is sponsored by Reba McIntire/Starstruck Entertainment. For more information, visit www.habitatnashville.org



Vanderbilt Dance Program Begins

Vanderbilt Dance Program Open House: check out the many classes being offered this semester, Sept. 2, 6 p.m.

Registration begins Sept. 1st; classes start Sept. 8th.

Vanderbilt Dance Theatre Auditions, Sunday, Sept. 14th;

Certificate in Dance Studies application due Tues., Sept. 9th.

For more information on classes, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/dance



Printed on recycled paper

Vanderbilt University is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action

Women's VU is Going Green!

In an effort to save resources, *Women's VU* is now available for viewing on our website: www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter

Go Green! If you are interested in receiving *Women's VU* by e-mail, please contact jeana.carlock@vanderbilt.edu.

A paper copy of *Women's VU* is also available and sent free, by request, to all members of the Vanderbilt community.

Please send my free paper subscription to the address below.

Name _____

Address _____

Staff (Dept.) _____

Student

Faculty

Administrator

Community

For all other mailing list changes, please contact jeana.carlock@vanderbilt.edu

Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

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