



# Women's VU

The monthly newsletter of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

September 2005, Volume 28, Issue 2

## Violence Against Women Act 2005 Needs Your Support!

**O**n September 30th, the current Violence Against Women Act of 2000 will expire. Although it is likely to be reauthorized in Congress, it is still vital to show support for this new bill, the Violence Against Women Act 2005 (VAWA). Your support, in terms of phone calls, letters, and e-mails to your senators and representatives, ensures this legislation will get its full funding and not be subject to amendments and funding cuts due to rising wartime spending needs. Please read the brief history below so that you can make an informed plea to your representatives. Don't let this landmark legislation go underfunded!

### Violence Against Women Act: Landmark Legislation

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, domestic violence advocates came together with one focus—to address the needs of their constituents at a federal level. A result of their cohesion led to the Senate Judiciary Committee's multi-year review on the status of violence against women. Senator Joseph Biden (D-DE), Chair of the Committee, noted in the report that national legislation needed to change as well as national attitudes about violence against women:

*"...The knowledge that society and its criminal justice system offer no real protection has the potential to victimize*

*all women, forcing them to remain in abusive family situations, or to circumscribe their lives, because of fear. The stakes are high. If we do not succeed, we risk the faith of over half our citizens in the ability—and the the willingness—of our criminal justice system to protect them. And, what is worse, we condemn future generations to accept not only the possibility of violence, but the reality of lives too often limited by the fear of violence."*

And, although it took several years, the Violence Against Women Act, introduced in January 1991, did finally pass with almost unanimous bi-partisan support in August 1994 as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (PL-103-322). Over the next five years, this new act of legislation helped create:

- new penalties for gender-related violence;
  - STOP (Service, Training, Officers and Prosecutors) Formula Grant Program, which awarded over \$440 million to support 9,000 projects between 1995 and 2000;
  - rural domestic violence and child abuse enforcement grants;
- and perhaps most importantly, the creation of the National Domestic Violence Hotline. The Hot-

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For more information, please see our website: [www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/WomensCenter)

## Race for the Cure® Kicks Off September 25th

*One in seven women will be diagnosed with breast cancer during the course of her lifetime.*

Support the women of Middle Tennessee by participating in the Susan G. Komen Greater Nashville Affiliate Race for the Cure® on Sunday, September 25 at MetroCenter Business Park. Join us for our annual 5K Run/Walk and 1 mile Walk as we honor breast cancer survivors, remember those who have succumbed to this disease, and raise funds to support research and treatment of this widespread illness. At every Race® event, breast cancer sur-

vivors celebrate their survivorship by donning pink caps, buttons, and T-shirts. REGISTER ONLINE AT [www.komen-nashville.org](http://www.komen-nashville.org) and you will be helping to fund global research efforts as well as local breast health and breast cancer outreach programs. Up to seventy-five percent of the net proceeds fund community projects related to breast health education, screening and treatment. In 2004 the Komen Greater Nashville Affiliate funded over \$200,000 in grants to local programs that support breast health initiatives to underprivileged or medically underserved populations. Some of these programs provide

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## Vanderbilt's IMAGE

IMAGE, as an organization, was created in the Fall of 2002 when two students came together with a joint idea and passion about improving body image at Vanderbilt and decreasing the numbers of eating disorders in our community. April Ann Salcido (Class of 2004) and Katelin Olson (Class of 2005) contacted Becky Spires,

Assistant Director for Wellness Programs, and began to lay the groundwork for this greatly needed organization. Since its initiation as a student organization in 2002, IMAGE has grown in membership and strength and continues to grow as more students become aware of the seriousness of negative body image and become active about celebrating our bodies.

The idea behind IMAGE was first developed during a fact-finding series conducted in July of 1999 by Becky Spires. The overwhelming response from Vanderbilt faculty and staff that her series generated demonstrated a need for further programming around body image. In February 2000, Spires helped begin the Faculty and Staff Eating Disorders Task Force to further discuss the growing numbers of individuals suffering from eating disorders or other forms of negative body image on campus, and to develop a strategy to promote healthy body image while combating negative images.

By 2001, interest in promoting healthy body image and reduc-

ing negative body image and eating disorders had increased. A student task force was formed during the 2001 academic year and it was from this group of individuals that IMAGE was born. Since 2002, IMAGE has transformed itself from a brilliant idea to a self-sufficient, student-run, activist organization. IMAGE has brought programs such as *Eating Disorders Awareness Week* (a week-long series of events including a student panel, media presentations, and guest speakers); *Healthy Holidays* (a discussion of healthy ways to approach the holiday season); and the *Fall Retreat* (an educational retreat teaching individuals about body image, eating disorders, and how to be an activist on body image issues).

If you are interested in joining or learning more about IMAGE, please contact [katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu) (president) or [becky.spire@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:becky.spire@vanderbilt.edu) (advisor). We invite you to come hear more about IMAGE by attending our meetings held every other Tuesday beginning on August 30th at 5pm in Sarratt 110.

—submitted by Katie Protos

### Upcoming Events!

First Meeting: Tuesday, August 30th at 5pm in Sarratt 110

Fall Retreat: Saturday, September 3rd from 12pm-5pm in the Student Life Center, Ballroom A

Love Your Body Day: Wednesday, October 19th beginning at 11am

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

## Race for the Cure®!

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free screenings and mammograms for low-income, minority and senior women. Other programs provide support to women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. One such grant funded psychotherapy to uninsured patients experiencing emotional distress following diagnosis. In total, fourteen programs were funded through the Komen Greater Nashville Affiliate.

A minimum of twenty-five percent of the net proceeds supports the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Award and Research Grant Program. For the past 20 years, the program has provided much-needed funding for ground-breaking breast cancer research. The Komen Race for the Cure® Series is the largest series of 5K runs/fitness walks in the world. Since its origination in Dallas in 1983, the Race for the Cure® Series has grown from one local Race® with 800 participants to a national series of more than 100 Races® with over 1.5 million people expected to participate in 2005.

**Pre-race individual registration is \$20; Team registration is \$18 (see Women's Center Team info on page 5). Race Day registration is \$30. For more information: [www.komen-nashville.org](http://www.komen-nashville.org).**

—Submitted by Tiffany Holland



# Violence Against Women Act 2005 Needs Your Support!

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line, launched in February 1996 through a grant by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, operates 24/7 and provides crisis intervention services as well as referrals to local programs and services.

When the original VAWA provisions expired in 2000, Congress reauthorized this legislation with the passage of the Violence Against Women Act of 2000. Once again, the House and Senate versions of this bill passed almost unanimously and President Clinton signed it into law in October 2000. This new bill, the Violence Against Women Act 2000 (VAWA II), created a few new programs, including:

- Civil legal assistance: \$200 million over five years. This includes grant programs to provide help with protection orders, family court matters, housing, immigration and administrative matters;
- Transitional housing: This legislation was supposed to have provided over \$25 million to provide grants to individuals who were homeless due to domestic violence. Unfortunately this program was never funded.
- Supervised visitation center: \$30 million for two-year period to state and local enforcement to sponsor pilot programs of supervised visitation exchange for children of victims;
- Full Faith and Credit: allows for protection orders from one state to be recognized in another.
- Battered Immigrant Women: Considered the most significant addition to the original VAWA legislation, this section removes the U.S. legal residency and "extreme hardship" requirements for immigrant women in order to receive VAWA protections;
- Defined dating violence and provided grants toward programs that address dating violence; and lastly,
- Services for Disabled and Older Women: \$25 million over five years to provide funds for training to law enforcement and to develop protocol and policies pertaining to the needs of older and disabled victims of domestic and sexual violence.

## Support VAWA 2005!

VAWA expires this September 30. We urge you to contact your senators and representatives to support the reauthorization of this landmark legislation. VAWA, known as Senate bill S.1197, is sponsored by Senators Joseph Biden (D-DE), Arlen Specter (R-PA), and Orrin Hatch (R-UT), will continue these vital programs as well include some additions, such as safeguarding victims' jobs; expanding T-visas for battered immigrant women; and calls for establishing a new Deputy Director in the Office on Violence Against Women. The proposed funding over five years is \$3.947 billion.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has already held hearings in July and VAWA 2005 is expected to come to the Senate floor some time after Labor Day. The more support this bill has, the less likely it will be prone to proposed funding cuts.

In the House, there are two versions of VAWA being considered for reauthorization:

- **HR 2876**, sponsored by John Conyers (D-MI) and Mark Green (R-WI), is similar to the Senate bill, but also includes programs to protect young survivors, educational programs for health care workers on how to respond to survivors' health needs, and promotes safe, long-term housing for survivors. The proposed funding over five years is \$3.938 billion.

- **HR 3171**, sponsored by Rep. Zoe Lofgran (D-CA) and 120 Democrats, includes all the Senate and bi-partisan bill provisions, but also includes protections for battered immigrant women and promotes access to emergency contraception for rape survivors.

Several websites have set up a system to make it easy for you to contact your senators and representatives and voice your support: [www.NOW.org](http://www.NOW.org); [www.endabuse.org](http://www.endabuse.org); [www.700women.org](http://www.700women.org). All these websites allow you to enter your zip code to find out how to contact your representatives. You can either call or e-mail them; there are a few sample talking points and a sample letter.

—FYI—

This is the crucial legislation that originally funded **Project Safe**—a coordinated campus-wide effort aimed at education, prevention and response services for Vanderbilt students, faculty and staff affected by sexual assault, intimate partner abuse, and stalking—from 1999 to 2003. Vanderbilt University now funds its necessary services and successful programming.

—submitted by Misa Culley

## Save the Date!

National Women's Alliance Training  
*The Intersectional Approach to Violence Against Women: Working with Diverse Individuals*  
October 18th @ The University Club  
11:30am–3:00pm

Fee of \$15.00 to cover the cost of lunch.  
For more information, please contact Vicky Basra at 322-1333 or [vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu)



## A Women's Place: From the Military to the Divine



U.S. military women have been in the spotlight in recent months, though not always in positive ways. *Moving Beyond G.I. Jane: Women and the U.S. Military* (University Press of America, 2005) examines the current status of women in the military, the problems they have faced in recent decades, and how military life can and should be improved for females. The writers, Sara L. Zeigler and Gregory G. Gunderson, both professors at Eastern Kentucky

University, observed that gender played a major role in some of the scandals of recent years. This work was completed before the recent well-publicized incidents of women soldiers harassing Iraqi prisoners.

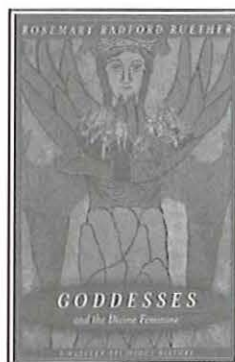
The authors aim to "provide a comprehensive account of the role gender plays in challenging the institutional cultures of the services and in shaping the future of those service cultures. Attempts to integrate women into the armed forces are met with fierce intransigence which we attribute to the very masculinity of military culture." In the early 80s Gunderson served in the military police under a female commander and was very impressed with her abilities and professionalism and with the other military women he met.

Zeigler and Gunderson feel that all occupations in the military should be open to women and that the percentage of females in the armed forces will continue to increase. They discuss the arguments frequently given for excluding women from combat and some other categories of military service and show why those reasons are not valid. They also believe that women have some advantages over men in certain fields, such as peacekeeping and long-term occupation of foreign countries. Women are often preferable as investigators of crimes like rape in war. Even when in uniform, they tend to be less threatening to victims.

Other topics included are females in civilian law enforcement, women in the armed forces in other countries, and the pervasive problem of sexual harassment in the military. The writers show how harassment, which is intensified by the institutional culture of the military and is usually blamed on the victims, can and must be confronted promptly. The authors surveyed a group of 530 ROTC cadets about their attitudes toward women in the military. While the results in some categories were mixed, Zeigler and Gunderson were encouraged by many of the findings and feel that the future will be brighter for females in the American armed forces.

*Goddesses and the Divine Feminine: A Western Religious History* (University of California Press, 2005) is a fascinating and

balanced study of the roles of female deities and sacred figures in Western religious traditions. The writer, Rosemary Radford Ruether, has written many books on women and religion and is the Carpenter Professor of Feminist Theology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California.



Over the centuries most writers of religious history have focused on the male-dominated religions of the Western world. However, in recent decades some feminist writers have suggested that a number of prehistoric societies had female deities, were matricentric and matrilineal and that women in those societies had a comparatively high status. Their theories were based largely on interpretations of archaeological evidence. These matriarchal societies were believed to have been succeeded by more hierarchical and violent patriarchal ones, which have lasted in various forms until the present day.

Ruether points out the fallacies of many of these theories, including those of the influential writers Marija Gimbutas and Riane Eisler. It is very difficult to draw accurate conclusions based on surviving archaeological materials, according to Ruether, and issues of gender roles tend to reflect the opinions of the particular archaeologists. She feels that one can be feminist or ecofeminist and believe in female deities without subscribing to unproven theories about ancient matriarchy.

This volume traces the history of religious beliefs, goddesses and powerful female images from the earliest days to the present, mainly in the Western world, with one chapter focusing on the Aztecs. The writer points out that religious women, such as the Virgin Mary, were important figures in some eras but that the Protestant religious tradition de-emphasized Mary and the saints, many of whom were female. A chapter is devoted to the beliefs and practices of those feminists who have been embracing the worship of goddesses and linking them to respect for nature and the environment and to peace and equality. Today Wiccan and neopagan beliefs and practices play a part in the lives of growing numbers of Americans and have become more mainstream.

The writer feels that these believers share much in common with Christian ecofeminists and that the two groups can be allies in efforts to bring about positive changes in society. Ruether considers that her book "expresses a critique of theories of ancient matriarchy, while at the same time affirming the movements that seek to reinterpret those

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Barbara Clarke  
Women's Center  
Librarian



# September 2005 Calendar



Unless otherwise indicated, all groups and events are open to the public and are held at the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center at 316 West Nile Row on Vanderbilt University's campus.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**IMAGE Fall Retreat**  
September 3, 12pm–5pm, Student Life Center, Ballroom A

**What:** Are you interested in learning more about eating disorders? Do you know someone who has suffered from negative body image? Join us for our 2nd Annual Educational Retreat about healthy body image and eating disorders to learn how you can help others and become a resource on body image. For more info, please contact [katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu)

### W.E.B.S. (Women Empowered by Sports)

**When:** Fridays in September, 9, 16, 23 from 5:00–6:00pm at the Centennial Sportsplex.

**Who:** W.E.B.S. is open to women faculty, staff, students and community. All women of all ages, shapes and sizes are welcome and encouraged to participate.

**What:** W.E.B.S. is for women to learn sports in a safe environment. This time WEBS will be teaching ICE SKATING. This is a basic skill level teaching and learning-by-doing experience that will be completely non-competitive and in a very safe/fun environment. Skates, lessons, and ice time are all free to you.

**CLASS SPACE IS VERY LIMITED**, you must register in advance and be able to make it to all three classes. For more information or to sign up, contact [jennifer.hackett@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jennifer.hackett@vanderbilt.edu) or 322-6518.

### Graduate School: Is This My Future?

(Graduate School Q & A)

**Tuesday, September 13, 4:30–6:00PM** in the New Student Life Building, Meeting Room 1

**What:** At this event, you will get the inside scoop on graduate school from those who are living it—current VU graduate students! Come and find out what the life of a graduate student is really like and what to consider as you are making decisions about your future. Refreshments available.

**Who:** This program is free and open to anyone and is co-sponsored with the Career Center.

For more information, contact [dlanna.mason@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:dlanna.mason@vanderbilt.edu)



### Hand in Hand

Friday evening–Sunday afternoon, September 16-18  
Location TBA

**What:** Hand in Hand is a training about the dynamics of violence against women and how to help survivors make

informed decisions about services and options available to them related to dating/domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

**Who:** This free training is open to students, staff, faculty and the community. Part of the focus will be directly about campus resources, as well as general information on these issues. Space is limited; please contact Kacy Silverstein at 322-3774 or at [kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu)

### Women's Center Sexuality Series—Part 1

**Film showing: *The Clitoris***

**Monday, September 19, 7:00pm** in Wilson 126

**What:** This provocative and often humorous film explores the “mysteries” of female sexuality, focusing on the clitoris—a tiny, highly sensitive organ with 8,000 nerve endings at its tip, making it the most responsive organ in the human body.

**Who:** This film is free and open to anyone, and is co-sponsored with Women and Gender Studies.

For more info, contact [jennifer.hackett@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jennifer.hackett@vanderbilt.edu)

### Women in Academe

**Tuesday, September 20, 4:10–5:30pm**, Buttrick Hall, Rm 202

Women in Academe is a year-long series that will offer programs to women in graduate school or who are considering it.

#### Session 1: *Motherhood in the Academy*

**What:** In this session we will explore the realities of being a mother and a member of the academy (graduate student, lecturer, professor). We will also look at things to keep in mind while looking for employment at an institution of higher education, such as the school's policy on maternity leave, etc.

**Who:** This program is for anyone in or considering graduate school, and is co-sponsored with the Career Center.

For more info, contact [vanessa.k.valdes@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vanessa.k.valdes@vanderbilt.edu)

### Vandy Fems Retreat

**Saturday, September 24, Saturday afternoon–Sunday morning**

**What:** A time to get away with like-minded individuals to plan for a fantastic year of feminism! The overnight retreat will finish with activism via Race for the Cure<sup>®</sup>.

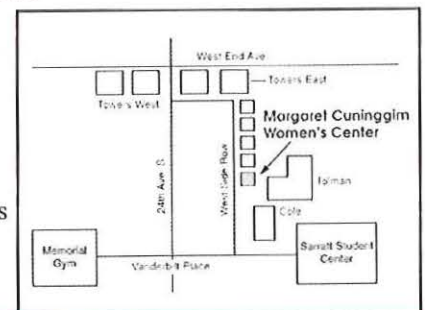
**Who:** This event is open to all people interested in feminism on VU's campus. For more information contact [erin.m.leggett@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:erin.m.leggett@vanderbilt.edu)

### Race for the Cure<sup>®</sup>—Vanderbilt Women and Friends

**Sunday September 25, 8:45am** at MetroCenter

**Who:** Absolutely anyone is

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## September 2005 Calendar Listings

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welcome to join this team! Go to [www.komen-nashville.org](http://www.komen-nashville.org) for more information. Team Registration is \$18 and includes your T-shirt. On the day of the race there will be large alphabet letters set up. We'll have a Women's Center sign and will meet under the "W" for women at 8:45am for those who wish to walk. (Runners can meet up with us, and then go to the front of the human line of people as the race begins.) Registration on the day of the event is \$30, so pre-registration is the most cost effective.

**What:** The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure® Series raises significant funds and awareness for the fight against breast cancer, celebrates breast cancer survivorship, and honors those who have lost their battle with the disease.

With funds raised by the Komen Race for the Cure® Series, the Komen Foundation with its Affiliate Network is able to fund breast cancer research grants, meritorious awards, and community outreach programs.

For more information, contact [sarah.c.dean@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:sarah.c.dean@vanderbilt.edu)

**SPEAKER: Jennifer Finney Boylan**

**Thursday Sept 29, 4:10pm, Wilson 103**

**What:** Jennifer Finney Boylan is co-chair of the English department at Colby College, where she was voted Professor of the Year in 2000. As James Finney Boylan, she wrote the critically praised novels *The Constellations*; *The Planets*; and *Getting In*, as well as a collection of short stories. She lives in Maine with her family. If you would like more information on Jenny, please visit [www.shesnottherebook.com](http://www.shesnottherebook.com)

**Who:** This event is free and open to everyone. This event is sponsored by Women's and Gender Studies. For more information about her visit, contact [rory.dicker@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:rory.dicker@vanderbilt.edu)

## REGULAR GROUPS/ MEETINGS

**Sistahs Reading Sistahs (Free Lunch Day!)**

**Wednesday, September 7, 12:30pm–1:30pm** (Meets the 1st Wednesday)

**What:** A book group for everyone interested in reading African-American women authors. This month the group will be reading *Casting The First Stone* by Kimberla Lawson Roby. Come and enjoy a free lunch sponsored by the Women's Center!

**Who:** This group is free and open to everyone.

For more info, please contact [regina.snell@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:regina.snell@vanderbilt.edu)

**Dissertation Writers Group**

**Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21, 28; 11am–12noon** (Meets every Wednesday)

**What/Who:** This support group meets every week to provide women Ph.D. candidates with objective reactions and fresh perspectives, as well as a place to unwind during the dissertation writing process.

For more information, contact [rory.dicker@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:rory.dicker@vanderbilt.edu)

**T-BLAST (Transgendered, Bi Women, Lesbians and Straight Women Together) Brown Bag Lunch Group**

**Monday, September 12, 12:00–1:00pm** (Regular meeting day and time will be established at this meeting)

**What:** This meeting will address the question "What's T-BLAST?" Too often, lesbians, bi-women and straight women are portrayed as being on opposite sides of a great chasm of difference and transgendered women are left out of the equation altogether. Yet women throughout history have had loving friendships with their mothers, daughters and best friends despite differing sexual identities. Please join us in a casual conversation and celebration of our differences and our friendships.

**Who:** This discussion group is free and open to all women.

Co-sponsored with the VU GLBT Office. For more information, contact [jennifer.hackett@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jennifer.hackett@vanderbilt.edu) or [melinda.brown@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:melinda.brown@vanderbilt.edu)

**Creative Life Planning Group**

**Tuesdays, September 6, 13, 20, 27; 11:30am–1:00 pm** (Meets every Tuesday).

**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.

For more information, call 322-4843.

**Creative Writing Group**

**Tuesday, September 13, 5:30–7:00pm.** (Meets the 2nd Tuesday)

**What:** The Creative Writing Group is open to new members! We look forward to hearing your piece. No writing experience necessary. You can bring a piece or create one at the group.

**Who:** This group is free and open to everyone. It is led by Anna Sir who will be doing some writing instruction as well as facilitation of the group. For more information, or to RSVP to the group, contact [annasir@bellsouth.net](mailto:annasir@bellsouth.net)

**Vandy Moms**

**Thursday, September 8, 22; 11:30am–12:30pm** (Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays)

**What/Who:** Moms of any age! Women who juggle! Superheroes! Open to all mothers, partnered or single. This is a support network that provides advocacy for moms in the Vanderbilt and larger communities. It also provides programming to inform, empower and enrich. On Sept. 8th, **guest speaker will be Susan Brooke Day, editor of Nashville Parent magazine.**

For more information or to RSVP, contact [misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:misa.culley@vanderbilt.edu) or call 343-4367.

**Book Group (Please note change in time and location for this meeting only)**

**Monday, September 12; 5:45pm** (meets the 2nd Monday)

**What/Who:** The book group is open to new members at all times and is for anyone who loves to read.

**Where:** Book Group will meet at the home of Suzanne Hicks.

The book group will read *Small Wonders* by Barbara Kingsolver. For more information, contact Jane Du Bose at [jdbose@bellsouth.net](mailto:jdbose@bellsouth.net) or Carmen Gherman at [cggherman@yahoo.com](mailto:cggherman@yahoo.com).

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## September 2005 Calendar Listings

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### Vanderbilt Feminists (Vandy Fems)

Wednesdays in September 7, 14, 21, 28; 7:00pm–8:00pm  
(meets every Wednesday)

**Who:** Open to all students of any gender.

**What:** A student group concerned about women's issues on campus, and promoting equality between genders. See above in the events section for information on the Vandy Fems retreat! Contact [emily.c.baunach@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:emily.c.baunach@vanderbilt.edu) or [katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu) or just come to a meeting!



### Peer Educators of Project Safe

Peer educators will begin meeting this month.

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

For more information, contact [katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:katie.protos@vanderbilt.edu) or [kasie.r.luttrell@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:kasie.r.luttrell@vanderbilt.edu)



### Men Promoting a Solution

Mondays, 9pm, Sarratt, Room 116

**What/Who:** A group of men dedicated to creating awareness about violent crimes against women and eliminating those crimes through social change. New members are always welcome! For more information, contact

[steve.frooman@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:steve.frooman@vanderbilt.edu)



### Support Group

**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 time and location; all information shared is kept confidential.

For more information, please contact [kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:kacy.silverstein@vanderbilt.edu) or 322-1333.



### SAVE THE DATE! Take Back the Night will be on

Monday, October 17 at 7:00pm. Marching from Olin Field on Vanderbilt's Campus (across from the baseball field) to the covered shelter in Centennial Park behind the McDonald's. For more information, please contact

[vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vicky.basra@vanderbilt.edu).

**FYI:** A number of people have contacted the Women's Center with regard to television commercials and shows and their effect on body image of girls and women. If you see commercials that you find offensive, we encourage you to take action! Learn more at the following websites:

[www.mediawatch.com](http://www.mediawatch.com); [www.dadsanddaughters.org](http://www.dadsanddaughters.org)  
[www.about-face.org](http://www.about-face.org)

## NOMINATIONS FOR DIVERSITY INITIATIVE AWARDS DUE SEPT 30TH

The University's 18th Affirmative Action and Diversity Initiatives Awards Program is currently taking nominations. The program provides an opportunity for the University to recognize and express appreciation to employees and students who support the University's commitment to equity and diversity. The Awards are given in two categories: efforts for supporting affirmative action and diversity efforts at Vanderbilt and/or support and promotion of opportunities for persons with disabilities at Vanderbilt. Chancellor Gee will present cash awards of \$500 to the top honorees. Additionally, another fifteen to twenty individuals will receive Certificates of Recognition. The Awards dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18 at 3:00 pm in the Student Life Center.

To be nominated, faculty, staff, students, or University groups should have displayed exemplary efforts in support of Vanderbilt's commitment to affirmative action in hiring, project support or development, employee relations, or other appropriate facets of affirmative action and diversity. Individual nominees may be regular, full-time staff, faculty, or students or recognizable groups composed primarily of such individuals. ODC staff, academic deans, and general officers are ineligible. Individuals or groups may not nominate themselves.

Should you like to make a nomination, please contact [peter.j.martino@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:peter.j.martino@vanderbilt.edu) by September 30th.

## In The Library

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roots today for a feminist-ecological spiritual ecology. My hope is to further an alliance among the many forms of religious feminism."

A new addition to our reference collection is the 35th anniversary edition of *Our Bodies, Ourselves* (Simon & Schuster, 2005). As eight years had passed since the previous edition all of the sections have been revised and updated. Some readers consider that many sections of this new volume are less radical than in previous editions.

The Library is located at the Women's Center and library hours are from 8:30am to 5pm. Library books are listed on the ACORN system.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SPIRITED WOMEN—FAITH AND FEMINISM

This is a series of five day-long retreats between July 30, 2005 and March 4, 2006, from 9am to 5pm held at Penuel Ridge, an interfaith retreat center that offers quiet time, hospitality, organized retreats, community gatherings and walking trails. Penuel Ridge is located 18 miles west of Nashville near Ashland City at 1440 Sam's Creek Rd. The three remaining Saturday retreat dates and themes in the *Spirited Women* series are:

**October 15th:** Catholic activist Dorothy Day (led by Irene Boyd); **December 3rd:** poet Emily Dickinson (led by Caroline Goddard); **March 4, 2006:** St. Teresa of Avila (led by Diane Blum). For more information on these retreats, please contact Cherie Booker, retreat leader, at (615)383-9707 or call (615)792-3734 to register.

## CABLE Networking Lunch

**Wednesday, September 14, 11:30am–1:00pm** at the Gaylord Entertainment Center; Featured Speaker is *Jackie Huba* "Creating Customer Loyalty." For reservations, call 255-9111 or [www.nashvilleCABLE.org](http://www.nashvilleCABLE.org)

## WOMEN VETERANS FAMILY GATHERING

**Saturday, September 17, 2005**

For all women who have served in the military and their families

and friends; 10:00am to 4 pm, Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville, TN. For more information, please contact MaryAnn Woodward-Smith, Women Veterans Program Manager at 1-800-228-4973, ext. 5130

## NASHVILLE NOW (NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN)

meets **Monday, September 26** at the Nashville Peace and Justice Center behind Scarritt Bennett at 7pm. This meeting is open to members, friends and those seeking more information.

For more information, contact [CynthiaNashNOW@aol.com](mailto:CynthiaNashNOW@aol.com) or 615-269-7141

**WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES** is co-sponsoring a symposium with Carole Pateman and Charles Mills to discuss justice, the social contract, the racial contract and the sexual contract; **September 22 and 23.** (main event Friday at 3pm). Co-sponsored by Philosophy Dept. For more info, contact [womens-studies@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:womens-studies@vanderbilt.edu)

## FEMINIST MAJORITY FOUNDATION'S REGIONAL COLLEGIATE GLOBAL WOMEN'S AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCES:

Friday, Oct. 28th–Saturday, Oct. 29th, 2005; South Atlantic Regional Conference, Location: Spelman College, Atlanta, GA [www.feministcampus.org/global%5Fconference/](http://www.feministcampus.org/global%5Fconference/)



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