Women's Studies Interest Group, Spring 1994

University of Alabama in Huntsville

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AWARD WINNER! ANDRAYA DOLBEE
1994 H.E. FRANCIS FICTION AWARD
FRIDAY, APRIL 29 - 4:30 P.M. NOOJIN HOUSE

This year's H. E. Francis Fiction Award Winner, Andraya Dolbee, will be the featured speaker in the last event of this year's writers series. Dolbee will read her award-winning story, "The Unique Bar and Grill," which was selected from among the entries to this national fiction contest, sponsored by the Hindman Foundation, and named in honor of UAH English Professor Emeritus, H.E. Francis.

Dolbee, born in Indiana, attended the University of Michigan and the University of California, San Diego. She lists, in addition to her writing pursuits, that she has worked for two restaurants, one country radio station, two mail-order companies, a church office and in six college offices as secretary and administrative assistant and was managing editor for a medical journal. She has had one other short story published in the Alaska Quarterly Review. Having been laid off of her most recent position, she says that she is looking for a job where they don't make you wear a hair net! She lives with her husband in Stony Brook, New York.

WSIG and the English Department have sponsored this year's writers series, MAGIC AND MYTHOLOGIES, which began with a joint reading by poets Susan Luther and Lynne Butler in January. In February, Minnesota writer Diane Glancy gave a reading from her poems and from a book of fiction she is writing, drawing on her Native American heritage.

The public is invited to come and hear Andraya Dolbee's reading on Friday, April 29, 4:30 p.m., at the Noojin House, located across from Butler High School on Holmes Avenue.
Continuing Need for Research Study

Have you ever participated in a course in gender roles, the psychology of women, or any other women-related courses? Do you have a raised awareness to gender issues? Are you interested in helping to further advance research concerning women? If you have answered "yes" to any of these questions, I need your help!

I am currently collecting data for my master's thesis regarding women's ideological development, and my personal involvement as a participant is greatly needed. Recent research has identified different stages of women's ideological development and I am interested in examining differences in the social perceptions of women at different levels of such development. I will be needing female volunteers now through the end of April (or during the beginning of Spring term). Your participation in this study will be scheduled at your convenience. If you and/or someone you know are interested, please contact Susan Trentham in Morton Hall, room 133 or call 895-6191. I can also be reached at the Women's Resource Center, Morton Hall room 216 and at home 882-0909. Thanks for you help!

From the Women's Resource Center...

Opening Books Loan

Opening Books, a local library/book store, closed early in March. The Women's Studies Resource Center, obtained permission to hold the books concerning women and women's issues. These books are on loan until another library is formed, or until other arrangements have been made to reunite the entire library collection. Meanwhile, we have the privilege of having access to many wonderful and informative books. The student volunteers who staff the Resource Center are going to arrange the books into subject-appropriate areas and will create a card catalog for the books. These books cannot be checked out, but they may be reviewed or read in the Resource Center.

Tennessee Valley Women's Conference

During the lunch break of the Tennessee Valley Women's Conference, the Women's Resource Center held an open house. This provided an opportunity for women in the community to observe the resources available to students and faculty at UAH. In addition, a bake sale was conducted in the lobby of Morton Hall. The students were raising money for books, videos and other materials for the Resource Center.

While the bake sale was in progress, the Huntsville Feminist Chorus provide a twenty-minute performance in the lobby of Morton Hall. Thanks to all who participated and assisted with these special events.

Volunteers needed for Women's Resource Room

Hours for the Women's Resource Room are dependent on volunteers to staff the area. Anyone interested in supporting this as an area for information and as a meeting place, please contact Susan Trentham, chair of the Women's Resource Room Committee, at 895-6191 (Psychology) or at home 882-0909.

Women's Studies

Student Organization

In response to an expressed interest, an organization was formed for students involved in women's studies. Susan Trentham and Sheri Clark, under the advisement of Dr. Laurel Bollinger, took the steps necessary to obtain recognition by the SGA. By the end of the winter term, the group was granted recognition. Susan and Sheri are serving as co-presidents, Frank Bell is the treasurer, and Heather Kilgore is the secretary for the remaining academic year. New officers are going to be chosen at the end of the Spring Term.

The objectives of the group are: 1) promote and encourage discussion of women's issues, 2) provide outreach services to community programs or groups, and 3) to serve as a support for the Women's Resource Center at UAH.

The officers and members are enthusiastic about the future of the Women's Studies Program at UAH and the newly formed group which will enable them to be active in a constructive manner. Members may be students or alumni who are actively interested in women's issues or studies. There will be no membership fees or dues. The organization will rely on time investments or other resources to make the group productive and successful.

If interested, contact Sheri Clark (536-6030) or Susan Trentham (895-6191).

Women's Resource Center, Room 216
Morton Hall

Hours for Spring Term:

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In April the History Department, in cooperation with the Alabama Humanities Foundation, UAH Humanities Center, UAH Women's Studies Interest Group, Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club, will hold its annual History Forum. This year's forum is entitled "In Search of the American Family" and focuses on the various forms and functions of family life in America over three centuries. The forum will bring four scholars from around the country to share their expertise and insights on this topic. The speakers and their topics are as follows:

April 7: Dr. Daniel Black Smith (University of Kentucky), "Family History Issues and Patterns of Domestic Life in Colonial America"

April 14: Dr. Anne C. Rose (Penn State University), "Victorian Families: Myths and Realities of Middle Class Life"

April 21: Dr. George E. Sims (Belmont University), "Worker Families and Mill Towns in the New South"

April 28: Dr. Thavolia Glymph (University of South Carolina), "African American Families in the Gilded Age"

All lectures will be held at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall Auditorium and are open to all UAH students, faculty, staff, and members of the general public.

Judith Lang Zaimont Visits UAH in May

Judith Lang Zaimont, Memphis born pianist, lecturer and composer will visit UAH May 19-22 and will lecture on American Women in Music at a date and time to be announced. She serves as editor-in-chief of a continuing series The Musical Woman: an International Perspective.


Her compositions have concentrated on song cycles with elaborate instrumental accompaniments.

"Feminist Hothead"
Kay Hagan - April 15

Kay Leigh Hagan, author of the recently released Fugitive Information: Essays from a Feminist Hothead (Harper, 1993), will speak in Huntsville on Friday, April 15 at 8:00 p.m. in Room 200 of Morton Hall. Her topic will be "Men, Women and Feminism." Hagan's 18-month nationwide lecture tour also champions independent and feminist bookstores across the country.

In addition to Fugitive Information, Hagan is the editor of Women Respond to the Men's Movement (1992), as well as the author of Internal Affairs: Journalkeeping Workbook for Self-Intimacy (1990), and Prayers to the Moon: Exercises in Self-Reflection (1991), all published by Harper, San Francisco.

Hagan will also conduct a workshop for women on Saturday, April 16, from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Governors Drive. The fee for the workshop is $25 with a sliding scale to make the event accessible to all, regardless of financial status.

Hagan's visit is a presentation of UAH Women's Studies Interest Group, and Pele Productions, a non-profit group of women whose goal is to provide transformative and inspiring speakers and entertainers to our local community. For more information, call 539-0723 or 883-7947.
About WSIG

WSIG is an open group of UAH Faculty, Students, and Staff interested in promoting Women's Studies at UAH. All interested persons are welcome to participate through joining committees, participating in programs and study groups, or other ways that seem appropriate. Formed in fall 1990, WSIG has mainly focused on coordinating women's studies efforts around campus, bringing people together to share information and expertise.

The WSIG newsletter is intended as a regular open forum for exchange of information. We would like to include information about activities and opportunities related to women's studies on UAH's campus and in the region.

Please send your newsletter contributions to WSIG, Box 1950, or give them directly to Nancy Finley, Sociology Department.

This issue of the WSIG newsletter was edited and produced by Margo Mead, Program Committee Chair, with the assistance of Lucy Buchanan, Staff Assistant, Sociology Department. Nancy Finley will return as newsletter editor at the end of her sabbatical.

Women's Studies Interest Group
Box 1950 Morton Hall
UAH
Huntsville, AL 35899

***Thursday, April 7***
Dr. Daniel Black Smith
Roberts Hall, 8:00 p.m.

***Thursday, April 14***
Dr. Anne C. Rose
Roberts Hall, 8:00 p.m.

***Friday, April 15***
Kay Leigh Hagan
Morton Hall-200-8:00 p.m.

***Friday-Saturday, April 15-16***
Marge Piercy
University of South Alabama

***Thursday, April 21***
Dr. George E. Sims
Roberts Hall, 8:00 p.m.

***Thursday, April 28***
Dr. Thavolia Glymph
Roberts Hall, 8:00 p.m.

***Friday, April 29***
Andreya Dolbee
Noolin House, 4:30 p.m.