Holly Rosen
Inspirational Woman of the Year Award: Culture of Empowerment

Lauren Dietz

Holly Rosen is the director of MSU Safe Place, and this year’s recipient of the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award in the Culture of Empowerment category. Holly has been the director of MSU Safe Place, a program that addresses relationship violence and stalking on campus, since its creation 22 years ago.

Having already been working in Lansing in the field of gender-based violence for 13 years, Holly played an important role in establishing MSU Safe Place in 1994.

Holly was excited to move to a university setting, hoping to enact change to the culture on campus. She also looked forward to the opportunity to have varying levels of intervention around domestic violence and sexual assault issues at the university.

Holly loves that this award’s central focus is being placed on inspiration. An enormous aspect of her job involves her being inspired by the clients she works with, the student interns she advises, MSU Safe Place volunteers, and her colleagues around Michigan State University. The idea of herself receiving this award for inspiring others was really touching. It was a great reminder to her that inspiration truly does flow both ways. Holly has been working in this field for over 30 years now and, although she is passionate about justice, what truly keeps her going is this endless inspiration from all the people she works and interacts with. She is honored to have received this award and is happy that she can inspire and empower others.

To Holly, her job is not work. It is an opportunity to seek justice and to help make the world a better place. This is her philosophy in all aspects of her work, whether she is with a client, an intern, assisting in system change, or doing community outreach work. She also sees great value in relationship building in her field of work. Holly loves the opportunities she has been given to work with interns and shape other young women to think about the societal issues that require much needed change.

It is common for people to make assumptions about individuals working in the field of gender-based violence. They presume you are either a former victim yourself or they label you as a feminist, often with the negative connotation of hating men. While Holly believes that some of these assumptions have changed since she began this work over 30 years ago, she remains proud to be a woman working to end gender-based violence. She loves when men are allies to women in this field and she continually encourages them to stand up and join the fight.

With anyone involved in this field, Holly stresses the importance of having strong boundaries between work...
and personal life. With any type of work involving trauma and challenging circumstances day-to-day, it is important to take care of yourself in order to avoid burnout. In her free time, Holly loves hanging out with her family and friends. She enjoys writing and adores time spent with her dogs. Working with victims can expose you to a lot of negative, painful feelings and a lot of anger; channeling this anger in a positive, productive way is also very important.

To anyone who has had the opportunity to meet or talk with Holly, it is no surprise that she has been awarded the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award for the Culture of Empowerment. MSU is lucky to have such a passionate, motivating leader doing such incredible work for the campus community. Holly would like to congratulate the other award winners and would like to thank her nominators and letter-writers: Liz Abdnour, Cris Sullivan, and Alyssa Baumann.

Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha
Inspirational Woman of the Year Award: Professional Achievement

Lauren Dietz

Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha is the director of the Hurley Medical Center’s Pediatric Residency Program and an assistant professor for MSU’s Department of Pediatrics and Human Development. She has been widely credited for drawing attention to the city of Flint, MI and its ongoing water crisis, and is also this year’s winner for the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award in the category of Professional Achievement.

Dr. Hanna-Attisha, or better known as “Dr. Mona,” grew up in the Metro Detroit area and attended the University of Michigan for her undergraduate education. She then continued her education at Michigan State University’s College of Human Medicine, spending her two years of clinical training at the Flint campus. Dr. Mona completed her residency at Children’s Hospital of Michigan through Wayne State University and was a faculty member at Wayne State for about five years. In 2011, she returned to MSU and Hurley to direct the Pediatric Residency Program.

Dr. Mona was speechless upon hearing that she had not only been nominated, but had won this prestigious award as Inspirational Woman of the Year. She is aware of so many women at this university doing incredible work on and off campus, so to receive such an incredible university-wide award is a true honor. She is incredibly humbled to receive the Professional Achievement award. She appreciates the incredible recognition of her work and the work of many others. Dr. Mona says that she would not be receiving this award without the multitude of women who have inspired her throughout her lifetime.

Dr. Mona now directs the Michigan State University and Hurley Children’s Hospital Public Health Initiative. She describes this as “our public health program to flip the story and to improve kids health outcomes.” This initiative is perfectly timed and placed to think about what is going to happen next. MSU has been in Flint for over 100 years now, and much of this public health programming is consistent and congruent with MSU’s land-grant university mission.

So many times during the current Flint water crisis and, especially in the medical field alone, Dr. Mona has found herself to be the only woman at the table. Being in the undoubtedly male-dominated medical field and being a woman is one of the most challenging things. It is often very difficult to balance family, work, life, and career advancement, something that Dr. Mona argues that men often don’t have to worry about. She is proud to show younger women that you can have a great career, you can change the world, and you can be a leader at these high powered meetings. Despite how challenging it may be, it is attainable.

When asked about her typical approach toward her job, Dr. Mona replied “it’s not my job; it’s my passion.” She feels very fortunate to have found something that she loves to do on a daily basis. It is clear that she has true passion for teaching medical students and residents, as well as spending time with her patients. “When you find your passion, it doesn’t become work. It becomes so much more rewarding,” said Dr. Mona.

Dr. Mona’s advice to anyone pursuing a career is to be willing to step out of your box. Sometimes we take risks and it doesn't feel good and it can be uncomfortable, but once you've put yourself out there, it is likely that you will improve and progress in your field. She encourages others not to get jaded by their everyday work; don’t lose your passion and don’t lose focus of why you went into the field you chose.

In her free time, you can find Dr. Mona attending all events for her two daughters. She has been the assistant coach for her daughter’s soccer team and is also a Girl Scout mom. You can typically find her with headphones in her ears, as she is always listening to music. We are bound to see even more incredible things from this inspiring woman in the coming years, as she has already done amazing work for MSU and the greater Flint community. Congratulations to Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha for receiving the Inspirational Woman Award in Professional Achievement!
Officer Melissa Congleton
Inspirational Woman of the Year Award: Community Engagement

Lauren Dietz

Officer Melissa Congleton is MSU’s Facility for Rare Isotope Beams’ (FRIB) Homeland Security Officer, and is this year’s recipient of the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award in the category of Community Engagement. In addition to her Homeland Security work at MSU’s FRIB, Officer Congleton works in a team at the MSU Police Department which does Emergency Management for all of MSU. Officer Congleton is a true Spartan, having received her undergraduate degree here at Michigan State University and remaining loyal to the Spartan name as she began patrolling MSU’s campus, then later working as a supervisor for Green Coat special events staff for three years, all prior to her current position at FRIB.

It has been a real honor for Officer Congleton to have received the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award. She said she is aware of so many Spartans out there doing really incredible work on campus and to be selected for the category of Community Engagement was humbling. Officer Congleton values this award so highly because it focuses on inspiring other people. With her job focusing on community engagement, her goal is to help others while making the world a better place. So, to have inspired others to also make the world a better place is truly awe-inspiring to her.

Officer Congleton was nominated for this award by three of her mentors, who have inspired her to pursue her career in a male-dominated field. By winning this award, Officer Congleton hopes to inspire others who are uneasy about entering a field that is dominated by men. She accepts the challenge of being a woman in this field and uses it to push herself to succeed and make a difference not just in her own community, but in the lives of everyone that has the privilege to meet her. To be a woman in her field is to have made it in a traditionally male-dominated work environment. This award affirms that she has made it as a valued employee at the university and it is extremely meaningful to her to have been awarded such a prestigious and renowned award as Inspirational Woman of the Year.

Officer Congleton is currently working with colleagues on the Emergency Management Accreditation Program, trying to make MSU one of the first universities in the nation to receive this accreditation. This is extremely important for emergency planning at MSU and is crucial in preparing for and withstanding emergencies when they do occur. In addition to this project, she is constantly organizing response drills at MSU FRIB to better prepare the facility and the community for unexpected crises.

Officer Congleton likes to approach her job the way she approaches life: to treat people the way that they want to be treated and deserve to be treated. As basic as this sounds, Officer Congleton believes that this is something that is too often forgotten. She has seen this approach go a long way both as a police officer as well as being a member of the community.

Her advice to anyone pursuing a career is not to give up. Even if you are discouraged, she urges everyone to keep working until you find success in what you enjoy doing. Officer Congleton likes to remind people to think about what they will be remembered for. “We will all reach a point where we will no longer be MSU students, faculty, or staff and we all will not live forever. I like to encourage others to think of what they’d like to be remembered for and to encourage them to put it into action now,” said Officer Congleton.

In her free time you can find Officer Congleton traveling and knocking things off of her bucket list. She recently returned from an adventurous trip to Maui and was able to fulfill her childhood dream of learning how to surf. Congratulations to Officer Congleton for receiving the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award for Community Engagement! She has been a true inspiration for many Spartans and people within her community and MSU can look forward to seeing the incredible work that she does.

What Woman Inspires You? Campaign

At the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award Recognition Reception, audience members were asked to identify women in their lives who demonstrate honor, bravery and caring for others. The responses are captured here, in an effort to give voice to the powerful legacy that women change agents are making every day. (Note: we apologize for any misspellings or omissions due to illegibility).

Renee Zientek – Renee is a natural mentor to students & her staff. Ever understanding & compassionate, she invests her energy in both individuals & communities to improve the world. I am inspired by the women who were honored here today [Melissa Congleton, Holly Rosen and Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha]. Each following a different career path, but all so wonderful and amazing in what they do. Congratulations to all, thank you, WRC, for inspiring me and others. Thanks to my mother for teaching and showing me how to care and do good work for others.

I am inspired by my 91 year-old grandmother. She is almost completely blind and has had Parkinson’s for over 20 years, but I have never once heard her complain. She is a strong, calm, beautiful soul. She inspires me with beauty and grace. Love you, Grandma.

April 2016
Jennifer Norgberg – A student who is courageously pursuing her dreams in her career.


Hilda and Claudia Gil – my mother and my sister. My very first teachers. Both have shown compassion for others. They are also creative and caring and brilliant. Their support for others helps those they love able to do more.

Whinnie Gill – Ability to honor the good in all. Honesty in relationships, kindness and support.

Holly Rosen – Courageous, articulate, ethical, funny, effective, inspiring, empowering, honest.

My inspirational woman is Holly Rosen because she has inspired me to learn and understand what it means to care for others. – Holly’s sister, Margot.

Thanking for the inspirations: Carmen Gear, Pam Bellamy, Eric Canales, Angela Brown, Nancy Lange, Nancy Allen, Connie Tungston, Eva Kennedy, Donna Pohl, and so many more.

My grandmother Mary who raised 5 children by herself during the Depression and was able to keep the family home. – Barbara.

The Rev. Dr. Lee Anne Reat – Vicar, St. John’s Episcopal Church, Columbus, OH (only downfall is that she is currently a Buckeye fan – but she got Master’s from MSU). Has run a “Street Church” ministry in neighborhood plagued by homelessness, addiction & violence since Easter 2006. She stands for justice for all people.

Momma.

Mary Hilton – My next door neighbor, mentor & inspiration. Without her I would have had no idea as to what was possible. She was a loving mother & prof. of bio chemistry at the university who taught & inspired generations of medical students.

Erica Canales – my sister who loves fiercely, works a demanding job and is raising 3 amazing children. Carol Levack – my mom who has taught me how to be a strong, independent woman. Sally Belloli – mentored me in my career and inspired me as a working mom. Violence Free Communities (VFC) – That committee and the work that they do (their day-to-day) inspire me!


Sara Nett-Torgrimson – She empowers women to find & use their voices to create change. Susan Grettenberger – Embodiment of grace & fierce love. She remains true to herself & fights for social justice every single day.

Ellen Hayse – She embodies the principles of women supporting other women through her work in violence against women through the years. I am inspired by Bianca Stepanyan. She interacts with survivors with integrity and compassion and mentors hundreds of advocates to do the same. She inspires and empowers sexual assault survivors, advocates and community partners.

I am inspired by my cousin Judy Geller. She teaches science in a K-12 school at the junior high and high school level. She’s been teaching for over 50 years and is still inspiring her students and mentoring new teachers. She still looks for new ways to teach & inspire. She has also been supportive to many of her relatives, including me. I am inspired by my cousin Lisa Greene. She moved to Long Island to raise a family and realized there was no interactive children’s museum. Using her early childhood education degree, she helped establish one.

Dr. Mona.

Peggy Crum – helped me realize that I’m not a project! My size is not a problem.

Jan Eberhardt – Inspired me to go full with my career. She taught me that dedication to my success is dedication to others because what makes me happy & proud carries over.

Alyson Weissman, Courtney Hunt Moore, Rebekah Ham, 46 Mommas, advocates for childhood cancer research, funding & survivorship.

Inspector Penny Fischer – Penny has never backed down from a challenge – she’s moved toward it. She is accomplished in her education and her service to the MSU community. Thank you for all you do.

Kristine Hurlbert – Self-less. Fierce.

Karen Pace – Fiercely loving social justice advocate who made me less of an ignorant white woman.

Lydia Weiss, Dee Hurlbert, Angela Michael.

Lisa Laughman – Loving Powerfulness.

Marie Rowe – My grandmother. She suddenly became a single parent of 4 children in 1956. While raising her children, she taught school & completed a Master’s degree at MSU. *My grandfather died. – Rick Shafer.

Adrienne M. Smith – Mother of 7 children, nurse by profession and one of the most faith-filled women. She cared deeply for her family and friends, lived with a very difficult husband and fought breast cancer twice. Cancer took her life in 2000. – Diane Shafer.

Karen King.

Lynda Gauthier.

Anne Morrow Lindberg – Her ability to overcome the loss of her son while under public scrutiny, due to her famous spouse. My colleague, Anne DiSante, who I nominated for this award. She inspires me with her dedication to fulfilling the land grand mission of MSU.

Mrs. Walker – Independence. My neighbor who passed at the age of 90. She walked with two canes to go to a store.

Kiana Elkins – I honestly cannot express how grateful I am to have met this woman. She is one of the most passionate and strongest young women I’ve ever met, and I am constantly inspired by her community involvement & willingness to go past her comfort zone.

Jamie Tomlinson – For her selflessness and incredible dedication to The Listening Ear’s sexual assault program. I am constantly inspired by her passion to advocate for and empower survivors.

Every year the women who inspire me changes. Currently, student Lauren Dietz, inspires me every day. She encourages me to continue to work hard and pursue my goals. Anytime I feel like giving up or when I’m overwhelmed, I am reminded of the work that she does and of the bravery and perseverance she exhibits.

Lydia Weiss because she provided me a great opportunity which allowed me to really discover who I am and that my voice matters! My Grandma (Oma) because she taught me to stay true to myself and not allow others to control who and what I am! R.I.P.

Lydia Weiss – her boldness and leadership shown in times of need. Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha – Her courage & persistence saved lives and inspires me to be fearless in times where it is important.

My mother – Catalina Reynoso. Divorced, 5 children, raised all of us to attend college/complete college. Cares for: home community, external community and loves people.

“Advancing gender equity through education and access to resources”

Gender Matters!

April 2016
Jennifer Royston

**MSU Excellence-in-Teaching Citation**

Lauren Dietz

Jennifer Royston is a fifth year doctoral candidate in MSU’s Department of English, and is one of six Graduate Teaching Assistants to receive an MSU Excellence-in-Teaching Citation this academic year.

Royston currently specializes in Renaissance Literature and Early Modern Visual Culture. She earned her undergraduate degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University, and her M.A. in Shakespeare in History from University College London, United Kingdom.

Upon meeting Jennifer, it is incredibly clear that teaching is her passion. Between her degrees, Jennifer has worked as a high school English teacher at an International Baccalaureate school and also worked for the Upward Bound tutoring program. Having already gained considerable teaching experience, Jennifer makes an incredible teaching assistant and leader on campus. With teaching assistants making up such a large portion of MSU, Jennifer is pleased that the university is recognizing and rewarding hard work. She said that teaching assistants are not often recognized for the immense and incredible amount of work they do on campus; it is great to be recognized for their hard work and interaction with students.

Jennifer is extremely proud to represent the MSU Department of English, and was honored to have been nominated for this award by her dissertation chair. She is happy to know that she is well-respected as an educator. The application process for Excellence-in-Teaching Citations is quite in-depth and uses a well-rounded methodology to judge all aspects of one’s teaching. Having put an incredible amount of time and effort into her application packet, Jennifer was thrilled to hear that she had received the award. She is very happy to represent the College of Arts & Letters, which houses the Department of English, and has received great support and congratulations from both her peers and superiors.

Having taught classes for WRAC, IAH, and the English departments, Jennifer has truly made her impact as a graduate teaching assistant at MSU. Jennifer has also served as the Department of English’s Teaching Coordinator for one year. In this role, she put together diverse teaching workshops for graduate teaching assistants in her department in order to facilitate growth and learning in education. In total, she put together six workshops and one large College of Arts and Letters conference with teaching assistants from all departments, creating a cross-disciplinary learning environment. Jennifer sees great value in sharing in others’ experiences and building off of each other’s knowledge in order to grow and become better educators.

Jennifer is currently writing her dissertation, and plans to complete it within the coming year. Outside of this, she has completed a study on the reading habits of her IAH students. She received Institutional Review Board approval to study whether an interactive, digital text is more beneficial than a paperback copy. Jennifer is aware that the way we study English is evolving and is intrigued by how this may be impacting students’ comprehension. She plans to repeat this study this upcoming summer.

Jennifer’s teaching philosophy centers on being transparent with her students. While teaching, she wants students to know why they are doing the assignments they are doing; she wants them to see value in each assignment that they complete. She is transparent about how each assignment ties in with the next and explains how the assignments will benefit them in the future. She is generally very informal in her teaching and enjoys being open with her students. Jennifer never sees herself as the only educator in the room. She is a strong believer that each student has experiences and knowledge that can help her, as well as classmates, grow in their own learning. She has a strong value for student discussion and students sharing ideas with each other to further build off of. Jennifer learns from her students daily and enjoys challenging them in order to challenge herself.

Something that Jennifer has great value for is being authentic in and out of the classroom. Who she is as a person is not far off from who she is as an educator. For Jennifer, these two persons coexist. It is important that her students know she cares about both them and their academic success. Often with teaching, an educator can take things personally when they do not go as planned. Through self-reflection, she has found that being authentic to who she is and simply being there for her students has helped students, as well as her, succeed and grow.

In her free time, when she is not working on her dissertation, Jennifer enjoys traveling and working out. She finds value in getting up and moving around whenever possible. Anyone who meets Jennifer can immediately feel her passion for teaching. It is very clear that Jennifer has found her calling, and I know that she will continue to positively influence countless students throughout her teaching career.

April 2016
Interested in receiving weekly e-mails about upcoming programs and events? To join the WRC Listserv, send an e-mail with the subject line “WRC Listserv” to wrc@msu.edu. Be sure to indicate your name and e-mail address.

Women’s Networking Association
Final Spring Semester Session
FREE and open to all! RSVP required.
Please call (517) 353-1635 or email wrc@msu.edu (with “Networking” in the subject line).

Wednesday, April 27, 2016: “Communication & Conflict Resolution.” Choose one of two sessions 8:30AM—10:00AM, Chittenden Hall, Room 110 OR 3:30PM—5:00PM, MSU Union, Mosaic: Multicultural Unity Center (2nd Floor). Have you ever experienced a breakdown in communication at work? At home? Both? Miscommunication and gender bias in communication can be major causes for conflict in the workplace. Dr. William Donohue, MSU Department of Communication, will provide tips and skills for successfully communicating and resolving conflicts at work to help you be a leader in positive and effective communication.

The mission of the Women’s Networking Association (WNA) is to connect professional women across campus through meaningful and empowering relationships. Providing an opportunity for women to network and support one another is an essential step for building women’s leadership at Michigan State University and in the Greater Lansing community.

NOTE:
To all supporters of the MSU Women’s Resource Center:
Due to technical difficulty, our Facebook page is currently down. Our primary mode of social media communication will now be handled through Twitter (@MSUWRC) and Tumblr (msu-wrc.tumblr.com) until further notice.

We thank you for your patience and continued support!

Follow us on Twitter: @MSUWRC
Follow us on Tumblr: msu-wrc.tumblr.com

CALLING ALL WOMEN!
The students at the MSU Women’s Resource Center were inspired by the efforts of people like the creator of “Humans of New York” and MSU student Hannah Brenner to start a photography series entitled, “MSU Women of Excellence.” We are looking to photograph various women at MSU, whether they inspire others as the heads of organizations, or by being good-natured interesting people.

If you are interested in being photographed, or you know someone who is inspirational and think they should be a part of this project, email us at wrc@msu.edu to learn more.

Check out the MSU Women’s Resource Center’s new blog, created by Department Aide, Maggie Chesbrough. The blog seeks to redefine society’s beauty standards with each and every post! If you are a diehard feminist or just someone who wants to learn more about the different forms of oppression people experience every single day, this is the blog for you! ❤

Embrace-your-image.tumblr.com

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Dr. Ade Olomu
Community Engagement Scholarship Award
Maggie Chesbrough

Dr. Ade Olomu was first attracted to the field of medicine by her innate passion to help her community and to help those who may not have the resources and the ability to access safe and reliable health services. She has practiced medicine in three different continents including, Africa, Europe and North America; she has therefore learned to interact with patients from different cultural and economic backgrounds. She is able to relate to a wide variety of patients and provide them the best clinical care. However, what continues to drive Dr. Olomu to succeed and empower others within her field of study is her desire to educate and her understanding that research is necessary in order to create change and improve the lives of many. Dr. Olomu has been on the faculty in the Department of Medicine, College of Human Medicine at Michigan State University for 15 years where she has focused her attention on closing the gap in cardiovascular care for minority and low-income populations and eliminating healthcare disparity.

Dr. Olomu is a member of the Executive Committee, a member of the Advisory Council and currently serves as the Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine at Michigan State University. She is also the Director of the Office-GAP Program, which aims to improve care and health outcomes for cardiovascular and diabetic patients in Federally Qualified Health Care Centers in Michigan. She is a member of the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) Disparity Task Force, which works to continue the Society focus on Disparities in Health and Healthcare.

As a woman in the field of Medicine, Dr. Olomu works hard and remains dedicated to her passion for research. She successfully balances her work load of inpatient/outpatient clinical care with her responsibilities of being a Michigan State University faculty member and the necessity to conduct research in order to advance knowledge and improve the quality of healthcare. Dr. Olomu said, “Whatever you do, be dedicated, be hard working, and give the community something to aspire to!”

Dr. Dânielle Nicole DeVoss
William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award
Megdi Abebe

Dr. Dânielle DeVoss is one of the William J. Beal Faculty Award recipients. How do you learn to send a Tweet? Who taught us how to manage our Instagram profiles? In what way do digital spaces change our way of communication? While some people may not necessarily think about this while they are updating their Facebook statuses, these are the types of questions that are typically on the mind of Writing, Rhetoric and American Culture’s Professional Writing professor and digital media enthusiast, Dr. Dânielle DeVoss.

After completing her doctorate at Michigan Technological University in Rhetoric and Technical Writing, DeVoss began to focus on how to maintain strategy in such a constantly changing field. Since social media is always defining and re-defining platforms, it can be difficult to teach students how to write for digital platforms, without being too comfortable in writing for today’s growing media. Her research brings her to questions such as, “How do we teach students writing practices that transcend specific media? What if six years ago we offered a class on ‘Myspace writing’? What could students do with that right now?”

DeVoss is very invested in helping students understand how important it is to be adaptable in today’s world. This is more than just a class lesson, but something she herself diligently follows and can personally relate to—while working on her Ph.D., the World Wide Web was beginning to form and this fueled drastic changes in academia and industry. This introduction of the web had inspired her to look away from the standard understandings of writing and rhetoric, which mostly comprised of studying print, alphabetic texts, and study something else—something new.

“Fifty years ago we were primarily newspaper and broadcast television driven and people were mostly consumers of information. Now, here is this moment in time where more people are sharing and creating information and that became much more compelling than looking at a tiny group of select authors,” DeVoss said. DeVoss certainly stays busy. She is currently working on writing two books, with one focusing on the significance of digital and physical spaces and how that affects particular learning environments for students, whether it is creative or very technical, and the other about how typography impacts rhetorical arguments. She also does a lot of work on copyrights and intellectual property, which helps keep students mindful when curating assignments and other creative processes.

Continued on page 8...
DeVoss’ work is complex and spans multiple topic areas, but her main sub-field is in computers and composition. Her experience with teaching engineers at Michigan Tech was one her first introductions to technical writing as a career. While the majority of her students where white males, she says the actual innovation of her field could not be made possible without the leadership of women during the time where the popularity of computer science was growing exponentially.

According to DeVoss, it was feminist discourse that inspired a field that helped make computers much more user-friendly among the vast majority of non-tech oriented people. “Women in the 80s were starting to see the potential in computer programs as a literacy,” she said. “A lot of people believe tech is dominated by boys, but it was women who believed that making tech more accessible to everyone was essential.”

Although on sabbatical, DeVoss is still available at her office to help provide advising for undergraduates while she works on her research. Her dedication to her job and love of helping students is one of the driving forces that inspired her department to nominate her for such a prestigious award. To DeVoss, being recognized in all facets of her work is an incredible honor. Congratulations Dr. DeVoss!

DeVoss said, “To have an award that recognizes a faculty member as a whole person, like with all the researching, teaching and service you do and for the University to say I am pretty good at all three—hey, that’s pretty awesome.”

The Negative Connotation of Saying “No”

Maggie Chesbrough

We are told from an early age that saying no to someone is not nice, that saying no to your parents can be disrespectful, that saying no to an invitation is considered rude and is only acceptable if you give a good enough excuse. The only time no seems to be tolerated is when we discuss drugs, alcohol and other things that are inherently bad for us. We need to reclaim the word no in every aspect of our lives. We need to break the negative connotations that have been internalized in every single one of us and instead realize that in many situations, saying no can be a way of respecting our own time, values, interests and general wellbeing. Moreover, we need to learn and educate one another to give respect to others when they say no.

We live in a world where saying no requires a definitive answer. It requires a certain level of strength, tone and willpower to not only say no, but to also not back down after saying no. Often, we dodge the word no by supplanting it hints at rejection, rather than what something as assertive as no would bring. For women, this stems from the constant struggle of being assertive without being too aggressive. But we can’t really begin to understand why saying no has such negative connotations without looking at the power dynamic and who has the authority and privilege of implementing no into their everyday vocabulary.

I never realized that saying no would be so challenging. When looking at a power dynamic situation, specifically in the workplace, we have people who are in a higher position of power than us and when they ask us to take on a task, responding with no doesn’t often go over too well and in some cases, can result in termination. Take another example: for a lower class immigrant who crosses over to the United States with their family in the hopes of a better life, job opportunities are limited. In this instance, they likely do not have the ability or power to say no, because the consequences of not being able to support their family are far stronger than whatever task she/he wishes to refuse - even though it is their right to have the freedom to reject a task, if they wish.

Similarly, the job opportunities that are often presented to various minority groups or disadvantaged groups, usually consist of tasks that were already denied by the majority group or the upper class population. In other words, the ability of saying no is not just a privilege of power, but it creates larger barriers between the privileged and the disadvantaged by using other discriminatory factors like classism, sexism and ageism to decipher who has the ability and authority to claim the word no. In 2013, Kenny Nguyen spoke on TEDxLSU about “The Art of Saying No.” In this segment, he discusses how we need to utilize “the power of the word no to grow because it’s not only important to know how to say no, but to understand when and why to say no.” This ideology can be implemented in all sorts of situations. One example would be accepting a job versus refusing the position or rejecting that task.

Additionally, I’m sure many of us can relate to this power dynamic when using the example of our own parents/guardians. They hold a higher level of authority and power than we do, so rejecting them or saying no is usually followed with repercussions like being grounded or having something taken away from us. Of course, our parents do not purposely contribute to this power dynamic behind saying no, but it’s important to become more aware of how we approach this idea. Whether you are a parent, or plan to be a parent in the future, raising your children to respect you and your authority is one thing, but we need to stop instilling fear and repercussions with the word no. Rather, we should try to instill the idea that no is a word of empowerment and should be given respect.

Another aspect and connotation of saying no is seen through the social pressures that we experience on a daily basis. For example, when your friends invite you to some event and you say no because you’d rather focus on some last minute homework and instead of your friends being...
understanding and respecting your answer, often times our friends can try to persuade us to change our minds or try to make us feel guilty for refusing their invitation. I believe that the sense of guilt, which is so often correlated with saying no, is due to the underlying fear of rejection, disappointment, embarrassment and other connotations that keep us from embracing no in our everyday vocabulary. If it wasn’t already hard enough to adopt no into our daily speech, now we need to remodel our way of thinking and learn to respect one another’s voice. Whether they are accepting an invitation or disregarding it, saying no does not have to be a personal rejection. Saying no gives you the power to uphold your personal standards and shouldn’t be seen by the recipient as not being nice.

We live in a world where saying no is probable cause to be labeled as a prude or to be characterized as bossy, negative, weak, emasculated, defeminized and pessimistic. I propose that we reclaim the word no and most importantly, that we learn to respect other people’s use of no, so that we can break down these negative connotations and give all people their right to have a voice without the negative consequences that usually follow any kind of assertive response. In the past, no has been the leading cause for change. Rosa Parks said no when she refused to move from her seat. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said no to segregated schools. Susan B. Anthony said no to a system where men were the only people able to vote. These historical leaders embraced no into their vocabulary and used its power to create change. They should not be the exception. We can follow in their footsteps by breaking down the negative connotations of no and respecting those who have the courage to embrace it in their lives as well as in our own.

Sources:

"WHEN THE WHOLE WORLD IS SILENT, EVEN ONE VOICE BECOMES POWERFUL."
Malala Yousafzai

22nd Annual MSU Safe Place Race for the Place
Maggie Chesbrough

On Sunday, April 17, 2016, the largest annual fundraiser for MSU Safe Place is taking form. The Race for the Place is a 5K that will spread across Michigan State University’s campus. The event is open to all ages and provides a fun outing for the entire family! To join and participate you must register at https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/EastLansing/RaceforthePlace.

The purpose of this fundraiser is to communicate and expand one’s own awareness throughout the Lansing community about the dangers of relationship violence and stalking. There are several event options such as the 5K Run, 5K Walk, 5K Wheel, Kids One-Mile Fun Run, and Kids Run 100-Yard Dash. These events will be located on campus at Jenison Field House, 223 Kalamazoo Street, East Lansing.

MSU Safe Place encourages the Lansing community to “Chip in $20 More” to help spread awareness and educate our students, staff, faculty, and community members. Donations are imperative in being able to provide a safe community! Not only has MSU Safe Place been serving the Greater Lansing communities for 21 years, but they also provide “advocacy, emergency shelter, counseling, support groups, safety planning, information and referrals to survivors of violence” and their children. Additionally, each donation of $20 will enter the participant into a raffle drawing for a great prize! We hope to see you at Race for the Place as we work to create a better and safer community for the Lansing area.
Contribute to the End of Human Trafficking

Maggie Chesbrough

The MSU Women’s Resource Center has shown support towards the eradication of an oppressive system that devalues a human being’s self-worth and works to dictate their lives: human trafficking. One of the scary things about this institution is that we still have yet to know everything about it. We don’t have facts that can be shared with an accurate numerical value. This institution has been lingering in the shadows unnoticed for so long, it’s nearly impossible to record how many victims, survivors, users and perpetrators are all living, breathing and operating within this system.

Human trafficking occurs in many forms and can be found in the largest and the smallest of towns. Unfortunately, whether you were aware of it or not, you have probably interacted with someone who has or will be trafficked either through the use of labor or sexual activity. With recent court cases and publically announced reports being documented, the American population has begun to recognize human trafficking as an issue not of the past, not just found in foreign lands, but of the present, right across the street from your favorite coffee shop or on the corner near your local grocery store. The question we face now is not about if human trafficking poses a threat, because that is made evident by our new knowledge of this form of modern day slavery, but rather, what can be done to end this institution?

The answer: educate and advocate. It is crucial to share correct and accurate information when discussing such a sensitive topic as human trafficking. Dramatizing the institution only adds to its power to oppress. Advocating against human trafficking will not only work to educate others, but will also show our government and our community that we will not let something as horrific as slavery exist in our community or in our nation. You can begin advocating against human trafficking by attending or sponsoring one of the many events hosted or sponsored by the MSU Women’s Resource Center. Attend our Beauty For Ashes Gala, April 21, 2016 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, where the price of your ticket on/before April 18th is $50, $75 after April 18th and all proceeds will go towards The House of Promise, a local Lansing organization, which seeks to provide survivors of sex trafficking a safe place to escape this toxic institution. Individuals or groups may also sponsor a table of 8 for $1,000. Table sponsors will be recognized at the event, in the program table tents, and feel confident, knowing that their proceeds will go towards a noble cause: the eradication of human trafficking in the Lansing area. The event is formal, so break out your gowns and bow ties and join the MSU Women’s Resource Center and other sponsors at the Beauty For Ashes Gala!

Sizing Up Our Campus:
A Conversation about Dieting, Body Image, and Weight Stigma

Are you tired of all the pressure to be a certain size?
Do you find that you are preoccupied by food and/or weight?
Join author and therapist Judith Matz, LCSW to learn how to end the diet/binge cycle, develop a peaceful and satisfying relationship with food, and become more body positive. You will also discover how the Health at Every Size framework offers a positive approach to take care of yourself and to build a weight-inclusive culture on campus.

Thursday April 14, 2016
Anthony Hall, Room 1279
7pm

Judith Matz, LCSW is co-author of two books on the topics of eating and weight issues: Beyond a Shadow of a Diet (2nd edition, 2014) and The Diet Survivors Handbook (2006), and author of the new children’s book Amanda’s Big Dream (2015). Judith is a popular speaker at local and national conferences and has a private practice in Skokie, IL.
Friday, April 1, 2016: **Academic Work Life Compatibility: The New University WorkLife Office.**
8:00AM—1:00PM, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, Lincoln Room. The intended audience for this event is deans, chairs, directors and executive managers. Current research in the field of work life confirms that changing demographics of both faculty and staff and emerging workplace issues are pushing us to look differently at policies and practices affecting all employees. Key changes point to compelling questions about how to manage both work and personal lives while contributing productively in our fields. This half-day symposium will feature an introduction to the background, current context and impact of work life strategies, followed by a panel discussion of implementation with a variety of populations and workplace settings. Research on the costs and benefits of flexibility policies will be presented, followed by a networking lunch which will include a description of the new WorkLife Office at MSU. Register at: http://fod.msu.edu/events/academic-work-life-compatibility-new-university-worklife-office.

Friday, April 1, 2016: **Cesar E. Chavez 6th Annual Commemorative Celebration.**
12:00PM—4:00PM, Big Ten Rooms B & C. You can register for the conference at www.inclusion.msu.edu by clicking on the Chavez link. Co-sponsored by the Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, TRIO, Lansing School District, L.U.C.E.R.O, the City of Lansing Human Relations & Community Services, Greater Lansing Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Full Circle Financial Planning. For more information, visit: www.inclusion.msu.edu.

Friday, April 1, 2016: **Communication Skill Development.**
3:00PM—4:00PM, MSU Union Building, MOSAIC: Multicultural Unity Center Conference Room (2nd floor). Communication is key in all leadership positions, in the workplace and in your personal life. This seminar will provide the successful communication skills necessary for navigating even the toughest scenarios. Learn to speak up for what you believe in with confidence, gain "buy in" from the people you're working with and discover tips on how to resolve communication mix-ups. Presenter: Jill Vondrasek, Marketing & Communications Director, College of Nursing. Hosted by the Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development. RSVP to the MSU Women’s Resource Center at wrc@msu.edu or 517-353-1635.

Saturday, April 2, 2016: **Girls Get Going.**
8:30AM—1:00PM, IM Sports West. Girls Get Going is a FREE sports clinic for 3rd to 8th grade girls. This year’s sports will include: basketball, Zumba, rugby, Taekwondo and sports agility. Volunteers are needed. If you are interested, please visit: www.recsportsmsu.edu. This event is co-sponsored by Recreational Sports and Fitness Services, Family Resource Center and MSU Women’s Resource Center. Questions can be directed to: Recreational Sports and Fitness Services at 517-355-5257.

Saturday, April 2, 2016: **ZUMBA EVEnt.**
11:00AM—12:30PM, IM Sports East Fitness Center. Support the Lansing E.V.E. Center, which provides shelter and supportive services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence through public awareness and community education. Suggested donation: $5.00, free parking in the ramp by the Wharton Center before 11:00AM. Please stay in contact with E.V.E. through Facebook at ZUMBA EVEnt and use the hashtag #ZUMBAEVEnt on Twitter. Contact E.V.E. at 517-372-5976.

Saturday, April 2, 2016: **Families at the Broad: #MidWestHungerIs.**
11:00AM—3:00PM, Broad Art Museum. Satisfy your creative hunger! Join the group for a special day of food-centric making in collaboration with The Writing Center at MSU's Midwest Hunger Is project. More information can be found at Midwesthungeris.com or contact The Broad Museum at 517-884-4800.

Monday, April 4, 2016: **Breastfeeding Educational Series.**
12:00PM—1:00PM, Nisbet Building, Room 27. Although breastfeeding is natural, it is a learned skill. This program is designed to give pregnant women and their partners information on preparing to breastfeed and strategies for continuing to breastfeed upon returning to work. This event is free for all MSU faculty, staff and students. RSVP to 517-432-3735 or frc@hr.msu.edu.

Thursday, April 7, 2016: **Networking and Navigating Your Way from College to Career.**
6:30PM—8:00PM, MSU Union Building, Lake Ontario Room (3rd floor). It's that time of year. For graduating seniors, it's time to venture off into the career world. For everyone else, it's time to get serious about internships and summer plans. Presenter, Therese Grossi, MSU alum and current Senior Vice President of Enterprise Contracting at Cardinal Health, will tell you that you have the tools you need to get the right first job; you just need to know how to use them. This seminar will provide an inside scoop on practical steps for building and leveraging your network, and talking to potential employers in terms they will understand. Grossi also will provide tips and tricks for navigating gender bias in the workplace. This seminar is co-sponsored by James Madison College and the MSU Women's Resource Center.

Thursday, April 7, 2016: **Take Back the Night.**
Various events throughout the day, dedicated to ending sexual and relationship violence. For more information, please visit https://www.facebook.com/events/1042124079159438/.

Friday, April 8, 2016: **Enhance Fitness.**
1:30PM—2:15PM, Downtown Lansing Capital Area District Libraries. Improve your strength, balance, flexibility and cardiovascular health. Designed for senior citizens, this series is endorsed by the Michigan Department of Community Health Arthritis Program and the CDC. Co-sponsored by the YMCA of Metropolitan Lansing. For more information, call the Capital Area District Libraries at 517-367-6300.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, April 8, 2016: Lettuce Live Well. 2:30PM—3:15PM, Downtown Lansing Capital Area District Libraries. These weekly nutrition education workshops are targeted to seniors, with topics such as how to read nutrition facts labels, understanding MyPlate, shopping healthy on a budget, and more. For more information, contact the Capital Area District Libraries at 517-367-6300.

Saturday, April 9, 2016: Drop-In LEGO® Club. 2:00PM—4:00PM, Downtown Lansing Capital Area District Libraries. Kids love getting creative with the LEGO® collection so drop-in, create and play! For more information, contact the Capital Area District Libraries at 517-367-6300.

Tuesday, April 12, 2016: Academic Women’s Forum: Effective Communication & Setting Expectations. 3:30PM—5:00PM, MSU Union Building, Lake Ontario Room (3rd floor). Breakdowns in communication and unclear expectations can be two major causes of workplace conflict. Dr. Karen Klomparens, Senior Advisor to the Provost & former Dean of the MSU Graduate School, will offer knowledge about how to use interest-based approaches to communication to resolve conflicts and gain respect within your department. Also discussed will be using your skills as a leader (titled or untitled) in your discipline and department. To RSVP, email health4u@msu.edu. Co-sponsored by EAP/Health4U, Office of Faculty & Organizational Development, Graduate Student Life & Wellness and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Tuesday, April 12, 2016: Sandra Kim Keynote Address: Gender and Its Intersections Series. 6:30PM—8:00PM, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center Auditorium (219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI). Sandra Kim is the Founder & Publisher of the world-famous virtual magazine, Everyday Feminism (www.everydayfeminism.com), whose mission is “to help people heal from and stand up to everyday violence, discrimination, and marginalization through applied intersectional feminism.” After its launch in 2012, Everyday Feminism quickly became one of the most popular feminist digital media sites worldwide. She will be speaking at Michigan State University as part of the MSU Women’s Resource Center’s Gender & Its Intersections Series on “Building Inclusive Leadership to Develop Anti-Oppression Work Environments.” Kim’s talk will be a call to action to effectively and boldly do this work at an institution like MSU. For more information, contact the MSU Women’s Resource Center at wrc@msu.edu or 517-353-1635. This event is co-sponsored by several campus units.

Wednesday, April 13, 2016: Workshop with Sandra Kim: “How to Engage in Intersectional Listening Versus Privileged Listening.” 9:00AM—10:00AM, International Center, Room 303. When someone shares their personal struggle with you, we sometimes don’t know how to listen in a way that feels supportive to them. Instead we often want to ‘fix it’ or change the subject. This can be especially true when it’s around something we have no experience with and struggle to relate to. On top of that, we’ve also been taught to dismiss and minimize the experiences of marginalized people by systemic oppression like sexism, racism, and transphobia. So when what they’re struggling with is related to those identities, it can be even harder for us to be supportive. This workshop will support people in learning how to give up listening from their privileges and biases in order to support someone in the way they want. To RSVP, email gencen@msu.edu. Co-sponsored by the Center for Gender in Global Context & the MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Wednesday, April 13, 2016: He Named Me Malala. 7:00PM, MSU Main Library Green Room. (4th floor West). He Named Me Malala is an intimate portrait of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai, who was targeted by the Taliban and severely wounded by a gunshot when returning home on the school bus in Pakistan’s Swat Valley. Acclaimed documentary filmmaker Davis Guggenheim shows us how Malala, her father Zia and her family are committed to fighting for education for all girls worldwide. The film gives us an inside glimpse into this extraordinary young girl’s life. Co-sponsored by the MSU Libraries Diversity Advisory Committee, MSU Muslim Studies Program, and MSU Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives Project 60/50. For more information, please contact Deborah Margolis, 517-884-0892; for accommodation requests, please call Lisa Denison at 517-884-6454.

Thursday, April 14, 2016: Adult Children Caring for Aging Parents. 6:00PM—7:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union – Farm Lane Branch Community Room, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing, MI. Adult Children often struggle with the issues that arise when their parents age. Unfortunately, our society does little to prepare people to handle these challenges. This program offers attendees an opportunity to understand the issues and to learn more about terms they probably heard but may not understand. Such as different housing options, legal documents, government program and Probate Court. Presented by Chalgian & Tripp Law Offices. To RSVP, sign up at MSUFCU.org or by phone at 517-664-7725. Co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Sunday, April 17, 2016: Successful Black Women of MSU 5th Annual Peace Summit. 3:00PM—6:00PM, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center. The theme for this year’s event is Formation: Creating Bonds & Building Unity. Although this event is free, registration is required. For more information or to register, please send an email to: successfulblackwomen@gmail.com by Friday, April 8, 2016. Along with your name and email address, include your telephone number beginning with the area code.
Monday, April 18, 2016: 2016 Women’s International Soccer: Michigan State vs Mexico U20 National Team. 7:00PM, gate opens at 4:00PM, Hope Sports Complex, (5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing MI). Watch the MSU Women’s Soccer Team take on the Mexican U20 National Team. VIP Tickets are $20.00, tickets at the gate are $15.00 and pre-sale tickets start at $10.00. Parking is $5.00. Sponsored by Michigan Chill Soccer Club. For more information, call 773-969-0441 or 517-712-7651. Visit website at: www.chillsoccer.com.

Tuesday, April 19, 2016: TIAA-CREF Woman-2-Woman Workshop - Attention to Detail: Financial Finishing Touches for Women. 9:00AM—10:30AM (check-in begins @ 8:45AM), MSU Union Building, Lake Huron Room (3rd floor). Now that retirement isn’t just a distant dream, how can you hold on to what you have? TIAA-CREF’s interactive workshop will help women put the finishing touches on the portfolios they have built. TIAA-CREF’s workshop leader will: Learn how to get your investments and assets allocated; Know your options when making an estate plan; Devise an elder care plan that works without worry; Pursue your passion with insights on life after your career; Discover the right questions to ask a Financial Representative. This event is co-sponsored by TIAA-CREF Financial Services, Family Resource Center, Human Resources, Women’s Advisory Committee for Support Staff (WACSS) and the MSU Women’s Resource Center. To register, visit: www.cvent.com/d/lrqcrf/6T.

Tuesday, April 19, 2016: TIAA-CREF Woman-2-Woman Workshop – Attention to Detail: Financial Finishing Touches for Women. 12:00PM—1:30PM (check-in begins @ 11:45AM), MSU Union Building, Lake Huron Room (3rd Floor). Now that retirement isn’t just a distant dream, how can you hold on to what you have? TIAA-CREF’s interactive workshop will help women put the finishing touches on the portfolios they have built. TIAA-CREF’s workshop leader will: Learn how to get your investments and assets allocated; Know your options when making an estate plan; Devise an elder care plan that works without worry; Pursue your passion with insights on life after your career; Discover the right questions to ask a Financial Representative. This event is co-sponsored by TIAA-CREF Financial Services, Family Resource Center, Human Resources, Women’s Advisory Committee for Support Staff (WACSS) and the MSU Women’s Resource Center. To register, visit www.cvent.com/d/lrqcrf/6T.

Wednesday, April 20, 2016: TIAA-CREF Woman-2-Woman Workshop – Inside Money: Managing Income & Debt. 12:00PM—1:00PM (check-in begins at 11:45AM), MSU Union Building, Lake Huron Room (3rd floor). Everyone talks about a budget, but how many of us actually make and stick to one? Most people have some debt, but how many understand its effects? Let us show you the real impact of budgeting and debt – and how to help your money work. TIAA’s workshop leader will explain the big picture of budgeting: Learn the importance of cash flow and how to use it; change how you look at saving and spending; identify good and bad debt - and ways to help manage it. This event is co-sponsored by TIAA-CREF Financial Services, Family Resource Center, Human Resources, Women’s Advisory Committee for Support Staff (WACSS) and the MSU Women’s Resource Center. To register, visit www.cvent.com/d/lrqcrf/6T.

Thursday, April 21, 2016: How to Get a Business Loan. 6:00PM—7:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union – Farm Lane Branch Community Room, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing, MI. It takes money to make money, as the saying goes. If you plan to borrow money to start a business or expand your current operation, this workshop is for you. Learn why some businesses get approved for a loan and others are denied. Get insight into the criteria used by lenders to evaluate a loan request. An expert will explain the lending process, introduce SBA loan programs, and share real life examples of successful loan applicants. You will learn: What are the 3 things you absolutely must do before you apply for a business loan? What are the 5 criteria banks use to evaluate your loan application? Presented by Tom Donaldson, Small Business Development Center (SBDC). To RSVP, sign up at MSUFCU.org or by phone at 517-664-7725. Co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Thursday, April 21, 2016: Beauty for Ashes Gala. 7:00PM—9:30PM, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, Big Ten Rooms A & B (219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI). The Beauty for Ashes Gala is an inaugural event launched to educate, inspire, challenge, and charge the fight AGAINST human trafficking. This fundraising gala will be a night that will include amazing music, delicious hors d’oeuvres, a silent auction, remarkable guest speakers, hearing the heart of the founder of The House of Promise and so much more. Co-sponsored by the MSU Women’s Resource Center. For more information, go to www.thehouseofpromise.com.

Thursday, April 21, 2016: The Matter Is Life: Black Women & Violence Film Series. 8:00PM, B122 Wells Hall. Featuring Renata Hill and Patreese Johnson of the New Jersey 4. In New York City, four young African American lesbians are verbally and physically threatened by a man on the street. After defending themselves against him, they are charged and convicted in the courts and in the media as a “Gang of Killer Lesbians.” Sponsored by the Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, College of Arts and Letters, Comparative Black History, LBGT Resource Center, Center for Gender in Global Context, Department of English, African American & African Studies and Film Studies. For more information, contact Terrion Williamson at terrionw@msu.edu or Lisa Biggs at biggslis@msu.edu.
Saturday, April 23, 2016: PACMAC Community-Wide Spelling Bee. 10:00AM—5:00PM, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center Auditorium (219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI). Students in grades 1st–8th will compete from schools in the Greater Lansing area and beyond. For additional information, visit: wrc.msu.edu.

Tuesday, April 26, 2016: Academic Women’s Forum: Dialogue and Connection. 3:30PM—5:00PM, MSU Union Building, Lake Ontario Room (3rd floor). Expand upon concepts presented in “Effective Communication & Setting Expectations” seminar through peer dialogue and connection. Co-sponsored by EAP/Health4U, Office of Faculty & Organizational Development, Graduate Student Life & Wellness and MSU Women’s Resource Center. To RSVP, email health4u@msu.edu.

Wednesday, April 27, 2016: “Communication & Conflict Resolution” Choose one of two sessions 8:30AM—10:00AM, Chittenden Hall, Room 110 OR 3:30PM—5:00PM, MSU Union, Mosaic: Multicultural Unity Center (2nd floor). Have you ever experienced a breakdown in communication at work? At home? Both? Miscommunication and gender bias in communication can be major causes for conflict in the workplace. Dr. William Donohue, MSU Department of Communication, will provide tips and skills for successfully communicating and resolving conflicts at work to help you be a leader in positive and effective communication. Hosted by the Women’s Networking Association. To RSVP, email wrc@msu.edu or call 517-353-1635.

Wednesday, April 27, 2016: Estate Planning. 12:00PM—1:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union – Farm Lane Branch Community Room, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing, MI. At this seminar you will learn about the myths and realities of estate planning. Presented by Attorney Melissa Allen. To RSVP, sign up at MSUFCU.org or by phone at 517-664-7725. Co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Thursday, April 28, 2016: Take Your Child to Work Day. 8:00AM—3:00PM, tours at various locations. Recognition ceremony held in the MSU Union, Main Lounge (1st floor) at 11:30AM. No RSVP necessary. For details visit: wrc.msu.edu under the “Events” tab.

WRC Staff: Lydia Weiss, Educational Program Coordinator; Audrey C. Smith, Office Manager; Cynthia Cotton, Professional Assistant. WRC Students: Megdelawit Abebe, Lauren Dietz, Kiana Elkins, and Maggie Chesbrough, Department Aides; WRC Student Volunteer: Olivia Vaden.
DATE SAVERS

**APRIL 2, 2016**
Girls Get Going

**APRIL 12, 2016**
Sandra Kim Keynote Address

**APRIL 21, 2016**
Ending Human Trafficking Gala

**APRIL 28, 2016**
Take Your Child to Work Day

**MAY 2, 2016**
Women Matter Luncheon

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

“1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men will experience some form of sexual assault before reaching the age of 18.”

Source: endrape.msu.edu

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**Have you visited the MSU Museum lately?**

**CHECK OUT NEW EXHIBITS**

Student Voices: MSU Student Protest

“Students at Michigan State University have long used protests to speak out on a range of issues and make their voices heard. In Student Voices, recent protests will provide a touchstone, linking the lives of today’s students to those who have given their voices to social and political issues in the past.”

Exhibit runs from January 18 - May 1 2016

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**MSU MUSEUM EXHIBIT EXPLORES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COSTUME AND SOCIAL ROLES**

**Up Cloche: Fashion, Feminism, Modernity**

**EXHIBIT RUNS THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2016**
CURATOR-LED EXHIBITION TOURS
SATURDAYS: MARCH 19 AND APRIL 16, 2016, 2:30PM

“The exhibit draws from the history and culture collections of the MSU Museum including a fantastic array of 30 cloche hats, as well as other period fashion, and depictions of popular culture in various 1920’s media, and even some MSU (Michigan Agricultural College) History!”

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**The LBGT Resource Center Presents**

**LAVENDER & MOSAIC AWARDS**

**SUNDAY APRIL 10**
1:30 - 4:30 pm
Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center
Take Back the Night Presents

Sponsored by ASMSU

Follow Our Event Page on Facebook for More Details!

Lachrista Greco
Founder and CEO of Guerrilla Feminism

About Lachrista

Renowned as the founder and CEO of Guerrilla Feminism, Lachrista Greco is also a Trauma-Informed/Adaptive yoga instructor, speaker, and activist on issues related to domestic and sexual violence, feminism, and digital activism. Her writing has been featured in a number of magazines and digital media including Rebellious Magazine For Women, Jezebel, Ms. Magazine Blog, xoJane, and GirlDrive. She obtained her M.A. in Women’s & Gender Studies from DePaul University and has published two works: Olive Grrrls: Italian North American Women & The Search For Identity, and Leftovers.

Event Details: MSU Take Back the Night 2016 – Keynote Address by Lachrista Greco

When: Thursday, April 7th, 2016
4pm-5pm

Where: Michigan State University, Beaumont Tower
Sandra Kim is the Founder & Publisher of the world-famous virtual magazine, Everyday Feminism (www.everydayfeminism.com), whose mission is "to help people heal from and stand up to everyday violence, discrimination, and marginalization through applied intersectional feminism." She will be speaking at Michigan State University as part of the MSU Women's Resource Center's Gender & Its Intersections Series on "Building Inclusive Leadership to Develop Anti-Oppression Work Environments." Kim's talk will be a call to action to effectively and boldly do this work at an institution like MSU. FREE and open to all.
BEAUTY FOR ASHES GALA 2016

WORKING TO EDUCATE, INSPIRE, CHALLENGE AND CHARGE THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM | April 21, 2016
The Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
Fundraising Event for The House of Promise

For more information, go to The House of Promise website:
www.thehouseofpromise.com
or call the MSU Women’s Resource Center
517-353-1635

MICHIGAN RANKS #2 IN THE NATION FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING
THE MATTER IS LIFE: BLACK WOMEN AND VIOLENCE FILM SERIES & MSU FILM COLLECTIVE PRESENT

OUT IN THE NIGHT

WITH RENATA HILL AND PATREESE JOHNSON OF THE NEW JERSEY 4

8PM | APRIL 21, 2016
WELLS HALL B122 (MSU)
619 RED CEDAR ROAD

First they had to defend themselves against the verbal and sexual threats of a man on the street. Then they had to defend themselves in the criminal courts and in the court of public opinion where they were dubbed a "Gang of Killer Lesbians." After years of mischaracterization and incarceration, this is their story.

SPONSORS
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For more information on OUT IN THE NIGHT visit: outinthenight.com

Questions? Contact Terrion Williamson (terriow@msu.edu) or Lisa Biggs (lbgsglsl@msu.edu)
EVENTS & RESOURCES

BLACK STUDENT ALLIANCE PRESENTS

B.L.A.C. AWARDS MOTOWN

KELLOG HOTEL
BIG TEN RM B&C
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

04.23.16
Welcome future Spartans! The theme for this year’s Take Your Child to Work Day is “Sparking Aha! Moments: Discovering Possibilities at MSU.” This event is focused on children ages 8-14, with a supervising adult.

Schedule of Events

8:30am, 9:30am, 10:30am
Department Tours and Career Exploration Activities (30-minutes)

11:30am-12:00pm
Recognition Ceremony - MSU Union Main Lounge

12:00pm-1:00pm
Lunch on your own

1:30pm, 2:30pm
Department Tours and Career Exploration Activities (30-minutes)

A complete list of tour sites, activities, and details will be available by Friday, April 22, 2016 at wrc.msu.edu.

Sponsored by Michigan State University’s Women’s Resource Center and Family Resource Center
Any Questions? Call the Women’s Resource Center: (517) 353-1635.
EVENTS & RESOURCES

DATE SAVER

WOMEN MATTER LUNCHEON

MAY 2, 2016 | 11:30AM - 1:30PM
WHARTON CENTER

Women's Resource Center