Welcome To a New Academic Year!

Welcome to the 2012-13 academic year. This is an exciting year for the MSU Women's Resource Center and for me. The Center just celebrated its twentieth year and I am beginning my first year as Interim Director. Patricia Lowrie, our former director, has taken one step closer to retirement, serving as consultant to the WRC over the next year. The Center will be engaged in exciting endeavors this year, including some of the programs/events that have occurred in past years along with some new ones. We will also experience some changes on our staff. Jodi Roberto Hancock has accepted a new position in Student Affairs and Services and the Center will be hiring a new staff person very soon to fill that vacant position.

As we move into our third decade, look for exciting changes at the WRC this year. We expect to continue collaborative relationships with all of our partners and hope to begin working with some new ones as well. A new WRC Advisory Council will be established this year so that our core constituency groups can provide us with the necessary input into our gender equity efforts. Additionally, the WRC Men’s Advisory Council will be in place this year to give us particular guidance around men and their role in gender equity efforts. Please friend us on Facebook by searching MSU Women’s Resource Center and follow us on Twitter @ MSUWRC to stay current with what’s happening at the WRC! In addition, you will find our monthly newsletter posted on our website at: wrc.msu.edu. I hope to see you at many of our events and programs and look forward to meeting many new faces. Welcome new students, returning students, faculty, and staff. I hope the new academic year finds you successful in all your endeavors at Michigan State University and GO GREEN!

GENDER MATTERS at Michigan State University!

Dr. Jayne Schuiteman, Interim Director

4th Annual Mildred B. Erickson (MBE) Fellowship Fall Fundraiser

Tuesday, October 9, 2012
University Club—Michigan State University
5:15—7:00 PM

Please join efforts to traditional complet- us in our assist non-students in ing their degrees.

CANCELED

Community Services & Area Businesses that will work for YOU!!

The Michigan State University Women’s Resource Center is compiling a listing of area businesses and services that come highly recommended from others in the community. In particular, we want to include businesses and services that will work for YOU, reliably and respectfully. You can go to the MSU Women’s Resource Center website (wrc.msu.edu) for the information and know it is a work in progress. We are depending on members of the MSU campus community to add to the list. When you come across a particularly good community “resource that you would like to recommend to others, please email us at wrc@msu.edu so we can add it to the growing list of resources.

We are also looking for a name for our resource list! You might be aware that a similar sort of listing is called “Angie’s List.” We want ours to have a name and invite you to submit possibilities to us. If you submit the winning name, you will receive “Cooking for Social Justice” which is a wonderful collection of recipes and a monthly planner in one beautifully illustrated book! The deadline for name submissions is Monday, October 1, 2012 and will be announced in our November newsletter as well as on our website. We can’t wait to hear from you!!

*Please note that the MSU Women’s Resource Center has the right to deny any resource submission that we feel is inappropriate or not in line with the mission of the Center.

It’s Gold for the United States Female Olympians!

Emily Nichols

Looking back at the 2012 London Olympics, there were a multitude of unforgettable moments. The world saw Michael Phelps win an unprecedented 22nd Olympic medal, and Usain Bolt proved beyond a doubt that he’s the fastest man alive. However, overshadowing those great individual accomplishments was a storyline that could be much more meaningful to girls and women across the country; the dominance of the United States female athletes.

For the first time in Olympic history, the United States sent more female than male athletes (269 vs. 261). Of the top ranked 46 gold medals won by the U.S., 29 were taken by women. To put that into perspective,
Dr. DeBrenna Agbényiga

As the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Inclusion in the College of Social Science at Michigan State University, Dr. DeBrenna Agbényiga has taken on a huge double role to ensure that graduate students receive the best educational experience possible. Even with that large task in front of her, she does not let the stress of her job show. Upon first meeting Dr. Agbényiga, one of the first things you will notice is her optimistic and warm personality. This positive attitude shined through as we discussed her journey to becoming a leader on MSU’s campus today, as well as what she believes others can do to develop their leadership skills.

Although Dr. Agbényiga is still quite young, she has been able to propel herself through the rankings at MSU. Since 1999 when she started her graduate studies here in the Master’s of Social Work program, Dr. Agbényiga has worked her way up from a research and diversity specialist, to a faculty position in 2005, and now her current position as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Inclusion. As she works to create better mentoring programs for junior faculty, more leadership opportunities for women, and improve the education for all graduate students in the College of Social Science, Dr. Agbényiga used a multitude of techniques to achieve success.

Dr. Agbényiga revealed that in order to become the leader that she is today, she has always demonstrated to others that she can be better than what they thought she could be. On what it means to be a female leader today, Agbényiga states, “I always want to go beyond what is expected of me because you need to show that you can step up to the plate.” Her biggest challenge throughout the years has been that some colleagues have acted as though they don’t know what to expect from her, possibly because of her age, gender, or the given situation. But Dr. Agbényiga’s ability to come in with fresh new ideas and a willingness to go the extra step has allowed her to eliminate any possible doubts.

According to Dr. Agbényiga, her leadership philosophy is that “Every day is a new day with unlimited possibilities.” She notes that even though there may be obstacles in the way, you should always remember that tomorrow will be a new day where things can get better.” Additionally, she mentioned the importance of picking out a time each day to reflect on previous decisions or ideas to see how it fits into the larger picture in terms of the direction of her office.

One of the most important qualities that Dr. Agbényiga notes that is essential for leaders, is the ability to also be a follower. She explains that good leaders can always take on other people’s ideas if those thoughts better match up with the larger goal at hand. Dr. Agbényiga also stressed the importance of being a good listener and communicator. She states, “There is always time to close this (mouth), and open these (ears) because that’s what helps you understand other perspectives.”

Dr. Agbényiga notes that the development of her attitudes on leadership can be attributed to the many mentors in her life. Most notably, Dr. Agbényiga talked of her husband, who she stated is her biggest cheerleader, as well as the person that reminds her to just be herself and remain humble. She states, “He keeps me well-grounded, and has shown me that leadership is an opportunity to be a catalyst for change.” Dr. Agbényiga also credits Dr. Marietta Baba, the current Dean of the College of Social Science, Dr. Karen Klomparens, Associate Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Gary Anderson, Director of the School of Social Work, Dr. Rena Harold, Associate Director of the School of Social Work, Paulette Granberry-Russell, Senior Advisor to the President for Diversity and Director of the Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, Patricia Lowrie, former Director of the MSU Women’s Resource Center, Dr. Nwando Achebe, Professor in History and Dr. Deborah Johnson, Professor in Human Development and Family Studies and a number of other colleagues from campus for helping her become the leader she is today.

To her fellow colleagues and students, Dr. Agbényiga’s words of wisdom would be to remember that every day is a new opportunity. She remarks, “It’s okay to look over mistakes from the previous day, but you can’t let those mistakes become a stumbling block for moving forward. You have to learn and build from those mistakes.” With that hopeful outlook on life, it’s hard to believe that Dr. Agbényiga won’t continue to impress as she strives to create a better overall experience for graduate students in the College of Social Science at MSU.

Ms. Sharon Butler

Ms. Sharon Butler has only been at Michigan State University since May 2012; however, she has quickly developed a love for the university. As the Assistant Vice President of Human Resources at MSU, Ms. Butler has made a point to learn what MSU is all about, and in doing so has already made an impact as a strong female leader on campus.

When speaking with Ms. Butler, I could immediately see the wisdom that has come with a long and successful career. Although her time at MSU is still in its early stages, Ms. Butler has long been working in the human resources field, working her way to the top through an assortment of top-level positions. After working in human resources at private corporations for the majority of her early career, Ms. Butler eventually moved into university life at Wayne State University as the executive director of human resources, and the University of Cincinnati as chief human resource officer. Now at MSU, Ms. Butler has hit the ground running with a number of projects including working to improve the Enterprise Business Systems (EBS), as well as dealing with the changes that come with the development of neighborhoods around campus.

Ms. Butler’s journey to becoming a leader has been almost as long-standing as her human resources career. She stated to me that she first became a leader during the 1970’s, on which she commented, “It was a totally different era for women and people of color.” It was during this time that she developed her own personal leadership philosophy of working through partnership and cooperation with others. She believes that leaders are most effective when they are able to create and build collaborative relationships with the individuals being served. When everyone is attempting to achieve the same goal, the best way to get things done is to work together in a collaborative fashion.
Sharon Butler article continued from page 2

In addition to working through collaboration, Ms. Butler noted a plethora of other qualities she looks for in her fellow leaders. In regard to characteristics she appreciates, Butler states, “I look towards people of good character, proven to have a high sense of integrity, who are fair and open to listening.” She also mentioned that during her lifetime three mentors have helped her greatly along the way in developing her leadership style. She stated, “They showed me how you can lead from within the type of personality you have, and not from that of another.” Specifically, Ms. Butler mentioned that she learned to not try and act like a man early on in her career, and to manage each person as their own individual.

Although Ms. Butler has without a doubt achieved much success, she also mentioned some of the challenges that have improved how she leads today. She shared a story of her first leadership position as a production supervisor at General Motors. As the only African-American female who knew little about factory life, she quickly had to figure out how to best supervise those completely different than herself. Of this experience, Butler stated, “I remember sitting down my workers and telling them, I’m going to supervise you and I intend to succeed, so what can I do to make sure that you all get what you need?” That drive to do her best, and the ability to learn what the people and organization needed from her, put her in the driver’s seat to a flourishing future in human resources.

As advice to others looking to one day have a career like hers, she offers suggestions of acting gracefully so that others look to your wisdom. As the end of her career in human resources approaches, Ms. Butler noted, “I want to end my career viewed as a wise person. A person who has lived a good life and has now gained the wisdom to live out the rest of that life.” From speaking with Ms. Butler, it appears as though she is well on her way to completing her career on that exact note.

Dr. Kathy Collins

Upon the merger of Campus Living Services and the Department of Residence Life at Michigan State University, a new position was created on campus that would oversee both departments for the first time. Dr. Kathy Collins was appointed as the Director of Campus Living Services and Residence Life (now known as Residence Education and Housing Services) in January 2012, and with her vast experience in Student Affairs and willingness to learn, she has quickly demonstrated her ability to handle the enormous project.

Dr. Collins came to MSU after previously holding the positions of Associate Director of Residence Life at Texas A&M University, and Assistant Director of Residence Life at the University of Michigan. It was during this time, as well as a previous stint as a swim coach and collegiate athlete, that Dr. Collins molded her eclectic leadership style. Now, as she works to mold Residence Education and Housing Services into one department, and modernize its services to students and conference guests, Dr. Collins’ innovative and proactive yet humble attitude should push MSU into a successful future.

Dr. Collins’ approach toward leadership in her work is multi-faceted, yet easy to understand. She believes that leadership should be diverse and evolve over time. She also emphasized the importance of realizing that as the world (and MSU) changes, so should leadership. It is vital to understand that leadership is complex and contextual. Dr. Collins states, “The more I have learned about leadership, the more I realized I do not know. In my 20’s I thought I knew it all, but now that I’m in my 40’s I realize I know very little.”

This attitude is highlighted as Dr. Collins talks about some of the biggest challenges throughout her career. She notes that the hardest thing she ever went through was the process of getting her PhD from Bowling Green State University because it required her to be so selfish. She states with a laugh, “I had to be all about me and nobody else in order to get through that time. Plus, I was just broke! But now I love my dissertation and degree, and recognize that I am wiser because of the knowledge I gained in the process.” She also notes the importance of getting that degree because it has opened all kinds of doors for her, but with those open doors has also come new challenges. For example, Dr. Collins humbly admits, “In this new role, it is hard getting comfortable with the influence and change that I can make with just one decision.”

Dr. Collins’ modesty showed again while she talked about the importance of being a female leader in her field by stressing how this position means a great deal to her, and that she takes the job very seriously. Additionally, Dr. Collins is honored to be considered a leader, and knows that it’s essential to be a role model for others. On being an example for others, Dr. Collins says, “I want to create opportunities for others to be successful, and I am very intentional in that.”

The biggest thing that Dr. Collins looks for in fellow leaders is a willingness to learn. She notes, “In leadership, I respect people who recognize that there is always potential to learn, and those who embrace being life-long learners.” Dr. Collins also stressed the importance of being passionate and excited about your work, being thankful for the opportunities around you as well as being able to foster leadership in others. These characteristics came up while Dr. Collins was remembering some of her strongest mentors, including her grandmother, previous supervisors, and her current supervisor. With the help of these mentors, Dr. Collins admits she first learned of her leadership potential, as well as humility.

To other staff, faculty, and students, Dr. Collins offers these words of wisdom: “Always do the job that no one else wants to do.” Dr. Collins notes that one of the biggest reasons she’s been able to move up the career ladder in her field is because she was always the first one to raise her hand and volunteer. She emphasized the magnitude of always being a hard worker and being the “go-to” person in the department because it shows your trust and commitment to the job. However, Dr. Collins mentioned it is just as important to be able to define success for yourself, and being okay with the fact that this might not fit other people’s definitions. At the rate Dr. Collins is going, she should not be worried about not reaching other’s or her own standards for success, as she is currently creating a wonderful and energetic environment at MSU.
Calendar of Events

Monday, August 22, 2012: International Student Resource Fair. 4:00 -5:30PM, Breslin Center, MSU. Representatives from local businesses, entertainment venues, and more. For more information, visit: http://oiss.isp.msu.edu/students/orientation/.

Saturday, August 25, 2012: Graduate Student Resource Fair. 10:00AM—12:00N, Union Ballroom, MSU. All new and returning MSU students are invited to attend! For more information, visit: grad.msu.edu.

Sunday, August 26, 2012: Women’s Equality Day. This day is in commemoration of the passage of the 19th amendment which granted women full voting rights in 1920. Visit: http://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/womens-equality-day/.

Monday, August 27, 2012: Convocation/University Welcome. All new students are REQUIRED TO ATTEND. 9:00-11:00AM, Breslin Center. Doors open at 7:30AM and you MUST BE SEATED NO LATER THAN 8:45AM. For additional information, please visit: www.fallwelcome.msu.edu/day2.html.

Monday, August 27, 2012: U-Fest. 6:00-8:00PM, Munn Field. MSU students: Join more than 6,000 other students at the 32nd annual U-Fest featuring live music, games, prizes, and more!

Monday, August 27, 2012: Moonlight Madness. 8:30PM-1:00AM, Downtown East Lansing. A fun opportunity for new and returning MSU students to explore stores, services, and resources in East Lansing!

Tuesday, August 28, 2012: Fall Welcome Spartan Spectacular. 4:00-10:00PM, Munn Field. Students are “strongly encouraged” to attend. Events include an outdoor concert, cook-out, and Pep Rally to name a few. Visit: www.fallwelcome.msu.edu/day3.html for more info.

Tuesday, August 28, 2012: Sparticipation. 4:00-10:00PM, Munn Field, MSU Campus. MSU students are invited, along with 600+ student organizations that make MSU great at, Sparticipation. Food, games, live entertainment and lots of giveaways!

Wednesday, August 29, 2012: Fall Semester Classes Begin!

Engaging ALL in providing access to resources for the ADVANCEMENT of women — Gender Matters!

The “Calendar of Events” continues online, page 9, at http://wrc.msu.edu.

Don’t miss the September events, newsworthy articles and upcoming 2012-2013 “Date Savers”!

WRC Staff: Jayne Schuiteman, Interim Director, Associate Professor, and Personal Safety Coordinator; Patricia Lowrie, Consultant, Vacant, Educational Program Coordinator; Audrey C. Smith, Office Manager; Evette Chavez Lockhart, Editor/Administrative Assistant; WRC Students: Arielle LaBrecque, and Emily Nichols.

Save the Date!
The TENTH Annual
Women's Leadership Conference
November 18, 2012
12:00N—6:30PM
MSU Union Building

"Attitude Is Everything - Lead With It!"
Keynote Speaker:
Carlotta Walls LaNier
Ms. LaNier, a former Spartan, was the youngest member of the Little Rock Nine, the nine courageous African-American students who integrated Arkansas’ Little Rock Central High School in 1957.

For more information, visit: wrc.msu.edu.

Sponsored by Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development (W.I.L.D.), MSU Women’s Resource Center, Residence Education and Housing Services, Student Life, & University Activities Board.

Are you interested in helping plan this year’s Women’s Leadership Conference?
WILD is always looking for students and staff to get involved! For more information, or if you would like to join WILD, email co-chairs: Janisse (janisse88@gmail.com) or Leah holowayl@msu.edu.

Men's Health, Wellness, & Fitness EXPO!
SAVE THE DATE!
Thursday, November 8, 2012
11:30 AM—1:30 PM
MSU Union—Main Lounge
What Women Want to Know—What Men Need to Know
For Women & Men who care about the Men in their lives.

• Information
• Presentations
• Demonstrations
• Prizes
• Giveaways
• And more . . .

Stay tuned for more information . . . @ http://wrc.msu.edu
if the U.S. women were its own country, they would have tied with Great Britain in the gold medal standings. Additionally, the total 58 medals won by the U.S. women would have placed fourth in the overall medal standings.

Far more meaningful than the medal totals was the great headlines created during those two memorable Olympic weeks. For the first time since 1996, the women’s gymnastics team took the team gold, and breakout star 16-year-old Gabby Douglas became the first African-American to win the individual all around competition. In swimming, you saw Missy Franklin, Allison Schmitt, Dana Vollmer, and Rebecca Soni all score multiple golds in world record fashion. Allison Felix, Sanya Richards-Ross, and Carmelita Jeter proved their dominance in track and field, and the dynamic beach volleyball duo Kerri Walsh and Misty May-Treanor won their third straight gold medal. We also got to see the women’s basketball team win their fifth straight gold, the women’s soccer team win a third straight gold, and the women’s water polo team take the gold after falling just short the previous two Olympics.

Possibly the most telling of how far women’s athletics has come were the gold medals from Kayla Harrison in Judo and Claressa Shields in Boxing. Harrison became the first American of either gender to win gold in the sport of Judo; and in the first year the Olympics have included women’s boxing, Shields’ gold was one more than any from the entire U.S. men’s team, who failed to medal for the first time in history. Even though combative sports are typically male-dominated, these U.S. women found a way to steal the headlines from their male counterparts and inspired girls around the country to perhaps pick up these sports.

With this year being the 40-year anniversary of Title IX, the law that opened up sporting events to women and girls, the significance of this dominate performance by U.S. female athletes could not be more evident. In just a short period of time, women’s participation in athletics has sky rocketed at all ages, and with the increased media coverage of the women’s success, only more involvement should be expected. Hopefully by seeing these female athletes, girls around the country will be wondering if they too can one day become an Olympic champion.

Source: http://www.london2012.com/

Women’s Advisory Committee to the Provost (WACP) advises the Provost on important issues of special interest to women within the university community. In its advisory capacity, WACP assists in identifying and suggesting solutions to important issues relative to the roles and participation of women in the academic areas of the university. The committee may consult with the Provost or members of the Provost’s staff to clarify and to discuss strategies for enhancing the experiences and conditions for women in the academic workplace.

Women’s Advisory Committee to the Vice President of Finance and Operations (WACFO) is responsible for recommending policies, programs or procedures which will ensure full freedom of opportunity in employment for women support staff employed by the university, assisting the university community in the development of a favorable climate which will enhance the status of women and provide for their consistent advancement throughout the employment system to its highest level; alerting the administration to and recommending solutions for problem areas related to women support staff; serving as a liaison between women support staff and the university administration; and serving as a referral source for women support staff and thereby identifying and referring problems.

Women’s Advisory Committee to the Vice President for Student Affairs and Services (WACSAS) advises the Vice President primarily on matters related to various functions and services carried out through the departments and units in the Division of Student Affairs and Services and secondarily on matters related to the university in general and about which the Vice President may have influence to effect change. Specifically, committee members are asked to consider programs and services with regard to the following and to make recommendations for change to the Vice President as appropriate: the nature of services provided with particular attention to their effectiveness and appropriateness for women students; the content of programs provided and the extent to which both gender and racial/ethnic differences are considered in program development; and the matter in which services and programs are delivered.

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MSU Women’s Resource Center
Men’s Advisory Council (WRCMAC)

To explore the range of possibilities, the MSU Women’s Resource Center invited a group of men from around the MSU community to partner with us as a member of a WRC advisory group. Among the things we asked of them were that they be willing to be self-reflective, that they be willing to share what they wanted women to know about men’s issues, and that they be willing to discuss what and how men talk to other men about women’s issues. The focus is and will continue to be about women; however, with this expansion, the programming would be broadened.

WRCMAC (WRC Men’s Advisory Council) was launched late in the fall of 2008 and accepting the challenge were: Brent Bilodeau (now external consultant), Terence Brown, Jerry Caldwell, Dennis Martell, Leo Savala, Rick Shafer, Vennie Gore, Keith Groty (professor emeritus), David Gift and John Beck.

These men represent over 200+ years at MSU and span all segments of the institution. We’re delighted with the progress thus far – particularly with the quality of the dialogue and hope that you too will agree that this bold step will benefit all.

For more information about WRCMAC, visit: http://wrc.msu.edu

Women in Higher Education
~ Upcoming Conferences ~

Conference for Pre-tenure Women (3rd annual conference)
Monday, September 24, 2012 to Tuesday, September 25, 2012

26th Women in Educational Leadership Conference
Sunday, October 14, 2012 to Monday, October 15, 2012

National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA)
Sunday, October 7, 2012 to Tuesday, October 9, 2012

NASPA: National Association for Student Personnel Administrators—Bold without Boundaries.
Saturday, March 16, 2013 to Wednesday, March 20, 2013

For details and additional conferences, visit: http://www.wihe.com/listConf.jsp
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<td><strong>Distinguished Faculty Awards</strong>&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html">http://www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html</a>&lt;br&gt;Betsy White, Provost Office, 353-9900 (<a href="mailto:whitebe@msu.edu">whitebe@msu.edu</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>MSU Alumni Club of Mid-Michigan Quality in Undergraduate Teaching Awards</strong>&lt;br&gt;www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html&lt;br&gt;Betsy White, Provost Office, 355-9900 (<a href="mailto:whitebe@msu.edu">whitebe@msu.edu</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Distinguished Academic Staff Awards</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Academic Specialists and MSU Extension Academic Staff)&lt;br&gt;www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html&lt;br&gt;Betsy White, Provost Office, 353-9900 (<a href="mailto:whitebe@msu.edu">whitebe@msu.edu</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Excellence-In-Teaching Citations (Graduate Teaching Assistants)</strong>&lt;br&gt;www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html&lt;br&gt;Betsy White, Provost Office, 353-9900 (<a href="mailto:whitebe@msu.edu">whitebe@msu.edu</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Robert F. Banks Award for Institutional Leadership</strong>&lt;br&gt;www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html&lt;br&gt;Betsy White, Provost Office, 353-9900 (<a href="mailto:whitebe@msu.edu">whitebe@msu.edu</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award</strong>&lt;br&gt;www.msu.edu/provost/awards.html&lt;br&gt;Carla Hills, University Outreach &amp; Engagement, 353-8977, (<a href="mailto:hillsc@msu.edu">hillsc@msu.edu</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Jack Breslin Distinguished Staff Award</strong>&lt;br&gt;Human Resource Services, 353-3720</td>
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<td><strong>Excellence in Diversity Awards</strong>&lt;br&gt;www.inclusion.msu.edu/ida&lt;br&gt;Paulette Granberry Russell, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, 353-3924&lt;br&gt;Audrey Bentley, 353-3922 (<a href="mailto:bentley@msu.edu">bentley@msu.edu</a>)</td>
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Join Us In The Fight!
Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

Join Us In The Fight! Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk! Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is a noncompetitive, donation-based 3-mile walk to help raise awareness and funds to aid the American Cancer Society's fight against breast cancer. This year's walk will be held at 9:30AM on Saturday, October 27, 2012, and will begin at the State Capitol Building in Downtown Lansing. The MSU Women's Resource Center is proud to once again participate in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, and we extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join our team. Each team member is encouraged to collect at least $100.00 in donations prior to the day of the event. To join the WRC Making Strides Team:

1. Go to www.cancer.org/stridesonline
2. Select the appropriate state (Michigan)
3. Click on 2012 Making Strides Lansing MI
4. Click on the “Sign-Up” button in the middle of the page
5. Click on “Join an Existing Team” button on the right side of the page
6. Type in MSU Women’s Resource Center or scroll down to the list of teams and select “MSU Women's Resource Center”
7. Click “Next” button
8. Fill in your information for event registration!
9. Once registered, the MSU Women’s Resource Center will e-mail you an information packet with event details.

If you are unable to walk on the 27th, but want to help out, you can still contribute to the WRC team by making a donation! If you have any questions, please contact the WRC at (517) 353-1635 or wrc@msu.edu.

Thank you for contributing in the fight against breast cancer!

We hope that you will join the MSU Women’s Resource Center Team, as a walker and/or contributor. Together, we can help ensure progress toward the fight against breast cancer and continue to save more lives. Also, look for the Cans for the Cure bins around campus to recycle your empty, refundable soda cans and bottles. All proceeds go the American Cancer Society to aid in the fight against breast cancer. For more information, contact the MSU WRC at 517-353-1635 during regular business hours (M-F, 8:00AM-5:00PM) or via e-mail (wrc@msu.edu).

G2W Celebrates 5th Anniversary!

On June 15, 2012, the “Girls to Women Conference”, affectionately known as G2W, celebrated its 5th anniversary! This annual event, sponsored by the Women’s Center of Greater Lansing, MSU’s BEACON Center and the MSU Women’s Resource Center, offers girls entering the 8th thru 12th grade a chance to explore the changes occurring in their lives and the transition from adolescence to adulthood. Over 100 young women participated in the day-long program.

A new feature this year was a two-hour plenary session that included a “Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Panel” featuring Dr. Maxine Davis (Chemist), Tori Menold (Construction Project Manager), Dr. Tamara Reid Bush (Mechanical Engineer) and Dr. Elizabeth Simmons (Physicist). The women talked about the work they do, the benefits of choosing a career in the sciences and about being a woman in a field dominated by men. After the panel and lunch, the attendees participated in an interactive team building activity creating towers out of limited supplies of newspaper, tape and straws.

Nine workshops were offered throughout the day ranging in topics from Self-Esteem, Healthy Relationships, Social Norms and the Media, Life and Career Planning, Cultural Diversity, Social Media and Leadership. During the opening session, MSU senior Sara Sherman shared her story of overcoming the obstacles of having Deep Dyslexia and ADHD. Sara also proved to be an outstanding role model and example, playing on the MSU Varsity Women’s Club Ice Hockey team, where she serves as the team’s Vice President and was a member of the 2011 National Championship team. Sara also works as a Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant and has been selected to serve on the 2012-13 MSU Homecoming Court.

The conference ended with a session that featured yoga and relaxation techniques and a visit from members of the Capital City Wild Childs—Lansing’s premier junior roller derby team. The G2W Conference provided the participants with the skills, support and resources needed to be successful in life. The girls left the conference with a renewed sense of confidence, the belief that anything is possible and an understanding that they are not alone in the changes they are experiencing.

Offerings from the MSU Sexual Assault Program

Hope and Healing: A therapy group for women who have experienced sexual assault or sexual abuse and are able to commit to attending group weekly. Day and time: Thursdays from 3:00-4:30pm, beginning September 13, 2012. Location: MSU Counseling Center, 556 East Circle Drive Suite 207. Information or screening: Leah Elliott at 517-355-6890 or leahe@cc.msu.edu.

Soul Speak: A drop-in support group for women who have experienced sexual assault or sexual abuse and prefer more flexibility. Participants can attend weekly or as needed. Day and time: Mondays from 4:00-5:00pm, beginning September 17, 2012. Location: MSU Counseling Center, 556 East Circle Drive Suite 207 Information or screening: Shari Murgittroyd at 517-355-9320 or sharim@cc.msu.edu.

Please contact the MSU Sexual Assault Program for additional details or visit the website at: www.endrape.msu.edu.

Gender Matters!
The MSU Women’s Resource Center Welcomes Spartans, New and Returning!

Who are we?

The MSU Women’s Resource Center (WRC) has been working to promote a women-led agenda across campus for the past twenty years. The center was established in 1992 as part of the MSU IDEA (Institutional Diversity: Excellence in Action), a plan for achieving a new level of diversity and excellence to meet the needs of a changing America. Our mission centers on the provision of a supportive environment that enables all to become full and active participants in the development of policy, decision making, and the achievement of equity. The Center serves the interests of students, faculty, and staff with informative programs, newsletters, and literary and video resources and acting in a coordinating role for education relative to social justice, leadership and gender related issues and concerns.

Meet the staff:

Jayne Schuiteman, PhD: Jayne is the interim director of the MSU WRC, an associate professor with a teaching assignment in the Center for Gender in Global Context. She has been a faculty member at the university since 1990. Sexual assault and relationship violence are her foci. Additionally, she is working in the area of men and masculinities studies.

Patricia Lowrie: Pat is the former director of the WRC and now serves as consultant to the Center. She also serves as the assistant to the dean in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Pat serves as chairperson of the advisory board and associated projects for Campus Women Lead, affiliated with the Association of American Colleges and University’s Office of Diversity, Equity, and Global Initiatives and the Preparing Future Faculty Advisory Board, an NSF supported project with AACU that focuses on women of color STEM faculty at HBCU’s on the Status and Education of Women.

Audrey Smith: Audrey is the office manager at the WRC. She has worked on MSU’s campus for thirty one years - first in human resources and then human relations – and has worked for the WRC since its inception in 1992. Primarily supporting the director, Audrey is also responsible for staffing several committees, budget, event planning, programming, and day-to-day operations of the Center.

Evette Chavez Lockhart: Evette is the editorial/administrative assistant at the WRC. She joined the Center six years ago and has been employed by MSU since 1980. Evette is responsible for the monthly newsletter Wisdom, Words, & Women (which you can access on our website: wrc.msu.edu). She is also responsible for handling all public relations and marketing as well as planning conferences, the administration of fellowships and scholarships, committee staffing, and providing support to the director.

Vacant: Educational Program Coordinator.

Arielle LaBreque: Arielle is a departmental aide at the MSU WRC who joined the Center in the Spring semester of 2012 as lead writer for Wisdom, Words & Women. Arielle is a senior in Arts & Humanities.

Emily Nichols: Emily is a department aide who has been very active with the WRC during her undergraduate degree as part of the Women’s Initiative in Leadership Development (WILD) Committee. Emily now joins our staff as a Master’s student in the Social Work program.

Where you can find us:

You can visit us on the third floor of the MSU Union – Room 332. Just stop in to chat with our lively staff or take some time to browse the extensive book and video libraries. Check out fantastic titles such as Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes, Killing Us Softly 3, Crash, and Iron Jawed Angels with a valid MSU ID. Also, take a look at our program binder (updated daily) for various campus and community-wide programs as well as opportunities within different organizations and employment.

So long, Jodi...

As we go to print, Jodi Roberto Hancock, has accepted a new position as Director of the River Trail Engagement Center and will be leaving us mid-September.

Serving as Educational Program Coordinator since 2004, Jodi has been a vital part of the Center and the MSU WRC family. Although she will be dearly missed, we know she will be doing wonderful work in her new position and we wish her the very best.

Best Wishes, Jodi, in all that you do!

Congratulations!

Patricia M. Lowrie

The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) named its minority scholarship fund in honor of Patricia M. Lowrie, former director of the MSU Women’s Resource Center! As noted by the AAVMC, Pat is a long-standing champion of diversity and inclusion and this honor is well-deserved.

For the AAVMC press release, please visit: http://www.aavmc.org/PressRelease/?id=117.

August/September 2012

Wednesday, September 5, 2012: Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development (WILD) Informational Session. 6:30-7:30PM, MSU Union, Lake Superior Room (3rd Floor). Learn about WILD, the annual Women’s Leadership Conference and how you can be involved with this committee!

Thursday, September 6, 2012: Welcome Reception...Spartan Remix 6:00-9:00PM, Auditorium Field (by “The Rock”). Welcome reception for all new and returning Faculty, Staff, Council of Racial and Ethnic Minority Students (COREM), LGBT communities, and international students. Fun, games, activities and FREE!

Friday, September 7, 2012: Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development (WILD) first meeting of the semester. 3:00-5:00PM, MSU Union Building, Lake Superior Room (3rd Floor).

Wednesday, September 19, 2012: “Empowerment vs. Motivation: Leading into Your Best Effort”. 12:00N—1:00PM, MSU Union, Lake Superior Room (3rd Floor). Speaker: Allison McClintick, Leader Development Organizational Trainer, Coach and speaker. Free and open to all! RSVP to wrc@msu.edu or (517) 353-1635.

Thursday, September 20, 2012: “College Savings Comparison Program”. 12:00N—1:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union Headquarters, 3777 West Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Speaker: Jim Peterson, Manager, MET. Co-sponsored by the MSU Federal Credit Union and the MSU Women’s Resource Center. To RSVP, sign up at MSUFCU.org, pdav@msufcu.org or (517) 664-7725. Free and open to all!

Tuesday, September 25, 2012: “Conversation with the President: Lou Anna K. Simon. 3:00—4:30PM, Kellogg Center, Red Cedar A&B. RSVP to: (517) 353-1635 or wrc@msu.edu. Details on page 6.

Tuesday, September 25, 2012: Successful Black Women of MSU—Informational meeting. 6:30—7:30PM, MSU Union, Tower Room (4th Floor).

Thursday, September 27, 2012: Acupuncture in Women’s Health and Fertility. 12:00N—1:00PM, MSU Union, Lake Superior Room (3rd Floor). Presenter, Annie Haas, graduate of Pacific College of Oriental Medicine. Drawing for free acupuncture and consult (valued at $110.00). Must be present to win! RSVP to wrc@msu.edu or (517) 353-1635.

Date saver!

Saturday, October 13, 2011
8:00 AM—Demonstration Hall, MSU Campus

On behalf of the MSU Spartan Alumni Band members, you are invited to stop by the annual fall reunion. This year’s theme will be “Title IX at 40” with special recognition for the first two women to join the band in that fall of 1972. Additional details in the October issue of Wisdom, Words & Women.

Announcements

The Mildred B. Erickson Fellowship is accepting applications for Spring Semester 2013. Applications are available at: http://wrc.msu.edu (click on “referrals and resources” then MBE to print the application). The application deadline is 5:00 PM, Sunday, September 30, 2012 and MUST be postmarked or delivered by the deadline. Applications hand-delivered after normal office hours may be placed under the office door. Applications MUST BE returned to the MSU Women’s Resource Center (49 Abbot Rd., 332 Union, East Lansing, MI 48824) with all required documents as noted on the application checklist.

The Mildred B. Erickson Fellowship is designed for nontraditional domestic students (U.S. Citizens) who have had to interrupt their degree studies for a significant amount of time and can demonstrate financial need. Individual scholarships cover a portion of tuition (undergraduate or graduate) for up to three semesters at MSU. Specifically, scholarships cover up to five credits for the first two awards and up to twelve credits for the third award, pending available funds.

Join the 2012 Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development (WILD) Committee!

WILD is looking for committed, responsible, hard working, positive and fun students to join the Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development Committee! Come to an information session to learn more about WILD (what’s expected of members and the benefits of membership).

WILD Information Session
Wednesday, September 5, 2012
6:30—7:30 PM
Lake Superior Room, MSU Union (3rd floor)

Why should you join W.I.L.D.?
- You will gain experience in planning a campus wide event (the 10th annual MSU Women’s Leadership Conference) and additional workshops throughout the year.
- You will build/develop your leadership abilities.
- You will work with diverse students, faculty, and staff.
- You will network with many different people on campus.
- You will be a part of a great team!
- You will have the opportunity to make a positive impact at your time at Michigan State University.

We are looking for new people to join the WILD committee! Membership is open to all MSU students. Meetings are held on Fridays at 3:00 p.m. during fall and spring semesters and members are expected to attend all meetings. Several sub-committees are available to fit your interests.

For more information, call the MSU Women’s Resource Center at (517) 353-1635 or email co-chairs: Leah (holowayl@msu.edu) or Janisse (janisse88@gmail.com).