

# WOMEN'S STUDIES

SPECIAL ISSUE: SAYING GOODBYE TO OUR 2009 GRADUATES!



*Yesterday I texted my husband "I love my life." I had been thinking about how much I love my children, my husband, my job...all of it. As graduation approaches I am faced with the fact that the students featured in this newsletter, who I have worked so closely with these few years, who have touched my heart in so many ways, are leaving. It has been a true gift to know them – I am inspired by their visions of social justice and what they have done, are doing, and will do, to make that vision a reality. I've relished our discussions and hearing each of their unique voices and learning from them in the process. I know this is not a final farewell; another thing I love about WNS is that we all seem to reunite regularly and they know I am always here. So no goodbyes, but one of my wishes for my graduating seniors is that they will find paths and make choices that lead them to wherever the place is that they can feel, deep in their bones, "I love my life".*

**Susan Logsdon-Conradsen,**  
Director of the WNS Program

## WNS End of the Year Celebration!!!

May 1st, 2 pm

Krannert Faculty Lounge

Make ice cream sundaes and celebrate summer!!



**Erin Dubyak**

Women's Studies Concentration in Sexual Violence, Theatre Minor

### What has the Women's Studies program meant to you?

The WNS program has meant so much to me. It provided a network of friendship and support that has undoubtedly made my college experience that much more fulfilling. It has provided me a context in which to express my passions, it has given me a voice and given validity to my voice. I have been changed by this program and have been subsequently able to bring new thoughts and ways of thinking to others.

### What do you plan to do with your minor after graduation?

After I graduate I plan to go on to graduate school and get my doctorate, and I would love to teach on the college level.



**Caroline Gettis**

Psychology Major, Women's Studies Minor

### What has the Women's Studies program meant to you?

The Women's Studies program has been a family and a home away from home for myself while here at Berry College. It's been a place where I have felt understood and accepted. The students and professors who make up the program have validated, cared for, challenged, and supported me throughout the past three and a half years. I have grown throughout my participation in this program, and I am overwhelmingly grateful for all of those involved.

### What do you plan to do with your minor after graduation?

I am looking into both Women's Studies Graduate Programs and Psychological Counseling Programs. I desire to serve women who have been victimized, through counseling, prevention education, and activism.



**Kate Rouse**

Psychology Major, Women's Studies Minor

### What has the Women's Studies program meant to you?

The program has been a life-changing experience; I no longer look at the world the same. It has opened my eyes and my heart to the injustices, inequities, and misrepresentations in our society. The program has inspired and challenged me to make a difference in every way that I can.

### What do you plan to do with your minor after graduation?

I know the education I have gained through the Women's Studies program will follow me the rest of my life. I plan to take advantage of every opportunity to raise awareness, educate others, and fight for the rights of all human beings. I will be a better citizen, person, friend, and one day a better mother, because of this program.

**Not featured:** Melissa Szabo, a graduating Senior Psychology Major and Women's Studies Minor.

Interested in becoming a Women's Studies Minor??

Contact Dr. Susan Logsdon-Conradsen, at [sconradsen@berry.edu](mailto:sconradsen@berry.edu).

## I'm A Feminist Because...



“Every human being - no matter his or her race, class, gender, or sexuality - is

worthy. Worthy of respect. Worthy of equal treatment. Worthy of value. Because this is not a reality for so many people in our society, I am drawn to a movement that works to end discrimination, violence, sexual assault, poverty, and all other social injustice. It is my faith that fills my heart with compassion for all people, and it is my feminism that keeps it beating.  
-Kate Rouse, *Senior*

### W.O.R.T.H.

Women's Organization  
for Reproductive & Total  
Healthcare, Inc.

For their class group activism project, WNS Seminar is helping get the word out about the new women's health clinic at **1513 Dean Street in Rome.**

The Vagina Monologues raised around \$600 for the non-government funded organization. The WNS Seminar is creating flyers for Berry and the clinic, which will include information about sexual health, unintended pregnancies, STDs, sexual violence, and a number of other issues. WORTH will even be on Facebook soon. Students who are interested in volunteering at the clinic should contact Marilyn at [mtring-staff@gmail.com](mailto:mtring-staff@gmail.com) or call the clinic (706) 232 3408. Hours of operation for the clinic are Friday & Saturday from 9AM-5PM, and evenings as needed by appointment.



**Becky McDaniel**  
English Major, Women's Studies Minor

#### What has the Women's Studies program meant to you?

The Women's Studies program has given me a working understanding of how the systems of our societies intersect to create the injustices I see in the world around me. It has also given me concrete tools to help me work to fix those broken systems.

#### What do you plan to do with your minor after graduation?

I've started to work for change here at Berry thanks to what I've learned in Women's Studies, and I plan to continue building on that foundation after I graduate. Because I chose to minor in Women's Studies, I have incredible resources to draw on as I keep working for social justice.



**Erin Oakley**  
Psychology Major, Women's Studies and Sociology Minors

#### What has the Women's Studies program meant to you?

The Women's Studies program has given me inspiration and encouragement and has given me a community of people who feel as passionately about human rights as I do. I am grateful for the knowledge I've gained and for the friends I've made because of the program.

#### What do you plan to do with your minor after graduation?

I plan to use my minor in all capacities: to increase my understanding of injustices in the world, to make connections, and to aid me in pursuing a career in social services.



**Lindsay Wilson**  
Sociology Major, Women's Studies and Government Minors

#### What has the Women's Studies program meant to you?

Women's Studies classes have always been my favorite! I enjoy learning about relevant social issues that affect both women and men, as well as relationships, careers, and families. I especially appreciate that Women's Studies classes have encouraged me to make a positive difference through volunteering.

#### What do you plan to do with your minor after graduation?

I am interested in a career with a nonprofit organization that focuses on women and girls. I think encouraging girls to have self-confidence is the way to create strong women, and I hope I can be a part of an organization that focuses on these goals.

## Social Justice Opportunities— Get Involved This Summer!!

**Coosa River Basin Initiative**— CRBI depends upon volunteers to carry out its mission and make a difference in the river basin.

<http://www.coosa.org/get-involved>.

**Open Door Children's Home**— Participate in a variety of volunteer opportunities, including significantly impacting the life of a child through mentorship.

[http://www.opendoorhome.org/involved\\_vol.html](http://www.opendoorhome.org/involved_vol.html).

**Rome & Floyd County Habitat for Humanity**— Habitat for Humanity is a volunteer organization from top to bottom. Plan, promote, build... Make a difference.

<http://www.habitatrome.com/volunteers09.html>.

**S.A.F.E. House**— Operates a 54 bed domestic violence shelter, a 24/7 Crisis Hotline, and provides a transitional program.

<http://www.safehouseenv.org/involved.html>.

**Sexual Assault Center of NWGA**— SAC depends on its dedicated volunteers to help provide direct services to survivors of sexual violence in the community.

**Wellspring Living**— Opportunities for Women, **Duluth, GA**— Teach classes, facilitate activities, intern for counseling.

Opportunities for Girls, **Palmetto, GA**— Be an academic mentor, sponsor field trips, teach life skills. <http://www.wellspringliving.org/volunteer.php>.

**Nicodemus Wilderness Project**— A grassroots approach to organize and facilitate events bringing community members together to restore our environment. [http://wildernessproject.org/volunteer\\_events.php](http://wildernessproject.org/volunteer_events.php).

**Hands on Atlanta**— Volunteers work all year to meet the critical needs in schools, parks, food banks, senior homes, pet shelters, low-income neighborhoods, and more. <http://www.handsonatlanta.com>.