

The Women's Center News

Spring 2010

Check out the Women's Center at: <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter>

Volume 17, Issue 3

Dr. Susan Douglas, Author of "Enlightened Sexism," to Speak at 2010 Minx Auerbach Lecture

by Nancy M. Theriot, Chairperson & Professor,
Women's & Gender Studies

The Department of Women's and Gender Studies is pleased to announce the 2010 Minx Auerbach Lecture in Women's and Gender Studies. Dr. Susan Douglas, author, professor, and columnist, will speak on "The Rise of Enlightened Sexism and the Seductive Message that Feminism's Work is Done," on March 31, 2010, at 6 p.m., in the Speed Museum Auditorium.

Susan Douglas is the Catherine Neafie Kellogg Professor of Communication Studies at The University of Michigan and Chair of the Department. She is a nationally acclaimed scholar whose work focuses on images and myths about women in mass media. Professor Douglas is author of four books: *The Mommy Myth: The Idealization of Motherhood and How it Undermines Women*; *Listening In: Radio and the American Imagination* (which won the Hacker Prize in 2000 for the best popular book about technology and culture); *Where*



Dr. Susan Douglas
Photo courtesy of Jodi F.
Solomon Speakers Bureau

The Girls Are: Growing Up Female with the Mass Media; and *Inventing American Broadcasting, 1899-1922*. *Where the Girls Are* was widely praised, and chosen one of the top ten books of 1994 by National Public Radio, *Entertainment Weekly* and *The McLaughlin Group*.

In addition to her books, Professor Douglas writes a column, "Back Talk," which appears monthly in *In These Times*, and she has also written for *The Nation*, *The Village Voice*, *Ms.*, *The Washington Post* and *The Progressive*. Susan Douglas has appeared on *The Today Show*, *The CBS Early Show*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, *Working Woman*, CNBC's *Equal Time*, NPR's *Fresh Air*, *Weekend Edition*, *The Diane Rehm Show*, *Talk of the Nation*, Michael Feldman's *Whad'ya Know* and various radio talk shows around the country.

Susan Douglas's new book, *Enlightened Sexism*, will be released March 1, 2010. The book is a follow up to *Where the Girls Are* and chronicles the widening gap between the images of women in the mass media and the everyday lives of girls and women in the United States.

The Minx Auerbach Lecture is free and open to the public. Paid parking is available in the Speed Museum garage.

For information, contact the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at 852-8160.

Women, Children and Families Impacted by Kentucky Legislation

by Phyllis M. Webb, Women's Center

A number of legislative bills have passed the House of the Kentucky General Assembly that will greatly affect women, children and families. By the time you receive this issue of the newsletter, some may have passed the Senate and become law.

The bills include the following:

House Bill 1, the "Amanda Ross Bill" is aimed at better protecting victims of domestic violence. The bill would require those accused of domestic violence to wear a global-positioning device. The bill includes an emergency clause that would make it effective immediately once the Kentucky Senate passes it and the Governor signs it.

HB1 would allow judges to order people accused of domestic violence to wear GPS devices if they are considered dangerous or likely to violate a protective order. Currently there are 14 states that use GPS devices in domestic-violence cases.

House Bill 30 extends protective orders to individuals alleging dating violence. The current law only allows people who have a child in common to obtain protective orders. House Bill 30 would include dating partners in their domestic violence law-enforcement applications and protections.

House Bill 285 is aimed at helping doctors, day care workers and others who often encounter children to recognize

signs of abuse. The bill would require additional training in not only recognizing but also addressing signs of child abuse for police officers; some social workers; health care professionals, including nurses and doctors who treat children, day care workers; foster and adoptive parents; and family court lawyers who represent children.

Social workers often work with clients who are single mothers. House Bill 362 (The Boni Frederick Bill) is a 2007 legislation meant to increase safety and add resources to hire additional social workers. However, due to budget cuts, funding of \$4 million was cut from the original bill, which called for \$6 million in funding for more workers and improved security.

Stay informed of actions on bills and meetings which will ultimately affect some of our most vulnerable citizens—women and children. Follow the legislative committee meetings and floor sessions in person (by appointments) in the Frankfort, Ky., chambers. To check on the status of a bill, visit the Kentucky Legislative web page at <http://www.lrc.ky.gov> or call the toll free phone line at 1-800-633-9650.



Nominated by U of L Women's Center

Local Pediatrician Honored at “Kentucky Women Remembered Exhibit” in Frankfort



*Mary Karen Powers,
Director Women's Center*

On March 16, 2010, Dr. Grace Marilyn James will join 54 other women who have been recognized for their contributions to the Commonwealth when her watercolor portrait is added to the Kentucky Women Remembered Exhibit in the Capitol Rotunda. These portraits are a visual reminder of the role women have played in Kentucky's history. They stand in counterbalance to portraits of the state's 57 governors, only one of whom – Martha Layne Collins – was a woman.

Dr. James was born in West Virginia in 1923, and graduated from Meharry Medical College in 1950. She went on to become one of the first two African-American women on faculty at a southern medical school; the first black female member of the Jefferson County Medical Society; and the first black woman on faculty at the UofL School of Medicine. She

once described the obstacles in her own career path as “racism, capitalism, and sexism” – which prevented many black women from beginning or completing medical education.

From 1953 until her death in 1989, Dr. James maintained a pediatric practice in west Louisville and remained active in civic and professional organizations. She founded the West Louisville Health Education Program and, in the 1970s, headed the Council on Urban Education. Thus, Dr. James spent her life caring for the African-American community in Louisville. In the process, she became a role model, friend and family physician for some of the city's poverty-stricken residents.

Dr. James' papers can be found in the Women's Manuscripts Collection at the University of Louisville Archives (<http://library.louisville.edu/uarc/james.html>). She is also featured in an exhibit at the National Library of Medicine (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine/exhibition/>).

Dr. James was nominated for Kentucky Women Remembered by the UofL Women's Center. Her portrait will be unveiled in a public ceremony. For further information: 502-564-2611, <http://women.ky.gov/>.

Event Features Crystal Wilkinson, Affrilachian Writer

4th Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival Set for May 15, 2010

by “Bits” Dansberry

Bookmark May 15, 2010, for the Fourth Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival at U of L's Ekstrom Library! The Kentucky Women's Book Festival is a celebration of Kentucky's women readers, writers, and publishers.

The event will start with registration at 9 a.m., followed by the keynote opening session by Sheila Joyce. Plans are to have six concurrent workshop sessions, luncheon speaker Crystal Wilkinson, a book signing (where participants will have a chance to purchase and have authors sign copies of the books that are featured in each session), and a closing keynote given by Sarah Gorham of Sarabande books ending the festival at 4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Other topics that will be featured include poetry, blogging, oral history, writers groups, and Jen Woods from The Lumberyard, a letterpress magazine.

Crystal Wilkinson, the luncheon keynote address speaker, is an Affrilachian author who has published two books. In addition to the two books, she has been published in the anthologies “Confronting Appalachian Stereotypes: Back Talk from an American Region” (University of Kentucky Press, 1999); “Gifts from Our Grandmothers” (Crown Publishers, 2000); and “Gumbo: Stories by Black Writers” (Doubleday, Harlem Moon Press, 2002). Her work has also appeared in various literary journals, including *Obsidian II: Black Literature in Review*, *Southern Exposure*, *The Briar Cliff Review*, *LIT*, *Calyx*, *African Voices* and the *Indiana Review*.

Anyone who enjoys reading and appreciates writing with a local flair will enjoy this event, so gather a group of your girlfriends or make a date with your mom and come to the festival. Men who appreciate women's literature are also

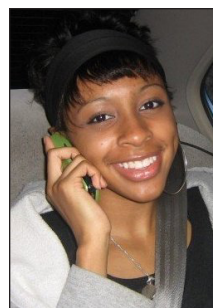
welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information about the Kentucky Women's Book Festival go to <http://louisville.edu/womenscenter/kwbf>. The site will be updated over the next couple of months to maintain details. You can also find the event on Facebook by searching for “Kentucky Women's Book Festival.”

(“Bits is the Special Events Coordinator for the Women's Center. She will graduate from U of L in May with a Master of Arts in Women & Gender Studies.)



Crystal Wilkinson



Women Center Welcomes

The staff of the Women's Center welcomes back Tiarra (now Tiarra Clark) to the office as a work/study student and Communications major. Tiarra left U of L briefly, got married and is now expecting a baby. She is working on various projects, including the Women4Women student chapter and the MOMS support group. We will continue to see her great graphic design work in our publications and wish her the best.

Women's History Month Calendar of Events

Each year, March is designated as National Women's History Month to ensure that the history of women will be recognized and celebrated in schools, workplaces and communities throughout the country. 2010 is the 30th Anniversary of the Women's History Project. The National theme is "Writing Women Back into History."--Source: National Women's History Project

The University of Louisville Women's Center has compiled a listing of campus and community events that covers the latter part of February, March and April. Unless noted, all events are free and open to the public and will take place on the U of L's Belknap Campus. Dates are subject to change without written notice. Please note: Due to possible inclement weather in the area some programs and events listed may be postponed and/or cancelled. Contact the sponsoring organization or group listed for more details and updates. The calendar is online at <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter>.

FEBRUARY

Thursday, February 25, at 6 p.m.

**U of L College of Arts & Sciences (A&S) Hall of Honor Induction
Speed Art Museum Auditorium
2035 South Third Street**

The College of Arts & Sciences Hall of Honor recognizes the A&S alumni, students, faculty, administrators, staff and other supporters who made the most significant and lasting contributions to the College, the University, the local community and the larger society since the establishment of the College in 1907. Those honored this year include Eliza Atkins Gleason, Lucy M. Freibert, Gerhard Herz and Phil Laemmle. Reception immediately following in the Sculpture Court, featuring music by Jerry Tolson Trio. Additional information available at <http://louisville.edu/artsandsciences/hallofhonor>.

Seating limited. Reservations required. E-mail asdean@louisville.edu or call 852-6490.

MARCH

**Throughout March
in honor of Women's
History Month**

**Women's History Month Display
(8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.,
Mondays – Fridays)**

Kentucky State Capitol, 700 Capitol Avenue, Frankfort, KY

Visit the Kentucky State Capitol and stop by the display case outside of the Capitol Rotunda honoring Women's History Month. While in the Capitol make sure to visit the "Kentucky Women Remembered" Exhibit honoring Kentucky women who have made a difference in Kentucky history. (See March 16 for more details.)

**Tuesday, March 2
LGBT Services Spectrum
of Sexuality**

(Various events and activities)

The keynote speaker will be Robyn Ochs, workshop leader, teacher and long-time activist. For specific details, e-mail Brian Buford at bwbuf01@louisville.edu.

**Tuesday, March 2,
at 4 p.m.**

**Child Identification Program
McDonald's Restaurant
301 East Warnock Street, near U of L**

Child I.D. kits will be distributed to parents/guardians allowing them to record fingerprints, a child's photo and description to be used to provide law enforcement with crucial information for immediate response. Coloring book contests will be held for the children with winners receiving McDonald's gift cards. Coordinated by the U of L Women's Center MOM group and the Dept. of Public Safety Police Department. For more details, call 852-8976 or e-mail Phyllis Webb at pmwebb01@louisville.edu, or Officer Cheri Smith at cdsmith14@louisville.edu.

**Tuesday, March 2,
at 5:30 p.m.**

**U of L Alumni Four-Part
Financial Series: "Mastering
Your Financial Plan"
University Club (1st floor Board Room)**

Courses will be led by U of L alumnus Paula Parkerson, Financial Planner, Kentucky Financial Group, and U of L alumnus Jeffrey Yussman, partner, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP. (For U of L alumni.)

Part 1: Mastering a Personal Financial Plan and Mastering an Investment Strategy. As an alumni, register yourself and a guest who can be non-alum at <http://www.louisville.edu/alumni/calendar>.

(Other sessions on March 3 [see below] and March 8, 9)

**Wednesday, March 3,
at 5:30 p.m.**

**Part 2 Financial Series: "Mastering
Lifetime (Disability) Planning"
University Club (1st floor Board Room)**

Planning for health care and financial matters in the event of disability.

**Wednesday, March 3,
at 3 p.m.**

**Social Change Lecture Series
Humanities Building, #300**

Dr. Drue Barker, University of South Carolina, will speak on "African Women Writing Resistance." Sponsored by the Social Change Program, the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, and the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace & Justice. For more details, contact Amber Duke at the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace & Justice at 852-6142.

**Wednesday, March 3 –
Sunday, March 7, at 8
p.m. nightly; plus 3 p.m.
matinee on 3/7**

**Department of Theatre Arts
"A Song for Coretta" Play
The Thrust Theatre,
2314 South Floyd Street, U of L**

In this celebration of Coretta Scott King, mourners prepare to honor a Civil Rights icon. Set in Atlanta outside historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, five women come from different stations in life to speak of the inspiration they gained from this experience. Special music will be presented by Sharon Sales, Angela Tellis, and Troy Bell. Presented by the African American Theatre Program.

For ticket information, call the main office at 852-7682; box office, 852-6814, or contact Dr. Lundeana Thomas at lmthom01@louisville.edu or Melanie Henry at mahenry04@louisville.edu.

**Saturday, March 6,
at 1 p.m.**

**Nia Center
2900 West Broadway**

"We Didn't Mourn, We Organized!" will commemorate Anne Braden's life and celebrate Women's History Month and International Women's Day. The program will be followed by a March/Rally to the Carl Braden Memorial Center, 3208 West Broadway, for a free potluck dinner. Sponsored by the Carl Braden Memorial

Center and the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research. Contact Amber Duke at agduke01@louisville.edu for more details.

Monday, March 8, at 9 a.m.

International Women's Day

Various locations on- and off-campus

A global day celebrating the achievements of women, past, present and future. Strong Leadership! Strong Women! Strong World! Women will be honored all day. Come by the U of L Women's Center table in the Student Activities Center, U of L (9 a.m.-12 p.m.) for free donuts and pick up a "Strong Women Strong World" button. Pay tribute to a woman you admire! Join participants at a Brown Bag lunch (12 p.m.-1 p.m.) at the Muhammad Ali Center with the Rwandan sister's inspiring story of survival. The featured speaker for the day will be Jessica Yamane on "Within Her Strength: From Self-Respect to Self-Defense," Red Barn, U of L (6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.) Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact the PEACC office at 852-2663 or visit <http://www.louisville.edu/peacc/>.

Monday, March 8, at 3 p.m.

Akers Faculty Travel Research Award Presentation

U of L Ekstrom Library (Chao Auditorium)

Dr. Clare Sullivan of the Modern Languages Department will present her research on "Mexican Women in Translation" discussing the work of Susana Corcvera and Natalia Toledo. Sponsored by Women & Global Issues and the Commission on the Status of Women. For more details, e-mail Dr. Dawn Heinecken at dohein01@louisville.edu.

Monday, March 8, at 5:30 p.m.

U of L Alumni Four-Part Financial Series: "Mastering Your Financial Plan," continuation with Part 3

University Club (1st floor Board Room)

(Courses will be led by U of L alumnus Paula Parkerson and Jefferey Yussman)

Part 3: Mastering Retirement Planning & Risk Management

Topics will include the critical need for retirement planning, the four Ds of risk (death, disability, divorce and disaster) and other topics of interest. Register on-line at <http://www.louisville.edu/alumni/calendar>.

Monday, March 8, at 6 p.m.

Metro United Way Success by 6 Parenting Workshop

Norton Suburban Hospital Medical Plaza III, Suite 108 4121 Dutchmans Lane

"Developing Milestone: Is Your Child on Track?" will explore the Kentucky Early Childhood Standards that provide markers for what children should know and be able to do at different stages from birth to age 4. The standards are used as a guide in many early childhood programs to connect with expectations in kindergarten. Presented by Nancy Newberry, Early Childhood Consultant. Sponsored by United Way Success by 6 Kosair Children's Hospital and Norton Women's Pavilion. To register, call 629-1234.

Tuesday, March 9, at 2:30 p.m.

Carolyn Krause Maddox Prize in Women's and Gender Studies Colloquium

Humanities Building, #300

Students from various disciplines have submitted papers on topics related to women and/or gender issues. One undergraduate and graduate student, chosen by an interdisciplinary committee of WGS faculty, will receive prizes and present their papers at the colloquium.

Tuesday, March 9, at 5:30 p.m.

Part 4: Mastering Death Planning

University Club (1st floor Board Room)

Wills, trusts, taxes, business succession planning, and charitable planning will be discussed.

For more information and/or to register as a U of L alumni (and a guest who can be non-alum), visit <http://louisville.edu/alumni/calendar>.

Wednesday, March 10, at 12 p.m.

A Colloquium on Diversity, Over Lunch!

Cultural Center, U of L

The topic for this month is "A Discussion on Social Justice and Exploring Women and College Student Retention and Degree Completion" led by Dr. Fashaad Crawford. Free lunch for those in attendance. For more details e-mail Laine Lopez at lyorte01@louisville.edu or call 852-0230.

Thursday, March 11 – Saturday, March 13

National Conference on the Black Family in America

Hyatt Regency Hotel 320 West Jefferson Street

The 37th Annual Black Family Conference includes various speakers such as Dr. Joy DeGruy, Master Motivator, and Dr. Julia Hare, Co-founder of the "Black Think Tank," who will address issues on "Saving the Black Family." There will be various workshops, a banquet and luncheon, exhibits and a Youth conference component for middle school and high school students, which will take place at the Muhammad Ali Institute on March 11 and March 12, respectively. A Youth Symposium will take place at the Hyatt Regency on March 13 with speaker, Lasana Hotep, Arizona State University. For cost, registration details and/or more information, visit <http://www.louisville.edu/culturalcenter/bfc/registration-information.html>.

All Month Freebies

Spring break week: Monday, March 15 – Friday, March 19

Pre-Spring Break Goodies!!

The U of L PEACC (Prevention, Education & Advocacy on Campus and in the Community) staff will distribute freebies and present information (prior to spring break week) to various groups and organizations about safety and healthy decision making. To schedule a presentation for your organization or group, e-mail Sharon Larue at sdlaru01@louisville.edu or call 852-2663 for more information.

Sunday, March 14, at 4 p.m.

Yearlings Club Speaker Series Yearlings Club, 4309 West Broadway

The Yearlings Club, a partner of the University of Louisville College of Arts & Sciences, is devoted to civic responsibility, community service and leadership development. This public event is aimed at bringing together Louisvillians with U of L faculty members to share expertise, forge common bonds and explore issues.

The topic and invited guests for this session, "The U.S. Senate Election: Candidates Speak to Our Community," includes Lt. Governor, Dr. Dan Mongiardo; Attorney General Jack Conway; and community leaders Maurice Sweeney and Darlene Price. No reservations required. Contact Reginald Meeks, at reginald.meeks@louisville.edu or 852-3042, or Marian Vassar

at mrvass01@louisville.edu or 852-2252 2252 for more information.

**Tuesday, March 16,
at 1 p.m.**

Kentucky Women Remembered Ceremony

**Capitol Rotunda, 700 Capitol Avenue,
Frankfort, KY**

Join Governor and Mrs. Beshear and the Kentucky Commission on Women in unveiling watercolor portraits of three additional historic Kentucky women who have left their mark on history. This year's honorees are *Dr. Grace Marilyn James, Lillian Press and Verna Mae Stone. Governor Beshear will also read a proclamation for Women's History Month at this ceremony. This event, as well as a women's history display in the Capitol, is in honor of the annual observance of Women's history month.

(*Special note: Dr. James, the first female African American faculty member at the University of Louisville School of Medicine was nominated by the U of L Women's Center.)

**Thursday, March 18,
at 5:30 p.m.**

Metropolitan Louisville Women's Political Caucus Regular Meeting

City Café, 505 West Broadway

Topic: "Legal Insight on the Fen-Phen Diet Case: Bringing Down the Powerful"

\$10 per person, includes hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar available. For reservations, e-mail Angie Wallace at akwallace0818@yahoo.com.

**Thursday, March 18,
at 6 p.m.**

Special Heart Health Class: Circle of Hearts

Norton Women's Pavilion

Norton Medical Plaza West-Audubon (Clinical Education Conference Room, G-1)

"Exercise for Your Heart: Easy Steps to Improving Heart Health" is the topic. Call 629-1234 to register. Refreshments will be provided.

**Tuesday, March 23,
at 7 p.m.**

"Coming Out in Rural America" Talk

Cultural Center, U of L

LGBT youth and their allies visibly-and often vibrantly-work the boundaries of the

public spaces available to them, whether in their high schools, public libraries, town hall meetings, churches, or through websites.

Join author Mary Gray for a talk about her recent book, *Coming Out in the Country: Youth, Media, and Queer Visibility in Rural America*.

From Wal-Mart drag parties to renegade Homemaker's Clubs, *Out in the Country* offers an unprecedented contemporary account of the lives of today's rural queer youth. Mary L. Gray maps out the experiences of young people living in small towns across rural Kentucky and along its desolate Appalachian borders, providing a fascinating and often surprising look at the contours of gay life beyond the big city. Gray illustrates this description against a backdrop of an increasingly impoverished and privatized rural America. For more information, contact Brian Buford at bwbuf01@louisville.edu.

**Wednesday, March 24,
at 12 p.m.**

Let's Talk Lunch

Cultural Center (multipurpose room)

An informal lunch discussion designed to bring staff, faculty, student, and community members together in a collegial and safe environment to discuss issues important to the community. "Women's History Month" is the topic led by Mary Karen Powers, Director of the U of L Women's Center. For more details, e-mail Lanie Lopez, lyorte01@louisville.edu or call 852-8976.

**Thursday, March 25
(All day)**

Thursdays in Black

U of L's PEACC (Prevention, Education & Advocacy on Campus and in the Community) is sponsoring this day as one of strength and courage, representing our solidarity with the victims of violence, demanding a world without rape and violence. Everyone is welcome to participate. E-mail Sharon LaRue at sdlaru01@louisville.edu for specifics.

**Thursday, March 25,
at 9:45 a.m.**

Women & Global Issues Film Series – "Binta and the Great Idea" Film

Ekstrom Library (Chao Auditorium)

Javier Fesser's live action short *Binta and the Great Idea*, a Spanish-Senegalese co-production about Binta, a seven-year old girl who lives with her fisherman father in a small village on the banks of Senegal's Casamance River. (AKA *Binta y la Gran*

Idea). Binta is fortunate and blessed enough to be able to attend school and receive an education, but her cousin Soda lacks the same privilege. Dr. Nefertiti Burton of the Theatre Arts Department will lead the discussion. Sponsored in part by the U of L Commission on the Status of Women. For more details, contact Dr. Dawn Heinecken, d0hein01@louisville.edu or call 852-8160.

**Thursday, March 25,
at 4 p.m.**

MOMS (Modern Outlook on Motherhood) Support Group Meeting

Miller Hall Resource Center, U of L

The Women's Center M.O.M. support group works to provide resources, information and genuine support for student mothers (student parents) and to empower them so they can more effectively meet the needs of their personal, academic and professional lives. Special guests and topic to be announced. Bring your ideas and suggestions. Free food and refreshments. To RSVP, contact Phyllis M. Webb, phyllis.webb@louisville.edu, or call 852-8976 for more details.

Student-parents are asked to complete the on-line survey at the Women's Center web site, <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter>.

**Thursday, March 25 –
Friday, March 26,
at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.**

Women4Women, U of L Chapter, Film Series

**Student Activities Center (Floyd
Theatre), U of L Belknap Campus**

The Women4Women Student Chapter will sponsor films, "The Secret Life of Bees" and "Pride and Prejudice," at a fun-filled event for students and others. Admission: \$1.50 per student. Contact "Bits" Dansberry, ecdans01@louisville.edu or Valerie Casey, vmcase01@louisville.edu for more details or call 852-8976.

**Saturday, March 27,
at 7 p.m.**

International Center Banquet Student Activities Center (multipurpose room)

A multi-cultural event that promotes diversity and mutual understanding among international students, all U of L students, and the Louisville community. There will be international cuisines & entertainment, silent auction; information sharing and networking. For ticket information, call the International Center at 852-6602 or visit, <http://www.louisville.edu/rso/airc>

**Wednesday, March 31,
at 6 p.m.**

**2010 Minx Auerbach Lecture in
Women's and Gender Studies
Speed Museum Auditorium**

This year's lecture is "The Rise of Enlightened Sexism and the Seductive Message that Feminism's Work is Done." Featured speaker is Susan Douglas, a Catherine Neafie Kellogg Professor and Chair of Communications Studies at the University of Michigan. She is the author of *The Mommy Myth: The Idealization of Motherhood and How it Undermines Women* and other popular books. Her new book, *Enlightened Sexism*, is a followup to *Where the Girls Are* and will be released March 1, 2010. The book chronicles the widening gap between the images of women in the mass media and the everyday lives of girls and women in the United States.

APRIL

**Wednesday, April 7,
at 3 p.m.**

**Social Change Lecture Series
U of L Ekstrom Library
(Chao Auditorium)**

The Social Change Lecture Series continues with a presentation by Dr. Pem Buck, Elizabethtown Community College, on "So What's Race For Anyway? Smokescreens, Exploitation, and the State." Sponsored by the Social Change Program, the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, and the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace & Justice. Contact Amber Duke at 852-6142 for additional information.

**Friday, April 9 – Saturday,
April 10, at 7 p.m.
(until 7 a.m.)**

**Relay for Life of University
of Louisville**

Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society's signature event is a fun-filled overnight activity that mobilizes communities to celebrate survivorship, remember those lost to cancer and raise money for the fight against cancer. The Women's Center Women4Women student chapter will sponsor a team for the Relay for Life event which will take place in the U of L Student Activities Center multipurpose room. The theme of the event is "Curing Cancer One Decade at a Time". For more details visit, <http://www.relay.org/louisville>, or to join the Women4Women student chapter's team, contact Gabrielle Maxedon, g0maxe01@louisville.edu, or Blair Bowman, abbowm01@louisville.edu.

**Thursday, April 15,
at 12 p.m.**

**UofL Network Lunch
University Club, U of L**

This luncheon dialogue series, sponsored by the U of L College of Arts & Sciences, will examine the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Kentucky with a talk on the "Jefferson County Public Schools Student Assignment Plan." JCPS Superintendent Dr. Sheldon Berman will discuss his district's plan for elementary schools including its guiding principles, development and revisions, as well as concerns related to the assignment of students. For cost and reservations, e-mail Linda L. Wilson, Ph.D., llwils01@louisville.edu, or call 852-0274, or contact Marian Vasser, mrvass01@louisville.edu, or call 852-2252.

**Thursday, April 15,
at 3 p.m.**

**Transformation Tea
Masterson's Restaurant**

An opportunity for university and community women of color to become empowered by sharing concerns, problems and positive suggestions. The program includes speakers and networking. Reservations required. For more details, contact Georgette Moore at glmoo01@louisville.edu or Libby White at mewhit01@louisville.edu

**Tuesday, April 20
Equal Pay Day**

Equal Pay Day was originated by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996 as a public awareness event to illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages.

Since Census statistics showing the latest wage figures are not available until late August or September, NCPE leadership decided years ago to select a Tuesday in April as Equal Pay Day. (Tuesday was selected to represent how far into the week women must work to earn what men earned the previous week). The date also was selected to avoid religious holidays and other significant events. Because women earn less, on average, than men, they must work longer hours for the same amount of pay. The wage gap is even greater for most women of color. The NCPE is encouraging women to wear red on Equal Pay Day to symbolize how far women and minorities are "in the red" with their pay. Equal Pay Day kits are available. For more details, visit, <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter>.

Thursday, April 22

**(Specific on-campus location and time
to be announced)**

"Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" Day is an opportunity for girls and boys (recommended ages 8-18 years old) to share their dreams and communicate their expectations for the future with their parents and guardians in the work environment. This year's theme is "1 Youth, 1 Dream, 2Morrow's Leaders." For young people visiting the campus, the U of L Women's Center will host a welcome table with snacks & souvenirs. Call 852-8976 for more details.

MAY

**Mark your calendar:
Saturday, May 15**

**4th Annual Kentucky Women's
Book Festival**

**William F. Ekstrom Library,
U of L Belknap Campus**

The Kentucky Women's Book Festival is designed to bring together writers and readers from Kentucky and adjacent states interested in writings by and about Kentucky Women authors. Featured keynote speaker will be Crystal Wilkinson, an Affrilachian author and poet. Various workshops and book signings will take place throughout the day. Sponsored in part by the U of L Women's Center, University Libraries and the Commission on Diversity and Racial Equality. Call 852-8976 to register and/or for more details.

JUNE

**Saturday, June 19, 2010
Women4Women Champions 4
Her Walk, Run, and Festival
Festival Plaza at Waterfront Park**

This is a community event to raise funds and morale for issues facing women and girls. Specific details forthcoming.



New VP for Human Resources – Sam Connally

Sam Connally is the new Vice President for Human Resources at the University of Louisville. He is the former chief executive officer of HigherEdDecisions, LLC, and has served in leadership roles as business systems analyst at North Carolina State University, chief HR officer for the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and chief HR officer for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Kim Maffet, former acting Vice-President for HR since January 2009, is now a Special Assistant to the President and Provost.

The Women's Center plans to include a full article on Vice President Connally in a future issue of the Women Center News.

Kentucky Women's Health Registry Seeks Participation in Health Survey

Traditionally, most health research has focused on men. Researchers are now discovering greater than expected differences between men's and women's health. To help researchers improve the understanding of women's health, the Kentucky Women's Health Registry at the University of Kentucky needs women who are over 18 and live in Kentucky to complete a confidential health survey once a year.

The survey can be taken online at <http://www.kywomensregistry.com> or by calling (800) 929-2320 to request a paper version. The information is used by researchers at UK and at U of L to better understand how women's health changes over time. They would like to know how stress, who we take care of, where we live and where we work, affects our health.

Your personal identifying information is not shared with anyone and is stored separately from your answers. Your name and address is only used to remind you to take the survey again next year, to send you quarterly newsletters about what is being learned from the Registry, and to tell you about other forms of research in which you may be interested. The Registry also has a certificate of confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health which protects your information in all circumstances, even from legal proceedings. Check out this link to learn more: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coc/background.htm>.

Join the 10,290 Kentucky Women who are already working together to improve health and health care for themselves, their daughters and their granddaughters.

For more information, contact Ashley McCorkle, ashleymccorkle@uky.edu, or call /write the Kentucky Women's Health Registry, KY Clinic, Room J 513, 740 South Limestone, Lexington, KY 40536; office: (859) 323-5709; toll free: 1-800-929-2320.



Muriel Harris, Ph.D., MPH, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health and Information Sciences

by Brenda D. Gunn

It is not just a cliché. Muriel Harris, Ph.D., MPH, really does wear many hats. Her primary role at U of L is as assistant professor in the School of Public Health and Information Sciences. She also has worked as a contractor on multiple evaluations projects, teaches two evaluation courses to master's students, is chair of her School's Diversity Committee, member of the Signature Partnership Public Health Committee, and mentor, just to name a few.

University-wide diversity committees are intended to provide a voice and sounding board for faculty, staff, and students. As chair, she takes personal responsibility to assure the goals and objectives are being addressed as outlined. She works to right "perceived" wrongs and implement "proactive vs. reactive" solutions. It is crucial to Professor Harris that everyone learns about and understands social injustices.

In her master's-level classes, Professor Harris is intent on bringing the understanding of diversity to both the classroom and the community. Students participate in activities that produce centers of learning, the culture of diversity, and leadership. They work in groups of three. There currently are 28 students and nine projects. One undertaking is the Living Well Program Evaluation Project. Individuals, groups, companies, etc., in the community are contacted to determine if the students can assist them with an evaluation. In preparation, students receive training that stresses critical thinking, expectations, and mutual benefits. One such opportunity is with the Baptist Fellowship Center to evaluate the congregation's ability to seek health care following a series of workshops. Another is an upcoming trip to Ghana in May of this year. The latter is a service-learning project in conjunction with the Ali Scholars. For her keen insight, abilities, planning and implementation of such projects, Professor Harris received the Delta Omega Honor Society Award for Innovative Curriculum in 2008.

Professor Harris is overjoyed that President James Ramsey has diversity strategic goals for each unit and that they are a part of the university's strategic mission. For her, it is important that students are exposed to the real world, working with people different from themselves. The more they do, the more they will benefit.

Professor Harris also wears the hat of author. She recently published "Evaluating Public and Community Health Programs.

For further information, contact Professor Harris at 852-4061.



Muriel Harris,
Ph.D., MPH

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WOMEN'S CENTER

Women for Haiti!!



The University of Louisville Women's Center hosted three fundraiser events at U of L for "Women for Haiti!!" as a donation to the American Red Cross. Pictured are student assistants, Zenaida Sanchez (at top) and Mee Mee Lee (bottom photo) at the Women's Center table in the Student Activities Center.

The Women's Center News

A publication of the Women's Center at the University of Louisville

Editorial Board: Valerie Casey, Brenda D. Gunn, Robin Harris, Ruth Miller, Kathy Pendleton, Mary Karen Powers, and Phyllis Webb.

The Women's Center News is a free, quarterly newsletter.

It is available on-line at www.louisville.edu/womenctr.

To receive a hard copy of the newsletter or to sign up for email announcements, contact us at:

Women's Center, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292; or 502-852-8976; or womenctr@louisville.edu.

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The Women's Center News

Louisville, KY 40292

Due to budget cuts – and the desire to go green – we are working to use our resources wisely. Please sign up for the electronic version of *The Women's Center News* today by going to the Women's Center service account at womenctr@louisville.edu. We may have to discontinue hard copy printing . . . and we'd hate to lose our connection with you.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Write to us at: Women's Center, #4 Administrative Annex Bldg., University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky 40292.

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WOMEN'S CENTER