

# The Women's Center News

Winter 2011

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

Volume 19, Issue 2

## Founder and Creator of Popular Jezebel.com Website Delivers Keynote Address at Annual ECS Luncheon

by Phyllis M. Webb, Women's Center



Anna Holmes reacts with a smile from an audience member's question at the keynote address at the 2011 Elizabeth Cady Stanton Luncheon held this past November at the University Club.

Anna Holmes, writer, editor and the creator of the popular women's website, [www.Jezebel.com](http://www.Jezebel.com), was the keynote speaker at the University of Louisville Women's Center Annual Elizabeth Cady Stanton Luncheon this past November. Over 100 students, staff, faculty and community individuals attended.

Holmes' topic was "Gender Politics, Pop Culture and Progressive Change on the Web" and how she

set out to interest an entire generation of young women in politics and feminism by using pop culture as a reference point.

A contributing writer and editor for *The Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *In Style*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Harper's* and *Newsweek*, Holmes talked about the creation of Jezebel. She explained the effect it had on her and a loyal group of readers, as well as the culture at-large and how it proved that feminism was not only alive and kicking, but marketable to boot.

She expressed how different media have used pop culture as a way to engage and inspire young women to be more cognizant of gender politics and spur them to action and activism with primary focus on contemporary gender politics and pop culture. She further discussed how 20th Century writers, thinkers and agitators used mass media—and the public's appetite for mass media—to get their messages across, sometimes in very subversive ways. Holmes described how she conceived the idea and then subsequently executed [www.Jezebel.com](http://www.Jezebel.com). She faced challenges, rewards and push-backs as she attempted to create a vibrant and colorful mass market medium for women with a progressive and feminist point of view. She also pointed out how the readership itself contributed to the shape and success of the website by pivoting off the editorial content and expanding upon and clarifying the site's message and ethos within the comments.

Jezebel launched in May 2007 with the purpose of blending pop culture and progressive politics for women. National public-ity increased after about a month into existence and during the

2008 presidential campaigns it increased even more. The focus was clearly on Hillary Clinton, Michelle Obama and Sara Palin. She says "the treatment of these individuals—by the chattering class, political pundits, and supporters and detractors—provided constant material with which to analyze the United States' ideas about women, particularly women in positions of power."

Traffic on the site soared during the election. Other websites began to take notice and also TV programs were getting in on the action; magazines were too.

The website allowed followers to talk about issues, ideas and reactions which were paramount to its success. By 2010, Jezebel had caught up to and surpassed older, more established titles within the company to which it belonged.

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Holmes: "Pop culture is a language we all speak."

"At its worst, pop culture reinforces regressive ideas and deep-seated prejudices; at its best, it reveals possibilities and points of view we have never anticipated or even considered. Sometime it does both." She continued, "pop culture not only informs how we see the world but also how the world sees us. What we like to read, watch, listen to and engage with is an enormous part of our identity speaking to our literal or imagined levels of education, temperament, values, and taste."  
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About a year and half ago, Holmes resigned from her position as editor of Jezebel to concentrate on other projects.

She proudly shared receiving letters from women in their late teens and early 20s who had never been interested in politics or considered themselves feminists until pop culture stories bought them to Jezebel. They were easily convinced to stay.

Holmes says "the site had changed the way they looked at the world, allowed them a new lens on which to receive or reject the messages being thrown at them every day, and a community they

could count to understand from where they were coming. Many said they had stopped reading or sworn off traditional women's media altogether. Many had started or joined women's groups at their colleges, or volunteered for local political and reproductive rights campaigns.

Her talk concluded with a question and answer period.

In addition to Holmes' talk, the Women's Center also presented the 2011 Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Gender Equity Award and the 2011 Dr. M. Celeste Nichols Professional Development Award.

The Tachau Award, which recognizes a member of the UofL community who has done significant work toward gender equity, was given to Judi Jennings, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Kentucky Foundation for Women, a private philanthropy supporting feminist art for social change. Jennings also is the founding director of the UofL Women's Center.

The Nichols Award was presented to three UofL graduate students for travel or other professional development. They are Amanda Hobbs, Justice Administration; Kavita Patel, Medicine; and Margaret "Meg" G. Hancock, Educational Leadership & Organizational Development. (More details about the award recipients and photos are on the Women's Center web site, <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter>.)

*Elizabeth Cady Stanton Luncheon photos by Ronald H. Harrison, IT Contract Tech Support Services*

## Message from the Interim Director

Greetings and thank you for being a friend of the Women's Center! We are incredibly thrilled and grateful for the outpouring of support and the huge success of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Annual Luncheon. This year, we received four outstanding nominees for the Tachau Award and 17 applications for the Nichols award, of which three were chosen. We received huge support from the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Diversity and Racial Equality, and the Office of Diversity and International Affairs. The luncheon was an inclusive and well-attended event demonstrated by our largest turnout ever. The level of support was obvious as each of our nominees was recognized and further evidenced by the standing ovation for Tachau winner Judi Jennings. As the founding director of the Women's Center and a staunch advocate for women over her long career, it was especially gratifying to be able to present her with the award. Thanks to all of our sponsors and everyone who attended. Your participation makes the event so well regarded and the awards so valued by the deserving recipients.



*Valerie M. Casey*

Following the success of the luncheon, our Student-Parent Association/Mom's Support Group put us in the holiday spirit and wrapped up a very satisfying clothing drive for student parents on campus. Thank you to everyone at the University and throughout the community who donated mountains of clothing for the drive. The Red Barn was filled, and when parents on campus finished taking donations, two excited volunteers from the Jefferson County Public Schools Teenage Parent Program (TAPP) picked up all they could transport and the remainder was donated to the Center for Women and Families, Southern Indiana campus. As of this writing, the Women Center's Women 4 Women Student Chapter is still accepting donations for Wayside Christian Mission.

With the start of the New Year, our staff is energized and looking forward to producing quality programs for students, staff, faculty and the community. We are in the process of planning the Kentucky Women's Book Festival and the Statewide Student Leadership Conference in conjunction with other offices on campus. Please join us as a participant or volunteer. Over the next semester we will be scheduling forums to ask how the Women's Center can better serve you and enhance your University experience. I hope each of you will take the opportunity to attend or contact us directly with your suggestions. Your valued input keeps the UofL Women's Center responsive and vibrant. Thank you again for your continued support!

All the best,  
Valerie

### 2011 Award Recipients

*Judi Jennings, PhD, (center) winner of the Tachau Award, is pictured with Ann E. Lawson, Vice-Chair, (at left) and Valerie M. Casey, Chair (on the right), of the Commission on the Status of Women.*



*Margaret "Meg" Hancock and Kavita Patel, recipients of the Dr. M. Celeste Nichols Award, pose with their certificates at the ECS luncheon in November. Amanda Denton Hobbs was unable to attend and is pictured below.*



*(Visit the Women's Center web site, <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter> for additional luncheon photos.)*

# Women's Center Welcomes New Students

by Phyllis M. Webb

A future social worker, teacher, art and bioengineering major were among the students who joined the office this past semester.

Heather N. Wells is a graduate of Ivy Tech Community College, a UofL junior social work major, and student-mom from Salem, Indiana. She has been involved with the Student-Parent Association helping to invite guests and coordinate meetings for the group. Her plan after graduation is to work in Child Protective Services. Cassidy Hamman, a junior from Henryville, Ind., is seeking a B.A. degree in Middle and Secondary Education. She is involved in a number of student organizations including the Student Activities Board (Vice-Chair to Diversity) and Kappa Delta Sorority. Courtney Rhodes is working toward a degree in art and had designed programs for the office. Currently she is preparing to design a logo for the upcoming Student Leadership Conference. Britt Faulkner, a senior bioengineering major from Ashland, Ky., worked in the office on various research projects for the fall. As of press time for the newsletter, she will have graduated with a B.S. in bioengineering from the university's Speed Scientific School and will be leaving the office to work on a master's degree in bioengineering.



Courtney Rhodes

For the first time, the office employed a male student, Darius Brown, a freshman. Student-mom Tamychu Burrell, also a freshman, briefly worked in the office as well. The office wishes them all the best in their academic pursuits.



The Women's Center is a great place for students to come when they need a variety of resources. The Center always supports new ideas and is looking to help the students in any way they can.

—Cassidy Hamman, Junior, Education Major



All in all, my experience was a positive one. I look forward to my work and involvement next semester, and I encourage others to seek and learn about programs offered by the Women's Center.

—Heather Wells

## My View

by Heather N. Wells, Work-Study Student, Women's Center

I have enjoyed working at the Women's Center this semester, but I especially enjoyed working with the Student Parent Association. I think that my favorite event was the clothing exchange. Hopefully, the next time more people will participate. I have enjoyed meeting other student parents who are struggling with some of the same things that I have struggled with as a single mom and a full time student. My favorite meeting was probably the one about relationships. Other topics we discussed this semester were child development, stress management, and budgeting for the holidays. All of the meetings have been interesting. We are still looking for topics for next semester's meetings.

I also had the honor of going to the Family Scholar House luncheon at the Galt House. I had never been there before. I had a good time, a great meal, and learned a lot about the Family Scholar House. I attended the Elizabeth Cady Stanton luncheon as well, which was held at the University Club. It was the first time I had ever been there as well. I enjoyed the meal and the speaker.

Guest speaker for the luncheon was Lucille O'Neal, mother of basketball player Shaquille O'Neal & author of "Walk Like You Have Someplace to Go."

The Eugenia Powers Award, which honors women who value higher education, is given annually to a Family Scholar House student. The 2011 recipients of the Powers Award: Starr Judkins, Louisville Scholar House, and Brittney D. Smith, Downtown Scholar House. (Brittney is a former Women's Center work/study student.)

The award is named after Eugenia Powers, the mother of Mary Karen Powers, former director of the Women's Center. Eugenia Powers received an Associate of Arts degree from the College of Arts and Sciences in 1985 and a Bachelor of Science degree in 1988, after raising eight children, all of whom have college degrees.

Congratulations to the winners!



Heather N. Wells is pictured at the Scholar House Luncheon held in October at the Galt House. She, along with UofL student-parents, Debi Baldwin and Dawn Nina Rose Okyere, were guests of the Powers' Family. Pictured at right is Barbara Powers, and at left an unidentified student.



# Vicki Hines-Martin, PhD, Manages Multiple Roles on Campus and in the Community.

by Brenda D. Gunn, Editorial Board



While interviewing Vicki Hines-Martin, I vividly imagined the cliché about one wearing several hats, but hers were changing every few minutes. Then I thought about a juggler with several balls in the air, skillfully handling them all with not a one dropping on the floor.

Hines-Martin is a native Louisvillian. Though she has degrees and professorial experience from out-of-town institutions, she always returned “home.” Her career in health was not “pre-planned” because initially she wanted to become a physician or scientist. Along the way, however, she had very good role models in her life who happened to be nurses. And the rest, as is said, is history.

Landing at the University of Louisville in 1988 as an adjunct assistant professor of nursing, she now has more than one title. As director of the Office of Disparities and Community Engagement, Hines-Martin’s work supports the School of Nursing’s teaching/learning, practice, and research and service activities that focus on health equity and collaboration with community partners. One goal is to increase opportunities for nursing students to learn about their many choices, and to help both faculty and students know the multitude of information available to them. Another goal is for them to know how education and scholarship go together very well, that they are not separate entities. In order to deal with disparities, students and faculty must move beyond the classroom and go out into the community.

To accomplish her role as it relates to disparities, Hines-Martin spends time with organizations and community groups, gathers information and conducts research. For example, she said, she just completed a research project with residents of Dosker Manor, a residence for seniors and people with mental and physical disabilities. She also gets information from serving on various community boards of directors, meeting with people and taking the opportunity to learn about clinical opportunities like health fairs and community organizations. A lot of emphasis is also placed on researching current literature and reports and sharing the culmination with faculty members.

One proud accomplishment is an awesome web site, the Color of Health (<http://louisville.edu/nursing/colorofhealth/>), offering health information for diverse populations. It is linked to the School of Nursing’s web site. The School “embraces its mission to improve the health of a variety of populations that reside within its community and has utilized many approaches to work in partnership with the community.” The site has links for many languages, including Spanish, Vietnamese, Somali, and French and, of course, English.

The work in the School of Nursing complements Hines-Martin’s work in the Office of Community Engagement on Belknap

Campus. She provides the office with links to the Health Sciences Center, and facilitates opportunities for faculty members to work together within the community. A group of faculty representatives also has developed a grant process so interested faculty members can receive seed money for their projects.

To satisfy her thirst for knowledge, Hines-Martin volunteered for the Administrative Intern Program in the Office of the Provost. She interviewed with Provost Shirley Willihnganz which, among other things, focused on her goals and why she would be a good candidate for the program. After her acceptance, she was given a project to complete, but she also selected another one. Working on two projects instead of one, plus continuing with her other responsibilities in nursing and community engagement, Hines-Martin found herself “negotiating” her workload. She found the intern experience to be immensely rewarding. She learned how the administration managed on a daily basis with budget restrictions, about finances and human resources, leadership, conflict management, and planning ahead, among many, many other areas of operating a university.

During the internship, Hines-Martin worked on a mentoring program for faculty, and researched benchmark universities to learn how they addressed disparities. In the latter, she found the university was missing revenue because the programmatic work on disparities was not being documented in reports.

As a result of the year-long internship, including presentations to faculty and administrative officers, the Office of Disparities and Community Engagement was created in the School of Nursing, with Hines-Martin as its director. There also is a new Center for Mental Health Disparities headed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

With all of the experience gained in the internship program, Hines-Martin laughed when asked if she would like to become president of UofL someday. I surmised that it cannot be ruled out.

Vicki Hines-Martin is a woman on a mission to learn, research, share, and teach. She has received hundreds of awards and recognitions over the years. But receiving them from her alma mater is a special honor. In 2010 she was an honoree of the Fifty Outstanding Alumni Recognition program at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing, and in 2011 the school also honored her with a Hall of Fame Award.

Her ultimate achievement? Vicki Hines-Martin would like to have a more direct role in how students learn, and she would like to have more contact with the multicultural community to have a better understanding of how people live and how to help them manage their health. This too, is what she hopes of her students.

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**CORRECTION**

In the fall 2011 issue of the Brenda G. Hart interview on page 3, we mistakenly listed Linda L. Wilson as having an Ed.D. It should have been Ph.D.

Our apologies.  
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# The Kentucky Women's Book Festival: Celebrating the Written Word

By Robin R. Harris, Brandeis School of Law



Tori Murden McClure

**Mark your calendars!** The UofL Women's Center and University Libraries will present the Sixth Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival (KWBF) on Saturday, May 19, 2012, at the Ekstrom Library. Book sales and signings, author presentations and workshops, and a keynote luncheon will provide a wonderful opportunity for Kentucky women readers and writers to connect over their favorite pastime: reading and talking about books. This celebration of Kentucky women writers

and their readers will feature a host of outstanding Kentucky authors. Although the complete list has not yet been confirmed, those who are already on board include: Kentucky Poet Laureate Maureen Morehead (*A Sense of Time Left; The Melancholy Teacher*); award-winning novelist Mary Ann Taylor-Hall (*Come and Go, Molly Snow; At The Breakers*); and Nancy Jensen (author of the just-published novel, *The Sisters*, the Indie #1 Pick of the Month).

The Ekstrom Library doors will open at 9 a.m., and the festival officially begins at 9:30 a.m., with refreshments and socializing, followed by what promises to be a rousing opening session, featuring Tori Murden McClure at 10 a.m. in the Chao Auditorium.

McClure, president of Spalding University, is the author of *Pearl in the Storm: How I Found My Heart in the Middle of the Ocean*, the story of her quest to become the first woman to row a boat, alone, and without assistance, across the Atlantic Ocean.

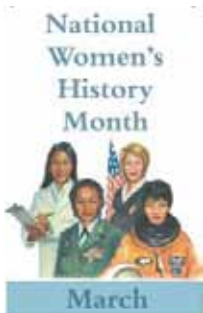
UofL hosts the KWBF to bring together Kentucky women writers and their readers. The authors who present and the readers who attend have the opportunity to meet, discuss, and share their love and appreciation of the written word. The festival brings attention to UofL's community-wide focus on literacy, and the fact that the festival is free and open to the public gives everyone the chance to attend.

In keeping with the university's diversity initiatives, the KWBF actively promotes diversity on campus by ensuring that the diverse community of women writing in the Commonwealth is represented at the festival—as luncheon keynote speakers, plenary presenters, and workshop leaders. Over the five previous years of the KWBF, authors have included African American writers Betty Winston Baye, bell hooks, Estella Conwill Majozo, Joy Gleason Carew, and Crystal Wilkinson; Indian American writers Neela Vaswani and Tania James; and Appalachian writers Libby Falk Jones and Barbara Wade.

Expect more information about the festival as it draws closer. Although the web site ([www.louisville.edu/womenscenter/kwbf](http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter/kwbf)) is under construction at this writing, it should be up and running soon.

## Deadline January 27, 2012: Calendar Event Listing

By Phyllis M. Webb



"Women's Education—Women's Empowerment" is the 2012 theme for National Women's History Month in March.

The UofL Women's Center publishes an annual calendar of events listing "happenings" on campus and in the local community of events and programs concerning women's issues for the month of March. It is included in the spring issue of the Women Center News and is a major source of information in the

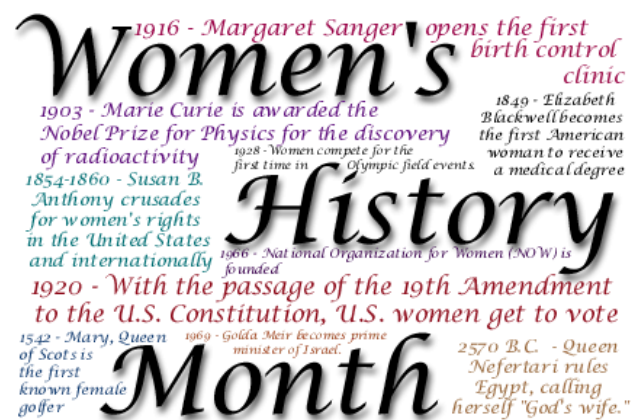
Louisville metropolitan area. Individuals interested in the activities and events can find the calendar on the Women's Center web site, Facebook and also on UofL's campuses.

If your organization plans to sponsor a program concerning women's issues for the month of March and would like to have it listed, please complete the Women's History Month Events form online at <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter>, or download, complete and fax it to (502) 852-4389 by January 27. The newsletter will be available the week of February 20. For more information, call (502) 852-8976.

In 1980, because of lobbying efforts by the \*National Women's History Project (NWHP), President Carter issued a Proclamation

declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as the 1st National Women's History Week. Then in 1987, Congress expanded the week into a month-long celebration during March.

\*The National Women's History Project is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational organization committed to recognizing and celebrating the diverse and historic accomplishments of women by providing information and educational materials. For additional details, visit, <http://www.nwhp.org>.



## Student-Parent Visibility Day

The Student-Parent Association/Moms Support Group hosted a Student-Parent Visibility Day and Clothing Exchange in November for UofL and JCTCS student-parents. Camille Barbee Olmstead, a former UofL student-parent, 1995 graduate (B.A., communications) and Adjunct Professor at Bellarmine University, offers a word of encouragement to the students in attendance.



*Pictured to the left is Britt Faulkner, a student worker in the office as she listens attentively to Olmstead speaking about achieving as students.*

Photos by Tom Fougerousse, UofL photographer. Additional photos are on the Women's Center web site, <http://www.louisville.edu/womenscenter>.



*Pictured is student-parent Kathryn P. Williams with her son at the event. (Women Center photo files-by Heather N. Wells)*

## Take Back the Night



*This photo is from a Domestic Violence victim on display at the Take Back the Night Event in September at UofL. (From the Women's Center photo files-by Heather N. Wells)*

## Scholarship Opportunities for Students: Campus & Community

### Mary Craik Scholarship for Women Students

Must be a woman pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree at UofL; have 24 hours college credit at the undergraduate level (as of January 2012); have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5. Application deadline March, 2012. For specifics, call the Women's & Gender Studies Department at (502) 852-8160.

### Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Scholarship for Graduate Work in Women's & Gender Studies (WGS)

Must have completed application materials for the Women's & Gender Studies M.A.; have a FAFSA on file with the UofL Office of Financial Aid; and complete a Tachau Scholarship application form (PDF), also available in the WGS office; or you may request that a form be mailed to you. Application deadline is May, 2012. Email Jan Rayburn at [jan.rayburn@louisville.edu](mailto:jan.rayburn@louisville.edu) or call the Women's & Gender Studies office at (502) 852-8160.

### Zonta Club of Louisville Inez Webb Fund

Zonta International is a worldwide service organization dedicated to improving the legal, political, economic, educational and professional status of women.

The Louisville, Ky., chapter has an ongoing scholarship trust set up at the University of Louisville and at Spalding University for single mothers and women with limited means seeking bachelor's degrees. For an application and more details, visit the Zonta web site at <http://zontacluboflouisville.com>.

**Harold Adams Memorial Scholarship Fund, the Red Barn Alumni Association (RBAA) Florence M. Strickler Endowment**, and the Torchbearer Endowment are endowments to benefit UofL students. These need-based scholarships are available through the Division of Student Affairs. For eligibility requirements, application forms, and/or more details, email George Howe, Director of Special Programs, at [gihowe01@louisville.edu](mailto:gihowe01@louisville.edu).

**Arthur D. Yocom Scholarship** is open to undergraduate students who plan a career in public or community service. Information and application materials will be available in February from the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office.

Check the University of Louisville Office of Financial Aid web site, <http://www.louisville.edu/financialaid/scholarships>, for additional scholarship listings.

### The Women's Center News

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