Annual Report
2003-2004

Prepared by:

Suzanna Rose, Ph.D.
Director
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FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Women’s Studies Center

Director’s Summary of Accomplishments
Year 2003-2004

The major goals of the Women’s Studies Center for 2003-2004 included: (a) enhancing the excellence of the undergraduate program and developing a Graduate Certificate program, (b) generating and promoting scholarship and creative work in Women’s Studies, and (c) providing leadership on women’s issues in the region through education and social and cultural programs. The goals and highlights of the accomplishments in each area are presented below.

A complete report of the activities of the Women’s Studies Center for the period June 2003 to May 2004 is contained in the following pages, including: (1) a summary of the undergraduate program, that includes enrollment for the undergraduate B.A. and Certificate programs and other undergraduate student activities and accomplishments, (2) the achievements of the Women’s Studies faculty, and (3) advancement activities of the WSC.

**GOAL 1: To enhance the excellence of the undergraduate program and to develop a Graduate Certificate program.**

Accomplishments:
- Established a Graduate Certificate program to begin in Fall 2005.
- Enrollment increased from 2,575 (2002-03) to 2,781 (2003-04; including 2,637 undergraduates and 144 graduate students)
- Courses offered included 76 undergraduate and 16 graduate
- Students majoring in Women’s Studies increased to 72 (from 68)
- Students earning a Certificate increased to 98 (from 77)
- Provided academic advising for 170 degree and certificate earners
- Graduated 17 students with a B.A. in Women’s Studies (same as 2002-03)
- Graduated 22 students with a WS Certificate (up from 16 in 2002-02)
- Proposed and offered three new Women’s Studies courses: Internship, Special Topics, and Directed Study
- Faculty developed and offered three online WS courses
- New internship program established; 9 students participated
- Second year of Women’s Studies Student Association (18 members)
- Hosted the 3rd WS Student Conference (28 presentations; 100 attended)
- Published a journal, *Making Waves, Vol. 2,* based on the 2003 WS Student Conference
- Gave twenty awards to students ranging from $200 to $1,500
- Sponsored travel for 20 students to the March for Women’s Lives in Washington, DC, April 2004
GOAL 2: To generate and promote scholarship and creative work in Women’s Studies.

Accomplishments:
- Hired a Visiting Assistant Professor in Women’s Studies and History (Little) for 2003-04
- Arranged the signing of a Memo of Understanding between FIU and the University of Granada for collaboration and exchange between our WS programs (Morcillo, Rose). Travel to Spain was supported by WS and the FIU Transnational Center/Madrid Center
- Rose continued a faculty exchange (two visits) with the Women’s Studies Department at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa, (a historically Black university) funded by a USAID grant through the University of Missouri
- Hosted presentations by 36 noted scholars, authors, filmmakers, artists, performers, and dignitaries
- Two Women’s Studies Core Faculty, 18 Affiliated Faculty, and two Adjunct Faculty were active in publishing, grant reviewing, and editorial roles in 2003-2004. Accomplishments include the publication of 3 books, 8 book chapters, 11 journal articles, 7 creative works/performances, 2 short stories/essays, 10 book reviews, 4 grants, and 25 conference presentations
- Co-sponsored the Women and Post-War Reconstruction conference; more than 150 attended
- Sponsored 4 presentations by faculty at national and international conferences
- Created the Women’s Studies Faculty Service Award; first recipient was Prof. Meri-Jane Rochelson.
- Successfully nominated Prof. Lynn Barrett (Creative Writing) for the FIU Faculty Research Award and Prof. Marvin Dunn (Psychology) for the FIU Affirmative Action Award

GOAL 3: To provide leadership on women’s issues in the region through education and social and cultural programs.

Accomplishments:
- Continued Year 3 of the Women of Distinction Series to attract community support; drew audiences ranging from 40 to 100 at each of four events
- Year 3 of Friends of Women’s Studies fundraising campaign ($5,415 raised)
- Continued fundraising for Elaine Gordon Scholarship ($4,270 contributed; endowment total=$39,973)
- Established a Women’s Studies Board of Advisors (a donating board) comprised of prominent women in the community ($17,300 contributed or pledged)
- Successfully nominated Roberta Fox, Women’s Studies Board of Advisors Chairperson and attorney, for a Pioneer Award category of the Miami Dade County “In the Company of Women” Awards
- Received a scholarship donation from the Miami-Dade Women’s Chamber of Commerce
- Received a scholarship donation from the State Attorney’s office, Kathryn Fernandez Rundle, with funds from the ValuJet Memorial Fund
- Viewings of the WS website more than doubled in the past year (from 5,012 to 11,317)
- Website for the FIU Women Faculty Book Club (www.books.fiu.edu) received about 200 viewings per semester

The Women’s Studies Center was successful at meeting its academic and advancement goals for 2003-2004. Graduate enrollment increased sufficiently to support the establishment of a Graduate Certificate program, undergraduate enrollment was at an all time high, and the collaboration with the University of Granada was formalized. Faculty research on women and gender continued to be recognized at the national and local level. Last, the reputation of the WSC grew locally with the establishment of the donor Board of Advisors.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanna Rose, Ph.D., Director
The Florida International University Women’s Studies Center was pleased to announce the formation of the first Women’s Studies Board of Advisors in 2003-2004. The Founding Board was comprised of fifteen distinguished women in Miami who sought to contribute to the success of Women’s Studies. (Biographies below and photographs on page 21)

**Roberta Fox**

*Board Chair*

**Roberta Fox**, P.A., Chair, Women’s Studies Board, Lawyer and Shareholder for the Law Offices of Roberta Fox. Ms. Fox served as Florida State Senator from 1982-1986 and Florida State Representative from 1976-1982. She is a pioneer in family law reform, equal educational opportunity, employment background screening legislation, and changes to the evidence code concerning testimony by young crime victims. She has received many awards including the 1973 One of Ten Outstanding Young Women of America Award, the 1986 Florida Women’s Lawyers Association’s Judge Mattie Belle Davis Award for service, the 1996 Women of Impact VIII Award and a 2004 Pioneer Award, In the Company of Women, from Miami-Dade County.

**Marjorie Adler** is Employee Relations Director for the City of Coral Gables (2004-present). Previously, she was Chief Personnel Officer of Human Resources for the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (2003-2004). She also served as Executive Director of Human Resources for the School District of Philadelphia (1997-2002), as well as extensive managerial experience in the private sector. Her areas of expertise include labor relations and recruitment strategies, organization development, and risk management.

**Carol Alexander**, President, Carol Alexander C.P.A., P.A. Ms. Alexander has been in public accounting for 36 years, is a Certified Valuation Analyst, and is President of Miami Sundown Rotary Club, 2003-2004. She also co-founded the Miami Chapter of Business Network International and is a Member of the National Association of Women Business Owners. Her personal accomplishments include running the Disney Marathon in 2002.

**Maria Anderson**, Commissioner, City of Coral Gables, FL. Ms. Anderson is a Board Member of the Urban Environment League, and a Commission Representative for the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce. She spearheaded a successful community visioning process for the revitalization of downtown Coral Gables, co-sponsored with the University Of Miami School of Architecture.
Gayle Bainbridge has made a career as an insurance agent in Coral Gables for commercial clients after her graduation from FIU in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts in English. She serves on the Boards of the FIU Alumni Association and the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce. Her hobbies are gardening and reading and she volunteers as a Guardian Ad-Litem for the State.

Elizabeth Baker is a lawyer with Baker & Cronig, LLP (family, real estate, banking and business law). She is Florida Board Certified in Marital and Family Law, a member and former President and Vice President of the Safespace Advisory Board at the Shelter for Battered Women. Her personal interests include the study of Shakers, a utopian religious sect, and collecting vintage costume jewelry.

Jeanne Becker is President of Becker Consulting Services, Inc. Public Relations and Marketing. She is former Vice President and National Marketing Manager for the American Bankers’ Insurance Group in Miami, a recipient of the Robert B. Knight Outstanding Citizen Award (1998) for her volunteer efforts to revitalize downtown Coral Gables, and Rotarian of the Year (1995) for her efforts chairing the Gables Promenade--an event that raised $60,000 for a domestic violence shelter.

Amy Dean is a certified circuit civil mediator and member of the American Arbitration Association Panel, 2004. Ms. Dean was a Judge (ret.) for the Dade County Circuit Court between 1991-2003 & Associate Appellate Judge for the 4th District Court of Appeals. She was also the recipient of numerous awards, including the Woman of Vision Award from the American Committee of the Weitzman Institute of Science (1999) and the Woman of Valor Award from the National Council of Jewish Women (1998).


Jeanette Isabella is author of Someday is Here: Thirty Days to Personal Renewal, Spiritual Growth and Enhanced Creativity, and a columnist for Natural Awakenings Magazine. Her self-help tapes include “Beyond Dieting,” “Stop Smoking Now!” and “Stress Free for Life.”

Cindy Lederman is Administrative Judge for the Eleventh Judicial Court in Miami-Dade County, Juvenile Division. She is a faculty member with the National Judicial College, a member of the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, past president of National Association of Women Judges, and initiated the Girls Advocacy Project (GAP). She is the recipient of the Florida Governor’s Peace at Home Award, 1997, and the William E. Gladstone Award for children’s advocacy.

Edith Osman is an attorney with Carlton Fields and President of the Florida Bar Association, 2000 (the second woman to be elected to the top position in the bar’s 50 year history). She has been recognized with the following: Florida Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Achievement Award; the Florida Women of Achievement Award; “In the Company of Women” Award; and the Ziff Museum of Florida’s “Breaking the Glass Ceiling” Award.

Pat Klock Parker, broker-salesperson for The Klock-Parker Real Estate Group, Coldwell Banker, has spent 26 years as Real Estate Broker-Agent. She is a charter member of the Master Broker’s Advisory Board, the International President’s Elite (1993-2000), and the Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts of America. She is a past Board of Directors member of the Miami Choral Society, Carrollton School of the Scared Heart, and Friends of The Ring Theater.
Mary Lou Pfeiffer is presently serving on the FIU Advisory Board of the College of Arts & Sciences as a community representative. She donated an endowment for teaching American Indian studies at FIU, and is an Adjunct Lecturer in Religious Studies at FIU. She obtained her LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights from St. Thomas University in 2002, and is owner and operator of Pfeiffer Originals—stained and etched glass designs incorporated with wood/stone sculpture. She is President and partner in Caressa-Me Aromatherapy Company for relaxed health.

Helen Venero has been in the scientific instrumentation industry for 25 years. She currently is president of VTI Corporation, based in Hialeah, Florida, a small company that designs, manufactures and markets scientific instruments all over the world. Venero's educational background reflects her many interests over the years: Spanish literature, social work, and business. The importance of entrepreneurial skills and the support and mentoring of women in business has been of great interest.

Friends of Women’s Studies & Donors
(see photographs on p. 21)

Katherine Fernandez Rundle has served as Miami-Dade County State attorney since 1993. Her strong leadership and devotion to preventing crime and the successful prosecution of career criminals have been hallmarks of her administration. She was a key partner in the creation of Miami-Dade County’s Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC), a facility intended to improve the juvenile justice system through creating better diversion programs and effective sentencing alternatives for offenders.

Robert M. Levy has been a major and consistent contributor to the Elaine Gordon Scholarship in Women’s Studies. He is an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Army, and was awarded the Cross of Gallantry, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and three Purple Hearts for his service in Vietnam. He is particularly involved in advancing women’s rights and equality and served as statewide vice president for legislative affairs of the Florida Women’s Political Caucus. Mr. Levy also served eight years as a member of the Florida Commission on the Status of Women. Mr. Levy has worked as a political consultant and developed hundreds of campaigns since 1977. He is president of Robert M. Levy & Associates, one of South Florida’s leading lobbying and advocacy firms.

Maria Millheiser was a registered nurse and Director of Rehabilitation at the Hospital Ultramar in her native Lisbon, Portugal. She received post-graduate training in England and at the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation at New York University. After moving to Florida, Ms. Millheiser has been very involved in community activities, including being on the boards of the Miami Ballet Society, Fifty over Fifty (The Funding Arts Network), a charter member of Friends of the School of Education FIU, President of the Advisory Board at Deering Hospital, and President of the Aviva Chapter of Hadassah. Due primarily to her love of learning, Ms. Millheiser returned to major in Women’s Studies at FIU. She is the proud mother of three grown children, all whom she feels have contributed positively to society.
I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM: B.A. DEGREE & CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Enrollment Summary (Summer 2003 – Spring 2004)

A total of 2,781 students were enrolled in the 76 undergraduate and 16 graduate courses offered in Women’s Studies for the Academic Year Summer 2003 – Spring 2004. There were 72 students majoring in Women’s Studies and 98 students pursuing a Certificate. By May 2004, 17 students earned a B.A. and 22 students earned a Women’s Studies Certificate.

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<td>LIT 4931 Multicultural Working Class Women Weir-Soley</td>
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<td>AML 4503 Literature of the Harlem Renaissance Weir-Soley</td>
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Summer 2003 Total 601
## I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED

### Fall 2003

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### Fall 2003 Total 1,010
## I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED

### Spring 2004

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<td>POT 4309</td>
<td>Sex, Power, and Politics</td>
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<td>REL 3145</td>
<td>Women &amp; Religion</td>
<td>Atchison-Nevel</td>
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<td>SOP 3742</td>
<td>Psychology of Women</td>
<td>Stephens</td>
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<td>SYO 3120</td>
<td>Marriage and Family</td>
<td>Hearn</td>
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#### Biscayne Bay

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AML 4624/5305</td>
<td>Major African-American Writers: Zora Neale</td>
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<td>ENL 4254</td>
<td>Late Victorian Fiction</td>
<td>Rochelson</td>
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<td>ENL 5505</td>
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<td>Rochelson</td>
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<td>HUM 4920</td>
<td>Senior Seminar: Gender and Sexuality</td>
<td>Friedman</td>
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<td>LIT 3383</td>
<td>Women in the 19th Century Novel</td>
<td>Sprechman</td>
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<td>SYD 3810</td>
<td>Sociology of Gender</td>
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### Spring 2004 Total

|                      | 1,170 |

### YEAR 2003-2004 TOTAL

|                      | 2,781 |
I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED

New Courses in Women’s Studies

Alonso, I. ECS 3021: Women, Culture, and Economic Development. (online course), Spring 04
Friedman, R. HIS 4935/HUM 4920: Senior Seminar on Gender & Sexuality, Spring 2004
Morcillo A. WST 4993/EUH 4286/EUH 5935: Gendered History of the Body, Spring 04
Rose, S. WST 4994: Women’s Studies Internship, Spring 04
Rose, S. WST 4995: Women’s Studies Independent Study, Spring 04
Wilson, M. LBS 5930: Topics: Internship at Women’s Fund of Miami-Dade County

Women’s Studies Graduates: Bachelor’s Degree and Certificate Earners

Summer 03-Spring 04

B. A. Degree Earners = 17

2003 Summer
Craven, Michelle
Gilkes, Karen

2003 Fall
Nugent-Smith, Marie
Pelleya, Cristina
Potens, Rachel
Reyes, Vanessa

2004 Spring
Alvarez, Natasha
Boyd, Shyla
Cabrera, Lisa
Casale, Judith
Dantata, Rabi
Hernandez, Tiana
Medina, Charlene
Moghimi Kian, Ida
Morris, Ian
Ortiz, Maria
Santos, Shannon

Certificate in Women’s Studies = 22

2003 Summer
Ceremy, Joelle
Lopez, Vanessa
Moghani, Sayed
Solorzano, Melissa

2003 Fall
Alonso, Yessenia
Gonzalez, Giselda
Rivero, Ariadna
Sheran, Jennifer

2004 Spring
Campuzano, Mariela
Carlucci, Marianna
Chin, Marra
Delgado, Saray
Herrero, Jeanette
Hohn, Kristopha
Morgan, Charise
Pitts, Heather
Rodmore, Celia
Soler, Raiza
Solis, Nasha
Vallejo, Roniel
Zunzunegui, Melissa
I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED

Elaine Gordon Scholarship in Women’s Studies

Award Recipient for 2004-2005

Brenda Contreras

Brenda Contreras was the fifth recipient of the Elaine Gordon Scholarship in Women’s Studies. The Gordon Scholarship program was established in 2000 to honor the life and work of Elaine Gordon, a former state legislator who for 22 years championed equal rights for women and who also served as assistant vice president for University Relations at FIU. The scholarship is open to Women’s Studies majors and certificate earners. The amount of the award was $1500.

Ms. Contreras was selected for the award due to her strong interest in social justice issues that led her to earn a Women’s Studies Certificate along with her Psychology degree. For instance, Ms. Contreras was involved in activism concerning the lack of police attention to the murders of many young women in Juarez, Mexico, near her hometown. Also, as an intern for the Women's Studies Center in 2003-2004, she was the co-organizer of the FIU delegation of twenty students that attended the March for Women’s Lives/Reproductive Rights in Washington, DC, in April 2004. Her activism was in the tradition of Elaine Gordon’s contribution to social justice.

Previous Elaine Gordon Award Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tamara Persad-Maharaj</td>
<td>Cristina Pelleyá</td>
<td>Maria Ortiz</td>
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<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
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</table>
## I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED

### Women’s Studies Awards

#### Academic Excellence for Seniors
- Judith Casale
- Rabi Dantata
- Tiana Hernandez
- Ian Morris

Rabi Dantata, Judith Casale, and Ian Morris

#### Outstanding Service for Seniors
- Shyla Boyd
- Lisa Cabrera
- Ian Morris
- Maria Ortiz

Shyla Boyd and Lisa Cabrera

#### Academic Achievement
- Helen Brown
- Sze Lee
- Colleen Supanich
- Catherine Torres
- Susan Torres

Sze Lee and Catherine Torres

#### Undergraduate Achievement Awards
- Helen Cuan
- Maria Marin
- Chrystal Rambarath

#### Writing Awards – Best Papers in Student Journal
- Claudia Livini

Undergraduate Award

- Gema Junco

Graduate Award

#### Outstanding Alumna Award
- Maureen Muhlena
I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED

FIU Women’s Studies Student Conference 2004

Undergraduate and graduate students doing their own research on women and gender submitted and presented their papers, posters, and artwork during the Third Women’s Studies Student Conference on March 31, 2004.

Participants interacting with the artists and guests.

l-r: Samia Harb, Jan Solomon, and Astrid Ellie.

Symposium Chairs: Lara Goldsmith, Tamara Persad, Christina Lalama, Marie Nugent-Smith, Michelle Fotovat, Sze Lee.

Presenters:
Akache, Ola and Campos-Serrano, Adriana, “Making Waves: Women’s Struggle for Recognition.”
Brahmbhatt, Anjali; Castillo, Patricia; Hurtubise, Teresa; Lonnerbergstriby, Jenny, and Miegel, Gregory, “21st Century South Floridian Women.”
Contreras, Brenda, “Women of Juárez.”
de Bernard Mas, Simone, “Guardian of the New Form: Sculpted Genitalia.”
Ellie, Astrid, “Putting Gender in Place? Hegemonic Masculinity and the ‘Crisis’ of the Barbadian Male.”
Harb, Samia, “Constructing Gender: The Case of Lebanese Women.”
Lee, Sze, “Wu Zetian: The Only Female Emperor in Chinese History.”
Marin, Maria, “Hildegard of Bingen: Living ‘Feminist’ during the Medieval Ages.”
Marka, Rejane, “For a Better Life.”
Morris, Ian, “What does he know?”
Ortiz, Maria and Muhenla, Maureen, “FIU Women’s Studies Student Association.”
Persad, Tamara and Contreras, Brenda, “March for Women’s Lives 2004.”
Phillips, Wendy, “Bound to Fear.”
Rosken, Elisabeth, “Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Women in Information Technology.”
Sarver, Anne, “Food and the Body.”
Solomon, Jan, “Women and Development: Gender as a Development Issue.”
Supanich, Colleen, “Women and Hair Symbolism.”
Teague, Kenya, “The Reflection of a Woman.”
I. UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED

Making Waves, Vol. 2: Journal Publication

The production of Making Waves was made possible by funding provided by the Women’s Studies Student Association (WSSA), and the Women’s Studies Board of Advisors. The editors extend their appreciation to WSSA officers Maria Ortiz (President) and Maureen Muhlena (Vice-President) and to the Women’s Studies Board of Advisors for their generosity and support.

44 pages, with color photographs

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4. The Scared Progress, Judith Casale

5. Artwork
   Women’s Studies Student Mural
   Marie Nugent-Smith
   Professor Morcillo’s Class Projects


7. The Return of God the Mother—How to Become the Goddess/ God, Nuala Carr

8. Female Delinquents, Makissa Lewis


Biographies