

WOMEN'S STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Edited by: Kaitlin Cottle & Meghann Parry



CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Meet Fendall Fulton and Rachel Davis</i>	2
<i>UTC Professors Attend SEWSA</i>	2
<i>Alumni Spotlight: Blake Harris</i>	3
<i>Women's History Month Photos</i>	3
<i>Take Back the Night</i>	4
<i>October 15, 2014</i>	

Several of UTC's Women's Studies majors and minors have been engaged in impressive activist work both on and off campus. Both majors and minors from the program are working hard to make UTC and the Chattanooga community a safer space for marginalized groups.

Jefferson Hodge, president of UTC's queer student organization Spectrum, spent his summer advocating for affordable housing. Jefferson has also been working since last fall to defend domestic partner benefits and nondiscrimination policies and additionally focusing on current queer affirming policy change on campus. He and other majors are organizing and mobilizing students for the current battle to defend reproductive freedom in Tennessee. Rachel Davis has become involved in the Vote No On One campaign to uphold reproductive justice, recently bringing a speaker to host a well-attended workshop informing students and faculty on the issue and providing guidance for talking about reproductive choice.

Harlee Milligan has also worked with the Vote No On One cam-

paign, organizing phone-banks to inform voters of the amendment on the November 7th ballot. This year Harlee is the facilitator of the Women's Action Council, the student group partnered with the Women's Center which advocates for women on UTC's campus and in the Chattanooga community. She will direct UTC's *The Vagina Monologues* and is also a two-time member of the W.I.S.E. committee, serving as their Violence Against Women Chair. Her work with W.A.C., *The Vagina Monologues*, and W.I.S.E. brings much needed awareness and funds to end violence against women on campus and in our community.

Amendment #1 states, "Nothing in this Constitution secures or protects a right to abortion or requires the funding of an abortion. The people retain the right through their elected state representatives and state senators to enact, amend, or repeal statutes regarding abortion, including, but not limited to, circumstances of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest or when necessary to save the life of the mother."



Harlee (above) stands with her cast for *The Vagina Monologues* and Jefferson (below) waves pride flags to counter religious hate speech on campus.



LUNAFEST COMING TO UTC

UTC will host LUNAFEST on March 24, 2015. LUNAFEST is a traveling film festival of award-winning short films by, for and about women. This season, the program of nine

films – filled with stories of reflection, hope and humor – will travel to over 150 cities and screen in front of 25,000 people. A portion of all proceeds will benefit the Breast Cancer Fund. If you are interested

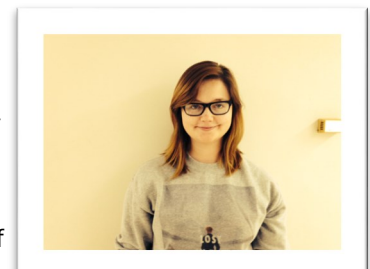
on serving on the planning committee, contact Sarah-Grace Battles at XRR336@mocs.utc.edu. To view a trailer and a complete listing of the films, please visit lunafest.org.

INTRODUCING FENDALL FULTON AND RACHEL DAVIS



Fendall Fulton, a UTC senior, will be graduating this December with a degree in Women's Studies and English: Creative Writing. Fendall is the cofounder of UTC's Women's Action Council and formerly served as a rape victim advocate at both the Syracuse Rape Crisis Center and the Partnership. "My

experiences with sexual assault and a growing sense in my early adult years of the subjugation of women brought me to Women's Studies." Fendall says that Women's Studies, as an interdisciplinary major, broadened perspectives and provided opportunities to critically explore a range of subjects. After graduation, Fendall will attend the San Jose State University Master's program in Library and Information Science, bringing her experience of Women's Studies to the graduate program.



Rachel Davis is a UTC junior graduating in December of 2016. She is a Sociology and Women's Studies double major who plans to earn her Ph. D. and become a professor of Women's Studies and Sociology.

Rachel says that her early fascination with feminism led her to take the Introduction to Women's Studies course with Sheena Monds, sparking her interest in the program: "Women's Studies is a field I'm really passionate about, and one of the things I love most about it is sharing what I learn with

other people."

Rachel supports students interested in taking Women's Studies course or joining the program: "I would say go for it! There are Women's Studies courses that fit almost any interest, and the things you learn are applicable to any field you may want to go in."

UTC WOMEN'S STUDIES ATTENDS UNBOUGHT AND UNBOSSSED LUNCHEON WHERE STEPHANIE BELLAR IS HONORED



Dr. Stephanie Bellar (Center)



Women's Studies Faculty and Students



Right to Left: Dr. Rebecca Jones, Dr. Heather Palmer, Dr. Andrea Becksvoort

UTC PROFESSORS PRESENT AT 2014 SOUTHEASTERN WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The Southeastern Women's Studies Association held their 2014 conference at the University of North Carolina Wilmington where they celebrated and showcased recent feminist scholarship. Dr. Rebecca Jones, Dr. Heather Palmer, and

Dr. Andrea Becksvoort attended the 2014 SEWSA conference where they each presented in the "Breaking In: Women's Public Rhetoric" session moderated by Dr. Jones.

Attention:
If you are majoring or minoring in Women's Studies, please declare your major or minor at the Records website or office as soon as possible.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2014 WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER KJERSTIN GRUYS



Kjerstin speaks to students in the UC Auditorium



(Left to Right) Kjerstin Gruys, Kaitlin Cottle, Connor Anderson, Fendall Fulton, Sania Khan



Kjerstin leads a discussion of *Mirror, Mirror Off the Wall*



Kjerstin Gruys, author of *Mirror, Mirror Off the Wall*



Blake Harris ('11) was one of two students accepted into the fall 2014 MFA in Theatre Direc-

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: BLAKE HARRIS ('11)

tion Program at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, California. While at UTC Blake majored in Women's Studies and minored in Theatre and Speech, winning the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Student in Women's Studies Award. After graduating from UTC, Blake was hired as an administrative assistant at the Wom-

en's Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga, where he was promoted to coordinator after one year. Blake also was a founding member of Theatre for the New South, where he directed 12 productions in the last 4 years, including *Medea*, *Prometheus Bound*, *Woyzech*, and *Orpheus and Euridice*.

Are you a WSTU major graduating in 2015?

If so please contact

Dr. Marcia Noe immediately at

(423) 266-9316

or

Marcia-Noe@utc.edu

Take Back the Night at UTC

October 15, 2014

On October 15, 2014, The Women's Center at UTC and the Chattanooga Partnership for Families, Children and Adults, along with our campus and community sponsors, will be hosting our annual Take Back the Night events. Take Back

the Night is an opportunity for our Campus community and our Chattanooga community to come together to bring awareness to crimes of sexual/domestic violence and support to all of our individuals and families affected by power-based violence. This is an opportunity for all of us to become part of a larger voice that is working to end all forms of power-based violence.

On **Wednesday, October 15**, The Women's Center at UTC will be hosting events and information tables throughout the day, with the main Take Back the Night events occurring in the evening. The main events include guest speaker, Kate Price (Commercial

Sexual Exploitation Survivor), a march through the Fortwood District to promote awareness, and a candlelight vigil in honor of the victims and survivors of power-based violence. They will also be selling t-shirts and hosting a raffle/silent auction – ALL the proceeds will go to The Partnership for Families, Children and Adults Rape Crisis Services to help fund services for victims of sexual and domestic violence in our community.

For a complete schedule please

visit:

<http://www.utc.edu/womens-center/wcevents/tbtn.php>

Your participation and support is valued. These events are open to all members of our campus and Chattanooga community.



Editorial Information: The Women's Studies Newsletter appears at least once a semester. For more information please contact Dr. Noe at (423) 425-4692 (office) or (423) 266-9316 (home), or email her at Marcia-Noe@utc.edu. The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga is an equal employment opportunity/ affirmative action/ Title VI/ Title IX/ Section 504/ ADA/ ADEA institution. E041002003-001-15

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT
CHATTAHOOGA



Women's Studies
Program 2703
615 McCallie Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37403-
2598
Phone: (423) 425-4692
Email: Marcia-Noe@utc.edu
www.utc.edu/womens-
studies