

# CONNECTIONS

The Women's Center • TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE • Spring 2006

## INSIDE

WINNING POETRY  
PAGE 2

WOMEN IN  
MOTION  
PAGE 3

WOMEN'S CENTER  
DONORS  
PAGE 4

WOMEN'S CENTER  
GRADUATES  
PAGE 5

WOMEN'S  
STUDIES  
OPPORTUNITIES  
PAGE 6



## WOMEN'S STUDIES: A LIFE CHANGING COURSE

**P**am Bonesteel, a divorced mother of two children who is working toward her second associate's degree, said, "I learned so much in Women's Studies, it's hard to focus on one issue. Even though I have an A.A.S. in law enforcement, I didn't know the extent of domestic violence. I was surprised to learn that the U.S. lags behind other western nations in maternity leave and health benefits despite being a superpower and leader of the world." Her HUM 210 class, Introduction to Women's Studies, discussed these topics and many other issues.

Michele Marits, Bonesteel's instructor on the Virginia Beach Campus, explained that

*"For the response papers, you have to sit and think about the author's argument. It sharpened my thought and my writing skills."*

*—Alissa Reed*

interdisciplinary and transnational approach to the subject.

Marits' background in NOW and efforts to pass the Equal Rights Amendment has prepared her to teach about feminism. She said, "The undergraduate and graduate women's studies courses I have taken at ODU profoundly changed my life." She hopes the course she teaches has a similar effect on her students. One group assignment includes

women's studies has developed in complexity from its beginnings in the 1970s. Academic research has moved into women's legal, social, political, and economic issues. Therefore, Marits takes an



*Pamela Bonesteel*



*Barbara Johnson,  
Women's Studies  
Instructor*

a reflection letter. Comments from these letters indicate the realization of her hopes. The students write, "Women's studies was a rewarding class that will leave a lasting impact." They gain new understandings regarding "the struggles of women and how far they have come."

Marits offers another opportunity this summer with HUM 299 – Women in the Developing World, a nine-day immersion experience in Nicaragua. (More details on the course are at the end of this article.) This course allows participants to meet women leaders in the movement for change and to see the challenges they face.

Alissa Reed, a TCC graduate and former student of Barbara Johnson's (another TCC Women's Studies instructor) at the Norfolk campus, vouches for the value of the Nicaragua trip. She admitted that until she took the women's studies class and traveled to Nicaragua in 2004, she had no concept of the injustices toward women. She said, "Women had no say over their reproductive rights in Nicaragua. I learned how many women have no voice in their lives."

*continued on page 6*

# WOMEN'S CENTER LITERARY COMPETITION 1ST PLACE POETRY

Marjorie Bomhower, Virginia Beach campus student, won first place in the 2005/2006 Women's Center Literary Competition poetry division with this poem exploring the theme *Women's Bodies, Women's Lives: Medical, Cultural, and Political Perspectives*.

1692

Salem.  
Sad Salem,  
With your prudish, puritan paranoia.  
How could you believe those boastful brats?  
Shame on your tightly buckled shoes,  
And arrogant bonnets of deceptive white  
Can you imagine, how horrible her hour  
Of Officially Ordained, sadistic salvation?  
Put on display, tormented by her own, ministry.  
A rye-bread requiem for your teenage angst  
Hallowed hallucinations and flying familiars, indeed  
You must know that Lucifer's legions leered,  
'Cuz those blood-drawn confessions surely couldn't cure,  
Those of bedeviled, befouled blood  
Nineteen of your neighbors named,  
All of them accused, adjudicated; accursed.  
Innocents incarcerated, innocence immolated.  
Gallows Hill displayed the wicked,  
Hanging ornaments of fear and delusion.  
But, after all, the signs of their wickedness  
Were plain to see  
    A wayward goat, a black barn cat, a sick cow,  
    A tuft of fallen hair, a child's misplaced doll, or even  
    A sewing needle that bore the blood of a diligent finger.  
But, I think the signs of evil you failed to see,  
Were, in all actuality, more likely to be,  
A bored husband, a slighted friend, unrequited love,  
A poor harvest or simple jealousy.  
The Salvation you delivered,  
As such, scarcely seems  
Divine.

## WOMEN'S CENTER STAFF

### MARY PAT LIGGIO

College-Wide Coordinator; 822-1141

### WENDY WEBB

Administrative Assistant & Program  
Specialist III, 822-1349

### SALLY DANIEL

Networks for Women Mentoring  
Coordinator; 822-7554

### MEL SUTTON

STEM Pioneer Project Administrative  
and Office Specialist, 822-7493

### SUSAN FINCKE

Networks for Women STEM Pioneer  
Project Director; 822-7220

### PENNY REMICK

Counselor; Nursing Student Support  
Program, Portsmouth Campus, 822-2627

### IVORY WARREN

Counselor; Norfolk Campus, 822-1116

### PATTI WILLIAMS

Counselor; Portsmouth Campus, 822-2161

### JANET MARVEL

Counselor; Chesapeake Campus, 822-5133

### AMY BELDON

Counselor; Virginia Beach Campus, 822-7363

### ROSALBA EDDINS

Administrative and Office Specialist  
Virginia Beach Campus, 822-7363

### CORIE NIXON

Programming Assistant, 822-1538

### VIRGINIA O'KEEFE

Connections Editor; 822-1349

[www.tcc.edu/womenscenter](http://www.tcc.edu/womenscenter)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Women's Center at Tidewater Community College supports women in achieving the highest educational goals for both college transfer and workforce development.

Through community partnerships, The Women's Center serves as a resource on women's issues and works to promote an atmosphere where diversity, inclusiveness and equity are valued.

# WOMEN IN MOTION

## 2006 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH EVENTS AT TCC

### LITERARY COMPETITION AWARDS CEREMONY

The Women's Center announced the winners of the 2005-2006 Literary Competition on March 2, 2005. Deborah M. DiCroce, TCC's president, presented the awards at a ceremony and reception held on the Norfolk campus.



*(L to R) Heather Widgeon, Jolanda Leuschner, Marjorie Bomhower, Somer Williamson, Deborah M. DiCroce (photo by Bradley Smith)*

1st place- ESL/Developmental Division- Contemporary Essay: Jolanda Leuschner for "Abuse and Low Self-Esteem"

1st place-General-Contemporary Essay- Somer Williamson "The Long Term Effects of Family Life Education on Young Women"

2nd place-General-Contemporary Essay- Heather Widgeon "Without Therapy: A Story of a Family in Crisis"

1st place-General-Poetry- Marjorie Bomhower "1692"

2nd place-General-Poetry- Vondale Reynolds "A Tree Still Stands There"

Honorable Mention-General-Poetry- Jade Chandler-Haag "Grocery List Passed By on Street"



*Chesapeake theatre students Fernando Morales and Elyse Jolley participating in the March 16, 2006 Interactive Theatre Project on the Chesapeake campus. The program explored the issue of gender-based violence. (photo by Bradley Smith)*

*The Women's Center thanks the following people for making this competition possible:*

College-Wide Coordinators:  
Kimberly Bovee  
Nancy Jolemore

Campus Coordinators:  
Rick Alley, Chesapeake  
Tom Ellis, Norfolk  
Tricia Swoope, Virginia Beach  
Patti Williams, Portsmouth

Campus Judges:  
Leah Hagedorn, Norfolk  
Linda Jensen, Virginia Beach

Community Judges:  
Robert Christian  
Felice Saks

Librarian:  
Ruth Shumate for assisting with website research links.

### INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN



*Amy O'Neill Richard  
(photo by Kerri Suzanne Kyle)*

Amy O'Neill Richard, Senior Advisor in the U.S. State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, spoke at the Virginia Beach Campus on "International Trafficking in Women" on January 30, 2006.

The program was co-sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Greater Hampton Roads.

# THANKS TO WOMEN'S CENTER DONORS

The TCC Women's Center would like to thank the many generous individuals and organizations, a total of 95, who helped us to raise \$21,821.80. Their patronage helps to support the work of The Women's Center.

## \$2,500 to \$4,999

Mary DeChant, in memory of  
Mary Claire Heyser

## \$1,000 to \$2,499

Barbara Y. Bazemore  
Jane Klein Goldman  
Mimi and Warren Karesh  
Mary Pat Liggio  
Clarissa C. Lynch

## \$250 to \$999

Mr. Everette G. Allen, Jr.  
Mrs. Clay H. Barr  
Elena H. B. Baum  
Jane M. Bennett  
Stephen A. Ciganek and Lee Ellen Knight  
Mary Ruth and Martin Cloudsley  
Christine Damrose-Mahlmann  
Mona J. E. Danner  
Suzanne E. Dundon, M.D.  
Anthony and Diana Harris  
Daniel and Mary Mayer-Hennelly  
Ms. Karen Jaffe  
Mrs. Linda H. Kaufman  
Peggy and Aubrey Layne  
Betty R. Luse  
Suzanne Puryear  
Virginia and John L. Sinclair Foundation  
Ursuline Nuns of Dallas

## \$1 to \$249

Meagan Albert  
Michelle J. Atkins, Esq.  
Shirley C. Baldwin  
Ms. Rita J. Barnes  
Dr. and Mrs. Alan G. Bartel  
Letitia R. Batey  
Ms. Amy Beldon  
Carter Grandy Bernert  
Ellen C. Carlson  
Kathleen M. Carter  
Lilian M. Collier  
Ms. Pam Creef  
Catherine F. DelGuidice  
Gail Derrick  
Jacque Dessino  
Duke Automotive Corporation  
Dianne B. Eppler  
Anita Clair Fellman  
Mrs. Alice Ferguson  
Emily H. Filer, CVA  
Kelly Anne Foley, M.D.

Suzanne N. Franklin  
Vaughan B. Frederick  
Rowena and Peter Fullinwider  
G & W Brokerage Company, Inc.  
Selena and Shane Gentry  
Ms. Carolyn Gottlieb  
Ms. Rachel Hayes  
Dr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Hennelly, Jr.  
Mr. William J. Hill  
Helen Jones  
Dr. and Mrs. Edward Karotkin  
Ms. Deborah B. Kaufman  
Donna L. Koch  
Mrs. Jeanne J. Kruger  
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Laibstain  
Dr. Jean G. Lamkin  
Mrs. Rosalyn D. Landres  
Telsa Leon  
Ms. Mary Elizabeth Liggio  
Pamela M. Lingle  
Ms. Margaret V. Little  
Toni Lohman  
Ramona H. Mapp  
Cheryl Marks  
Nathan W. Maudlin  
Timothy and Renee McCarthy  
Marshall McClure  
Elizabeth McLeod  
Dr. Regula Meier  
Judd and Sara Mendelson  
Kathie Moore  
Maurice J. Moran  
Debbie Mustin  
Ms. Herta Okonkwo  
Cynthia A. Perkins  
Gail Reynolds  
Carolyn H. Rhodes  
Ms. Paula L. Russel  
Linda and Stanley Samuels  
Miriam G. Secherman  
Leigh Ann Sirmans  
Joan C. Skeppstrom  
Becky Thomas  
Linda Todd  
Catharine K. Train  
Nivea T. Velazquez  
Patti Wainger  
Cathy Walsh  
Ms. Janis C. Weisberg  
Woman's Club of Norfolk

For more information about making a donation to support the work of The Women's Center, call (757) 822-1349.

## WOMEN'S CENTER ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

JANE BENNETT, Chair

MARY PAT LIGGIO, College-Wide  
Coordinator

MICHELLE ATKINS

RITA BARNES

BARBARA BAZEMORE

MARY RUTH CLOUDSLEY

CHRISTINE DAMROSE-MAHLMANN

CATHERINE DELGUIDICE

SUZANNE FRANKLIN

DIANA GUYTON

BARBARA JOHNSON

MIMI SUNSHINE KARESH

DEBORAH KAUFMAN

PEGGY LAYNE

MARGARET LITTLE

CLARISSA LYNCH

MARY MAYER-HENNELLY

JUDY B. MCMILLAN

PEGGY THORPE

DYANNE WALKER

THERESA WHIBLEY, MD

ELLEN WIDOFF



# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WOMEN'S CENTER GRADUATES

## CHESAPEAKE CAMPUS

### December 05

Crystal Corley, A.S., General Studies  
Joanne Jones, A.A.S., Interior Design  
Anissa Neal, A.S., Business

Administration  
Crystal Rickett, A.A.S., Education  
Support Specialist

Rosalyn Robinson, A.S. Business  
Administration

Ruth Woods, A.S., Social Science

### May 06

Stacy Bender, A.S., Science  
Irhanda Maultsby Gray, A.S., Business  
Administration

Vera Holmes, A.S., Social Science

Sarah King, A.A.S., Interior Design

Crystal Lemon, A.S., General Studies

Jessica McGowan, A.S., Science

Lu'Toya Merritt, A.S., General Studies

Vonetta Potts, A.S., Social Science

## NORFOLK CAMPUS

### December 05

Tamicka Costen, A.S., General Studies  
Valerie Torres, A.A., Accounting  
Julie Herrera, A.A., Administrative Justice

### May 06

Melvilyn Sutton, A.S., Social Science

## PORTSMOUTH CAMPUS

### December 05

Janice Sweet, A.S., Business

### May 06

Bonnie Walton, A.S., Business,  
Magna Cum Laude

## VIRGINIA BEACH CAMPUS

### December 05

Laura Dozier, A.S., Social Science,  
Magna Cum Laude

Emily Kehrig, A.A., Liberal Arts,  
Cum Laude

Bonnie Hammond, A.A.S.,  
Administrative Assistant

Angela Poague, A.S., Social Science,  
Magna Cum Laude

### May 06

Shannon Collins, A.S., Social Science

## STEM PIONEER PROJECT

Julia Bangs, A.S., Science

Stacy Bender, A.S., General Studies,  
Mathematics

Crystal Lemon, A.S., Science

Jodi Osborn, A.S., Science

Christine Kitchens-Frost, A.S., Science

Melissa Minnick, A.S., Science



Julia Bangs



Stacey Bender



Crystal Lemon



Melissa Minnick



Jodi Osborn

## WOMEN'S CENTER SERVICES

### The Women's Center Offers:

- Events
- Newsletter
- Local Resources and referrals
- On-campus resources and referrals
- Online Resources
- Networks for Women (mentoring for women pursuing careers in science, math, engineering and technology)
- Lending Library
- Scholarship Information, including TCC scholarships

### Counseling

- Support Groups
- Individual
- Crisis Intervention
- Transition to College
- Career counseling
- Placement test preparation
- Preparing to register
- Academic support

### And information on

- Parenting
- Health
- Sexual Relationships

For contact information, see page 2 of this issue or visit the website at: [www.tcc.edu/womenscenter](http://www.tcc.edu/womenscenter).

*continued from page 1*

The experience brought an amazing change in Reed's life. She was headed for a degree in corporate law and is now a women's studies major at ODU, with a goal of helping at-risk women and teens. She plans to return to Nicaragua with Michele Marits in July for independent study credit at ODU. Reed said, "The biggest thing I learned was analyzing. Before I would just take what the author said without questioning. For the response papers, you have to sit and think about the author's argument. It sharpened my thought and my writing skills."

Marleen Turner, one of Johnson's students said, "We had open discussions where we could express ourselves and we learned to respect each other's opinions." Pam Bonesteel agrees, also saying she has learned is to stand up for herself. Bonesteel, who is profoundly deaf and relies on a palm pilot for text messages, is determined to succeed. As president of the TCC chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, she will attend the organization's international conference this summer. Her training in women's studies has helped make this experience possible.

#### FOR TCC AND OTHER LOCAL WOMEN'S STUDIES OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Introduction to Women's Studies, HUM 210**, is offered on each TCC campus.
- **HUM 299 – Women in the Developing World:** Nine-Day Immersion Experience in Nicaragua, July 8 – 17, 2006, Sponsored by: Tidewater Community College and the Center for Global Education at Augsburg College. Cost \$1,480, not including airfare. [www.tcc.edu/academics/programs/ipo/abroad/index.htm](http://www.tcc.edu/academics/programs/ipo/abroad/index.htm) or Michele Marits, trip leader at [MMarits@tcc.edu](mailto:MMarits@tcc.edu)
- **Old Dominion University and Virginia Wesleyan College** both offer Majors and Minors in Women's Studies. ODU also offers a graduate concentration in Women's Studies as part of the M.A. in Humanities degree. For more information, contact:

**ODU:** Dr. Anita Clair Fellman, Chair of the Women's Studies Department, 757-683-3823, email: [WMST@odu.edu](mailto:WMST@odu.edu), [www.al.odu.edu/womens\\_studies/](http://www.al.odu.edu/womens_studies/)

**Virginia Wesleyan College:** Dr. Sally Shedd, Program Coordinator, 757-455-3283, [sshedd@vwc.edu](mailto:sshedd@vwc.edu), [www.vwc.edu/academics/programs/wgs.php](http://www.vwc.edu/academics/programs/wgs.php)



**TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
From here, go anywhere.™

300 Granby Street Norfolk Virginia 23510

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 2048  
Norfolk, VA

