Welcome Back!

Transitions are bittersweet moments. We miss what we experience as loss and yet, the future is always at the ready, rife with possibilities and things to be made anew. This semester is a bittersweet one for us; one of transition. It is our first semester without Drs. Lynn Bolles and Deborah Rosenfelt, both of whom retired last semester after twenty-six years of service to the University of Maryland. This is also Dr. Kim’s last semester with us as she moves on to the Institute of Korean Studies, Indiana University. Each was instrumental in building a number of departments and programs here at the University of Maryland and beyond. For us, their voices, ideas, and initiatives infuse our graduate program, and we remain indebted to their administrative commitments, with each of them having served, albeit for different durations, as Director of Graduate Studies. They will be sorely missed, but they will continue to have an institutional presence through their work and, in the case of our retiring faculty, through the Bolles-Rosenfelt Dissertation Completion Award, which we have renamed to commemorate their service to the department.

As we mark their departure, we are thrilled to welcome Drs. LaMonda Horton-Stallings and Roberto (Bobby) Benedicto. Their work informs, strengthens, and in the spirit of making anew, adds to a number of our existing foci—race and racialization, queer studies, transnational studies, black cultural studies, and postcolonial studies, among others. Thank you for your participation in their respective hire. Once they have settled, please stop by to welcome them and to share your research with them. Additionally, our new cohort is here! You’ve met them. Now, read a bit more about their interests in this issue. Welcome to those who have joined us and welcome back to the rest of you. Your scholarship and commitment to our community define who we are as a program and, from where I stand, we’re looking pretty good.

So, what’s in this issue? In F14 we spent WMST 628 exploring approaches to and experiences of non-academic careers, and in Sp 15 we took a more in-depth look at the job-talk and on-campus interview. For those of you looking ahead to the market, academic or otherwise, I’ve included a piece by Dr. Fatimah Williams, which encourages you to approach the market judiciously and with realistic expectations. Further, for the WMST departments within the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) grouping, there will be a 1-credit course offered in Sp. 16, Intellectual Careers for Feminists. This course will be housed at Rutgers University but will be open for online enrollment to students within the CIC grouping. I will keep you posted as I learn more. There is so much to celebrate—awards, a doctoral defense, your performances and publications. These are all listed on pages 9-11. Congratulations to you.

Wishing us all an even more successful year ahead. With that in mind, remember to look at the fellowships and grants on pages 12-14; the deadlines are key. These dates give the faculty adequate time to read your materials and get our collective feedback to you. Have a great semester and year.

Michelle V. Rowley

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Nat Baldino
Nat holds a B.A. in Philosophy with a minor in Religious Studies. Nat joins us from Knox College, graduating in Sp. 15 after having pursued a range of research interests, inclusive of but not limited to phenomenology of pain, LGBTQ ethics, bodies in space, political violence, and media representations. Nat presently has two publications: “Trauma & Tragedy: Understanding Identity through Personal Narrative,” *The McNair Journal of Multidisciplinary Research* 2013; and “For My Father, Who is Perpetual Sunlight,” *Up the Staircase Quarterly*, Issue 16. 2012. Nat’s curiosities about trauma and identity center on the exploration of the aftermath of trauma, namely, who do we become after a traumatic event? Nat argues that there is a public dimension to the work that individuals perform as they re-narrate their identity after a traumatic event has occurred. “Our identity,” Nat writes, “becomes meaningful only in the context of others, as it is formed and social, not inherent.” Nat wants to explore the value and role of “empathic communities” in the context of challenging violence against transgender individuals. Nat is a recipient of a University of Maryland McNair Graduate Fellowship (AY 15-16). When asked to tell us one quirky thing – Nat recollects leaving a childhood *American Girl* doll in the car one summer, returning only to find that the doll’s face had melted off! Feminist? The jury is still out on that one.
Danielle Bauer (DB)
Danielle joins us with a B.A. in English and American Studies (University of New Mexico, summa cum laude, 2008). She also holds an MA in Women's Studies (San Diego State University, California). Danielle has held a number of different media-related positions. For example, she has worked as a documentary producer, multimedia consultant, broadcast technical specialist, and audio engineer. Her two publications include a review of Odd Couples: Friendships at the Intersection of Gender and Sexual Orientation by Anna Muraco, in Journal of Homosexuality (2013) and “Hodgin Hall: Its Place in History” in Mirage, the University of New Mexico Alumni Association Magazine (2011). Danielle’s work explores the ways that drag as a performative genre and technology of gender subversion is changed by digital technologies and the Internet. She uses the term “cyberdrag” to capture how the transfer from the corporeal to the digital affects drag. Danielle is interested in revisiting questions that are key to the field and sit at the intersections of gender and sexuality. She writes, for example, that in her future work she wishes “to explore potential alternative methods of transcending normative processes of perceiving and speaking of gender.” Here she is particularly interested in engaging gender as a category in ways that circumnavigate our “insistence of measuring it in degrees of ‘masculinity’ and ‘femininity.’” DB plays the drums, guitar, and saxophone, and soon hopes to add piano to her repertoire.

Jocelyn Coates
Jocelyn earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Women’s Studies, as well as a minor in Black Women’s Studies and University Honors citation, from the University of Maryland, College Park in May 2014. She spent the 2014-2015 school year as a PhD student in Maryland’s department of Sociology before subsequently joining the Women’s Studies department. Jocelyn’s previous work in Sociology has aimed to situate interracial romantic relationships in the context of colorblind racism, specifically interrogating racialized/gendered micro-aggressions and epistemic violence. More broadly, her research interests include black feminist thought, postcolonial studies, racialization of black women’s bodies, notions of home and (un)belonging, queer theory, and collective memories. In her spare time, Jocelyn enjoys visiting local coffee shops in the D.C. area, and dreams of one day owning a Rottweiler.
Courtney Cook
Courtney comes to us with a B.A. in English Language and Literature, and Certificates in Women's Studies and Global Competencies (University of Maryland, 2008). She also holds an MS in Nonprofit Management from The New School for Public Engagement (May 2013). Before joining our program, Courtney served as the director of operations for the non-profit Kings Against Violence Initiative (KAVI) in Brooklyn, NY. Very much immersed in the world of non-profits, Courtney has also served as the Field Executive for Girl Scouts Heart, Westfield, NJ, and she has chaired the board of directors for the Masakhane Center, Newark, NJ (this organization focuses on promoting a healthy outlook on sex and sexuality for young people in the Newark, NJ, area). Courtney's research engages and critiques the leadership contradictions that exist within nonprofits. In particular, she foregrounds the disconnect within organizations whose mission aims to empower young girls to take up leadership roles in society while themselves lacking black women in leadership positions. The work explores what this conundrum means for the young women themselves. She is interested in working at the intersections of race and class and wishes to explore the experiences and complexities of black youth who exist in predominantly white and middle-to upper-middle-class spheres. Always multifaceted, one of Courtney's life goals is to become a doula.

Shilpa Venkatraman
Shilpa holds a Bachelor of Commerce, Mount Carmel College, Bangalore University, and an MSc. in Gender, Development and Globalization, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, U.K. Before joining our program, Shilpa held a position as an assistant professor in the School of Communication at Manipal University in Manipal, India. She also has an extensive background in journalism, having worked for the following news outlets: Mid Day (Bangalore), The Indian Express (New Delhi), The New Indian Express (Bangalore), and The Times of India (Bangalore). Shilpa's research engages the portrayal of Indian women in mainstream Bollywood cinema. Her work examines the rise of patriarchal family dramas within Bollywood cinema. Venkatraman argues that this family drama genre functions as a mode of cultural resistance against economic gains made by women in the market place. This form of cultural resistance posits what Venkatraman refers to as the “modern-yet-traditional” woman, which merely offers a “patriarchal representation of the new Indian woman.” She is interested in examining the impact of women's employment status and earnings on her decision making power and agency within marriage. She is also interested in gender inequality in the household, including dowry and feminist jurisprudence in matrimonial matters.
Much of our time and attention in WMST 628 was spent thinking about the demands and expectations of different types of employment -- academic and non-academic. We also focused on that strange beast; the on-campus interview.

Our thanks to Ms. Kate Juhl, Program Director, University Career Center (ARHU). Ms. Juhl helped us to think about ways of crafting our curriculum vitae for non-academic audiences. We also had the pleasure of talking with Dr. Sharon Groves (Dir. of Religion and Faith Program, HRC) and Dr. Ann Steinecke (Sr. Director, Academic Affairs Association of American Medical Colleges, Program and Engagement) alumnae of the University of Maryland (English). Both speakers have spent their professional lives in non-academic positions and conveyed the unpredictable and rewarding dimensions of pursuing non-academic positions. Thank you to Drs. Barkley-Brown and Rosenfelt who joined us to share their insights and advice about the dos and don’ts of navigating the on-campus interview.

Grad Appreciation Week continues to be a special time on our calendar. It gives us an opportunity to thank you, our graduate students, for your contributions to the life of the program. This year was made particularly special thanks to Ms. Erin Snedecor who treated us to Bach, Suite No. 3 in C major.

You need to know what I now know...that this cohort has very impressive collective problem solving skills. This year we worked on ordering a visual narrative sequence without the ability to show our individual picture to each other. We crossed hot lava by building a human chain and the more adventurous among us squirmed up the rock climbing wall. As always, it’s “challenge by choice” which pushes us to sit right at the edge of our comfort zone. This year I decided to try the rock climbing wall and made it as far as putting on the harness! Pretty impressive, right? I forgot that I had a fear of heights. What can I say? Getting on a rock climbing wall tends to remind you. As always, it was a fun afternoon getting to know each other.

Photo by Dr. Alexis Lothian
Dr. Katie White defended her dissertation “Food on the Move: Gendered Representation, Cultural Sustainability, and Culinary Practices of Gullah Women” on March 9, 2015. Dr. White’s project connects Gullah women and foodways with processes of migration, cultural heritage, sustainability, and memory. Drawing on women's studies, history, anthropology, literature, film, and food studies, this interdisciplinary project looks at the preparation and presentation of food as an integral part of a sustained Gullah culture. Using Julie Dash’s Daughters of the Dust and Ntozake Shange’s Sassafras, Cyprus, and Indigo alongside contemporary ethnographic anthropologies of the senses, the work discusses how movement of peoples into and out of the Sea Islands of South Carolina complicates the relationship between the sensory, particularly taste, memory and home. Most importantly, through ethnographic study combined with analyses of cookbooks and other culinary notations, this dissertation examines the vital role women have played in maintaining Gullah culinary history and the dissemination and sustenance of Gullah culture. It enhances not only our understanding of Gullah culture but also of the processes of social and cultural changes necessary to sustain it. Food becomes a site for mapping the traditions, pressures, changes, adaptations, and resistances within a particular racial-ethnic community as it encounters dominant cultures, as well as a site of creativity, pleasure, and survival — Katie White.

Dr. White’s dissertation was chaired by Professor Lynn Bolles, and her committee comprised of Profs. Elsa Barkley Brown, Deborah Rosenfelt, Tony Whitehead (Dean’s Representative) and Psyche Williams-Forson.
“Three ways to increase employer responses to your job application”

Not getting the hits you want from numerous job applications you’ve submitted? There’s no magic bullet to getting a job offer – it can take a month to find the right job or it could take 12 months. External factors such as industry hiring cycles can stretch out the time from job search to job offer. However, there may be some areas of your search that are holding you back.

1. Review the types of jobs you’re applying to. Are they a good fit for you? Do you actually have examples of using these skills or doing things similar to those listed in the “essential responsibilities” section? In any job search you should apply for jobs that stretch you a bit. You do not have to have every single skill or know every piece of software listed in the job ad. However, you should be able to demonstrate with examples your use of most of the skills, attributes and experiences required by the job. This review may be sobering, as it will inevitably narrow the career fields and job types you will apply to. And, that’s okay!

I hear PhDs say, “I can do almost any job. As a PhD, I know how to learn really quickly. These jobs certainly don’t seem difficult.” Too often, first time job seekers and career transitioners underestimate the work that’s done in the jobs that look appealing to them. It’s a classic case of “you don’t know what you don’t know.” This affects their job search because they leave the door open to too many career options. You cannot effectively pursue three or five different job types at the same time. You spread yourself too thin and will miss the details and nuances of each career field. Employers can spot this right away – your resume and cover letter will need to show them that you really get what they do. This comes from experience in the field (paid or unpaid, short term or long term) and from really digging into the field (reading about it, keeping up with trends and techniques, meeting people, etc.)

Yes, you could do many types of jobs, but what does your experience say you are most likely to exceed at, need the least training in, and can quickly get up to speed at? Employers aren't hiring you to teach you to do the job rather to get the job done with minimal training investments on their part.

Narrowing your target jobs will actually be a good thing. It will help you edit down the number of job applications you send and concentrate on those career fields that are best matched to your skills and interests.

2. Consider expanding or shrinking your job search criteria. If you’ve launched a job search, surely you’ve set out criteria for the types of jobs you want and your preferred features in these jobs. Job search criteria may relate to your commute time, geographic location, salary range, office environment type, work hours, industry and so on. I see many first-time job seekers make the mistake of not having established criteria or because of their unfamiliarity with work they have very stringent and unrealistic criteria.

I once worked with a biology PhD who was desperate to find a job beyond the bench. He’d been doing research for years and felt fed up with his options on the academic job market. He was very adamant that he would not commute outside of the city center where he lived. His wife worked there and his two children went to school there, and for him, family time was very important and could not be jeopardized by long commutes.
Every person and family has a unique set of needs, and my job as coach is not to talk you out of your values. However, my job as coach is to hold up your assumptions and choices before you to ensure that you’ve truly though through the choice, its consequences and potential alternatives. His inability (or unwillingness, I’m not sure) to travel more than 20 minutes really narrowed his job search, and even cost him an academic job that he’d been offered.

I can’t say what he should have done, but I asked him what would happen if he expanded his commuting radius to 45 minutes to one hour. Or, if he landed a job one to two hours away, could his family move somewhere in the middle to accommodate his wife’s commute and his commute. Or, would he be willing to try and negotiate a 4 day work week or a day to telecommute from home. Check your job search criteria to see if there are places that you can creatively revisit.

3. If you’ve been searching for a while, you may need to take a break. There are ways to refuel when the job search lingers past when you thought it would. Taking a planned and contained break is one way to release yourself from the pressure and to energize your perspective. Taking a break may seem counterintuitive but it may be just the respite you need to refuel and reposition yourself for the search.

Read more from Fatimah Williams Castro, Ph.D., Career coach and author of "Top 45 Nonacademic Careers" at www.beyondthetenuretrack.com. Reprinted with permission.
Celebration Corner

Our program has had an exceptional year in terms of awards and commendations. Congratulations to you all.

Awards
Congratulations to:

- **Nat Baldino**, who received McNair Graduate Student Fellowship, University of Maryland.

- **Donnesha Blake**, who received a Women's Studies Summer Research Award.

- **Sara Haq**, who received an Arts and Humanities (ARHU) Travel Award and a NWSA Conference Travel Grant.

- **Sina Lee**, who received a Women's Studies Summer Research Award, as well as an International Graduate Research Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Maryland.

- **Jaime Madden**, who received a Graduate School Summer Research Award and a Women's Studies Summer Research Award, University of Maryland.

- **Cristina Pérez**, who received a Lee Thornton Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Maryland (declined). She also received a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (SHASS) Predoctoral Fellowship and received Honorable Mention for the Ford Dissertation Fellowship, as well as the National Women's Studies Association Graduate Scholarship.

- **Sunhye Kim**, who received a Graduate School Summer Research Award, as well as a Women's Studies Summer Research Award, University of Maryland.

- **Melissa Rogers**, who received an All S.T.A.R. Fellowship, Graduate School, The University of Maryland.

- **Justin Sprague**, who received an Outstanding Graduate Assistant Award, Graduate School, University of Maryland (2015).

- **Melissa Cheyenne Stevens**, who received an Anthro+ Paper Prize, Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland.

- **Jessica Vooris**, who received a Bolles-Rosenfelt Women's Studies Dissertation Completion Award. She also received a Wiley Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Maryland, and the James F. Harris Arts and Humanities Visionary Scholarship, College of Arts and Humanities, University of Maryland.

- **The Graduate Student Body** received a DRIF, a Pepsi Enhancement Grant, and a Hoff Grant in support of the upcoming Graduate Student Conference, *Interventions: Women's Studies in Action* (October 23-24, 2015).

Presentations

**Donnesha Blake**:


**Laura Brunner**:

**Eve Grice**:

“Pedagogies of Transgression: Disciplining Feminist Activism in the Women's Studies Classroom” (Roundtable organizer and participant), National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 2014.

**Celebrations**

**Sara Haq:**


#WGSTTaughtMe: Women & Gender Studies Alumni Panel. WGST Annual Conference, George Mason University, Virginia, April 2015.

**Renina Jarmon**
“Race, Digital Media, and Social Networks” Public Invited Panel, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, April 2015.

**Sunhye Kim:**

**Sina Lee**


**Cristina Pérez**


**Michelé Prince:**
“Afropessimism's discourse and Afrofuturism's aesthetics: possibilities for on the ground mobilization re: #BlackLivesMatter.” Public Invited Talk, University of Maryland, April 2015.


**Melissa Rogers**
Jeannette Soon-Ludes


Cara Snyder:


Justin Sprague

Jessica Vooris:


Publications

Jaime Madden (Book Review)

Performances
Sara Haq:

Cara Snyder
**Fellowships and Grants**

### Important Dates

- **14 September** - Last Day to Electronically Submit Application for Graduation to Registrar’s Office
- **21 September** - Last Day to Submit Nomination of Dissertation Committee Form (Doctoral Students) to Registrar’s Office
- **23-24 October** - Graduate Student Conference, *Interventions: Women's Studies in Action*
- **23 October** - WMST Fall Gathering
- **12-15 November** - National Women's Studies Association Conference
- **11 November** - Graduate Certificate Application Deadline
- **13 November** - Final Date to Electronically Submit Dissertation to the Registrar. Final day for Dissertation Directors to send Report of Examining Committee Form to the Registrar

### The Mary Savage Snouffer Dissertation Fellowship

This fellowship is offered by the College of Arts and Humanities. It will support up to three fellowships for qualified students pursuing the doctorate in any discipline in the humanities, including the study of language, literature, culture, philosophy, history, or the arts. Preference will be given to students in English, but scholarships can be awarded to students in other disciplines in the humanities and arts. Criteria for selection are based upon both academic merit and need. Proposals should be written with a non-specialist audience in mind. Applicants must have completed all course work and passed the qualifying examination for the doctorate degree.

**Department deadline: February 09, 2016; ARHU deadline: March 15, 2016.**

### Summer Research Fellowship

Eligible candidates for the Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship must be UMD doctoral students who have excellent qualifications, are making demonstrable progress through their program, and can show that a summer of focused work will enable them to prepare for or complete a key benchmark in their program’s requirements.

**Department deadline: February 09, 2016; Graduate School deadline: March 9, 2016, at noon.**

### Ann G. Wylie and Lee Thornton Dissertation Fellowships

Ann G. Wylie and Lee Thornton Dissertation Fellowships are one-semester awards from the Graduate School, intended to support outstanding doctoral students who are in the final stages of writing their dissertation. These Dissertation Fellowships carry a stipend of $10,000 plus candidacy tuition remission and $800 toward the cost of health insurance. The Graduate School awards approximately 40 Dissertation Fellowships per year.

**Department deadline: January 25, 2016; Graduate School deadline: Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at noon.**

### Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowships

Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowships are one-year awards intended to support outstanding doctoral students. The Fellowship carries a stipend of $25,000 plus candidacy tuition remission and $1600 toward the cost of health insurance for the academic year.

**Department deadline: January 25, 2016; Graduate School deadline: Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at noon.**

### Graduate All-S.T.A.R. Fellowships

The Graduate All-S.T.A.R. Fellowships are intended to honor graduate students who are both outstanding scholars and outstanding graduate assistants. Graduate All-S.T.A.R. Fellows will be featured on the Graduate School website and receive a $10,000 stipend. For eligibility, visit the Graduate School site. The Department will nominate one fellow to the College, which forwards its nominations to the Graduate School. More information about this award and nomination processes will be distributed in the spring.

**Department deadlines: ARHU deadline: March, 30, 2016.**
Fellowships and Grants cont’d

Endowed Awards from the Graduate School
The Graduate School currently offers four endowed awards: the Dr. Mabel S. Spencer Award for Excellence in Graduate Achievement; the Dr. James W. Longest Memorial Award for Social Science Research; the Michael J. Pelczar Award for Excellence in Graduate Study; and the Phi Delta Gamma Graduate Fellowship. For guidelines and nomination forms, visit the graduate school website.

Department deadline for all four endowed awards: February 09, 2016. Graduate School deadline: Wednesday, March 09, 2016, by noon.

The Dr. Mabel S. Spencer Award for Excellence in Graduate Achievement carries an annual stipend of at least $15,000 and candidacy tuition remission (if not covered by other tuition remission).

The Dr. James W. Longest Memorial Award for Social Science Research provides $2,000 to support doctoral dissertation research in the social sciences with potential benefits for small and/or disadvantaged communities. Candidacy tuition remission also will be granted for each of two semesters (if not covered by other tuition remission).

The Michael J. Pelczar Award for Excellence in Graduate Study offers $1,000 to an outstanding doctoral candidate who has demonstrated excellence beyond his or her course work and who has served at least one academic year as a teaching assistant with a commendable performance.

The Phi Delta Gamma Graduate Fellowship offers $1,000 to a student who “best exemplifies interdisciplinary scholarship achievement.”

TRAVEL GRANTS

International Graduate Research Fellowships
The Graduate School is now accepting applications for the International Graduate Research Fellowships. These fellowships are to provide graduate students a meaningful research experience in an international context, broadening the student’s knowledge and perspective. The fellowships take advantage of ongoing collaborations between UMD faculty and their international colleagues and, through graduate student exchange, also will enhance those collaborations. The fellowships facilitate and support research opportunities for doctoral students for a period of one to three months in another country.

This period can be at any time during the year. The fellowships take the form of financial support for travel and living expenses and do not provide stipends. Students in consultation with their advisors apply directly to the graduate school.

International Conference Student Support Awards
These awards from the Graduate School cover a graduate student’s conference registration fee up to $500. To be eligible, a graduate student must be presenting a paper, poster, or other research or creative material at a major, international scholarly, scientific, or professional conference that is held outside of the US. The graduate student must be enrolled at the University of Maryland at the time of travel to the international conference. Eligible graduate students are invited to submit applications for international travel through June 30, 2014. Funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Students are eligible to receive the ICSSA twice, once before candidacy and a second time after the achievement of candidacy.

Deadline: Rolling

Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant
These are Graduate School awards intended to help defray expenses incurred in traveling to scholarly conferences to present papers. Amounts vary. Visit the Graduate School site for guidelines and more information.

Deadline: Rolling

College of Arts and Humanities Graduate Student Travel Awards
To support the professional development of our graduate students through the presentation of original research, the College of Arts and Humanities awards grants for travel to significant national and international conferences. There are three competitions per year. Eligible expenses include transportation, lodging, registration fees, and per diem. Submit materials on-line.

There are two remaining deadlines:

Department Deadline: Please upload your materials NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK BEFORE THE APPLICATION IS DUE to ensure that the DGS can append a letter of support. ARHU Deadlines: Round 1 - Friday, October 10, 2015; Round 2 - Monday, December 4, 2015; and Round 3 - Friday, May 6, 2016.
WMST Graduate Awards and Fellowships

Women's Studies Department Travel Grants
When funds are available, the Women's Studies Department provides annual grants for professional travel to all students (in recent years $300 for travel within the United States). Awards are typically for research or presentations at appropriate conferences. The department chair or DGS will inform students about available funds early in the fall semester. Students may apply for funds at any time throughout the year, provided it is no fewer than 60 days prior to the date of departure. (See Appendix II, Graduate Student Handbook, for Travel Grant Request form.) They will receive decisions about their applications no more than thirty days after their completed applications are submitted to the DGS and the department chair. Prior to travel, students must fill out and submit the Travel Expense Reimbursement Sheet (See Appendix II of the Handbook).

**Deadline:** Rolling

Women's Studies Summer Research Award
The Women's Studies Department will provide four summer research fellowships ($2,500 each). This support will vary from year to year based on the availability of funds and need. We expect applicants to simultaneously apply for the Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship. This is a “mid-career” award and may be used to complete the field exam or the prospectus.

Your applications are due to the DGS via electronic submission by 5 p.m. on **Friday, March 09, 2016.** Please submit to Ms. Pryor (choward3@umd.edu), with a cc. to the DGS (mrowley1@umd.edu).

Women's Studies Dissertation Completion Award
The Women's Studies Department will provide two Women's Studies Dissertation Completion Awards carrying a stipend of $5,000 each. This support will vary from year to year based on the availability of funds and need. The award will be administered over the summer. The Women's Studies Dissertation Completion Award is geared toward advanced doctoral candidates who are in the final stages of writing their dissertation. The selection process will take into consideration the applicant's ability to clearly delineate the research project's focus, its contribution and significance to the field or research area, and the likelihood of completion within the academic year. There is the expectation that recipients will graduate by May, 2016.

Your applications are due to the DGS via electronic submission by 5 p.m. on **Friday, March 09, 2016.** Please submit to Ms. Pryor (choward3@umd.edu), with a cc. to the DGS (mrowley1@umd.edu).

MEMBERSHIPS

Annual Membership in NWSA
The Women's Studies Department's institutional membership in the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) provides us with three annual memberships. All students may apply for these memberships. Students may receive a membership no more than once during their time in the program. Preference will be given to students who are presenting at the annual conference. We will also give special consideration to advanced students who will be on the job market in the coming academic year and will benefit from having their work in circulation as they approach the job market. Applications for memberships typically take place in the spring when students know if they will be attending the fall NWSA conference.

**Deadline:** To be announced in the spring.