Welcome to *Got Gender?*, the official newsletter of the Women’s & Gender Studies program at UT-Arlington. The title, *Got Gender?*, represents the ways in which the Women’s and Gender Studies program addresses women, feminism, children, family, masculinity, gender, sexual identity and sexual practices. The program’s name change from Women’s Studies to Women’s and Gender Studies spearheaded by my predecessor, Dr. Desiree Henderson, conveys its desire to focus on women yet reflects changes in the discipline and scholarship already conducted by many of our instructors at UT-Arlington. The teaching and research updates from affiliated faculty, advisory board members, and friends of Women’s and Gender Studies featured in this inaugural issue attest to this diversity and to the breadth of our teaching and scholarship that impacts the broader DFW community. *Got Gender?* champions the spirit of this diversity.

The Women’s and Gender Studies minor continues to thrive. This fall, 27 Women’s and Gender Studies minors will have the opportunity to take 2 core courses in Women’s and Gender Studies (*Intro to Women’s & Gender Studies* and the *Internship*) and 18 cross-listed courses representative of various departments across the university.

This fall, please join us at the inaugural *Women in the Americas Lecture Series*, a series of lectures that focus on women’s issues in the Americas. This year’s talk is led by Dr. Dawn F. Stinchcomb, Associate Professor of Spanish at Purdue University who will present on the topic, “Dangers to Society: Examining Single Women in the Margins” on September 10th. Our Open House is scheduled for September 19th. Please bring a friend and plan to purchase a *Got Gender?* t-shirt before they sell out!

Our annual *Lunafest* film series is scheduled for Thursday, October 16th and will showcase nine compelling films about women’s issues. As a part of our tradition, we will also feature a short film by a female film student from UT-Arlington. Our fall programming will culminate with a talk from Dr. Whitney Peoples, Provost Post-doctoral Fellow who will discuss her research on women’s reproductive health on November 5th.

I look forward to our upcoming 2015 Women’s History Month Lecture and Film Series. This year’s theme is “Futuristic Females: Women in Science & Science Fiction,” and will conclude with science fiction writer Charlaine Harris, author whose works inspired the hit HBO series *True Blood*.
Dr. Stacy Alaimo, Professor of English. Dr. Alaimo published the following articles relating to Women’s and Gender Studies: “Thinking as the Stuff of the World” (O-Zone: A Journal of Object-Oriented Studies), “Sexual Matters: Darwinian Feminism and the Nonhuman Turn” (Journal of Nineteenth Century Americanists), and “Feminist Science Studies: Aesthetics and Entanglement in the Deep Sea” (Oxford Handbook of Ecocriticism). She presented, “Your Shell on Acid: Posthuman Vulnerability, Anthropocene Dissolves,” at the Anthropocene Feminism Conference. Dr. Alaimo’s book, Bodily Natures: Science, Environment, and the Material Self (2010), was also featured in a special book session at the International Association of Environmental Philosophy. Dr. Alaimo also taught a new graduate seminar this summer: Feminist Theory: "Gender, Race, and Sexuality in the Wake of Social Construction” and will teach a gay and lesbian literature course for the first time this fall.

Dr. Brandi Andrade, Senior Lecturer, Theatre Arts. Dr. Andrade is teaching two new cross-listed courses with THEA and WOMS: Gender and the Performing Arts and Women in Theater. With regard to the community, she was engaged by Theatre Three in Dallas to write dramaturgical essays on all of the female playwrights they are producing this season for their website, press packets, and programs. Recently, she became a member of the newly restructured Echo Company, Dallas' feminist theatre company, an organization that she has been involved with since 2000. Through Echo, she will help with the fall production, a winter fundraiser, and two spring Main Stage shows, as well as directing one of the plays in their popular play reading series, "Echo Reads..." She will also write dramaturgical essays on the playwrights produced at Echo. At UTA, in the spring, she will direct a classic early feminist one-act play, TRIFLES, by Susan Glaspell, as part of the "MavPlays" Festival that runs for two weeks in April.

Dr. Kathryne Beebe, Assistant Professor of Medieval History and Digital Humanities. Dr. Beebe will serve as co-author of a volume of collected essays on the topic, “Space, Place, and Gendered Identities: Feminist History and the Spatial Turn,” which will be published in 2016 by Taylor and Francis.

Dr. Karabi C. Bezboruah, Assistant Professor, School of Urban and Public Affairs. Dr. Bezboruah co-authored the article, "Exploring the Participation of Women in Financial Cooperatives and Credit Unions in Developing Countris"(2014), which was published in Voluntas: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations.
**Dr. Jaya Davis**, Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Dr. Davis had the following articles accepted for publication in 2014: “Who becomes more Violent among Korean Adolescents?” (*Criminal Behavior and Mental Health*), “Service-learning use in Criminal Justice Education” (*Journal of Criminal Justice Education*), and “Comparative Analysis of Service Learning in Criminal Justice and Social Work Education” (*Teaching in Higher Education*). Dr. Davis has been very active in the community. In partnership with One Safe Place and The Women’s Center, Dr. Davis created a survey instrument to assess law enforcement perception of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Data collection will be conducted during the fall semester, and Dr. Davis anticipates surveying law enforcement officers of approximately 25 Tarrant County agencies. Dr. Davis is also co-principal investigator of an iCAP funded grant examining readiness to leave prostitution in partnership with a prostitution diversionary court in Tarrant County. The co-principal investigators also include Andrea Cimino, Courtney Cronley, and Elissa Madden – all in the School of Social Work. This fall, Dr. Davis is teaching, “Women, Crime, and Criminal Justice.”

**Dr. W. Marvin Dulaney**, Associate Professor of History and Chair. Dr. Dulaney published "Women in the Civil Rights Movement in South Carolina" in *Southern Black Women in the Modern Civil Rights Movement* (College Station: Texas A & M University Press, 2013). In the essay, he addressed the role of black women in the Civil Rights Movement in South Carolina from Modjeska Simkins to Septima P. Clark and Sarah Flemming. Of the three women that he cited in the essay as being torchbearers and leaders in the South Carolina Civil Rights Movement, he especially highlights the role of Septima P. Clark because the "Citizenship Schools" that she developed and taught in in order to teach African Americans basic literacy and to prepare them for the literacy test for voting, was adopted by SCLC and spread across the South as a way of promoting voting rights for African Americans. Sarah Flemming of Columbia, SC filed one of the first lawsuits against segregated seating on buses—even before the case of Rosa Parks in Montgomery, Alabama. In January 2015, the University of Georgia Press will publish his second recent essay on Julia Scott Reed, the first African-American column for the *Dallas Morning News* in *Texas Women: Their Histories, Their Lives*, edited by Elizabeth Hayes Turner, Stephanie Cole and Rebecca Sharpless.

**Dr. Susan Hekman**, Professor of Political Science. Dr. Hekman’s *The Feminine Subject: Transforming the Subject in Feminist Theory* will be published by Polity Press in 2014. The book’s thesis is that the effort to redefine “woman” in the course of feminist theory is a cumulative process in which each approach builds on that which has
gone before. Although they have approached “woman” from different perspectives, feminist theorists have moved beyond the negative definition of our tradition to a new concept that continues to evolve.

Dr. Desiree Henderson, Associate Professor of English. In Sept. 2013, Dr. Henderson was appointed Features Editor for the journal, *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*; "Features" are a unique part of the journal wherein scholars publish biographies of lesser-known or unknown women writers; or reprint out-of-print or archival materials authored by such women. It is one of the few scholarly venues for peer-reviewed recovery work in the field, particularly for shorter (non-book-length) texts.

Dr. David LaFevor, Assistant Professor of History. In 2013-14, Dr. LaFevor conducted the final research for his monograph, which explores the gendered, nationalistic and racial implications of the importation of boxing in Mexico and Cuba in the late nineteenth century. To that end, he traveled to multiple archives in Cuba, Mexico and the United States. He also taught workshops on historical preservation and digital humanities in Brazil and Cuba. In addition to publishing several book reviews, he also presented new research at three international conferences. During the 2013-14 academic year, Dr. LaFevor taught both the Colonial and Modern Latin American History courses, as well as the History of Mexico and a course on the relationship between Cuba, Mexico and the United States. In spring 2015, he will offer a new course to be cross-listed with Women's and Gender Studies: “Gender, Sexuality, and the Body in Latin America.” He is currently organizing an exhibition of his photography of Latin American women and men with a Dallas gallery and looks forward to contributing to and learning from his association with Women's and Gender Studies over the coming year.

Dr. Julie Nagoshi, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work. Dr. Nagoshi is the co-author of, *Gender and Sexual Identity: Transcending Feminist and Queer Theories* (2014)
which presents transgender theory in depth, differentiating it from feminist and queer theories as well as from biological essentialist views on gender. She also published the following articles: “Trust, Cheating, and Dating Violence in Mexican American Romantic Relationships (Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research) and “Perceptions of gender roles, gender identity, and sexual orientation among self-identified heterosexual, gay/lesbian, and transgender individuals” (Journal of Ethnographic & Qualitative Research) in 2014. Dr. Nagoshi also has a chapter, “The Intersection of Gender and Sexual Identity Development in a Sample of Transgender Individuals,” in Gender Identity: Disorders, Developmental Perspectives and Social Implications (forthcoming, Nova Book Publications).

Dr. Sarah Rose, Assistant Professor of History. Dr. Rose is Director of the Disability Studies Minor. The program’s first three graduates completed their degrees in May 2014. She and UTA Special Collections also initiated a Texas Disability History Collection in fall 2013. History graduate students and undergraduate disability studies minors have already collected and transcribed twenty oral histories for deposit in the library. In February 2014, she and historian Joshua Salzmann (Northeastern Illinois University) co-authored an essay entitled, "Bionic Ballplayers: Risk, Profit, and the Body as Commodity, 1964-2007," which appeared in LABOR: Studies in the Working-Class History of the Americas. The two also published an op-ed entitled "Our Nation of Bionic Workers" in the Chicago Tribune in conjunction with Alex Rodriguez's arbitration hearing. Dr. Rose also presented on "Creating the 'Idiot' Who Couldn't Go Home: Disability, Family, and the Political Construction of Feeble-Mindedness, 1851-1900" at the Policy History Conference in June.

Dr. Rachel Stohr, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication. This fall, Dr. Stohr will present, “The re-imagining of expertise and emotion in social movement organizing: Translating technical and lay discourses in environmental decision-making,” at the National Communication Association’s annual convention in Chicago. She is also revising a manuscript on the problematic of the organization-society relationship for publication.
My teaching and scholarly interests are medical anthropology and the anthropology of tourism. In focusing on medical tourism, I consider transnational flows of people seeking health care options abroad. More specifically, I am interested in the recent trends of people traveling to the Czech Republic from various parts of the globe. Generally speaking, these groups are seeking more affordable health care in areas of chronic ailments, aesthetic surgery, or reproductive health. In addition to consideration of cost, tourists demand the same level of health provision that is offered in their native countries. I also consider the process of privatization as the Czech Republic is marketing its health services to foreign patient consumers, asking what ramifications these structural changes may have on health care in the Czech Republic. This is part of a wider political and economic phenomenon, whereby the Czech Republic is becoming more integrated into a global, neoliberal capitalist framework.

I am currently finishing a book manuscript. *Fertility Holidays: IVF and the Global Quest for Parenthood* is a critical ethnographic analysis of white, lower middle class North American motivations and experiences traveling to the Czech Republic for IVF using egg donation. *Fertility Holidays* examines the global marketing chain that has been constructed to meet North American demand for white babies. Czech legislation and IVF brokers have been central in laying the foundation for this global reproductive travel route. IVF broker websites promise North Americans that they can experience a European vacation while going through IVF. In this sense, the money spent on IVF is not wasted even if children are not produced because of the “vacation” element. At the same time, the vacation promises couples a stress-free IVF cycle, which is marketed as an integral component of successful fertility treatment. Brokers promise that couples will experience a more relaxing IVF cycle while assuring them that Czech doctors offer better care along with the highest technological standards. This affective discourse strategically eclipses the structural factors that motivate reproductive travel. My book details the global neoliberal health care reforms that lead patient-consumers to assume more responsibility for their health care. This past summer, I spent a month in Prague interviewing Czech egg donors. While my book focuses primarily on North American reproductive tourists and the supply side of clinics and IVF brokers, I wanted to understand the perspective of egg donors. I will spend next summer in Prague working with Czech egg donors. At the same time, I intend to conduct participant observation at two fertility clinics in Prague. These clinics treat patients from all over the world.
From the critical mapping of hip hop feminist politics to deconstructing the representation of women’s reproductive health in U.S. popular discourse, my research agenda engages the relationship between media, the politics of representation and marginalized communities. Situated at the intersection of media and cultural studies in addition to feminist theories of race, health, and the body, my work is centrally concerned with how marginalized communities and individuals, with special attention to race and gender, are imagined and constructed by popular media discourses. In turn, I also examine how marginalized communities and individuals respond to and engage popular media. My work identifies media as an important site of public pedagogy and asks how its pedagogical function impacts social ideas about and treatment of individuals and communities marginalized on the basis of race and/or gender.

Through my dissertation, Going “Beyond Birth Control:” The Public Life of YAZ and Representations of Women’s Reproductive Health in the US Public Sphere, I study the changing landscape of pharmaceutical advertising and its gendered implications with a case study of the oral contraceptive YAZ. This case study examines four main touchstones of YAZ’s public tenure, including the contraceptive’s successful “Beyond Birth Control” marketing campaign; the US Food and Drug Administration’s regulation of the campaign and the product; the divergent responses of Our Bodies, Ourselves and Planned Parenthood to the marketing of YAZ; and the responses of women, aged 18-35, in Atlanta, GA, to the public visibility of women’s reproductive health through contraceptive advertising. More broadly, this research addresses the ways in which identities and information are created for and by women regarding their reproductive health. By focusing on the identities and knowledge produced about women’s reproductive health in popular media, I identify media, specifically advertising, as a key site of teaching and learning scientific, medical, and socio-cultural ideas about gendered health and wellness. As a result, I argue that feminist health scholarship and activism are incomplete without an attendant engagement with popular media as a constitutive component of contemporary women’s health discourse.

As a Post-Doctoral Fellow, I plan to expand my research on YAZ to include more information about the current lawsuits being pursued against the makers of YAZ by the drug’s former users. I will also begin preliminary research on a project that examines the reproductive politics of African American popular cinema. I am eager to meet faculty, staff and students here at UTA.
Women in the Americas Lecture Series

“Dangers to Society: Examining Single Women in the Margins”

September 10th, 2014 NOON-1 P.M.
Trimble Hall 200
Guest Speaker: Dr. Dawn F. Stinchcomb, Associate Professor of Spanish, Purdue University

Dr. Stinchcomb is the author of The Development of Literary Blackness in the Dominican Republic
Forthcoming Spring 2015!
Women’s History Month

“Futuristic Females: Women in Science and Science Fiction”
The Women’s and Gender Studies Program, The Office of the Provost, the College of Liberal Arts as a Global Research Institute Festival of Ideas Event, the English Department, and the Writing Center are proud to sponsor a visit by Charlaine Harris, best known as the author whose books are the inspiration for HBO’s True Blood series.
Dr. Sonja S. Watson, Director
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Dr. Whitney Peoples, Provost Post-doctoral Fellow, wpeoples@uta.edu

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