Summit on Sexual Assault on College Campuses

By Kaela Huettl

When, If Not Now? Summit on Sexual Assault on College Campuses took place on September 30, 2014 at Evergreen Valley College, Montgomery Hall Theatre. The Summit was convened to discuss the crisis occurring in our nation’s college campuses. According to The White House Council on Girls and Women “Rape and Sexual Assault: A Renewed Call to Action” January 2014 report, 1 in 5 women are raped on college campuses.

The Summit was open to students, staff and community members, and had a successful turnout with over 300 in attendance. SJECCD Council on the Status of Women, ECV Service-Learning and Public Service Program, EVC Women’s Studies Department, and the American Association of University Women (AAUW) San Jose sponsored the Summit.

Community experts, Sue Barnes, the Director of YMCA Silicon Valley Rape Crisis Department, State Senator, Jim Beall, Jr.; Angela L. Exson, Stanford University, Assistant Dean Office of Sexual Assault and Relationship Abuse Education and Response; Cynthia Hunter, Violence Against Women Coordinator County of Santa Clara Women’s Policy Office; Margaret Sandez, San Jose Police Sexual Assault Unit Investigator; Sheriff Laurie Smith, Santa Clara County and Veronica Villanueva, SJECCD Police Officer discussed Title IX, Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act, legislative updates, prevention strategies and resources for survivors of sexual violence.

As a follow-up to the Summit, Service-Learning students in the Psychology of Women: Global Perspective class staffed tables in front of the Library and Gullo II Cafeteria for two weeks providing EVC students information and resources about sexual assault, their rights given by Title IX, how to file a complaint internally and externally and campus and community resources. They also gave out information about the Circle6 smart phone app, myths and facts about rape, and what men can do to prevent rape.

The goal of the student’s Service-Learning project was to bring awareness to the “It’s On Us” campaign, which was launched on September 19, 2014. “Its On Us” is a pledge that everyone can sign to commit to keeping his or her friends safe from sexual assault. The Service-Learning students collected pledges and painted handprints from EVC students, which they plan to display in the library.

Join the Service-Learning Psychology of Women students in preventing sexual assaults on college campuses and visit http://itsonus.org/#pledge to take the pledge today!
**IT’S ON US PLEDGE!**

During the month of November, EVC Service-Learning students organized an awareness prevention campaign to urge our college community to take the *ITS ON US* pledge to end sexual assault.

**THE PLEDGE**

To **RECOGNIZE** that non-consensual sex is sexual assault.

To **IDENTIFY** situations in which sexual assault may occur.

To **INTERVENE** in situations where consent has not or cannot be given.

To **CREATE** an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.

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**Psychology of Women Service-Learning Students**

- Blanca De la Torre
- Janae Gaines
- Kathleen Gunabe
- Andriana Pathe
- Viviana Ramirez
- Ana Rosales
- Jazmin Valdovinos
- Dennis Wyatt

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**EVC Service-Learning and Public Service Staff**

Marjorie Clark ~ Coordinator
Tiffany O’Brien~ Program Assistant
Ruhani Amath~ Student Department Helper
Viet Nguyen ~ Student Department Helper
What is Women & Gender Studies?

Department Mission Statement

The Women & Gender Studies Program at Evergreen Valley College at Evergreen Valley College is an academic program whose mission is to **preserve, expand, and transmit knowledge about women and gender**. The program offers an academic curriculum informed by feminist theories, while providing students an opportunity to:

- Examine the role of gender in social institutions, in forming identity, and in developing knowledge
- Study and appreciate the intellectual, artistic, material, and spiritual contributions of women globally and throughout history
- Explore physical and mental health and wellness issues of particular importance to women

The Women & Gender Studies Department provides courses from a variety of disciplines leading to an Associate of Arts degree with a concentration in Women & Gender Studies. The program promotes a learning model and a safe environment where students are encouraged to think critically, collaborate, and problem solve.

Members are committed to social justice and equity, striving to provide a campus environment free of sexism, racism, damaging stereotypes, and other forms of discriminatory treatment.

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For more information on courses in the department, please see the flyer insert. Department meetings and many Women & Gender Studies-sponsored events are held in the Women’s Center, RG-131.

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The Womyn’s Center is a fairly new establishment on our campus …. I believe that the Womyn’s Center’s mission is to help conquer any bad vibes that can dwell within the students. The center is a calm place where a group of friends or strangers in this matter can develop many ideas for club/group projects which would ultimately influence the student body on our campus. I realize that the Womyn’s Center is a place where anybody regardless of age and sex can meet together and comfortably speak about current ideas, history, and philosophy that could drastically change a person’s lifestyle. The center has created a ponderous place where both men and women can work together and create a work-experience harmony.

~~ Service Learning reflection by Michael Felix on the EVC Womyn’s Center
New! Women’s Support Group on the EVC Campus

Starting February 2015 EVC Health Services in partnership with the Women’s and Gender Studies Department will offer a women’s support group.

The support group has been designed as a safe place where women in their 20s & 30s can discuss and seek support around:

- Developing Healthy relationships
- Managing Difficult Emotions
- Balancing Work, School, & Relationships
- Managing Stress

Location: TBD

When: Every Wednesday beginning Feb. 11 to March 25, 2015 from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

To sign up, please call & leave a message at (408) 274-7900 ext.2015 or ext.6243, or drop by Health Services.
Women & Gender Studies Department
Scholarship

By Taylor Sezen

Check out the Women & Gender Studies Department Scholarship! It’s worth $300 and is easy to apply for!

All you have to do is write a 1-2 page essay, typed and double-spaced, about how an understanding of women and gender issues will help a member of society in the 21st century. In addition to the essay, the applicant must include two letter of recommendation from either instructors or counselors. They can be current or former faculty members at EVC.

Want to know if you qualify? You don’t have to be a major in Women & Gender Studies; you just need to have taken at least one course in that department. You need to be enrolled in at least 6 units of course work at EVC for the Spring of 2015, and you must have completed at least 12 college units by then. For the Fall of 2015, continuing students must take at least 12 units at EVC, and 6 of those must be Women & Gender Studies courses.

Once you meet the requirements, all that’s left to do is apply, wait, and then attend the Scholarship Awards Ceremony when you win! See? It’s super simple!

If you don’t meet the requirements, but you know someone who does, please pass on the information. Many people don’t apply for these scholarships, and they lose out on great opportunities to gain money for school.

Apply, please, and this scholarship can be yours!
Please join us for the annual Women’s History Month Book Discussion and Tea

March 19, 2015
12:30-1:30PM
Mishra Community Room

The book selection for this year is

_I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban_

by Malala Yousafzai.

This is a Memoir by the youngest recipient in the history of the Nobel Peace Prize.

"Not only has Malala Yousafzai become an international symbol of inspiration and bravery, but her survival instilled educators with courage-and is slowly helping make Pakistani schools safer." (Nick Schifrin, ABC.com)
EVC HERstory Celebration
March 2015

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>March 9-26, 2015</td>
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<td><em>The EVC Art Gallery Exhibit</em></td>
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<td>Open Invitation: Discovering Community and Relocating Connectivity</td>
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<td>Mondays through Thursdays from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM</td>
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<td>Located in the lobby of the VPA building</td>
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<td>Author: Nayomi Munaweera</td>
<td>Reception for the Art Exhibit: Open Invitation</td>
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<td>Montgomery Hall SC-127 12:30-1:30 PM</td>
<td>Come and meet the curator and artists at the Art Gallery</td>
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<td>VPA Gallery 10:00AM-2:00 PM</td>
<td>VPA Gallery 5:00 - 6:30 PM</td>
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<td>VPA Gallery 12:15-1:30 PM</td>
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<td>Between You and I: A Drop in Conversation on Domestic Violence</td>
<td>Book Discussion &amp; Tea: “I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban”</td>
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<td>VPA Gallery 12:15-1:30 PM</td>
<td>Mishra Community Room 12:30-1:30 PM</td>
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<td>Sweta Srivastava: Vikram Place</td>
<td>Dating Violence</td>
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<td>Montgomery Hall SC-127 12:30-1:30 PM</td>
<td>Mishra Community Room 9:30-10:30 AM</td>
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**Toiletry Drive March 2 - 31, 2015**

All proceeds will go to:

Donate items such as deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpastes, soapbars, etc. to help women in need to:
EVC Service-Learning & Public Service
RD-216
Mondays-Wednesdays from 10 AM-2PM and Thursdays from 8:30 - 11:30 AM
Feature: Spotlight on Vanessa Aldaco (EVC Valedictorian) & Melanie Newhall (EVC Women’s Studies Student Graduate)

Vanessa Aldaco

*EVC Valedictorian & American Association for University Women’s Edie Kerr Grant Recipient*

*Marjorie Clark*

As an affiliate member of the American Association for University Women (AAUW) San Jose EVC Women & Gender Studies Department is proud to announce that Ms. Vanessa Aldaco was awarded this past September, the AAUW San Jose’s Edie Kerr grant, in the amount of four thousand dollars ($4,000).

Ms. Aldaco was EVC’s Valedictorian for 2014, graduating with an impressive 4.0 G.P.A. and an Associate of Arts degree in Sociology. As a former treasurer for the ENLACE Student Association as well as an student member of EOP&S Advisory Board, Ms. Aldaco exemplifies excellence, dedication, and commitment to service.

In her speech at AAUW’s Fall Event she said, “I am truly blessed and inspired by the women of AAUW, because they exemplify strength and promote women’s empowerment and activism for women’s rights. Their scholarship has allowed me to jump into a new chapter on my educational journey at San Jose State University, where I plan pursue a Bachelor’s degree in Behavioral Science and hopefully a Master’s degree. I hope to return to EVC one day as a Professor in the Behavioral Science field and or as a counselor.”

The Women’s Studies department wishes Ms. Aldaco great success in her future endeavors!
The Women & Gender Studies Department would like to congratulate Ms. Melanie Newhall who will be receiving her AA in General Studies with Emphasis in Women's Studies degree at the end of the fall 2014 semester. Melanie is passionate about women’s issues. As a mother of three girls she is committed to making the world a better place for her daughters and all girls and women. She would like her daughters to learn how to be independent thinkers and leaders and is setting an example for them by following through on her own educational goals.

For Melanie education is the path that ensures that women will have equal opportunity for a better future for themselves, their families and the world. That is why she pursued her degree and fought for the establishment of a Womyn's Center at Evergreen Valley College. Melanie and other committed women worked tirelessly to secure 2,000 signatures on a petition and attended numerous campus meetings to advocate for the Center. Melanie believes every person needs a safe haven in college where they are free to express their feelings without judgment, and the opportunity to connect with other like-minded individuals.

Melanie believes that “through education and the right support all things are possible.”

As Melanie's Women 4 Women mentor I am proud to see her accomplish her educational goals and have no doubt that she will continue to be a great role model for her daughters and will be successful in her future career pursuits.
**THIS TIME, IT’S ABOUT THE WOMEN!**

EVC now offers an AA with an emphasis in Women & Gender Studies! Please consider this major and join us in Fall 2015 for exciting courses focusing on women and gender issues:

**EXPLORE HOW GENDER SHAPES OUR WORLD WITH WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES IN SPRING 2015!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Days/Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>AJ 123</td>
<td>WOMEN AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM</td>
<td>Th 6-9:05 PM</td>
<td>Instructor: V. Montelongo</td>
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<td>&quot;Many were victims, before they became female offenders.&quot; Study women in the criminal justice system as offenders, victims, and survivors as well as those that have influenced and changed the criminal justice system.</td>
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<td>EDIT 24</td>
<td>WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>M 4-6 PM Hybrid</td>
<td>Instructor: N. Rahim</td>
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<td>“We cannot change what we are not aware of, and once we are aware, we cannot help but change”—Sheryl Sandberg. Explore how technology can boost the economy, further education, and improve public health to empower women globally to close the gender gap.</td>
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<td>HISTORY 14</td>
<td>WOMEN IN AMERICAN HISTORY</td>
<td>MW 9:15-10:35 AM</td>
<td>Instructor: Staff</td>
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<td>“The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don’t have any”—Alice Walker. “Uplift” your political, social and economic consciousness and regain that power as we analyze the social, political, and economic aspects of women in the U.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIB 15</td>
<td>ELECTRONIC RESEARCH AND THE INTERNET</td>
<td>Online Course</td>
<td>Instructor: S. Blackman</td>
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<td>Empower your academic and personal life! This online course will give you the skills to use electronic resources to define, research, and evaluate information for all your needs.</td>
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<td>SOC 11</td>
<td>SOCIAL PROBLEMS</td>
<td>TTh 10:45 AM-12:05 PM</td>
<td>Instructor L. Lujan</td>
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<td>Challenge your ideas about our history, social problems, and social change: Once labeled &quot;the most dangerous woman in America&quot; by a U.S. district attorney, Mary Harris &quot;Mother&quot; Jones rose to prominence as a fiery orator and fearless organizer—&quot;I have been in jail more than once and I expect to go again. If you are too cowardly to fight, I will fight.&quot;</td>
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<td>WS 10</td>
<td>INTRO TO WOMEN’S STUDIES</td>
<td>T 6-9:05 PM</td>
<td>Instructor: C. Kahn-Lomax</td>
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<td>“You’ve Come A Long Way Baby” . . . if you want to know where we’ve come from and where we plan to go, join us as we explore perspectives of women from different ethnicities, ages, and social groups, and the contemporary gender definitions and values that affect women’s livelihoods.</td>
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ADDITIONAL COURSES COMING IN FALL 2015!

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<tr>
<th>Fall 2015</th>
<th>ENGLISH 33: WOMEN IN LITERATURE</th>
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<td>3 Units, meets cultural pluralism/ethnic studies requirement; Honors option available</td>
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<td>• MW 10:30 AM-12:05 PM</td>
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“You women are all alike!” Oh, really? Explore the ways women have been represented in multicultural fiction, poetry, and drama throughout the ages, and learn the ways in which writing can change conventional views of gender.

See a counselor for details!

* meets Cultural Pluralism/Ethnic Studies requirement

Women and the Criminal Justice System
Virginia Montelongo

Why a class like this is needed?

Administration of Justice 123 "Women and the Criminal Justice System" will provide an overview of the professional career opportunities for females in the areas of Probation, Parole, Correctional Officer, Juvenile Hall Counselor, Nurse, Court Clerk, Judge, Lawyer, Warden, Police Officer, and Administration services. Also, causational factors that affect our justice involved females in the areas of age, race, parenting, family dynamics, education, substance abuse, employment, mental health, and society's expectations will be explored and analyzed. This class will prepare future employees for the evolving cultural changes that affect both, female employees and justice involved females in the criminal justice system, by understanding the new procedures being utilized to effect positive change, such as evidence based practice, motivation interviewing, gender responsivity, and the need to understand that justice involved females and males have different needs.