

What's with the t-shirt?
See the back page for your clue!

New Student *Special* Edition



Visit us:

Benton Annex

womenscenter@oregonstate.edu

541.737.3186 • oregonstate.edu/womenscenter



This page has been included for further information you may not otherwise know, but it should help in the reading of this W.I.R.E. zine

CONTEXT

...just to make sure we are clear...

Feminism:

A social theory or political movement supporting the equality of both sexes in all aspects of public and private life; specifically, a theory or movement that argues that legal and social restrictions on females must be removed in order to bring about such equality

-wiktionary

PATRIARCHY:

A society where men predominate in roles associated with power. S. Walby (1990) has distinguished six locations of patriarchal relations: sexuality, the household, male-on-female violence, paid employment, cultural institutions, and the state. These are not mutually exclusive sites of exploitation.

Ciudad Juarez (Juarez City, Mexico):

Over the past 10 years Juárez has seen over 400 women fall victims to sexual homicides, their bodies often dumped in ditches or vacant lots. In addition, grassroots organizations in the region report that 40 remain missing.

-wikipedia

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA):

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." -Alice Paul

Paul

The ERA was first introduced into Congress in 1923 & was passed by Senate & the House in 1972. It was only ever ratified by 35/38 states needed to make it law. It has been re-introduced in every session of Congress since 1982.

Take Back the Night:

A series of marches and events take place every year surrounding the mission of making unsafe streets, cities and campuses safe places for women. From the late 1970's through present day, Take Back The Night events have been held by college and university women's centers, YWCA's, rape crisis centers, community centers, high school student groups, battered women's shelters, and other organizations dedicated to helping women achieve safety and empowerment.

About this publication:

The Women's Center Publications Coordinator (Hey there, Alia here; that's me!) publishes a new Women's Inter-campus Resource Exchange [or W.I.R.E.] zine every term. Well, this time we decided to put out a NEW STUDENT ZINE, specifically for incoming students at OSU.

I wanted to introduce you to the Women's Center in a big way [pg. 4-6], share my own "coming-into-feminism" story [pg. 6-7], and let you in on a 'lil bit of heaven known as *Chicken Parmesan* from your microwave [pg.8].

[pg. 11] is extra special because you can make yourself a FEMINIST right this very minute...

...or at least as soon as your done reading this zine.

Log onto oregonstate.edu/womenscenter and you can download extra clothes for your paper feminist. (NEW FEATURE: get the famous WC couch in special edition paper form for your paper feminist to get cozy on.)

In any case, I hope you enjoy this edition of the W.I.R.E. Send us feedback/ thoughts on facebook, myspace, our blog: osuwomenscenterrocks.blogspot.com or our website: womenscenter@oregonstate.edu. Send us your filled-in involvement interest card below to make yourself a part of the WC family today!

COME VISIT US (daily!) in the LITTLE BLUE HOUSE next to the clock tower

✂
Your Name: _____

Your Email: _____

The Women's Center
Benton Annex
Corvallis OR 97330

☞ SisterScholars ☜

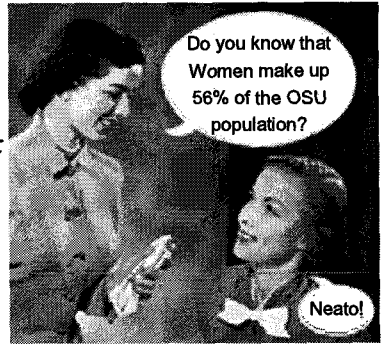
"Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person."

-Mother Teresa

Providing academic, professional and personal support through peer-to-peer mentoring. Extending leadership

Opportunities for women while encouraging growth and skill-building in the following areas:

- *Self-Confidence*
- *Challenging oneself and others*
- *Personal/professional development*
- *Interpersonal communication*
- *Wellness and work-life balance*
- *Goal-Setting*



To get involved please email: womenscenter@oregonstate.edu

.DROP.US.A.LINE.

To get involved with the Women's Center, email us at :
womenscenter@oregonstate.edu
or drop this card in Campus Mail with your selections.

- Women's Center email list [*will include the WC Weekly email*]
- Volunteer email list
- SisterScholars list
- Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance
- Women's leadership

The

OSU Women's Center



3

The place that ALL
students can call
Home!

Support,
Safety,
Advocacy,
Answers

Free coffee &
tea ALWAYS

4

The Women's Center is home to what the WC's Director, Beth Rietveld, calls "The most interesting bathroom on campus."

Not only are there posters and paper cranes, there is a bulletin board with a "Wall of Shame" that includes some of media's many failures in terms of advancing women as well as some excellent feminist response articles.

Next to the sink rests one of the most frequented resources in the Center. A small wicker basket on top of the toilet back contains a collection of flavored, colored and "standard" condoms—as well as lubricants, dental dams and pamphlets on safe sex practices—all of which are free for the taking. [Several similarly happy baskets are scattered throughout the Center as well.]

Just outside the bathroom door is what some consider campus' best-kept secret. Each wall holds part of the Women's Center Library, composed of over 1,700 books covering everything from women's history, legal issues, multicultural & international women's issues to problem relationships, women's health and everything in between. The magazine collection includes *Bitch*, *BUST*, *Lilith*, *The Advocate* and a *Ms.* magazine archive dating back to 1972.

Best of all, the WC schedules near-weekly programs on everything from Poetry to Fat-phobia—from 'Fighting like a Girl' to 'Playing it Safe Between the Sheets'.

"Everyone who sets foot in this Center has a story to tell, whether they realize it or not. Having a place to talk about issues...is very important, because this is one of the most intimate spaces on campus," says one regular visitor.

The WC has on hand:

1. a fully equipped kitchen
2. a computer lab, color and laser printers
3. the most comfortable couches on campus, ...and ...
4. a fully trained staff who are more than willing to assist anyone.



Let's not forget the many opportunities for interns, student employees and volunteers. "It's the best work environment I've ever been in," said one graduate intern from Women Studies. "People are encouraged to flourish here." A past WC employee said, "Every time someone new walks in, you can tell they've never been here because their face lights up when they see women celebrated, resources everywhere, and a place to hang out. I love introducing women to such a welcoming place."

One goal of the Women's Center is to create awareness of issues that impact women's lives and to erase misconceptions that people may have about the WC itself. The Women's Center is many things. But it is neither a dating service nor a gynecology clinic as some may assume, although the WC has information on the latter.

Men are not only allowed in the Center, they are encouraged to learn about women's issues through participation in the WC's programs and services. And sometimes, we lure them in with cupcakes and ice cream... Actually, a lot of men ask, "Where is the men's center?" as a joke. It's true that OSU doesn't have a men's center, but Rietveld says she would totally support a center dedicated to men's issues if anyone were serious about forming one. To the rest of the jokers, we just say, "The men's center is the rest of the world."

the Women's Center

541-737-3186

<http://oregonstate.edu/womenscenter>

Monday-Thursday 9 am — 6 pm

Friday 9 am — 5 pm

Visit us online

connect with Oregon State Women's Center

URL: myspace.com/osuwomenscenter



Oregon State Women's Center

Facebook



myspace



Become a Fan

our blog at blogspot.com

twitter

codename: osuwc



Kickin It at the OSU WC

I was once a non-feminist college student...

Think for a second about feminism's role in your life. Maybe you are moved by social justice issues, but you still think Feminism is a dirty word. Maybe you consider all feminists to be the stereotypical **hairy**, man-hating, lesbian, middle class, white women who only had a real agenda in the 1970s (before the Equal Rights Amendment ever made it through the US Senate). Or maybe you were lucky lucky lucky enough to be raised in a feminist-conscious household understanding that the only real difference between boys and girls is that society expects us to conform to pre-prescribed gender roles, predominantly subjugating women and minorities for control and exploitation. But probably, most new-to-college students don't have a great concept of what feminism is or what it means on individual, day-to-day basis.

It seems crazy now, but I too remember a time at which I did not know what a feminist was. It was a mere three years ago. My feminist consciousness came through attending a few occasional meetings of the **Feminist Discussion Group** [operates like the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance here on campus] at the University of Portland, my first college, and the very first "Take Back The Night" march I had ever heard of, never mind participated in. You see, I was in charge of creating the huge felt banner to carry around campus. It was a fantastic success ... in regards to the banner. Unfortunately all that could be said of our march was that six or so active **FDGers** walked around campus chanting for equality at the top of our lungs to empty streets. Our attempts to rally the concerned students of UP was a complete failure, especially considering that I knocked on every door in my eight-story women's dorm to advertise the free concert held after the march. And no one came.

My juvenile sprout of feminsticity* was pretty much squashed after that. If no one else cared about the disappearances, rapes and murders of women in Ciudad Juarez or that fact that some man had recently killed five of the ten girls he shot at in an Amish schoolhouse in Pennsylvania, what good could I do if I alone cared? All my motivation to blossom into a self-identified feminist withered and died right there.

***I made this word up...out of love, of course**

But fear not my friends, because the next chapter of life brought me here, to Oregon State, as a transfer

student (see, it's ok if you don't make the right choice the first time!) and to my very first Women's Studies class: **WS 223 Self and Society** . I learned all about the systems of oppression including [racism], [sexism], [ageism] and [looksism], and about the subjection women have faced throughout history. And yes, there were boys in the class, too. As well, it was the first time I took a class taught from a feminist perspective. The professor acknowledged the differences in learning styles among students and strove to offer varying activities to engage everyone. Luckily for you, dear friend, this class changed the way I walk through daily life. I now understand what I, as bisexual woman, am up against as well as what privileges I have never acknowledged but definitely carry as able-bodied, young, middle class and white-identified. AND I was given a basis for understanding the unique experience of individuals within the patriarchal society we exist in (whether we know it, see it, feel it or not). Therefore I come to offer you...

FEMINISM 101

Before you sound off about how feminism is crazy, or worse, dead, consider that we all have been touched by the important women in our lives. We have each benefited from the oppression of women, even if it was a garment worker in L.A. being paid pocket change on the hour without bathroom breaks, all so we can wear those shiny new Beavers sweatshirts. Amazingly, we STILL don't have an amendment in our Constitution stating that all men AND women are created equal (even though the ERA was introduced into Congress in 1923, it failed to ever be ratified by the states.) But we all have privilege, if nothing else but by the virtue of coming to Oregon State University to gain a higher education. Feminism calls us to recognize our privileges and work to bring all people to an equal footing with equal opportunity, including freedom from discrimination and exploitation in our society.

Here are some excellent FEMINIST books to dive in to:

Full Frontal Feminism- Jessica Valenti [*a smart-ass book that deals with real-life feminism*]

Listen Up. Voices from the Next Feminist Generation- Barbara Findlen (ed.)

[*an awesome collection of narrative essays of young women's feminist experiences*]

The Handmaid's Tale- Margaret Atwood

[*a fable describing life in the future United States—a feminist's nightmare*]

[*and frighteningly, all of the incidences have occurred in our history*]

Feminism is for Everybody- bell hooks

[*a quick, simple primer on feminist history, theory, and politics*]

Microwave Cooking: Healthy Chicken Parmesan

straight from the *Res Life* fairy
godmother herself

WCGTFA Hgathgr Nicolz



"Wash your hands
whenever you touch
meat so that you don't
cross-contaminate!"

Here's what you need:

- 1 microwave-safe bowl
- 1 microwave-safe "Eating" bowl
- 1 serving of spaghetti noodles
- 1 chicken breast* (not breaded)
- spaghetti sauce
- parmesan cheese
- water
- plastic wrap

Fill a microwave-safe bowl with water, microwave for 3 minutes or until boiling. Break spaghetti noodles in half and submerge into hot water. Microwave on high for 10 minutes or until tender. Drain and set into your "eating" bowl.

Next, place chicken breast into the empty bowl, cover with plastic wrap and microwave on high for 3 minutes. Turn chicken over and microwave for another 2 minutes (if the chicken is frozen, this step may take a little extra time). When the chicken is cooked all the way through, meat should be white on the inside and juices should run clear.

Place your chicken in your eating bowl on top of your noodles, sprinkle with parmesan cheese, then layer on sauce (as much as you want) and more parmesan cheese. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave for 2 minutes until the cheese is melty and the sauce is hot!

***For those of you with a vegetarian preference, feel free to substitute zucchini or eggplant, which is equally delicious and doesn't take as long to cook.**

Women's Center

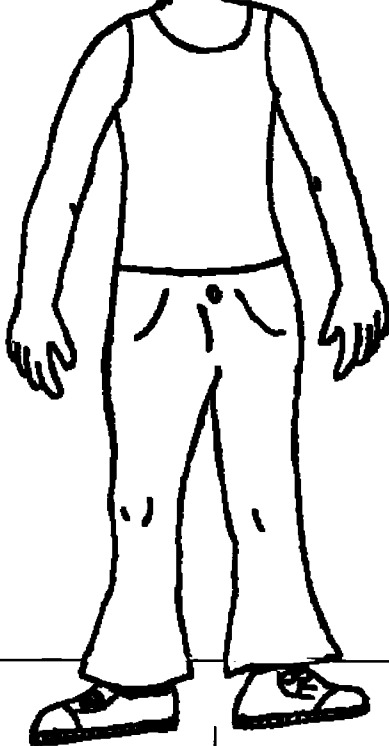
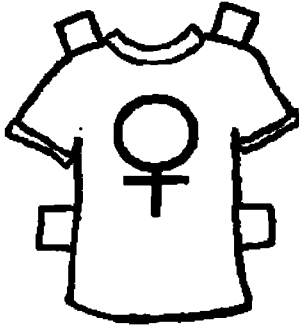
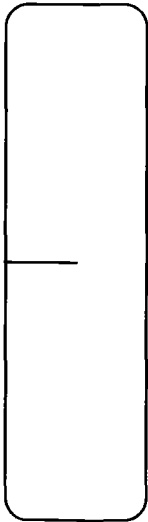


Thursday, October 8

3-5:30 pm

[the little blue house next to the library]

Your own Paper Feminist



Cut out the paper doll (keep the foot-board attached) and the tee-shirts. Fold white tabs back to hang tees on the doll. Cut the 2nd foot-board, cut along the vertical lines on both pieces, and merge the cuts to make a stand.