

Welcome Back!

Get to Know Our 2011-2012 Staff!

Susan Birns — I'm starting my twelfth year as Director of the Susan B. Anthony Women's Center and my thirteenth year as a fulltime member of the MCLA faculty and I still love both of those jobs. I am also in my second year as President of the Board of Directors of the Elizabeth Freeman Center, the county's provider of services to battered women and their children and the two women's centers work together on a variety of projects. This year we are jointly planning a Take Back the Night March and Rally in April, to protest violence against women and children. The student staff chose women's health as our theme for this year and it will guide us in our work. The Center has a fabulous staff who work closely with many other great campus groups. We're headed for another terrific year. Don't forget to look for at least 4 "special topics" issues of our newsletter; expect the first one in October. And remember, there are many opportunities for YOU to be involved with us and our work! You know where to find us.

Corinne Blake — Hi everyone! My name is Corinne Blake, I came to the Women's Center as a work study student freshman year and though I left MCLA for a year, I have since seen the error of my ways and returned! I am very pleased to be back at MCLA. I am a proud member of Students Taking Action for Gender Equality (which you all should join) and can't wait to get back into things. I am majoring in sociology with a double minor in women studies and social work. After graduating I hope to join the Peace Corps and then go for my master's degree, probably in social work. I look forward to the next couple of years working at the Women's Center!

Domenia Dickey — What's up? It's Domenia Dickey. Just call me Mia! I drove three hours to get to MCLA from New Haven, CT. I am 20 years old, a fresh-more transferring from Housatonic

Community College. I am a double major in Psychology and Public Policy. I am also a Horatio Alger 2010 National Scholar. This is my first year at MCLA, as well as my first year working to the Women's Center. However, I am not unfamiliar with the concerns for women's right, choices, education, and public policy. Shout-out to Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, my first home. Before graduating high-school I was offered a great opportunity to be a part of S.T.A.R.S (students teaching about responsible sexuality). S.T.A.R.S is an educational program founded by Planned Parenthood who trained a group of adamant high school students to be productive peer educators. I developed a great relationship with my boss and mentor Erin Livensparger (S.T.A.R.S Coordinator). We educated our peers about making healthy decisions when it pertains to "safe sex." We informed youth about condom use, birth control options, the morning after pill, how to respond to peer pressure, HIV/AIDS, LGBTQ issues, STDs and much more. We were also introduced to women's history, LGBTQ history, comprehensive sex education, anatomy, public policy, and how to promote change. We traveled to Washington D.C and Texas, where we heard Secretary of State Hilary Clinton speak, America Ferrera, Sarah Weddington (Roe V. Wade), and Cecile Richards (President of Planned Parenthood). We testified at our state capitols, and connected with youth who had the same passion all over the U.S. My joy and passion as it relates to women's rights is providing accurate education so that younger and older women and men can make healthy decisions for themselves.

Alex Nichipor — Hello! I am majoring in Sociology and Philosophy, with a minor in Women's Studies. This is my senior year, and I hope to make it a good one. I'm taking some exciting classes, like Poverty and Social Welfare, and I'll be working at Learning Services in addition to the Women's Center.

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Get to Know Our 2010-2011 Staff, Continued!

In October, I'll be presenting a paper at the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges Research Conference on animal symbols in Christianity. After graduation, I intend to teach English in China, and eventually become a professor of religious studies with a focus on women in world religions. I am also very interested in women's health, which is the Women's Center's theme this year!

In my spare time, I enjoy cooking, knitting, reading works in feminist theory, making puns, drinking large amounts of tea, and rebuking misogynists.

Skyla Seamans — Hello readers! As a junior, this will be my third year working at the Women's Center as well as being on the MCLA campus. Throughout the past two years, I have developed a strong passion for feminism and my own journalistic voice, which will enrich my writing for the center's newsletters and my weekly articles working as the Senior News Editor for *the Beacon* this semester. My future goal is to combine my desire to tackle feminist topics (like the wage gap, domestic violence, and reproductive rights) with my English major and journalism concentration to someday write and edit for a women's issues publication.

In the meantime, I am looking forward to being STAGE's (Students Taking Action for Gender Equality) vice president, the treasurer of the community service club PILLARS, and part of *the Beacon* editorial board. I am beyond excited about the Women's Center's plans for the upcoming year, from our annual Gender Equity Bake Sale to Take Back the Night in the spring. Look for our first themed newsletter this October!

Brianna Vear — Welcome back everyone! My name is Brianna Vear and this is my third year at the Women's Center. I have the opportunity this year to be the Office Manager. Over the last three years, the Women's Center has become my home and the staff my family. I am looking forward to a great year as we bring to you all the issue of women's health, both through our newsletters and our events.

Besides the Women's Center, this year so far I have tried my hand at Peer Advising and I am an Academic Resource Assistant. I am also the President of STAGE – Be on the lookout for our Sextival coming to you later this year. I am a sociology major with a double minor (so far) in Women's Studies and Child and Family Studies. Upon graduating from MCLA, I plan on attending law school where I will obtain my JD, which will help me with my life ambition of aiding victims of child abuse and domestic violence. I hope you are all as excited about the year as I am! See you around!!



Clothesline Project, Fall Foliage Parade 2010.



Women's Center Trip to the Brooklyn Museum, Fall 2010.

...Where is the Women's center?

- > Go to the Campus Center
- > Go to the third floor
- > Room 322... you can't miss us!



...Why would I go there?

You can come to us with inquiries about the women's studies minor, our events and our newsletter—but *we're also a resource and space for students*. If you need a quiet place to work or study, or you just want to kick back on our couches and relax, come and visit us! We also have a library of books and films about feminism, gender issues and more. Drop in anytime we're open.

...When is it open?

Fall 2011 Hours

Monday	10:00am - 2:00pm
Tuesday	9:00am - 2:30pm
Wednesday	9:00am - 1:30pm
Thursday	9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday	9:00am - 3:30pm

...Who can tell me more?

Staff:

Director:	Susan Birns
Office Manager:	Brianna Vear

Office Assistants:

Corinne Blake	Alex Nichipor
Mia Dickey	Skyla Seamans

Advisory Board:

Susan Birns	Monica Joslin
Charlotte Degen	Linda Kaufmann
Michele Ethier	Celia Norcross
Kate Heekin	Nancy Ovitsky
Petra Hejnova	Laini Sporberty
Frances Jones-Sneed	





Ninth Annual



Gender Equity

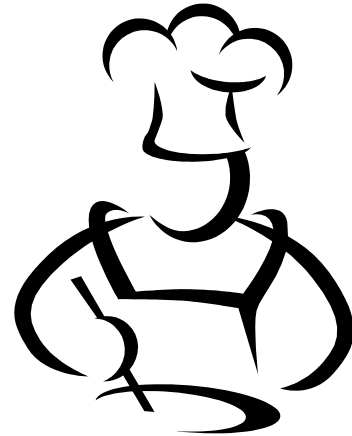


Bake Sale



Stuff the Wage Gap with Sweets!

WE NEED
VOLUNTEER BAKERS!



Wednesday, October 5th, 2011

11:30 am-1:00 pm



On the Quad



(Rain Location: Bowman Lobby)

Questions? Want to contribute a baked good?

Contact us: womenscenter@mcla.edu, x5497, or visit Campus Center Room 322.

All Genders
Welcome!

S. T. A. G. E.

STUDENTS TAKING ACTION FOR GENDER EQUALITY

We're all about equal rights and coming together to bridge the gap between the sexes in school, at work, at home, and anywhere else, for that matter. If you want not only your voice to be heard about inequality, but also want to actually take action to alter how gender at our school and in our society is perceived and plays out, this is the right place for you.



We meet **Sunday nights at 7:00 pm in the Women's Center**, which is on the third floor of the Campus Center, room 322. Come see what we're all about; everyone is welcome!

Our Plans for the Year!

Stage production (last year, we did "That Takes Ovaries!"), Sextival, body positive events, movie nights and discussions, speakers, clothesline project, domestic violence awareness, and much more!



E-Board for 2010-2011:

President: Brianna Vear *Vice-President:* Skyla Seamans
Secretary: Sam Naring *Treasurer:* Emily Follin

If you're interested, contact a member of the e-board via Firstclass for more information... or come to a meeting!

Susan B. Anthony Women's Center
Campus Center Room # 322
MCIA
North Adams, MA 01247
Phone: 413-662-5497
Email: womenscenter@mcla.edu
Mail to:



Coming This Fall Stereotalk IV: Women and Mental Illness



Self injury and gender; why are so many women depressed and anxious; why are certain mental illnesses so gendered; does the pharmaceutical industry treat women differently than men?

Look for more information coming soon!