



An organization for women and women's interest in the public policy arena, based at the University of Maryland School of Public Affairs

## **GWIPP – Graduate Women In Public Policy Newsletter** *Volume 3, Number 3 – November, 2003*

[www.puaf.umd.edu/students/GWIPPWEB/index.html](http://www.puaf.umd.edu/students/GWIPPWEB/index.html)

*I would venture to guess that Anon, who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman.*

*Virginia Woolf*

**In this edition... Member's Corner, Alumnae Interview, GWIPP Events, On Campus, In and around D.C., Items of Interest, In the News**

### **Member's Corner**

Dear GWIPP Members:

We are already finding ourselves at the halfway point of the semester. Winter is soon approaching and before we know it, the holidays will be here. It's amazing that we have accomplished so much in such a short timeframe. Much of what we have accomplished so far is attributed to the remarkable group of motivated, enthusiastic, and friendly new GWIPP members, many of whom came in with the new students that started this fall. New members have been participating in GWIPP subcommittees in planning our monthly speaker series, brainstorming on fundraising events, and developing a GWIPP mentor program (details below!). But we certainly also have to attribute what we have accomplished to current members as well. It has been an amazing experience for me, working with the current officers and other current members. Unfortunately, our Vice President and Secretary will be leaving MSPA this December. Denise and Jessica will be graduating, and moving on to bigger and better things, I am sure, as they continue their professional careers outside of MSPA. In their place, two GWIPP members will be elected in November. I look forward to working with new officers, but will miss the great work Denise and Jessica have provided.

On another note, special thanks to Tonnye! In addition to the subsidy MSPA provided, Tonnye graciously helped to support the remaining cost for six GWIPP members to attend the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management conference that is occurring next week in DC. Many thanks to Tonnye for her generous support! We will of course report back in the next newsletter with our thoughts and experiences at the conference. Good luck with the rest of the semester!

Madelyn Carpenter  
President, GWIPP  
M.P.P. 2004  
*Environmental specialization*

**NOTE: In the last newsletter, we accidentally listed Alumna Dr. Carola Weil's last employer as CIDCR. It is actually the Center for International Development and Conflict Management, or CIDCM. Our apologies!**

## **Extra! Extra! Read all about it! Alumnae Interview**

**Interview with Tonnye Conner-White  
2002 MSPA graduate – Concentration: Political Leadership and Participation**

**Hyper.....driven.....random.....professional.....high energy.....good worker.....peppy.....  
smiling.....motivated.....**

These are a few adjectives people in Tonnye Conner-White's life might use to describe her. While these words may be used to describe many MSPA graduates, Tonnye is not your average graduate.

### **A Little History**

Upon completion of her bachelor's degree at Wake Forest University, Tonnye was faced with the difficult choice of moving to Japan to teach English, or entering law school directly out of college. She chose law school, where she learned how to be an independent worker—unlike MSPA, there were no group or team projects. Also unlike MSPA, she was tested only once a semester! “You either got it or you didn't,” she explains. “If I had to do over again, I would have taken time off after college.”

Tonnye worked for a while at law firms in Atlanta, Georgia. A couple of years later, she moved to Washington D.C. to work for an international consulting firm. After another year and a half of that, she began investigating policy schools. As a lawyer she was “given respect, clout, and salary; but unless you're just absolutely sure you want to practice law and only law, joint degrees are critical. To be honest, I saw my policy degree as a way to escape a job I did not like.”

### **MSPA**

While Tonnye was accepted into several prestigious programs, she chose MSPA to take advantage of its reputation and location. She quit her job and joined the class of 2002 as a full-time student. While at MSPA, Tonnye designed her own Masters, was an active GWIPP member, and was elected by her peers to be the class speaker.

And while a student at MSPA, she studied for the bar (which is often described as an intense experience alone!), worked part-time, took a full load of classes and planned her wedding. “I can be a little over-ambitious sometimes. I get everything done but at the end of the day I have an ulcer,” she laughs.

The MSPA learning experience was very different from her law school years. At MSPA, Tonnye sharpened her ability to work with teams and collaborate. When asked to compare her MSPA experience

with law school, she says, "It was stressful in a different way. MPSA was stressful in that you constantly have stuff to do all the time!"

### **Current Career Path**

Upon completion of her MPM, Tonnye joined the Federal Government to work at the General Accounting Office. "GAO is a unique agency—we report on policy, and we analyze policy. GAO is the best place to work of all the federal agencies, because it is one of the most respected by the private sector. I would command respect with GAO on my resume if I applied to work for the private sector again."

She loves the GAO because "the work environment is phenomenal, there's high morale, and a lot of flexibility." While Tonnye says she'd recommend working for the GAO, she also warns "It's not for everyone. There's a difference between policy analysis and policymaking. We have no original work, we do not make policy. We analyze it, and make recommendations to Congress."

Interestingly enough, she is working in the General Counsel's office at the GAO, where she was placed because of her law expertise. Utilizing both of her degrees has actually helped her decide what her next step will be. When asked what one of her ideal jobs might be, she responded: "Working for the American Civil Liberties Union, as an attorney. It's the perfect mixture between a policy degree and a law degree."

### **Secret Dreams**

Yet while it is true that Tonnye has a law degree and a Masters in Public Policy, her plans for the far future have very little to do with her education and background. "Despite my education and work experience I have a basic dream that has nothing to do with all that. My ultimate dream job is to be a writer. I'm actually working on my first novel, and I've been sending out chapters to friends whose literary tastes I respect and trust. I cannot imagine myself doing this long-term, being a lawyer, a policy analyst, or a consultant. I *could* imagine being a writer forever. The job I have now affords me the opportunity to pursue the job of my dreams."

Another dream of Tonnye's involves our very own GWIPP! "One of my dreams is being called back to my alma mater [Wake Forest] to be the graduation speaker, or to be a speaker at MPSA. I would love to be at a point at some day to have GWIPP call on me in a different capacity. I would be so flattered, I would do it happily. That would be the biggest compliment...that would just be the cat's meow!"

### **Words of Wisdom**

Tonnye offered some advice to current MSPA students, on both a professional and personal level...

"Be professional. The work environment is not school, and you need to conduct yourself as if you were in an interview everyday, as if someone were grading you all of the time. People can see a difference between the fresh-out-of-school people and the people with work experience. It's a maturity-level thing. The way you carry yourself should command respect."

Take every opportunity to network!!!! Say hello, how are you and introduce yourself. Take every opportunity you can. Even at work when you've already gotten the job, continue to network. People are going to promote who they know. People always underestimate the phrase 'it's all about who you know, not what you know.' Well, *it is*. All work environments are politically charged. Even the most high up people network. It never ends. You network to get positions, to maintain respect, to get the right people to work with. There's no one who gets anywhere and says 'Okay I made it and now I'm here.' It's not much fun—I don't know anyone who likes networking—and it feels like a sorority rush all the time; but it's the way things work."

You are only going to get busier as you get older. I wish somebody had told me that you *can't* do it all. I have the utmost admiration and respect for women and men who try, but in my own personal opinion, I honestly believe there is no such thing as successfully balancing kids and work. I think that, if you dig deep enough, something is falling by the wayside. I really think that something has to give, whether it be your career or the kids - there is no such thing as a superwoman or superman. Working part-time, or

taking a different job that allows you more flexibility is not successfully balancing work and kids. And having someone take care of your child, spending more time with your child than you, is not successfully balancing kids and work. That's compromising, not balancing."

## GWIPP Events

### **GWIPP FUNDRAISING/NETWORKING EVENT – DON'T MISS IT!!**

WHEN: Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003

WHERE: Franklin's  
5121 Baltimore Avenue  
Hyattsville, MD 20781

Help GWIPP raise money for the upcoming year! Franklin's will be donating 20% of its profits on tables that identify themselves with GWIPP – all day! Come for a drink, come for dinner, bring friends, family, co-workers, and help spread the word! Directions from downtown: Go North on Rhode Island Avenue (Rt. 1), which will become Baltimore Avenue in Hyattsville. Once you come into Hyattsville, passing the Courthouse and Municipal Building on your left, Franklin's is on your right. If you pass 410/East-West highway you've gone too far. There is parking available in a public lot immediately adjacent to the restaurant. See you there!

### **GWIPP'S LAUNCHES A STUDENT TO STUDENT MENTOR PROGRAM!**

#### **Join us for an evening of food and drink on November 7<sup>th</sup>!**

Are you a new student wondering what classes to register for? Are you a returning student wanting to share with others what you would or wouldn't do again? Well GWIPP can help. This month, GWIPP is kicking off its student-student mentor program.

A subcommittee of GWIPP members worked together to develop and launch a program that will help new students settle in faster at MSPA. GWIPP members who have been in the program for a while will be matched up with new students who have similar academic and professional interests.

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have a casual get-together at a member's house in NW DC to talk about what we would like to get out of the program and to have some good food and drinks to end off the week. All members and alumna are invited to this event. Contact [madelyn@umd.edu](mailto:madelyn@umd.edu) for details and directions.

In addition, we will be launching the next state of GWIPP's mentor program shortly. We will be soliciting volunteers for a student-alumna mentor program. We hope that you will all participate in helping a current student learn about your experiences and opportunities in the policy arena. Stay tuned!

## On Campus

### **ATTENDING TO EARLY MODERN WOMEN: STRUCTURES & SUBJECTIVITIES SYMPOSIUM**

Sponsored by:

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2003

Time: 8:00am - 8:00pm

Location: University of Maryland, Stamp Student Union

Explore the lives and work of early modern women at an interdisciplinary symposium. The plenary topics, which include Geographies and Politics; Degree, Priority, and Place; The Built Environment; and Pedagogies, focus on the political and social frames within which early modern women constructed their identities. Each plenary session is followed by a series of concurrent workshops on a number of topics. The conference is free for UMD students with ID.

For specific details and a registration form, visit the conference website. <http://www.crbs.umd.edu/atw5/>

## **In and Around D.C.**

### **ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FALL RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

Sponsored by: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

Date: November 6-8, 2003

Location: Washington Court Hotel, Washington DC

Description: The theme of the conference is *The "M in APPAM": Taking a Special Look at the Capacity of Government to Implement Public Policies*. Session topics include gender and policy, child policy, housing and community development, education, environment, public finance, public management, and much more! For more information, including a preliminary program, conference fees, and session times visit <http://www.appam.org/conferences/fall/dc03/>.

### **THIRD ANNUAL WOMEN INVOLVED IN LIVING AND LEARNING REPLICATION WORKSHOP**

Sponsored by: University of Richmond, Women's Studies, Leadership and Activism

Date: November 6-8, 2003

Location: University of Richmond, Richmond, VA

Description: Learn how to implement an innovative Women's Studies program that bridges academic and student affairs at the third Women Involved in Living and Learning (WILL) Replication Workshop, November 6-8, 2003, at the University of Richmond.

The WILL model integrates a Women's Studies minor, internships, gender-related programming, and leadership development. An assessment by the Wellesley College Center for Research on Women confirms that WILL "is an extremely effective vehicle for empowering and transforming female students."

For more information, including a tentative agenda and the registration form, see <http://oncampus.richmond.edu/WILL> or contact (804) 289-8578 or [WILL@richmond.edu](mailto:WILL@richmond.edu)

### **FOUNDING SISTERS AND THE NINETEENTH AMENDMENT**

Sponsored by: HBO Films and The Historic National Woman's Party

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2003

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Location: Sewall-Belmont House and Museum, 144 Constitution Ave., NE, Washington, DC

Description: An event hosted by the Party that helped women gain the right to vote, Contributing Editor for Newsweek Eleanor Clift will be presenting! Featuring a special preview clip presentation of the new HBO film IRON JAWED ANGELS. The film tells the true story of how defiant and brilliant young activists Alice Paul and Lucy Burns took the women's suffrage movement by storm, putting their lives at risk to help American women win the right to vote. Call 1-888-873-4574 for more details.

## **STRONG WOMEN, POWERFUL FINANCIAL PLANNING**

Sponsored By: American Express Financial Advisors, Inc., hosted by Aim Investments and Franklin Templeton Investments

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2003

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Capital Grille Restaurant, 1861 International Drive, McLean, VA 22102

Description: Presented by Denise R. Bump, Financial Advisor and Charlotte A. Stallings, Vice President - Investment Strategies, American Express Funds. Please R.S.V.P. to KC Lonsdale by November 1, 2003 at 301-320-1476

*(American Express Financial Advisors Inc. Member NASD. American Express Company is separate from American Express Financial Advisors Inc. and is not a broker-dealer.)*

## **WOMEN FOR HIRE CAREER EXPO**

Sponsored by: Women for Hire

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2003, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Sheraton Crystal City, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202

Description: Free admission for jobseekers. Register today for a special morning seminar for early admittance. All details and a list of employers participating are available at [www.womenforhire.com](http://www.womenforhire.com).

## **Items of Interest**

### **FROM THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2003, DIANE REHM SHOW**

<http://www.wamu.org/dr/index.html>

**11:00 - Liv Arnesen & Ann Bancroft "No Horizon Is So Far" (Da Capo)**

Tune in to this interesting segment, as Diane talks with the first women to cross Antarctica on foot. Norwegian native Liv Arnesen and American Ann Bancroft tell about the dangers and the wonders of their three-month journey.

**Liv Arnesen**, First woman to ski solo to the South Pole

**Ann Bancroft**, First woman in history to cross the ice to both the North and South Poles.

### **STUDY: WOMEN BEAR BRUNT OF ENVIRONMENTAL TOXINS**

A California study calls for further investigation into how environmental toxins affect women's health. It estimates the health care cost of U.S. women's environmentally associated diseases is \$12.2 billion annually. The push to link environmental safety to women's rights gained research footing last week with the release of a new report called *Confronting Toxic Contamination in Our Communities: Women's Health and California's Future*. Released by the Women's Foundation of California, a grant-making organization based in San Francisco, the report on contaminants and women's health focuses on how women's biology and role in society makes them bear the brunt of environmental toxins. For the full article, visit <http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=1570>

The full report can be found at The Women's Foundation of California: <http://www.womensfoundca.org>.

## In the News

### The Development Executive Group's weekly Global Development Briefing ([www.developmentex.com](http://www.developmentex.com))

#### **School Girls**

Question: THIS WEEK, we note that there are 65 million out-of-school girls globally. Since the overthrow of the Taliban regime, nearly half a million girls in Afghanistan have returned to the classrooms or been enrolled for the first time. According to UNICEF, what country has the greatest number of girls out of school?

Answer: LAST WEEK, we asked which country, according to UNICEF, has the greatest number of girls out of school. Around 123 million children are left out of the world's schools this year and perhaps will never see the inside of a classroom. Well over half of the excluded children are girls. While the gender gap in enrollment has narrowed, girls are more often denied the right to attend or drop out early. A UNICEF study found that in sub-Saharan Africa, 46 million school-aged children have never stepped foot in a school. A similar number also are missing school in South Asia. Together, the two regions account for 75 percent of the world's entire population of children left out of school. India (not surprisingly, due to its population) has the greatest number out of school. Neighboring Bangladesh and Pakistan also have a high percentage of girls out of school, as do Nigeria and Somalia.

#### **Working Women**

Question: THIS WEEK, we note that while women make up half the 325 million people in the Middle East and North Africa, and in some countries as many as 63 percent of university students, they comprise only 32 percent of the labor force, according to a new report by the World Bank. Which of the 19 countries in the region has the highest number of women in the work force?

ANSWER :LAST WEEK, we noted that while women make up half the 325 million people in the Middle East and North Africa, and in some countries as many as 63 percent of university students, on average they comprise only 32 percent of the labor force, according to a new report by the World Bank. The report, "Gender and Development in the Middle East and North Africa: Women in the Public Sphere," suggests that per capita GDP growth for MENA countries could have been 0.7 percent higher on average for each of the last 10 years if female participation rates had reached their full potential. While the proportion of women in the MENA labor force has increased rapidly during the last three decades to 32 per cent in 2000, it still ranks among the lowest in the world. The region as a whole has the highest proportion of dependents to wage earners in the world. The labor-abundant, resource-rich countries (Algeria, Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen) tend to have slightly lower rates of female labor force participation than the labor-abundant, resource-poor economies (Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, and Tunisia), with the exception of the West Bank and Gaza. The report said the resource-poor economies have had to rely more heavily on labor-intensive development and so have depended more on women's economic participation, with rates of female labor force participation closer to their potential. We asked which of the 19 countries in the region had the most women in the work force. The answer, according to the World Bank Group's GenderStat database figures for 2000: Turkey (38%) — which is not classified by the World Bank as a MENA country, but which many other organizations do — followed by Morocco (35%), Tunisia (32%), Kuwait (31%), Egypt and Lebanon (30%) each.

#### **Woman-Owned Companies Surge in Five Western States**

By ANN FARMER

In five western states where women have little representation in the professional and political sectors, female-owned small enterprises are doing particularly well. A recent report by the Center for Women's

Business Research shows that female-owned businesses in five western states--Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada and Arizona--expanded at an average rate of 28.8 percent between 1997 and 2002, more than twice the 14 percent expansion rate for women-owned businesses in the nation during that same period.

In determining why female-owned businesses are exploding in this region, the study, "Location, Location, Location," released in late September, noted some generally business-friendly conditions in all five states during this period. These included above-average population growth, greater federal financial support for small businesses, lower-than-average prevailing wages and a greater reliance by local governments on sales taxes than corporate and personal income taxes.

For the full article, visit <http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm?aid=1556>