### Students Travel with AA UW

Women’s Center student workers Katie Smith and Megan Williams attended the National Conferences of College Women Student Leaders in Washington, D.C. June 7-9. The conference was a joint effort of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA). At the conference, Katie and Megan attended workshops on women’s issues, heard keynote speakers Zainab Salbi and Courtney D. Lynch, and met AAUW Women of Distinction honorees. Megan and Katie also got the chance to visit all of Washington, D.C.’s historical landmarks.

Katie also attended the AAUW National Convention June 29-July 3 in Phoenix, Arizona. Katie presented a workshop on student involvement in AAUW with other members from Alabama. She also spoke on a panel about generational differences within AAUW. She attended several workshops and heard keynote speakers, including Alabama native Mae Jemison, former astronaut, who was the first African American woman in space.

Katie and Megan are both members of the AAUW of Alabama State Student Advisory Council Development Team. They are both Women’s Studies minors and Sociology majors.

-Compiled by Katie Smith

### Don’t Assume I Don’t Cook

The Women’s Center will be holding a bake sale this month to raise funds. Most of the treats that will be sold can be found in the cookbook *Don’t Assume I Don’t Cook*. 

The cookbook is circulated through the National Organization for Women (NOW). *Don’t Assume I Don’t Cook* is filled with recipes and photos of feminist kitchens. There are also stories and quotes that will stir up a number of emotions. On the cover, there is a beautiful painting of “The First Supper” by Jane Evershed.

Copies of the cookbook can be purchased from the NOW website at <http://www.now.org/ntt/fall-98/dontcook.html>.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

- Compiled by K. McCord

### Calendar of Events

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### Quotes

- One is not born a woman, one becomes one. ~ Simone de Beauvoir
- No written law has ever been more binding than unwritten custom supported by popular opinion. ~ Carrie Chapman Catt
- I decided it is better to scream... Silence is the real crime against humanity. ~ Nadezhda Mandelstam
- I myself have never been able to find out precisely what feminism is. I only know that people call me a feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat or a prostitute. ~ Rebecca West
The Women’s Center would like to thank everyone who supported our book drive.

The books will be put to good use by individuals that are in desperate need of reading materials.

Have a safe and Happy Halloween!!!

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast Cancer is a serious and debilitating disease that will have approximately 180,510 new cases discovered in 2007. Approximately 40,910 individuals will die of breast cancer in 2007. These are staggering statistics that can hopefully be decreased in the future. It is the most common cancer among women. Breast cancer is the fifth leading cause of death in women. Women are not the only individuals at risk, men can also develop breast cancer also.

There are several ways that an individual can reduce their risk. The first and most effective way to reduce your risk is by testing. A monthly self breast exam and regularly scheduled mammograms with your doctor are two of the most effective ways to reducing the likelihood of breast cancer. Early detection will increase the probability of recovery.

Breast cancer changes the lives of every individual that it touches. Please help to reduce the likelihood that you or anyone you know will be afflicted with this horrible disease. Have regular check-ups and talk with your health care professional about your risk of developing breast cancer.

- Compiled by K McCord
From My Window

My life has been largely influenced by wonderful women and interactions with them has given me an insight into their world. I consider myself a cognisant product of women may it be my mother, sisters, teachers, peers or friends. It comes naturally from my heart & head to regard women greatly. This respect took me to the Women’s Center where I have met outstanding people. The active involvement of the Women’s Center (faculty, staff & students) into social causes inspired me to volunteer and be a part of the community. There is no better feeling than ‘respecting a woman’ and it gives me immense satisfaction to be able to do something for them. I call it the ‘joy of serving’. Helping fulfill the mission and operational needs of the Women’s Center has in turn helped me to explore my career options and feed my commitment to women’s causes. Interesting collection of resources and helping Kari organize ‘Book Drives’ has been an enriching experience. The past two weeks at the Women’s Center has developed my skills, advanced my interests, made connections, and enhanced me as a person. I cannot but offer women my seat, I cannot but open the door for them, I cannot but have a natural inclination to make a difference for them, I cannot but just return their kindness, I cannot but recommend everyone a visit to 663 N Wood Ave.

~ Pratik Mamtora ~ (MA English student)

FREE HIV Testing

The Women’s Center will have a HIV testing day on Tuesday, October 2 from 1:30 – 4:30 pm.

The test is free and confidential.

No Needles are used.

A staff member from Rape Response will be administering the test.

Results take about one to two weeks.
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In October 1981, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence formed Domestic Violence Awareness Day. Six years later it had grown for a day to a month. In 1989 Congress endorsed the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Each October after this year has been when domestic violence is highlighted in numerous venues throughout the nation.

Domestic violence is a serious issue that affects everyone close to the victim(s) and abuser. Although anyone can be a victim, the overwhelming majority of victims are women and children. It can take many different forms such as emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. Any type of abuse should never be tolerated and should be reported. There are several organizations that can help victims. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control estimates that nearly 5.3 million domestic violence incidents happen each year among women 18 years and older resulting in 2 million injuries and 1,300 deaths. Please don’t become another statistic. Let someone know because no matter what they call it, it is still abuse.

If you or anyone you know is a victim of domestic violence you should let someone know. The Women’s Center will be happy to call the appropriate organization for you. You can also call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or go to: http://www.ndvh.org. If steps are not taken, the abuse will only get worse.

- Compiled by K. McCord