The 2023-24 academic year has been an active and fulfilling time at the Five College Women’s Studies Research Center. As we write this newsletter, this vibrance accompanies and magnifies the weight, outrage, and dissonance saturating our daily lives. While this weight is undeniably central, so is the continuing commitment to liberatory education, resistance, and solidarity among the Five College feminist communities.

We extend much gratitude to all of the individuals, departments, offices, and groups that helped make this year possible. The collaborations that supported responsive and participatory programming, that enabled mobility in the Center’s programming from campus-to-campus, and that fostered lasting relationships between faculty, staff, graduate students, and visiting scholars have made this year feel particularly special. As we say goodbye to this year’s cohort of Research Associates, we simultaneously extend the warmest welcome to the incoming cohort, as well as to the Center’s incoming Director, Li Cornfeld.

Over this past year, we’ve held 42 Write Togethers (including 6 all-day sessions), 2 writing retreats, 7 community lunches, 2 book salons, 1 teach-in, hosted 3 short-term visiting scholars, 6 Research Associates, and collaborated with 4 undergraduate students. We hope that as community members flip through these pages, their reflections on the year are interspersed with moments of warmth, they perhaps learn something new about the Center’s offerings, feel proud of their contributions to the Five College feminist community, and look forward with us to summer writing community offerings and the year to come. As you think ahead about what you might like to be involved in, we invite you to complete the Reading Group and Work-in-Progress interest forms on page 9.

Thanks again to all who make the Center a scholarly home away-from-home, and for animating this year with intentionality, lively community, principled resistance, and insistent hope.

Jacquelyne Luce & Lily Sendroff
Outgoing FCWSRC Director

Amherst College | Hampshire College | Mount Holyoke College | Smith College | UMass Amherst
The Center’s leadership structure is comprised of a faculty directorship held on a rotating basis, a full-time Program Coordinator position, and a Steering Committee composed of representatives from each of the Five College institutions. We encourage our community to join in thanking Jacquelyne Luce for her three years of leadership as Director and welcoming Li Cornfeld as they settle into the position this summer.

Jacquelyne Luce  
Outgoing Director  | jluce@mtholyoke.edu

One of the most incredible experiences while directing the FCWSRC has been cultivating feminist environments that challenge academic isolation, while simultaneously recognizing the need for dedicated alone time to research, create, think, and write. There is something extremely powerful in being able to come into a space in which a key priority is to share with each other the baby steps one takes on a project, in addition to those that feel monumental and enter the public record. What does it mean to celebrate 500 words on a page? Or to hold space for that confounding sense of ‘what’s the point’ as worlds around us, close and far, crumble.

The interdisciplinarity of the FCWSRC is a site from which to challenge and be challenged. Although many/all of us are perpetual learners and knowledge-makers, we perhaps also become comfortable being experts. Being in community—at the write togethers, book salons, teach-in, and work-in-progress sessions—where we find ourselves reading and engaging far outside the frames of what we might consider to be our fields of expertise within the contemporary vastness of queer, trans, feminist studies, connects us to scholars, theory, ideas, and locations, which have the potential to remake our thoughts and politics anew.

When I took up the directorship in the summer of 2021, I found myself in a moment of recalibration. That moment lingers. Our activist-scholarship and pedagogy is enacted in a context of surveillance and necessity. Finding ways to help each other to get our ideas out in the world, and to both locate and access the resources we need in order to do so, won’t always show up in normative metrics. Yet, collectively, when a feminist collaborative community is an available, ongoing framework within which to work, the metrics that count for moments, every day, can be our own.

Li Cornfeld  
Incoming Director  | lcornfeld@mtholyoke.edu

Greetings! I’m a feminist media scholar with deep roots in the Five College community. Currently, I teach in the Department of Film Media Theater at Mount Holyoke, having first arrived in the Valley seven years ago, for a fellowship in the Center for Humanistic Inquiry at Amherst. I’ve also presented research at Smith and at UMass, and I regularly center feminist scholarship from across the Five Colleges in my research and teaching. In the context of our vibrant Five College Community, the FCWSRC is among my most treasured institutions. I extend a heartfelt thank you to Jacquelyne for her leadership across the last three years, which included overseeing the monumental move to our new home at Hampshire as well as shepherding the return of in-person FCWSRC programs and events. From drafting manuscripts at the Center’s writing retreats to celebrating colleagues at the Center’s book salons, I take personal and professional inspiration from the feminist research networks that we cultivate together. I look forward to connecting with you soon.
FEMINIST WRITING COMMUNITY

In the ethos of being a feminist knowledge maker-space, one of the FCWSRC’s core programmatic areas is our Feminist Writing Community. This year, our Writing Community attained notable growth, with those formally registered as members growing from 82 to 170!

WRITE TOGETHERS & COMMUNITY LUNCHES

Weekly Monday morning co-writing sessions at Hampshire College were consistent, focused bursts of time to write in the midst of hectic semester schedules and summer activities. It is always exciting to connect with each other over the monthly lunches to talk about what we are working on and ground ourselves in community at the outset of a new month.

POP-UP WRITE TOGETHERS

Throughout the year, we co-organized six day-long, pop-up Write Togethers on different Five College campuses: two during the summer and four during the academic year. Some folks joined all six pop-ups, touring the Five Colleges, and others came to the one closest to home or on their campus. A full-day of dedicated writing time can be such a treasure!

JANUARY WORKSHOPS & WRITING TOGETHER

Two days of workshops and co-writing co-organized with the Amherst College Office of the Provost and Dean of the Faculty, and co-sponsored by the Hampshire College Dean of Faculty Office, combined more pragmatic ‘how-to’ sessions with quiet writing space. Hannah Brooks-Motl of Amherst College Press unpacked the book proposal genre and writing coach Cathy Luna offered interactive guidance on moving beyond the drafts we can get caught-up by. During the event, a number of faculty also undertook semester planning via an online National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity workshop.
FEMINIST WRITING COMMUNITY

Kick-Off the Summer Writing Retreat
June 10 - June 12, 2024

This year, we held our annual Kick-Off the Summer Writing Retreat in Hampshire College's beautiful Red Barn for the third year in a row, surrounded by nature, good food, and good company for two full days of writing and one evening of dinner and a conversation-based workshop. This year the retreat neared fifty attendees, all of whom we were incredibly grateful to share space, time, and a grounded start to the summer with.

Thank you to the co-sponsors of the event: Five College Abolition Justice Faculty Seminar; Five College Reproductive Politics Faculty Seminar; Hampshire College Dean of Faculty Office; Smith College Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality; Mount Holyoke Department of Gender Studies; UMass Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies; and Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism.

Photographs by Noah Loving
CONNECTIONS & COLLABORATIONS

The Center's model of responsive and participatory programming enabled a number of collaborative endeavors and special events involving the Five College feminist intellectual community this year. Fall and spring book salons bookended the academic year, as well as receptions and open houses that invited everyone to visit our space at Hampshire College—a community lounge, flex office, and offices for Research Associates.

BOOK SALONS

November 6, 2023: Bury the Corpse of Colonialism: The Revolutionary Feminist Conference of 1949

For our first in-person book salon since lock-down, author and Smith College Professor Lisa Armstrong was in conversation with Five College discussants Asha Nadkarni (UMass), Lili Kim (Hampshire), and Sneha Gole (FCWSRC) about her book *Bury the Corpse of Colonialism*.

March 5, 2024: Writing the Black Diasporic City in the Age of Globalization

Author and Amherst College Professor (and former Research Associate!) Carol Bailey was in conversation with Five College discussants Rachel Mordecai (UMass) and Elise Barnett (UMass) about her book *Writing the Black Diasporic City in the Age of Globalization*.

CO-ORGANIZED SPECIAL EVENTS

In November, we co-organized a virtual teach-in on feminist interventions on Palestine with a number of Five College faculty within the UMass Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies Department and the Five College Reproductive Politics and Abolition Justice faculty seminars. The virtual teach-in featured two former Research Associates, Isis Nusair and Shailja Patel, as well as disability justice scholar Laura Jordan Jaffee. The speakers provided a space for feminist scholars and students to work through how the frameworks and subfields central to feminist studies—including reproductive justice, queer studies, disability justice, eco-feminism, and transnational feminisms—inform our understanding of ongoing legacies of settler colonial violence and Palestinian struggles for self-determination, both historically and today. The second special event of the year, held in March, was a virtual panel co-organized by *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*, FCWSRC Research Associates, and the Smith College Jandon Center. The panel focused on how International Women’s Day is celebrated around the world, with attention to the shared and distinct struggles of feminist movements across region, nation, and continent.
SPECIAL PROJECTS

UNDERSTANDING THE WEAVE, UNDOING THE SEAMS

An article co-authored by the 2022-23 Research Associate cohort, Director, and Program Coordinator, “Understanding the Weave, Undoing the Seams: A Transnational Feminisms Roundtable Conversation about the Category ‘Woman’ at the Five College Women’s Studies Research Center,” was published in a special issue of The Massachusetts Review, “Woman: Revisited,” co-edited by Research Associate alum Shailja Patel. The article follows a roundtable conversation between co-authors about the category woman across discipline, generation, and geography.

INTERNATIONALIZATION, FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP,
AND FEMINIST PEDAGOGY

Reflections on academic mobilities, internationalization, and exchange often animate conversations at the Center. This year, these conversations took an intentional turn, critically examining, reflecting upon, and seeking to theorize feminist mobilities and internationalization projects. In Fall 2023, we hosted 3 short-term visiting scholars: Sikata Banerjee, Patita Seansmart, and former Research Associate Sinith Sittirak (2006-2007). Over brunch, visiting scholars, 2023-24 Research Associates, our Program Coordinator, Lily, and Director, Jacquelyne, sat down to talk about personal experiences of mobility and learn more about its impact on each other’s scholarship. During the spring, Jacquelyne, Lily, and members of the 2023-24 Research Associate cohort co-wrote a paper entitled “Internationalization, Feminist Scholarship, and Feminist Pedagogy” which they presented at the Capital District Feminist Studies Consortium Conference at the University at Albany. This paper has since evolved into a book project that the co-authors continue to actively work on!

MAPPING TRANSNATIONAL FLOWS OF FEMINIST KNOWLEDGE

“Mapping Transnational Flows of Feminist Knowledge” is supported by undergraduate students participating in a summer internship and/or the Center’s academic year Research Collaboratory. In addition to processing a total of 8 boxes of archival material this year, Sophia Hill from Hampshire College, Maddy Broussard from Mount Holyoke College, and Shivaangi Salhotra from UMass Amherst recently conceptualized a paper to explore methodologies constitutive of the Collaboratory model that they will present as a poster at the 2024 NWSA conference! We are also happy to share that intern and Collaboratory member, Shivaangi Salhotra, was awarded the 2024 Five Colleges, Inc. Lorna Peterson Prize. Recognizing Shivaangi’s work both at the FCWSRC and beyond, the prize honors Five College students with outstanding commitment to and demonstration of Five College collaboration.
2023–2024 RESEARCH ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

During the 2023-24 academic year, we hosted six Research Associates, including: Chanida Chitbundid, Eir-Anne Edgar, Cory Ellen Gatrall, Sneha Gole, Ever E. Osorio Ruiz, and Michela Rosa Di Candia. These scholars established the FCWSRC as their work-home within the Five Colleges, engaging in a workshop-style community with one another while undertaking independent research and writing projects. Throughout the year, Research Associates participated in events, guest lectures, and informal engagements across the Five Colleges. We are grateful for the myriad contributions they have made to the Center and the broader Five College community during the period of their Associateship.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS WEDNESDAYS

Throughout the year, on Wednesdays, Research Associates—in community with each other, Jacquelyne, and Lily—shared, offered feedback, and substantively engaged with each other's writing and research projects. A total of 12 chapters, articles, and essays were workshopped over the course of the year during Work-in-Progress Wednesdays. Take a peek at the next page for an overview of Research Associate accomplishments and celebrations!

DAY-TO-DAY AT THE CENTER

Tour of Hampshire College campus during Research Associate orientation in September.

Research Associates sledding around the time of the first big snow in the Five College area.

Orientation-period excursion to Mount Holyoke College Archives & Special Collections.

Research Associates co-working on our current, collaborative book project.

Lunch outdoors on Hampshire campus during the stretches of warm weather!

Many birthday and professional milestone celebrations as a cohort community.
2023–2024 RESEARCH ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

Celebrations & Accomplishments

PROFESSIONAL CELEBRATIONS & AWARDS

Cory Ellen Gatrall successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, “Beyond the Pale: Race, Culture, and Whiteness in the Discipline of Nursing, 1955-1980,” and earned a doctoral degree in the Elaine Marieb College of Nursing at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Eir-Anne Edgar was awarded a NeMLA Summer Fellowship for her book project, and contributed to a successful grant application for the project at her home institution, “Forum for equality, inclusion and diversity at the Department of Teacher Education, NTNU – Opportunities for a Diverse Teacher Education.”

Ever E. Osorio Ruiz has accepted an appointment as Visiting Assistant Professor of Sexuality, Women’s, and Gender Studies at Amherst College.

PUBLICATIONS

Eir-Anne Edgar's article, "Envisioning AfAm Literary History in Norwegian Fjord og Fjell," was published as part of the Post45 cluster, Contemporary Literature from the Classroom.

Sneha Gole's co-written article “Pathaan: Fractured Hope for Feminist Fans?” was published in Doing Sociology; and a number of Sneha's solo-written articles were published as well: "Israel-Palestine Question: Feminist Analysis" in the Marathi journal, PariwartaNacha Watsaru; "On the Occasion of 50 Years of Ms. Magazine" in the Marathi publication, Miloon Saryajani; and "Theory and Praxis of Feminist Internationalist Solidarity" in Economic and Political Weekly.


IDEAS & VOICES

Chanida Chitbundid presented at the National Women's Studies Association Conference in October 2023; the International Women's Day webinar co-organized with Meridians and the Smith College Jandon Center in March 2024; and the Five College Pan-Asian Network Conference in March 2024.

Eir-Anne Edgar presented on a panel and a roundtable at the Northeast Modern Language Associate (NeMLA) Conference in March 2024.


Sneha Gole delivered two guest lectures at UMass Amherst; participated as a discussant in the FCWSRC book salon for Bury the Corpse of Colonialism; and presented at the U.W. Madison Annual Conference on South Asia, the National Women’s Studies Association Conference, the International Women’s Day webinar co-organized with Meridians and the Smith College Jandon Center, and a panel organized by the Feminist Development Council of the American Sociological Association Sociology of Development Section, “Activism and Development”

Ever E. Osorio Ruiz presented at the Mexican Studies Conference at University of California Irvine in April 2024 and the Latin American Studies Association Conference in June 2024.

Michela Rosa Di Candia presented as part of the the International Women's Day webinar co-organized with Meridians and the Smith College Jandon Center, and participated in a Cafezinho Literário at UMass Amherst in September 2023.

The Research Associate cohort presented the paper—which has since grown into a book project—“Internationalization, Feminist Scholarship, and Feminist Pedagogy” at the 2024 Capital District Feminist Studies Consortium Conference at the University at Albany in March.
FIVE COLLEGE WOMEN’S STUDIES RESEARCH CENTER
2024–2025 RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

TONI ARMSTRONG
Boston University
PhD Candidate in History of Art and Architecture
Project: Taking Care: The Queer Making of Modern Art, 1914–1935

KATHERINE MASON
Wheaton College
Associate Professor of Sociology and Women’s & Gender Studies
Project: Well at Work

FRANCESCA BELLEI
Amherst College
Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Humanistic Inquiry and Visiting Lecturer in Classics
Project: Not Your Sirens: Lesbians and Queer Travelers to Italy and the Making of Classicist Nationalism (19th–20th c.)

CORY ELLEN GATRALL
ACADEMIC YEAR
Project: Beyond the Pale: Race, Culture, and Whiteness in the Discipline of Nursing

BLASE PROVITOLA
Trinity College
Assistant Professor of Language and Culture Studies and Women, Gender and Sexuality
Project: Against Heterocoloniality: Women Desiring Differently in France’s North African Diasporas

CHARU GUPTA
FALL 2024
Project: Riot

MELETM INCE YENILMEZ
İzmir Democracy University
Associate Professor of Economics
Project: Economic Aspects of Algorithmic Gender Equality: Exposing Digital Discrimination and Legal Challenges

MEGHAN PARADIS
Indiana University
PhD Candidate in Modern European History
Project: The Affective Transformation of German-Jewish Girlhood, 1900–1933

CHARRIottes RESEARCH ASSOCIATES & their projects at:
LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024–25

Anticipating the year to come, we are incredibly excited for Li to take up the directorship and to be welcoming the 2024-25 Research Associate cohort to the Five Colleges. Wrapped up in the excitement for these transitions is also excitement for the possibilities they hold. As community members look ahead to the 2024-25 academic year, we hope that folks consider new modes of involvement with the Center as we seek to expand the forms of feminist intellectual community engagement.

SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 10 | 5:00PM - 7:00PM
Mark your calendars for the FCWSRC's 2024 Fall Reception, which will be the evening of Tuesday, September 10th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at Hampshire College, in the Franklin Patterson Hall Courtyard!

READING & WORK-IN-PROGRESS GROUPS
Interested in joining or hosting a reading group at the FCWSRC? Participating in a work-in-progress session? We would love to hear your ideas, learn about your current projects, and get a sense for what kind of experiences would be of service in supporting Five College feminist scholarship to flourish. Complete our reading group interest form at www.bit.ly/fcwsrcreadinggroups; and the work-in-progress interest form at www.bit.ly/fcwsrc-WIP.

SHORT-TERM VISITS & FLEX OFFICE
Are you planning a research or lecture visit to the Five College area during 2024-25? Are you hoping to invite a collaborator or mentor to stay in the Five Colleges for a few days to a couple of weeks? The FCWSRC is able to co-host short-term visitors with Five College faculty! Learn more through our short-term visitor inquiry form at www.bit.ly/fcwsrcvisit, and for those who are already local and looking to enrich a mini-‘staybatical’, learn more about booking our Flex Office at www.bit.ly/fcwsrcflexoffice.

UNDERGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES
Five College undergraduate students interested in contributing to two ongoing research projects, “Mapping Transnational Flows of Feminist Knowledge” and “Feminist Site Specificity of the Five Colleges,” should keep an eye out for the Spring 2025 Research Collaboratory call for applications during Fall 2024! Looking to the immediate future, we are very excited to be welcoming four Five College students as our summer 2024 intern cohort:

Maddy Broussard  
Mount Holyoke College

Maxine Gamboa  
Hampshire College

Tyra Redwood  
Amherst College

Shivaangi Salhotra  
University of Massachusetts Amherst
THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY

FCWSRC STEERING COMMITTEE
We would like to recognize our Steering Committee members for their work, especially with this year’s Director search process. Special thank you to our outgoing Steering Committee member, Katrina Karkazis for all of the energy, care, and thoughtfulness brought to the Steering Committee over the past two years. We look forward to welcoming Lynda Pickbourn from Mount Holyoke College to the Steering Committee, and expect to announce one additional Steering Committee member to represent Amherst College.

2023–2024 MEMBERS

Laura Ciolkowski
UMass Amherst | Senior Lecturer in Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies

Katrina Karkazis
Amherst College | Professor of Sexuality, Women's and Gender Studies

Susana Loza
Hampshire College | Associate Professor of Critical Race, Gender, and Media Studies

Loretta Ross
Smith College | Associate Professor of the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Ray Rennard
Five Colleges, Inc.

CO-ORGANIZERS & CO-SPONSORS
So much would not be possible this year without the co-sponsorship, co-organizing, and co-hosting efforts of various people and groups throughout the Five Colleges. Special thanks to Hampshire College as our host campus: to our hallway and building neighbors who enrich our day-to-day, our colleagues in the Dean of Faculty Office, the Global Education Office, Event Services, and Dining & Catering. Thanks also to our peer departments throughout the Consortium at Amherst, Mount Holyoke, Smith, and UMass, with special thanks to chairs and department coordinators. We also hold much gratitude for groups with whom we undertook special projects this year, including the editorial team at *Meridians*, the Amherst College Office of the Provost and the Dean of the Faculty, *The Massachusetts Review*, Amherst College Press, and individuals from throughout the Five Colleges and beyond who joined our events as speakers, discussants, and attendees. This ecosystem of support and community is what makes the Five Colleges so unique, and we are incredibly grateful for the many modes and scales of collaboration this year.

STAY IN TOUCH

Five College Women’s Studies Research Center

[www.fivecolleges.edu/fcwsrc](http://www.fivecolleges.edu/fcwsrc)  [fcwsrc@fivecolleges.edu](mailto:fcwsrc@fivecolleges.edu)  [@fcwsrc](https://twitter.com/fcwsrc)

2023–2024 Research Associates

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Michela Rosa Di Candia: *email* · mdicandia@letras.ufrj.br