

Gender & Sexuality Center
1 North College Street
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<http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/gsc/>

Upcoming Events

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Alicia Morrell, GSC Advisor
Sara Cantor, Educational Associate
Garrett Hoffman, Student Life Intern

Center Associates

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Kendall Bills, Jaclyn Bovee, Beth Budnick,
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Dana, Marlene Edelstein, Michael McClellan,
Jean Rhodes, Manny Silvestre, Kristy Spiak,
Kristina Taketomo

CONTACT INFORMATION AND EDITORIAL POLICY

The Gender and Sexuality Center publishes this newsletter monthly for the campus community and friends. Information in the newsletter is based on the best available information at the time of publication. Items in the newsletter are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Gender and Sexuality Center or its employees, nor do they represent the views of the students, staff, faculty, or administration of Carleton College.

Please submit articles, calendar entries, letters and news to the Gender and Sexuality Center or via e-mail to: billsk. We reserve the right to

This Summer:

1. Out After Carleton @ June Reunion! June 17-19

Join OAC members and current students on campus for summer fruit and fruitful discussion! Take a break from the reunion schedule to recharge and meet some great people. Meet at the GSC/Basement Scoville Saturday the 18th of June at 2:00. P's email mcclellm

2. Carleton Marches in the Twin Cities Pride Parade! June 26

Join students, faculty, staff, alums and friends as we march in the Twin Cities Pride Parade. To learn more info, contact kwilliam.

Next Fall:

save the date!



Sponsored by Out @After Carleton, Alumni Relations, & the Gender & Sexuality Center

-GSC-

Gender and Sexuality Center
Basement Scoville

features June 2011

We Asked, You
Reflected

Healthy Communities
and Relationships

Speak Up 2011

FemSex Reflection

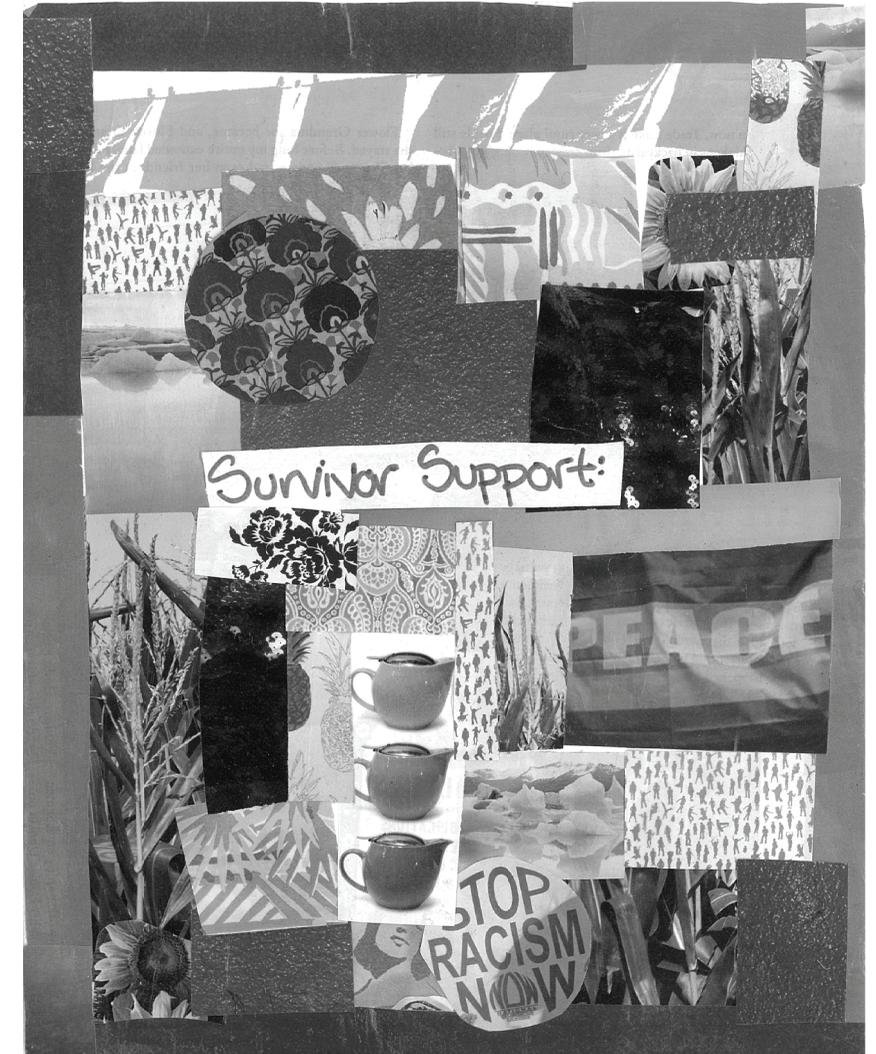
SaGA's Gender
Pronoun Awareness
Campaign

Masculinities Recap

In The News

GSCAs' Summer Plans

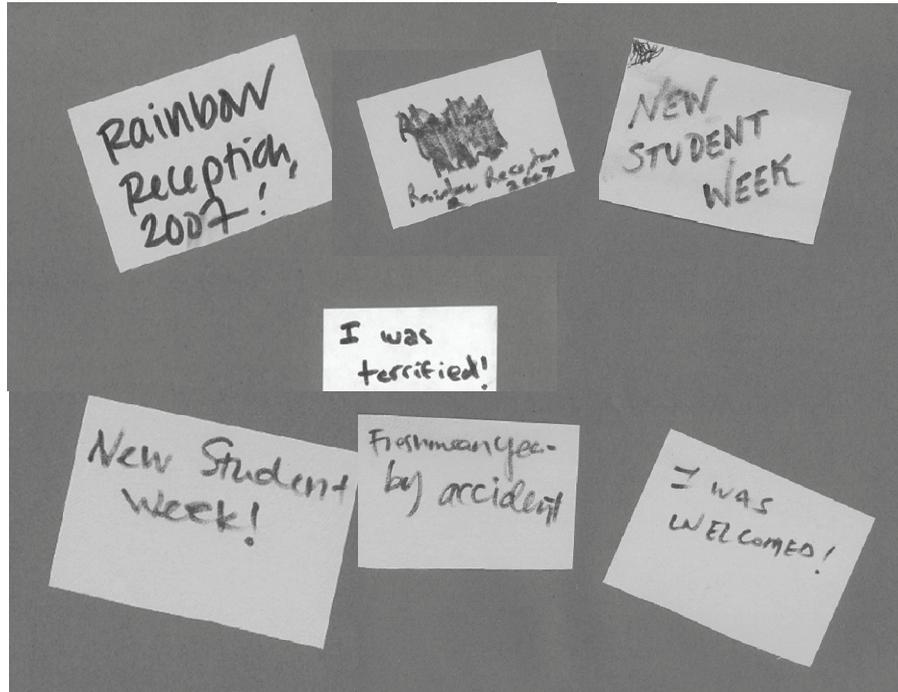
OUT OF THE BASEMENT



We Asked, You Reflected!

This year at the Pride Banquet, we asked attendees to reflect on the past year and their time at Carleton. Here were some of the responses...

First time you came into the GSC?



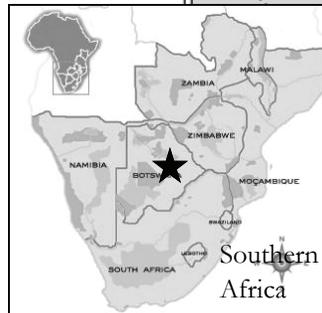
- A. Interning with Planned Parenthood in NYC
- B. Working at the Center for American Progress in Washington DC
- C. Jewish social justice education programming in NYC
- D. Eating tons of Asian food in Portland, OR
- E. Making music and “digitizing communication” in Iowa
- F. Handing out sack lunches to kids in parks in Oregon
- G. Working at the Carleton Library
- H. Interning with the Bill of Rights Defense Committee in Northampton, MA
- I. Traveling around Zambia, Botswana, Lesotho, and South Africa
- J. Chemistry research at Carleton
- K. Volunteering at the Grace Leslie Foundation in Chicago
- L. Working at the Feminist Women’s Health Center in Atlanta
- M. Traveling on the Ireland Study Abroad Program
- N. Working at Lamda Legal in Atlanta
- O. Interning at the Brooklyn Young Mother’s Collective



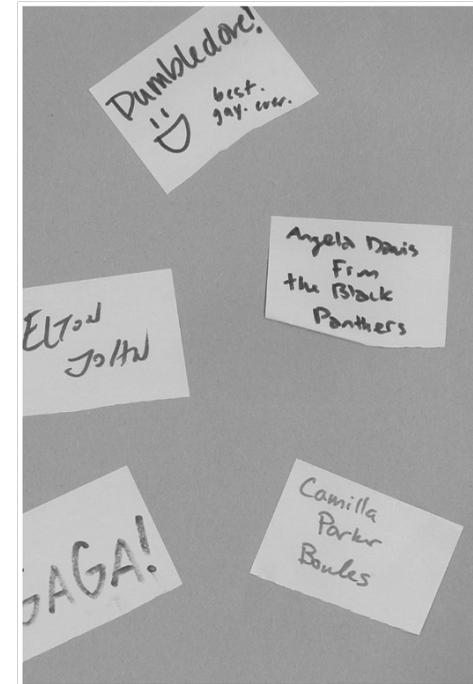
Answer key: 1) g 2) e 3) d 4) m 5) f 6) i 7) c 8) i 9) b 10) a 11) n 12) k 13) h 14) o 15) j

Match the 2011-2012 GSCAs to Their Summer

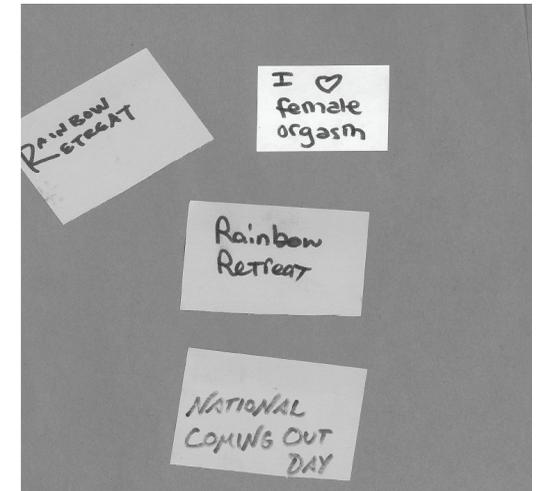
1. Isaac Werner
2. Hannah Button-Harrison
3. Caitlin Wood
4. Madeline Muzzi
5. Jaclyn Bovee
6. Norma Nyhoff
7. Chloe Zelkha
8. Kristy Spiak
9. Seth Althaus
10. Becca Litwin
11. Kendall Bills
12. Robin Wonsley
13. Sarah Berlin
14. Shantrice King
15. Michael McClellan



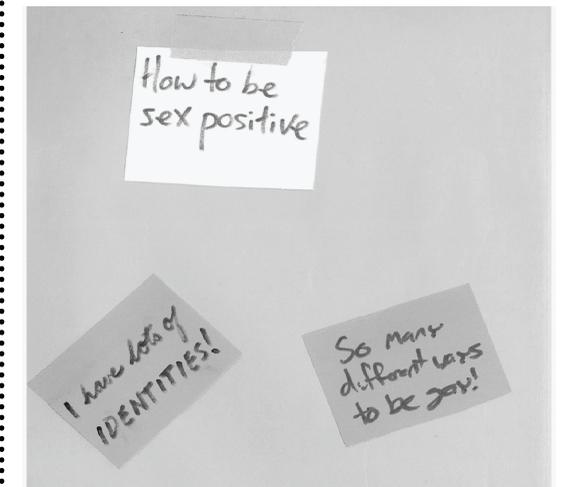
If you could have dinner with anyone dead or alive, who would it be?



Favorite GSC Event!



Something you learned this year:



In the News: Raising A Genderless

Baby

Kendall Bills '13

Being from a patriotic, god-fearing, red-blooded-American family, I don't take too kindly to hippies. My family lives proudly by a code of "efficiency above all," and slogans like "early is on time, on time is late, late is unacceptable." We make the Von Trapps look Type-B.

So when I started reading a recent article about a Toronto family that features a parent who teaches at "an alternative school," three kids named "Jazz," "Kio," and "Storm," and a penchant for "unschooling," I was dubious, to say the least. A flurry of media had released the news that this family was keeping the sex of their youngest child, Storm, a secret. News outlets around the country were discussing the parents' choice to "impose their own agenda on their kid." *Time* wondered "how long Storm's parents will be able to keep up this charade," and Parent Central noted that "they were imposing their political and ideological values on a newborn." No help that the two older children (both males) are allowed to keep their hair long and wear pink if they so choose. These parents have been quickly characterized as dangerous ideologues putting their child's health and safety at risk with their radical agenda.

Yet it does not take a particularly gender-enlightened reader to see several logical fallacies in these assumptions. Perhaps the most ridiculous critique, in my opinion, comes from those who deem it unfair to expose children to the risk of ridicule and bullying that accompanies gender non-conformity. Particularly in this age of "It Gets Better" campaigns and endless Katy Perry/

Lady Gaga/Pink songs preaching the value of being born this way, I can't help but question the dangerous undertones of these assumptions. We've learned, as a nation, that violence against children can take place for any variety of reasons—or for no reason at all. Asking children to modify their behavior to avoid punishment for non-conformity is a disheartening message, but not a new one. Not only is 'normalcy' a clear impossibility (see: any middle school), it is a threat to a child's personal identity to be forced to obscure it for the 'good' of others. To ask a child to fit into the mold that society dictates just so that they can be adequately 'normal' and therefore adequately 'safe' is a preposterous demand.

The other bizarre assumption that has clarified itself through the press is the notion that not sharing someone's sex with the world is 'radical' and 'political.' Is a church upbringing radical and political? How do we determine the lines of what values are 'normal' enough to be instilled in children? Here, again, we see the silent but powerful notion of vital normalcy being used to police parenting choices. The ways that children are supposed to be indoctrinated into our culture are deeply ingrained, and fundamental to our society—a threat to them is a threat to stability, for all of us.

Which brings us to the final point; our troubling relationship with 'gender trouble.' Gender, unlike the church upbringing I mentioned earlier, is seen as natural, stable, pre-determined, and profoundly linked to character traits and personality. A person with a gender that is not clear to outsiders, a person with their sex

Speak Up 2011: Taking Care of Ourselves and Our Community



Reflections from students

"As a woman, the phenomenon of victims feeling guilty is incredibly disturbing to me. I want to tell survivors, in every way that I can, that they are not to blame."

"Somewhere along the way, I stopped apologizing to my supporters for still feeling wounded, angry, frightened, and sad so many years after the fact. Who apologizes for feeling pain? I don't need to add guilt to the list."

"Listening can be uncomfortable. The words used to describe sexual violence are not always the ones I would use. But I know, as a supporter, that whatever words a survivor uses are the right ones. And I will remember however hard it is to listen, it is always harder to share, and I will respect that courage."

"Whoever you are, whenever you need me, I'll be there to support you. Always. In whatever way you need, all you have to do is ask."

FemSex Reflection

Emily Winer '12

Taking FemSex is the best decision I made this term. There is something so beautiful and empowering about a collective of intelligent, thoughtful women gathering together to create a safe, open forum for discussion. Not only has FemSex exposed me to new ideas and forced me to challenge certain preconceived notions, but also, I realized I should never feel ashamed of my questions, concerns, and thoughts.

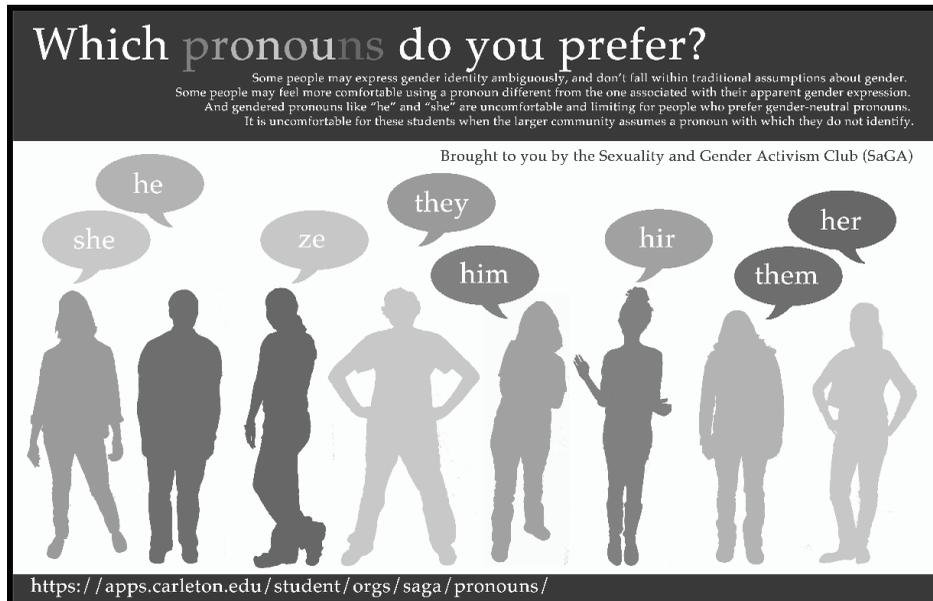
FemSex was not just about becoming more comfortable with my sexuality. Rather, it was an opportunity for me to look at the forces that shape my thoughts, ideals, fears, and goals. At Carleton it is far too easy to get caught up in our busy lives and thus silence important issues. FemSex was the place where I could step outside of my academic world and focus on myself outside of my identity as a student.

Through FemSex I have just begun to tackle the difficult and complex fears I carry regarding my body, family, friends, relationships, future, and identity. On the days when we covered difficult subject matter, I often left class feeling drained, upset, and confused. But those tough days were undoubtedly some of the most important of this term. On those days, I knew I was actively learning, growing, and challenging myself. While I cannot speak for my class as a whole, it is hard for me to imagine that each individual did not take away something extremely valuable through their experience in FemSex. For me, FemSex has been a catalyst for growth and exploration, and I cherish it as an invaluable landmark in the development of who I am as a woman.

SaGA's Gender Pronoun Awareness

Asking for and using a person's preferred gender pronouns is important. It is important because it indicates that you are committed to validating peoples' identities and their humanity. Using the correct pronouns is an issue of respect. By asking and using preferred pronouns you are saying, "I respect you as a human and respect your right to choose how to identify and how I speak to and about you." By assuming which pronouns individuals use, you are not allowing for them to represent themselves authentically.

Maybe you saw the posters around campus, or heard about SaGA's preferred-gender pronoun campaign from The CLAP or our letter to the editor in the Carletonian. SaGA—the Sexuality and Gender Activism club—started up a campaign to raise awareness about preferred gender-pronouns this winter. The posters pictured here were a major part of our campaign.



Masculinities Panel Recap

Manny Silvestre '11



Recently the GSC put on the 2nd annual Masculinities Panel. The panelists this year were Professor Harry Williams, Professor Ross Elfline, Professor Angie Willey, and Clinical Psychologist Drew Weis. Professor Terrance Wiley was originally going to be on the panel, but unfortunately he could only make it to the Q&A portion.

The prompt for the panelists was rather open ended. They were asked to talk about masculinity as it pertains to their lives, the ways in which masculinity

shapes classroom interactions, and the meanings and implications of our cultural construction of masculinity. Panelists discussed issues of masculinity in black communities, queer communities, women and masculinity, and the hyper-masculinity seen in the military.

Angie's discussion on the ideal type of masculinity, and the inability of anyone to really live up to this ideal was particularly interesting. Framing her contribution as a discussion she had with her nephew, she discussed the idea of masculinity being a form of performance. Professor Williams also did a good job discussing masculinity in the context of the black community and the way the term queer has been used mostly in a white context.

The continued popularity of this event, as well as the fact that there are several faculty and staff members that students are excited to hear from, make it likely that such an event will continue into the coming years.