The WGS program is especially grateful to Cynthia Coe, Professor of Philosophy, for her dedication and guidance as director of the Women’s and Gender Studies program for the past seven years. Under Cindy’s leadership the WGS program has seen many changes. We increased the number of minors, revised the program curriculum— we even changed our name from Women’s Studies to Women’s and Gender Studies.

I am particularly (and personally) appreciative of Cindy’s accomplishments in expanding the WGS program as I begin as interim director of WGS this academic year (all of her efforts will make the transition much easier for me). Last year the WGS faculty created a Steering Committee comprised of four WGS faculty to build on our success in growing our program’s curriculum with new course offerings, increasing the number of students enrolled in the WGS minor and adding a number of new WGS faculty.

Judith Hennessy, Interim Director, Women’s & Gender Studies, Associate Professor of Sociology

**FALL 2014 COURSES**

- **WGS 201** Intro. to Women’s & Gender Studies  
  - Ruthi Erdman  
  - MTuTh 2:00-3:25
- **WGS 201** Intro to Women’s & Gender Studies  
  - Anita Harker-Armstrong  
  - Online
- **ENG 335** Women’s Literature  
  - Christine Sutphin  
  - MWThF 10:10-10:50
- **PSY 483** Psychology of Gender  
  - Tylir McKenzie  
  - Online
- **SOC 356** Sociology of Gender  
  - Laura Appleton  
  - M-F 12-12:50
- **SOC 356** Sociology of Gender  
  - Jennifer Maclin  
  - Online

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- October LGBT History Month—Events TBA
- National Transgender Day of Remembrance (NTDOR) November 20th
- Laverne Cox Presents “Ain’t I A Woman?” November 18th, 7PM in the SURC Theatre
Save the date! Laverne Cox - November 18th in the SURC Theatre

On Tuesday November 18th in the SURC Theatre, Laverne Cox will give a presentation titled, "Ain't I A Woman?"

Laverne Cox is an actress, writer, producer, and transgender advocate. She can currently be seen in the critically acclaimed Netflix original series Orange is the New Black.

Cox was named as one of the most influential trans people in America in the inaugural Trans 100 in 2013. She was named one of the top 50 trans icons by the Huffington Post in 2012. Laverne was named one of Out magazine’s “Out 100” in 2010. Metro Source magazine named her one of the “55 People We Love” in 2008.

Cox is the first African-American trans woman to produce and star in her own television show, VH1’s critically acclaimed TRANSForm Me, the first television show to star three transsexual women. Cox made television history when she became the first African-American trans woman to appear on a reality television program, I Want to Work for Diddy in 2008, which earned the GLAAD media award for Outstanding Reality Program in 2009.

Cox was the recipient of the Anti-Violence Project's 2013 Courage Award. As a transgender advocate Cox continues to lend her voice to the cause of transgender visibility and equality. She is committed to telling diverse and three dimensional trans stories in the media. She travels the country speaking about issues that affect the trans community. She became the first openly transgender person to make the cover of Time magazine in the June 9 2014, issue, "the transgender tipping point."

Transgender Student Support Training Workshop

On September 17th, a group of WGS faculty, Cindy Coe and Pam McMullin-Messier, and our remarkable WGS minors Erika LaCarney and Jourdyn Payne held a training workshop for the Ellensburg School District to educate teachers and staff about support for transgender students. This training was the culmination of a year long process to develop a program for the ESD to use in response to the new non-discrimination policy the district adopted last spring, which addressed aspects of gender identity, official and health records, use of names and pronouns, sports, dress codes, and other school activities.

The goal of the workshop was to give some context for the complexity of gender identity and what the policy means for building teacher and staff support in order to prevent the discrimination and bullying of transgender and gender nonconforming students. This exciting project was brought together thanks to the efforts of two former WGS minors, Kasey Eickmeyer and Jeff Cote, who under the guidance of Cindy Coe, presented the training to CWU Education students last spring. Also contributing to the success of the workshop were Robyn Brammer and Lacy Ferrell and former WGS minor Kevan Gardner.

Thanks to everyone for their efforts in bringing this program to the ESD!

Judy Hennessy