Women’s History Month – 2014

Our theme for Women's History Month this year is Redefining Beauty — examining how powerful beauty norms are in our society, but also finding alternative images and expressions of beauty. Cultural ideas of beauty stretch in every conceivable direction, intersecting with ideas about race, age, class, sexuality, and health, as well as gender. Although we don’t typically use the word “beauty” in relation to men (WGS students: you have 90 seconds to analyze that social fact — Go!), our month-long focus on beauty includes a consideration of the impact of these ideas on people of all genders.

**Women's History Month Calendar of Events:**

- **“Tales of the Waria” film showing and panel discussion (Queer Film Series), April 8, 5:00 p.m., SURC Pit.**
  This is a film about a transgender community in Indonesia, the largest Muslim country in the world, and their struggles to find love and acceptance in a culture that emphasizes gender dualities. The director, Kathy Huang, describes it as a film about “contradictions, tragedy, and heroism.” A panel discussion will follow the film – Mark Auslander (Anthropology), Robyn Brammer (Psychology), Lene Pedersen (Anthropology), and Pam McMullin-Messier (Sociology).

- **Heart Your Selfie Display, April 8-17, SURC First Floor**

- **Beautiful and Bound: Practices and Histories of Footbinding, April 10th, 3:00 p.m., Dean 202.**
  Lauren Hautamak, Crystal MacDonald, and Elizabeth Glasman, students from Dr. Chong Eun Ahn’s East Asian Civilizations course in Winter 2014, will be presenting their research on Chinese footbinding.

- **Radical Beauty Exhibit and Student Art Show, April 21-24, SURC 137A-B**
  WGS minors Cay Collins, Zach Dozier, and Kevan Gardner have created this exhibit, with help from other students interested in gender and beauty. In Kevan Gardner’s words, the exhibit “will deconstruct present US beauty standards, broadly defined as all cultural expectations of physical presentation. We will critique beauty standards, examining how they are influenced by sexism, racism, and ageism, and propelled by a consumerist society. In doing so, we will uncover the negative impacts that these stands have individually and collectively, and leave the viewer with tools to rework and resist these standards.” The exhibit will include a juried student art show. The exhibit has been made possible by generous support from the Pride Foundation.

- **Denim Day, April 30, 2014** – Wear denim in support of sexual assault victims!
  In 1998 the Italian Supreme Court overturned a rape conviction because the victim was wearing tight jeans at the time of the assault. The justices stated that the victim must have helped her attacker remove the jeans, from which they inferred consent. People all around the world were outraged. Wearing jeans on this anniversary became an international symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes about sexual violence. For more information go to: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/1424601614463974/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1424601614463974/).

**Other Upcoming Events:**

- **Jeff Cote, film showing/panel** – details TBA

- **John Corvino, ”Haters, Sinners, and the Rest of Us: The Gay Debate Today.” June 3rd, 7:00 p.m., SURC Theatre**

- **Pride Week** – events TBA