Interim Director’s Welcome

Welcome to this issue of the Margaret Sloss Women’s Center newsletter. My name is Dr. Alissa Stoehr, and I am the Interim Director for the Women’s Center. I am also a Lecturer in the Sociology Department and the Women’s and Gender Studies Program. As I think back over my years at Iowa State, I remember being a student worker in the Sloss House working on Women’s Week activities and introducing Gloria Steinem as our keynote speaker that year! After my work there was done, I continued to be involved in programs either as a participant or community supporter. After I completed my PhD in Higher Education a few years ago, I took a teaching position with the Women’s and Gender Studies Program. Teaching and working with students has always been my biggest passion. I also continued with my work in educating others about the crime of human trafficking, and how they can make a difference. When this opportunity arose to be the Interim Director, I felt a calling to work in an administrative position. I want to continue trying to make a difference in the lives of the members of the Cyclone community, and emphasize that the Women’s Center is a place for all. My journey has now come full circle, and I am honored and humbled to follow in the footsteps of some amazing individuals—Celia Naylor, Pamela Thomas, Penny Rosenthal, Chris Fowler, and Lorraine Acker—among others. I am very excited for this experience, and look forward to working with some pretty amazing individuals!

Forever A Cyclone,
I am so excited to work with the Margret Sloss House this Semester. I grew up in a small town called Belleville, Wisconsin with my parents and two siblings. I graduated Belleville High School in 2017 and am now a freshman at Iowa State University majoring in Community and Regional Planning and Environmental Studies and minoring in Geographical Information Systems.

**The Vagina Monologues**

Tell us how you rise, resist, or unite to stop violence against women and girls! Use #IowaStateRises18

V-Day Iowa State University 2018 presents a benefit production of Eve Ensler's

**The Vagina Monologues**

Thursday, February 15, 2018
6:00-7:30pm
Sun Room, Memorial Union

Thursday, February 15, 2018
9:00-10:30pm
Sun Room, Memorial Union

Friday, February 16, 2018
7:00-8:30pm
Sun Room, Memorial Union

Tickets:
$10 ISU Students ($12 day of show)*
$15 Non-students ($17 day of show)*
$20 Bundle ($22 day of show) to commemorate the 20th anniversary*

Tickets available at the M-Shop Box or over the phone 515.294.8349 (M-F 11am-5pm) and online at midwestix.com.
*All ticket prices include a $2 midwesTIX fee.

The purpose of The Vagina Monologues is to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within our community. Proceeds will be donated to ACCESS (Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support). The collection of monologues expressing women's stories raises awareness about violence against women and girls through stories of self-discovery, abuse, birth, and more. Visit the Margaret Sloss Women's Center website for more information.

Interested in purchasing merchandise for The Vagina Monologues?
T-Shirts, chocolate vulva pops, buttons, and mirrors will also be sold to help with the cost of putting on the production and allow us to donate additional funds to ACCESS. Stop by the Sloss House Monday-Friday between 8am - 5pm.
Buttons.................................................$ 1
Mirrors..................................................$ 2
Chocolate Vulva Pop..............................$ 2
"I <3 (respect) Vaginas" t-shirts.............$ 12
Negro History Week to Black History Month: How did we get here? by Janae Due

In 1926, Carter G. Woodson, African-American historian, author, journalist and the founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), declared the second week of February Negro History Week. He chose the second week due to Abraham Lincoln's birthday being February 12 and Frederick Douglass's being February 14. Since black Americans already commemorated the lives of Lincoln and Douglass, respectively, Woodson thought it this would be the perfect time to celebrate Negro History Week. Received well in black neighborhoods, black Americans reminisced about their history, culture, and lives specifically during this week.

Decades after, in the late-1950s and early-1960s, Negro History Week spread across the country. Campuses started adopting Negro History Week celebrations. It was never Woodson's intention to keep Negro history limited to a week; he strived for black history to be taught year-round. By the end of the 1960s, some universities and schools transformed Negro History Week into Black History Month and celebrated black history throughout the entire month of February. Yet, it still was not nationally recognized.

Over half a decade passes before Black History Month was nationally recognized by President Gerald Ford in 1976. Woodson died in 1950, and though he did not get to see Negro History Month become a recognized commemorative month, his goal of spreading black history was not lost.

Even though it is celebrated during the shortest month of the year....

Happy Black History Month!
And remember, we don't need a designated month to celebrate our blackness.
Black History Month Reading List by Karri Folks

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognition, honor, and reflection. It is also a perfect time to show support for the community. A creative way of showing your support could be obtaining and reading a piece of work by an African American Feminist!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Suggested Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Rankine</td>
<td><em>Citizen: An American Lyric</em></td>
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<td>Nayyirah Waheed</td>
<td><em>salt</em> (2013) and <em>Nejma</em> (2015)</td>
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<td>Audre Lorde</td>
<td><em>The First Cities, Cables to Rage</em></td>
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<td>Angie Thomas</td>
<td><em>The Hate U Give</em></td>
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<td>Gwendolyn Brooks</td>
<td><em>Street in Bronzeville</em></td>
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<td>Bell Hooks</td>
<td><em>Ain't I a Woman?: Black Women and Feminism</em></td>
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<td>Patricia Hill Collins</td>
<td><em>Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness and Politics of Empowerment</em></td>
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<td>Angela Davis</td>
<td><em>The Meaning of Freedom And Other Difficult Dialogues</em></td>
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<td>Harriet Jacobs</td>
<td><em>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</em></td>
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<td>Nella Larsen</td>
<td><em>Quicksand</em></td>
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<td>Rebecca Walker</td>
<td><em>To be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism</em></td>
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<td>Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie</td>
<td><em>The Thing Around Your Neck</em></td>
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<td>Roxane Gay</td>
<td><em>Difficult Women</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Octavia Butler</td>
<td><em>The Parable series: Parable of the Sower, Parable of the Talents</em></td>
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<td>Nikki Giovanni</td>
<td><em>Chasing Utopia: A Hybrid</em></td>
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6 Tips for White People This Black History Month by Joshua Matos

1. Don't ask why there is not a White History Month
   - We get enough white representation everyday
2. Learn more about some influential black people
   - There are more people than Martin Luther King Jr., let's talk about black women, like Mary McLeod Bethune

3. Stop complaining about initiatives focused on getting people of color into higher education and jobs
   - Read up about racial equity and equality

4. Teach a white friend about appropriation and then talk about how you both can avoid doing just that

5. Follow this link
   - Watch a documentary or two

6. Utilize Google and other search engines when you have questions about black culture
   - Stop placing the burden of educator onto your black friends

Image: Huffington Post

In This Together

In partnership with Iowa State Daily, Green Dot and Margaret Sloss Women's Center

Every 98 seconds someone experiences assault.

Submit your stories of assault to be featured in the Iowa State Daily. Submit entries at Student Wellness - In This Together before February 28.