FemEnlist: April 2010

Women's Center at Brockport
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Perry’s work at the Women’s Center and her degree in Social Work have gone hand in hand in shaping her education. “The Social Work Department has taught me how to handle different situations and it has exposed a whole bunch of resources to me,” said Perry, “The Women’s Center has allowed me to take all that knowledge and put it to use.”

Perry hopes to one day work with kids as a school social worker. “I’m focusing now on my undergraduate degree, but looking forward I hope to get my Masters in Social Work, for me, I think it’s campus.”

Meet the WC Staff

Erica Perry has been working for the Women’s Center for almost a year now and she says she is thankful for the opportunity. A junior in the Social Work Department, Perry found the Women’s Center when looking for a job which included service and interacting with difference.

“Working as an office assistant at the Women’s Center is a great experience for me,” said Perry, “It’s such an open space; it allows for people of all different backgrounds to interact and I think that is important to any college campus.”

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Have a wonderful Summer!

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Jessica Valenti came to Brockport on Monday, April 5, to discuss her new book, The Purity Myth.

The Purity Myth, which analyzes the nations obsession with virginity and its effects on women and girls, is Valenti’s fourth publication. Other books by Valenti Include Yes Means Yes, He’s a Stud She’s a Slut, and Full Frontal Feminism.

During the discussion Valenti emphasized her desire to reintroduce the younger generation to the world of feminism. Her effort to make feminism cool again has been at the heart of her writing, both in her books and in her blog.

“Jessica was awesome,” said Lauren Burdett, a Women and Gender Studies major, “She was really effective in engaging young audiences and making feminism relevant to modern young women.”

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Dr. Anne Panning, a Professor of Creative writing at The College at Brockport, is seen by many of her students as a role model. She has traveled the world, written two books, and has received numerous honors for her works, including the Chancellor’s Award for Teaching in 2006, and the 2006 Flannery O’Connor Award for her book of short fiction, *Super America*.

“I’m inspired to be in a school with a nationally recognized author,” said Laura Jones, a Brockport senior studying creative writing. “Much like the characters she creates Dr. Panning is the kind of independent woman I enjoy learning from.”

Anne Panning started teaching at The College at Brockport in 1997 and soon joined the Women and Gender Studies Advisory board. Since then she has taught many classes with the WGS program, including Women’s Autobiography and Memoir, and Women Sex and Food.

Both my writing and my teaching is largely influenced by women and class issues, said Panning.

In addition in infusing women’s issues into the classroom she is also a strong supporter of the Women’s Center on Campus.

“The Women’s Center is a vital space for both WGS students and the rest of the college,” said Panning, “I only hope it will become more visible — It does have a great library!”

The Women’s Center is a vital space for both WGS students and the rest of the college. It offers student programming and workshops that are open to all on campus, as well as a wealth of knowledge inside the Center itself. Stop inside to browse the Center’s extensive library on topics such as women’s history, relationships, careers and health. Internships and volunteer positions are also available at the Women’s Center.

For more information, or to get involved, visit the Women’s Center, located in the lower level of the Student Union, between 10am and 4pm, Monday through Friday.

Or, email the Center at womenctr@brockport.edu.