Since opening in 1996, the Women's Center has served as a safe space and second home for women and men of diverse backgrounds. All year long we will be celebrating our 10 year anniversary, culminating in the Women's Center 10th birthday in October 2006. Please join us in celebrating this wonderful milestone!

We have a year packed with exciting activities, speakers, programs, and celebrations.

Save the date—May 18, 2006. Celebrate in style at our 10th Year Anniversary Gala!

The Women's Center will be relocating in Winter 2006 to the Original Student Center, next to Mandeville. Visit us as we return to the area of the original, student-run Women's Resource Center.

Above:
Check out a digital rendering of what our new space will look like. More pictures of the construction can be viewed on our website, women.ucsd.edu.

Right:
Staff from the Women’s Center and LGBT Resource Center at the hard hat tour of the new facilities.
The Yarn Factory

Grab those needles and head on down to the Women’s Center for some socializing through knitting, dialogue, and fun. The Yarn Factory opens October 12 and will take place on the second Wednesday of each month, from 12pm—1:30pm.

Bring your own knitting needles, crochet hooks and yarn (we will have a limited amount available for a small donation) and we’ll provide the snacks and resources for those of you just starting out. Beginners and experienced knitters alike are welcomed.

Gender Buffet

Friday, October 14
12:00-1:30 p.m.

Location:
Women’s Center, on the corner of Gilman Drive and Russell Lane

Is Back!

For those of you who have been asking, your wait is over. Gender Buffet is back! Please join us on Friday to brainstorm ideas for the year and suggest topics for future Gender Buffets.

Everyone is welcome! We’ll provide the space, the host, & the FREE FOOD. You just have to be interested in discussing gender and sexuality as it relates to everyday activities on and off campus (or you can come for the FREE FOOD).

This will also be your chance to meet the new Women’s Center Programming Intern, Adelina Tancioco!

Sponsored by the Women’s Center, University Centers Building 965. For more information see http://women.ucsd.edu or call 858-554-5074.
Letter From the Editor

A new school year is unfolding, and as each new year tends to bring changes, the Women’s Center is no exception to this strange and exciting inclination of nature. For the first time ever, the UCSD Women’s Center has initiated an internship program (the lovely faces of these participants are posted on the last page of this newsletter). I have been fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to perform as the “Newsletter Intern,” so here I am, saying hello through the newsletter. “Hello.” And as for this “pet project” of mine, these couple of pages that get folded and arrive in your mailbox, I have a plan for you. My goal in this newsletter is to step beyond exclusively exposing the readership to community events related to the goal of the Women’s Center and to also stir some emotions and thoughts through articles and editorials. Here is where I beg for your help. “Help me!” This newsletter cannot grow without your input. So please, (Please!) email me your complaints, your thoughts, your hopes, your dreams, anything that you would like to see appear on these curious pages at women@ucsd.edu att: Newsletter, and then check it out in the next issue.

Thanks!
Brandy Worden
UCSD Women’s Center Newsletter Intern

Harriet Miers Nominated to the Supreme Court

On October 3, 2005, Bush submitted his controversial nomination of Harriet Miers to fill the place of the retiring Justice O’Connor. While nominating a female would appease the approximately 80% of Americans polled in a recent survey by CNN who stated they would prefer a female candidate to replace O’Connor, there are some arguments over Miers’ qualifications. While Miers’ boasts a successful career in law leading to her appointment as White House Counsel and as the first woman president of the Texas Bar Association, she has never before been a judge. Ultimately, it will be the senate who decides if her lacking bench experience is deficient enough to disqualify Miers from filling one of the nine spots on the Supreme Court panel. Stay tuned for the upcoming hearings.

Please submit your thoughts on the new Supreme Court Nominee Miers and the retiring Justice O’Connor to bworden@ucsd.edu

Support the Work of the Women’s Center!

The Women’s Center plans to bring you an exciting array of programs and events this coming year culminating in our 10 Year Anniversary Gala which will take place May 18.

We need your help to make this a really great celebration and to continue creating innovative new programs as we move into our new space and continue down the road for our next 10 years.

Consider giving to the Women’s Center and help us furnish our new space, plan some really great events, and enter the next decade of wonderful Women’s Center work with a bang.

Please see the back of this newsletter for more information about how you can support the Women’s Center. Staff and faculty, find out how you can contribute through payroll deduction.

Thanks for your continued support!
Resource Spotlight: Exhale - A “Pro-Voice” Talkline

It is difficult to find common ground when it comes to the issue of abortion. Exhale’s primary goal is to create an environment where women can talk freely and honestly about their experiences with abortion. Family members and others affected are also encouraged to call. Based in Oakland, CA, Exhale began servicing the Bay Area in 2002. Beginning June 2005, Exhale expanded its services and began fielding calls from across the nation. Last year the talkline served over 1200 callers, which is sure to increase as they begin taking calls from around the country. Exhale is also able to connect callers to other services, and 35% of callers last year received some sort of community referral.

Exhale’s philosophy is based on the notion that “abortion is legal and abortion is normal.” Women’s eNews reports that by the age of 45, 1 in 3 women in the US have had an abortion. While Exhale believes that not all women who have an abortion will have a desire to talk about it in this format, their success has shown there are some who do. Though Exhale has deliberately attempted to remain out of the politics surrounding abortion, they are an organization which respects reproductive freedom. Their goal has been to fill the void that they saw when it comes to a space to discuss the complexities of the issue. Exhales talkline format embraces what they call a “pro-voice” frame of mind and seeks to create a social climate free from abortion stigma. While the National Abortion Federation does have a toll-free hotline, it acts primarily as a referral service. Exhale is currently the only resource that provides a space just to talk.

Aspen Baker, one of the founders of Exhale has spoke about being confronted with confused looks when she would discuss the lack of emotional resources for women following abortion. Many in the pro-choice community appeared uncomfortable with the concept while the only after abortion counseling that seemed to exist was facilitated by anti-choice organizations. Exhale provides neutral call specialists who can listen. Each call lasts approximately 30 minutes and peer counselors at Exhale are trained on cultural differences in views on abortion and on how to provide a culturally sensitive space for women to share their stories. Exhale is a multilingual hotline which can take calls in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Cantonese, with the goal of adding more languages in the future.

Exhale’s framework values women, men, and their health. In doing so, they prioritize cultural respect and a commitment to social justice. Exhale acknowledges that all experiences are different, and is a space for people to talk about their feelings after having had an abortion whether those include feelings of relief, sadness, confidence, anger, guilt about being relieved, or any other emotion that may be present. In a recent article in the Mercury News, talkline volunteer Carolina Gonzalez-Villar explained that of the 150 callers she’s spoken to none expressed feelings of regret and none discussed politics, they just wanted a space to talk about their stories. Check out http://www.4exhale.org/ for more information about Exhale.

1-866-4 EXHALE
(1-866-439-4253)
Monday – Friday
12 p.m. – 10 p.m. PST  
Saturday – Sunday
5 p.m. – 10 p.m. PST

The resource spotlight is a new feature of The Women’s Center Newsletter. In each installment of the Newsletter, we plan to feature an important campus or community resource. Got ideas? Send them to women@ucsd.edu. Please write “Resource Spotlight” in the subject line.
Fair Trade

When you buy something it is like a handshake between you and the seller: your money for the seller’s goods. This handshake is more meaningful than just a transfer of goods; you support the seller in their practices. When you buy cookies from a school bake sale, not only do you get a tasty product, but you also support the school.

In the school example, the cookies are usually made voluntarily. In the real world, however, goods are mass produced and the workers often do not get paid a fair end of the bargain—the consumer shakes hands with the retailer but the courtesy is not always extended to everyone else involved. Fair Trade attempts to rectify this. Fair Trade is a market-based approach that increases the self-sufficiency of producers

What Is Fair Trade?

Smart business that works for producers and consumers while fostering economic justice. Fair Trade is not a company or a brand, but a certification that companies can solicit. When you buy a Fair Trade certified product, it guarantees that, for all levels of production:

- No forced or child labor
- Healthy living conditions for those involved
- Producers and buyers foster long term relationships
- Environmentally friendly and sustainable techniques
- Equal employment opportunities
- Transparent, accountable and democratic co-ops of workers and producers

Fair Trade wholesalers partner directly with cooperatives of farmers and artisans

Ensures goods are produced in socially and environmentally sustainable conditions.

Ensures a high-quality product for less than you expect! Fair Trade bananas cost on average five (5) cents more per pound than the normal brands, but you get a better product and you guarantee the workers a fair end of the deal!

Yes, I’d like to join the Women’s Center Circle of Friends

I’d like to make a tax-deductible donation to the UCSD Women’s Center.

Please check one

☐ I’d like to make a one time donation of $______________

Please choose method

☐ Enclosed is my check made payable to “UC San Diego Foundation”
  Please write on the Memo Line Women’s Center Fund #4649

☐ Charge my Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card:
  Card # ________________________  Exp. Date _____________
  Signature: ___________________________________________________

OR

☐ I’d like to make a monthly payroll contribution of:
  ☐ $100.00 ($1,200 total annual)
  ☐ $50.00 ($600.00 total annual)
  ☐ $25.00 ($300.00 total annual)

Please fill out to receive a UCSD Payroll Deduction Authorization form or in case we have questions about your contribution:

Name

Address

Telephone

E-mail

Fair Trade Coffee At UCSD

Starting in 2005, Housing and Dining Services has been offering Fair Trade certified coffee options at all Dining Services Restaurants. Go to: http://hds.ucsd.edu.diningservices/ftc.html for more information.

To get involved with Fair Trade at UCSD contact:
One Earth One Justice
Mailbox Number: J-13
9500 Gilman Dr., 0077
sd.oneearthonejustice.org
October 2005

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Halloween

Check it out!

October 28: “Eye on the Community: Ethnographic Film at UCSD” -- 12-3 PM at the Cross Cultural Center.

September 29 - October 6 -- San Diego Asian Film Festival
The Women’s Center is co-presenting two programs at this year’s festival, the short film program The X Factor and the documentary The Grace Lee Project.

All of October:

ART EXHIBIT:
“An Celebration of Abilities” art exhibit will be on display during the month of October in the Price Center Theater Foyer. Come meet the artists on October 5, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Artists’ Reception in the Price Center Theater Foyer.

Did You Know?

October is Breast Cancer, Disability and Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Stay Tuned …
Upcoming In November

- November 3: Women in Politics Panel
  1:30pm-3:00pm
  Price Center Ballroom
- November 3: Anita Hill Lecture
  7:00pm
  Price Center Ballroom
- November 5: Compagnie Jant-Bi Fagalaa
  8:00pm
  Mandeville Auditorium
- November 17: International Education Week
  Film Screening: Osama
  7:00pm
  Price Center Theater
Love Your Body Day is October 19th

“Hollywood and the fashion, cosmetics and diet industries work hard to make each of us believe that our bodies are unacceptable and need constant improvement. Print ads and television commercials reduce us to body parts — lips, legs, breasts — airbrushed and touched up to meet impossible standards. TV shows tell women and teenage girls that cosmetic surgery is good for self-esteem. Is it any wonder that more than 80% of fourth-grade girls have been on some form of fad diet?

Women and girls spend billions of dollars every year on cosmetics, fashion, magazines and diet aids. These industries can’t use negative images to sell their products without our assistance.”


The Female Orgasm is Here October 26th

Join us to laugh and learn about the “big O,” the most popular topic sex educators Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot teach about! Orgasm aficionados and beginners of all genders are welcome to come learn about everything from multiple orgasms to that mysterious G-spot. Whether you want to learn how to have your first orgasm, how to have better ones, or how to help your girlfriend, Dorian and Marshall cover it all with lots of humor, plenty of honesty, and an underlying message of sexual health and women’s empowerment. Are you coming?

The fun starts at 6pm at Porter’s Pub.

DA KINK IN MY HAIR

Oct. 12, 8:00 pm at the Lyceum Theater
Co-sponsored by the Cross-Cultural Center and the Women’s Center

Written by Trey Anthony
Directed and Choreographed by Marion J. Caffey
Music Arranged, Composed and Supervised by e’Marcus Harper
Additional Music by Weyni Mengesha
Showing: Sep. 10, 2005 - Oct. 16, 2005

Held over by popular demand five times at Toronto’s Princess of Wales Theatre. The U.S. premiere of a fantastic new musical play. Set in a Caribbean hair salon in Toronto, this amazing new piece gives voice to eight black women who tell their unforgettable stories in a kaleidoscope of drumming, singing and dancing. Mixing laughter and tears, revelation and inspiration, ‘da KINK is sexy and smart and sure to have you on your feet cheering. Anthony, one of Canada’s most acclaimed female comedians, also stars as salon owner Novelette; leading an international cast directed by Caffey, whose hits at the REP include Three Mo’ Divas and Cookin’ at the Cookery.

“If you really want to know what’s going on with a woman, especially a black woman, you have to look at her hair. ‘da KINK is ‘da bomb!’

Toronto Sun
Meet the new Women’s Center Interns for 2005-2006

Adelina Tancioce
Programming & Events
“While my family had a history of domestic violence, only now as a Women’s Center intern I have been able to confront my past and explore all gender issues.”

Moorisha Taylor
Graphics & Public Relations
“I wanted to learn about women’s issues and how I fit into that particular picture. I also enjoy making flyers, being loud, and learning how to do new graphic-related things on the computer.”

Ellen Hiller
Herstorian/Librarian
“I felt it would the perfect way to get involved with campus life. The WC gives me the opportunity to connect with the diverse organizations on campus.”

Dahlia Peterson
Activism & Outreach
“I wanted to intern to bring a greater awareness of social issues to the UCSD community.”

Jennifer Wong
Web Manager
“For someone who still feels like a kid lost in college and in life, working at the Women’s Center gives one a sense of belonging, all while providing opportunities to learn.”

Muni Alam
Facilities

Brandy Worden
Newsletter
“Education. I chose to be an intern here because I wanted to learn about the issues women face. The issues that I might face.”

Takashi Kuwahara
Men’s Activism & Outreach
“I chose to be a women’s center intern because I wanted to play a pro-active role in educating myself with respect to gender issues.”