

WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

WINTER 2023

volume 8

NEWS

New Faces and New Roles in Women's & Gender Studies

In this stage of the COVID-19 pandemic, most of us understand that time seems to work differently than it did before. And so it is with this volume of the newsletter that was slated for fall... but is out now.



If you've stopped by the offices in 218 Isbister, you've probably encountered a new face at the front desk. Mary Elliott, Faculty Office Assistant in the Dean's Office and WGS, joined the University of Manitoba in October 2021. Ms. Elliott provides administrative, financial, and student support to WGS as well as three centres in the Faculty of Arts. She comes to UM from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School where she held the roles of Professional Division Registrar and Student Life Administrator. "I'm really happy and excited to have everyone back on campus," she said. "It has been really nice to, once again, experience the energy a full and bustling campus offers." When she's not making sure all the wheels are turning for WGS, she enjoys parenting her two young children, ages three and six. "They bring me happiness and keep me very busy," she said. In her spare time, she enjoys spending family time, reading, figure skating, and baking.

Christine Stewart, professor, joined the Faculty of Arts at UM in August 2021. Dr. Stewart teaches a range of WGS courses, including the humanities-focused introductory course and class on the intersection of feminism, disability, and contemporary literature. Most recently from South Dakota where she served at the state's poet laureate, Dr. Stewart is the author of five books of poetry and the editor or co-editor of several anthologies. Her debut essay collection, *Chrysopoeia: Essays of Language, Love, and Place*, was published in November. "There are many things I like about working here at UM, and I feel lucky to have joined a great group of colleagues in WGS," said Dr. Stewart. "I'm also very grateful for the intellectually curious and hard-working students I've had in my classes." As it's mid-winter, Dr. Stewart is looking forward to spring!



Jocelyn Thorpe, associate professor in History and WGS, became the Director for the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture (CCWOC) in summer 2021. CCWOC is a hub for creativity and a place to learn about and celebrate the transformative potential of creative writing and storytelling. As its director, Dr. Thorpe helps provide support for established and emerging writers within and beyond the university community, aiming to empower people from diverse backgrounds to create stories. She sees this enterprise as an extension of her work in WGS. "Central to women's and gender studies is the idea that we must go beyond making sense of the world and seek also to change it. To do that, we need to strive to have the voices we hear in public reflect the diversity of people's lives and experiences. CCWOC's mandate to empower people from diverse backgrounds to develop skills and create stories fits together well with the feminist goal of creating a more just world."

Save the Date

Postcards from the World with Ariel Gordon
12–2pm, 111 St. John's College, Thursday, February 16th
This workshop focuses on what it means to pay attention to the natural world, to stop and force yourself to observe.

The writer/storyteller in residence at CCWOC for winter 2023 is Janine Windolph, an Atikamekw/Woodland Cree filmmaker, educator and storyteller. As part of her residency, Janine will be conducting free workshops on Indigenous approaches to storytelling and listening. For more information or to register, please see: <https://umanitoba.ca/arts/centre-creative-writing-and-oral-culture>.



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