

PEMBROKE CENTER

Associates Newsletter

Launchers and Leaders: Brown Women and Entrepreneurship

On Saturday, May 27, 2017, the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women and the Jonathan M. Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship cosponsored a Commencement Forum titled Launchers and Leaders: Brown Women and Entrepreneurship. The panel of Brown alumnae engaged in a lively discussion about the challenges and opportunities for women entrepreneurs. How does gender shape entrepreneurial choices, access to capital, and innovation? What does entrepreneurship mean to women in today's world?

The discussion was moderated by Deb Mills-Scofield '82, founder of Mills-Scofield, LLC. The panelists were:

- **Sadie Kurzban '12**, Founder, 305 Fitness
- **Morra Aarons-Mele '98**, Founder, Women Online; Author, *Hiding In The Bathroom: An Introvert's Roadmap To Getting Out There (When You'd Rather Stay Home)*
- **Vibha Pínglé, '90 A.M., '96 Ph.D.**, President and Founder, Ubuntu at Work; Adjunct Lecturer, International and Public Affairs
- **Sarah Carson '02**, Founder/CEO, Leota New York

Executive Director of the Jonathan M. Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship Danny Warshay '87 introduced Deb Mills-Scofield as one of the University's "best-loved mentors" who has "helped and inspired hundreds of Brown students on their path to success."



Forum panelists: Deb Mills-Scofield '82, Sadie Kurzban '12, Morra Aarons-Mele '98, Vibha Pínglé '90 A.M., '96 Ph.D., Sarah Carson '02

Mills-Scofield posed questions to the panelists about their personal and professional journeys: How did a Brown education help shape their entrepreneurial desire? Were they treated differently in the business world because of their gender?

All panelists cited Brown's open curriculum as a launching pad for their entrepreneurial impulses. Carson described Brown "as a place where you had to write a business plan for your education." Students are "given a lot of resources ... [but] then you have to figure it out--and that's what it takes to be an entrepreneur."

Aarons-Mele felt that being "allowed to indulge and experiment with all my interests" and to "be a multitude of selves" was an integral part of her Brown experience and led to her success as an entrepreneur.

Kurzban pointed out that Brown inspires "flexibility and independence," noting that the University supported the testing of her product on campus beginning her freshman year.

The most important tactic the panelists employed to grow and promote their businesses while juggling personal and corporate responsibilities, they agreed, was to seek out other women business leaders and to cultivate a network of women entrepreneurs as sounding boards and mentors.

Mills-Scofield observed that not one woman on the panel, including herself, had an MBA. "It's not necessary," she said. "To be a successful woman entrepreneur, you need a strong vision and 'a lot of grit.'"

Bonnie Honig,

Nancy Duke Lewis Professor of Modern Culture and Media and Political Science, named Center Interim Director for 2017-18

Bonnie Honig, Nancy Duke Lewis Professor of Modern Culture and Media and Political Science, has been named the Pembroke Center's interim director for 2017-18, while Center director Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg is on sabbatical in Italy working under a Guggenheim Fellowship. Honig works at the intersection of political theory and cultural studies, focusing on received scripts that limit or launch collective action in democratic settings. What are the necessary conditions of action in concert? How do inheritances of language, imagery, history, and ideas thwart or enable the defense of just institutions and/or help to enable emancipatory actions and imagined alternatives to current unjust arrangements? Such questions motivate her work with the canon of political theory (Kant to Rawls), the films of Lars von Trier, classical dramas from the Antigone to the Bacchae, Melville's Moby-



Pembroke Center 2017-18 Interim Director, Bonnie Honig, Nancy Duke Lewis Professor of Modern Culture and Media and Political Science

Dick, and more. Currently of interest to her—and orienting her work going forward—are theoretical works by Deleuze and Guattari, Hannah Arendt, Giorgio Agamben and Adriana Cavarero.

Honig was the Chesler-Mallow Senior Faculty Research Fellow at the Pembroke Center in 2016–17 and is the recipient of Brown's Presidential Faculty Award.

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Director of Program Outreach and Development

From the Archives



Janet Yellen '67

JANET YELLEN '67 GIVES VOICE TO BROWN WOMEN SPEAK ARCHIVE

The Christine Dunlap Farnham Archive collects and makes visible the history of women at Pembroke College in Brown University, the post-graduate lives of Brown alumnae and women in Rhode Island, spanning from the 19th century to the present. Among these collections is the Brown Women Speak oral history collection.

The Pembroke Center was honored when John Maggs, speechwriter for Janet Yellen, Chair of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, mined the archives with Mary Murphy, the Nancy L. Buc '65, Pembroke Center Archivist, and her student assistant, Isabel Martin '18, for Yellen's keynote address at the 125 Years of Women at Brown Conference.

Maggs had a directive from Yellen to build her remarks around economic experiences of Pembroke/Brown women. Together with the Archive's staff and the advanced search power of the "controlled vocabulary" feature that accompanies each of the Brown

Women Speak interviews, Maggs was able to locate interviews in which women discussed their economic experiences within the context of women's history in the United States. Murphy and Martin also conducted an advanced research request for Maggs based on their subject knowledge of the collection. Martin wrote customized descriptions of potentially helpful interviews that detailed how each one spoke to Yellen's subject and in what specific ways. Murphy then aided Maggs in identifying recent women graduates through the Brown Alumni Magazine who also discussed their economic experiences in post Women's Liberation Movement United States.

When the speech was complete, Maggs contacted the archives once again and noted that Chair Yellen "really, really liked the contributions of the oral histories to her speech." And once it was delivered, Maggs wrote for a final time thanking the Pembroke Center Archives and confirming that Yellen "loved [the speech] as much as anyone."

For the effort, The Brown Women Speak oral history collection received footnote

#1 in "So We All Can Succeed: 125 Years of Women's Participation in the Economy" by Janet Yellen.

<https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/speech/files/yellen20170505a.pdf>

BROWN WOMEN SPEAK ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS

This spring, the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archive added two more reunion interviews to the Brown Women Speak oral history collection. During commencement weekend, members of the 25th and 50th reunion classes of 1967 and 1992 joined Mary Murphy to reminisce about their time at Pembroke and Brown and their post graduate lives.

Participants from the class of 1967 were Carol Lemlein, Susan Haas, Brenda Hubbard, Karen Wolk, Sharon Drager, and Judith Minno. Discussion highlights touched upon beloved professors and the intellectual rigor of Pembroke College. Members of the group also discussed the personal as political and how they had to fight to overcome societal barriers in order to pursue professional careers – action that individuals recalled as political and as lived contribution to the Women's Movement.

The interview with alumnae from the Brown University class of 1992 captured the diverse undergraduate experiences of Aelish Marie Joyce, Rhonda Cherie Boyd, Resa Ellen Lewis, Cristina Marie Lopez, Deborah Jane Pearlman, Samantha Lauren Fine Schreiber, Linda Jill Siegel, Jessika Sorrosa, and Karen Young. During the interview, members of the group discussed why they chose to attend Brown and recalled courses and professors that deeply influenced their lives. The group also talked about race and racism on campus and the topic of support for first-generation college students during the 1990s at Brown University.

From the Archives Continued from page 3

NEW ZINES ADDED TO THE CHRISTINE DUNLAP FARNHAM ARCHIVE

In 2016, Malana Krongelb '19 began collecting zines (small-circulation, self-published works of original texts and images) about social justice and marginalized identities on behalf of the Sarah Doyle Women Center. Her zine collection now consists of approximately 700 titles on subjects such as racial identities, queer and trans people of color, feminism, and women's health. Funds from the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archive are helping to preserve, curate, and catalogue an archival set of these zines and make it accessible to researchers via the John Hay Library at Brown University.

This spring, Krongelb joined the Pembroke Center Archive as a student assistant and worked with Mary Murphy to add new titles to the collection. Highlights include "SPACE" – a prison arts zine produced in conjunction with the Rhode Island Adult Correctional Institution's Women's Division and a student group of the Howard R. Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown University; "Hue" – a zine edited by Providence-based woman artist Alanna Reeves regarding race culture and color theory; and "The Life and Times of Butch Dykes" series regarding notable activists and scholars including Judith Butler – a committed donor to the Feminist Theory Archive.



Malana Krongelb '19



Zines in the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archive

Pembroke Center Student Grants and Prizes

The Pembroke Center's prize and research grant recipients for 2016–17 represented an exciting and diverse set of research goals that will illuminate and add to the growing understanding of important gender, sexuality, and women's issues. On May 2, 2017, some of the recipients of this year's prizes and research grants presented their findings. In his introduction to the students' presentations, Drew Walker, assistant director of the Pembroke Center and director of the gender and sexuality studies concentration, told the audience that "one of the great joys of every year is to celebrate our students and also to give these grants and prizes."

To read abstracts about these exceptional research projects, visit <https://www.brown.edu/research/pembroke-center/gender-and-sexuality-studies/research-grants-and-internships>

- **Girija Borker**, Graduate Student, Department of Economics
"Safety First: Perceived Travel Risk and College Choice of Women"
- **Javier Fernandez Galeano**, Graduate Student, Department of History
"The Argentinean Lesbian Feminist Movement"
- **Lydia Kelow-Bennett**, Graduate Student, Department of Africana Studies
"Conjuring Freedom: A Black Feminist Meditation for Neoliberal Times"

The **Barbara Anton Internship Grant** is awarded to students working on an honors thesis involving an internship or volunteer work in a community agency. The thesis and community work must be related in some way to the welfare of women and children.

Recipient:

- **Sage Fanucchi-Funes '17**, Gender and Sexuality Studies/American Studies
"Class and Racial Entanglements in Contemporary Midwifery"

The **Linda Pei Undergraduate Research Grant** supports an undergraduate research project related to issues of women's empowerment such as gender equality in the workplace, access to reproductive health care, and women's political leadership. Research projects related to women in developing countries, such as micro-finance and access to education are also considered.

Recipient:

- **Alice Hamblett '17**, Anthropology
"Maternal Health Care as a Measure and Determinant of Gender Equality in Cuba"

The **Enid Wilson Undergraduate Travel Fellowship** funds travel expenses for innovative research by undergraduate honors students from any department pursuing work related to women and gender. The Fellowship was funded by Enid Wilson '43, a highly accomplished

and intensely devoted alumna of Brown, as well as a beloved member of the Pembroke Center Associates. This new fellowship has enabled us to sponsor several more projects this year.



Katherine Grusky '17

Recipients:

- **Katherine Grusky '17**, History/Latin American Studies
"Digging below the Surface: Gender and Family Relations in Chilean Copper Mine, El Teniente, 1904–1930"
- **Andrea Zhu '17**, Development Studies
"Specter of the Past, Intrusion of the Future: Gender and (Im)mobility at the China-Myanmar Border"

The **Ruth Simmons Prize for Gender and Women's Studies** is awarded annually for an outstanding honors thesis on questions pertaining to women or gender.

Recipient:

- **Rebecca Hansen**, Nonfiction Writing Honors Program, Department of English
"On Coming Forward"



Lydia Kelow-Bennett

Steinhaus/Zisson Research Grants support graduate and undergraduate research at the Pembroke Center.

Recipients:

- **Camille Garnsey '17**, Latin American Studies and Public Health,
"The History of Reproductive Rights in Cuba"

Student Grants and Prizes Continued from page 5



Vi Mai '17

The **Helen Terry MacLeod Research Grant** supports undergraduate honors research on issues relating to women or gender, or research that brings a feminist analysis to bear on a problem or set of questions.

Recipient:

- **Vi Mai '17**, Latin American and Caribbean Studies and International Relations
“Contesting HIV/AIDS in Cuba: The Stories behind the Headlines”

The **Marie J. Langlois Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in the Area of Feminist Studies** is awarded to a doctoral dissertation in an area related to gender studies or feminist analysis.

Recipient:

- **Nicosia Machel Shakes '17**, Africana Studies
“Africana Women’s Theatre as Activism: A Study of Sistren Theatre Collective, Jamaica, and the Mothertongue Project, South Africa”

Introducing Director of Program Outreach and Development Janet Zwolinski

The Pembroke Center is pleased to announce the appointment of Janet Zwolinski '11 A.M. to the position of Director of Program Outreach and Development. In this role, Zwolinski will lead the Center’s fundraising and strategic outreach efforts to enhance both the Center’s and Brown’s research programs and increase donor support. Zwolinski replaces Christy Law Blanchard, who left the Center last spring to join the staff of the John Carter Brown Library.

For more than twenty years, Zwolinski has worked in the fields of public history, advocacy, organizational

and fund development, and public relations. Most recently, she worked with the Brown University Department of Advancement. She has held leadership positions within nonprofit organizations and was the principal of a successful nonprofit consulting firm.

Zwolinski is a first generation college graduate and a native Rhode Islander. She holds a B.S. in historic preservation and a master’s degree in public humanities from Brown.



Janet Zwolinski '11 A.M.

The Pembroke Associates are pleased to welcome new members to the Council



Joelle Murchison '95

Joelle Murchison '95
East Hartford, CT
Education Studies (Public Policy and American Education)

Since 2016, Joelle Murchison has been the associate vice president and chief diversity officer at the University of Connecticut. Prior to that, she was the vice president of enterprise diversity and inclusion for The Travelers Companies, Inc., and she held similar positions at United Technologies Corporation and INROADS, Inc., a nonprofit organization partnering with corporations to provide summer internships to underrepresented college students.

Previously, she was assistant director of foundation and corporate relations at Wesleyan University, where she had

earlier served in the role of director of multicultural programs. She is a trustee of the Amistad Center for Art and Culture and serves on the boards of College Possible and the Morgan State University Foundation.

At Brown, Murchison is a member of the Women’s Leadership Council. In addition to serving on the 125 Years of Women at Brown Steering Committee, her Brown volunteer activities have included participation in the Alumni Interviewing Program, Swearer Center, co-chairing the Inman Page Black Alumni Council (IPC), volunteering at the Alumni of Color Initiative for the Campaign for Academic Enrichment, and membership on the BAA Board of Governors and the 15th Reunion Gift Committee.



Shauna Stark '76, P'10

Shauna M. Stark '76, P'10
Hillsborough, CA
Classics and Classic Languages

Shauna Stark is a member of the board of directors at Empress Media Incorporated. In June 2015, she became the founding investor in the feminist alternative news and culture site The Establishment, which provides multi-voiced and curated commentary on U.S. news and culture. Funded and run by women, the website was launched to give women an equal share of coverage in a U.S. digital media. Prior to her work with The Establishment, Stark was a senior financial analyst at Intel Corporation. She received her MBA at the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School.

Thank you
to retiring
Council members
Stephanie Morimoto '99
and Andrea Razzaghi '82
for their service.



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UPCOMING EVENT: PEMBROKE CENTER



Vulnerable Families in the (Un)Changing Economy:
A Discussion with Anna Aizer, Professor of Economics & Public Policy

Friday, October 13, 2017 | 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Pembroke Hall 305 | 172 Meeting Street

This Family Weekend event is sponsored by the Pembroke Center Associates.

Free and open to the public. Handicapped accessible.

www.pembrokecenter.org