

## NCRW Announces Research, Advocacy, and Diversity Award Winners

New York (May 12, 2010) – The National Council for Research on Women (NCRW) will present its **Member Center Awards 2010** for excellence in research, diversity, and advocacy during its annual conference to be held at Hunter College, CUNY, June 11-12. At a special *Awards Reception*, the Council will confer the following:

- **Advocacy Award**—*Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)*
- **Diversity and Inclusion Award**—*National Women's Studies Association*
- **Emerging Center Award**—*Boise State University Gender Studies Program and the Institute for Research on Women and Gender at Columbia University*
- **Research and Scholarship Award**—*The Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity at the University of Maryland, College Park*

"These outstanding centers demonstrate the vital importance of women's research and advocacy and how evidence-based scholarship can have critical impact on developing effective policies and programs. We applaud their professionalism, dedication, and expertise in areas such as global civil rights, the intersections of race, gender, and class and strategies for reducing violence and discrimination. We are very proud to count them among our network members and experts," said NCRW President **Linda Basch**.

The **2010 Advocacy Award** will be presented to the *Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)* for their contribution to the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen and their success in advocating to include gender-specific and gender-sensitive language as part of the Conference's draft decisions.

"WEDO is proud to receive the advocacy award from NCRW, recognizing our achievements in integrating a gender perspective into climate change decision-making, policies, and programs. As we approach our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this award highlights the critical role that women's leadership and advocacy continue to play in sustainable development spheres," said **Monique Essed-Fernandes**, WEDO's Interim Director.

The Council will present the **2010 Diversity and Inclusion Award** to the *National Women's*

*Studies Association*, for its legacy of addressing diversity issues, as well for new diversity initiatives launched during the past year.

“The National Women’s Studies Association is honored to receive the *NCRW Diversity and Inclusion Award*. This honor highlights the Association’s ongoing commitment to building a multi-racial, multi-ethnic organization and programs as well as our vision for the field of women’s studies,” said **Allison Kimmich**, NWSA executive director.

For the first time, the Council will present the **Emerging Center Award** to more than one member center. This year’s recipients will be the *Boise State University Gender Studies Program* and the *Institute for Research on Women and Gender at Columbia University*. The Boise State University Gender Studies Program is being recognized for spearheading innovative research on violence against women with disabilities, and for engaging a broad array of stakeholders ranging from students to legislators.

“This award is of particular importance to the Gender Studies Program at Boise State University, as it recognizes the national significance of our growing research agenda—particularly on issues involving women with disabilities, women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, women in the Western US, and women and sexual orientation—and broadens the audience for our findings to academic scholars, public policymakers, business leaders, and advocates internationally so that our research results get to where they can do the most good, fostering real change in the lives of women and girls,” said **Lisa McClain**, Associate Professor and Director of Gender Studies at Boise State University.

The *Institute for Research on Women and Gender (IRWAG)* at Columbia University has advanced impressive interdisciplinary work on gender, and has been able to foster unique collaborations to achieve this goal, such as its recent partnership with four other institutes at Columbia to found the *Center for the Critical Analysis of Social Difference (CCASD)*.

"This national award recognizes the hard work and commitment of our stellar faculty and students to make gender and women's studies a major intellectual force at Columbia and to ensure that a sustained critical focus on power and the making of social difference in a global context is at the center of gender and women's studies," said **Elizabeth Povinelli**, Director of IRWAG.

"IRWAG's visionary role in forging a new intellectual space for innovative thinking and serious conversation about the intersection of gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity deserves to be recognized. What we have built at Columbia in our new advanced study center, CCASD, brings its own rewards, but we are thrilled with the NCRW award," said **Lila Abu-Lughod**, Co-director of the Center for the Critical Analysis of Social Difference.

The Council will present this year's **Research and Scholarship Award** to the Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity (CRGE) at the University of Maryland, College Park for their intersectional research, and their research of record on the experiences of women and men of color in the U.S., as well as on underrepresented minorities in the professoriate.

"The Consortium on Race, Gender & Ethnicity (CRGE) at the University of Maryland, College Park, is deeply honored to receive this award as it comes at a time when our universities are struggling, and through this recognition NCRW is making it clear that it is essential to continue to advance interdisciplinary and intersectional theory, research, and practice in order to interrupt and transform systems of inequality," said **Ruth Enid Zambrana**, Director of the CRGE.

Awardees will receive a commemorative plaque with a print from the collection of noted photographer **Joyce Tennyson** as well as admission to the Council's annual conference. This year, NCRW will be hosting a joint conference in partnership with the US National Committee for UNIFEM: *Strategic Imperatives for Ending Violence Against Women – Linkages to Education, Economic Security, and Health* at Hunter College, June 11-12 ([www.unifem-usnc.org/conference](http://www.unifem-usnc.org/conference)).

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