

FEBRUARY NEWS

Gender and Women Studies Program

February 2016

The Gender and Women's Studies Program is in the midst of a semester-long series of events related to Gender and Sports. Working in collaboration with the Feinberg Family Fund, the History Department and others, the Program will be hosting talks and films highlighting women's accomplishments in the realm of sports, the barriers they have had to face in the past, and the challenges they continue to face moving forward. Please share widely and join us for future events.

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"Women like men, must be educated with a view to action, or their studies cannot be called education"

- Harriet Martineau



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Panel Discussion:

On Wednesday, February 17th the Feinberg Family Fund and the Gender and Women's Studies Program hosted a panel entitled "Gender, Sexualization and Deviance: Women in Sports Respond to Constructions and Representations." A crowd of approximately fifty students, faculty and community members heard presentations by three speakers and then engaged in a lively question and answer period following the talks. Dr. Christopher Mack, Associate Professor of History, noted there is a Sports Studies minor in development and then introduced the speakers. Sharity Bassett, instructor in the Gender and Women's Studies Program, discussed the issues surrounding sovereignty and lacrosse teams competing internationally, as well as the complex meanings of women playing lacrosse for the Haudenosaunee themselves. Head Women's Basketball coach Tracy Bruno then discussed the sexualization of the female athlete, asking the audience to consider why female athletes themselves promote these images, and the potential impact of such images on young women and girls. Evelyn A. Clark, Assistant Professor of Sociology, focused her talk on gender, sexuality and the stigma that can be attached to female athletes and boys engaging in "female" sports. This stigma often centers around homophobia and, in the case of female athletes, the perception that they are not fully female.



Susan Ware by Tony Rinaldo

Susan Ware, Author, *Game, Set, Match: Billie Jean King and the Revolution in Women's Sports*

Stay Tuned:

The next event in the Feinberg Family Fund series on Gender and Sports.

Held on:

Thursday, March 31st at 6:00 p.m.

Located at:

Marano Campus Center Auditorium.

Dr. Susan Ware, Organization of American Historians' Distinguished Lecturer,

"A Sporting Chance: Title IX and Women's History."