

# Voices

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT CENTER FOR WOMEN AND POLITICS

## Lynn Sherr Will Serve as Fall 2006 Mary Louise Smith Chair

Lynn Sherr, a correspondent with the ABC Newsmagazine *20/20*, will discuss women, politics and media as the fall 2006 Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics at Iowa State University.

Sherr will present "Outside the Box: Women, Politics and Media" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28, in the Sun Room, Memorial Union. A public reception and book signing will follow the lecture. The event is free and open to the public.

"As the first woman to anchor a primetime television network news series, Lynn Sherr has broken many gender barriers in her profession and, through her reporting, has opened new career paths for young women in many professions. She also has considerable experience covering politics and



Lynn Sherr

analyzing election outcomes. We look forward to hearing about her experiences as a woman journalist and author as well as her analysis of the 2006 midterm election," said Dianne Bystrom, Catt Center Director.

Sherr joined *20/20* in May 1986 and has covered stories specializing in women's issues and social change as well as investigative reports. Her stories have included an award-winning report on a homeless girl in New York who earned a scholarship to Harvard; a pioneering report on a treatment for anorexia; a series on the lengths women go to when altering their bodies in the name of beauty; and, most recently, a look at the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, where the goal is Gross National Happiness. Also, Sherr traveled to India in 2000 to report on midnight in Bombay for the ABC News Millennium Special, which received numerous awards.

Sherr has received an Emmy, two American Women in Radio and Television Commendation Awards and a George Foster Peabody Award.

Sherr served as a national correspondent for ABC News before joining *20/20*. Starting in 1978 as part of the network's political team, she was a floor reporter for every Republican and Democratic

*Continued on page 2*

## From the Director

### Women, Youth Gain in 2006

Women candidates and young voters made gains in the 2006 mid-term elections.



With 6 of 10 women—5 incumbents and one newcomer, Sarah Palin (R-AK)—winning their bid for governor in the Nov. 7 election, 9 women (up from the current 8) will serve as their state's chief executive officer in 2007. Six is the largest number of women to win gubernatorial races in one election year, according to the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. The 6 women gubernatorial race winners will join the 3 women governors not up for re-election. The 9 women who will serve as governors in 2007 tie the record set in 2004, according to CAWP.

In the U.S. Senate, a record 16 women (up from the current 14) will hold seats with 8 of the 15 women running in 2006 winning their election. All 6 incumbent women U.S. Senators won their races and women won key U.S. Senate races in Missouri and Minnesota with Democrats Claire McCaskill (D-MO) defeating an incumbent and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) winning in an open race.

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*Smith Chair  
continued from front page*

nominating convention and regularly analyzed the results of the exit polls on election nights. In 1984, she also covered the presidential primary campaign of Senator John Glenn and the vice presidential campaign of Geraldine Ferraro.

Sherr anchored from launch to landing for almost every mission on the NASA space shuttle program from its beginning in 1981 through the Challenger explosion in 1986. She obtained the only interview with astronaut Sally Ride during the investigation into the Challenger accident. She was also chosen as a semifinalist in the Journalist-in-Space program.

She is the author of *Failure Is Impossible: Susan B. Anthony in Her Own Words* and co-author of *Susan B. Anthony Slept Here: A Guide to American Women's Landmarks* and 10 editions of *The Women's Calendar*. Her bestselling book, *Tall Blondes*, offered a perceptive and highly praised look at one of wildlife's most endearing but little-understood animals—giraffes—and was also the subject of a one-hour documentary for the PBS *Nature* program. Her bestselling book, *America the Beautiful: The Stirring True Story Behind Our Nation's Favorite Song*, was published in 2001. Her latest work, *Outside the Box: A Memoir*, was published in September 2006.

Sherr is the 15<sup>th</sup> prominent woman leader to visit Iowa State as the Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics. The chair was created in 1995 to honor Iowa native and longtime political and civic leader, Mary Louise Smith, and brings nationally renowned political leaders, scholars and activists to Iowa State. Smith was the only woman to chair the Republican National Party (1974-1997).

*From the Director  
continued from front page*

Of the 139 women running for seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, 67 have been declared winners—57 incumbents and 10 new women—with 5 races including women still too close to call as of Nov. 10. Currently, 67 women serve in the U.S. House. Three of the undecided races are women-versus-women, meaning that a record 70 women (at least) will serve in the House in 2007. In addition, 3 non-voting women delegates from Guam, the Virgin Islands and Washington, DC, were re-elected.

According to CAWP, women voters played a role in three key races that gave control of the U.S. Senate to the Democratic Party. In Missouri, Montana and Virginia, a majority of women voters cast their votes for the winning Democratic candidate whereas the majority of men voted for the Republican candidate. Of these states, the gender gap was the largest in Virginia, with 55% of women, compared to 45% of men, voting for Democrat Jim Webb.

A large gender gap also helped elect Minnesota Democrat Amy Klobuchar to the U.S. Senate. In an open race, she received 63% of women's votes, compared to 52% of men's votes. Exit polls also showed a gender gap in voting for candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives with 55% of women, compared to 50% of men, reporting that they voted for the Democratic candidate.

“Most significantly, Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) is poised to become the first woman Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives,” CAWP noted. Democratic women also are in line to chair several key committees in the House and Senate.

In Iowa, a record 34 women will serve in the state legislature in 2007. Women

increased their representation in the Iowa Senate from 5 to 6 and in the Iowa House from 25 to 28. Previously, the most women to serve in the Iowa legislature was 33 in 2001 and 2002. Although the overall representation of women in the Iowa legislature will increase from 20% in 2006 to 22.7% in 2007, Iowa is likely to hover below the national average. In 2006, 22.8% of legislatures nationwide were comprised of women with a record 2,431 women running in 2006.

In addition to women candidates and voters, young voters did well in 2006, continuing their increased engagement shown in the 2004 presidential election. According to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, an estimated 10 million voters under age 30 voted on Nov. 7, an increase of 2 million young voters compared to 2002. The estimated turnout rate of young eligible voters increased from 20% in 2002 to 24% in 2006.

Youth were an especially high percentage of voters in Montana, Michigan, Minnesota and Missouri. In U.S. House races nationwide, 61% of young people voted for Democratic candidates, the highest proportion for any age group, according to CIRCLE.

Overall, voter turnout was slightly more than 40% in 2006, according to the Center for the Study of the American Electorate at American University. Turnout was particularly up in Virginia, Ohio, Michigan and Missouri and somewhat higher in Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky and Montana. Turnout was down in Louisiana, Florida, Georgia and Hawaii. Overall, Democrats drew more voters than Republicans for the first time in a midterm election since 1990.

*Dianne Bystrom*

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## Center Welcomes New Administrative Assistant

Robin Gogerty has joined the staff of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center as administrative assistant. Gogerty replaces Christina Gallup who left in April.



Gogerty is originally from Boone. She has lived with her family in Madrid for the past 22 years. Gogerty has a daughter who's a junior at ISU and a son who is a senior at Madrid High School.

She has been working at Iowa State since 1990. Some of the departments that Gogerty has worked for include the Research Institute for Studies in Education (RISE), Iowa State University Research Foundation, Inc. (ISURF), Trademark Licensing, Honors Program and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Office. Her position at the Catt Center is shared with the Women's Studies program.

"I'm excited to learn more about the Carrie Chapman Catt Center and Women's Studies," Gogerty said.

## New Peer Mentors Assist Center's Learning Communities

Marisa Stadlman, senior in journalism and mass communication and political science from Ankeny, IA, has joined the Catt Center staff to serve as the new peer mentor for the ACT (Advancing Citizenship Together) learning community.



As an Iowa State student, Stadlman has been involved in Catt Center activities. She participated in the ACT learning community as a freshman and has been a Legacy of Heroines scholar for three years. She has been involved in the Axel Leadership Development seminars and is the current president of Catt Associates.

This summer and fall, Stadlman has been working at the Catt Center as a public relations intern. After graduation in the spring, she is interested in continuing her education by pursuing graduate school at Iowa State in the Master's of Public Administration program.

Brittany Hoover, senior in community and regional planning from Ankeny, IA, is the peer mentor for the Catt Center's new learning community, Learning to Lead.



While at Iowa State, Hoover has participated in a variety of activities. A member of Women in Science and Engineering, she served as a student role model and traveled to area schools to engage K-12 students in fun, interactive science activities. Hoover also has been involved with the Axel Leadership Development seminars and is the current co-vice president of Catt Associates.

"I'm excited to work with and develop this new learning community. It will provide a great opportunity for upperclassmen to improve their leadership skills in an academic environment," Hoover said.



## Archive of Women's Political Communication Debuts with New Web Site

The Catt Center's Archive of Women's Political Communication is now "live" with the debut of a new Web site, [www.womenspeecharchive.org](http://www.womenspeecharchive.org).

Currently, the archive collection contains more than 100 speeches and remarks by 35 women political leaders.

A gift from Dick and Mary Jo Stanley of Muscatine, IA, allowed the Catt Center to begin work on establishing an Archive of Women's Political Communication in 2004.

The first phase of the archive project has been gathering speeches from women elected officials in the United

States. As the site continues to grow, it will expand to include the speeches of women activists, international women political leaders and historical women.

The Center's student staff is working to gather speeches and profiles from every woman elected to the U.S. Congress, governor and lieutenant governor. Although the Center is working to gather more speeches, it received a good response from many of the women contacted.

One of unique features of this archive is that it provides a profile of each of the women for whom it has speeches. "Unlike other archives that provide just

speeches, we wanted to add profiles of each woman to give some context to their speeches," said Julie Snyder-Yuly, the archive project coordinator. "These profiles highlight each woman's role when the speech was given and provide a background of her life and additional information that might better help a researcher more thoroughly understand the remarks."

The Center's primary source for gathering profiles is through each woman's official Web site; however, some profiles have been provided by the woman who made the speech.

## Students Learn Leadership through Learning Community, Student Organization and Courses

Students involved in the Catt Center's 2006-2007 student programs will be a step above the rest when it comes to leadership. Through the Joni and John Axel Leadership Development Series, the Legacy of Heroines scholarship program, the Catt Associates student organization, the ACT (Advancing Citizenship Together) Learning Community for freshmen and the Learning to Lead Learning Community, the Center seeks to develop student leadership in politics, public service and women's issues.

### ACT Gets Active

The ACT (Advancing Citizenship Together) freshman learning community will begin a new partnership with the Catt Associates. The two organizations will begin a mentoring partnership that will match up ACT students and Catt Associates members. "The mentoring program will allow Catt Associates to help ACT students build a bridge to become more involved in Catt Center activities and become aware of the opportunities outside of the Center that are available to them," said program coordinator Chris Fowler. The two organizations held a barbeque together the second week of classes as a way to get to know each other.

In the fall semester, ACT heard from Emily Jensen, president of the

Government of Student Body, on the importance of involvement in student activities and leadership. They also attended the lecture "Girls Fight Back" by Erin Weed. Iowa State Rep. Beth Wessel-Kroeschell spoke to the group about her work in the Iowa Legislature, and the learning community followed the Iowa gubernatorial election closely and discussed the race in class.

Last spring, ACT joined with the Ames League of Women Voters and Catt Associates to attend a lobby day at the Iowa Capitol. "The time we spent in the Capitol was great because I got to talk to the League members one-on-one and I learned how to lobby," said ACT member Elizabeth Wilbur, sophomore from Nevada, IA.

Learning community members also attended numerous events, such as the "From Debt to Dollars" financial empowerment workshop, and heard from a variety of speakers, including Kris Olds, who spoke about sexual assault, and Luke Gran, who spoke about life in India. They also watched movies like "Crash," "North Country" and "Iron Jawed Angels" and held discussions afterwards.

ACT members also participated in service learning activities. They co-

sponsored a "pay equity" bake sale with Catt Associates that raised money for a local women's shelter. The purpose of the bake sale was to raise awareness of the wage differences between males and females.

ACT has eight students enrolled for the 2006-007 school year. They take two classes together, "Fundamentals of Public Speaking" and "Introduction to Women's Studies." They also meet once a week in their learning community seminar for activities related to their coursework and the Catt Center.

### Catt Associates Expand Mission With Service Opportunities

The Catt Associates were busier than ever this past school year and have a long list of events planned for 2006-2007.

The executive board started the school year with a barbeque for Catt Associates and the freshman ACT (Advancing Citizenship Together) learning community. The barbeque was the kick-off event for a new mentoring partnership between the two organizations.

Again last year, the Catt Associates were able to send three students – Renee Oehlerking, Nicole Vance and Chenru Zheng – to the Women in Congress conference sponsored by the Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN) in Washington, DC, over spring break. The three met with women from universities throughout the country and heard from today's top women political leaders.

In February, a group of Catt Associates attended a lobby day with the Ames League of Women Voters at the Capitol in Des Moines. The students learned how to lobby their legislators and



*Chris Fowler (right) takes a moment after class to pose with her ACT learning community. Back row from left to right: Traci Frisch, Alexandra Weaver, Whitney Jacobs and Tierra Mayberry. Front row from left to right: Greta Johnson, Hillary Noneman and Caitlyn Lines. Not pictured: Morgan Mishler.*

discussed current legislation with League members.

This past year, Catt Associates met with the 2005-2006 Mary Louise Smith Chairs, CNN news anchor Soledad O'Brien and former Maryland Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, during their visits to Iowa State.

Catt Associates want to build off the success of their events from last year in 2006-2007. They plan to sponsor another pay equity bake sale to raise awareness of the wage disparities between males and females. Last year, the Catt Associates and ACT bake sale raised \$50 for the ACCESS Women's Shelter in Ames

With funding again from Citigroup, the Catt Associates are planning another financial empowerment workshop for Iowa State students on Feb. 17, 2007. They also are working with other campus organizations to create a calendar to raise awareness of women student, faculty and staff leaders on campus and their achievements and influence on the university. The calendar is funded by a grant from the Women's Enrichment Fund.

"We hope to keep Catt Associates growing and build partnerships with groups on campus," said president Marisa Stadlman, a senior from Ankeny, IA. "Catt Associates has such great members and activities that we want the entire campus to be aware of."

### Center Encourages Scholars To Lead Through Scholarships

The Legacy of Heroines program, launched in 1996, provides scholarships to outstanding young women who seek involvement in and knowledge about the political process, women's issues and public service. Scholarship awards are based on academic merit, leadership and specific criteria set by donors.

Legacy of Heroines scholars register for academic credit through the Catt Center,

ensuring that the Center is meeting its responsibility to Legacy donors to provide leadership training and development and mentoring opportunities to scholarship recipients. This year, participants will be able to fulfill the credit requirement through guaranteed enrollment in the Joni and John Axel Leadership Development Series three-credit hour courses - *Leadership Styles and Strategies in a Diverse Society*, offered in the fall, and *Women in Leadership and Public Service*, offered in the spring.

In addition to the leadership courses, scholars are encouraged to participate in the Catt Associates student organization, to attend special events, to meet leaders who visit the Center, and to take on leadership roles offered on and off campus. Students involved in the Center's programs have assumed some of the most prestigious leadership roles on campus, including: president of the student body, VEISHEA co-chair, executive co-chair of Family Weekend, and executive council of the Student Alumni Leadership Council.

### New Learning Community to Focus On Leadership Development

In 2006-2007, the Catt Center is offering a new learning community, Learning to Lead (LTL). The learning community is linked to two courses that are part of the Joni and John Axel Leadership Development Series of seminars. Students take one course together in



Catt Associates, ACT members and Learning to Lead members play a get-to-know-you game at the school year kick-off barbeque.

the fall and spring semesters and meet once a week in a seminar.

Learning to Lead creates a leadership-training environment within an academic framework that allows students to learn about a variety of leadership styles as well broaden their understanding of their own leadership styles. The core themes of the learning community seminar are diversity and leadership – how individuals differ in their styles of leading and how to understand and work with diverse populations.

Students in LTL will experience learning through service projects, guest speakers, interviews with local leaders, and field trips to view leaders in action in their professions. Students will also develop mentoring relationships with faculty guest speakers to gain in-depth knowledge about leadership in action.

Learning to Lead is open to sophomores and above, and transfer students are encouraged to join. Students do not have to live in a specific residence hall to join LTL.



Megan Luedtke and Renee Oehlerking pose for a photo during a Catt Center activities barbeque at the beginning of the year.

## Center Recognizes Donors for Support of Endowment, Programs, Scholarships in 2005-2006

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics wishes to thank the following donors for their friendship, support and contributions to its 2005-2006 programs, scholarships and activities. With the help of their donations, the Center brought noted guest speakers to the ISU campus, provided scholarships and leadership development programs to students, developed an archive of women's political communication, sponsored research awards and began building an endowment.

### Endowment

\*John & Joan Axel – Muscatine, IA  
FBL Financial Group, Inc. –  
West Des Moines, IA  
\*Diane & Robert Greenlee – Boulder, CO  
\*Elizabeth Hoffman & Brian Binger –  
Boulder, CO  
\*Pat & Robert Jester – Des Moines, IA  
\*Kay Kretschmar Runge –  
Des Moines, IA  
Joanne and Charles Kuster –  
Johnston, IA  
\*Barbara Mack – Des Moines, IA  
Amy Beert Nordeen & Steven J.  
Nordeen – Bossier City, LA  
Austin & Irene Phelps – Austin, TX  
Margaret S. Pickett – Ames, IA  
\*Rose Lee & Marvin Pomerantz –  
Des Moines, IA  
Proctor & Gamble Co. – Cincinnati, OH  
Gail Ann Robinson – Takoma Park, MD  
JoAnn Rumelhart – Des Moines, IA  
Dorcias-Jane Schoppe –  
Walnut Creek, CA  
Kappie Spencer – Sarasota, FL

### Mary Louise Smith Chair

Susan Michelle Smith –  
Kansas City, MO

### Axel Leadership Development Series

\*John & Joan Axel – Muscatine, IA  
Citigroup Business Services –  
Urbandale, IA  
Cargill Incorporated – Fargo, ND

### Archive of Women's Political Communication

\*Richard & Mary Jo Stanley –  
Muscatine, IA

### Legacy of Heroines

\*The estate of Katherine Annin –  
Sun City, AZ  
\*Colleen Armstrong –  
West Des Moines, IA  
\*Peg Armstrong-Gustafson –  
Waukee, IA  
Federal Home Loan Bank –  
Des Moines, IA  
\*Richard H. Gimer – Potomac, MD  
Willaim B. Haigh – West Des Moines, IA  
\*Helen & Stanley Howe - Muscatine, IA  
Dwight Ink & Dona Wolf –  
Lansdowne, VA  
\*Philip & Patricia Larson –  
Washington, D.C.  
Kyle Pitsor – Washington, D.C.  
Principal Financial Group –  
Des Moines, IA  
\*Sharon & Richard Rodine –  
Norman, OK  
Richard Heuwinkel & Judith Raak –  
Washington, D.C.  
\*The estate of Jim Socknat – Mclean, VA  
Terrence & Maureen Tobin – Clive, IA  
Lauri & James Young – Cedar Falls, IA

### Plaza of Heroines

Ralph & Adah Leshem-Ackerman –  
Ames, IA  
Terrence J. Alexander – Ames, IA  
Linda Ambrosio – Ames, IA  
Michael & Robin S. Brekke –  
State Center, IA  
Jill Bystydzienski – Ames, IA  
Blake Campbell – Ames, IA  
Hui-Hsien Chou – Ames, IA  
M. Duane & Frances Enger –  
Ames, IA  
Mary Engstrom – Ames, IA  
Melissa Denae Fear - Ames, IA  
Christina Gallup – Ames, IA  
G & L Revocable Trust Brown  
Lori J. Grinvalds – Yutan, NE  
Lyndell R. Husiman – Ames, IA  
Fredric Janzen – Ames, IA  
John Kavanaugh – Ames, IA

Catherine Kling – Ames, IA  
Mary Margaret Lorenz – Wahoo, NE  
Mike Matthews – Urbandale, IA  
Thomas Mooney – Minnetonka, MN  
Don and Eileen Muff - Ames, IA  
Joan M. Peterson - Ames, IA  
Carol Jean Pletchette – Ames, IA  
Sandra M. Peterson – Ames, IA  
Dan Stephens Rice – Ames, IA  
Lynn D. Sandeman – Ames, IA  
Shannon Sanders – Ames, IA  
Kenneth and Shirley Shaw – Ames, IA  
Story County Democrats – Ames, IA  
Alan Charles Summers – Des Moines, IA  
Barbara Jo Wheelock – Madrid, IA  
Jan Wiersema – Ames, IA  
Martha E. Williams – Ames, IA  
Denise M. Wright – Ames, IA  
Andrew Paul Vogel – Farnhamville, IA  
Julie Snyder-Yuly – Ames, IA

*\* Denotes members of the Sapphire Club, whose gifts and pledges to the Center provide a basis of support for all its activities and programs.*

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## Lisa Mack

“Lisa believed in America,” said Pat Teberg of her co-worker Lisa Mack. “She believed you can’t sit back and wait for things to happen. She believed that each person should try to make a difference.”

Mack was born in Minnesota and graduated from Iowa State University. While at Iowa State, she was dedicated to her sorority, Alpha Chi Omega. A terrific gourmet cook, she worked as food editor at *Better Homes & Gardens* magazine. She was also an avid supporter of U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-KS) and volunteer chair of Polk County for his presidential campaign. Mack was only 24-years-old when she died in a 17-car pile-up returning from working with the Dole campaign in Minnesota.

After her funeral, one of her sorority sisters read a line from a song Mack had selected for Rush Week: “I will remember you until the stars fall from the sky; I will remember you until the day I die.”

## Sandy Knudsen

Sandy Knudsen was a heroine to many. As a teacher at Kuemper Catholic Schools in Carroll, IA, and as a great friend, she taught many the meaning of love, generosity and hope. She loved to laugh and have fun, and especially loved Iowa State University.

Knudsen was actively involved with Relay for Life, which raises money for research and programs for the American Cancer Society, participating and serving as a survivor chairperson. In her final Relay for Life, she had to participate in a wheelchair, but she was beaming with joy for the gift of another day. Her life ended after a courageous battle with cancer on Aug. 21, 2005. She is loved and greatly missed by her family and friends.

## Stories from the

### Plaza of Heroines

## Kate Schwennsen

“Leave the place better than you found it.”

Kate Schwennsen has been sharing this message in her travels around the world as the second woman president of the American Institute of Architects, the country’s largest professional organization for architects. She is the second educator and the second Iowan to hold the position.

Also, she was the first woman president to lead the Iowa chapter of AIA. Through her position, Schwennsen is proud to be able to be a role model for younger women who are interested in a career in architecture.

Schwennsen also serves as associate dean of Iowa State’s College of Design and as an associate professor of architecture. She holds a B.A. and a Master’s of Architecture from Iowa State. She is a member of the American Architectural Foundation Board of Regents and the AIA Mentorship Task Force.

## Dixie Lee Ray

“She had courage. She demanded scientific evidence. She made complex things understandable. She made sense. We will miss her. The environment will miss her,” said A. David Rossin, a former president of the American Nuclear Society.

Ray is known primarily as a teacher and as a supporter of the environment. As a teacher, she had a gift for expressing complex subjects in terms that everyone could comprehend. She showed her commitment to education by her service as director of the Pacific Science Center in Seattle for a nine-year period through 1972.

Ray frequently stressed the importance of education in her subsequent governmental appointments as the first woman governor of the state of Washington (1977-1981) and as the first woman chairperson of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (1973-1975). Through the years, she spoke out in support of a scientific basis for energy and environmental decisions and showed a commitment to a common-sense approach to the preservation of the environment through her books on environmental issues.

## Honor Women With Plaza of Heroines Bricks

Purchasing a brick in the Plaza of Heroines is a wonderful and permanent way to honor women for their contributions to their families, careers and communities.

Located in front of Catt Hall, the plaza currently displays more than 3,200 bricks with the names of women who made an impact as mothers, teachers, wives, scientists, friends and activists. A registry of every woman’s name honored with a brick is available online at <http://www.las.iastate.edu/kiosk/index.shtml>. The registry includes a statement provided by the donor about why the woman is being honored; the

location of her brick within the plaza; the name(s) of the donor(s); and if provided by the donor, the heroine’s biography and photograph.

Individuals who wish to recognize an important woman in their lives in the Plaza of Heroines should contact Robin Gogerty at the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at 515-294-3181 or [rgogerty@iastate.edu](mailto:rgogerty@iastate.edu). Available levels of recognition include bricks, \$100; medium granite paver, \$500; large granite paver, \$1,000; and bench, \$10,000. Any proceeds, after costs of maintaining the plaza, go toward the Catt Center’s general endowment fund.

## Women Impacting ISU

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center's student organization, Catt Associates, received a \$2,000 grant to fund a calendar project, *Women Impacting ISU*, from the Women's Enrichment Fund.

The calendar is designed as a tribute to students, faculty and staff who have distinguished themselves through outstanding accomplishments that have impacted Iowa State University.

Catt Associates will accept nominations through Nov. 27 and anticipates announcing the honorees by the first week of December. Honorees will be selected by a committee of Catt Associates students and Catt Center staff.

The honorees will be photographed for the 2007 calendar and recognized publicly at a reception in their honor. Catt Associates will distribute 2,000 calendars throughout campus, free of charge.

The women selected will be from a wide variety of disciplines and diverse backgrounds and will represent the achievements made by women throughout the many facets of the University.

"The calendar is designed to showcase these women's accomplishments and inspire women of all generations to take on challenges and have a continuing impact on the University," said Marisa Stadlman, Catt Associates president.

If you are interested in nominating a current student, staff or faculty member, nomination forms are available online at [www.iastate.edu/~ccatt](http://www.iastate.edu/~ccatt). Please submit nomination forms to 309 Catt Hall by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 27.

## Of Note...

We are pleased to recognize the professional and academic achievements of alumni, staff, supporters and students of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics:

**Dianne Bystrom** (Catt Center director) gave invited presentations at two national conferences in 2006. In June, she presented "Gender and Candidate Communication: TV Ads, Web Sites and Media Coverage" at the Women in Politics conference co-hosted by the University of California-Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies and the University of Virginia's Center for Politics. In September, she participated in a panel discussion on "Women in the Midterm Elections" at the 22nd annual conference of the Journalism and Women Symposium.

**Carrie Chapman Catt's house**, Briarcliff Manor, in Westchester County, New York, has been listed on the State Register of Historic Places and has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

**Chris Fowler** (Catt Center program coordinator) received a Student Service Award at the ninth annual small victories celebration on Jan. 23, 2006. She was also selected to participate in the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity as a delegate from Iowa State University.

**Luke Gran** (Catt Associate), a senior in forestry from Newton, IA, has been named a "Rising Star" by the Iowa Democratic Party for his work in the 2004 presidential election. He was a canvasser for the party and volunteered and interned for Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry's presidential campaign. The award was part of the 2006 Hall of Fame and Democratic Achievement Awards.

**Julie Snyder-Yuly** (Catt Center program coordinator) presented "Diminishing Voices: Recreating the Muted Group through On-line Harassment Prevention Training" and served as a panel chair at the Western States Communication Association annual convention in February. In May, she traveled to Kharkiv, Ukraine, as part of the Women's Studies Department of State grant. While there, she presented "Gender in Internet Communication: Experience of Teaching" with Olena Goroshko as part of the International Conference on Gender Studies. In addition, she received a third place ribbon at the Iowa State Fair for her stained glass work.

**Rohini Ramnath** (Catt Associate) received one of the YWCA Ames/ISU Women of Achievement awards for her work toward making a difference on the ISU campus through her social justice efforts.

**The Socknat Family** has provided a \$10,000 cash gift to the department of political science and has pledged an additional \$15,000 to establish the James Socknat Memorial Internship endowment. The earnings from these funds will be used to support a graduate internship at the World Bank. Jim Socknat was also a longtime supporter of the Catt Center.

### Voices is Changing!

With this issue, we are moving from a printed newsletter to an electronic format for Voices. We will no longer be printing newsletters unless requested for those without Internet access.

If you know others who would like to receive Voices in its electronic format, please contact us with their updated information and e-mail address. Send information to [cattcntr@iastate.edu](mailto:cattcntr@iastate.edu).

## Six Scholars Receive 2005 Catt Prize for Research Projects

More than 25 proposals from a variety of disciplines were received for the 2005 Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics. Four projects received \$1,000 prizes, and one project received a \$500 honorable mention award.



**Karrin Vasby Anderson**, assistant professor in the department of speech communication at Colorado State

University, and **Kristina Horn Sheeler**, assistant

professor in the department of communication studies at Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis, for



*Woman President: Gender, Rhetorical Leadership, and the U.S. Presidency.* Their research examines the rhetorical constraints on women seeking the presidency by reviewing the campaigns of female candidates. The authors look at the differences in women's success in parliamentary systems in comparison to the U.S. presidential system and propose a profile of a likely woman presidential candidate.



**Lester C. Olson**, professor of communication and women's studies at the University of Pittsburgh, for *Audre Lorde's Public Speeches: Poet Orator, Wounded*

*Warrior.* This archival research project focuses on the rhetoric of Lorde's public speeches by placing them in historical context. The author is a pioneer in this field, being only the second scholar to have access to Lorde's primary materials.

**Miki Caul Kittilson**, assistant professor in the department of political science at Arizona State University, for *Women, Elected Office, and Policy Choices in Cross-National Perspective, 1960-2005.* This research project examines how women in elected office impact policy outcomes and how political structure, organization and attitude toward women's roles affect this relationship. The author assessed 18 democracies during the 45-year period to find the impact of gender in political representation.



**Diana Santillan, Ph.D.** student at George Washington University, for *Local-Global Negotiations: An Ethno-*

*graphic Case Study of a Women's Organization in the Peruvian Amazon.* This research will explore the role of non-governmental organizations and women's participation in social movements in the developing Peruvian Amazon. The author is participating in and observing an organization in Peru, while conducting in-depth interviews and focus groups with those involved with the organization.

An honorable mention award of \$500 was presented to:

**Phyllis Brashler**, doctoral candidate in sociology and anthropology at Northeastern University, for *Flirting with*



*Feminism: The State and the Battered Women's Movement in Massachusetts.* This research examines the state's role in gender relations and domestic violence policy and the impact on social movements. The author looks at the impact Massachusetts had on shaping domestic violence policy and the feminist movement during the 1970s.

## Review of 2006 Prize Proposals Begins

The process has begun to select the 2006 recipients of the Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics. The Center is developing the selection committee comprised of members who represent the various fields from which the proposals were received.

Each member of the committee reads eight to 10 proposals in his or her field and assigns a score. Each proposal submitted is read by a minimum of three committee members. The committee then meets to review and discuss the proposals they read and how they scored them. During this meeting, the top five to eight proposals are selected to move to the next round.

The top proposals are redistributed to the committee members for all to read. Each committee member selects which proposal she/he think should receive awards. The committee then reconvenes to select the top three or four projects.

The top three to four proposals will receive either a \$1,000 prize or a \$500 honorable mention award.

The Catt Prize was created in 1997, and the Center has awarded more than \$35,000 to established researchers and up-and-coming scholars.

## Catt Center to Offer "Ready to Run" Candidate Campaign School in June 2007

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics has received a grant from the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University to offer its "Ready to Run" candidate campaign training program.

The campaign school will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, June 1, at the Scheman Building, Iowa State Center.

"Ready to Run" is for women considering seeking public office, running for higher office or working on a campaign.

The program incorporates the political culture and climate of the locale and uses state and local campaign experts to highlight the specifics of running in

a particular state or region. "Ready to Run" participants will hear directly from local leaders, campaign consultants and party officials to get help and information on running for office in their area.

"Iowa women represent a promising, but largely untapped, pool of talent when it comes to candidates for public office," said Catt Center director Dianne Bystrom. "Although women comprise 51 percent of Iowa's population, only 22.7 percent of our state legislators and just over a third of our local government officials are women. Moreover, Iowans have never elected a woman to the governor's office, and Iowa is among only five

states that have never sent a woman to the U.S. Congress," she said.

"We hope that 'Ready to Run' will encourage Iowa women to seek public office and give them the tools they need to be successful," Bystrom added.

The program will discuss such topics as positioning yourself for public office, putting a campaign together, raising money, media strategies, running as an outsider or challenger, and addressing issues of diversity.

Any woman considering seeking public office, running for higher office or working on a campaign is eligible to attend. Tuition will be charged, but scholarships will be available.

## Catt Associates and Citigroup Offer Financial Empowerment Tips Through Workshop

Educating young women at Iowa State University to take control of their financial futures was the focus of a workshop sponsored by the Catt Associates with financial support from Citigroup.

"From Debt to Dollars: Financial Power for Young Women" was presented to approximately 40 students and staff on Saturday, April 1.

"This was a great opportunity for students to learn how to best use their money," said Julie Snyder-Yuly, faculty adviser to the Catt Associates.

The workshop included a welcome by Tahira Hira, executive assistant to the president, who spoke about the importance of educating young females on financial matters.

"Women live longer than men," Hira said. "Women are more likely to be in poverty than men. Women still earn less than men. Women's prosperity is strongly linked with their marital status."

Hira stressed that young women should take advantage of opportunities and events like the ISU Financial Clinic to make themselves aware of the problems they will face and the actions they can take to reduce them.

The students also attended four topical workshops throughout the day. One session, taught by Becky Stadlman, senior human resources director for Sauer-Danfoss, focused on negotiation skills for new jobs and salary packages. J.M. Seymour, chair of the Iowa Jump\$tart Coalition and author, shared tips on investing. Another session focusing on the importance of being a smart consumer was led by Tammy Hickman-Fay, executive director of the Center for Financial Success. Kent Johnson, credit counseling manager for

Consumer Credit of Des Moines, shared information regarding credit.

The students also heard from the Dara Duguay, director of financial literacy for Citigroup, who is considered a national expert on personal finance. She is the author of two self-help personal finance books: *Please Send Money: A Financial Survival Guide for Young Adults on Their Own* and the new *Don't Spend Your Raise: And 59 Other Money Rules You Can't Afford to Break*.

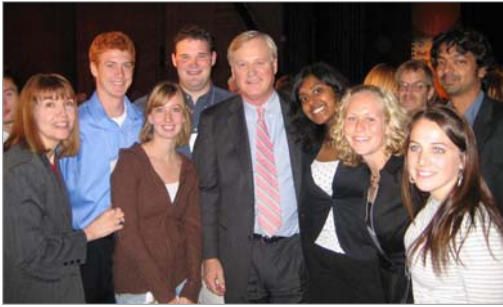


Students learn about investments from J.M. Seymour at workshop.

During the luncheon, Duguay talked about the 10 common mistakes most people make with their finances. She also shared what students should do in order to avoid those mistakes.

With financial support from Citigroup, the Catt Associates are planning another financial workshop for Saturday, Feb. 17, in the Memorial Union.

## Students Interact with Political Powerhouses Prior to the November Midterm Elections



*Chris Matthews, host of MSNBC's Hard Ball, poses with students including Catt Associates Jenna Jones and Rohini Rammath..*



*Catt Associates, Nicole Vance, Rohini Rammath and Sarah Sunderman pose with President Bill Clinton at the Jefferson Jackson Dinner.*



*John Day, co-chair of ISU's World Affairs, poses with Sen. Joe Biden (left). Don McDowell, president of the College Republicans, talks with Sen. John McCain (right).*



The importance of the November midterm elections gave Iowa State University students some unique opportunities to meet and interact with some of the nation's political elite. October 2 through 6 was Political Action Week on the Iowa State University campus and featured U.S. Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) as the keynote speaker. On Oct. 14, several Catt Associates had the opportunity to attend the 2006 Jefferson Jackson Dinner in Des Moines. The dinner featured former President Bill Clinton as the keynote speaker. On Oct. 18, students had the opportunity to play *Hard Ball* with host Chris Matthews and U.S. Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) during the filming of show at the Iowa State Center. On Oct. 31, U.S. Sen. Joe Biden (D-DE) spoke as the Mannatt Phelps Lecture in Political Science. Students took full advantage of these opportunities in preparation for the November midterm elections.

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