

Voices

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

Stanley Gift to Establish Archive of Women's Political Speech

A \$150,000 gift from Mary Jo and Richard Stanley of Muscatine, IA, will help the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics realize its longtime goal of establishing an Archive of Women's Political Communication.

"Since coming to Iowa State in 1996, I have talked about the need for the Center to establish its own unique research niche that would serve Iowa State faculty, staff and students as well as scholars throughout the world," said director Dianne Bystrom. "An Archive of Women's Political Communication seemed like a perfect fit for a Center named after Carrie Chapman Catt, one of the most prolific political speakers in history. Plus, to our knowledge, no similar resource of women's political communication exists."

The archive will consist of a virtual (Web-based) database of women's political speeches and a collection of women political candidates' campaign commercials, to be located within the Special Collections/University Archives department of the University Library. The speeches and commercials of present and past women political leaders, both from the United States and throughout the world, will be featured in the archive.

Work on developing the archive began in 2004, thanks to the gift from the Stanleys. "The gift is being structured so that we have money for start-up costs—including

equipment and research assistants—for the archive while at the same time funds to establish an endowment that will provide revenue for its future operation and maintenance," Bystrom said.

"This is not the first time that Dick and Mary Jo have stepped forward to help the Center meet its goals and priorities," she said. "The Stanleys also are the major contributors to the endowment for the Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics." Stanley was recently presented the Order of the Knoll Cardinal and Gold Award, which recognizes comprehensive long-term service to Iowa State by demonstrating creative leadership, utilizing expertise in university or foundation affairs, devoting time and energy to the community and other nonprofit organizations, and further enhancing the reputation of the university.

Catt Center program coordinator Julie Snyder-Yuly will oversee the establishment of the archive, working with Bystrom, graduate research assistant Natalia Romanova and undergraduate research assistant Anna King. Also involved in the project is Tanya Zanish-Belcher, head of Special Collections/University Archives at University Library.

The virtual archive of women's political communication will consist of a Web site developed to guide scholars to present and past women political leaders from

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From the Director

2004 Campaign Spotlights Women



Once again, women are in the spotlight in the 2004 campaign as voters, candidates and presidential candidate spouses. As I am often called upon by the media to comment on the role of these women in the political process, here are some observations for 2004:

Women voters—Every election year seems to have its "media theme" (e.g., soccer moms in 1996; NASCAR dads in 2002.) Although I believe that these themes overlook the complexity of the electoral process, there is no doubt that women voters—particularly single women—are getting a lot of attention this year, particularly from the Democrats. Single women—never-married working women, divorced working mothers and widows—make up 42 percent of all registered women voters. However, only 52 percent of single women voted in 2000, compared to 68 percent of married women. If single women had voted in the same proportion as married women in 2000, 6 million more voters would have gone to the polls.

"If unmarried women voted at the same rate as married women, they would have a decisive impact on this (2004) election and could be the most important agents of change in modern politics," says Democratic pollster Stan Greenberg. According

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to his recent survey of single women, they are most concerned about job security, affordable health care, quality educational opportunities and Social Security. And, they do not feel tied to any particular political party.

A number of organizations—including Women's Voices, Women's Votes; NOW's Register and Empower New Women (RENEW) project; and The White House Project—are reaching out to single women voters to get them registered and to the polls on Nov. 2. Although most of the organizations targeting single women are officially nonpartisan, the groups tapping into their databases are typically pro-Democrat.

The Bush campaign, on the other hand, seems to be concentrating on married women with children who are concerned about their family's safety. The campaign is running Internet ads featuring First Lady Laura Bush on the Web sites of *Ladies Home Journal* and *Family Circle*, launched the "W stands for Women" initiative in May, and has created a Women's Information Network to send out targeted e-mails to millions of female voters.

Women candidates—According to the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, women running for political office in 2004 include:

- 13 women (10 Democrats, 3 Republicans) running in U.S. Senate races in 10 states. 5 are incumbents, 5 are running in open seat races, and 3 are challengers. (Currently, a record 14 women serve in the U.S. Senate.)

- 158 women (98 Democrats, 60 Republicans) seeking election to the U.S. House of Representatives. 57 incumbents are expected to run for re-election; 21 women are running in 17 districts with open seats; and 80 women are running as challengers. (Currently, 60 women serve in the U.S. House.)

- 3 women (all Democrats; 1 incumbent, 2 open seat contenders) running for governor in Delaware, Missouri and Washington. (A record 8 women currently serve as governor; 5 of them do not have a race in 2004 and 2 are not running for re-election.)

- 8 women (7 Democrats, 1 Republican) are running for lieutenant governor.

- 28 women (12 Democrats, 13 Republicans, and 3 Independents) are running for other statewide elective executive office.

According to Iowa Women in Public Policy, 42 women are seeking election to the Iowa State Legislature in 2004. Of these, 34 women (22 Democrats, 12 Republicans) are running for seats in the House of Representatives. Of the women seeking House seats, 23 (15 Democrats, 8 Republicans) are incumbents. Eight women (5 Republicans, 3 Democrats) are running for the Iowa State Senate. Of these women, 6 (5 Republicans, 1 Democrat) are incumbents.

The number of women candidates in 2004 indicates that women will hold their own, but make little progress, in their representation at the state and national level. The challenge for organizations wishing to increase the political representation of women is to encourage more women to run for office.

Presidential candidate spouses—Many of the media calls that I have received this year focus on the spouses of presidential candidates. During the caucus and primary season, reporters were interested if Judy Dean's absence from the campaign trail to continue her medical practice hurt Howard Dean's chances. Now, reporters are interested in what Teresa Heinz Kerry, Elizabeth Edwards and Laura Bush bring to the presidential campaigns, with less attention on Lynn Cheney.

Although the role of the presidential candidate spouse has evolved over time, wives have been a fixture on the campaign trail since at least 1988. They

serve as surrogates for the candidates, helping to extend the time and money resources of the campaign by targeting voters and raising funds. Presidential candidate spouses also help frame and humanize the candidate. And, if you really like the wife—or so the thinking goes—you might just vote for her husband. With 2004 shaping up to be a very tight presidential race in which campaigns scramble for every undecided voter, presidential candidate spouses may play a more crucial role this year than in previous elections.

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throughout the world and their speech. The Web site will include speeches by Catt from the extensive collection in the University Library as well as speeches from other past and present women political leaders from the United States and other countries. The archive of women's political commercials will include copies of television campaign commercials by contemporary women of diverse backgrounds who have run for political office in the United States as well as in other countries.

"The development of these archives will result in significant research collections that will serve not only ISU faculty and students, but also researchers throughout the United States and the world," Bystrom said.

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Clift, Moseley Braun Encourage Women to Run for President

Women are qualified to run for and be elected president was the message shared by political analyst Eleanor Clift and Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun during their visits to Iowa State as the 2003-2004 Mary Louise Smith Chairs in Women and Politics.

Clift—contributing editor to *Newsweek* magazine; co-author of the book, *Madam President: Shattering the Last Glass Ceiling*; and political analyst for two television networks—visited Iowa State on Oct. 1, 2003. Moseley Braun, a candidate for the 2004 Democratic nomination for president and the first and only black woman to serve as U.S. senator, visited on April 14, 2004. More than 600 people attended their presentations.

Both women believe there are a lot of good reasons for women to run for president. Clift noted that women “bring attention to their issues and put themselves in the spotlight.” Moseley Braun said that one of the reasons she ran for the presidential nomination “was to prove women have the credentials and the competence to stick it out and show we can be president of this country.”

Both speakers also agree that women candidates struggle to prove they are tough enough to be chief executives, especially when dealing with issues stereotypically linked with men. “I didn’t have the opportunity to answer the real tough questions,” Moseley Braun said.

“In the debates, I would get questions on issues such as domestic violence, HIV/AIDS and breast cancer. I wasn’t asked questions on the military or national security.” Clift stated that “people are skeptical that women can be tough about the budget, law enforcement and simple management.”

Although both women agree that women will have a tough time breaking through the political glass ceiling to the presidency, they believe that there are women who will succeed. U.S. Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Elizabeth Dole were mentioned by both speakers as women who could end up on a presidential ticket in the future. According to Clift, Rodham Clinton is “one of the few women in politics who doesn’t have to prove that she’s tough.”

Both women also noted the historical significance of political participation. “If Carrie Chapman Catt were alive, she would find plenty to cheer about, but she wouldn’t like that many of us don’t vote and take the vote for granted,” Clift said. “Those who gave life to the intent of the Declaration of Independence made the reality of what we are experiencing right now possible,” Moseley Braun added.

During her visit, Clift led a roundtable discussion with ISU students; gave remarks at a donor/scholar dinner hosted by the Center; presented a public



Carol Moseley Braun answers questions at a dinner for Center staff, students and supporters.

lecture; and signed copies of her book at a reception following her presentation.

Moseley Braun visited with Catt Center students and supporters at a reception; gave remarks at a dinner; presented a public lecture, and visited with members of the audience following her presentation.

The Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics was established in 1995 to honor the Iowa native and longtime political and civic leader. Its purpose is to bring nationally renowned political leaders, scholars and activists to Iowa State to enrich the experiences of students and educate citizens about the role of women in the political process.



Eleanor Clift holds up a copy of her new book, "Founding Sisters and the Nineteenth Amendment (Turning Points in History)." Following her presentation, she met with Catt Center students.

Students Learn Leadership through Learning Community, Student Organization and Courses

Students in the Catt Center's 2004-2005 student programs will take part in the action of the 2004 campaign when they return to campus this fall. The election cycle offers the means to develop leadership skills that apply to having a voice in political life. Through the Joni and John Axel Leadership Development Series, the Legacy of Heroines scholarship program, the Catt Associates student organization and the ACT (Advancing Citizenship Together) Learning Community for freshmen, the Center seeks to develop student leadership in politics, public service and women's issues.

ACT Engenders Engagement

For freshmen coming in to the Catt Center's programs, the ACT (Advancing Citizenship Together) learning community experience includes the "right mix of peer mentoring, public speaking, women's studies, service and political engagement," said program coordinator Peggy Baum.

The 15-20 students enrolled in the 2004-05 learning community will work closely with Catt Center staff and with a peer mentor, campus leader Kristi Kielhorn, a senior from Johnston, IA. During the academic year, the group will take the Center's "Advancing Citizenship Together" seminar along with "Fundamentals of Public Speaking" in the fall and "Introduction to Women's Studies" in the spring. The seminar meetings further the community-building activities led by the peer

mentor and provide a time and a place to discuss citizenship, the campaign, politics and women's issues as well as to explore personality, leadership and choosing a major.

The ACT seminar follows the themes of the linked courses. For example, during the speech communication unit on persuasive speaking last fall, Center director Dianne Bystrom gave a presentation on persuasion in political advertising. "The speech class provides a challenge to the talented freshmen who gravitate to the ACT learning community," Baum said. "They really have to put themselves out there to give those speeches on issues they care so much about." In the process, students get to know each other as individuals and as a group. The speech class expands the learning community's venue for delving into issues emphasized in the seminar, as students are encouraged or required to give speeches related to women's issues or politics. The class emphasizes communication as a leadership skill and helps students hone the skills of organization and argument so critical to their academic success.

The focus on reading and writing in the women's studies class furthers the learning community's goal of enhancing academic and communication skills. By spring semester, learning community students are already accustomed to speaking up in class and are ready to engage with some of the broader and deeper issues raised in the women's studies curriculum; e.g., women and work, women and the global economy,

violence against women, women and activism, relationships and body image.

Again, the "Advancing Citizenship Together" seminar will follow the themes of the linked class. For example, during last spring's unit on the job/family challenge for women, the ACT seminar participated in a game called "life happens" that involved managing a hypothetical budget in the face of job and family challenges. During the unit on body image, the learning community seminar had the opportunity to talk with visiting artist Larry Kirkwood, creator of the "Body Image Project." Seminar students attended a self-defense workshop during the women's studies unit on violence against women. The women's studies course addressed many of the issues established as learning goals by the ACT students, for example, definition of the terms "feminism," "glass ceiling," "pay equity" and "affirmative action."

"The group work required for the women's studies 'outrageous acts' projects will again enhance the peer mentor's teambuilding efforts and directly require students to 'ACT,' which is, after all, the theme of our learning community," Baum said.

Catt Associates Get a Running Start

The Catt Associates will hold a back-to-campus retreat on Thursday, Sept. 9, from 5-7 p.m. to brainstorm, discuss the 2004 political campaigns, set goals and elect officers. The Center's student organization offers opportunities for leadership development and practice. Members are invited to participate in all Catt Center events as well as to pursue areas of interest with the assistance of Center staff. The organization incorporates all students interested in furthering the Catt Associates mission "to develop a cohesive group that will help raise civic awareness and encourage women's leadership." The group enjoys social events and roundtable discussions on a regular basis in addition to helping to plan and execute Catt Center events.

ACT Learning Community members pose with their women's studies instructor, peer mentor, and learning community adviser during their last formal meeting.



This past year, Catt Associates met with the 2003-2004 Mary Louise Smith Chairs, political analyst Eleanor Clift and presidential candidate Carol Moseley Braun, during their visits to campus. They also organized and implemented the "Iowa Caucus Workshop: How to Participate in the Iowa Caucuses" in November 2003. The workshop—featuring such speakers as Iowa Secretary of State Chet Culver, Assistant Majority Leader of the Iowa Senate Mark Ziemann and Iowa Democratic Party Chair Gordon Fischer—was broadcast nationally on C-SPAN prior to the caucuses. Catt Associates met the Democratic presidential candidates in person through the Committee on Lectures' Presidential Caucus Series and participated in caucus activities including the "Experience the Iowa Caucus" workshop presented in January 2004 by the Catt Center for ISU students and out-of-state visitors on the day of the caucuses.

As a result of the caucus-day workshop, Catt Associates were invited to join a student media team from Emerson College in Boston to cover the New Hampshire primary. The Center sent two Catt Associates, Jessica Carlson and Hannah Schoenthal-Muse (see story on page 11). Overall, the Center is working to facilitate special travel opportunities for its students. For example, over spring break 2004, five Center students attended the "Women and Congress" seminar offered by the Public Leadership Education Network in Washington, D.C.

Students affiliated with Catt Center programs had the opportunity to meet Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun in April 2004.



The Catt Associates student organization currently includes 26 students from a variety of disciplines, including anthropology, business management, communication studies, early childhood education, elementary education, economics, English, food science and nutrition, genetics, history, journalism and mass communication, mathematics, physics, political science, psychology, sports management, sociology, Spanish, statistics and women's studies.

Scholars Choose Leadership Seminars

The Legacy of Heroines program, launched in 1996, provides scholarships to outstanding young women who seek involvement in and knowledge about the political process and public service. Scholarship awards are based on academic merit, leadership and specific criteria established by scholarship donors. As part of the criteria set by donors, Legacy of Heroines scholarship recipients participate in mentoring and leadership development programs through the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics.

Legacy of Heroines scholars register for academic credit through the 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 seminars—"Leadership

Styles and Strategies in a Diverse Society," offered in the fall, and "Women in Leadership and Public Service," offered in the spring. An additional opportunity will be added this year—the one-credit-hour "Legacy of Heroines" seminar will be offered both semesters. The fall seminar will focus on heroines in history, and the spring seminar will include meetings with current women leaders. Legacy of Heroines scholars also will be encouraged to correspond with their scholarship donors, to participate in the Catt Associates student organization, to attend special events and to meet leaders who visit the Center.

Information on all Catt Center student leadership programs is available on the Web site, www.iastate.edu/~cccatt, by calling 515-294-3181 or e-mailing cattcntr@iastate.edu.

New Peer Mentor Joins Learning Community

Kristi Kielhorn, senior in journalism and mass communication and political science, has joined the staff of the Catt Center to serve as the new peer mentor for the ACT Learning Community.



Kielhorn is an active member of the Student Alumni Leadership Council, serving on the executive council, co-chair of the spirit committee and regional conference co-chair. She is also involved in the political science club, pre-law club and Cy's All Campus Leadership Summit and has served on the VEISHEA operations committee.

Following her graduation from Iowa State, she plans to earn her master's degree and attend law school. "This is a great opportunity for me to give back to Iowa State. It is a fun way for me to utilize the skills and knowledge I have acquired through my course work and leadership activities," says Kielhorn.

Center Recognizes Donors for Supporting Programs and Scholarships in 2003-2004

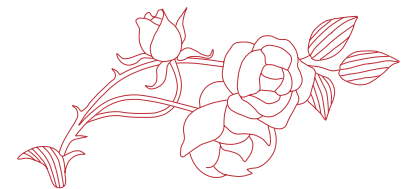
The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics wishes to thank the following donors for their friendship, support and contributions to its 2003-2004 programs, scholarships and activities. With the help of their donations, the Center brought noted guest speakers to the ISU campus, provided scholarships and leadership development programs to students, sponsored research awards, and began building an endowment.

*Katherine Annin – Sun City, AZ
*Colleen Armstrong – West Des Moines, IA
*Peg Armstrong-Gustafson – Waukee, IA
*Joan & John Axel – Muscatine, IA
Elizabeth Baird - Ames, IA
Bernard Beitel - Merrick, NY
Beth Bierbaum – Wellesley, MA
*Maxine Burch – Newton, KS
Federal Home Loan Bank – Des Moines, IA
*Richard Gimer – Potomac, MD
*Diane & Robert Greenlee – Boulder, CO

Nancy & William Haigh – Des Moines, IA
Eileen Helvig – Sioux City, IA
Richard Heuwinkel & Judith Raak – Washington, DC
*Elizabeth Hoffman & Brian Binger – Boulder, CO
Darleane & Marvin Hoffman – Oakland, CA
*Helen & Stanley Howe – Muscatine, IA
Dwight Ink & Dona Wolf – Lansdowne, VA
*Pat & Robert Jester – Des Moines, IA
*Patricia & Philip Larson – Washington, DC
*Ruth Larson – Ames, IA
League of Women Voters - Ames, IA
*Barbara Mack – Des Moines, IA
Austin Phelps – Austin, TX
Johnny & Terry Pickett – Ames, IA
Kyle Pitsor – Washington, DC
*Rose Lee & Marvin Pomerantz – Des Moines, IA
Proctor and Gamble - Cincinnati, OH
Gail Robinson – Takoma Park, MD

*Sharon & Richard Rodine – Norman, OK
*Kay Kretschmar Runge – Des Moines, IA
Mary Catherine Savage - Baltimore, MD
Dorcas Jane Schoppe – Walnut Creek, CA
Susan Smith - Kansas City, MO
*James Socknat – McLean, VA
Kappie Spencer – Sarasota, FL
*Mary Jo & Richard Stanley – Muscatine, IA
Maureen & Terrance Tobin - Clive, IA
Patricia & Michael Whiteford - Ames, IA
Lauri & James Young – Cedar Falls, IA
Mary & Ronald Zboray - Pittsburgh, PA

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



Fund-Raising Efforts Continue to Establish General Endowment

In 2002, as part of its 10th anniversary celebration, the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics began efforts to establish an endowment of at least \$250,000 to ensure its future and provide support for its programs in the areas of women and politics research, civic education and community outreach.

“Our greatest need, as we look forward to the future of the Catt Center, is to create an general endowment fund for program expenses that no longer can be covered with the money the Center receives through the university’s state budget allocation,” said Dianne Bystrom, Center director. Earnings from this endowment will replace recent state funding cuts and provide a more stable source of support for Catt Center programs focused on research on women and politics, including the annual Carrie Chapman Catt Prize, and community outreach efforts emphasizing civic education, political participation and public service.

The Center has other endowment accounts dedicated to specific initiatives. For example, Joni and John Axel of Muscatine are providing \$100,000 over a 10-year period to fund student leadership activities. The gift is being used to support the Center’s new Joni and John Axel Leadership Development Seminar Series and to create an endowment for future programming.

And, Mary Jo and Richard Stanley of Muscatine recently pledged \$150,000 over three years to establish the Center’s new Archive of Women’s Political Communication (see story on page 1.) The gift is being structured to provide for initial start-up costs for staffing and equipment while building an endowment to support the archives’ operation in the future.

The Center’s two other key programs—the Legacy of Heroines scholarships and Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics—are supported through other foundation accounts. The Center

awards 16 Legacy of Heroines scholarships each year, most of which are \$1,000 each and funded through endowments or annual gifts. Through recent fund-raising efforts, the endowment for the Mary Louise Smith Chair has grown to support the visits of two speakers each year to Iowa State, beginning in 2000-2001.

“While our current focus is on establishing a general endowment fund of \$250,000 in the next five years, we appreciate donations of any size to fund our leadership development, research and outreach programs,” Bystrom emphasized. To make a donation to the Center, please send a check to the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, 309 Catt Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, 50011-1305.

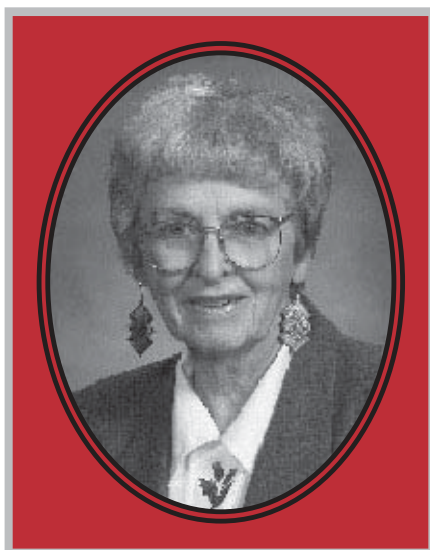


Elaine Szymoniak

"We believe she carries on the tradition of Carrie Chapman Catt with her public service, community activism and family commitment," write the children, grandchildren and husband of Elaine Szymoniak.

Born in Boscobel, WI, to Hugo and Pauline Eisfelder, she earned a bachelor's degree in education and speech pathology from the University of Wisconsin and a master's degree in family environment. She has been married to Casimir Szymoniak for more than 50 years and has five children. In 1957, they moved to Des Moines, IA. Szymoniak worked for more than 25 years at the Department of Vocation Rehabilitation and was at one time the only rehab counselor in the state who knew sign language. She is recognized by many because of her political career, which she did not begin until she was in her late 50s. She served several terms on the Des Moines City Council and eventually as a state senator.

Szymoniak is well known for her work relating to the community, family and children. "Many people have benefited from our mother's work, but we are the luckiest because we have had a stateswoman be our mother, grandmother and wife," notes her family.



Stories from the

Plaza of Heroines



Laverna Holtkamp Larson

In recognition of his mother, Randy Larson writes, "I am delighted to have the opportunity to include my mother's name in the Plaza of Heroines and by doing so to participate in honoring her as well as Carrie Chapman Catt."

Larson was born near St. Paul, IA., as the first of 10 children. Her family later moved near Williams, where they have farmed for more than 50 years. Following her high school graduation, Larson began teaching school. With a goal of becoming a science teacher, she began taking classes on Saturdays and during the summer and eventually earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Drake University. She married Keith Devere Larson and they had four children. Larson taught school for nearly 40 years. In 1991, she became the house mother for the Kappa Delta sorority at Iowa State.

"Including my mother in this incredible group of women is especially appropriate because of the tremendous influence she had on the people whose lives she has touched as a teacher," her son notes.

Ethel Wilson Yungclas

Yungclas was born and raised on a farm near Cambridge, IA. Following her graduation from Cambridge High School, she attended Iowa State to study home economics and agriculture. While attending ISU, she lettered in basketball and was a founding member of Sigma Kappa sorority. Yungclas received her bachelor's degree from ISU in 1921, following the commencement address by Carrie Chapman Catt.

After receiving her degree, she taught home economics and coached girl's basketball at North Superior Consolidated Schools in northwest Iowa. She married William Yungclas and moved to Webster City, IA, where they raised a family of eight. Following her move to Webster City, she focused her attention on community leadership. She was an active member of the Congregational Church, founding board member of Mayflower Homes in Grinnell, a 4-H leader and member of the Order of Eastern Star. Yungclas also presented programs and wrote news articles on home management. During the depression, she produced and sold cottage cheese to help keep the family farm operation solvent.

"She touched many lives with her high energy and loving spirit, and lived a life of dedication to God and humanity," write her husband and children.



Taft Students Recognized for Catt Documentary

A group of middle school students from Cedar Rapids, IA, wrote, produced and edited a 10-minute documentary on Carrie Chapman Catt that was recognized at the 2004 National History Day state competition.

“Carrie Chapman Catt: Exploring a Dream, Encountering Change” by Zachery Hughes, eighth grade; Ethan Hughes, sixth grade; Sarah Bishop, sixth grade; and Adam Koch, seventh grade—all students at Taft Middle School in Cedar Rapids—was a state finalist in the group documentary category and received fourth place.

The documentary, which culminated several months of research by the students, tells the story of Catt’s lifework for women’s suffrage. “We chose to do our documentary on Carrie Chapman Catt because we wanted to learn more about an influential person in our state’s history,” Koch said. “The highlights of our research were visiting her childhood home in Charles City and the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at Iowa State University. It was a wonderful experience to interview Catt Center director Dianne Bystrom and professor Jane Cox (who wrote a one-woman play on Catt’s life). Parts of the interviews were used in our documentary.”

National History Day is a project in which students choose a topic to research that relates to an annual theme. This year’s theme was “Explore, Encounter, Exchange.”



Center Launches Leadership Development Seminar Series

The Joni and John Axel Leadership Development Seminar Series was launched in spring 2004 with LAS 222X, “Leadership Styles and Strategies in a Diverse Society,” which allows students to develop their own personal leadership styles while learning about leadership, organizational and communication theories particularly as they relate to gender and cultural diversity. The course will be offered again in fall 2004.

Indicative of the Center’s continuing collaborations with academic departments, the course is cross-listed with Women’s Studies. “Response to our first seminar was very positive, and the class quickly filled with 22 students—20 women and two men,” said Catt Center director Dianne Bystrom, who taught the spring 2004 seminar. The fall 2004 seminar also is fully enrolled, primarily with women students.

During the 2004 spring seminar, students took the Myers Briggs Type Indicator to discover their own personal leadership style; read the book, *Exploring Leadership for College Students Who Want to Make a Difference*, which covered leadership theory, styles and practices in groups and organizations; led classmates in learning activities; and participated in small-group presentations, case studies and role-playing exercises.

The students also learned from the leadership experiences of five guest speakers—Sheila McGuire Riggs, vice president, Wellmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Iowa; Vernon Wall, consultant, trainer and speaker on diversity, multiculturalism and leadership development; Beth Cross, vice president

and general manager, Sigler Companies; Aiddy Phomvisay, Ames High School history teacher who coordinates the city-wide FACES cultural celebration; and Cynthia Eisenhauer, director, Iowa Department of Management.

Students evaluated the spring 2004 course highly, with an average score of 4.25 on a 5.0 scale. “Several students in the class even secured summer internships through their interactions with our guest speakers,” Bystrom said.

Program coordinator Julie Snyder-Yuly will teach the “Leadership Styles and Strategies in a Diverse Society” seminar in fall 2004 and each subsequent fall semester. Bystrom will teach the second seminar in the Axel series, “Women in Leadership and Public Service,” in spring 2005 and alternating spring semesters. Snyder-Yuly will teach the third seminar in the series, “Interdisciplinary Research on Women and Leadership,” in spring 2006 and alternating spring semesters.

The “Women in Leadership and Public Service” seminar will focus on women’s political leadership and public service in the United States. Participants will discuss the historical differences in the kinds of political participation and public service women have engaged; theories of women’s political and public leadership; differences in female and male leadership styles; and the perceptions and expectations about women’s political and public leadership. Presentations by national, state and local women political leaders will highlight the opportunities and constraints they face on their road to political leadership and public service as well as their projections for the future.

Pictured at the state National History Day competition are (from left) Zachery Hughes, Ethan Hughes, Sarah Bishop and Adam Koch of Taft Middle School.



Seven Scholars Win 2003 Catt Prize for Research Projects

From a field of 32 proposals in a variety of academic disciplines, five projects were selected to receive recognition as part of the competition for the 2003 Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics. Three projects won \$1,000 prizes, and two projects were given \$500 honorable mention awards.

Prizes of \$1,000 each were awarded to:



Douglas Schrock, assistant professor of sociology, and **Sammy Rastagh**, graduate student in sociology, Florida State University, for *Gender*

Dynamics in the Global Justice Movement. Using a feminist interactions approach, this project researches the emotional mobilization, collective identity and participatory democracy aspects of engendered social movements.



Aparna Thomas, Ph.D. candidate in political science at Western Michigan State, for *Women's Participation in*

the Panchayati Raj: A Case Study of Maharashtra, India. This project researches the impact of quotas on the political participation of women in local government councils in India.

Gina Serignese Woodall, Ph.D. candidate in political science at Arizona State University, for *Playing Hardball in a Dress?: Gender Differences in the Reliance and Effectiveness of*



Negative Campaigns. Using an experimental design, the effectiveness of negative campaigns for men and women candidates was tested. With this design, her research will be able to assess whether the tone of a political advertisement is equally effective for men and women candidates, whether the specific

content of the ad significantly differs for men and women candidates and whether the gender of the target of the ad makes a difference.

Honorable mention awards of \$500 each were presented to:



Lee Ann Banaszak, associate professor of political science and women's studies at Pennsylvania State University, for *In and Out of State: Feminists in the*

Federal Bureaucracy and their Effect on the Women's Movement. Using historical archives and in-depth interviews with feminist activists employed at professional ranks in the U.S. bureaucracy between 1960 and 2000, this project examines these women's roles in mobilizing and organizing the feminist movement, influencing women's movement actions, and achieving movement policy outcomes as both "insiders" and "outsiders."



Ronald J. Zboray, associate professor of communication and history at the University of Pittsburgh, and **Mary Saracino Zboray**, independent

scholar, for *Voices without Votes: Women's Political Consciousness and Partisan Engagement in Antebellum New England*.

Employing a historical-ethnographic methodology, the project aims to rescue the political "voices" of women who never formally spoke in public or published political essays. This project is devoted to the research and writing of a book manuscript on the political consciousness and partisan engagement of 488 "ordinary women" as seen in their diaries and letters (2,202 in all).



Center Calls for Proposals

Proposals will be accepted through Oct. 1 for the 2004 Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics.

This annual competition is designed to encourage and reward scholars embarking on significant research in the area of women and politics. The prize includes a \$1,000 cash award for each project selected. Honorable mention prizes of \$500 per project are sometimes awarded.

Research projects submitted for prize consideration can address any topic related to women and politics. Scholars at any level, including graduate students and junior faculty members, can apply. To be considered for the 2004 prize, applicants should submit:

- Three copies of a detailed description (5-10 pages, double spaced, 12 point font) of the research project including a 150-200 word abstract summarizing its purpose and content; a discussion of relevant theory, contributions to literature in the field, and methodology; a statement about how the prize will contribute to the research project; and a timetable for completion of the project. As the proposals will be blind-reviewed by a committee, the author(s) name(s) should not appear in this description.
- A detachable cover sheet that lists the name, institutional affiliation, and address (mailing address, telephone, and e-mail for fall 2004) for each author.
- A one-page (or less) biographical statement for each author, highlighting her/his research interests, significant publications and/or presentations, and professional interests and experiences related to the project.

Materials should be mailed (not faxed or e-mailed), postmarked by Oct. 1, to the Carrie Chapman Catt Center. Awards will be announced by Dec. 15, 2004.



Catt Center, Women's Studies Share Staff Members, Space

While both programs will remain separate entities reporting to the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics and the Women's Studies Program began sharing staff and space on July 1, 2004.

"Recent personnel changes and space configurations prompted our programs to look at the idea of sharing staff and space," said Catt Center director Dianne Bystrom. "We have enjoyed our increasing collaborations with Women's Studies over the past several years, and believe the new arrangements will strengthen both programs."

The Catt Center and Women's Studies both have been located on the third floor of Carrie Chapman Catt Hall since the building was renovated and re-opened in 1995. Under the new staff arrangements, which were approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences administration, the programs will share two permanent staff positions and some office space.

Julie Snyder-Yuly—who has worked as a full-time, secretary II for the Catt Center since 1998—was promoted to program coordinator I and now works one-half time for each program. For the Catt Center, Snyder-Yuly will teach seminars in the Axel Leadership Development Series and coordinate the development of the new Archive of Women's Political Communication. For Women's Studies, she will teach a one-hour seminar for majors and coordinate events and activities. Snyder-Yuly also will maintain both the Center's and Women's Studies Web sites, produce their newsletters and assist with donor relations. She continues to office in Room 313, Catt Hall.

Christina Gallup, who has worked as the secretary II for Women's Studies, Ethnic Studies and Cross-Disciplinary Studies since 2001, will now split her three-quarter-time position between the Catt Center and Women's Studies. She will

handle the accounting and office administration, including the supervision of work study students, for both programs. Her office is in Room 309, Catt Hall, which has served as the main office for the Catt Center.



Christina Gallup

The programs also will share a graduate research assistant, Natalia Romanova, in 2004-05. She will assist the Catt Center with its student leadership programs and will work on a grant bringing Ukrainian exchange scholars to Iowa State University for the Women's Studies Program. She will office in Room 341, Catt Hall.

In addition to these changes, the Catt Center's Peggy Baum was promoted from program assistant I to program coordinator I in January 2004. She will continue to work three-quarter time for the Catt Center, coordinating its freshman Learning Community, Catt Associates student organization, Legacy of Heroines scholarship program, and other student leadership activities. She will continue to office in Room 323, Catt Hall.

The Catt Center also will continue to employ student staff members, including a peer mentor for the learning community, an undergraduate research assistant for the archive project, and work study students as office assistants. Student staff members for both programs are located in Rooms 309 and 323 of Catt Hall.

Bystrom will continue as director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics in Room 315 Catt Hall. Jill Bystydzienski will continue as director of the Women's Studies Program in Room 349 of Catt Hall.

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:

Peggy Baum and Julie Snyder-Yuly, Catt Center program coordinators, presented "Engendering Engagement: The ACT Learning Community," at the sixth annual ISU Learning Communities Institute.

Dianne Bystrom, Catt Center director, is co-author of "Gender and Candidate Communication: VideoStyle, WebStyle, NewsStyle" to be published in 2004 by Routledge. She also is one of four co-directors of Uvote 2004, a consortium of scholars, researchers and students on campuses throughout the United States who will study communication in the upcoming election.

Jessica Carlson (ISU-04, Legacy of Heroines scholar, Catt Associate) is an intern with the Fleishman-Hillard public relations firm in Chicago, IL.

Carrie Rasmussen (ISU-02, Catt Associate) served as coordinator for the successful campaign of Jim Ridenour, mayor of Modesto, CA.

Rachel Scherle (ISU-00, Legacy of Heroines scholar, Catt Associate) is deputy county attorney for Maricopa County, AZ.

Hannah Schoenthal-Muse (ISU-04, Legacy of Heroines scholar, Catt Associate) is employed as the Ames field organizer for the Iowa Democratic Party.

Julie Snyder-Yuly, Catt Center program coordinator, and Tracey Owens Patton received a top four paper award for research on women and communication at the Western States Communication Association annual convention.

Jennifer Spencer (ISU-01, Legacy of Heroines scholar, Catt Associate) works in the communications department at Fordham Law School in New York City.

Catt Center Students Experience New Hampshire Primary

Less than a week after participating in the Iowa caucuses in Ames, Catt Center students Jessica Carlson and Hannah Schoenthal-Muse flew to Boston, their home base while observing the New Hampshire primary.

In Boston, the Iowa State students met up with journalism students from Emerson College who were covering the New Hampshire primary. They went to rallies for nearly every Democratic candidate, witnessed an actual primary taking place, interviewed voters and campaign staffers, and attended four post-primary celebrations.

“The most fascinating part of our experience was discovering the numerous differences and similarities between the Iowa Caucus and the New Hampshire primary,” Schoenthal-Muse said. “The campaigns operated a little differently, but the stump speeches weren’t noticeably altered, except for switching ‘Iowa’ with ‘New Hampshire.’ The energy and excitement among people in New Hampshire was comparable to Iowa—not surprising, since we have the first two elections in the country.”

One difference the students observed was the use of campaign signs at polling places. “In Iowa, at a polling place or caucus location, campaign signs must be at least 300 feet from the polling location,” Schoenthal-Muse noted. “But, at the New Hampshire primary, campaign staffers and volunteers are

permitted to stand right outside the main entrance of the primary polling location, waving signs and cheering, with only a small barricade that allows voters to get through to the doorway. There were people campaigning for every candidate, excluding Al Sharpton, outside the polling place we attended. Everyone was very friendly and polite to their neighbors, even if they were campaigning for another candidate.”

After witnessing both the Iowa Caucus season and the New Hampshire primary, the Iowa State students concluded that young people are definitely *not* apathetic. “The majority of volunteers, staffers and others getting involved in these elections were young people,” Schoenthal-Muse said.

“Over all, we had a blast! The weather was colder than Iowa’s, but thankfully we had Emerson College students and faculty to drive us around or loan us their cars,” Schoenthal-Muse said. “I ran into several campaign staffers and media that had been covering the Iowa caucuses and we met some wonderful people who had put in endless hours in New Hampshire.”

Professor Greg Payne of Emerson College, who attended the Catt Center’s “Experience the Iowa Caucus” workshop with some of his students, facilitated the Iowa State students’ New Hampshire primary experience. “Thanks so much to everyone at the Catt Center and Emerson College who helped put together this exciting trip allowing us such a great opportunity to see democracy in action,” Schoenthal-Muse said. “Jessica and I had a wonderful time experiencing the differences between a caucus and a primary, first-hand.”

Jessica Carlson (left) and Hannah Schoenthal-Muse met with a variety of individuals promoting participation in the New Hampshire primary.



Election Year Offers Educational Activities

Iowa’s important role in national politics not only brings presidential candidates and the media to the state every four years, it also presents opportunities for citizens to become more informed and involved.

In keeping with its mission to interest, educate and engage citizens in the political process, the Catt Center offers numerous activities and events in the year leading up to the presidential election. On Nov. 3, 2003, the Center hosted a live debate watch of the first ever youth-centered presidential debate. Sponsored nationally by Rock the Vote and CNN, the League of Women Voters of Ames co-sponsored the local event with the Center and sent volunteers to register voters.

On Nov. 6, 2003, the Center and its Catt Associates student organization presented the “Iowa Caucus Workshop: How to Participate in the Iowa Caucuses.” The workshop was broadcast nationally on C-SPAN prior to the January 2004 caucuses.

On Jan. 19, 2004, the Catt Center presented an “Experience the Iowa Caucus” workshop for ISU students and out-of-state visitors on the day of the caucuses. Some 20 faculty and students from Emerson College in Boston, the University of Missouri-Columbia, North Carolina State University and the University of South Dakota participated in the workshop, attended speeches by presidential candidates and observed actual local caucuses.

The Center also is a coalition member of the New Voters Project, a non-profit organization supported by the Pew Charitable Trusts and dedicated to increasing voter turnout among citizens age 18-24 on Election Day 2004. Center staff serve as advisers to the New Voters Project at ISU, sponsor students serving as project interns for academic credit, publicize project events and help recruit volunteers.



Students take advantage of opportunities to learn more about current and past political figures. Iowa State students filled the Sun Room of the Memorial Union on Nov. 4, 2003, to watch America Rocks the Vote: Democratic Presidential Candidates Forum with Young Voters (top left). Prior to the debate, students could submit on-line questions to the candidates. During their trip to the New Hampshire primary from Jan. 24-28, 2004, students attended events for Howard Dean, John Kerry, Joe Lieberman, Dennis Kucinich and John Edwards (top right). ACT Learning Community students met with Senator Mike Gronstal during their field trip to the Iowa State Capitol on Feb. 16, 2004 (bottom left). Catt Associate and Legacy scholar, Liz Ogren, took the opportunity to visit the home of Carrie Chapman Catt in Charles City, IA, in early spring 2004 (bottom right).

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