

# Voices

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

## Clinton's Speech Draws on Past to Inspire Future Leaders

Speaking to a crowd of 1,500 as the 2007 Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics, U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton highlighted the achievements of women in public service and the challenges that lie ahead while they seek full equity in such areas as employment, education and political representation.

Her Oct. 24 presentation, sponsored by the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, served as a venue to honor Clinton and her political career as well as hear her thoughts on women, politics and leadership.

A graduate of Wellesley College and Yale University Law School, Clinton is



*Iowa State junior Maggie Luttrell and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton share a laugh prior to Clinton's public presentation.*

the only First Lady to be elected to public office in the United States. As First Lady, she was a key figure at the 1995 United Nations Conference on Women in Beijing promoting women's rights globally. She was first elected to the U.S. Senate in November 2000 and was re-elected by a wide margin in 2006. In 2007, she formed an exploratory committee to seek the Democratic Party's nomination for president in 2008.

During her public presentation at Stephens Auditorium, Clinton discussed many issues, including affordable health care and higher education; universal pre-kindergarten; and more flexible, family-friendly workplaces. Referring several times to the work of Mary Louise Smith and Carrie Chapman Catt, she also spoke about continuing to lift obstacles for women in education, employment and political participation.

"If we truly want to finish the work that Carrie Chapman Catt and her colleagues started, then we must truly use the power of the vote to make our voices heard," Clinton said.

Catt, an Iowa State graduate, was a leader in the women's suffrage movement and an advocate for international peace. Smith, the first and only woman to chair the Republican National Party, devoted her



## *From the Director Catt Center Marks 15<sup>th</sup> Year*

In the bustle of daily activities, especially in a year leading up to the Iowa Caucus, we missed celebrating an important milestone in 2007—the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics in September.

So, it seems appropriate to reflect on where the Catt Center has been and, especially, where it is going as we approach 2008. It is also important to thank our donors, both those who were with us at the beginning when the Center was established in 1992 and also those who continue to provide the primary base of support for our academic, research and outreach programs.

In the past 15 years, the Center has cut some programs, but added others, to respond to the needs and interests of our students as well as to promote scholarship on women and politics and greater participation of women and young people in the political process. The Center now focuses on:

*Leadership and civic engagement programs for students*—including the Advancing Citizenship Together freshman learning community; Legacy of Heroines scholarship program; new Alice Rodine Internship in Community Activism; Joni and John Axel Leadership Development

*Continued on page 2*

## *Clinton Speech continued from page 1*

life to promoting women's and civil rights.

"The Catt Center is proud to have hosted every woman who has sought the Republican or Democratic party's nomination for president through the Smith chair since its inception in 1995," said Dianne Bystrom, director. "What better inspiration for our students than to see powerful, bright, articulate women seeking our nation's highest office."

In addition to Clinton, the Catt Center hosted U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole in 1999 when she sought the Republican nomination for president and former U.S. Sen. Carol Moseley Braun when she sought the Democratic nomination for president in 2004. Clinton referred to the representation of women in politics, particularly in seeking their party's nomination for president, saying "I'd like to make a prediction, that while there may be plenty of room on the stage tonight, someday there will be enough of us to transform this lecture into a debate."

"As a student who has learned about leadership through many avenues, especially through courses that the



*Emily Hurm, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences academic adviser, talks with Sen. Clinton during the private reception.*

Catt Center offers, it was my greatest honor to introduce Sen. Clinton, who is the epitome of women's leadership," said Maggie Luttrell, a junior from Jacksonville, IL, and co-president of the Catt Associates student leadership organization.

"She was an inspiration, not only to me, but also to the people who attended the event. She made leadership and her role as a woman in leadership seem attainable by her encouraging words during the lecture," Luttrell added. "I will never forget how Sen. Clinton opened my eyes on true women in leadership and I aspire to be like her."

Following the lecture, a private reception was held for students, donors and friends of the Catt Center. During the reception, guests had the opportunity to talk to Clinton one-on-one and have their photographs taken.

"I was expecting a political stump speech and was pleasantly surprised that her speech focused on the impact that women leaders have had in the United States. I really enjoyed listening to her outside her role as presidential candidate," said Terris Cooper, a junior in hotel and restaurant management and member of one of the Catt Center's leadership courses.

The Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics was established in 1995 to honor the Iowa native and longtime political leader. The purpose of the chair is to bring nationally renowned political leaders, scholars and activists to Iowa State University to enrich the experiences of students and educate citizens about the role of women in the political process. Clinton was the 16<sup>th</sup> woman to visit Iowa State as the Smith Chair. The Catt Center is in the process of securing a prominent Republican woman to serve as the spring 2008 chair.

## *From the Director continued from page 1*

Series of courses; Catt Associates student organization; and special, educational events such as the Iowa Caucus workshop. The Center's proposed interdisciplinary Certificate in Community Leadership and Public Service is under review for implementation in 2008.

*Programs promoting research on women and politics*—such as the annual Carrie Chapman Catt Prize and new online Archives of Women's Political Communication. The archives—made possible through a gift from Mary Jo and Richard Stanley—have been well received as an important teaching and research resource by faculty and scholars.

*Outreach programs promoting and recognizing women's leadership*—including the presentations of noted women leaders who visit campus as the Mary Louise Smith Chair in Women and Politics; the Plaza of Heroines; "Women Impacting ISU" calendar, and "Ready to Run" campaign school for women.

I encourage you to celebrate the Center's past, and support its future, through your continued interest, participation and financial investment in its programs. Happy Holidays!

*Dianne Bystrom*

*Voices is published by the  
Carrie Chapman Catt Center  
for Women and Politics  
309 Catt Hall  
Iowa State University  
Ames, Iowa 50011-1305  
Phone: 515-294-3181  
E-mail: cattcntr@iastate.edu  
Web site: www.las.iastate.edu/CattCenter/*

*Editorial Staff  
Dianne Bystrom, Director  
Julie Snyder-Yuly, Assistant Director  
Chris Fowler, Program Coordinator  
Robin Gogerty, Administrative Assistant  
Ashley Margo, Undergraduate Assistant  
Hillary Noneman, Undergraduate Assistant  
Azure Ryerson, Undergraduate Assistant*

## Catt Center Workshop Encourages Students to Caucus

As presidential politics focuses attention on Iowa, the Catt Center intensifies its efforts to interest, educate and engage citizens, especially youth, in the political process.

On Nov. 13, the Catt Center presented “Iowa Caucus Workshop: How to Participate in the Iowa Caucuses.” More than 100 students and community members interested in learning about the caucus process attended the event.

The workshop began with presentations by Mary Ann Spicer, president of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District of Republican Women, and Gordon Fischer, former state chairman of the Iowa Democratic Party, explaining the process of the Republican and Democratic caucuses and how individuals can get involved.

Both speakers stressed the importance of the Iowa caucus in determining the presidential candidates and as a way to get their voices heard in terms of voting on platform issues for the parties. In addition, both speakers said that the events were fun and a great way for individuals to get more involved in their parties and the political process.

Although both the Democratic and Republican caucuses have been moved to Thursday, Jan. 3, when most college students are away from Ames, they can choose to either caucus in the precinct of their campus residence or their Iowa



*Mary Ann Spicer explains the Republican Party caucus process.*



*Gordon Fischer answers questions regarding the Democratic Party caucus process.*

hometown residence. Both parties allow caucus participants to register, or re-register, to vote in a precinct in which they have an address on Jan. 3. In addition, Iowa State is opening the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of Wallace Hall on Jan. 2, 3 and 4 so that students—including those from outside Iowa—can come back to Ames to caucus. Those who have lived in the state for at least 30 days, as out-of-state students have, can register to vote and caucus in Iowa on Jan. 3.

Following the speakers’ presentations, the participants broke into two sessions to mock caucus for either party. Ashley Wiegner, a Democratic candidate caucus organizer, led students through the Democratic Party process as the crowd caucused for cookies. Chad Olsen, director of organization for the Republican Party, demonstrated how the Republican Party caucus works.

In addition to the presentations and mock caucuses, the workshop featured a candidate resource fair to allow those in attendance to gather more information on the presidential candidates.

The event was co-sponsored by the ISU College Republicans, ISU Democrats and the Committee on Lectures (funded by GSB). Reporters from several newspapers—including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Des Moines Register* and *Iowa State Daily*—attended the event as part of their coverage of the youth vote in Iowa.

## International Visitors Learn About Catt Center

International women visiting Iowa often ask to visit the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics to learn about the Center, Catt, or women in Iowa and U.S. politics. This fall, women from Tajikistan and Chile met with Center director Dianne Bystrom.

Ten women leaders from Tajikistan met with Bystrom on Sept. 19 to learn about the role of women in U.S. politics, Catt’s work in the women’s suffrage movement, and leadership programs offered by the Center. The women work for non-profit organizations or in government services targeted at women and other marginalized citizens in Tajikistan. They visited the state under the sponsorship of the Iowa Resource for International Service of Ames.

Maria de los Angeles Fernandez, director of Foundation Chile XXI, visited the Catt Center on Oct. 25 as part of her first trip to the United States under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program. Hosting her visit to the state was the Iowa Council of International Understanding.

A researcher in the Department of Political Science at the University of Chile, Fernandez was interested in meeting with academics focused on gender and political issues; learning more about leadership programs for women, especially training programs designed to increase their participation in politics and the electoral process; and establishing links with research centers.

Fernandez and Bystrom discussed the Center’s leadership programs for women, particularly the Ready to Run campaign school, and the Archives of Women’s Political Communication. Fernandez, who also writes for several newspapers in Chile, will contribute some of the speeches she has collected from Michelle Bachelet—the first woman and current president of Chile—for the archives.

## "Women Impacting ISU" Calendar Honors 12 Outstanding Women at Iowa State University

Twelve women whose leadership has made a difference at Iowa State University will be honored by the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics on the second annual "Women Impacting ISU" calendar.

More than 2,000 copies of the 2008 calendar will be distributed free after an official unveiling and recognition reception on Friday, Jan. 18, 2008. The "Women Impacting ISU" calendars will be formatted as a large poster with a 2008 calendar. The poster will also include photographs of the six students and six faculty and staff members who were selected based on their achievements in administration, teaching, research, service and various other campus activities.

Funding for the calendar is provided by a mini-grant from the Women's Enrichment Fund administered by the Women's Leadership Consortium and made

available through the Office of the Provost.

The Catt Associates, a student leadership organization associated with the Carrie Chapman Catt Center, sponsors the calendar. Members of Catt Associates publicize, collect and review nominations; select the honorees; organize the recognition reception; and help design, order and distribute the calendars.

"The quality of the nominations made the selection process very difficult," said Greta Johnson, a junior in political science who is coordinating the project as the Center's 2007-08 Alice Rodine intern in community activism. "It is amazing to learn about all the things that the women of ISU are involved with to improve the campus environment for everyone."

Students included on the 2008 calendar are: Swarupa Bakre, graduate student in

business administration; Whitney Bynum, senior in mechanical engineering; Cathy Compton, senior in music education; Rachael Cox, junior in agroecology; Kelli Huser, junior in environmental science and political science; and Megan Todd, senior in marketing.

Faculty and staff selected include: Sally Deters, residence life coordinator; J. Elaine Hieber, retired senior associate athletic director; Sally Gleason, secretary for the Department of Chemistry; Bryony Bonning, professor of entomology; Brenda Daly, university professor of English; and Wendy Wintersteen, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Dave Gieseke, director of communications for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, serves as the photographer and Sheena Lara, graphic designer for the college, will help design and format the 2008 calendar.

## Legacy of Heroines Donors and Scholars Impact Local and Global Communities

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics is pleased to recognize the recent achievements of donors and participants in the Legacy of Heroines scholarship program.

The Legacy of Heroines program was established in 1996 to provide undergraduate women at Iowa State University with financial support as well as opportunities to learn leadership skills and meet women mentors in a variety of academic and professional areas.

Since the inception of this program, both donors and scholars have been recognized for their leadership on campus, in their communities and in their career fields. Those recently honored are:

**Darleane Hoffman**, professor of chemistry at the University of California-Berkeley, received the 2007 College

of Liberal Arts and Sciences John V. Atanasoff Research and Discovery Award. This award is given to an alumnus of the college who has furthered scientific knowledge of the nation and the world. Since 1997, Hoffman has sponsored the Elverna Christian Legacy of Heroines scholarship, named in honor of her mother, for students affiliated with the Catt Center.

**Helen Howe**, Muscatine, IA, received a 2007 Iowa State University Honorary Alumna Award. The award is the highest honor given by Iowa State through the Alumni Association to individuals who are not ISU graduates. Howe was recognized for her support of educational and community projects. Since 1996, Howe has sponsored the Helen Howe Legacy of Heroines scholarship for students affiliated with the Catt Center.

**Amanda Knief**, legal counsel for the Iowa Legislative Services Agency, was nominated to be a delegate with the People to People Ambassador Program because of her interest in international women's issues. The 2007 program was held in St. Petersburg, Russia. Knief, a 1999 graduate of Iowa State University, was a recipient of a Legacy of Heroines scholarship during her junior and senior years.

**Maggie Luttrell**, a junior in history and women's studies from Jacksonville, IL, received the 2007 Women of Achievement Award from the YWCA of Ames-ISU for her exemplary leadership and commitment to issues of social justice. Luttrell has been involved with the Catt Center since her freshman year as a member of the ACT learning community. She continues her involvement with the Center as a Legacy of Heroines scholarship recipient, co-president of Catt Associates and as a peer mentor for the current ACT learning community.

## Women's Political Communication Archives Expands Content, Adds Editorial Board

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center's Archives of Women's Political Communication continues to expand its content, with the goal to showcase women's political discourse and promote lifelong learning about women leaders throughout the world.

The online archives currently houses profiles and political speeches for 97 women who have held elected and appointed public office in the United States and several other countries as well as women political activists from historical and contemporary times. The profiles are organized into 19 categories, including historical figures, U.S. Representatives and Senators, governors, Mary Louise Smith chairs, international leaders and activists. Full texts of more than 350 speeches,

organized under 77 different content topics, are accessible through the web site. The speakers and their speeches can be searched by last name of the speaker, topic of the speech or speaker's title.

Content new to the site as of fall 2007 are speeches from women rights activists, suffragists and international women leaders. Work is underway to gather speeches from current and past women in Congress, international women leaders and historical figures.

In addition, a new editorial board made up of scholars in political communication and public address has been established to help oversee and review the collection of speeches. The editorial board includes: Dr. Thomas Burkholder,

University of Nevada-Las Vegas; Dr. Mitchell McKinney, University of Missouri; Dr. Shawn Parry-Giles, University of Maryland; Dr. Amy Slagell, Iowa State University; and Dr. Susan Zaeske, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The Center is initiating a new process through which individuals can contribute speeches to the archives. The submissions will be reviewed by the editorial board and those who contribute speeches will be acknowledged on the archives web site.

The archives are available at: <http://www.womenspeecharchive.org/>

## Donors Support Scholarships, Speakers, Leadership Programs, Research Initiatives

The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics recognizes and thanks the following donors for their friendship, support and contributions to its fiscal year 2007 (July 2006-June 2007) programs, scholarships and activities. With the help of their donations, the Center brought noted guest speakers to the Iowa State University campus, provided scholarships and leadership development programs to students, sponsored research awards, developed a women's speech archives, and continued building an endowment.

Brenda Allen-Ames, IA

\*The estate of Katherine Annin-Sun City, AZ

American Standard-Piscataway, NJ

\*Colleen Armstrong-West Des Moines, IA

\*Peg Armstrong-Gustafson-Waukee, IA

\*Joni & John Axel-Muscatine, IA

David Brenner-Ames, IA

Ann & Timm Brom-Prarie Del Chien, WI

Cargill Incorporated-Fargo, ND

Catherine Compton-Ames, IA

Lucille F. Coultrap Trust-Clarendon Hills, IL

LeVern Faidley-Ames, IA

FBL Financial Group Inc.-

West Des Moines, IA

Federal Home Loan Bank-

Des Moines, IA

Lana Finnestad-Ames, IA

Christine Fowler-Ames, IA

\*Richard H. Gimer-Potomac, MD

\*Diane & Robert Greenlee-Boulder, CO

Michelle Grawe-Norman, OK

Lowell Greimann-Ames, IA

William B. Haigh-West Des Moines, IA

Shelley Hawkins-Ames, IA

\*Betsy Hoffman & Brian Binger-Ames, IA

Darleane & Marvin Hoffman-Oakland, CA

\*Helen & Stanley Howe-Muscatine, IA

\*Pat & Robert Jester-Des Moines, IA

Gary Koenig-Lexington, KY

Joanne & Charles Kuster-Johnston, IA

Karen Larson-Ames, IA

\*Patricia & Philip Larson-Washington, DC

Paula Long-Marengo, IA

\*Barbara Mack-Des Moines, IA

Sandra Peterson-Ames, IA

Kyle Pitsor-Washington, DC

\*Rose Lee & Marvin Pomerantz-Des Moines, IA

Principal Financial Group-Des Moines, IA

Proctor & Gamble Co.-Cincinnati, OH

\*Sharon & Richard Rodine-Norman, OK

Clayton Rullestad-Boone, IA

JoAnn Rumelhart-Des Moines, IA

\*Kay Kretschmar Runge-Des Moines, IA

Judith Raak & Richard Heuwinkel-Washington, D.C.

T. Rowe Price Associates-Baltimore, MD

Rutgers University-New Brunswick, NJ

Dorcas-Jane Schoppe-Walnut Creek, CA

Kevin Schulte-Des Moines, IA

Susan M. & Robert F. Smith-Kansas City, MO

Kappie Spencer-Sarasota, FL

Marisa Stadlman-Ames, IA

\*Mary Jo & Richard Stanley-Muscatine, IA

Maureen & Terrence Tobin-Clive, IA

Dona Wolf & Dwight Ink-Lansdowne, VA

Lauri & James Young-Cedar Falls, 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.

## Stories from the

### Plaza of Heroines



#### Ginger Cade

“Whether it is about oppression or the unjust social treatment of others in the world, Ginger Cade has been a voice to be listened to, a shoulder to cry on, and a hand to help. Because of her continued support and inspirational vision, we believe she is a deserving recipient of the Plaza of Heroines,” writes Chris Fowler, one of the more than 40 people who honored her.

Cade received her bachelor’s degree in education in 1997 and her master’s degree in educational leadership and policy studies in 1999 from Iowa State University. While at Iowa State, she served as a hall director for the Department of Residence in Storms Hall. Following her graduation, Cade accepted a position as assistant director of Residence Life at St. Mary’s College in Minnesota and then as an institutional researcher.

In 2004, Cade returned to Iowa State as a classification officer for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. It was like coming home for Cade, who began both her academic and professional careers at ISU.

Cade has continued to show her dedication to colleagues, peers and students by being an innovator, creating programs and conferences, and inspiring forward-thinking on a variety of topics. “Ginger has shared resources and ideas and helped inspire a sense of both passion and compassion on issues related to education, activism and social change. She never hesitates to speak on behalf of others,” Fowler wrote.



#### Roseva Eitel Albertson

Roseva Eitel Albertson is honored in the Plaza of Heroines by her five children. She has always been an inspiration to her children, and is even more so now that they have children of their own.

Born in Kirksville, MO, she was the sixth of seven children. In 1950 she married Hubert Albertson. They had five children. She always valued higher education and received her B.A. in economics from Iowa State University in 1969. Albertson earned an M.A. in guidance and counseling in 1970 and a certification in secondary administration in 1976.

She balanced attending classes with teaching home economics in the Ames community school system. In her limited free time, she was active in her church and enjoyed traveling, sports events, reading and gardening.

Albertson would be pleased to see the value her family still places on higher education. She and her children have nine degrees between them. She also would be happy to see these values reaching a third generation with her grandchildren pursuing higher education, some at Iowa State.



#### Doris Nelson Kuhlman

Doris Nelson Kuhlman is honored by her daughter, Venessa Fae Macro. “Her most influential encouragement was by example. She has taught me that achievement is not in being provided the opportunity of a lifetime, but making a lifetime out of opportunity, no matter how limited that opportunity may be,” writes Macro.

Doris Lucille Nelson was born in a farmhouse near Soldier, IA, where she spent her childhood. She graduated from Soldier High School in 1939. After high school, she went to Cedar Falls to attend the Iowa State Teachers College. Upon her graduation, she returned to Soldier, where she taught in a one-room schoolhouse.

During the Depression, the family fell on hard times and moved to Sioux City, where Nelson took a job in the male-dominated livestock industry, working the stockyards at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. While working there, she became the first woman to broadcast the morning livestock markets on the radio. She worked there for 19 years. In 1963, she married and decided to focus her time as a 4-H leader and an active volunteer in her church.

“Surely, my mother did not take a job with the USDA because she had aspirations of being the first woman to broadcast the morning livestock reports,” Macro wrote. “Instead, that feat occurred because she made the most of a given situation, and proved she was capable and competent. Therein lies the secret to the true advancement of women and one to which I credit her.”

