

The Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies



► Officially established in 1986, the Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Rochester focuses on understanding the role of women and gender throughout history and contemporary society. It is named to honor Susan B. Anthony, the 19th-century suffragist who helped lead a successful campaign to have women admitted to the University in 1900.

The institute draws on Anthony's goals and ideals and preserves her rich historical connection with the city of Rochester. It offers an undergraduate major and minor in women's studies and a graduate certificate in gender and women's studies. Many students are double majors. Graduates draw on their experience with the institute

to inform their work in a variety of careers, including law, health care, social work, and education.

Points of Pride

Multidisciplinary Approach

This is a rich multidisciplinary program that includes 80 faculty across Arts, Sciences & Engineering, the Eastman School of Music, the Warner School of Education, the Simon School of Business, the School of Nursing, and the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Broad Scope

Areas of faculty scholarship and interest are diverse and include women in history, society, and politics; gender in science and technology; language and sexuality; feminist theory in literature, art, and media; and gay and lesbian studies.

High Honors

Each year the institute awards the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize for excellence in fiction by an American woman. Past recipients include

novelists Toni Morrison, Ursula LeGuin, Anne Tyler, Ann Patchett, Marianne Wiggins, Judith Guest, and Nicole Mones.

Community Engagement

The institute hosts myriad thought-provoking events throughout the year that engage and inspire the University community and the broader Rochester community. Topics can range from sustainability to feminist economics. The institute's students also take their coursework into daily life. For example, they teach life skills classes annually at the Sojourner House in Rochester, a temporary home for women and children in need.

Hallmark Programs

The Susan B. Anthony Lecture

This keynote address is presented annually in conjunction with the Susan B. Anthony Institute's International Graduate Student Research Conference. It addresses issues of gender and/or women from a scholarly perspective.



"Being a part of the Susan B. Anthony Institute is empowering. You have access to passionate and knowledgeable professors, amazing speakers, and unique hands-on learning opportunities, all of which change the way you think and open you up to diverse ideas. I have learned so much here."

Olivia Coffaro '13
women's studies major

The Two Icons Lecture

In the 2008–09 academic year, the Susan B. Anthony Institute and the Frederick Douglass Institute for African and African-American Studies inaugurated the annual Two Icons Lecture to explore the intersection of race and gender. The lecture honors the legacy of these two iconic individuals from Rochester whose deep commitment to civil rights and social justice changed the course of history.

The Rainbow Lecture

The annual Rainbow Lecture was inaugurated in 2012 to address LGBTQI issues. Presented in April as part of LGBTQI Awareness Month at the University, it includes a public lecture and additional learning opportunities for students.

How You Can Help

Gifts to the institute support the interdisciplinary work of its faculty and students. Consider any of the following funding opportunities:

Students

Supporting students is one of the highest priorities at Rochester. One of the department's top needs is to establish new postdoctoral fellowships or resident visiting research fellowships. The department also needs funding for research, graduate teaching fellowships, graduate dissertation awards, conferences, and undergraduate prizes.



▲ Pictured: Erika Howard '13, Olivia Coffaro '13, Samuel Stewart '13, Jun Yin '16, Alykhan Alani '12 (Take Five Year '13).

“We are stewards of Susan B. Anthony’s legacy and are committed to creating a learning environment that promotes awareness, empathy, and compassion to drive change and understanding.”

—Honey Meconi, Susan B. Anthony Professor of Gender and Women’s Studies and Director of the Institute

Faculty

Endowed professorships help to attract and retain faculty of exceptional talent and are visible honors recognized across the University and by other top educational institutions. The University seeks endowed professorships in women’s history, minority women’s studies, international women’s rights, and in LGBTQI issues.

Programs

The institute offers a rich array of programs and events, including two film series, an annual music festival, art exhibits, field trips, visiting speakers, and a mentoring program. Gifts establish and sustain such vital programs.

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