

Impact Report



2022-23

CHATHAM UNIVERSITY
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Historic Legacy & Mission

Women's Leadership & Gender Equity

The Women's Institute continues the legacy of Chatham University's historic commitment to women's leadership and gender equity. Through education, research, and outreach, the Institute serves as a hub for the university's broad range of gender initiatives, resources, and academic programs.

Women's Leadership

The Women's Institute offers a Women's Leadership Certificate and provides the academic programming for the Women's Leadership & Femme-Aligned Living Learning Community (LLC).

Certificate & LLC

41

41 students from a wide range of disciplines participated in the Women's Leadership Certificate Program this year.

18

The curriculum requires 18 credits, including the "Women's Leadership in the 21st Century" course.

6

6 seniors earned the credential and received their certificates at the annual spring celebration of women's leadership and gender equity.

19

19 students lived in the Women's Leadership & Femme-Aligned Living Learning Community (LLC) in the Laughlin Residence Hall.



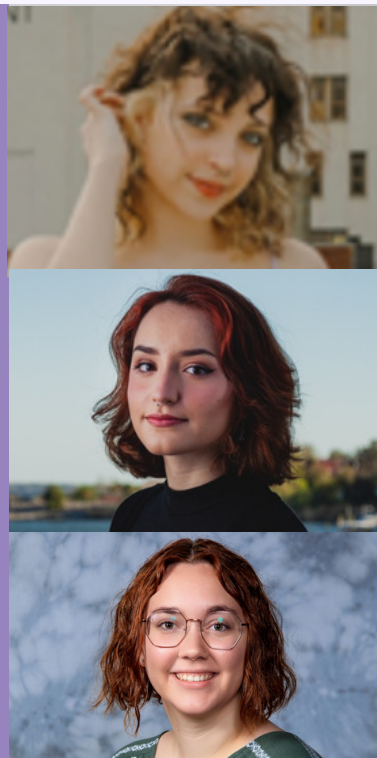
Seniors Katelyn Nee and Emi Perdan received their Women's Leadership Certificates at the annual spring celebration.

Awards



Barbara Stone Hollander '60 Student Leadership Award

This \$2,500 prize is awarded each year to fund a women's leadership development experience for an outstanding undergraduate student. Jada Jenkins, a Media Arts major with the Women's Leadership Certificate, was accepted into a summer immersive film career leadership program at Fordham University.



Class of '64 Women's Institute Endowed Fund Student Recipients

Students in any field may use funds to support research and creative work related to women and gender, and to support professional development as leaders in their fields.

Lauren Hunter (top), a first year MFA student and managing editor of The Fourth River, Chatham's graduate literary magazine, attended the annual Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference in Seattle, Washington.

Fiana Mastrangelo (middle) and Cloey Layton (bottom), students in the Master of Arts in Psychology program, attended the "Creating Change" conference in San Francisco, California.

Role Models



Dr. Cheryl Hall-Russell,
President & Chief Cultural
Consultant, BW3



Maria Moitano, Press
Secretary, Office of the
Mayor, City of Pittsburgh



Dana Donaldson '05, Land
Manager, XCL Midstream,
LLC



Camila Rivera-Tinsley,
CEO, Women & Girls
Foundation



Dr. Sharon R.
Higginbotham, Founder,
Higginbotham Associates



Dr. Angela Reynolds, CEO,
YWCA Greater Pittsburgh



Vanessa McCarthy-
Johnson '18/MBA '19,
Borough Manager,
Borough of Homestead



Dr. Maria Alfonseca-
Cubero, Professor of
Mathematics, North
Dakota State University



Dr. Lesli Somerset Talley,
Associate Director, Career
Development, Chatham
University

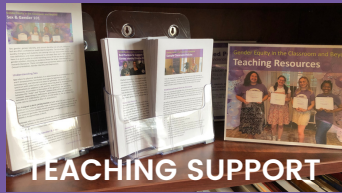
To develop women's leadership and promote gender equity, we use evidence based programs drawing from a broad range of disciplines. Research demonstrates what is most effective, including exposure to role models such as those leaders above who worked with students this year in the "Women's Leadership in the 21st Century" course (pictured below). We also provide mentoring and sponsorship, networking opportunities, skills practice including salary negotiation, strategies to address systemic barriers to success, ways to engage men in the work, and policy advocacy.

Role Models, Developing Skills	Mentoring & Sponsorship, Networking	Addressing Systemic Barriers, Policy

Building Community

RESOURCES

A drop-in resource area open 5 days a week creates crucial space for organic learning and belonging leading to student well-being and retention.



TEACHING SUPPORT



FEMINIST & FUN



COMMUNITY INFO



Students in the Women's Leadership & Femme-Aligned Living Learning Community at the annual spring celebration.

Hollander Lectures

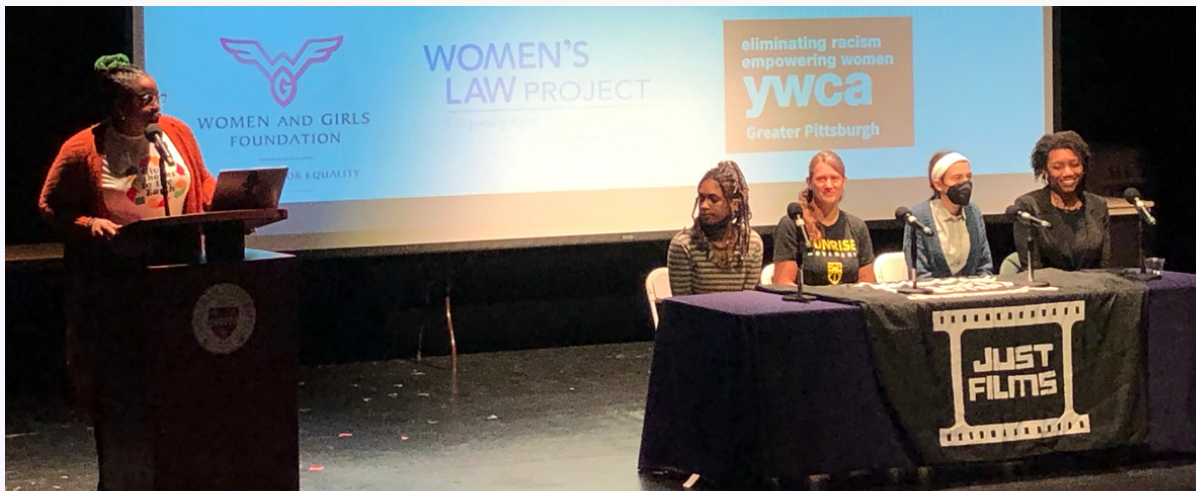


Barbara Stone Hollander '60 Lectures in Women's Leadership

Each semester, this fund supports a lecture and day of engagement with students from a leading woman in her field. In the fall, Mai Khoi, international pop star and Vietnamese refugee artist, performed her autobiographical piece, "Bad Activist" (left). In the spring, Dr. Angela Reynolds (right), CEO of YWCA Greater Pittsburgh, gave a lecture entitled, "Is This Mic On? The Continued Fight for Racial and Gender Equity."



Just Films



7 Seasons

This was the 7th season of the Just Films series, a collaboration of organizations serving women and girls that believe in the power of film to promote conversations about social, political, and economic change.

6 Partners

Just Films is a partnership of the Black Women's Policy Center, Chatham University Art & Design Department and Women's Institute, MomsWork powered by NCJW, the Women and Girls Foundation, the Women's Law Project, and YWCA Greater Pittsburgh

5 Films

Screened 5 new films: The Janes (a 1960s abortion network); Fannie Lou Hamer's America (Civil Rights, voting); The Great American Lie (structural inequality); The Dilemma of Desire (women's sexuality and equality); To The End (environmental justice).

21 Panelists

21 community leaders and activists spoke on panels following the films, giving the audience the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the themes of the documentary, including opportunities to get involved on a local level.

Visiting Scholars

Each year, the Women's Institute hosts Visiting Scholars who engage with students and the campus community, and deliver lectures and workshops while furthering their own scholarship.



**Dr. David
Blackmore**

Dr. Blackmore presented a workshop entitled, "Latino/a/x/e: Language and Gender in Latin America and the Diaspora"



**Dr. Cheryl
Hall-Russell**

Dr. Hall-Russell presented a workshop, "Intersectional Leadership: The Challenges of Bringing Your Whole Self to Work & How We Keep Fighting to Do So."



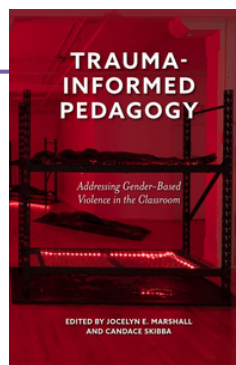
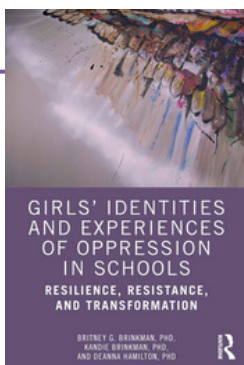
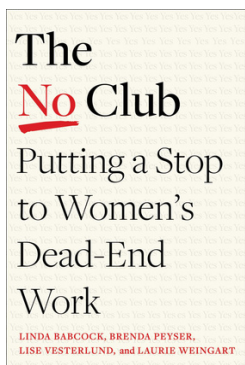
**Dr. Sharon
Higginbotham**

Dr. Higginbotham taught a Philosophy course, "Womanist and Liberation Theology."

Book Talks & Trainings



The Women's Institute hosted celebrations of 4 new books by local authors related to gender equity, including "Girls' Identities and Experiences of Oppression in Schools" by Chatham faculty member, Dr. Deanna Hamilton (above right) with Dr. Britney Brinkman (left) and our Director, Dr. Jessie Ramey (center). Authors also offered training and workshops to students and faculty.



The Classroom

Our Director, Dr. Jessie Ramey, teaches courses each year that extend the mission of the Women's Institute into the classroom, including "U.S. Women's History," "Gendered Resistance, Riots, and Rebellions," and "Women's Leadership in the 21st Century." These classes also host guest lectures, such as those below, that are open to the campus community,



Molly Tighe

presented the founding documents of Chatham University for the class "U.S. Women's History"



Dr. Harrison Apple

discussed queer community archives for the class "Gendered Resistance, Riots, and Rebellions"

Collaboration

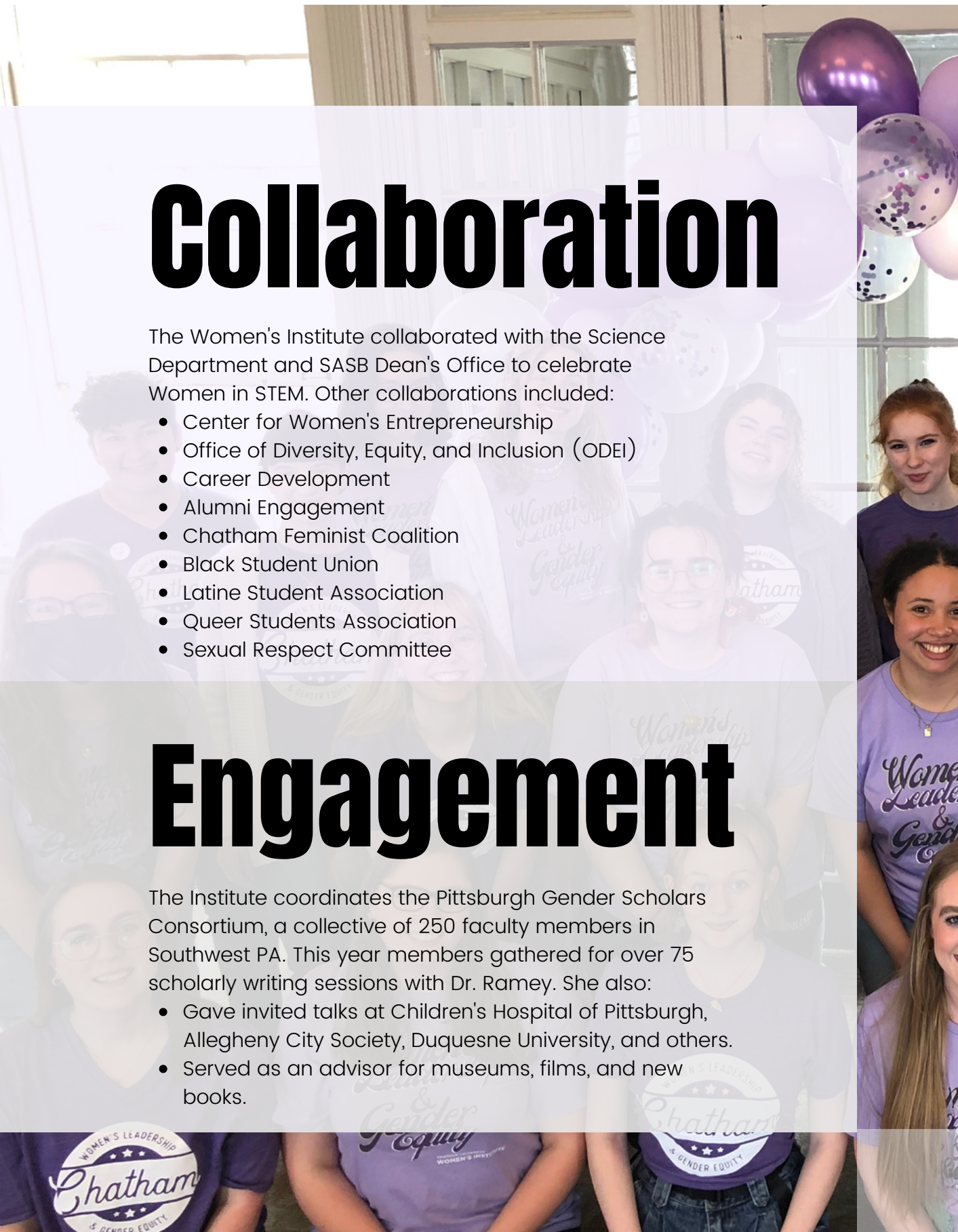
The Women's Institute collaborated with the Science Department and SASB Dean's Office to celebrate Women in STEM. Other collaborations included:

- Center for Women's Entrepreneurship
- Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI)
- Career Development
- Alumni Engagement
- Chatham Feminist Coalition
- Black Student Union
- Latine Student Association
- Queer Students Association
- Sexual Respect Committee

Engagement

The Institute coordinates the Pittsburgh Gender Scholars Consortium, a collective of 250 faculty members in Southwest PA. This year members gathered for over 75 scholarly writing sessions with Dr. Ramey. She also:

- Gave invited talks at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Allegheny City Society, Duquesne University, and others.
- Served as an advisor for museums, films, and new books.



Thank You



We Appreciate Your Support

The Women's Institute is supported by the Barbara Stone Hollander '60 Endowed Fund, the Marty Carson Women's Institute Endowed Fund, the Class of '64 Women's Institute Endowed Fund, the Class of '66 Legacy Women's Institute Endowed Fund, Chatham University, and individual donors. Contributions directly support students and educational programs.

[DONATE](#) 



Congratulations!

Our amazing student team graduated! Congratulations to (left to right) senior Shaelah Pepperman (Social Work, Criminology, Women's Leadership Certificate) and graduate fellows Emily Yourish and Gabriella Escobar (Counseling Psychology).



Contact Us

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