## ATTENTION WGST UNDERGRADATE MINORS AND WGST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE STUDENTS!!!!

Due date: March 11th 2022

The UNC Charlotte Women's and Gender Studies Program is pleased to announce that the annual Dr. Ann C. Carver Essay Contests now includes an additional award for students enrolled in the WGST Graduate Certificate Program! These undergraduate WGST minor and Graduate Certificate student awards are named after the founding Coordinator of UNC Charlotte's Women's Studies Program. A faculty member of the English Department since 1969, Dr. Carver was also the former chair of the Black Studies Committee, who selected Dr. Bertha Maxwell-Roddey to be the first director of UNC Charlotte's Black Studies Program, later renamed the African American and African Studies Department, (AAAS). Dr. Carver worked side by side with Dr. Maxwell-Roddey to teach, advise, and help students as a faculty member of the AAAS Department, now called the Africana Studies Department. After teaching in the English and AAAS Departments for several years, she responded to the demands of female students to offer Women's Studies courses at the University. In the spring of 1984, after years of negotiations, the Concentration in Women's Studies, an interdisciplinary program, was approved by the UNC administration. While the Program began with a small offering of courses, today it offers over 100 courses and has over 350 minors.

### **Eligibility:**

#### **UNDERGRADUATE:**

- 1. Are declared Women's and Gender Studies minors.
- 2. Have a minimum overall GPA of 2.5.

#### **GRADUATE:**

- 1. Must be enrolled in the WGST Graduate Certificate Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies.
- 2. Must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0.

#### Award:

#### UNDEGRADUATE STUDENT AWARD: \$500

#### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE STUDENT AWARD: \$500

## Criteria for Awarding Essay:

All essays must be typed in Microsoft Word, using Times New Roman, 12-point font size, and no more than **2,500** words in length (including references) for Undergraduates and no more than **8,000** words in length (including references) for Graduate Certificate students. All papers must be double-spaced with one-inch margins, left to right and top to bottom. Papers that only offer personal opinions, without evidence of research/documentation and analytical reasoning, will not be considered.

The Women's and Gender Studies Essay Contest Committee will consider the following in the evaluation of the Undergraduate and Graduate Certificate Student essays:

- Subject/Topic and Originality
- Argument/and or theoretical framework
- Methodology and Research process
- Supporting evidence/Sources
- Skills/Mechanics

## **Application Deadline:**

Due date: March 11<sup>th</sup> 2022

#### **Instructions:**

# A completed application consists of:

Non-published original scholarly or literary essay of no more than 2500 words (Undergraduate) or 8,000 words (Graduate Certificate Students) on any subject related to the following themes: Gender, Sexuality, and the Politics of the Body; Gender, Activism, Resistance, and Empowerment; and Gender, Intersectionality, Transfeminism, and Diversity.

Applicants may submit a revised version of an essay completed in one of their classes or the applicant may submit a newly-created essay.

- Two letters of reference from UNC Charlotte faculty.
  - 1. If submitting an essay from an applicant's coursework, at least one letter should be from the former professor who assigned the essay that will be entered in the contest. Letters from peers or family members will not be accepted.
  - 2. These letters should evaluate the Applicant's academic achievement and interest & involvement in gender issues.
- Contact information for the people who are writing your letters of reference.
  - 1. Names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers

## **Submission Instructions**

Only electronic submissions will be accepted. Submit the essay as email attachment to: <a href="wgstcarveraward@gmail.com">wgstcarveraward@gmail.com</a> the electronic file must be in PDF format and must be arranged as follows:

- 1. The first page must be a cover letter with the title of your essay, your name, mailing address, telephone number and email contact information.
- 2. The second page of the essay must contain only the title of the essay. Please do not include your name on this page.
- 3. The essay: no name or Banner ID.

All application materials must be emailed to Dr. Elisabeth Paquette, <a href="wgstcarveraward@gmail.com">wgstcarveraward@gmail.com</a> by March 11th, 2022. It is at the sole discretion of the WGST Carver Essay Award Contest Committee if late or incomplete applications are accepted. For more information, contact

Elisabeth Paquette, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Women's and Gender Studies email: epaquet1@uncc.edu