At Monmouth University we are fortunate to have an excellent faculty, acclaimed for their teaching, scholarship, and service. This first issue of the Gender Studies Newsletter features some of their important gender work under way at Monmouth, and being showcased in articles and books, and at conferences around the country & around the world.

Chad Dell details a 1950s revolution in the making in his new book, *The Revenge of Hatpin Mary: Women, Professional Wrestling and Fan Culture in the 1950s*, published by Peter Lang (2006). Dell explains why millions of women flocked to wrestling arenas across the country, drawn both to the parade of glistening male bodies and the feminine camaraderie at ringside. This book may set down the myth of June Cleaver once and for all!

William Mitchell’s new book, *Voices from the Global Margin* (University of Texas Press, 2006), considers the gendered aspects of the Shining Path war that devastated Peru from 1980 to 1992. Although peasant women earn and control their own income and can even deny food to their husbands, they are still in a precarious position vis-à-vis both peasant and upper class men. As women hunted for disappeared sons and husbands during the war, however, and created women’s clubs and communal kitchens to feed their families, they developed a sense of power that led them to question the authority of men.

Katherine Parkin explores the history of food advertising in her new book, *Food is Love: Advertising and Gender Roles in Modern America*, published by the University of Pennsylvania Press (2006). She discovers that by asserting shopping and cooking as expressions of love, advertisers helped to establish and reinforce the belief that kitchen work was women's work, even as women's participation in the labor force dramatically increased.
**Articles, Presentations, Performances:**


**Shoemaker, Deanna.** "Speaking Unspeakables: Growing up white, working class, and female in West Texas." (Invited Performer for DiversityFestIV: Kutztown University, PA, September 2005).

**Shoemaker, Deanna** (co-director/ adviser). “From Fairy Tales to Fantasies, Barbies to Boys: Reclaiming Women’s Voices and Bodies.” Presented by CommWorks, an MU student group devoted to performance, in celebration of Women's History Month, March 2006.


---

Dr. Fran Trotman and Dr. Oty Agbajoh-Laoye at the 2006 African Literature Association Annual Conference, Accra, Ghana.