

## NCRW Member Center Awards 2009-2010 Recognize Excellence in Research and Scholarship

New York, NY (June 15, 2009) – The National Council for Research on Women (NCRW) presented its annual **Member Center Awards** for excellence in research, diversity, and policy initiatives during its Annual Conference, held at The Graduate Center, CUNY June 10-12. At an opening reception on June 10th led by keynote speaker **Donna Orender**, President of the **Women's National Basketball Association** (WNBA), the Council presented the following awards:

- **Lifetime Achievement Award** – *Newcomb College Center for Research on Women at Tulane University*
- **Research and Scholarship Award** – *Association of American Colleges and Universities' Program on the Status and Education of Women*
- **Diversity and Inclusion Award** – *University of Arizona's Southwest Institute for Research on Women*
- **Emerging Center Award** – *Women's Research Institute of Nevada*

"We are very proud of the outstanding work our member research, policy and advocacy centers are doing to affect positive change nationally and globally. This year's award recipients demonstrate the significant impact our network has on knowledge about women and girls and their advancement in both the economy and society," said **Linda Basch**, President of the National Council for Research on Women.

**Donna Orender** opened the awards reception with an inspirational message about the crossroads between sports and leadership. She surprised the crowd by tossing miniature WNBA basketballs into the audience.

The **2009 Member Center Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to the **Newcomb College Center for Research on Women at Tulane University**. This is the premier award from the National Council for Research on Women, recognizing extraordinary achievement and significant contributions towards advancing the Council's mission.

"We are recognizing the Newcomb Center at Tulane for its outstanding leadership, innovative programming and strategic vision. This is a well-deserved award to a highly accomplished and productive center that continually releases timely and relevant research," said **Eleanor Horne**, Chair of the **NCRW Board of Directors**, who presented the award. The award was accepted by **Crystal Kile**, Assistant Director for Program and Projects at the Newcombe College Center for Research on Women.

This year, for the first time, the Council presented a **Diversity and Inclusion Award**. The award recognized the **University of Arizona's Southwest Institute for Research on Women** for a two-pronged strategy. Efforts included publication of *The Desert Is No Lady*, a work that was later made into a documentary film, examining the creative works of Mexican American, American Indian, and Anglo-American women. Additionally, the Institute implemented an interactive HIV prevention and sexual health program, aimed at urban and rural locations in the US, Mexico and American Indian reservations.

“SIROW’s HIV-prevention and sexual health program has helped to improve the lives of women and girls in our target communities throughout the southwest region. Our multicultural project, *The Desert is No Lady*, has inspired women from a variety of backgrounds and historical perspectives.” said SIROW’s Executive Director, **Sally Stevens**, who accepted the award on behalf of the Institute.

It was also the first time the Council has presented the **Emerging Center Award**, received this year by the **Women’s Research Institute of Nevada**. The award recognized the Institute’s three areas of research and education: preservation of women’s history in the region, leadership training for college women, and data collection on the status of women statewide. **Joanne Goodwin**, Director of the Institute, accepted the award on behalf of the Institute.

“The *Women’s Research Institute of Nevada* works closely with various programs and organizations to create distinct ties between the community and their research initiatives,” said Horne. “They have grown significantly as a Member Center over the past few years, and continue to provide vital programming and research that significantly impacts the lives of women and girls.”

The **Research and Scholarship Award** was presented to the **Association of American Colleges and Universities’ Program on the Status and Education of Women**. Accepting the award on behalf of AAC&U were Program Director, **Caryn McTighe Musil** and **Kathryn Peltier Campbell**.

“For nearly four decades, AAC&U has provided national leadership on issues relevant to women in higher education through its **Program on the Status and Education of Women** (PSEW),” said McTighe Musil, the program’s director. “PSEW conducts projects and sponsors publications on curriculum and campus climate, women’s leadership, and new research on women and gender. We are extremely honored to receive this award.”

Awardees were presented with commemorative plaques on framed prints of the work: *Lola Santos and Granddaughter Alex* by photographer **Joyce Tenneson**.

**Past recipients** of the NCRW Lifetime Achievement Award have included the *Center for American Women and Politics at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University*, the *Center for the Education of Women at the University of Michigan*, the *Center for the Study of Women in Society at the University of Oregon*, *The Feminist Press*, the *Institute for Women’s Policy Research*, the *International Center for Research on Women* and the *Wellesley Centers for Women*.

The awards were presented during the opening reception of NCRW’s 2009 annual conference, *Igniting Change-Activating Alliances for Social Justice*, a 3-day series of roundtables, workshops and special events focusing on the economic, social, political and environmental challenges faced by women and girls and the solutions needed to address these challenges.

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