Plenary Event, Thursday April 2, 7:00 p.m.  Miller Forum, Moyer Hall

“Gender and Justice in the Lehigh Valley”

A panel discussion featuring:

Linda Lewis, Medical Systems Advocate, Turning Point
Jennifer Boulanger, Executive Director, Allentown Women’s Center
Liz Bradbury, Executive Director, PA Diversity Network

Moderated by Dr. Kate Ranieri, Muhlenberg College

Sleepwear and Underwear Drive led by Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, Muhlenberg College
Donations welcome at the door

Dessert reception

Friday, April 3, 2009:  RESEARCH SESSIONS AND RJ FELLOWS SYMPOSIUM

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.  BREAKFAST  Mendham Gallery

9:00 – 9:50 a.m.  RESEARCH SESSION I  Moyer 214

PANEL ONE:  Community Issues: Education, Diversity, and Homelessness

Rashidah Shelton, Lafayette College, “Empathy and its Impact on One’s Willingness to Help the Homeless.”

Samantha Silverberg, Muhlenberg College, “The Protestant Work Ethic and Distributive Justice in the Schools.”

Carla Benedek, Lafayette College, “The Posse Foundation and Campus Diversity.”

Moderator: Dr. Nicole Freiner, Lafayette College, Department of International Affairs.
PANEL TWO: Frames, Forms, and Norms Within Media

Katie Thompson, Lafayette College, “The Enculturation of Upscale Domestic Violence Norms in Popular Novels and Films.”

Joe Caporoso, Muhlenberg College, “The End of the Sports Section: How Sport Blogs and the Internet are Ending an Era of Sports Journalism.”


Moderator: Dr. Sue Curry Jansen, Muhlenberg College, Department of Media and Communication.

10:00 – 10:50 a.m. RESEARCH SESSION II

PANEL THREE: The Intersections of Religiosity and Social Justice

Emily Harris, Muhlenberg College, “Muslim Women in America.”

Ian Costello, Muhlenberg College, “The Mural Art and Graffiti of Northern Ireland.”

Alana Torres, Muhlenberg College, “The Impact of Christian Organizations on the AIDS Crisis in South Africa.”

Moderator: Ms. Sharon Albert, Muhlenberg College, Department of Religion.

PANEL FOUR: The Personal is Political: Reflections on Diversity

Jesse Michener, Kutztown University, “The History of the Anti-Choice Movement Post Roe v. Wade: How a Woman’s Right to Choose Has Been Undermined Over the Past 36 Years.”

Carolyn Raufer, Moravian College, “Community-Level Approaches to Intersexuality and Gendered Norms.”

Adrian Shanker, Muhlenberg College, “Queer Politics: Justice and the Path Forward.”

Moderator: Dr. Brian Mello, Muhlenberg College, Department of Political Science.

11:00 – 11:50 a.m. RESEARCH SESSION III

PANEL FIVE: Meanings of Whiteness and Blackness


Angela Reid, Westfield State College, “Not Asking for Absolution: Confronting White Supremacy in Everyday Life.”

Courtney Jackson, Lehigh University, “Imagining Freedom.”

Moderator: Dr. Sue Clemens-Bruder, Muhlenberg College, Department of History.
PANEL SIX: Changing Perspectives: The Study Abroad Experience

Sara Imperiale, Bari Lasky, Jack Powers, and Liza Witmer, Muhlenberg College.

A roundtable facilitated by RJ Fellows, Class of 2010, exploring the impact of living and learning in different cultures.

Moderators: Ms. Beth Halpern and Ms. Kate Cartright, Muhlenberg College, Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement.

12:00 – 12:45 p.m. BUFFET LUNCH

Performance by the Chaimonics, a Muhlenberg Hillel-affiliated co-ed a cappella group.

12:45 – 1:35 p.m. RESEARCH SESSION IV

PANEL SEVEN: (De)Construction of Femininity in Media


Laura Reese, Muhlenberg College, “Conflicting Feminist Viewpoints on Pornography and SuicideGirls.com.”

Jessica Heiser, Cedar Crest College, “Gender Roles in Video Games.”

Moderator: Ms. Liz Ortiz, Cedar Crest College, Department of Communication.

PANEL EIGHT: Socioeconomic Inequality: Responses to Disadvantaged Populations

Stephanie Flackman, Muhlenberg College, “Pesticide Poisoning in Costa Rica: Connecting the Application of Toxic Chemicals to Effects on Human Health.”

Anna Stressenger, Muhlenberg College, “Export Agriculture and the Socioeconomic, Political, and Environmental Inequality of Campesinos in Santiago del Estero.”

David Cooper and Jason LaMarca, Muhlenberg College, “Interfaith Lobbying and Poverty Awareness.”

Moderator: Dr. Richard Niesenbaum, Muhlenberg College, Department of Biology.

1:45 – 2:35 p.m. RESEARCH SESSION V

PANEL NINE: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Environmentalism

Rachel Leavitt, Muhlenberg College, “Individualism-Collectivism and Environmental Value Orientation.”


Carolyn Martin, Muhlenberg College, “The Media, the Public and Global Warming.”

Moderator: Dr. Lora Taub-Pervizpour, Muhlenberg College, Department of Media and Communication.
PANEL TEN: Doing Documentary Work: The Ethics of Representation

Jon Nelson, Muhlenberg College, “The Caring Place.”

Eirinn Disbrow and Avivah Furman, Muhlenberg College, “Good Intentions.”

**Moderator:** Dr. Paul McEwan, Muhlenberg College, Department of Media and Communication.

2:45 – 3:30 p.m.    RJ FELLOWS DIGITAL MEDIA FESTIVAL AND RECEPTION    Miller Forum

*Using digital media, graduating RJ Fellows reflect on the experiences, knowledge, people and events that inform their perspectives on change and shape their identity as agents of meaningful change. Students will be on hand to discuss their projects.*

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**SRSJ CO-DIRECTORS:**

Dr. Susan Kahlenberg
Dr. Kate Ranieri

James Ravelle, Moravian College, ’10 designed the logo for the SRSJ Conference.

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