The Women’s Center is Turning 40!

Eighteen years ago, Lilly Ledbetter began her mission to achieve pay equity for men and women in the workplace. Having discovered she was receiving a smaller salary than any of male counterparts at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co.—a position for which she was the first and longest remaining woman, a position in which she worked faithfully and passionately for nearly 20 years—she decided to bring this issue to the attention of those who could make a difference. To address the discrimination that is all too familiar to millions of women like her worldwide.

Ms. Ledbetter brought her case all the way to the Supreme Court, where it would ultimately be turned down on due to the statute of limitations on the Equal Pay Act of 1963, but not without the support of Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, who encouraged her to continue the pursuit of equality. Today, the Fair Pay Act, which amends the statute of limitations that initially halted Ms. Ledbetter’s cause, ensures that women are one step closer to receiving the recognition they deserve. Ms. Ledbetter knows, however, that there is still much to be done for the “Equal Pay for Equal Work” movement. She continues to tell her story to men and women across the country, inspiring them to not back down and take the easy road of submission when faced with injustice. Author, public speaker, women’s rights activist, mother and grandmother from Alabama, Lilly Ledbetter continues to work towards a reality in which the hard work she grew up to respect gets acknowledged in the way it should be, regardless of gender.

Man of Quality is Looking for Y-O-U

The Women’s Center offers programs and services designed to promote gender equity and address the unique challenges and opportunities female students encounter in the pursuit of higher education. We are designated as a Women’s Center because our mission addresses the special challenges and opportunities women encounter. We also seek to create a world that is free of gender bias and empower all students to achieve their potential. We cannot achieve this goal without our male allies.

Man of Quality (MOQ) is our volunteer arm designed just for men. If you are not actively engaged consider joining one of our upcoming events: Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, Red Flag & White Ribbon campaigns, Fear 2 Freedom, and The Nasty Truth.

The Nu Theta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. is hosting a series of events entitled “The Nasty Truth” to help uncover the real truth behind issues that affect the community. Each event in the series explores issues we all go through but may not really know who it effects, how it effects them, and what people go through.

The first installment will help bring awareness to dating and domestic violence, an issue that a majority of men and women experience in some way, but don’t necessarily realize it. It will be led by the brothers of the Nu Theta Chapter and our very own M-Power Peer Educators! The event is open to all, so join us on October 17 at 7pm in the Webb Center (location coming soon) and learn the nasty truth about dating and domestic violence.

For more information feel free to connect with our Man of Quality advisors: Thaddeus Cunningham tscumnin@odu.edu or Brandon Jones bjoneo87@odu.edu.

A Man of Quality:

- Is a positive role model
- Is not afraid to express emotions
- Challenges himself and others to be greater men of quality
- Is kind and shows empathy to others
- Values assertiveness over aggression
- Respects women’s equality
Welcome New Women’s Center Staff!

Chantal Matthews
Interim Assistant Director
Chantal loves to shop, bake, and listen to music. Her favorite part of working at ODU is the opportunity to build relationships with students from all different backgrounds. She hopes to be a servant leader in everything that she does.

Elesha White
Social Norms Campaigns
Elesha is a Sociology major from Ohio. She is the middle child of two brothers, has five tattoos and loves the smell of babies. Why? Because they smell nice.

Hannah Carballo
Empowerment & Activism
Hannah is a Psychology major pursuing her Masters in social work. Her goal is to eventually gain licensure as a counselor in order to work with veterans. Kangaroos and traveling are two of her hobbies.

Yashi Gahlot
Graduate Assistant
Yashi is working toward her Masters in Engineering Management, and her Bachelors is in Computer Science. She loves learning new things and taking new challenges, doing creative things and organizing events.

What’s Your Green Dot?
Did you see our Green Dot banner hanging on the front of the Webb Center out at Kaufman Mall? Leading up to our Big Blue Take Back event on September 30, we asked you to take a selfie in front of the banner and use the hashtag #GreenDotODU. Each tag equaled a green dot added to the big red paw in the Webb Center. At the Big Blue Take Back rally, we marched and pledged to take a stand against interpersonal violence.

Make sure to check out our new video, “Til It Happens to You,” that features work being done to end sexual and relationship violence on campus. The video is viewable on YouTube at the link below:

https://youtu.be/GDR-3LEXLXo

“It’s time to put sexual and relationship violence on the sidelines!”
Bobby Wilder, Head Football Coach, Old Dominion University.

Thanks for the Memories! Summer & Fall 2016...

This semester has been busy with fun events, and it’s not over yet! Here’s a quick recap of everything that’s been happening on- and off-campus over and since summer:

1. WC Open House Pop-In
2. mPOWER held a RA Fall Training Resource Fair.
3. mPOWER peer educators with Green Dot swag.
4. ODU Student Government Association supports Green Dot
5. Big Blue supports Green Dot
6. Climb Night – Finding Dory
7. #GenderBending
8. 9. The Women’s Center and Outdoor Adventure Program teamed up for an Appalachian hiking trip.
9. Girls Power Camp 2016:
10. After a discussion on body image and media, the girls traced their bodies and expressed what they looked like.
11. 12. Women’s Self Defense Workshops: was an attendance competition and our winners are Ladies Golf and OEp.
13. Outdoor Adventure Programs/ Women’s Center cosponsored summer surf & yoga
Our Mission

The Women’s Center offers programs and services designed to promote gender equity and address the unique challenges and opportunities female students encounter in the pursuit of higher education. Recognizing the critical role that both women and men play in promoting a safe environment free of gender bias, Women’s Center programs are designed to educate and inspire all students to achieve their personal, academic, and professional potential.

October
Women’s Center Calendar

For a full version of this semester’s calendar, stop by the office or visit our website.

4 From Riot Grrrl to Marketplace Feminism: Selling — and Selling Out — Feminism with Andi Zeisler
Chandler Recital Hall, Diehn Center for the Performing Arts, 7:00–9:00pm

5 Fear 2 Freedom
North Café, 6:30–8:00pm

15 Car Care Clinic
Parking Lot 43, 9:00–11:00am

17 #TheNastyTruth
Future Monarch Room, 7:00–9:00pm

19 Red Flags and Green Dots: A Panel Discussion on Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention in Higher Education
ODU Virginia Beach Center, 12:30–1:30pm

20 Women’s Center 40th Anniversary Gala with Keynote Speaker Lilly Ledbetter
Ted Constant Convocation Center, Big Blue Room, 6:30–8:30pm

27 Breastival
Kaufman Mall, 12:00–2:00pm

Car. Care. Clinic. is Fast Approaching!

On the left is an image from our fourth year and it was an auto repair event the Women’s Center hosted back in 1980. On the right is one taking place later this month. As you can clearly see we have been working on empowering women in a variety of ways. On Saturday, October 15th, join us in Lot 43 to learn some essential vehicle maintenance and winterizing tips at our Car Care Clinic. RSVP at womenctr@odu.edu.