VISION

To ensure equal access to employment and educational opportunities in support of the university's commitment to equal opportunity, affirmative action, and diversity.

MISSION

Iowa State University's Office of Equal Opportunity is committed to promoting a working and learning environment free of discrimination or harassment by complying with all federal, state and local laws pertaining to anti-discrimination, the American with Disabilities Act, and Title IX. To that end, we work toward a campus climate that is supportive of equity through complaint resolution, advice, education, outreach, and intervention.

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July 19-20, 1848
The first women’s rights convention, the Seneca Falls Convention, is held in New York with 300 attendees, including organizers Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott. Sixty-eight women and 32 men (including Frederick Douglass) sign the Declaration of Sentiments, which sparked decades of activism, eventually leading to the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote.

May 29, 1851
A former slave turned abolitionist and women’s rights activist, Sojourner Truth delivers her famous "Ain’t I a Woman?" speech at the Women’s Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio.

Dec. 10, 1869
The legislature of the territory of Wyoming passes America’s first woman suffrage law, granting women the right to vote and hold office. In 1890, Wyoming is the 44th state admitted to the Union and becomes the first state to allow women the right to vote.

April 2, 1917
Jeannette Rankin of Montana, a longtime activist with the National Woman Suffrage Association, is sworn in as the first woman elected to Congress as a member of the House of Representatives.

June 10, 1963
President John F. Kennedy signs into law the Equal Pay Act, prohibiting sex-based wage discrimination between men and women performing the same job in the same workplace.
July 7, 1981
Sandra Day O'Connor is sworn in by President Ronald Reagan as the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. She retires in 2006, after serving for 24 years.

January 20, 2021
Kamala Harris is sworn in as the first woman and first woman of color vice president of the United States. "While I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last," Harris said after getting elected in November.

June 23, 1972
Title IX of the Education Amendments is signed into law by President Richard Nixon. It states “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

January 24, 2013
The U.S. military removes a ban against women serving in combat positions.

July 26, 2016
Hillary Clinton becomes the first woman to receive a presidential nomination from a major political party. During her speech at the Democratic National Convention, she says, “Standing here as my mother’s daughter, and my daughter’s mother, I’m so happy this day has come.”
Books about women, written by women

Invisible Women: Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed for Men
by Caroline Criado-Perez

Invisible Women delves into the systemic discrimination of women and how society has created a bias that effects women deeply in their everyday lives. This book shows examples and situations in which women are forgotten about and disregarded in ways that even as a woman you may not realize. From things like phones being too big for female hands, to the gender data gap, Invisible Women exposes a variety of ways women continue to be oppressed and men remain at the top of the societal pyramid.

Patsy
By Nicole Dennis-Benn

Patsy is about a woman from an impoverished Jamaican town who finally gets her visa to America in hopes to be reunited with her oldest friend. Her friend sends letters from New York promising a much happier life and the chance to possibly rekindle their young love. The book Patsy, provides a voice to young independent woman learning about their identity and sexuality all while navigating the struggles of being an undocumented immigrant in America.

Paying for the Party
By Elizabeth A. Armstrong and Laura T. Hamilton

Written by 2 college roommates, Paying for the Party touches on the differing experiences of American higher education both during and after graduation and the intentions of going to college in the first place. The book maps pathways of students through a 5 year interview study and explains the disadvantages and how college outcomes are drastically different for everyone, even for alumni with similar degrees.
Books about women, written by women

The Hate U Give
By Angie Thomas

Later turned into a NAACP Image Award winning film, The Hate U Give illustrates a story of a 16 year old girl balancing what she describes as 2 different lives: living in a poor neighborhood while attending a suburban preparatory school. Her world is shattered by an incident with her best friend at the hands of a police officer. Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this book is powerful in the way it shows how Black people fight for justice in America and how these recurring issues affect everyone around them.

Girl, Wash Your Face
By Rachel Hollis

Girl, Wash Your Face begins each chapter with a lie the author has told herself in the past that she believed to be true, causing herself to feel unworthy and defeated. As a working woman who has dealt with her own insecurities about her body and relationships, she gives insight to help women understand why having the mindset that you are not enough destroys self-confidence and shares the best ways to keep moving forward despite society, people, and even yourself wanting to see you fail.

Do you have an educational book/podcast/movie recommendation you think should be featured in the next newsletter?

Let us know! Email us: eooffice@iastate.edu
Stacey Abrams is a political influencer, nonprofit CEO, and an entrepreneur. After attending Spelman college and later the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas and Yale Law School, Abrams was catalytic to change in voter participation, civil rights, climate change, and more. In 2018, she broke barriers and records by becoming the gubernatorial nominee for the Democratic party. Not only was she the first Black women ever nominated to a political position and title of this prestige, but Abrams won more votes than any other candidate in Georgia state history. Following her passion for American politics, she was disheartened, and later fueled by her discovery of voting rights violations. Since then, much of Abrams work has centered on voters rights and voter participation in the United States. Many of her organizations, including Fair Count, emphasize the training and hiring of BIPOC, on voters rights, and on tackling social issues.

Similarly, Abrams has been a lifetime member of the Council of Foreign Relations. She has lead lectures, written articles, and edited work related to Global Policy. Her travels extend to places such as Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, France, Israel, the Netherlands, South Korea, Taiwan and the United Kingdom. Her international reputation has given her multiple titles and responsibilities. Not only was she the American Council of Young Political Leaders Fellow, but she has also been the Council on Italy Fellow, and the Salzburg Seminar Fellow on East Asian Studies. Abrams depth of knowledge, dynamic skill set, and passion earned her the John F. Kennedy New Frontier Award, and placed her on the Board of Directors for the Center for American Progress.

Stacey Abrams is also the author of many books, most notably, the New York Times best-seller Lead from the Outside.

"Good leaders are always at the ready, but not always at the front."

https://fairfight.com/about-stacey-abrams/
What is Green Dot? Green Dot is a campus-wide violence prevention program that focuses on empowering bystanders to step in when they see a potentially risky or harmful situation. Green Dot’s name comes from a metaphor used in the programming to illustrate a choice, behavior, word, or attitude that promotes safety for everyone and communicates intolerance for power-based personal violence at ISU.

Miller’s title is the Health Promotion Coordinator for Green Dot and Sexual Health. Part of her role is to lead a team of facilitators made up of ISU staff to provide Green Dot programs to students and staff. She also organizes campus-wide events throughout the school year, especially in October for Green Dot Action Month and April for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

When asked what she wants ISU Faculty and Staff to know about Green Dot, Miller said, “Green Dot isn’t about asking everyone to make major life changes. Green Dot is about everyone learning how they can do small things to make a big culture change on campus. Culture change doesn’t happen with one person doing a big thing, it happens when everyone commits to doing a small thing.”

Emily Miller works alongside us at OEO as we are strong collaborators for the Green Dot Program and many of our team members are trained facilitators for Green Dot. Miller suggests that the best way faculty and staff can support students around issues relating to sexual violence is to request an overview training for your office or classroom. “Commit to doing Green Dots when you see instances of harm. Display Green Dot promotional material in your office or classrooms.”
Wear a mask and wash your hands to protect all of us at ISU!

Campus Virtual Summit on Title IX Sexual Harassment
March 26th at 1:00pm.
For more information visit
https://www.sexualmisconduct.dso.iastate.edu/summit

Women’s Week Conference in March
From March 8-12
Follow this link for the conference schedule and for more information:
https://www.stugov.iastate.edu/womens-week-2021/

Do you have topic suggestions or want to write for our Newsletter? Call or email us with the contact info provided below!

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