



Connecting today's women to tomorrow's opportunities



Tuesday, October 11th. 10pm. PBS (check local listings). Premiere of Women, War & Peace:

A five-part PBS television series that challenges the conventional wisdom that war and peace are the exclusive domain of men. Narrators Matt Damon, Tilda Swinton, Geena Davis and Alfre Woodard take the audience on a world tour that is part of a global media initiative to explore this important issue.

Click [here](#) to watch more trailers and to get more information.

First the bad news: Liberian peace activist [Leymah Gbowee](#) will probably not be coming to NJIT this December to speak, as we had hoped...because (and here comes the good news) she is going to Oslo, Norway, to accept the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize!

Gbowee shares the prize with two other equally extraordinary women: [Dr. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf](#), the president of Liberia, and Yemeni human rights activist [Tawakkul Karman](#). The three were honored jointly by the [Nobel Committee](#) "for their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work. We cannot achieve democracy and lasting peace in the world unless women obtain the same opportunities as men to influence developments at all levels of society," the Committee noted.



Gbowee, Sirleaf, and Karman

"The more I did, the more I could do, the more I wanted to do, the more I saw needed to be done."
- Leymah Gbowee, *Mighty Be Our Powers*

Gbowee was the leader of the 2002-2003 women's peace movement that, against overwhelming odds, helped to topple Liberian warlord Charles Taylor and to elect Sirleaf president--a series of events chronicled in [Abigail Disney's](#) powerful documentary film, [Pray the Devil Back to Hell](#) (2008). Gbowee is one of the women activists featured in Disney's new five-part TV documentary series, [Women, War and Peace](#), to be aired on PBS starting on Tuesday, October 11. Don't miss it!

Murray Center Calendar

NJIT and Rutgers Newark Fall Career Fair

- Wednesday, October 12th
- 12:30-5:00 pm
- NJIT Gym and Naimoli Tennis Center/Rutgers Newark Golden Dome
- More than 200 participating employers will be recruiting students and graduates from all majors for full time jobs, co-op and internships, and summer employment
- Click for [information and registration](#)

Weekly Group Study Session

- Tuesdays
- 6:00-10:00 pm
- 235 Campus Center
- Group study pays off! Participating in group study helps enhance your classroom and test performance. Bring your class notes, textbooks, notebooks, laptops and past exams and join the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Murray Center Ambassadors for some invaluable academic support

NJIT Undergraduate Open House

- Sunday, October 23rd
- 10:00-10:45 am
- Special Event For Prospective Women Students
- 265 Campus Center
- Murray Center for Women in Technology hosts an information session and brunch, with unique opportunity to meet NJIT faculty, staff and current students.
- Note: University Open House & Tours, 11:00am-4:00pm

Save The Date

- Wednesday, November 23rd
- 2:30-4:00 pm
- GITC 1100
- Glammed-Out, Gogley-Eyed & Gangsta: Parody, Satire and Cultural Sampling in the Age of Media Obsession
- Presentation by Dr. Adeena Karasick, St. John's University
- An Honors College Colloquium, sponsored by the College of Science and Liberal Arts

To get a taste of what's in store for you, take a look at the video clip of [Gbowee speaking](#) at the PBS series launch. With passion and precision, she challenges the conventional image of women in war as passive victims. "These are fighters, survivors," she stresses. Her new book, [Mighty Be Our Powers](#), makes the same crucial point, cautioning women not to underestimate the impact they already have in their individual lives--and the even greater impact they can have if they work together for social change. "Don't say, 'Oh, I can't do it, or it's not within my reach to do it,'" Gbowee says. "My challenge to you...is to rise up. Whether it's in your backyard, your front yard or your office: DO SOMETHING. Mighty be our powers! I'm not just talking about the powers of Liberian women or African women, but about the unique power that each and every woman possesses."

At the Murray Center, we share Gbowee's fundamental sense of optimism and work in our academic backyard everyday to help NJIT women find their own unique powers. Please join us this month in celebrating the achievements of Gbowee, Sirleaf, and Karman--and join us throughout the year as we discover new ways to support each other in fulfilling our impossible dreams.

Nancy

NJIT Women to Watch

Each September at the University Convocation, outstanding members of the faculty and student body are recognized for their contributions to the NJIT community.

Phyllis Bolling, director of the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS) at NJIT, received the Constance A. Murray Diversity Award. Constance A. Murray, who served as NJIT's Dean of Student Services from 1978 until her death in 1994, was a dedicated educator and humanitarian who devoted her life to enhancing opportunities for all people, especially minorities and women. The award is presented to individuals or groups within NJIT who have compiled a significant and sustained record of achievement in fostering diversity within the university community.

Katia Passerini, an associate professor in the NJIT School of Management, was presented with the prestigious honor of "Master Teacher" at NJIT's University Convocation. Dr. Passerini was recognized for her curriculum-building initiatives and far-reaching pedagogical grants that have supported industry-driven course development. In 2010 she received the Excellence in Innovative Teaching Award for experimenting with team-based teaching models.

Daisy Gallegos, a 2011 graduate of NJIT's College of Computing Sciences, received the Presidential Leadership Award. Currently a master's degree candidate at NJIT, Gallegos distinguished herself as a scholar, athlete and as president of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE).



Murray Center Media Picks

Excerpt from Nobel Laureate Leymah Gbowee's new book, "[Mighty Be Our Powers: How Sisterhood, Prayer & Sex Changed A Nation At War](#)"

Report on new study: "[Overcoming the Gender Gap: Women Entrepreneurs as Economic Drivers](#)"

Breaking into the boy's club: [Interview with FACEBOOK's first woman engineer](#)

Follow the [top 27 women in tech on Twitter](#)

A prominent journalist wants to know why

[Video Q&A with App designer Amanda Wixted](#)

Catch Up On Our Past E-Newsletters!

[April 2011](#)

[May 2011](#)

[Summer 2011](#)



Top Row: Phyllis Bolling, Katia Passerini | Bottom Row: Daisy Gallegos

Photo credit: Jed Medina

Scholarships and Resources

Check this out! MentorNet, a web-based e-mentoring program that matches students, postdocs, and early career researchers in engineering and science on hundreds of campuses to mentors in the professions for one-on-one guided relationships, is offering free membership to anyone with an .edu in their email address. Click on, join up and connect with professionals who can help you realize your goals at www.mentornet.net

The Society of Indian American Engineers and Architects (SIAEA) will be awarding ten \$2000 scholarships to outstanding Indian-American engineering and architecture students at their annual gala in NYC on November 19. Application deadline: October 28, 2011. [Click to download information](#) and application.

American Women in Science is a terrific resource for women in STEM, offering a number of programs including mentors and scholarships. Log on today to apply for 2012 scholarship opportunities at www.awis.org.

The Higher Education Student Assistant Authority is a clearing house of useful information about financial aid, loans and scholarships. Find out more information and [apply today](#).

Contact the Murray Center

Phone: 973.642.4885

Fax: 973.642.7205

Email: womenscenter@njit.edu

Website: womenscenter.njit.edu

Address: 323 Martin Luther King Blvd,
Newark, NJ 07102



Staff:

Dr. Nancy Steffen-Fluhr, Director
973.596.3295 | steffen@njit.edu

Talina Knox, Assistant Director
973.642.4671 | knoxt@njit.edu

Fran Sears, Special Projects Manager
973.596.5592 | fsears@njit.edu

Recent Events

A giant, appreciative shout-out from everyone at the Murray Center to Rebecca Thompson, Director of NJIT Academic Computing Services, and her team for arranging for our new computers. What a great way to kick off the Fall Semester! Many, many thanks.



The first round of Common Exams has come and gone; however the Murray Center Ambassadors are working hard with their teams of first year women students to help with study skills, homework and to prepare for the second set of exams. In the first physics homework game challenge, BME students Agnieszka Agas and Abigail Daitol aced the competition. Agnes and Abby are members of the Gray Team, helmed by MC Ambassadors Kristen Roque and Reem Salem. Nice Work!

September 9th: The Murray Center for Women in Technology and the MC Ambassadors hosted a luncheon for first year women students. Provost Ian Gately, Dr. Sharon Morgan, director of Center for First Year Students, and Dr. Mary Beth Bolger, director of CAPE, were on hand to welcome the new students and encourage them to use the various academic and university life resources available.

September 14th: University Convocation. The Murray Center Ambassadors descended on the first year women students lined up to sign in at individual colleges, delivering welcome packages and encouraging students to join study groups.

September 16th: NJIT ADVANCE and the Provost's Office hosted the first meeting of the Faculty Career Advancement Network.

September 20th: Dr. Steffen-Fluhr hosted the ADVANCE External Advisory Board & Internal Steering Committee Luncheon and Presentation. Laura Kramer, Montclair State University (Emerita) & former NSF ADVANCE Program Director; Susan Metz, Co-Founder, Women in Engineering Programs and Advocates Network (WEPAN) and Ellen Townes-Anderson, Professor, Department of Neurosciences, UMDNJ, and director of the UMDNJ Faculty Mentoring Program were in attendance along with NJIT faculty, administrative staff and members of NJIT's ADVANCE team.