Presenters

Laurie Anderson is a well-respected performance artist who has consistently challenged and entertained audiences with her multi-media presentations. She has toured the US and abroad numerous times with shows ranging from simple spoken word to elaborate multi-media events. She has recorded eight albums, and her song "O Superman" rose to number two on the British pop charts. Anderson has created pieces for National Public Radio, the BBC and EXPO '92 in Seville.

Carol Giardina was co-founder of the Gainesville Women's Liberation movement and was a representative at the August 1968 protest of the Miss America Pageant, which made women's liberation a household word. In the heyday of the 1960's, she wrote her master's thesis in philosophy on Marxism and male supremacy. She is currently working on her PhD at New York University.

Irma McClaurin is an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Florida. She is an affiliate of the Center for Latin American Studies, the African American Studies program and the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research. She coordinates the African Diaspora Interest Group and the Zora Neale Hurston Diaspora Studies Research Project. She is the director of the Zora Neale Hurston Ethnographic Field School and editor of the peer-review journal *Transforming Anthropology*. This year, she is serving as the deputy provost at Fisk University.

Barbara Risman is a sociology professor and director of the sociology graduate program at North Carolina State University. She was founding director of the Women's Studies program at her university and has published several gender-related books including Gender Vertigo: American Families in Transition and Feminist Transformations of Sociology.

Ntozake Shange is a well-known poet and play-wright who recently joined the faculty as a visiting professor at the University of Florida. She is best known for her award-winning choreopoem For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf. The 1975 choreopoem, a series of 20 poems produced both off and on Broadway, earned Shange an Obie award, the Outer Critics Circle Award, the Audelcom Award and the Mademoiselle Award. It was nominated for the Tony, Grammy and Emmy Awards. Shange is jointly appointed at UF in the theater department and the African American Studies Program.

Jessica Weiner is a writer, actor, producer, transformational speaker and author of ten social issues plays covering topics such as eating disorders, alcohol and drug abuse, school violence, date rape and hate crimes. In 1995, as a recent college graduate, Jessica created The ACT Out Ensemble, a national theater company, and has performed her original work for over 300,000 audience members nationwide. Her work has been featured by *The Washington Post, Teen People*, MTV and CNN.

And Gender Research
25th Anniversary
Research Symposium

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25th Anniversary
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OCTOBER 24-26, 2002

The Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research celebrates its 25th anniversary this year with a research symposium featuring University of Florida faculty and students as well as Gainesville community members. Together, we will examine the ways we develop and cultivate knowledges about women and gender issues by focusing on reclaiming knowledges, creating knowledges and action knowledges. Please join us for three days of celebration, growth and enlightenment.

