

Gloria Steinem Endowed Chair in Media, Culture and Feminist Studies

Rutgers University's School of Communication and Information, the Institute for Women's Leadership, and the Department of Women's and Gender Studies in the School of Arts and Sciences, are joining together to seek a prominent leader in the area of media, culture, and feminist studies to launch the prestigious Gloria Steinem Endowed Chair.

The Gloria Steinem Endowed Chair in Media, Culture and Feminist Studies reflects and builds on the work and world view of Gloria Steinem, feminist, organizer, reporter, editor, and humanist. The chair inspires students and faculty at Rutgers, as well as the wider audience outside the university, to explore and reimagine the role of the media in serving democracy, with explicit focus on women and underserved communities. Connecting the worlds of academia and media, this chair will invite all students to come together across boundaries, to analyze, critique, and create media that reflect reality, and to provide facts, narratives, and new forms of storytelling that advance empathy, democracy, communal action, and innovative solutions.

This notable leader may come from the academic, media, and/or activist worlds and will engage with topics such as a) examining the relationship among media technologies, democracy, social change, gender and racial equality, and public policy as well as catalyzing and supporting others in the Rutgers and engaged communities; b) providing opportunities for students and faculty to learn from scholars, experts, and activists with frontline experience; c) developing classes and educational programs to enhance students' understanding of how technology and media shape who we are; and d) guiding students toward critically analyzing important social and cultural questions and encouraging them to take action to address social inequalities.

The successful candidate will be the first Gloria Steinem Chair and therefore will play an important role in shaping the chair's development, ensuring that its work is world-leading in envisioning its positive impact on gender equality in society. The successful applicant's expertise and interest may be grounded in gender, communication, media, or information. He or she will be excited by students and teaching; a leader who will foster robust collaboration among related scholars and practitioners and build a hub for innovation in teaching and practice. We seek a leader who is creative, dynamic, and energetic, an effective and trusted communicator who is excited about collaborating and leading a diverse and dynamic team of colleagues and students, and about engaging in national and international arenas. The successful candidate will also have a demonstrable record of public engagement as a public intellectual, scholar, professional, and/or activist in related areas.

The Position

This is a two to three year rotating position. The individuals chosen for this chair may come from the academic, media, or activist worlds and will be, first and foremost, interested in and excited by students and education. Responsibilities of the position include undergraduate and graduate teaching assignments in communication, media, information, and women studies; an active program of engagement in the candidate's area of expertise and interest; initiating and facilitating events and collaborations (e.g., workshops, internships, symposia, guest lectures, projects, etc.); and communicating on behalf of the Gloria Steinem Endowed Chair with all relevant stakeholders. The expected start date for the position is September 2018.

The Environment

Rutgers University's School of Communication and Information (SC&I) houses a dynamic and engaged community of scholars studying real world problems related to knowledge, technology, culture, media, creativity, health, social justice, organizations, communities, policy, leadership, and their interrelations. It is unique in its mature and dynamic combination of communication, information science, journalism, and media studies. The school teaches over 10,000 students, of whom 2,500 are its own undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students. Geographically adjacent and closely connected to the world's largest media and information hubs and supported by Rutgers' vibrant scholarly community, the School embraces the University goals of promoting diversity throughout our networks and programs, and is strongly committed to social engagement. For more about the School see: <http://comminfo.rutgers.edu>.

Rutgers University's Department of Women's and Gender Studies teaches approximately 4,000 undergraduate students and over 200 graduate students annually. In its major and four minors it introduces path-breaking research that addresses concerns of particular interdisciplinary constituencies in the areas of women and gender studies, critical sexualities, social justice, and gender and media (in collaboration with the School of Communication and Information). Reflecting the fundamental commitments of feminist pedagogy, the program provides students with critical tools to engage and challenge contemporary life and to work toward social transformation and social justice. For more about the department see: <http://womens-studies.rutgers.edu/>.

Rutgers University's Institute for Women's Leadership (IWL) is a consortium of nine participating members dedicated to the mission of examining and advancing women's leadership for a just world. Consortium members include: Douglas Residential College, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Center for American Women and Politics, Institute for Research on Women, Center for Women and Work, Center for Women in the Arts and Humanities, Office for the Promotion of Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics, and Center on Violence Against Women and Children. For more about IWL see: <http://iwl.rutgers.edu/>.

How to Apply

Applicants should apply at <http://jobs.rutgers.edu/postings/55123>. Include a CV and a cover letter that addresses the points above and clearly articulates the candidate's expertise in media, culture, and feminist studies. Also include a list of up to five referees, with full contact information and rationale for their inclusion. Active review of applications will begin on January 3, 2018, and the position will remain open until filled. For queries regarding the position, contact Professor Dafna Lemish, search committee chair, at dafna.lemish@rutgers.edu.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, is a leading national research university and the state of New Jersey's preeminent, comprehensive public institution of higher education. Established in 1766, the university is the eighth oldest higher education institution in the United States. Nearly 69,000 students and 22,000 full- and part-time faculty and staff learn, work, and serve the public at Rutgers locations across New Jersey and around the world. An equal opportunity and affirmative action employer, Rutgers is committed to building a diverse community and encourages women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities to apply. For additional information please see our Non-Discrimination Statement at <http://uhr.rutgers.edu/non-discrimination-statement>.