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Greetings

Welcome to the first issue of the Center for Women's Leadership's (CWGL) quarterly online newsletter. The e-newsletter will be a great way to stay in touch, alert you to critical issues and highlight our current activities and future projects. This year's initiatives include our participation in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) session and preparation for the new Human Rights Council. Planning for the 2006 [16 Days Campaign](#) has already begun. Appropriately entitled *Celebrate 16 Years of 16 Days: Advance Human Rights ↔ End Violence Against Women*, the campaign marks its 16th anniversary this year. Please [browse the CWGL website](#) to learn more about our activities.

We look forward to receiving your comments and feedback!

Best wishes,

Center for Women's Global Leadership

Program Highlights	Take Action!
Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) (2006) From February 27 to March 10, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society gathered at the United Nations to take part in the 50th session of the CSW . In an Open Letter to the Secretary General and Member States, the Center for Women's Global Leadership, the UN Committee on the Status of Women, the Women's Environment and Development Organization and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom repeated a call they made at the 2005 World Summit for UN systems and mechanisms to be significantly strengthened to advance gender equality at international and country levels. The Open Letter has been endorsed by more than 240 women from over 50 countries and by numerous international and regional organizations. Read more.	16 Days of Activism CWGL's international advocacy campaign to end gender violence. Women's HR Defenders An international campaign to recognize and protect women's human rights defenders. GCAP Global Call to Action against Poverty, a worldwide alliance committed to making world leaders live up to their promises.
AWID Forum, "How does change happen?" (2005) The 10th annual AWID International Forum on Women's Rights and Development brought together feminist activists and professionals from around the world. CWGL co-sponsored several activities on issues of violence against women, women's human rights, and the 2005 publication, <i>Written Out</i> . Read more.	News As part of the Institute for Women's Leadership (IWL) consortium, CWGL was recently acknowledged by the New Jersey state legislature. View resolution. The UN Commission on Human Rights (CHR) closed its work on March 27, 2006 after 60 years of service to the UN and global communities. The CHR will be replaced by a Human Rights Council, which will elect its members in May and begin its work within the UN system in June 2006. To view CWGL statements on the United Nations Human Rights Council, click here. Rutgers University's Board of Governors approve recommendations for transforming undergraduate education. Read more.
Global Partners, Global Perspectives: Women's Reproductive and Sexual Rights on the Line (2005) CWGL joined with Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey to sponsor a panel discussion about the local to global connections within women's access to health rights. Speakers included Charlotte Bunch, CWGL; Angeles Cabria, International Women's Health Coalition; Julia Zingu, Planned Parenthood Association of South Africa; and Phyllis Kinsler, Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey. Read more.	
Women's Global Strategies for the 21st Century (2005) Organized by the Women of Color Resource Center, this international conference at Sarah Lawrence College brought together 100 women, including CWGL staff, to discuss global to local perspectives and strategies towards a 21st century global women's movement. Read more.	

16 Days Campaign

November 25 - December 10, 2006

The [16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence](#) is a global campaign that highlights the links between violence against women and human rights. The Campaign has been used as an organizing strategy by individuals and groups around the world to call for the elimination of all forms of violence against women. The slogan for this year's campaign is *Celebrate 16 Years of 16 Days: Advance Human Rights, End Violence Against Women* and the theme announcement is coming soon, so stay tuned!

[Get involved](#) in the 16 Days Campaign. Learn about last year's [events](#), access [resources](#), and plan your own 16 Days campaign locally.

New Publications	
Women Testify: A Planning Guide for Popular Tribunals and Hearings (2006) This comprehensive guide to organizing hearings and tribunals is the first online publication of CWGL. Our extensive experience in organizing hearings provides a basis for the publication, which offers a detailed outline of step-by-step plans and actions that can be used to help organize a successful event. This is a must-have guide for those who want to hold an effective tribunal/hearing!	
Written Out: How Sexuality is Used to Attack Women's Organizing (2005) In this revised report, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) and CWGL again show how attacks on women's sexualities threaten all women's basic human rights to bodily integrity, to expression, and to association—as well as undermine essential values of equality and dignity.	
Local Action/Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls (2005, translated) Our comprehensive women's human rights training manual is now available in Arabic, Chinese, and Romanian. For more information, visit what's new .	
Upcoming Events	Contribute!
May 31 - June 2, 2006: United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS), New York, NY. Read more. August 13 - 19, 2006: XVI International AIDS Conference, Toronto, Canada. Read more. Click here for a complete list of upcoming events.	CWGL needs your support to continue our work for women's human rights. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to fund our efforts. To support CWGL, please click here.

About Us

The Center for Women's Global Leadership develops and facilitates women's leadership for women's human rights and social justice worldwide. It was founded as a project of Douglass College in 1989 and is a unit of the [Institute for Women's Leadership \(IWL\)](#)—a consortium of six women's programs at Rutgers University created to study and promote how and why women lead, and to develop programs that prepare women of all ages to lead effectively.

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