

CITATION OF  
**LINDSAY DAVIS**  
AND  
**REBECCA MOODY**  
FOR THE  
**ROMEO L. MORUZZI YOUNG FACULTY AWARD**  
**FOR INNOVATION IN UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION**

With the goal of shifting STEM cultures away from exclusion and toward diversity and inclusion, Professor Lindsay Davis and Professor Rebecca Moody of the Humanities and Arts Department co-founded and co-direct a program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWS) at WPI. Using existing but previously disconnected classes in Humanities and Arts and Social Sciences as well as new courses, they created a GSWS minor and a community in which WPI students can explore the socio-political issues of gender, sexuality, and identity.

In the GSWS program students interrogate interlocking systems of oppression, including racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, ethnocentrism and colonialism, to learn about their impact on campus and around the world and to practice resisting them. In parallel, Professors Davis and Moody have established a welcoming learning environment for WPI's underrepresented students and a place where students from dominant populations can learn alongside peers from different backgrounds. As noted by one student, the program "not only provides an introduction to feminist theory but engages every student to learn how their own identity plays into the context of GSWS. Their program is informative, but more importantly, it is personal."

Notably, the GSWS program at WPI would not immediately be recognized as a gender studies program at other schools. Intentionally interdisciplinary and often multidisciplinary, the program is designed to complement and enhance WPI's strengths in STEM and global learning, with signature courses such as *STEM-inism* and *Global Feminisms*. Their most important innovation may be the unique spaces they have created— physical, intellectual, emotional, communal— from which students and faculty have launched scores of conversations, collaborations, new ideas, and unique projects inside and outside of WPI.

For their leadership and vision in creating the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies program as a unique curricular and co-curricular space, we are proud to present the 2023 Romeo L. Moruzzi Young Faculty Award for Innovation in Undergraduate Education to Professor Lindsay Davis and Professor Rebecca Moody.

**WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE – APRIL 28, 2023**