



JENNIFER, WE CELEBRATE YOU!

Friday, 2 December, 2022



DEAR JENNIFER...



ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG

It has been such a privilege to learn from you and to work with you on the growth of the Center for Institutional Courage. The CASBS year was one of the most meaningful of my career, and I treasure the lunches that we had with Estelle, Kirsten, Vanessa, and other other wonderful fellows. Given the challenges of that year politically, it was so meaningful to be surrounded by such a community. And it has been inspirational to see your dedication to the Center, requiring working through the inevitable challenges of building a new organization. I admire your courage, your honesty, your compassion, and the tremendous contributions you have made to knowledge. I refer your work to others on a regular basis. I would love to be there with you and the wonderful people that have been drawn to you.

Thank you!



KIRSTEN WYSEN

What good fortune it was to be a CASBS fellow the same year as you in 2018-2019. You were one of the most accomplished members of our group and early on even you said you felt imposter syndrome being there, which was so funny since you were regularly publishing Op-eds in major newspapers that fall. How the heck did the rest of us feel? In taking you up on every casual invitation to walk the Dish, you became a friend as well as an admired colleague. It was exciting to hear you scope out your plans for your new Center for Institutional Courage on those walks, and now you are watching it thrive. Promoting courage is vital for us, as we work to address sexual violence, and also in other settings. Your betrayal trauma theory has wide relevance, including in public health as we've seen so clearly in the last three years. Thank you for your work, and for being you. I hope you enjoy your celebratory day and I'll be thinking of you dearly!

LAURA BROWN





DONNA MCKEOWN LEACOCK

The first time I met Jennifer was at her breakfast table after sleeping in her house all night. Jennifer was on sabbatical at Stanford in 1990 when I was a prospective graduate student at the U of O and she invited me to come meet her in Palo Alto to stay with her and her family. My flight got into San Francisco around midnight. Since she had very young children at the time, Jennifer came up with a clever plan to accommodate my late arrival without losing precious sleep. Arriving in the dark, I had no idea which house was hers or if I was in the right place since the houses in the Stanford ghetto were not well marked or well lit. The driver had to use a flashlight to see the numbers on the houses and so it was with great relief when I saw her sign on the door to let myself in. She left signs all over the house to direct me to my bed, the bathroom, towels, etc. In the morning, I felt a bit awkward waking up in a strange house having never met the owners but Jennifer immediately made me feel welcome and I felt right at home. We spent the next few days having great conversations, hiking the Stanford hills, and hanging out with her husband JQ and two sons.

Looking back on that experience, it was the perfect introduction to Jennifer Joy Freyd – her curiosity about the world, her love of family time, and her passion for walking in nature. We talked about the chilly climate for women in academia and how some of her earliest mentors told her she was making a huge mistake for having kids. She never looked back on that decision and was a role model to all of us as she gracefully balanced the demands of academia with the demands of parenthood. Right after her daughter Sasha was born, Jennifer continued teaching her facial cognition seminar in her backyard so she could breastfeed Sasha. The male graduate students were clearly uncomfortable with the whole situation but I found it inspiring and courageous. She never tried to hide being a mother from her professional career. Jennifer molded her life and work around her passions, changed the rules and broke so many barriers for women. I know that this work has been hard, soul crushing at times and emotionally draining – but Jennifer has always found hope and compassion and courage to keep progressing and reframing how we view the world. She is an inspiration to all of us as women, academics, and parents. The result is a more equitable and just society for women and for that, I will always be grateful.





JOHN BONINE

I came to know Jennifer in the University Senate, in her persistent advocacy against discrimination, in her demands for equality, in her relentless work to protect young women against campus rape.

She was and is a Force of Nature.

The University of Oregon is a better place for her years here. The world will continue to be a better place as she goes forward in her life and career.

Thank you for all that you do, Jennifer, for your wonderful family, and just for being who you are!



MELISSA PLATT

My favorite memories of JJF are from our walk and talks. I love the ease with which Jennifer would transition from chatting about study design ideas to news and updates about her beloved family to her enthusiasm for (and the occasional desire to follow) firetrucks. Jennifer was always warm and encouraging and brought joy into my experience of grad school. Thank you so much for everything, Jennifer!



ESTELLE FREEDMAN

I send my deep gratitude to Jennifer Freyd for organizing the sexual violence research group at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences in 2018-19 and our follow up conferences. Jennifer introduced me to interdisciplinary social science research that now informs my historical studies of sexual assault and harassment. I continue to cite her path breaking work on institutional betrayal and betrayal blindness, and the work of her brilliant former students. Congratulations on retiring from teaching – and on your continuing, courageous work!

KAT QUINA

