Women’s Day 2006 will take a critical look at issues threatening the safety, well-being and freedom of women. Throughout the world, women suffer disproportionately as victims of oppression and injustice. Consider the following:

- Worldwide, 1.3 billion people live in absolute poverty. Seventy percent of them are women. (Source: UN Development Fund for Women)
- Worldwide, women make up more than half the population, but hold only 12.7 percent of all parliamentary seats. (Source: Women’s Environment and Development Fund)
- Globally, at least one in three women and girls are beaten or sexually abused in their lifetime. (Source: UN Commission on the Status of Women)
- Four million women and girls annually are trafficked in forced labor and sexual slavery. (Source: United Nations)
- Five thousand women annually are killed in so-called “honor killings.” (Source: UN Population Fund)
- Women make up almost half of the 37.2 million adults living with HIV/AIDS. Two million of these women give birth each year, passing AIDS to their offspring. (Source: World Health Organization)
- Seventy percent of the world’s 35 million refugees of war and violence are women. (Source: United Nations)

Taking the viewpoint that what happens to one woman happens to all women, we will view the status of women in the United States within the context of larger global conditions, and examine the root causes of violence, poverty, and oppression of women both at home and abroad. Finally, we will discuss ways feminists can work to alleviate the suffering and oppression of all women.

The conference will draw inspiration from heroic women who are working at the forefront of women’s global human rights. Our keynote speaker is international women’s rights activist and Ms. Magazine Woman of the Year, Saudatu Mahdi. Additionally, Women’s Day 2006 features Middle Eastern scholar Leila Farah, assistant professor of women’s studies at DePaul University, and Mary Fabri, senior director, Marjorie Kovler Center for the Treatment of Survivors of Torture at Heartland Alliance. Come join these and other distinguished panelists and presenters in what is sure to be a thought-provoking and stimulating event.
WOMEN’S DAY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2006
Des Plaines Campus
8:30 - 9 a.m. Registration, Continental breakfast
9 - 10 a.m. Keynote Address, Saudatu Mahdi
10 - 10:25 a.m. Q & A, Saudatu Mahdi
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Emphasis Sessions: Laila Farah and Mary Fabri
11:35 a.m. - 12:25 p.m. Breakout Sessions
12:40 - 2:30 p.m. Lunch and entertainment

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2006
Skokie Campus
9:30 - 10 a.m. Registration, Continental breakfast
10 - 11:30 a.m. Presentation and Q & A, Saudatu Mahdi

Women's Day is made possible by generous grants from the Board of Student Affairs and National City Bank. Leila Farah's presentation is sponsored in part by the Muslim Student Association.

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration deadline: February 24, 2006

___ Friday, March 10 at the Des Plaines campus
Full Day: $25 in advance (by February 24), includes lunch.
Registration at the door is $30 (lunch subject to availability).

___ Saturday, March 11 at the Skokie campus
Half Day: $10 in advance (by February 24).
Registration at the door is $15.

Cost for the programs on both days is free to Oakton students.
(Cost of lunch for students on March 10 is $5.)

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City/State/Zip ____________________________
Phone ____________________________ E-mail ____________________________

Please make checks payable to Oakton Community College and mail to Oakton Community College, Student Affairs, 1600 E. Golf Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016, Attention: Claudia Cabay.