

Flicks Focus on Women at Work

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A film series titled “Ladies of the Silver Screen: Women in the Workplace” is getting Tulane students to discuss Hollywood's portrayal of women at work. Today's (March 4) showing of *Working Girl* marks the third of five films being presented this semester. Mary Ann Maguire, associate dean of Newcomb-Tulane College, will facilitate a discussion after the movie.



The original film poster for *Working Girl* features the show's top stars, from left, Harrison Ford, Melanie Griffith and Sigourney Weaver. (Photo from 20th Century-Fox)

“I think it is always valuable to expose students to the wide variety of experiences that women have in today's workplaces,” says Maguire.

The 1988 romantic comedy *Working Girl* is set in the 1980s and follows Tess McGill (Melanie Griffith) as she attempts to rise up the corporate ladder at a Wall Street investment firm. The movie trails the star as she takes up evening courses and juggles a relationship with her less-ambitious boyfriend.

Working Girl won an Academy Award in 1989 for best music and original song for Carly Simon's "Let the River Run," which also won a Grammy in 1990. In addition, the film had five other Oscar nominations that year – Griffith for best actress in a leading role, Joan Cusack and Sigourney Weaver for best actress in a supporting role, Mike Nichols for best director and producer Douglas Wick for best picture.

Melanie Lee, student program coordinator for the Newcomb College Institute, implemented the film-and-discussion format for first time this spring. Lee says each semester the [film series](#) will address different issues, such as the role of women in sports or politics.

Next on tap for this semester's series is the April 1 screening of *Nine to Five*, starring Dolly Parton, Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin, followed by the April 22 screening of *Party Girl* starring Parker Posey. All films will begin at 3 p.m. at the Newcomb College Institute and will be followed by a faculty-led discussion.

The first two movies shown were *Desk Set* starring Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy, followed by *Baby Boom*, starring Diane Keaton.

The "Ladies of the Silver Screen" series is free and open to Tulane faculty, staff and students.

The Office of Newcomb Student Programs operates under the [Newcomb College Institute](#) to offer enriching leadership and academic programming.