

### Spring Women's Research Forum

In celebration of International Women's Day, Women's History Month, and the Center's 25th Women's Research Forum, the Center hosted an event highlighting the surge in women serving as mayors across Massachusetts. "Women Mayors of Massachusetts: Making History. Meeting Challenges," held on 11 March 2008, featured a panel discussion of seven of the eleven female mayors and was moderated by NECN's Alison King. The Center's Senior Research Associate Paige Ransford provided an overview of women in municipal government in Massachusetts. Panel members included Salem Mayor Kimberley Driscoll, Northampton Mayor Clare Higgins, Weymouth Mayor Susan M. Kay, Gloucester Mayor Carolyn Kirk, Waltham Mayor Jeannette McCarthy, Cambridge Mayor Denise Simmons and Marlborough Mayor Nancy Stevens. These inspirational leaders discussed the importance of women's public service at the local level and their insights were well-received by an audience of over 200.



Mayor Denise Simmons (Cambridge) and Chancellor J. Keith Motley



From left: Donna Stewartson (Associate Director, Program for Women in Politics and Public Policy), Mayor Kimberley Driscoll (Salem), and Carol Hardy-Fanta (Director, Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy).