Welcome to Ann Ferguson, New Director

Ann Ferguson, a long time member of the Philosophy Department here, noted community activist, engaged feminist scholar and active member of Women's Studies since the program began, has been appointed to a three year term as director of Women's Studies. Ann brings a long history of activism and advocacy to her role as WOST director. Ann takes over from Leila Ahmed who completed her term as director at the end of May 1995. Thanks to Leila for all her hard work to stabilize and maintain the program through many personnel and budgetary transitions. Farewell Leila and Welcome Ann!

OPEN LETTER TO THE WOST COMMUNITY
FROM ANN FERGUSON,
PROFESSOR, PHILOSOPHY AND WOMEN'S STUDIES,
NEW WOMEN'S STUDIES DIRECTOR:

I am delighted to greet all of you as the new Director of Women's Studies. Although I have not previously been a core faculty member of the program, I have worked with it as an associated faculty for a number of years, and in the recent past I have been involved even more extensively.

Personal Background

My interest in Women's Studies stems from my personal life history, my feminist political convictions and my current research and teaching interests. Developing and teaching courses which empower women, minority students and working class as well as middle class students has been my main goal as a faculty member since I became politicized by anti-war, civil rights, women's movement and lesbian/gay movement activities starting in the 1960s and found myself empowered in the process. As an academic and a political activist at the University since 1964, I have been involved with a number of programs, campus political organizations and curricular projects oriented toward social justice, including the Che-Lumumba Elementary School for Third World students (my daughter was a student there), the Social Thought and Political Economy program (STPEC), the Inquiry program, the Radical Studies program, the Black Studies/Women's Studies faculty seminar from 1983-5, the Alternative Track graduate program in Social, Political and Recent Continental Philosophy and numerous ad hoc campus organizations for social justice. Since 1990 I have been a member of a community solidarity group, Feminist Aid to Central America. In the last two years I have been teaching Community Service Learning components of my Philosophy and Women's Studies courses in which students work as interns with community groups whose politics or service work is oriented toward race, class and gender social justice. I also sing with a local folk band, The Diggers, at rallies and benefits for groups fighting for social justice.
Priorities and Goals During My Term

My priorities to strengthen and expand the Women’s Studies program in the next three years involve strengthening connections between our program and associated faculty in other departments as well as to other important service and academic programs, such as Everywoman’s Center, Afro-American Studies and Latin American Studies. As you know, we have been in the process of re-structuring the program in the last several years, both with curricular reforms to deepen our coverage of race and international perspectives, and with institutional reforms such as the creation of an Executive Committee to involve more associated faculty in policy-making decisions for the program. I would like to acknowledge the importance of this group effort, already initiated by Leila Ahmed, the previous director, as well as the core faculty and a number of associated faculty, and thank them for their past work. In what follows I will indicate where we hope to head in the three years of my term.

First, we must complete the administrative reorganization of the program. The Governance committee, chaired by Arlene Avakian, will work with the Executive Committee and myself to develop a new Governance document for Women’s Studies, while the Undergraduate Studies Committee, chaired by Alex Deschamps, will work on improving the ambiance between undergraduate majors and minors and the program. Over the summer, Barbara Cruikshank (Prof. in Political Science who is the WOST summer administrator), Karen Lederer and I have been working on outreach to associated faculty to strengthen our faculty advisor system and resources. In addition Marta Calas, Professor in the School of Management, has agreed to chair our Personnel Committee for the coming year. Thanks to all of you who have committed yourself to this important work.

Second, to build more community among Women’s Studies undergraduate students and a sense of empowerment to have the program meet your needs, we are excited to announce the creation of a new undergraduate student lounge that we will house in Bartlett 208A. We expect this space to be staffed by undergraduate student volunteers, to contain our Women’s Studies library and some comfortable lounge furniture so that we can use it as a drop-in space for meeting each other and individual faculty informally, as well as a space for undergraduates to hold meetings to determine student representation on the Executive Committee as well as other undergraduate discussions and projects. We also plan to have a student/faculty reception to celebrate this new space early in the fall. In spite of the absence of a number of our core faculty this year on research leaves and grants, we are happy that our undergraduate offerings will not suffer because of the hiring of two excellent lecturers for the program, Alex Deschamps and Renee Heberle, both of whom are anxious to work with and help undergraduates in advising and other activities to empower students.

I would like to welcome them on board and express gratitude for the wonderful energy I know they will bring to the program.

Third, a number of other faculty including myself have as a long range goal the development of a graduate program for Women’s Studies. This will become more possible as we strengthen our reciprocal connections between other departments and associated faculty so as to build our program’s ability to service graduate students without slighting undergraduate teaching. My hope is to initiate the Graduate minor in Advanced Feminist Studies that was approved more than five years ago but has still not been implemented due to the lack of the necessary infrastructure. We will continue the outreach to graduate students begun last year with the graduate student conference “Graduate Students Address Women’s Lives,” organized by Professor Joyce Berkman (History) and Valerie Carey (TA for 187, WOST Jr. Writing instructor and graduate student in English Literature). Many thanks to Joyce and Valerie for the work that went into this highly successful event!

Finally, in order to facilitate more faculty and student involvement in the program we hope to hold faculty and student open forums in the fall and spring of 1995 and 1996 for feedback to the program and ideas for new projects and directions. A pet project of mine is to institute a faculty discussion series, open to students, that would discuss the ongoing research of any faculty doing feminist research on campus and would help us network with each other about our intellectual projects, thus attracting new associated faculty to the Women’s Studies program.

I am very pleased to have this new position and look forward to working with all of you.

Sincerely,

Ann Ferguson Director, WOST
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
The Women's Studies Executive Committee is the policy making board of the program. It is composed of faculty in the program, staff, student representatives as well as faculty from other departments. The Executive Committee meets the 2nd or occasionally the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Meetings are scheduled for September 20, October 18, November 15, and December 13 this semester.

FACULTY/STUDENT RECEPTION AND CELEBRATION!!
The welcome back reception for faculty, students, staff and friends will take place immediately following the first Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 20 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. At this event we will welcome Alex Deschamps and Renee Heberle, and dedicate the new student lounge. Don't miss it. This event will be in the lounge, 208 A Bartlett Hall.

Immediately following this at 5:00 p.m. will be a Student Meeting. Students will discuss upcoming issues, Executive Committee representation, and program ideas. Tricia Shoemaker and Nicole Larace, student representatives to the executive committee and the student lounge workers will host this meeting.

FACULTY BRAINSTORMING FORUM
The program wants to invite new feminist faculty, old faculty friends, and all other interested faculty members interested in Women's Studies work to join us to provide feedback to the program, help set future directions including possible lecture series, faculty study groups, and seminars on Women's Studies issues and faculty research presentations. Stay tuned for more information.

COUNSELING WEEK INFORMATION
We will be having a small gathering during Counseling Week, November 9-15, 1995. At this event Women's Studies faculty will discuss the courses they will offer in the Spring Semester. Watch your mail for details.

LIBRARY EVENT
Please join us at an introduction to and demonstration of electronic resources - for the Women's Studies Department - in the Calipari Library Instruction Room (Main Floor/ lower level), W.E.B. DeBois Library on Thursday, September 28, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to the Women's Studies office, 545-1922.

Black Studies/Women's Studies 1981 and Today
November 17-19, 1995

In 1981 a group of Five College Faculty in Black Studies and Women's Studies participated in a two year Faculty Development Project, funded by FIPSE (Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education) and led by Johnella Butler (SC) and Margo Culley (UM) with Arlene Avakian. The group discussed issues central to each field in an effort to build the theoretical and curricular connections between the two fields. With a seed grant from Charlena Seymour, one of the participants and Dean of the Graduate School, and support from other sources, a group of the UMass participants and new members are organizing a conference to assess what is happening now and future directions. Beverly Guy Sheftall will deliver one of the keynote address, June Jordan may deliver the other.

Panels will include Five College faculty (both "founders" and junior faculty) addressing the history of the fields and the connections between them; the ways in which global struggles have impacted teaching, research and the parameters of the fields; how changing constructions of race and gender have raised new questions or challenged existing theories; the politics of what constitutes "legitimate" scholarship and pedagogy in the fields; and the challenges to each field raised by issues of sexuality. There will also be a panel by grad students on the implications of the theoretical issues and approaches discussed through the conference and another session for follow-up to the conference. The panels will be focused on discussion among the panel and audience. The conference is free and open to everyone in the Five Colleges. For more information, contact the Women's Studies office.

Planned for Spring 1996
-Student Brainstorming Forum for improvements to the program including curriculum and events
-Rossman Alumni Career Forum—graduates come back and discuss careers and choices.
Thanks to Donors

As always, we thank our donors for their generous support. Every month graduates and community members recognize the program with financial gifts. This money is crucial for many of our regular activities, including the printing and mailing of this newsletter. Special thanks to Cynthia Holmes who this year as in many past years arranged flowers and gifts to brighten our graduation event. Heartfelt thanks to all of our donors:

Janet Aalfs
Nancy Barron
Judson and Jeannine Boardman
Judith Branzburg
Joan Brinton
Louise Bryan
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Anne Clarkin
Diane Curley
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Debra Grzywacz
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Kathleen Mirabile
Mary Reilly
John and Carla Rensenbrink
Nicole Ross
Karen Shack
James and Patricia Sheehy
Deborah Toppan
Jill Trégør
Lillian Waugh
Elizabeth White

FALL TEACH-IN
A working group of the Massachusetts Society for Professors is planning a teach-in on the crisis in public higher education and the future of the University. Tentatively planned for October 25 and 26 the teach-in will include both large scale events in the Student Union/Campus Center and smaller events around campus. Faculty, students, staff, unions, and community groups are encouraged to participate. The topics for the teach-in include: access to college, the purpose of higher education, funding levels—is the Commonwealth and the U.S. committed to higher education and the character of education today. For information contact the MSP office at (413) 545-2206.

NEW SERVICES AT THE CAREER CENTER
For those of you just starting your career search, or those of you entering the job market again, there is a new service at the Career Center which helps match students and alumni looking for Career or Graduate School information with other alumni who have agreed to serve as mentors. The University Computerized Alumni Network, or UCAN, began in 1991 and has been matching students and alums ever since. There are between 1,600 and 2,000 mentors on the network who are willing to offer a variety of information from general career advice about their field, to graduate school information, to geographic information about the area in which they live. The service does not provide specific job placement and in fact users are prohibited from contacting mentors specifically for job seeking purposes. If you are interested in using the network, or in becoming a mentor, please call Ruth Washington at the Career Center, (413) 545-6256, for more information.

In addition to this service, starting in mid-October the Career Center will begin to offer the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator for use in the career search process. There will be a small fee ($30) to offset the cost of the survey. The fee will include a preliminary consultation, the cost of scoring the inventory, and post inventory interpretation. Contact the Career Center at (413) 545-2224 for more information.

National and International CONFERENCES will no longer be listed in the Women's Studies newsletter in order to prioritize campus events. Women's Studies gets many notices of conferences, stop by the office if you want to see them. 208 Bartlett Hall.
Welcome to Our NEW Faculty Members!

As a result of our faculty's successes (see Transitions, page 6), many of our faculty have been unavailable to teach undergraduate courses. But with the support of our dean, we received funding for an additional teaching position. After an extensive search, Alexandrina Deschamps was hired for this lecturer position - teaching two courses per semester and also available for advising. Our department will retain this position until we can search for a permanent, tenure-track faculty member.

In addition, we were very fortunate to hire a second lecturer from our original search pool. By combining several separate sources of funding, we created a one-year lecturer position which resulted in the hiring of Renee Heberle. Alex and Renee greatly enrich our course offerings, and both will be available for sponsoring majors, minors, independent studies, and fieldwork.

Alex Deschamps brings sterling teaching credentials and years integrating issues of race, ethnicity, sexuality and class into her analytic framework and pedagogy. Alex has taught in our program for several years, worked as a staff advisor, and is familiar with the services on campus for students of color. Alex has a background in global feminist issues with a focus on gender and development. Gender and development focuses on the inequality between men and women in development initiatives. Alex is interested in documenting women's progress in thought and action in shaping their own destinies and moving from the "beneficiary" mentality to making gender a central concern in the development process as well as exploring different notions of development where women are "made to matter."

Alex is also a political and community activist and will be working with the Women of Color Program of the Everywoman's Center, the undergrad centers in recruiting students of color to Women's Studies, and the STAVROS: Center for Independent Living. She will be working with some students of color to help initiate a

Five College Group whose focus is transforming internalized racism into liberatory consciousness. This fall, Alex is teaching 187 and 393D.

Renee Heberle brings a thorough background in political and feminist theory as well as advising experience to her position here. Her subfield in political science is political theory with special emphasis on Critical Theory of the Frankfurt School and feminist theory. Renee taught in the STPEC program at UMass as well as offered courses in the state prison system. She worked in political theatre in Boston and has experience as a union activist. In addition Renee is an activist with experience working with women's groups in Central America and in the battered women's movement locally as a board member and volunteer at Womanshelter/Companeras for several years. Renee's years of teaching and advising, her expertise in theory, and the breadth of her organizing experience combine to make her a valuable member of the program. This fall Renee is teaching 301 and 395E.

Congratulations also to Valerie Carey who will be teaching our writing course, WOST 391W - Writing for Women's Studies Majors. Valerie is a doctoral candidate in the Department of English and has been a teaching assistant for WOST 187 for the past 3 years. Her research interests include: African American women's autobiographical writings, African American Literature, Black Feminist/Womanist literary criticism and theory, the Harlem Renaissance, and Toni Morrison. We welcome Valerie in her new capacity.

Please see the Course Guide Addenda (page 14) for the descriptions of their new courses.
Arlene Avakian will be here this coming school year, and is available for advising, etc. In the Fall Arlene is teaching WOST 201 and a senior seminar for STPEC (Social Thought and Political Economy) U.S. Women’s Lives in Contexts: Reading and Creating Political Autobiography.

Office manager Linda Hillenbrand, Minor Coordinator Sue Lee, and Major Coordinator Karen Lederer are all still here. Stop in and say hello!

Returning WOST 187 TA’s include Valerie Carey, Suzanne LeGrande, Mary Ann Levine, Jean Sherlock. Welcome back to Jenny Ire who will be returning as a WOST 187 TA.

Transitions

Congratulations, Happy Researching and Farewell for now to:

Leila Ahmed was awarded a prestigious Faculty Fellowship. Only 3 faculty members were awarded this honor. This prize includes a year’s leave to pursue research. Congratulations Leila! Leila has several research projects ongoing.

Joy James for 1995-96 will be researching representations of rape & lynching in Afro-American Press (1892-1942); organizing and lecturing on politics and repression in New York City and in the West. She has a research grant at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

Jan Raymond is on leave this year 1995-96. She has received a grant to organize a program on sex trafficking and prostitution at the Fourth World Women’s Conference in Beijing (August/September 1995). Jan will also be traveling to Thailand to further her work with the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women.

Best of luck and congratulations to Charu who will be a tenure track lecturer at the Department of Economics at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA.

Farewell to Mecke Nagel, an able teaching assistant and dedicated political activist. We wish her well in her future academic work. Thanks also to Annie Mara and Kim Leighton for their hard work this past year.

Farewell to Rachel Barber our friendly and knowledgeable work study student in the office for the last 3 years. We miss her. Rachel graduated with a double major in English and Women’s Studies in May. Stacey Gillis will be returning to the office staff, bringing energy and enthusiasm to her work study position here. We would also like to welcome Bonnie Page, a WOST major, as our new work study.

Exemplary Service Last Year and This Coming Year

Alex Deschamps has agreed to chair the Undergraduate Studies Committee. Leila Ahmed will chair the Personnel Committee for the Fall and Marta Calas, Faculty from the School of Management and long time member of the executive committee has agreed to chair the Personnel Committee. Now that there are chairs to convene the committees, they need members! There are many opportunities for faculty involvement in Women’s Studies. If you are interested, contact Ann Ferguson.

Special Thanks to Fatima Duisebaeva, Paula Mark and Barbara Cruikshank for giving talks in last spring’s event series. Thanks also go to Rachel Tanenhaus, Jennifer Restle, and Susan Regan for being part of the Women’s Studies Panel on Disability Awareness.

We would also like to thank Barbara Cruikshank of Political Science who valiantly served as our summer administrator.

This past spring, our annual alumni career forum that featured Liz Bennett ’82 Psychologist, Bridgewater State College, Michelle Boardman ’91 Kate Fowler Merle-Smith Curator of Textiles, Allentown Art Museum, and Andrea Fox ’82 Associate Director, Massachusetts Nurses Association. Despite the wide variety in their career paths, the panelists commented on common themes of political activism and working
Congratulations to the following minor graduates: Dena Cooper, Alison Cornell, Joanna Farewell, Meredith Glassman, Stacy Horne, Erin Kelly, Laosie King, Giulia Larocca, Heather Lind, Jill Leve, Joyce Miller, Sonia Paz, Gina Raposa, Brenda Richmond, Jennifer Swan and Jennifer Viveant. Good luck all!

Best wishes and a job well done to our major grads: Rachel Barber, Vicky Buehler, Joy Collins, Kathryn Davis, Carrie Ferguson, Joanne Flom, Artemis Foster, Kristin Lee, Jonathan Linder, Barbara Lowenthal, Anne MacDonald, Clarinda Merripen, Mary Anne Morris, Robyn Novick, Liza Patrick, Munirah Taafaki, Isabel Tereso, Susan Van Pelt, Melissa Weinberg and Gwendolyn Wong. Best of luck to you all, please keep in touch with the program.

Welcome to new minors!

Melanie Arruda, Mara Brown, Elisabeth Burke, Erin Jackson, Monique Johnson, Giulia LaRocca, Lauren May, Susan Nasberg, Kellie Payne, Ameem Wharton

Welcome to new majors!

Christina Cincotti, Meredith Doyle, Cheri Ehrlich, Joanne Flom, Marni Helfner, Susan Kaiser, Alison Kamar, Elif Koymen, Carla Lauranzano, Cristin Martineau, Jennifer Montello, Isabel Tereso, Catherine Van Dam and Christina Zizza. See Your Name here! Get your name in the newsletter simply by filling out the application and selecting a sponsor!

LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE

This semester Kaolin a current Women's Studies major will again offer a course entitled “Let's Talk About Race.” This one credit pass/fail independent study group will focus on observing racism and the ways to begin dismantling it. Regular attendance, readings, journal, and a presentation are part of the requirements. There will be an organizational meeting for interested people the 2nd week of the semester. For information re: time and place of that meeting, contact Kaolin at 584-4996 or contact the office. Kaolin wrote the following article about her experience with the group in Spring 1995.

Learning Opportunity: Let's Talk About Race by Kaolin

In January 1995 I had decided to teach a course titled “Let's Talk About Race.” I observed other student's reactions to African-American History and was convinced that many students needed a place to vent their anger about racism in general. This class gave them a relatively safe environment in which to process the history they had been deprived of in their childhood and adolescence, thereby providing them the opportunity to make some firm decisions about their own strategies to disengage themselves from racist behaviors/norms.

To my surprise, the students were painfully honest about their families, high schools, friends and themselves when the issue was race. They were able to separate their ideals, naiveté, (in some instances) and
their own prejudices in order to begin to confront the inevitable on-going struggle before them. Each week they passed in a 2-3 page journal that included their responses to the class itself, and observations about their lives and others in their environments throughout the week. I then wrote each student a response in a letter format addressing the needs of the “whole” person. When racism is obvious it can be easier to tackle, but it was the subtler forms of a racist ideology that I was after. The students could evaluate it themselves, see the logical sequence of beliefs that are usually the by-product of being white, and then argue their position, or defend it once and for all. Students who participated chose to surrender their innate racist experience for a pro-integrationist ideology. The solidarity that developed within the group was spontaneous and purposeful. Some of the students are taking on new projects based on this experience.

As the teacher of this independent study I have no regrets about having taken this work on. It has been most gratifying and I am convinced a course of this kind should start in pre-schools and continue throughout the education career of every individual. I also think Let’s Talk About Race would be a fine organization. Students need a place to “process” their many concerns about being ostracized, attacked, rejected... as well as a place where they can meet like-minded others and establish sound relationships with their peers as they become more committed to a non-racist ideology.

With an OIT UNIX/VAX account, you can dial-in to the online catalog, InfoTrac, and the periodical indexes listed above from your homes and offices. Want to know more? Please join me at an introduction to and demonstration of these electronic resources—for the Womens Studies Dept—in the Calipari Library Instruction Room (Main Floor/ lower level), W.E.B. Du Bois Library, on Thursday, September 28, from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to the Womens Studies office, 545-1922.

Emily Silverman, Reference Librarian and Womens Studies resource person
W.E.B. Du Bois Library
545-0150  esssilverman@library.umass.edu

SURVEY RESULTS
Thanks so much to those of you who took the time to answer the survey enclosed in our last newsletter. We appreciate your feedback and the words of support are very welcome. Overall the surveys were very positive with respondents most frequently citing the events listings, alumnae and people news, and news about Women’s Studies as their favorite sections of the newsletter. One suggestion was an editorial page which we are trying in this issue.

We are initiating on a trial basis an editorial and opinion page. We welcome comments and suggestions, and will include opinion pieces by faculty and staff. Letters should be about Women’s Studies and directed toward an audience connected to Women’s Studies. We reserve the right to select what we reprint in these pages based on content, space, or any other considerations. Send submissions to “Newsletter Editor, Women’s Studies, 208 Bartlett Hall, UMass, Amherst, MA 01003.”

Karen’s Corner:
Careers and Women’s Studies

During the summer I meet incoming Women’s Studies students and potential Women’s Studies students at the New Students Program and the Transfer Orientations. Without a doubt, the most frequently asked question this year was “But, what kind of job can I get with a Women’s Studies degree?” I talk with the students about the value of a liberal arts degree and about how the actual field of study (with a few exceptions) makes little difference. Employers are generally looking for people who can think critically, write well, and work with others. Specific work, coop or internship experience is
something potential employers are very interested in. Because of the emphasis on the value of field work in Women’s Studies and the interdisciplinary and individually designed nature of our program, students are likely to leave with both a degree and some related experience. Some students actually design a major to train them for a particular job when they leave.

What really alleviates the student’s fears is when I give them our handout “Women’s Studies Graduates: Where Are They Now?” When they read through this inspiring list of what people are doing, the variety of careers our alums have, and the various types of higher degrees that our students have acquired, they are truly relieved. If the conversation continues on careers I tell them about our career planning course, and the services of Mather Career Center (545-2224) and Ginger Goldsby, our contact there.

Students need the information that only our graduates can provide. Please keep in touch!

### Alumni News

**Janet Aalfs** writes that she has completed a poetry manuscript *The Stone-giver* and is looking for a publisher. She is also writing a book about poetry, martial arts and self defense, working title *KIAI: A Woman Shouts*. Valley Women’s Martial Arts (in its 18th year) continues to expand and transform. Janet also has an essay in *Martial Arts Teachers on Teaching*, and has had poetry recently published in *Sojourner, Onion River Review, Evergreen Chronicles, Metis, Earth’s Daughter and OutRage*. She is also a member of Orogeny Press. Janet is one of the research associates at the Five College Women’s Studies Research Center for this coming year.

**Michelle Boardman** completed her M.S. in Textile History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in May 1994. Her thesis examined rugs woven by Chippewa women at Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Indian Reservation from 1939-1941. The rugs were a work relief project and distributed to needy people in the area. She is currently the Kate Fowler Merle-Smith curator of Textiles at the Allentown Art Museum. She adds “Please pass along words of support from me to graduating WOST students and tell them to hang in there.” Job searches are definitely not easy but good things do happen!!!

**Susan Cayleff’s** book *Babe, The Life and Legend of Babe Didrikson Zaharias* was just published by the University of Illinois Press.

**Susan Crane** writes that she has U.K. residency and is applying for citizenship. She traveled to Kenya, Bangladesh, India and Frankfurt. She continues her work as executive director of International Family Health, an organization that identifies and manages family planning and AIDS prevention programs primarily in Africa and Asia with an emphasis on social marketing.

**Kathryn Daniels** writes that she is still continuing her writing career while proofreading and copyediting for a living. Her story, *If I Had a Hammer* was selected to be reprinted for an English textbook in Norway. She and her husband bought a co-op in Queens complete with a garden!

**Heather Henriques** writes that she is a manager at Mass Job Training Inc's Salem Office. MJT is a non-profit organization that provides education and skills training to low income Massachusetts residents. Most of the clients are single mothers, and they offer counseling, support, as well as job placement. Heather has held many positions with this organization including instructor of office skills, GED prep classes, etc. Now she still counsels and teaches, but also secures funding, arranges staffing, PR and does other managerial tasks.

**Lisa Levesque** wrote in August 1994 that she “quit my corporate job” and moved to Guatemala to be one of eight international volunteers at a grass-roots development project AC-TENAMIT which means “New Village” in the Kek’chi language. The project serves Kek-chi (Mayan) Indians displaced by political violence and includes a health clinic, school, and vocational training center. She adds that she “literally live(s) in the jungle...and although adjusting to this lifestyle was difficult at first (no running water, etc.) I have found a productive “niche” for the time being”

**Trish Murphy** is a part-time student at the Boston University School of Public Health working toward an M.P.H. She married long standing boyfriend James Sheehy and they recently bought a 2 family home in Somerville. She is working as an Administrative Assistant in the Department of Pharmacology at B.U. Medical school.

**Jan Passion** writes that he is living and working in Burlington VT as a psychotherapist in private practice and leading Opening the Heart Workshops at Spring Hill. “Parenting, partnering, racquetball and sailing are also part of the picture.”

**Judy Rowland** has changed her name to **Joy Rosenthal** and as of last fall was attending CUNY School of Law at Queens College, a progressive law school specializing in training non-traditional students. She has taught “Street Law” to high school students.
Inez Sieben is working in New York City at the Medical and Health Research Association. This organization runs health service programs and provides oversight to other health related projects. She adds that they have bought a house and have demanding jobs, and are busy parenting and notes that “the women’s movement still has much to do in this field.”

Margaret Valenti is the Western Mass. Girl Scout Council’s Director of Membership Support.

Note: Almost all the alums tell us that they are drawing on their women’s studies education in their current work and nearly all who write are available to be contacted by current students interested in the field they work in, or the area they live in. Contact the office for details.

NEWS FOR ALUMNI

Ginny Reese has been named the Acting Director of Alumni Relations at UMass/Amherst. Ginny is very excited about the opportunity to work with Women’s Studies alums, and would love to hear from you with ideas for events and activities for the Alumni office to produce. Call her at 1-800-456-UMAS. Congratulations Ginny!

UMASS/AMHERST GLB ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REFORMING

In conjunction with the Tenth Anniversary of the UMass Stonewall Center (formerly the Program for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Concerns) there is an effort to revive the UMass/Amherst GLB Alumni Association. This association will allow alumni to stay in touch with one another and the GLB community on campus. If you want to find out more, or to join send name, address, (email & FAX) major, degree, and year of graduation to: UMass GLB Alumni Association, c/o the Stonewall Center, Box 31799, Crampton House/SW, UMass, Amherst, MA 01003. 545-4824, FAX 545-6667, email pglbc@stuaf.umass.edu.

EVENTS

Everywoman's Center News and Events

WORK AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Are you concerned about the fact that 1 in 3 women will be raped in her lifetime, 1 in 4 before the age of eighteen? Do you know that in the U.S. a woman is beaten every 9 seconds, and in Massachusetts a woman is murdered every 7 days? If you want to empower survivors and fight violence against women, Programs Against Violence Against women at Everywoman’s Center at UMass invite you to participate in our next volunteer training. Counselor/Advocates provide support services for survivors of sexual assault and battering, including staffing a 24-hour hotline and providing counseling and advocacy. Educator/Advocates provide public education, professional training and community advocacy around these issues. The application deadline is September 11 for the Fall training. Bilingual women and women of color are encouraged to apply. For information call 545-0883.

Everywoman's Center Open House
Monday, September 11
9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Reception
4:00-7:00 refreshments served
At Wilder Hall
All members of the campus and community welcome.
Students interested in internships, volunteer work or work study should stop by during the day.

Women of Color Reception and Panel Discussion on Issues of Identity for Women of Color
Thursday, September 21, 1995
2:00-7:00 p.m.
Bangs Community Center, Boltwood Walk
Preregistration is required.
Call 545-0883

Lecture by Winona LaDuke
Native American Rights Activist
Tuesday, October 10
7:30-9:30 p.m.
Campus Center Auditorium
co-sponsored by The Women of Color Program, Office of ALANA Affairs and the Josephine White Eagle Cultural Center

Everywoman’s Center will be offering various support groups this coming fall. These groups are free to campus and community women. The groups are short term support groups around particular topics. Call for a complete list—545-0883 and ask for Resource/Referral.
The Stonewall Center
Fall 1995 Events
(Formerly Program for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Concerns)

For more information about any of the following events call 545-4824, 54-LAMDA, or stonewall@stauf.umn.edu. Information about all Stonewall Center events is available through the Student Services menu of the UMass gopher.

HOMECOMING
Saturday, October 21
Tenth Anniversary Banquet to Benefit the Stonewall Scholarship Fund
The Stonewall Center is hosting a banquet to celebrate its ten years of service the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community of UMASS/Amherst. The banquet will feature entertainment by Sons and Lovers, an up and coming gay male acappella group from New York City, and other entertainers. All proceeds from the banquet will go to the Stonewall Scholarship Fund, which will be used as financial support for undergraduates “cut off” by their parents and as cash prizes for papers in the field of GLBT Studies. Tickets for the banquet are on a sliding scale from $15-$25. The event will begin with cocktails at 5:30 p.m. in the Top of the Campus Restaurant on the 11th floor of the Campus Center.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies Lecture Series

Thursday's at noon in Campus Center 803 on the following dates:

September 14
Lloyd Pratt, Ph.D. candidate in English
Brown University
The Return of the Stonewall

September 21
Scott Tucker, queer writer, health care activist, democratic socialist and founding member of ACT UP
Fighting Words: A Queer Declaration of Independence

September 28
Josean Ortiz, writer, actor, director
Lesbian theatre movement in Puerto Rico

October 5
A Panel Discussion of Current Trends in GLBT Studies
Several UMass faculty, including Professor of Psychology Bonnie Strickland, Associate Professor of English, Deborah Carlin, and Assistant Professor of Communication Lisa Henderson will discuss the current directions and trends of GLBT studies as well as their own research.

October 12
Katherine Sender, Graduate Student
Department of Communication at UMass
 Selling Sexual Subjectivities: Audiences to Gay Window Advertising

October 19
Joan Laird, Professor of Social Work at Smith College
Lesbians and Their Families of Origin: From Crisis to Accommodation

October 26
Lee Edelman, Professor of English
Tufts University
The Invisible Spectacle

November 2
Richard Russell, Divinity student
Episcopal Divinity School
Queer God-Talk: Trigaray's Divine Women

November 9
Gary Lehring, Professor of Political Science
Smith College
Topic to be announced

November 16
Margaret Cerullo, Professor of Social Science at Hampshire College
Families that Matter: Family Values, Queer Families, Queer Politics

November 30
To be announced

December 7
Michael Fraser, Graduate student, Department of Sociology, UMass
Topic to be announced

Queer Nations/Multi Nations
This set of programming is co-sponsored by New World Theatre and The Women of Color Program at the Everywoman's Center.

Wednesday, September 27
Human Relations Forum on Transgender Issues
12:00 noon, Campus Center, Free

Wednesday, September 27
Panel Discussion on Exploring Identity Intersections
8:00 p.m. in Campus Center Room 904-08, Free
New World Theater Fall Season

Tickets students/seniors/children $3.50
all others $6.00,
For information call 545-1972.

Maija of Chaggaland
written and performed by Sheela Langeberg
Friday and Saturday, September 22-23, 1995
8:00 p.m. Bowker Auditorium
Set in Tanzania in the 1950's, this play unflinchingly
follows the saga of an extraordinary village market
woman's life, from terrifying teen circumcision and
first love through deaths, betrayal, enterprise,
perseverance and triumph.

Ndito The Masai Girl
Children's Piece performed by Sheela Langeberg
Sunday, September 24, 1995
2:00 p.m. Bowker Auditorium
Dance, song, mime and sound effects combine to
transport the audience to Ndito's African village.

Strawberries and Chocolate
By Senal Paz/An Arete Inc. Production
Saturday, September 30, 1995
8:00 p.m. Bowker Auditorium
Co-sponsored with the Stonewall Center
The story of friendship between two men in post-
revolutionary Cuba, a “patriotic homosexual” who
resants how the system treats him and a militant
community youth who moved from the countryside
to attend the University.

Tales from the Flats
by Sandra Rodríguez
Friday & Saturday, October 13 & 14, 1995
8:00 p.m. Bowker Auditorium
Two one-act plays created in collaboration with New
Vision/Neuva Vision of Holyoke, Teatro Morivivi
and GRUPO BRIDGES of New York as part of the
Latin American Theater Project. Colors is the story
of a group of young Latinos who confront violence
and gangs in their neighborhoods. Familias is a series
of vignettes, primarily in Spanish, which explore
conflicts in Latino families.

Five College Women's Studies Research Center

The Five College Women's Studies Research Center,
founded in 1991 is a site for scholarly and creative
activity by and about women. Dedicated to supporting
research on all aspects of Women's Studies, the Center
provides facilities and a forum for work by scholars,
artists and teachers at all levels of the educational
system, as well as by community organizers and
political activists, both local and international. The core
of the Center's program is an ongoing colloquium series,
every Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. where the research
associates in residence present their work to the local
community. The Center also sponsors works-in-progress
talks every Monday at 4:30 p.m. by local faculty,
researchers, writers, and activists. All events are free
and open to the public and take place in the living room
of Dickinson House, Mount Holyoke College. To
receive mailings or a list of this year's research
associates call 538-2022. Events are listed in the Five
College Calendar and in the newsgroup
5COLOR. WOMENS-STUDIES.ANNOUNCE.

Ruth Solie (Music/Women's Studies, Smith College)
will direct the Center during the fall semester and Gail
Hornstein (Psychology/Women's Studies, Mount
Holyoke College) will return as Director in the Spring.

The Five College Women's Studies Annual Fall
Reception is Monday, September 18 from 4:00-6:00 at
the Center.
Flyin' West
Written by Pearl Cleage, Co-produced with Mount Holyoke College Department of Theater
Thursday-Saturday, October 26-28 1995
8:00 p.m. Rooke Theater, Mount Holyoke
AND
Saturday, November 4, 1995
8:00 p.m. Bowker Auditorium
This play focuses on the lives of 4 African American
women, who, in the 1800's fled the South and headed
west in search of prosperity, security, and autonomy.

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Bones and Ash: A Gilda Story
By Urban Bush Women
Saturday, November 18, 1995
8:00 p.m. Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
Based on a novel by Jewelle Gomez, this play tells the
story of a young woman who escapes slavery in the
New Orleans area and is taken in and raised by two
women, one Creole, one Native American, who are
lovers, partners...and vampires.

**TICKET PRICES DIFFER FOR THIS SHOW**
Tickets: $20, $15, $10
Five College student: $5 Under 17: $8

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The Return of Margarita
Written and performed by Sandra Rodríguez and
Marilú Martínez Acosta
A GRUPO BRIDGES production.
Saturday, December 9, 1995
8:00 p.m. Bowker Auditorium
This multi-media piece celebrates Puerto Rican women,
their lives, strengths, choices, happiness and pain,
rituals for survival and how they blossom even through
the harshest growing season.

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The following Fall 1995 courses satisfy the
Women of Color Requirement
for majors and minors.

**UMASS**

WOST 292I  Introduction to Gender and
Civilization in Islam
Tuesday, Thursday 11:00-12:30
Leila Ahmed

WOST 393D  Methods from the Margin: Third
World Women's Activism
Monday, Wednesday 3:35-4:40
Alexandrina Deschamps

JAPAN 592N  Seminar: The Tale of Genji
Tuesday, Thursday 4:00-5:15
William Naff

STPEC 394A  Women and Economic
Development in Third World
Monday, Wednesday 4:00-5:15
Kanthie Athukoral

**MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE**

WS250/Pol222  Global Feminism
Jean Grossholtz

WS333(01)  Women, Population, and Global
Crisis
Asoka Bandara

Span355  Women and Film in Latin America
Nina Gerassi-Navarro

**SMITH COLLEGE**

AAS220a  Women of the African Diaspora
Ann Ferguson

AAS326a  Seminar: The Sociocultural
Development of the Afro-American
Woman
Ann Ferguson

AAS 348a  Black Women Writers
Cynthia Smith
COURSE CANCELLATIONS FOR FALL, 1995

WOST 393J - Racialized Representations of Sexualized Violence - Joy James
WOST 391E/ECON 348 - Political Economy of Women - Lisa Saunders
WOST 395M/PolSci 375 - Feminist Theory and Politics - Pat Mills
ANTH470 - Cultures of Africa - Ralph Faulkingham
ENG 480D - Third World Women Writers in English - Ketu Katrak
ITAL350 - Italian Cinema - Jennifer Stone
LEGAL 37L - Discrimination and the Law - Stephane Levin
SOC 791A - Gender and Education - Pamela Quiroz
PolSci397D - Politics of Sex - Barbara Cruikshank
PolSci 79X - Contemporary Feminist Lives - Barbara Cruikshank

UPDATED INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

WOST 187 Introduction to Women’s Studies - Alexandrina Deschamps
WOST 201 Critical Perspectives in Women’s Studies - Arlene Avakian
WOST 295C Career and Life Choices for Women (2 credits) - Karen Lederer
WOST 301 Theorizing Women’s Issues - Renee Heberle
WOST 391W Writing for Women’s Studies Majors - Valerie Carey

NEW COURSES FOR FALL, 1995

WOST 393D - Methods From the Margins: Third World Women’s Activism
Monday, Wednesday 3:35-4:40
Alexandrina Deschamps

Course provides a critical theoretical framework for the diversity of views and activities related to the complex roles of women in the Third World. Comparative approach to crucial issues faced by women in the 20th century and the place of gender in international issues. Emphasis on Third World women with main focus on Africa, Asia, Latin America. Analysis of what women do in homes, communities, national and international groups, particular focus on epistemological studies of women academics and feminist theorists. Case studies on urban and rural development, household reproduction and production and community organization. Focus on connecting theory with action, seeking bridges between women in the industrialized and developing nations, and building coalitions. Students work in small research groups.

WOST 395E - The Politics of Sexual Violence: Issues & Strategies
Tuesday, Thursday 4:00-5:15 p.m.
Renee Heberle

This course will be divided into four areas in order to develop a comprehensive understanding of the issues surrounding sexual violence in the United States. First we will study attempts to explain sexual violence by feminist and some non-feminist theorists; the next section will look at how sexual violence is represented through culture and media; we will then consider the shifting legal definitions and some case histories; the final section will be devoted to the promises and problems of feminist strategies and the institutionalization of the movements against violence against women.
EDUC 752 - Gender Issues in Development  
Wednesday 1:00-4:00 p.m.  
David Evans

The course will examine the role and status of women in various societies, with an emphasis on Third World countries in the process of economic development. Topics will include the effects of the development process on women, women's skills in survival and adaptation, women as preservers of culture and the effect of education on these processes. Course requirements will include a short initial paper, a class presentation, and a final project/paper.

There will be a 1 credit group, "Let's Talk About Race" being offered. See Page 7 for details.

UPDATED COURSE DESCRIPTION

WOST 391G/PHIL 391G - Race, Class and Gender  
Tuesday, Thursday 3:35-5:30 p.m.  
Ann Ferguson

This course will put together theory and practice on gender, race and class in the U.S. as well as present an international perspective on women and development. For the practice aspect of the course, students are expected to sign up for a one credit independent study through the Philosophy Department (Phil 398). We will study theories and facts of sexism, racism and class inequality in the U.S., as well as the politics of coalition building around these issues (Texts: Andersen and Collines, eds. Race, Class and Gender, Albrecht and Brewer, eds. Bridges of Power). We will also read an autobiography of a Honduran peasant women organizer (Maria Alvarado, Don't Be Afraid, Gringo) and consider aspects of a U.S. foreign policy concerning gender (Cynthia Enloe, Bananas, Beaches and Bases). There will be two short papers, a mid-term, take home final and a term paper for the 3 credit component of the course.

For the one credit practicum, each student will be expected to work with one community or campus group dealing with issues of race, class and/or gender social justice for two hours a week and write a journal on your experiences with that group. A graduate student, Nica Poser from Political Science will act as liaison for students with their groups and will lead some meeting to organize and discuss this work with you.

Campus groups you can work with include: Everywomen's Center, Valley Women's Voice or Students for the Campus convention on the Future of Higher Education (to help faculty organize an all campus teach-in on cutback, accessibility and other issues of student and public rights for higher education in a period of cutback).

Community groups you can work with include: Arise (a poor people and welfare rights organization in Springfield), CARE (a Puerto Rican teenage mother alternative school in Holyoke), Family Planning Council (Northampton), Peace Development Fund (Amherst), Necessities/Necesidades (a battered women's shelter in Northampton), and Feminist Aid to Central America (a solidarity group working to empower women in Central America).

Student background should include one course in Women's Studies (either 187 or 201 preferred), one course in social or political philosophy, or permission of instructor. For further information call Professor Ann Ferguson at home 367-2310 or at 545-1922.