"I think of Women's Studies as a pledge of resistance: Man shall no longer make the world in his image."

--Adrienne Rich

Welcome back and best wishes for the year to come! As many of you already know, we have moved to 208 Bartlett. We have four rooms, including a lounge with a deep, soft couch, a teapot and a library. Come by and visit, read, relax or work.

The Newsletter

This is the first newsletter of the 1978-79 academic year. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide information; to serve as a vehicle of communications between staff, students, faculty and community; to promote cohesiveness within the program. We appreciate and welcome your contributions to the newsletter: thoughts, messages, announcements, articles and labor.

New Faculty

Women's Studies has three new faculty members! We are pleased to welcome Susan Yarbrough, Janice Raymond and Mary Ruth Warner to the program.

Susan Yarbrough, J.D., Ass't. Professor in Women's Studies/Legal Studies: after an extensive national search, Susan was appointed to our first joint tenure-track position. Her background encompasses graduate studies in English, a degree in law, and several years experience practicing law in New York in full-time appellate advocacy. Her research includes publications on the role of women in law and society, the treatment of juveniles in the criminal process and work in progress on women terrorists. This semester she is teaching our introductory seminar on Women and Work, and Women and Law for the Legal Studies Program. Office Hours: @272 Bartlett TuTh 11-12:30

Janice Raymond, Ph.D., Religion 7 Society-Ass't Prof. in Women's Studies at U/Mass and Hampshire College; at the conclusion of her 3 year appointment as 5-College Ass't Professor of Women's Studies/Medical Ethics, Jan now holds a position in our program and in the College of Natural Science at Hampshire. Her book, The Trans-sexual Empire: The Making of the She-Male, will be published in January 1979 by Beacon Press. She is currently teaching our advanced seminar on Lesbianism and a Hampshire College course on Eco-Feminism:An Ethics of Ecology and Feminism. Office hours: 210 Bartlett, Wednesdays 1-2:30
Mary Ruth Warner, M.A., Folklore and Folklife, Lecturer in Women's Studies: formerly Ass'"t. Prof. of Folklore, School of Social Science, Hampshire College. Mary Ruth has taught folklore for several years. She has also served as Master of Prescott House at Hampshire, and Coordinator of Coolidge Tower in Southwest. This semester she is teaching Women and Folklore for our program; her spring courses are Women and Music: Afro-American Traditions, and an oral history course.

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WORK !!!!

We need women to volunteer two or more hours/week to work at the reception desk, answering phones, inquiries etc...If interested come by and talk with us soon.

**

WEEP, Nelson House has a work study position open; 10 hours/week, $3/hour, general office, clerical. Call Kathryn or Jean @ 5-1558 or 5-3413

**

Jane Humphries needs a work study student to help her grade papers for Women in Economics. Anyone who has had the course and has work study funds should contact Jane.

**

EWC work study position available with Educational Alternatives; 15 hours/week (flexible—would be negotiated to fit student's needs.) Contact Holly Bishop at the Everywoman’s Center, 545-0883.

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Address Changes

We need from all of you and your friends your current addresses and phone numbers immediately!!!! Please keep in touch with us.

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Announcements

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Poetry Reading

Women interested in participating in a poetry reading sometime in late October or early November, please contact Janet at 586-6831 or Carol at WOST 545-1923 or 323-5137.

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Films

Thursday, October 26, LA STRADA, Gamble Auditorium, Mount Holyoke November 1, ALICIA ALONSO, the story of the Cuban primaballerina's triumph over blindness and her world acclaim on the stage. Thompson rm 104 8 pm

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Take Heed!!!
Arlene Ryan, WOST academic adviser, has changed her name to Arlene Avakian. Effective immediately!

**

The Catalyst Newstand
The Catalyst Newstand Collective (formerly The People's Newstand) is looking for additional women to join the collective. The newstand offers alternative literature and small press publications as well as women's records. It's located in the Student Union lobby across from the sweets counter. They will be open 5 days a week from 11-4. If you are interested in joining the collective come by the newstand and talk.

**

The Politics of Abortion
The Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts is sponsoring a workshop to discuss the politics of abortion, Saturday, October 14, 10:00-2:00 at The People's Institute, 38 Gothic Street, Northampton, MA. Child care is available. Please call: 492-0518.

**

The Common Woman Club
The Common Woman Club, a private club with dining facilities, open to all women as members and guests, presents cultural events every Sunday evening for the women's community following dinner. The events start at 8:30 pm. A $1.00 donation is requested. The Common Woman is located at 78 Masonic Street, Northampton. 584-4580

Sunday, October 15: Pizza night. Cultural event: J Wattles, of Worcester, will present her work on her "Quest for the Goddess."
Sunday, October 22: Greek food prepared by Lisa Heigh. Cultural event: Videotapes will be shown of Sweet Honey in the Rock and HollyNear by Susan Gray.
Sunday, October 29: Mexican food. Cultural event: Laura Punnett, who is working on a book about the New England Hospital for Women and Children, will speak about her work, and issues concerning women and health and women and medical institutions.

**

Student Organizing Meeting
At long last- and once again- an effort is being made to form a Women's Studies Union Council- a student organization for women involved in the Program. This group will provide us with a forum for addressing issues affecting us within Women's Studies, and throughout the University community; and create a vehicle through which we can participate in Program decision making. Many of us who have been here a while have experienced the frustration of what the lack of such a group on campus can mean. We need to know you care. All Women's Studies students please bring your enthusiasm and ideas along with yourselves to our first organizational meeting: Monday October, 16 at 3:30 in the Campus Center, (watch for room number). Or contact Marielizabeth Leblond or Cynthia Holmes through the Wost office.

**

Remember: "Together, we are more than half the world." -Peg Michel

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Office Staff

Who's who in the Women's Studies office:

Arlene Avakian: formerly Arlene Ryan; Arlene is an academic adviser, responsible for the course description book, address changes, student counselling. She chairs the student affairs committee for majors, is our meal consultant and a 03 worker. If any students know of faculty or courses appropriate for the program contact Arlene.
Max: Max is our token male, the real non-employee, a 00 worker with more benefits than some we know.
Dale Melcher: Dale is an academic adviser, chairs the student affairs committee for minors and handles all field work and independent study for the Program. She is also a 03 worker.
Cathy Portuges: Cathy is the co-ordinator of the WOST Program. She is our faculty liaison person and takes care of the nuts and bolts of the program; responsible for scheduling courses and all budget and personnel business.
Mary Ford: Mary is a Teaching Associate and has taken on the gargantuan project of evaluating the program on an on going basis. She will be teaching the Intro Seminar on Women and Work next semester.
Holly Cormier: Holly is a work study student and takes care of the book-keeping.
Kathy Wixson: Kathy is a work study student and is responsible for the library and the mail.
Carol Potter: Carol is a graduate of the WOST program and is now a graduate student in English and a work study student responsible for this newsletter. She would greatly appreciate any feedback and contributions to the newsletter. Many thanks to all who contributed to this one.

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Spring Fieldwork

Please NOTE ... it is absolutely not too early to start thinking about an internship or field placement for Spring semester. You must come in and talk to Dale about what you are interested in doing, how to get credit, where you want to go etc. We have a number of very interesting placements; relating to work around violence against women, adolescent females, women's centers, law, health education and clerical workers organizing, for starters. For specifics call or stop by and make an appointment with Dale.

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WOMEN'S STUDIES
208 Bartlett Hall
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Ma. 01003
Women's Studies Newsletter
208 Bartlett Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst 545-1922

Remember the dignity of your womanhood/do not appeal/do not beg/do not grovel
take courage/ stand beside us/fight with us- Christabel Pankhurst (1880-1958)

Women's Studies Program

Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary program offering an individualized major and a
certificate minor to students interested in designing a course of study suited to their own
interests and goals.

The foundation of the program is the study of women, past and present, in all fields of
inquiry. Too often ignored, their contributions minimized or misunderstood in traditional
courses of study, women are today the focus of new and significant research and scholarship.

Women's Studies Program makes the best of this new knowledge available and encourages
the student to design a program in areas of special interest.

Because of the individual attention each student receives, the Women's Studies Program
is especially attractive to the non-traditional or older student. The Program is also committed
to expanding its offerings in the study of minority cultures and places a high priority on
involving more minority faculty and students in its activities.

The faculty of the Women's Studies Program are concerned about issues of pedagogy, that is,
teaching methods appropriate to women's studies courses. The faculty takes seriously class
process as well as course content, believing the issues of women's lives do not disappear
when they enter the classroom.

Students in the Program have interests in common and a high level of energy and motivation.
As the program sponsors lectures, films, colloquiums, and other "happenings", students develop
a network of social as well as intellectual interaction.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The Women's Studies Union Council

The Women's Studies Union Council has been set up on recommendations of staff women in
the WOST office. It allows Women's Studies students the chance to have input into all
decision making processes in the program. We are trying to get an R.S.O. number so that we
may receive funds and begin sponsoring activities within the program. Many students
in the past have wanted to bring speakers etc. to campus but have lacked the vehicle to
sponsor activities. The Union Council offers us the chance to do all of these. Meetings are
usually on Monday afternoons, 3:30-5:00 pm. Please come, we need you. Call the office
for meeting time and place. - H.L.B.

Previously Unannounced Spring Course

Women in Antiquity

Classics 290B
TTH 1:00-2:15
S.L. Walker

Women in Antiquity is designed for students in both classics and women's studies who are
interested in focusing on the social history of women in the Greek and Roman world. We hear
little about women in classical antiquity because their role in political and military
affairs was largely a supportive rather than an active one. But as we read Homer or picture
Roman senators in the forum and see men active in all the areas traditionally emphasized by classical scholars, we may well ask "What were the women doing?" Women in
Antiquity will attempt to answer this question with the aid of the historical, philosophical,
and literary sources of the time. We will
begin by reconstructing the view of women portrayed in Greek myth and the Homeric epic and proceed to trace their position from these early times up to the last days of the Roman Empire. Text: Sarah B. Pomeroy, Goddess, Whores, Wives, and Slaves: Women in Classical Antiquity.

Politics of Form II

ComLit 591A
MW 2:30-3:45
Sarah Lennox

This course is a continuation of Politics of Form I which dealt with the literary theories of the Frankfort School, feminist criticism and reception aesthetics. Individual seminar work with writers of the students choice will be emphasized as well as theory application to several realist and modernist novels, with the aim of developing a comprehensive, political theory of aesthetics. Prerequisites: familiarity with work of at least two of the following authors: Balzac, Flaubert, Agnes Smedley, Proust, Kafka, Woolf. Background in critical thought strongly recommended. Permission of instructor for new class members.

WOST 390
Advanced Seminar: Religious & Mythic Paradigms of Patriarchy Janice Raymond

In case anyone is confused about what time this course is being held, it is Wednesday from 10:00 am to 1 pm.

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Careers for WOST Students

Mary Ruth Warner and Nancy Callahan are planning a careers day for WoST students. They hope to bring graduates back to talk about their jobs, careers and/or graduate and professional schools. As well as graduates of the program, they will ask other women to come speak about their professions, graduate schools and future prospects. Alternative graduate programs will be explored along with the traditional. There will be a sign up sheet in the Wost office for women who are interested in any aspect of this; all suggestions are welcome.

Publication News

Olive Schreiner: Feminism on The Frontier by Joyce Berkman from Eden Press:
This monograph provides the first examination of the penetrating and prophetic thinking on women's nature and roles of the Victorian British/South African feminist, Olive Schreiner. Hailed in her time as the successor of John Stuart Mill for her eloquent and brilliant advocacy of sexual equality, Schreiner's social critique has been largely ignored by scholars since her death in 1920.

Using sources hitherto untapped, the author deftly interweaves Schreiner's fictional and non-fictional writing, as well as published and unpublished correspondence, in tracing Schreiner's development as a feminist and in clarifying her assumptions and reasoning on issues of gender identity, role socialization and strategies of reform. Professor Berkman's analytic study restores Schreiner to her rightful place as one of the most original, daring, brilliant thinkers on women's condition.

Extensively annotated and indexed, Olive Schreiner: Feminism on the Frontier will provide stimulating reading for those interested in the historical development of feminist thought, British social history and Victorian literature.

Joyce Berkman teaches in British and American Women's History in the Women's Studies and History departments here at U/Mass.

Women's Studies Graduate Programs

University of Alabama BA and MA through American Studies
101 Manly
Tuscaloosa 35486

California State U. Ethnic Women's Studies
Chico 95926 Minor and individualized MA

California State U. Minor, BA and MA through special major with emphasis in WOST
Long Beach 90840

Cambridge Goddard Grad MA in feminist studies School for Social Change
5 Upland Rd
Cambridge, Ma 02140
Some Special Events of the Past Month

The Varied Voices of Black Women

On October 29, "The Varied Voices of Black Women" came to campus. Linda Tillery, Mary Watkins, Gwen Avery and Pat Parker; all recorded on Olivia Records, brought their music and poetry to a large group of mostly women in the Student Union Ballroom. They spoke, sang, played with power and excellence; their voices speaking directly to the issues of being black and lesbian. The music and poetry was beautiful, sometimes soothing, romantic; sometimes disturbing, reaching directly to the anger that comes from living on the boundaries of this society. The performance was at times rousing, it was activating; full of strength and vision.

Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou came to the University on November 9. She gave a workshop in the afternoon, and spoke to a large, enthusiastic audience in Bowker Auditorium, in the evening.

Maya Angelou is six feet tall, a poet, novelist, singer, dancer, actress; raised in Stamps, Arkansas, where the KKK rode with ease through the town. She moves with the energy and grace of a woman with a deep instinct for survival in a world where, in the words of Audre Lorde, "we were never meant to survive." She told how black Americans have survived slavery, lynchings, murder, racism and poverty; she spoke of the "she-roes and he-roes" of black people, the "she-roes and he-roes" being the classic literature of black culture: jazz, spirituals, blues and gospel— all of it poetry, all of it classic. Angelou said she was raised on that poetry, that this literature, these "she-roes and he-roes" have kept her people thriving. It is from this literature, she said, that her poetry rises.

Maya Angelou sung, spoke, acted out her poems and the poems of other black women, contemporary and past. Her work is from an oral tradition, full of language and the rhythm of the street; of spirituals, blues and jazz. She said it is a language that arose from the need to survive adverse conditions; its roots in slavery: "You don't tell them where you're going, you tell them where you been." Words meant to elude slave catchers, the "man" 200 years ago, the "man" now.
Angelou celebrated with song, words, the rise and fall of her voice and with her body, the richness of black American culture, a culture with tremendous influence in the United States as well as all over the world; a fact not always recognized or appreciated. A culture with its richness forged under terrific pressures. Maya Angelou said: "A lot of pressure makes a diamond, a little less and you get crystal, less you get coal and still less you get just plain dirt."

I am the dream and the hope of the slave
I rise
I rise
I rise

Poetry Reading

Janet Aals, Carol Potter and Kate Rushin gave a poetry reading, November 15. The reading was sponsored by WOST and approximately 25 women attended. It was an open reading and two other women read their poems, after Kate, Janet and Carol. We would like to do this again in the future, the response to the reading was excellent and it was a warm, supportive gathering.

Anyone interested in doing this or another such event, sponsored by WOST, please contact the office. We would like to see more events like this.

**

Note the slightly different type. In the middle of typing this newsletter, our typewriters were ripped off. Have we any sweet benefactors out there???? Thankyou BDLC for the use of your typewriter.

Announcements

**

Kate Millet is coming to the University on December 4. (Monday) She will give a seminar from 3-5pm and will be speaking in the SUB at 8pm.

**

The New England Women's Studies Association is preparing for its Third Annual Conference on March 30-31, 1979, at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

The program theme will be: How Women's Studies Research and Teaching Is Challenging the Theoretical Assumptions Behind Methodologies in Various Disciplines. Workshops and discussions groups are in the planning stages and they are asking for participation from WOST faculty and students. Anyone interested please contact Josephine Donovan, Women's Studies Coordinator, 19 Murkland, U. of New Hampshire, Durham NH 03824.

**

Doris Lessing's play, "Play with a Tiger," will be performed November 16-19 at 9pm in the Division IV, at Hampshire College.

**

I'm looking for a place to live in Washington, D.C. Spring semester 79- If you know of any possibilities or anyone looking for a roommate, please call Karen @ 549-6015.

**

We have job listings and other items of interest in the office. Feel free to come by. Remember also, continual call for contributions to this newsletter.