Women's Studies

NEWSLETTER

208 Bartlett Hall, University of Massachusetts at Amherst 545-1922

SPRING 1989

Women's Studies Events Series

NEW INNOVATION—Weekly Brown Bag Lunch—MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

Women's Studies is proud to announce a new series. This series was developed in response to requests from students and faculty for more opportunities for program people to get together. Every Wednesday, from 12:15-1:30 plan to join faculty, students, staff and other friends for a stimulating lunch time program. Each week we will meet in the Campus Center. The first 1/2 hour will be devoted to eating and socializing, with the rest of the time devoted to a brief talk by a featured speaker and interesting discussion. Bring your lunch, the program will provide drinks. The series will run every Wednesday from February 1st through April 26th. The first meeting will be entitled "Setting Our Agenda" and Lee Edwards, program director, will facilitate. We are in the process of contacting a fascinating collection of speakers from around the University. Faculty and Staff are being asked to speak informally on their own work. There will be opportunities for students to speak as well, and for volunteers to lead discussions on issues. Please join us—the success of the program will depend on your participation. Remember:

Every Wednesday, February 1-April 26 1989 (except 3/22 and 4/19)
First Meeting in Campus Center 904-908, check schedule for other dates
12:15-1:30 p.m.
Bring your lunch, drinks provided
Independent Study Credit Available

Lecture on "Feminism and Anthropology: Gender and Difference"

Women's Studies is co-sponsoring with the Anthropology Department a lecture by Henrietta Moore of Cambridge University on "Feminism and Anthropology: Gender and Difference." The lecture is open to all and will take place on February 20, 1989. Time and location to be announced.

From Flappers to Feminists—Women's History Through the Hollywood Film

The twentieth century has witnessed vast changes in women's experiences, roles and expectations. How were these changes projected in the popular culture of the times? This movie series will explore the many images of women portrayed by Hollywood filmmakers: silent-era flappers, streetwise Depression goldiggers, the smiling wife on the homefront during World War II, the tormented postwar professional woman, the chipper virgin of the 'fifties. Screenings will be Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., from February 28 to April 25, in Herter 227, and will include a short introduction by Kathy Peiss and discussion to follow the movie. The films are free and open to all. The film series is being offered in conjunction with Kathy Peiss's class U.S. Women's History 1890-present. Films will include: "Broken Blossoms," "Our Daily Bread," "Best Years of Our Lives," "Adam's Rib," and [for a change of pace] "Salt of the Earth."

End of Semester Gathering

Women's Studies will again offer an open house on the last day of classes, Wednesday, May 17 from 11:00-2:00ish in the office, 208 Bartlett Hall. Coffee and doughnuts (or some healthier alternatives) provided. All are welcome; please stop in.
Leila Ahmed was invited to give a paper at Cornell University on "Arab Culture and Women's Bodies" in October. Leila has also been working on an article on Arab Women for the forthcoming Women's Studies Encyclopedia, and has 2 articles about to appear, one entitled "Between Two Worlds: The Formation of a Turn-of-the-Century Egyptian Feminist" in a collection called Life/Lines by Cornell University Press, and one called "Women's Mysticism in Islam" in a collection to be published by Methuen Coming to Terms: Feminism, Politics, Theory. A new course is under development as well, tentatively titled "Gender in Arabic Fiction" to be offered sometime in the 1989-90 school year.

Arlene Avakian has edited a special feminist issue of Ararat, an Armenian-American quarterly. Arlene will also be giving lectures on "Immigrant Women in the United States" to the American Association of University Women and to the Massachusetts Association for Women Deans, Administrators and Counselors. In addition to continuing her duties as Vice President of the Massachusetts Society of Professors (the faculty union), Arlene has been asked to sit on the Literature Committee for the Armenian Center at Columbia University. This committee is charged with distributing grants of $5000 each year for literature.

Joyce Berkman has a forthcoming book The Healing Imagination of Olive Schreiner: Beyond South African Colonialism to be published in August 1989 by the University of Massachusetts Press. Arlene Avakian, John Bracey, Ann Gordon and Joyce are editing a volume of essays based upon papers delivered at the November 1987 conference on Afro-American Women and the Vote 1837-1965. In addition to active participation on the Women's Studies Policy Board, Joyce continues to chair the History Department's Personnel Executive Committee.

Iris Dewhurst, former secretary to the program, wrote to say that she has become a private pilot and is now licensed to carry passengers.

Lee Edwards is in her second year as WOST Program Director. She can be found, most days, in the Women's Studies Office, where she's always happy to talk with students (and to help them with their WOST paperwork, if necessary) and visit with any alums or other friends of the Program who happen to be in town. She's published an article, "Schizophrenic Narrative," in the Journal of Narrative Technique, has a review forthcoming in The Women's Review of Books, and will be presenting a paper) on Virginia Woolf and the Narrative of Madness) at the International Symposium on Narrative Literature in April.

Welcome to Amy Hoffman, new Teaching Assistant in Women's Studies. Amy came this fall to be a T.A. for Introduction to Women's Studies. She is an MFA student in the Writing Program. Amy has extensive experience teaching writing, and is also teaching a section of Man and Woman in Literature.

Sandi Morgen is enjoying being released from some teaching duties this year to participate in the Lilly program. She has met vibrant junior faculty at the University, and attended exhilarating workshops on teaching. Sandi's American Anthropology Association Gender in the Curriculum project is in its final year. The project consists of compiling a curriculum guide to be distributed free to all Anthropology Departments in the country to help teachers of introductory Anthropology incorporate research about gender and women's lives into their curriculum. Sandi is also developing a new course "Gender, Race, Class and Social Change" for the 89-90 school year. Women and the Politics of Empowerment, the book edited by Ann Bookman and Sandi is now available in paperback from Temple University Press.

Daphne Patai will have three new books out by the time you read this newsletter. These include: Brazilian Women Speak: Contemporary Life Stories by Rutgers University Press, a book of essays she edited entitled Looking Backward: 1888-1888: Essays on Edward Bellamy by University of Massachusetts Press, and finally a book of stories Daphne edited and did some translation for entitled By the Rivers of Babylon and Other Short Stories by Jorge de Sena, also by Rutgers University Press. Daphne is currently on leave and spending time in Indiana. Later this spring she will be teaching at Stanford University.

Kathy Peiss returned from Washington to a busy fall. She just had a review in "Women's Review of Books" on Intimate
Matters by John D'Emilio and Estelle Freedman. Her co-edited anthology Passion and Power: Sexuality in History will be published by Temple University Press in April. Kathy writes that she is "tired of thinking about sex, and hopes to start things about something else shortly." In line with that goal, she went to Paris this fall to present a paper on the cosmetics industry in a symposium on "Mass Culture and the Working Class" and attended a National Endowment for the Humanities sponsored conference on teaching women's history to graduate students.

Janice Raymond has also been busy since she returned from her year of travel and research. She spoke at the University of Rhode Island's Women's Studies Lecture Series in September. In October, she spoke at the International Trafficking in Women Conference, held in New York City, with women from eighteen countries. The aim of the conference is to develop strategies and to organize against the traffic in women world-wide. In December, Jan testified at the New York State Judiciary Committee hearing regarding proposed legislation to prohibit surrogate contracts. Her article, "Of Eggs, Embryos, and Altruism" was published in Reproductive and Genetic Engineering in December. Jan was also interviewed by Cosmopolitan magazine on the subject of women's health care.

Welcome to Teresa Turner who will be teaching in the program this semester. See page 8 for further information.

Katy Wiss is back again for another year as a TA for Introduction to Women's Studies. Katy is also teaching in Communications, and in November delivered a paper entitled "Connecting the Public Sphere to the Private Realm: A Feminist Analysis of War" at the Speech Communication Association Convention in New Orleans. Last May, Katy gave a paper "Jung and Woolf on War: Two Alternative Approaches to 'The Deer Hunter'" at the Eastern Communication Association Convention in Baltimore.

Academic Options for WOST Students

Attention all Women's Studies Students: It is never (well, almost never) too early to come in and check out your number of credits for meeting the requirements for the major and minor. No one wants a nasty surprise in their last semester, least of all you. Majors, make an appointment with Arlene, minors call Karen. If you are planning on being a major or minor and haven't done your paperwork yet ...there is no time like the present. Major admissions will be held in the middle of spring semester. If you need another application, call the office at 545-1922.

Honors: Departmental honors are available in Women's Studies. To be eligible you must take honors courses within the department as well as do a final project either a thesis, project, or portfolio. Honors projects are an opportunity for year long in depth research on a particular project. If you think you are interested contact Arlene, the honors coordinator.

Field work: Karen is now updating the many field work placements available to Women's Studies students. If you are interested in working at an agency on campus, in the community, or in another location for credit, make an appointment with Karen, the field work coordinator.

Hellos and Goodbyes!

Welcome to all the people who DID do their paperwork: Majors who entered in Fall 1988: Jennifer Glover, Helen Harrison (focus on the Battered Women's Movement), Katherine Koloseike, Caitlin McKenna, Penny Percival, Clarinda Rose-Turner, Jennifer Schreiner, Victoria Stampa (focus: Women and History), Sabrina Sutherland (focus: Women and Law) and Michelle Veno (focus: Women and Law). Students without designated focuses are studying general Women's Studies. Welcome to all. New minors this fall are: Laurie Campos, Norma Dana, William Dowdell, Kathleen Durbin, Rachael Flaxman, Stephanie Gumula, Aileen Murphy and welcome back to Michele Melchionda. We are excited about having such a large and interesting group of new students.

Congratulations to the December grads: Minors are Joyce Barry, Christina Cahillane, and Rachael Flaxman, majors are Camille Derricotte, Cheryl Donovan, Adelle Michaud and Kim Withrow. Best of luck all. Keep in touch.
Thanks to our Wonderful Donors

Thank you to Amy Greene, Basha Hicks, Kathryn Kirk, Dale Labonte, Susan Ostoff, Selcuk Sahin, Sandra Taylor, and Lillian Waugh for their generous donations in the last 6 months. In these days of tight state budgets, our trust funds are extremely important for the little touches that make Women's Studies special. Thank you to everyone. Special thanks to Linda Richardson for continuing her support of the program.

Obituary

Women's Studies was saddened to hear of the loss of another one of our graduates. Linda Seymour died recently after a long illness. Linda graduated in Fall of 1983 with a Women's Studies major entitled "Sex, Race and Class: Methods for Teaching Radical Education."

AREA RESOURCES

UMass Escort Service: There is an on-campus escort service from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m., daily. For more information call 5-2123. (Public Safety)

The Sophia Smith Collection Resources: The women's history archives and manuscripts repository at Smith College, has the following new research guides available free to Five-College students and faculty: "Selected Primary Sources on the U.S. Woman Suffrage Movement," and "Primary Sources on Afro-American Women to 1945." Stop by (Alumnae Gym, via Neilson Library, open Monday through Friday, 9 to 5, plus some Sundays or call Araina Heath (585-2973) for copies through Five-College mail.

Local AIDS Quilt Project: Dignilife, an AIDS services organization based in Westfield, is sponsoring an AIDS Quilt Project for Western Mass., similar to the National NAMES project Quilt. Anyone interested in working on quilt squares, or creating a memorial square for someone who has died of AIDS can call 1-800-228-AIDS. (Thanks to AIDS newsletter of Western Mass. for this item.)


University of Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae: A new organization has formed—UMASS GALA, the University of Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae. UMass GALA is an association of gay, lesbian, and bisexual alumni/ae of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Membership is open to all alumni/ae, students, faculty, staff and friends of the University. Membership is not an indication of sexual orientation, but does reflect the individual's concern for the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community of UMass. Goals of GALA are varied including providing networking opportunities and supporting university services for gay, lesbian & bisexual students. For more information contact UMass GALA at P.O. Box 15141, Washington, D.C. 20003 or stop by the office to take a look at their newsletter. This fall the UMass GALA marched in the homecoming parade!

WOST T-SHIRTS T-Shirts, t-shirts!

Those famous red Women's Studies T-shirts can only be earned by graduating from the University with a major or a minor in Women's Studies. Due to popular demand, we have printed our logo in white on royal blue T-shirts for sale to the general public. Buy one for yourself, your partner, your child. These shirts make terrific gifts.

Sizes available are: Adults: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large in 100% cotton Children: (6-8) and (10-12) in 50% cotton/50% polyester, Adult size XX-Large also available in 50/50.

Prices: Children's sizes $5.00 each Adult sizes: students $7.00/all others $10.00; Adult XX-Large: students $9.00, all others $12.00

Shirts on sale in the Women's Studies Office. For mail order information contact the office at 545-1922 (a small handling charge will be attached).

WOST New Look

In keeping with our interior changes, Women's Studies has a new exterior look to boot. Thanks to the Example of the Art History department, and the talents of Vicky Stampa (a major and work-study student) the Women's Studies office is clearly visible from way down the hall in both directions. Stop in to check out the new paint job.
Women's Studies Graduates!

Please keep in touch with us, and tell us what you are up to. The next edition of the newsletter (summer/fall 89) will have a column of alumnae news. Send your news in to Women's Studies Newsletter, 208 Bartlett Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003.

Search for Prof. of Black Women's Studies

The search for an Assistant Professor of Women's Studies with expertise in social science and the ability to teach a course on Afro-American Women has been continued. We now hope to hire someone to start in the fall of 1989. If the process runs smoothly, candidates will be coming to campus in late spring. Candidates will give a talk, and there will be ample opportunity for comment on the part of students and other interested parties. To find out more about the progress of the search, contact the office, or one of the members of the search committee.

Regent's Review

Last spring the program was visited by a team of reviewers who spent 2 days on campus observing classes, meeting with students, faculty, and alums, and reviewing written materials about the program. The review team consisted of Catharine Stimpson, Dean of the Graduate School, Rutgers, Patricia Hill-Collins, Afro-American Studies at the University of Cincinnati and Sara Evans, History, University of Minnesota. Early this fall the report of the review team was released. Overall the review was very positive about the program. Specific recommendations included further work on the development of a graduate program (already under way), reevaluation of the core undergraduate curriculum, (also under way by the Undergraduate Studies Committee) and support for the new position (see above). The team also commented on the need for more faculty, the involvement of the associated faculty in the program, the need for more teaching assistants, and the desperate need for more space. The team also recommended that along with a graduate curriculum, the program develop a research center or institute on women. The Policy Board, the faculty, the director, and the appropriate committees have been meeting to discuss the results of the report, and will continue to do so through the spring.

Policy Board

As visible from the above items, Policy Board has had a busy year with the search, the regent's review, and other topics. Policy Board meetings take place on the second Wednesday of every month at 2:30 in the campus center and are open to students. Currently Risa Mednick and Vicky Stampa have been serving on the board. For more information, contact the office, 208 Bartlett Hall.

WOST Library Acquisitions

During the summer women's studies was able to update its library with the following selections: Our Bodies, Our Selves, Boston Women's Health Book Collective; All American Women, Cole; Women, Race and Class, Davis; Intimate Matters, D'Emilio/Freedman; Feminist Politics and Human Nature, Jaggar; On Call, Jordan; Sister Outsider, Lorde; Women in the World, Olson and Seager; This Is About Incest, Randall; Blood, Bread, and Poetry, Rich; Women Take Care, Sommers and Shied.

We also purchased a small selection of children's books including: Hippos Go Berserk, Boynton; The Very Busy Spider, Carle; Annie Besant, Dinnage, Katie Morag Delivers the Mail, Hedderwick and Mary McLeod Bethune, by Meltzer. These books are suitable for an age range of 3 to 13. We also have a couple of tiny trucks for when kids visit the office. Women's Studies also purchased a few videos for instructional use. Stop by for more information.

Other News

Daughters of the Feminist Revolution

National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) has launched a campaign called Daughters of the Feminist Revolution (DFR). DFR is a "way of linking ourselves to several centuries of organized efforts to improve women's lives... To become a member of the DAR, you need to have an ancestor who fought in the Revolutionary War. The Feminist Revolution is not about war, but about peace; not about violence, but about ending it... We honor women like Sara Grimke, the mill girls at Lowell, who realizing the cotton they spun in Massachusetts was used to clothe slaves in the South, signed one of the earliest anti-slavery petitions... Ida B. Wells Barnett... also... modern women like Lily Tomlin."

The DFR campaign is a fundraiser for the National Women's Studies Association. Enamel pins, button, and certificates are available to donors. For more information contact National Women's Studies Association, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742-1325.

(Information from Fall 1988 NWSAction)

Women's Studies European Programs

Antioch University offers two different European Programs in Women's Studies. One program takes place this summer, June 25-July 22, and is a program of study in Britain, Yugoslavia, West Germany and the Netherlands. This program offers an opportunity for faculty to interact with European women active in Women's Studies and the Women's Movement. Further details of this program are available by writing Phyllis Juett, Program Director, Women's Studies Education Abroad, Antioch Education Abroad, Antioch University, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387. Antioch also offers a fall semester in Europe for undergraduate or graduate credit. The itinerary includes stops in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Germany, and England. Field research, visits with programs and scholars, exhibits, and performances are all included in the program, as well as a period of independent research or apprenticeship in London. Application deadline is March 15, 1989. For more information call 800-445-6743 or 513 767-1031 or write to JoAnn deA. Wallace, Director, Antioch Education Abroad, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.
The 6th Annual Graduate Women's Studies Conference is entitled "Feminism as Catalyst: Bridging the Discourses of the Sciences, Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities." The conference will take place March 4 at the University of Maryland in College Park. The conference will emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of Women's Studies by bringing feminists together in a supportive atmosphere to explore how beliefs about the world shape conceptions and interpretations. Write Graduate Women's Studies conference, Women's Studies Program, 1115 Mill Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

Gender Studies Symposium Visions and Voices for Change. This year the theme of the 8th annual Symposium celebrates the powers of women and men to conjure alternative visions for the future, and through these visions to activate change. Featured speakers include poet June Jordan and artist Faith Ringgold. The symposium will explore the links campus and community, and between local and global concerns. The conference will take place April 10-12 at Lewis and Clark College in Portland Oregon. For information write: Jane M. Atkinson, Dir. of Gender Studies, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR 97219 (503) 293-2773.

The Society for Menstrual Cycle Research presents its 8th conference, "Menopause, the Closure of Menstrual Life: Clinical and Sociocultural Implications." This interdisciplinary program is for researchers, practitioners, students and others interested in women's lives and health needs. The conference is June 1-3 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact Barbara Kerr (801 581-8755) or Ann Voda (801 581-8272) or write them at the Univ. of Utah College of Nursing, 25 S. Medical Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112.

The Nationalisms and Sexualities conference will explore the various ways that, in different historical moments and geographical regions, the constructions of nationalism and of sexualities intersect with one another. The conference will be held June 16-17 at the Center for Literary and Cultural Studies at Harvard University. Write Nationalisms and Sexualities, Literary and Culture Studies, Harvard University, 61 Kirkland Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.

The National Coalition Against Sexual Assault Conference on July 18-21 in Philadelphia. The title of the conference is "Diversity, Strength, and Freedom: A New Declaration of Independence." Contact Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, 2200 North Third Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

New World Theater Series Spring Schedule 1989

Friday, February 4, 1989; 8:00 p.m. The American Indian Dance Theater
Fine Arts Center Concert Hall; $22, $20, $18, Students 1/2 price, senior citizen discount

Wednesday, February 8, 8:00 p.m.; Roadside Theater/John O'Neal, Don't Start Me Talking or I'll Tell You Everything I Know, Sayings from the Life and writings of Junebug Jabbo Jones, Bowker Auditorium; $16, $14, Students 1/2 price, senior citizen discount

Saturday, March 4, Asian American Theater Company; New Age of Wonder 2:00 p.m.
Webster Street Blues, 8:00 p.m.; Bowker Auditorium; $5 public, $3 students/seniors

Thursday-Saturday, April 20-23 and 27-30; 8 p.m. Encrucijada, New World Theater's first original Spanish language play. Hampden Theater, Southwest. $5 public, $3 students/seniors

Tickets available at Fine Arts Center Box Office, 545-2511. For show info. 545-1945.
The following are changes and additions to the WOST Spring Course Offerings Guide.

CANCELLATIONS
WOST 392M/COMLIT 310D *Women's Magazines* by Ellen McCracken is CANCELLED.

WOST 489H *Advanced Seminar: Women in the Middle East* by Leila Ahmed is CANCELLED. The Advanced Seminar will be offered every spring beginning again in 1990.

CORRECTION
*Japanese Women Writers* a five college course in Asian Studies by Joan Ericson was listed incorrectly in the Course Guide. This course will be offered at MT. HOLYOKE COLLEGE not at Smith College as originally listed. Our apologies.

ADDITION
English 891G *The Uses of Gender in George Eliot and Other Victorian Novelists* Wednesday, 3:45-6:45 at the University. Taught by Michael Wolff.

Women's Studies 187 *Introduction to Women's Studies* and WOST 391W *Writing for Women's Studies Majors* will both be taught by Terisa Turner. Terisa got her Ph.D. from the London School of Economics in Economics/Politics and also attended Oberlin College, the University of York and the University of Alberta. She has taught at the University, Smith College, Columbia University as well as in Nigeria and the United Kingdom. Most of her research has centered on Energy and Society, and the Political Economy of Oil, focusing on the impact of industrialization on social relations. Her scholarly writing emphasizes gender and ethnic interactions under the influence of class formation. Terisa has also done policy research for the United Nations. The program was lucky that Terisa was available to teach courses for us this semester.

This newsletter is written and edited by Karen Lederer. Thanks to Ann Williams, Lee Edwards, and Arlene Avakian for their assistance.

Send your ideas and submissions to: Women's Studies Newsletter, 208 Bartlett Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. The next newsletter will be out in late summer. If you move send the office your new address.

Women's Studies Program
208 Bartlett Hall
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003

Account No. 4-12004