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Women

in the

Curriculum

NEWSLETTER

University of Maine

Vol. V No. 1 November, 1987

EDITOR: Portia Goltz

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Evelyn Newlyn, new Director of the Women in the Curriculum Program (WIC). Dr. Newlyn brings her expertise in the field of Women's Studies, as well as her experience in the world of academia, to this very important position. She received both her B.A. and M.A. from the State University of New York at Brockport, and earned her Ph.D in English in 1977 from Syracuse University. Dr. Newlyn has published on Middle Scots, Middle Cornish, and other medieval literature. She has been working for the last ten years in the English department at V.P.I., and during that time organized, developed, and directed that university's Women's Studies program. Dr. Newlyn, congratulations on your new appointment: we at WIC look forward to working with you!

The Second Annual Maryann Hartman Awards

On October 7, 1987, the Second Annual Maryann Hartman Awards Ceremony was held, honoring three outstanding Maine women: peace advocate Doris Twitchell Allen, vocal artist Eileen Farrell, and sculptor Lenore Thomas Straus. In 1977 Ms. Allen, founder of Children's International Summer Villages, was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. She has long been active in promoting peace and understanding between nations. Ms. Farrell, consummate blues, jazz, and opera singer, has given Master Classes at the University of Maine and recently performed in benefits for AIDS research and for public television. Ms. Straus has shown her work at the Chicago Art Institute, the Metropolitan and Whitney Museums, the Corcoran Gallery, the Baltimore Museum, and at many private galleries across the country. She is also author and illustrator of The Tender Stone and Stone Dust. Each of these women has demonstrated the spirit, achievement, and zest for life that Maryann Hartman epitomized. These awards are presented annually in recognition of distinguished Maine women and their accomplishments in the arts, politics, business, and education, and in community service. The work of these women provides an inspiration to others and demonstrates the levels of attainment now possible for women. Congratulations to Doris Twitchell Allen, Eileen Farrell, and Lenore Thomas Straus!

BOOK REVIEW

Review of Ellen Carol DuBois, Gail Paradise Kelly, Elizabeth Zapovsky Kennedy, Carolyn W. Korsmeyer, Lillian S. Robinson, Feminist Scholarship: Kindling in the Groves of Academe, by Ruth Nadelhaft, Professor of English, University College.

In feminist scholarship, especially in Great Britain, the idea of the writer's collective has been a forceful vision. Such a group as the Brighton Women's Collective has functioned for years, generating a number of interesting and exciting studies. In American scholarship, and at the University of Maine, the idea of interdisciplinary, collaborative scholarship as a hallmark of feminist inquiry interests many faculty and should have real drawing power for students as well.

The publication, in 1985, of Feminist Scholarship: Kindling in the Groves of Academe, by the University of Illinois Press, brought to a successful conclusion the eight-year collaboration of five feminist scholars, friends and former colleagues, representing five disciplines: history, philosophy, literature, anthropology, and education. It was their intent, in designing and carrying out this important study, to focus on the nature of feminist inquiry itself *and* to look at the effects of roughly two decades of such scholarship upon the five academic disciplines which the collaborating scholars represented. The University of Maine, like other American universities, relies greatly upon the concept of the "discipline" not just for its scholarly organization but for its administrative organization as well. The interdisciplinary and perhaps collaborative heart of feminist scholarship thus raises interesting questions and prospects for a university such as ours.

In general, Kindling in the Groves of Academe concludes, not surprisingly, that in every discipline surveyed by the authors, issues and ideas have emerged in new and exciting ways because of the industry and intensity of feminist scholars. From the outset, the five authors agreed to define "feminist scholars and feminist scholarship" broadly, and inclusively. Narrow

and esoteric arguments between and among different strains of feminism, they decided, would defeat the very purpose of their inquiry. So, as they note about the discipline of anthropology, this broadly defined feminist scholarship has made "women visible and important where previously they were not;" thus "it opens up whole new areas for... inquiry" (p.42).

An especially valuable chapter, entitled "Ten Years of Feminist Scholarship: The Response of the Disciplines," focuses attention on the history of published journal articles in the last ten years (1975-1985). In this section, the authors attempt to discover whether the effect of feminist inquiry in the disciplines has been translated into tangible increases in published scholarship in the discipline-based journals. Interestingly, and sometimes perplexingly, the answer varies. The education journals show the least influence of women-based *or* feminist-based scholarship, a phenomenon that the authors attempt to explain. In the end, they are only able to account for the small numbers by noting that the "disciplinary journals in education," like those in literature, are "more ambivalent toward research on women and women's issues than those of the other disciplines." The causes of the "ambivalence" are suggestively explored but remain open for all of us to speculate upon.

While there has been a noticeable burst of feminist-based interdisciplinary journals, such as Signs and Feminist Studies, discipline-based departments may still reward and encourage publication in journals established and recognized within the disciplines. This difference, of course, has meaning for both students and faculty interested in a more diverse and visible Women in the Curriculum program. Is it in all our interests to look for an increased presence of scholarship concerned with women's issues in the traditional journals *and* to emphasize the significance of the feminist-based journals as important and legitimate homes for new research?

It is one of the virtues of this book that it regularly raises questions, some of them not yet fully answerable, while it surveys these critical years of feminist activity in these five key disciplines. Looking to the future, on the basis of close analysis of our recent past, the authors take

a guarded but intriguing stance: "That the academic disciplines -- conservative, labyrinthine, and hoary as they may be -- have begun to change is only one aspect of the excitement, upheaval, and delight of feminist scholarship."

That summary, I think, should encourage all of us on this campus to look forward to a wider and deeper incorporation of the principles of a scholarship that is pluralistic in its goals and methods. Scholarship that is by its nature delightful and exciting can only involve larger numbers of students and faculty, reminding us that disciplines are most engaging when they are most alive and inclusive. Feminist Scholarship: Kindling in the Groves of Academe, is a meticulous survey of scholarship as well as an engaging and deeply interesting book.

Celebrating the Accomplishments of University of Maine Women

This column is intended as a place where we can share and rejoice in the accomplishments of women from the University of Maine. We wish to recognize here such achievements as books, essays, articles, and other publications; papers read and sessions chaired or organized at conferences; performances, exhibits, or other presentations of creative work; election or appointment to professional organizations, commissions, and committees; grants and awards received; and promotion or tenure earned.

We wish to publicize and celebrate such recognition as it is accorded the university's women faculty, staff, and administrators. Therefore, please let us know of the good work being done by women on campus. Please send a note or call the WIC office with your good news as it happens. We will include this column in each issue.

This is no time to be modest ... but to share and to celebrate!

Patricia Counihan was recently appointed Spring Conference Chairperson for the June 1988 Eastern College Personnel Officers Organization (ECPO) conference which will be held at Maine Maritime Academy.

Gretchen Fearon Faulkner, Ph.D. candidate in History, has recently co-authored with Alaric Faulkner a book and an article:

The French at Pentagoet 1635-1674: an Archaeological Portrait of the Acadian Frontier, published jointly by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the New Brunswick Museum, 1987; and

"The Settlement of Acadian Maine in Archaeological Perspective," Northeast Historical Archaeologist, 14 (1985): 1-20, 1987.

Diane J. Garsombke, Assistant Professor of Management, has had several works, written jointly with Thomas W. Garsombke, published this past year:

Strategic Case Analysis: A Systematic Approach for Students in Business and Management, Kendall Hunt Publishing Co. 1987;

Cases in Strategic Management and Marketing, Pine State Publishing, 1987; and

"Strategic Marketing of Social Services," in Private Means Public Ends: Private Business in Social Service Delivery, edited by Barry J. Carroll, Ralph W. Conant, and Thomas A. Easton, Praeger Publishing, 1987.

Garsombke also chaired two sessions at the New Ventures: Creation, Development, and Support Conference, United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Oct. 7-10, 1987, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Marquita K. Hill, Associate Research Professor of Chemical Engineering, has just completed work on a grant from the Department of Energy; one of the last in a series of publications and presentations is her talk at a Department of Energy meeting on Separation Science and Technology: "Lowering Kraft Black Liquor Viscosity by Ultrafiltration."

Naomi Jacobs, Assistant Professor of English, published "Michael Onduatje and the New Fiction Biographies," Studies in Canadian Literature, 11.1 (1986): 2-18.

Sally Jacobs, Instructor in Biochemistry, has received the Steve Gould Award, presented each year to an individual for unselfish dedication and great compassion and concern for others. President Dale Lick presented the award to Jacobs during the '87 Homecoming activities.

Lee-Ann Konrad of the Huson Museum and Canadian-American Center has had two recent publications:

Artists of the Dawn: Christine Nicholas and Senabeh, a special publication of the Northeast Folklore Society, University of Maine (1987); and "Native American Life and Art: A Celebration, November, 1986," Explorations, 3.3 (1987).

Ruth Livingston, Instructor in Medical Record Technology, is currently serving as Director of the Maine Medical Record Association, and Secretary of the Penobscot Division, Maine Affiliate Inc., American Heart Association.

Evie Newlyn, Director of Women in the Curriculum, in July gave an invited paper, "Women in the Medieval Cornish Drama," at the Institute of Cornish Studies in England; Dr. Newlyn's Cornish Drama of the Middle Ages: A Bibliography was published in England a few months ago.

Nancy Ogle, Assistant Professor of Music, sang the role of the Governess in a production of Benjamin Britten's opera The Turn of the Screw, presented by the Boston Lyric Opera on October 16th and 18th.

Jana Sawicki, Associate Professor of Philosophy, has several publications forthcoming, among them "Existentialism," in A Dictionary of Literary Themes and Motifs, ed. Jean-Charles Seigneuret (Greenwood Press); "Feminism and the Power of Foucauldian Discourse," in After Foucault: Humanistic Knowledges, Postmodern Challenges, ed. Johnathan Arac (Rutgers U P); and "Identity Politics and Sexual Freedom," in Foucault and Feminism: Paths of Resistance, eds. Irene Diamond and Lee Quinby (Northeastern U P). Dr. Sawicki also read "The Politics of Difference: Towards a Radical Pluralism," at the Third International Social Philosophy Conference in North Carolina in June, 1987.

Christa Schwintzer, Associate Professor of Botany, recently received a two year USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) competitive grant for continuing her studies on the ecology and the physiology of nitrogen fixation in actinorhizal plants.

Alice Stewart, Professor Emerita of History and Library Consultant for the Canadian-American Center, recently published the following:

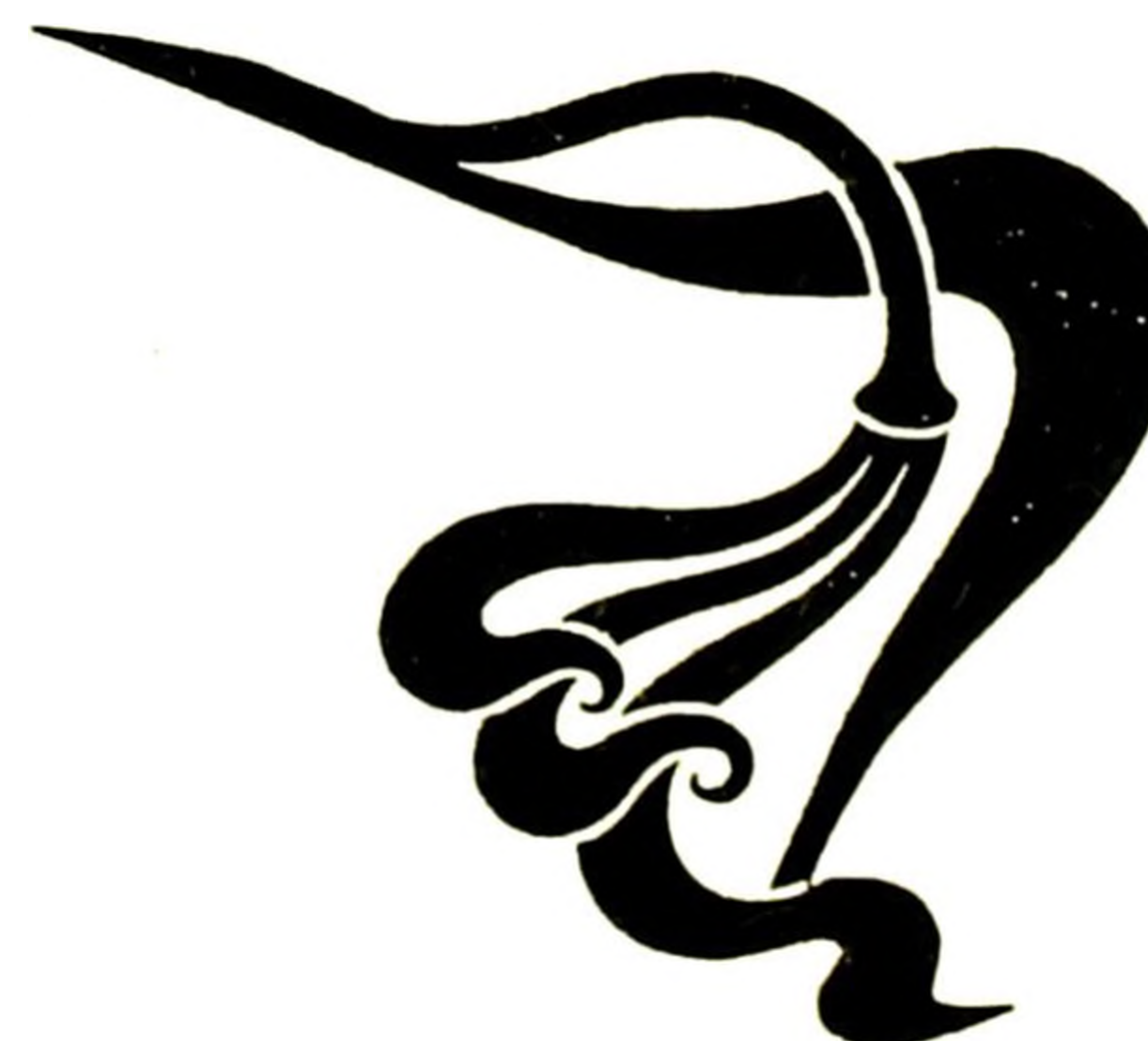
"The Franco-Americans of Maine: A Historiographical Essay," Maine Historical Quarterly, 26.3 (1987): 160-170; and "The Canadian-American Center and the Canadian Collections of the Fogler Library," Explorations, 3.3 (1987).

Carol Toner, Ph.D. candidate in History, has been appointed University of Maine Research Assistant in charge of the Borderlands Project, Canadian-American Center.

Susan M. Volpe, Chairperson, Medical Record Technology, was invited by the Chinese Medical Association to lecture on the management of health information in the U.S.; she presented papers in Beijing, Nanjing, and Guanzhou. Dr. Volpe has just been appointed to a three-year term on the Council for Education for the American Medical Record Association, and is on the Advisory Board for the Women's Center at Saint Joseph's Hospital.

Gail F. Curry Yvon, Canadian-American Center, has recently been appointed Staff Associate for Educational Outreach. In this role she will follow the involvement of teachers who participated in the Canadian-American Center's first Atlantic Canada Teacher's Institute in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Ms. Yvon co-directed the Institute in June 1987.

Several people associated with the Women in the Curriculum Program attended the National Women's Studies Association Conference in Atlanta, where many read papers. Conference attendees included Tina Baker, Sandra Haggard, Ruth Nadelhaft, Evie Newlyn, Tina Nielson, and Irene von Hoffmann.



Colloquia

Sixth Annual Women's Studies

Colloquia: Scholarship on Women

Thursdays at 4:30 in the Whitney Room,

Roberts Union

Colby College

Fall Semester

Nov. 19 Tamae Prindle, Modern Foreign Languages

"Femininity in a Japanese Business Novel"

Spring Semester

Feb. 18 Virginia Dersch, Sociology and Anthropology

"Grandmother-Granddaughter Relationships"

Mar. 3 Suzanne Falgout, Sociology and Anthropology

"The Women Left Behind: Changes in Pohnpei Women's Identity in World War II"

Mar. 17 Suellen Diaconoff, Modern Foreign Languages

"From the Flick of the Fan to the Fall of the Blade: Women in 18th Century France"

Apr. 7 Nikky Singh, Philosophy and Religion

"Women in India: Ideals and Reality"

Apr. 28 Jonathan Hallstrom and Julie Swanson, '88 Music

"Performance/Discussion: Works by Women Composers"

WIC Colloquium on Teaching Series

Exciting things are happening in classrooms these days, especially in classrooms where faculty and students strive to integrate material on women, and women's values and perspectives, into the traditional course content and methodology.

Because pedagogy is such a crucial element in our effort to present our students with a more balanced curriculum, the WIC office last year established a series of colloquia which focus on some of the new and exciting challenges that may be posed by a gender-balanced classroom. Topics discussed in the past included "the uses of student journals in the classroom, student resistance to gender-balanced courses, the use of developmental concepts in understanding and dealing with student resistance in such classrooms, stages of feminist awareness among

faculty and students, and responses to homophobia in the classroom."

All faculty and graduate students who are interested in helping to plan this year's series of colloquia on teaching are invited to attend an organizational meeting to help determine and shape the series. Please call Brenda Collamore, x-1228, for details.

Research Colloquia on Women

Two years ago the WIC office initiated a series of colloquia to enable faculty and graduate students who are conducting research that concerns women to present work in progress. The colloquia also provide an opportunity for us to be helpful to our colleagues as we sharpen our critical and analytical skills. The colloquia will probably be held once a month, with papers being circulated in advance of the discussion.

An organizational meeting is being planned to discuss the arrangements for this year's series of colloquia. Please call Brenda Collamore, x-1228, for details.

If you have work in progress that you would like to present so as to receive helpful comments, if you are intrigued by feminist scholarship and would like to learn more about it, or if you would simply like the opportunity to talk about some of today's most exciting new ideas, please join us. Please also invite interested colleagues and students as well; all are welcome.

Grants and Fellowships

The Rockefeller Foundation announces a program of fellowships for writers and scholars in the humanities whose research furthers understanding of contemporary social and cultural issues. For 1988-89, individuals can apply for resident fellowships at 21 host institutions. Six new institutions will be chosen as residency sites. In addition, applications are invited from programs in colleges and universities and other institutions. Those concerned with the humanities in an international context or related to the diverse cultural heritage of the United States are particularly encouraged to apply. Applications must be completed and received by **Feb. 1, 1988**, but as it requires a

3,500-5,000-word essay as well as supporting materials, applicants are advised to request additional information well in advance of the deadline. For an application packet and detailed instructions, write to:

**Fellowships in the Humanities
The Rockefeller Foundation
Arts and Humanities Division
1133 Ave. of the Americas
New York, NY 10036**

The Institute for Research on Women at Rutgers University invites applications for two Humanist-in-Residence Fellowships for 1988-89. Sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, each Fellow will be able to work on an original, book-length manuscript about a significant question in Women's Studies and the humanities. Applications are due **Dec. 1, 1987**. For application forms and further information, write to:

**Professor Catherine R. Stimpson
Institute for Research on Women
Douglass College, Rutgers
The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ 08903**

or contact:

**Sharon Jackiw
Sponsored Programs Division
24 Coburn Hall
581-1476**

Huntington Library Research Fellowships are available for scholars using Huntington materials. About 40 short-term fellowships at \$1,500 per month are being offered. Deadline: **Dec. 31, 1987**. For application information write:

**Martin Ridge
Committee in Fellowships
Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA 91108**

Announcements

The Orono Public Library has been sponsoring a Thursday evening reading and discussion series, **The Journey Inward: Women's Autobiography**. This program is part of a national project that has sparked a resurgence in adult reading and discussion programs across the

country. Called "Let's Talk About It," the project is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Maine State Library, and the Maine Library Association. Each Thursday session begins at 7:30. The two final presentations are:

Nov. 19 My Life, by Isadora Duncan

Presenter: Nancy MacKnight; and

Dec. 3 Blackberry Winter, by Margret Mead

Presenter: Kathleen Lignell

"The University of Maine's 1987-88 Theater Season promises variety and freshness, but with a running theme that will affect most of the offerings." That is how Edger A. Cyrus, chairperson of the UM Department of Theater/Dance, characterizes a season that will focus on the changing perceptions of women in society. The following is a list of upcoming productions:

"The Lady and the Gypsy"

Nov. 18-21 (matinee Nov. 19)

Hauck Auditorium

"Quilters"

Feb. 10-13 (matinee Feb. 11)

Hauck Auditorium

"On the Verge"

Mar. 24-27 (matinee Mar. 27)

Pavilion Theater

"The Misanthrope"

Apr. 13-16 (matinee Apr. 14)

Hauck Auditorium

In addition, two student-directed presentations are scheduled for the Pavilion Theater December 10-13 and January 28-31. The works are still being selected for these dates, but the December program will be one act plays.

Special Courses on Women

Josephine Donovan, feminist theorist in the English department, will be offering two courses in spring term of special interest: ENG 243, American Women's Literature; and ENG 429, Women and the Rise of the Novel. For further details, contact Dr. Donovan at 305 Neville Hall (581-3839).

Slide Collection Begun

The WIC office has begun to establish a collection of slides focusing on art by and about women. These slides are available for use in classes and may be viewed in the WIC office. The collection ranges from the Venus of Willendorf to Artemesia Gentilleschi, Georgia O'Keefe, and Judy Chicago. The collection is eclectic, including painting, sculpture, needlework, pottery, and performance art. Visit the WIC office, 325 Shibles, for further information about the art slides available.

W o m e n ' s H i s t o r y M o n t h

Planning will soon begin to celebrate Women's History Month
at the University of Maine during March of 1988.

If you would like to help plan the month,
with its wide variety of valuable and interesting programs and events,
please call Brenda Collamore, x-1228, for details.

Everyone is welcome to participate,
so please extend the invitation to friends, colleagues, students,
and members of the local community.

~ A S p e c i a l R e q u e s t ~

Please help us keep the newsletter accurate and up to date.
Call us with announcements, information, suggestions for book reviews,
ideas for short articles on women's issues,
and items for the "accomplishments" column.

Call **Brenda Collamore** at 581-1228
or **Portia Goltz** at 581-382

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