



WOMEN'S
STUDIES
SECTION

WOMEN'S STUDIES SECTION NEWSLETTER

Volume 11, No. 1
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*Issued by the Women's Studies Section, Association of College and Research Libraries
a division of the American Library Association*

1996 New York Program

◆ "Leadership and Collaboration: Librarians Develop Women's Studies Electronic Resources"

Monday, July 8, 1996
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Co-sponsored by the Women's Studies Section, ALA Committee on the Status of Women (COSWL),
ACRL Afro-American Studies Librarians Section (AFAS), Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT), and
Feminist Task Force (FTF)

How have academic librarians and publishers developed electronic resources in Women's Studies? Three panelists will discuss what is involved in successfully developing, marketing, and instructing library users in specialized electronic information resources.

Phyllis Holman Weisbard, is the Women's Studies Librarian for the University of Wisconsin System. Her presentation is titled "Fantasies, Foibles, and Facts: Promoting Women's Studies Online," and she will speak about the evolution of Women's Studies publications into electronic form. In addition, she will discuss how to negotiate with CD-ROM vendors to include Women's Studies materials. Lastly, she will describe methods of direct publishing on the World Wide Web.

Gladys Smiley Bell, Coordinator, Instructional Services, Kent State University Libraries and Media Services. Her presentation, "Black Women Online," will explain her approach in using and teaching others to use electronic technology to locate materials on African and African-American women.

Ralph Ferragamo is President and CEO of Softline Inc. In a presentation titled "The Birth of a Database: The American Lifestyles Series," he will address the collaboration process between vendor and client when developing a new electronic product.

*Rita Pellen, Chair,
1996 Conference Program Planning Committee
< pellen@acc.fau.edu >*

Women's Studies Section Newsletter

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The *WSS Newsletter* welcomes contributions from readers. Send articles, items of interest, and news to the editor or to the appropriate column editor, preferably in electronic format.

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**WSS Officers 1995/96:**

Grace Jackson-Brown, Chair
Bonnie Cox, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
Emilie Ngo-Nguiojol, Secretary
Kristin Ramsdell, Member-at-large
Bernice Redfern, Member-at-large

**Notes from the Chair**

An ad hoc committee was formed at the 1996 Midwinter conference to produce a written statement of the Women's Studies Section Strategic Plan to be given to the ACRL Executive Council at the 1996 Annual ALA Conference. Discussions in preparation for the writing of the WSS Strategic Plan have been underway since the 1995 Annual Conference. If you have ideas that you'd like to contribute to the development of the WSS Strategic Plan, please contact Bonnie Cox <bjcox@pop.uky.edu>. This statement of our goals will guide the WSS into the 21st century.

WSS will co-sponsor several programs on the alternative press at the NY conference which have been primarily planned by the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table, Alternatives In Print Task Force. The WSS Executive Board approved our group's non-monetary support to these programs during the 1996 Midwinter Meeting. Unfortunately, two of the three programs planned by the Alternatives In Print Task Force conflict with the WSS Committee meetings on Sunday and our WSS program on Monday morning. However, all WSS members who can are encouraged to attend the "Food for Thought: Free Speech Buffet" on Monday, July 8th, 1996 from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. at the Mechanics Institute Library. During this program event enjoy free food, a cash bar, and an opportunity to meet alternative publishers, writers, and booksellers.

Please come to the WSS General Membership/Orientation Meeting on Sunday, July 7th, 1996, 4:30 until 5:30 p.m., and bring a friend! This meeting is your chance to meet, network, and learn more about what's going on in the WSS. I hope to see you there!
Grace Jackson-Brown

**ALL WSS MEMBERS ARE INVITED
TO ATTEND
A Special Reception
Sponsored by the Feminist Press (CUNY)**

Sunday July 7th 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

*B. Smith's Restaurant
771 8th Avenue (across from W. 47th St.)*

*Speakers: Florence Howe, Founder & Director of The Feminist Press
Kay Cassell, New York Public Library*

*Readings and Signings: Barbara Danish, "The Dragon and the
Doctor"*

*Meredith Tax, "Families"
Lois Elias, "Streets"
and others*

Food & Drink, Gifts, and More

Hope to see you there!

Co-sponsored by the Women's Studies Section and COSWL

Internet Sources of Interest

Please send Internet "finds" to Charlene Hovatter at cehova@vms.cis.pitt.edu

Social Responsibility Round Table's Feminist Task Force is constructing a web presence at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~holman/FTF/ftf.html> At the moment, the main features of their page are introductory and help information about the FEMINIST listserv and an easy interface to searching the FEMINIST archives. Keep an eye on this site for future development!

The University of Wisconsin System Women's Studies Librarian's Office now has a world wide web homepage. Visit them at

<http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies>

for information about their monograph and serial publications, full text bibliographies, WSS core lists in *Women's Studies*, the catalog of the University of Wisconsin System Women's Studies Audiovisual Collection, and links to other web sites with information on women and gender.

The 19th Century American Women Writers Web defines itself as "A space for the study and appreciation of 19th century American culture and especially women writers of the period." The site consists of an electronic text archive of novels, short stories, and poetry by 19th century American women writers, links to sites with biographical information, links to sites having to do with 19th century Americana (including some commercial sites), and a discussion forum. Their URL is

<http://clever.net/19cwww/>

Diotima is an academic site containing "materials for the study of women and gender in the ancient world". It consists of links to course materials and syllabi, bibliographies, images, and full-text articles and papers related to women and the classics. It also has a link to the Perseus Project at Tufts, which allows searching of texts and reference tools dealing with ancient Greece. You can find Diotima at

<http://www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Classics/gender.html>

The WMST-L listserv now has a monthly feature of "Reference Book Notices" available from the WMSTBOOK FILELIST. Each of these columns contains information, content description, and pointers to published reviews about reference books which have

"significant information about women, gender, and/or feminism". About ten books will be included in each file, and new files will become available on the 15th of each month. They are sequentially numbered (WMSTBOOK 1, WMSTBOOK 2, etc.). To retrieve a file, send a message to Listserv@UMDD.UMD.EDU (internet) or Listserv@UMDD (bitnet) with the body of the message stating "GET <FILENAME>", i.e., GET WMSTBOOK 1. For additional information, contact Miriam E. Joseph of Piux XII Memorial Library, St. Louis University at [<josephme@sluvca.slu.edu>](mailto:josephme@sluvca.slu.edu).

Feminist.com is a site devoted to welcoming women to the internet with a collection of women-centered resources, mostly related to feminist activism. These include links to related resources, a classified advertisements bulletin board, advertisements and home pages for women-owned businesses, and a direct e-mail link to the White House. Of particular interest is a collection of full text speeches, articles, and interviews. While not extensive, it may have items of interest to researchers on contemporary women's issues. Check them out at

<http://feminist.com>

Duke University is home to the "virtual Women's Studies Library", a page profiling Women's Studies resources at Duke. Though much of the information here will be most useful to those conducting research at Duke, they provide the full-text of some bibliographies (and will send out copies of others), have an electronic reference desk, information about their research grant, and a list of other women's studies sites. Take a look for good ideas about how to set up a page for your collection. The URL for this page is

<http://odyssey.lib.duke.edu/women>

"Isis is a World Wide Web page which features the art and culture of women of the African diaspora." This seemingly comprehensive index to independently maintained web sites is organized in an orderly and aesthetic fashion and includes categories on visual arts, biography and history, performing arts, written word, spirituality, and organizations and events. They have two websites, one for use with Netscape:

<http://www.netdiva.com/isisplus.html>

and one for other web browsers:

<http://www.netdiva.com/isis.html>



Resources

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND WOMEN'S LIVES: A BIBLIOGRAPHY

This work by Linda Shult, Senior Editor in the Office of the University of Wisconsin System Women's Studies Librarian, includes sections on gender differences in computer use on the K-12 level and on college campuses, the education and career paths of women in computer science, the impact of computers on office work and other employment, the health concerns of both women workers in the computer industry and those working long hours at keyboards, women's use of online resources, and various Internet sites focusing on women and information technology. The partially-annotated bibliography is available (full-text version or individual sections) on the web site of the University of Wisconsin System Women's Studies Librarian's Office under: "Wisconsin Bibliographies in Women's Studies" <http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/>

FILM STUDIES

The "Rebecca Project" analyzes Alfred Hitchcock's film *Rebecca* from a feminist orientation. Available for CD-ROM players used with a Macintosh, users can view clips from the original film, retrieve hypertext essays exploring the presentation of women in popular culture, or study the film's production process. Also included are illustrated biographies of Alfred Hitchcock, Daphne du Maurier, and David O. Selznick, the film's producer. Available for \$69.95. Contact: Rutgers University Press, Livingston Campus, Bldg. 4161, P.O. Box 5062, New Brunswick, NJ 08903 ☎800-446-9323

WOMEN MAKE MOVIES

Women Make Movies is a leading non-profit distributor of independent films and videotapes by and about women. They offer an extensive, diverse collection of features, experimental shorts, dramas and documentaries for sale and for rent, are very supportive of women filmmakers, and committed to assisting the users of independent media. Contact them at: Women Make Movies, Inc., 462 Broadway, Suite 500 D, NY, NY 10013 ☎212-925-0606 Fax: 212-925-2052 <distdept@wmm.com>

FIRST RUN / ICARUS FILMS

First Run/Icarus Films is another distributor offering films and videos about women. The current catalog, which includes fifteen new releases, is available on the web at: <http://www.echonyc.com/~frif> Or, you can contact them at: First Run/Icarus Films, 153 Waverly Place, 6th Floor, NY, NY 10014 ☎212-727-1711

WOMEN IN MUSIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

Kristan Aspen and Janna MacAuslan of the *Musica Femina* Flute-Guitar Duo have compiled an excellent resource for collection development. Their bibliography includes information about books, organizations, music publishers and retailers of music by women composers, women's orchestras, and special collections. For a copy, you may contact them at: Musica Femina Flute-Guitar Duo, P.O. Box 15121, Portland, OR 97215 ☎503-233-1206 <auslam@clark.edu>

"HOT FLASHES"

GraceAnne A. DeCandido, Editor and Director of the H. W. Wilson world wide web site, *WilsonWeb*, has initiated a new service called "Hot Flashes/Library News." Every day, very short news announcements, position changes, breaking stories, book awards, and other information of interest to the library community is posted at

<http://www.hwwilson.com/libnews.html>

"It is my hope that librarians will start their day with our version of headline news," said DeCandido. The page is updated daily around noon EST. Submissions are accepted in all formats. Contact: GraceAnne A. DeCandido, Hot Flashes/WilsonWeb, 950 University Avenue, Bronx, NY 10452-4224. Fax: 718-681-1511 ☎800-367-6770, x2244 <gdecandido@wlb.hwwilson.com>

PUBLICATION PROPOSALS SOLICITED

AltaMira Press, the humanities division of Sage Publications, is accepting proposals for publication. Subjects of current interest include Women's Studies, Holocaust Studies, Asian American Studies, Anthropology, Religion, and Museum Studies. They are

especially interested in topics that will compliment a current book of theirs dealing with descriptions of women in men's writings during the English Renaissance. For more information, contact: Donna Santaro, AltaMira Press, 1840 San Miguel Road, Ste. 207, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
<denise@altamira.sagepub.com>

GENDER-FAIR CLASSROOMS

Send for a complimentary issue of *Women and Girls*, a new publication dedicated to making classrooms gender-fair at every level, Pre-K through Graduate School. Write: Dr. Ellen Silber, Institute for the Education of Women and Girls, Marymount College, Tarrytown, NY 10591. Fax: 914-631-8586
<wominst@mmc.marymt.edu>



WSS Discussion Meeting Midwinter, 1996

The group attending the Discussion Meeting in San Antonio reviewed concerns and issues raised at the previous session during the 1995 Annual Conference, grouped them into categories, and proposed pragmatic solutions and actions:

1. Issues of cultural diversity and cross-cultural communication

- Increase recruitment of members representing diverse cultures.
- Support petition candidates and qualified non-majority candidates for council.
- Women's groups should make a formal effort to increase diversity within their own organizations.

2. Issues Relating to Women's Status in ALA and the Profession

- Support candidates dedicated to women's issues for council.
- Attend council meetings and support our sympathizers.
- Keep lines of communication open between women's groups and others with shared concerns.
- Demand support and accountability from candidates on the issue of childcare.
- Be a vocal presence at candidate's forum.

(Continued on p. 6)

RESEARCH GRANTS FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

Research grants are available for scholars whose work would benefit from using women's studies materials from the **Special Collections Library at Duke University**. Anyone with a scholarly interest in women's studies research is invited to apply, including faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and independent scholars. Grant money can be used for travel to the Library, photocopying costs, and living expenses while conducting research at Duke. Grants up to \$2,000 are available.

"The Library's holdings support research in a wide variety of disciplines and approaches to women's studies topics. Print sources and manuscripts reflecting the history and culture of the American South are particularly strong. Collections of personal and family papers from the 19th and 20th centuries complement print sources such as women's prescriptive literature, periodicals, and fiction. African-American women's history is documented in these collections. Women's roles in the American advertising industry along with images of women in popular culture can be studied in the collections of the Hartman Center for Sales, Advertising, and Marketing History. A number of women writers have placed their personal and professional papers in Special Collections, and the Library holds the archives of several individuals and women's organizations focusing on feminism, women's rights, and lesbian culture."

For more information about the library's collections, visit: <http://odyssey.lib.duke.edu/women/>

- In addition to the form, applicants are asked to supply
- 1) Project abstract of 100 words or less.
 - 2) Budget for the amount of the grant money requested.
 - 3) Outline of the project's goals, methods, and expected results, reflecting its relationship to women's studies holdings in Special Collections.
 - 4) Current vitae.
 - 5) Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of two references familiar with the applicant's research.

For an application form, contact:

Ginny Daley, Women's Studies Archivist
Special Collections Library
Duke University
Box 90185, Durham, NC 27708-0185
☎919-660-5828
<VLD@mail.lib.duke.edu>

Kudos and News

Please send news items to Daren Callahan at dcallaha@lib.siu.edu

Jessica Grim presented "Women's Studies Research on the Web: A Hands-On Short Course Using Netscape" at the GLCA (Great Lakes College Association) Women's Studies Conference on April 12, 1996.

Marlene Manoff recently published an essay called "Revolutionary or Regressive? The Politics of Electronic Collection Development" in *Scholarly Publishing: The Electronic Frontier*, edited by Robin Peek and Greg Newby, MIT Press, 1996. She also has an article forthcoming in *Serials Review* on electronic journals.

Jill Morrisey has taken a new position with AIG Financial Products Corporation in Westport, Connecticut. As Associate Research Librarian she will be responsible for corporate research focusing on financial and international information.

Cheryl Naslund contributed a chapter to *ProCite in Libraries: Applications in Bibliographic Database Management* entitled "Procite: A Full-Service, Small-Scale Library Application in Development Anthropology."

Lesley Pease compiled the women's studies section for the 11th edition of the *Guide to Reference Books*, published this year by ALA. This project involved examining English-language reference sources in women's studies (excluding literature and literary criticism), evaluating their usefulness in reference, and describing the items in a way that would be useful to reference librarians and those involved in collection development. In addition, she compiled the women's studies section for the 10th edition Supplement to the *Guide to Reference Books*, published in 1992. Source types include dictionaries, biography, atlases, statistical sources, periodicals, and encyclopedias.

Wendy Thomas represented the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, last August-September. Schlesinger was accredited as an NGO, which allowed her to observe the UN proceedings. She also participated in the NGO Forum and spoke on a panel about women's access to information which was sponsored by the International Women's Tribune Center. As a follow-up to the Beijing

Conference, she attended the 40th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, held at the UN headquarters in New York, March 11-22, 1996. For more information about the conferences, you can contact her at: [<wendy@harvarda.harvard.edu>](mailto:wendy@harvarda.harvard.edu)

Ruth Wallach is co-teaching an upper division undergraduate class on Identity and Gender on the Information Superhighway at the University of Southern California. See the web site at:

<http://www.usc.edu/Library/QF/SWMS>

(Discussion Meeting cont.)

- Publicize impact of outsourcing both on women in libraries as well as the employees of companies supplying outsourcing.
- Lobby vendors to include/increase the number of feminist presses and publications.
- Develop an informal mentoring system via e-mail
- Try mentoring at the home institution.

3. Pay equity

- Develop ways of teaching/mentoring women librarians and library school students in salary negotiation skills.
- Conduct/publish a study comparing salaries of Women's Studies librarians to other librarians.
- Refer employment issues to COSWL for study, discussion, and recommendations.

4. Ongoing need for continuing education in information technology

- Develop a program of technological mentoring for women, within women's library groups and in home institutions.

5. Retrenchment in relation to Title X implementation

- Support faculty in the women's sports programs at the home institution.

6. Other issues

- Collaboration between women's groups to recognize the importance of collecting and preserving non-traditional women's material.

Committee News

The **Communications Committee** announces the new Women's Studies Section web site.

<http://www.lib.siu.edu/dcallaha/wsshp.html>

The site includes information about upcoming conference events, WSS committee information, a list of current Section officers, an electronic version of the *WSS Newsletter*, and more. Created by Committee member and current *Newsletter* editor Daren Callahan.

Jessica Grim, Co-chair

The **Collection Development Committee** is working on a project to organize women's studies internet resources. They plan to construct a web site that is linked to the Women's Studies Section home page. Two committee members are working on an organizational scheme and everyone is working to identify women's resources in particular disciplines. This is a major project and the committee would welcome participation by any section members with interest or expertise in this area.

Marlene Manoff, Chair

The **Technical Services Committee** is comprised of both technical services and reference librarians who work together to identify and monitor issues and practices in technical services that affect Women's Studies.

The Committee jointly completed a paper recently which will be submitted for publication in the WSS anthology. The project involving recommended subject heading submissions to the Library of Congress will come to a close by the time of the 1996 Annual Conference. During Midwinter this year, the Committee discussed future projects that might be appropriate for future Committee members to consider. Many issues are arising out of electronic technology including format, impact on jobs and cataloging practices, changing environments, reference, acquisitions, and also Women's Studies. These areas and others hold potential for further exploration, one of which could be outsourcing and how it affects librarians in Women's Studies and other areas.

There are many ongoing issues that are of concern to librarians in tech services and reference. This Committee is a great way of sharing and discussing those concerns, and we are always looking for new volunteers who are interested in this type of interaction.

Mila Su, Chair

Women's Studies Section COMMITTEE INTEREST FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Please indicate committees on which you are interested in serving, and number your preferences:

_____ Collection Development Committee

_____ Communications Committee

_____ Nominating Committee

_____ Program Planning Committee

_____ Publications Committee

_____ Social Issues/Education Committee

_____ Technical Services Committee

Other current ALA or ACRL committee assignments:

Please mail to: Bonnie Cox, Collection Development Librarian
204 King Library South
University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0039

For more information, contact Bonnie Cox at: <bjcox@pop.uky.edu> ☎ 606 257-4351

 **WSS MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE NEW YORK CONFERENCE**

Executive Committee Meetings	July 6, Saturday, 2:00 - 4:00p
	July 8, Monday, 2:00 - 4:00p
All WSS Committee Meetings	July 7, Sunday, 9:30a - 12:30p
General Membership Meeting	July 7, Sunday, 4:30 - 5:30p
<i>Feminist Press-sponsored Reception</i>	July 7, Sunday, 7:30 - 9:00p
WSS Program	July 8, Monday, 9:00 - 11:00a

**Check conference schedule for locations and room numbers*

MENTOR PROGRAM FOR NEW ATTENDEES

July 1996, New York

The Mentoring Committee of the New Members Round Table is sponsoring a conference Mentor Program at the ALA annual conference in New York. The program will try to match experienced conference attendees with students or individuals new to the profession in order to help them feel at ease and benefit from their first conference experience.

Mentors are experienced conference attendees who are willing to advise, share their conference savvy, and help a new professional or library science student negotiate a path through the sea of meetings, programs, exhibits, and acronyms. Mentors should plan to meet with their mentees at least once during the conference to answer questions, offer guidance, or just listen. Additional contact during the conference, or even afterwards, is encouraged. Members of any ALA division or affiliate group are eligible to be a mentor.

In order to participate as a mentor or mentee, contact Dora Ho for more information and an application form. The application deadline is May 31, 1996. Dora Ho, North Hollywood Regional Branch Library, 5211 Tujunga Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91601, <ap520@lafn.org> ☎ 818-766-7186, Fax: 818-756-9135

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