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Corrections/Clarification: Women's History Library Closes

The Feminist Press

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THE FUTURE OF WOMEN'S STUDIES (continued)

studies is offered as a model for other ethnic studies programs at San Jose State, on the other hand, we will suffer because we have not lobbied to set up our own department with tenure track positions.

As for the future, I don't think we will disappear totally. Our Master's program seems to be one area of growth; we have approximately 25 students on the M.A. level and I receive inquiries weekly about the program. As far as course content is concerned, our students, like others, are particularly interested in practical skills, so next fall we have convinced the Business School to set up a course titled "Administrative Skills for Women"; this semester we offered a "Seminar in Career Alternatives," placing students as interns in practical situations where a feminist perspective is needed. We have also decided that one course each semester will be taught totally by graduate students in the M.A. program.

Human sexuality is the other area in which students continue to express an interest. Next fall we will have courses on Human Sexual Evolution, on Women in an Evolutionary Perspective, and on Lesbianism and Feminism (euphemistically entitled Feminism and Psycho-Sexual Orientation). Other new courses include a creative writing course for women, a course on La Chicana, a course on suburbia and women; all these courses are funded by the appropriate departments.

I suppose, then, that my message is: find a saleswoman and set her to the task of convincing departments that courses on women are academically crucial to their program.

Sybil Weir, Coordinator

from STEPHENS COLLEGE

At the end of our first year and a half, the Women's Studies Program at Stephens College can look forward to having its own budget in 1975-76 and so to expansions that have not been possible before. At this point our program is similar to many others. We offer a freshman-level interdisciplinary course as an introduction to women's studies. On a second level we have begun to offer short courses under the title "Current Issues in Feminism." Other courses are those offered within various departments where instructors were willing either to re-cast material to give it a feminist perspective or to work up feminist courses new to our curriculum. We have offered about a dozen such courses this year.

Two developments may be of interest to others. This year we have begun a three-year program funded by the Monticello Foundation to bring women writers to our campus for periods of from three days to seven weeks (seven because that is the length of our academic term). The program is sponsored jointly by the Creative Writing Program, the Residence Counseling Program and Women's Studies. This year we have brought three poets and three fiction writers to campus—Mona Van Duyn, Maxine Kumin, Toni Cade Bambara, Toni Morrison, Tillie Olsen and Carolyn Stoloff. Five of these women were here for four days, during which time they met with students both individually and in small groups, spoke to classes, led general discussions and gave readings. The emphases were writing and women. Toni Cade Bambara was here for a month, during which time she taught a course in black women writers.

The other program (planned for a weekend this spring) is a seminar for male faculty to introduce them to women's studies and to discuss sexism in the classroom and curriculum here at our college. We have planned a student panel on sexist assumptions students encounter in classrooms pretty much as a matter of course. (Students have volunteered to tell men faculty what it is like.) Two instructors in the introductory women's studies course will give somewhat condensed versions of their presentations for that course. And we have arranged to bring a speaker, Marc Fasteau, who has recently published a book on masculine stereotypes, to talk with the men and to give a lecture which will be open to men and women faculty alike.

Our brief experience with women's studies has testified to the need for such a program. Stephens is a woman's college, but it is far from feminist. High enrollments in our introductory course suggest to us that students want and need the kind of instruction and contact with other women they find there. We want to involve men in our program both as students and teachers. We want to involve more women from the community. We need to expand our offerings within the various disciplines, and we need to expand in other directions. We are fairly optimistic about being able to do these things and more within the next year or two.

Betty Littleton, Director

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATION

The article on the closing of the Women's History Library in the Fall/Winter 1974-75 issue of the *Women's Studies Newsletter* contained a few errors and some misleading information. To clarify: the microfilm record of women's serials (1968-1974) is called HERSTORY. These are not "history films." Neither these, nor the Health/Mental Health or Law microfilms are movies, but rather 35mm, silver halide microfilm to be read on a library reader. The Law series, made up of eight reels, is \$30. a reel; Health/Mental Health, consisting of 13 reels is \$30. a reel and the Women's Serials (HERSTORY) is a total of 93 reels which sell for \$24. a reel. Standing orders are needed for the remaining 32 reels on law. These orders will help to raise the \$30,000 that is necessary for the Library to receive an emergency matching grant from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. The remaining microfilming cannot be completed without this grant, so orders and donations must be forthcoming. Many libraries will consider ordering the films only if faculty and students put pressure on them to do so. Finally, the correct address is Women's History Research Center, 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, CA 94708, not 94618 as printed in the Fall/Winter issue.

In the Media section of Newsbriefs in the Fall/Winter 1974-75 issue, the address of the Feminist History Research Project was printed incorrectly. It is F.H.R.P., P. O. Box 1156, Topanga, CA 90290.