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NWSA News

Elaine Reuben

Maija S. Blaubergs

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NWSA NEWS

Got a good story to tell about something that happened recently at an NWSA meeting? Is there something you'd like NWSA to do? Or something you wish it would stop doing? Tell us what *you* think these pages should contain. News for the Regional Calendar should be sent to Maija S. Blaubergs, Women's Studies, 325 Aderhold, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. National news, all feature stories, gripes, suggestions, and reports of caucuses and taskforces should be sent to Elaine Reuben, National Coordinator, NWSA, 4102 Foreign Languages Building, University of Maryland/College Park, College Park, MD 20742.

Elaine Reuben

FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

The National Women's Studies Association has been "in business" at the University of Maryland for two months as I write this memo. When it appears, the semester will be almost over, the weather may be better, and I will be preparing to report on my activities as Coordinator at the Spring 1978 meeting of the NWSA Coordinating Council.

The outlines of that report are already taking shape.

"Association business" is one function of this office: collecting and coordinating information and ideas, working with taskforces and project groups and with those who have leadership roles in NWSA's regions and caucuses to plan for the growth and development of the organization. And (with help from the Steering Committee, The Feminist Press, Sharon Hagan, and others at and around the Maryland program) I try to keep up with the basic administrative/housekeeping tasks required to establish and maintain an Association.

Another set of functions could be called "women's studies business," involving the

Association with persons, groups, institutions, and agencies that support—or affect—our goals and purposes. As our existence and location become known, queries come daily and in increasing numbers:

"Where can I find . . . a job teaching women's studies . . . consultants for our program . . . lists of women's centers . . . graduate schools that welcome feminist research . . . others who are teaching/studying/concerned about women and the health sciences . . . ?"

"Do you have information about . . . funding sources for women's studies . . . publishers of feminist curricula . . . employment patterns in women's studies administration . . . careers of women's studies graduates . . . ?"

"Does NWSA have a position on . . . ?" "Would you like to join us/have us join you?" "Can you endorse . . . support . . . evaluate . . . protest . . . ?"

During these few months I've been able to represent the Association at a number of meetings, and to get reports from others I couldn't attend. Whether at local, area, or regional conferences, two patterns were apparent, similar to the two sometimes separate-seeming activities of the national office: just as the "business of" the Association and the "business of" women's studies are finally inextricable, so are the various organizational structures in which we do our work.

Feminist educators are deeply involved in their own campus or community projects, in the development of NWSA's regional associations and caucus networks, and in various specific areas of discipline research or policy concern. Almost by definition we are overcommitted and overworked. National organization can seem far away, particularly as NWSA has had only this *Newsletter* to provide a tangible sense of national community during its first year.

Need for National Support

Day-to-day women's studies work is local and immediate, but its ultimate and felt need for national support is apparent. When a program or project is threatened by withdrawal of funding, when a feminist educator is in search of documentation for funding proposals, when an activity appears to be one-of-a-kind and therefore vulnerable, the very existence of a national organization can be crucial. Even when there is no "crisis," the collaborative and interdisciplinary nature of women's studies requires the context of a community that is as likely to be nongeographic as face-to-face.

NWSA set forth a broad and encompassing definition of feminist education, to be sustained through the sort of national democratic decentralism our Constitution created. Concerns represented by NWSA caucuses, for instance, and the concerns of other interest groups yet becoming visible, are themselves likely to be vulnerable in any given program or area or even region. The complete vision of women's studies comes together and is shared through our national structure.

The NWSA Coordinating Council meeting in late May will provide the first occasion in 1978 at which we will be able to bring representatives of our "non-geographic" community face to face. NWSA members are encouraged to share their ideas, information, and priorities with those who will be attending that meeting (see updated list). And any who have not renewed membership for 1978 are reminded to use the form in this issue (note increase in individual schedule voted by the Council for 1978).

My next memo will also be written well in advance of the time it will be read, before actions of the May Council meeting can be reported in detail. Meanwhile, I look forward to having more to report about all our business and to hearing from all of you.

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COORDINATING COUNCIL OF THE NWSA

Note: The following listing replaces the one published in the Winter/Spring 1977 issue of the *Women's Studies Newsletter*. It contains the most accurate information available in the National Office as of March 1978. Asterisks indicate positions to be filled. Some regions and caucuses may be holding elections before or after the Spring Council meeting, but this listing should serve to allow members to be in touch with those who represent them. Current Steering Committee (SC) terms will end with the Spring Council meeting.

BY REGION

Great Lakes

Evelyn Beck, Women's Studies, University of Wisconsin, 209 N Brooks St, Madison, WI 53706

Sandra Moore, Resource Center for Women, Alverno College, Milwaukee, WI 53215

Mid-Atlantic

Elsa Greene, 4531 Pine St, Philadelphia, PA 19143

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Midwest

Maira Ferguson, Women's Studies/English, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68508

Wilda Smith, Department of History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS 67601

New England

Elizabeth Alexander, Women's Studies, New England College, Henniker, NH 03242

Cathy Portuges, Women's Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01002

New York

Judith Fetterley, Department of English, SUNY/Albany, Albany, NY 12222

Luvenia Pinson, 890 West End Ave, New York, NY 10025

North Central

Rosie N. Doughty, Lorain City Schools, 1020-7th St, Lorain, OH 44052

* _____

North Pacific

Jan Meriwether, 320 S 12th St, San Jose, CA 95112

Marilyn Harman, Women's Studies, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822

Northwest

Chris Bose, Department of Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195

Diane Sands, Women's Resource Center, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59801

Pacific Southwest

Sherna Gluck, Box 1156, Topanga, CA 90290 (SC)

Billie Wahlstrom, Department of English, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90007

South Central

Nanette Bruckner, University of Houston, Clear Lake City, Houston, TX 77058

Barbara Hillyer Davis, Women's Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019 (SC/Treas.)

Southeast

Maija Blaubergs, Department of Educational Psychology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602

Lori Gold, 8175 Winged Foot Dr, Atlanta, GA 30338

Southwest

Shauna Adix, Women's Resource Center, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Suzanne Vilmain, 760 Pine, Los Alamos, NM 87544

BY CAUCUS:

Third World

Ginger Chih, 144 E 84th St, #2H, New York, NY 10028

Gayle Johnson, 564-7th St, Buffalo, NY 14201

Patricia B. Scott, Black Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37916

* _____

Lesbian

Susan E. Cayleff, Women's Studies, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY 11210

Pamella Farley, Women's Studies, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY 11210

Toni McNaron, 3149 Fremont Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55408 (SC)

* _____

Staff

Pat Quercia, Women's Studies, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY 11210

K-12

Sylvia Kramer, 8 Wooley Lane, Great Neck, NY 11020

Susan Shaffer, 1032 Colusa Ave, Berkeley, CA 94707

Student

Elizabeth Baer, Box 407, Wilder, VT 05088 (SC)

* _____

Community College

Rae Jeane Popham, Santa Monica College, 1518 Pear St, Santa Monica, CA 90405

Sandy Rubaii, Tompkins Cortland Community College, Dryden, NY 13053

EX OFFICIO

Elaine Reuben, Coordinator, National Women's Studies Association, 4102 Foreign Languages Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742

Florence Howe, Editor, *Women's Studies Newsletter*, Box 334, Old Westbury, NY 11568

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FURTHER NWSA INFORMATION

Judith Sturnick, Convenor, Spring 1978 Council Meeting, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Southwest State University, Marshall, MN 56258

Carol Pearson, Liaison, Women's Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742

Sharon Hagan, Secretary, NWSA Office, 4102 Foreign Languages Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742

Maija S. Blaubeurgs

REGIONAL NEWS

Membership in the NWSA does not at this time automatically result in membership in a regional association unless it is explicitly stated otherwise in the policy of the region: the Great Lakes region does have such a policy. On the other hand, although the regional associations typically provide information about joining the NWSA, it is not mandatory for anyone to do so in order to belong to a regional association. Thus, a situation has developed of cooperation but relative autonomy between the NWSA and its regions. The geographical boundaries of the regions have been maintained with the exception that the Southeastern Women's Studies Association has accepted members from Virginia and some regions are more organized at state or other subregional levels than as an entire region.

The Regional Directory in this issue provides information on currently existing regional membership policies, dues structures, newsletters, and contact persons, as well as information on how to go about joining a regional association. Regional representatives to the Coordinating Council (see updated listing in this issue) may also be contacted concerning their regions. Information about forthcoming regional conferences is provided in the Regional Calendar.

REGIONAL DIRECTORY

Great Lakes Women's Studies Association (MN, WI, MI, IL)

Members of the NWSA residing in the region are automatically members of the regional association. To subscribe to the regional newsletter, send a check for \$3.00, made out to the Great Lakes Women's Studies Association, to Sandra Moore, Research Center on Women, Alverno College, 3401 S 39th St, Milwaukee, WI 53215. Contacts: *Newsletter Editor*: Pauline E. Kayes, Women's Programs, Parkland Community College, Champaign, IL 61820; *Great Lakes Women's Studies Association Regional Coordinator*: Shirley Nuss, Department of Sociology, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48212; *Illinois State Coordinator*: Blanche Hersh, Women's Studies Program, Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N St Louis, Chicago, IL 60625; *Michigan State Coordinator*: Paula Mindes, University of Michigan, 1058 LSA Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48109; *Minnesota State Coordinator*: Gayle Yates, Women's Studies Program, University of Minnesota, 492 Ford Hall, Minneapolis, MN 55455; *Wisconsin State Coordinator*: Rachel Skalitsky, Women's Studies Program, University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: Charlene Ross, 4343 N 18th St, Milwaukee, WI 53233.

Mid-Atlantic Women's Studies Region (PA, DE, MD, NJ, DC, VA)

Dues for a subregional association, the Washington, D.C./Maryland/Northern Virginia Women's Studies Association, are \$3.00 and include a subscription to the newsletter, *From the Apple to the Archive*. Send check to Judy Markowitz, 10920 Battersea Lane, Columbia, MD 21044. Contact: *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: Gloria Hull, 72 Hobart E-2, Newark, DE 19713.

Midwest Women's Studies Association (NB, KS, MO, IA)

Regional dues are \$10.00 for a regular membership and \$5.00 for students. Con-

tacts: *Midwest Women's Studies Association Regional Coordinator*: Sally Kitch, Women's Studies Program, Box 117, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS 67208; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinators*: Contact the coordinators from the Rocky Mountain/Southwest region.

New England Women's Studies Association (ME, NH, VT, CT, MA, RI)

Dues are \$5.00 for employed persons and \$3.00 for students and part-time employed persons and include a subscription to the regional newsletter. Contacts: *New England Women's Studies Association Regional Coordinator and Newsletter Editor*: Patricia A. Gozemba, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, Salem State College, Salem, MA 01970; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: Barbara Smith, 16 Miles St, Roxbury, MA 02119.

New York Women's Studies Association (NY)

To join as a charter member, send a check for \$5.00 (individual) or \$10.00 (program), made out to the New York Women's Studies Association, to Judith Fetterley, Department of English, SUNY/Albany, Albany, NY 12222. Contacts: See section on New York Regional News for names and addresses of student caucus contact persons; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinators*: Luvenia Pinson, 890 West End Ave, New York, NY 10025, and Gayle Johnson, 564 Seventh St, Buffalo, NY 14201.

Northcentral Women's Studies Association (OH, IN, KY, WV)

Dues are \$6.00 for programs, institutions, and individuals with annual incomes over \$10,000; \$3.00 for individuals with annual incomes under \$10,000; and \$1.50 for students and unemployed persons, with the further stipulation that no person or program shall be excluded from membership because of inability to pay dues. A sub-

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scription to the regional newsletter is included in the dues, but the newsletter may be subscribed to separately at a rate of \$10.00 for libraries and \$2.00 for individuals. Make checks payable to the NWSA Northcentral Region and send to Dorothy S. Russell, #308, 75 Atterbury Blvd, Hudson, OH 44236. Contacts: *Northcentral Women's Studies Association Newsletter Editor*: Mary Jo Wagner, Women's Studies, Memorial Hall East, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47401; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: Rosie Doughty, 1020 Seventh St, Lorain, OH 44052.

North Pacific Region (Northern CA, HI)

Contacts: For regional membership information, contact the regional representatives to the NWSA Coordinating Council; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: Emma Guerro Pavich, 2933 Alphonse Pl, Honolulu, HI 96816.

Northwest Region (WA, OR, ID, AK, MT, WY, ND, SD)

The Northwest region has subdivided into two subregions: the Pacific Northwest (WA, OR, ID, AK) and the Northwest (MT, WY, ND, SD). Contacts: *Pacific Northwest Subregional Coordinator*: Chris Bose, Department of Sociology, DK-40, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195; *Northwest Subregional Coordinator*: Diane Sands, NW/NWSA, Women's Resource Center, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59801; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: contact the coordinators from the Pacific Southwest region; *Newsletter Editor*: Kjerstie Nelson, *Northwest Women's Studies Resource Bank Newsletter*, French Ad. 225, Pullman, WA 99164. (Note: This is not an NWSA regional publication, but it includes information about women's studies in the Northwest.)

In addition, the *Northwest Women's Studies Association*, founded on January 31, 1976, includes five states (WA, OR, ID, MT, AK) and two Canadian provinces, British Columbia and Alberta. Dues range

from \$1.50 to \$5.00 for individuals and from \$5.00 to \$15.00 for programs, depending on their respective resources. Contact Chris Bose for more information.

Pacific Southwest Women's Studies Association (Southern CA, NV)

Dues are to be paid using your own discretion for determining the amount of dues within the following ranges: \$1.50 to \$5.00 (individuals) and \$5.00 to \$30.00 (programs). Checks are to be made out to the Pacific Southwest Women's Studies Association and sent to Lilyan Frank, FOH 404, University of Southern California, University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90007. Contacts: *Pacific Southwest Women's Studies Association Regional Coordinators*: Billie Wahlstrom, English Department, University of Southern California, University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90007, and Chris Grella, Women's Studies Program, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinators*: Contact the coordinators from the Rocky Mountain/Southwest region; *Newsletter Editor*: Doreen Vail, 5762 Oakley Ter, Irvine, CA 92715.

Rocky Mountain/Southwest Women's Studies Region (CO, NM, UT, AZ)

Suggested charter memberships are \$1.00, minimum, and \$2.00 for employed members. Included is a subscription to the regional newsletter. Contacts: *Newsletter Editor*: Gail Baker, Women's Studies Program, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinators*: Noemi Lorenzana, 1440 B Vassar NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106, and Tina Martinez, PO Box 75, Greeley, CO 80631.

South Central Women's Studies Association (TX, OK, AR, LA)

Dues, which include a subscription to the regional newsletter, are \$5.00, but no person shall be excluded from membership

because of inability to pay. Checks are to be made out to the South Central Women's Studies Association and sent to the Association at 408 E 23d St, Bryan, TX 77801. Contacts: *Newsletter Editor*: Charol Shakeshaft, 408 E 23d St, Bryan, TX 77801; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: Darlene Richardson, 1906 Norfolk, Dallas, TX 75203.

Southeastern Women's Studies Association (TN, FL, GA, AL, MS, NC, SC, VA)

Dues are \$11.00* for institutions and programs, \$6.00* for employed persons, and \$3.00 for students and unemployed persons, and include a subscription to the regional newsletter. (*\$1.00 is earmarked for a fund for sending regional representatives to Coordinating Council meetings.) Make checks payable to the Southeastern Women's Studies Association and send to Janice B. Snook, Rte 1, Box 208D, Land O'Lakes, FL 33539. Contacts: *Southeastern Women's Studies Association Regional Coordinator*: Ann Carver, Department of English, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC 28223; *Third World Women's Caucus Regional Coordinator*: Patricia Bell Scott, 1809 Granada Blvd, Knoxville, TN 37922; *Southeastern Women's Studies Newsletter Editor*: Ann Pardington, 173 Graymont Pl, Danville, VA 24541.

NEW YORK REGIONAL NEWS

The following report of the founding of the New York Women's Studies Association and its subsequent activities has been compiled from reports received from Maggie Boys, Susan Cayleff, Pamela Farley, Natalie Kazmierski, and Frederica Wachsberger.

The first conference of the New York Women's Studies Association was held at Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica from October 14 to 16, 1977, with approximately 100 women attending. During a plenary session, following small-group gatherings and workshops, a regional

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constitution was approved and the New York Women's Studies Association came officially into being. Plans were initiated for the regional coordinating council, comprised of four subregional coordinators and elected representatives from caucuses, to meet January 15, in Albany.

Also during the plenary session, the following resolutions were adopted:

Women's Centers: that the subregional coordinators contact women's centers, women's groups, and "unaffiliated" women and that the next regional conference begin with an orientation to the NYWSA for such women.

Community Colleges: to work with existing community college structures within the region; to establish a communications network at a regional level; to work to gain entrance for women into traditionally male programs at community colleges; to bring a feminist perspective to traditionally female areas of study; to support adjuncts working in community colleges; to make ties with the community; and, as feminists, to learn to talk to nonfeminists.

Lesbian Caucus: that the NYWSA supports the publication of lesbian research, the development of lesbian curriculum, and the defense of lesbian teachers and students; that the next regional conference will include a meeting of the lesbian caucus half a day before the general conference and that this meeting will be advertised as part of all preconference publicity.

Student Caucus: that subregional outreach include a mailed statement soliciting student participation in the Regional Association; that the student caucus plan to try to include more Third World and community college students. Six women students were elected as contact persons: Denise Stallone and Susan Cayleff, 67 Elton Rd, Bronxville, NY 10708 (914-776-2469); Tova Stabin, 798 Lancaster St, Albany, NY 12222 (518-482-3550); Janet Priest-Jones, Dept of Sociology, Social Science Building, SUNY/Albany, 1400 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12222 (518-457-7367—leave a message—or 518-674-5353); Christine Ingenite, Box 76, Ford Hall, SUCO/

Oneonta, Oneonta, NY 13820 (607-431-3936 or 607-432-2072); and Cathy Mackay, 108 Winspear Rd, Buffalo, NY 14214 (761-831-3405).

In addition, a Defense Committee was formed to respond to and initiate action on behalf of women whose positions are threatened and to act on behalf of programs whose funds are in doubt. The Committee is charged with exploring (1) trends toward budget cutbacks and how to fight them; (2) ways to define and publicize scholarship; and (3) ways to mobilize women's studies scholars to validate the work of women currently being evaluated. The committee will also share its findings with the NWSA Task Force on Standards.

The first activity of the Defense Committee was an all-day Symposium held at Brooklyn College on November 21, 1977, with the title "The University: Frontier or Backwater for Women? (The Mission of Feminist Scholarship)." About 200 people, representing diverse constituencies, such as returning students, undergraduates, graduate students, women affiliated with alternative institutions and feminist presses, and administrators of Brooklyn College, attended the Symposium.

The program began with a panel presentation in which participants Susan Cayleff and Pamela Farley considered definitions of scholarly research and scholarly credentials, and emphasized the importance of maintaining feminist principles within women's studies programs. Ann Sutherland Harris, on the other hand, suggested that it might be necessary for untenured faculty to maintain a low profile with respect to women's studies. Ellen Dubois addressed the necessity of maintaining scholastic excellence and creating innovative approaches to the curriculum. Miriam Lewin told of having an article rejected by a journal because its content was "too feminist."

The subsequent general discussion focused on the feasibility of stronger ties between traditional and alternative institutions. Nearly all feminists use alternative institutions to reenergize themselves for working within the university setting. The

necessity of maintaining nonhierarchical procedures in women's studies departments and programs was another focus of discussion. The exchange of ideas and values was felt to have been a vital step toward implementing strategies for survival within the university.

REGIONAL CALENDAR

Spring 1978

The Northwest Women's Studies Association is planning a Regional Conference for Spring 1978. Contact: Clare Bright, Women's Studies Program, GN 45, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195.

May 19-21, 1978

The Pacific Southwest region will hold its second Regional Conference, entitled "The State of Women's Studies," at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Contact: Lilyan Frank, Department of English, University of Southern California, FOH 404, University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90007.

June 9-11, 1978

The South Central Women's Studies Association will hold its first Regional Conference in Fort Worth, TX. The program will include 16 workshops, a resource-sharing festival, a film program, presentation of research papers in various areas, entertainment, and a business meeting. Contact: Dr. Susan Gore, SCWS Conference Coordinator, Department of Psychology, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX 76129.

February 1979

The Southeastern Women's Studies Association is planning its fourth conference for a weekend near the end of February. It is expected that it will be held in Tennessee, the only state in the region that has, so far, ratified the ERA. Program suggestions should be sent to Sally Brett, Department of English, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27834.