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The Finance Committee

Barbara Hillyer Davis

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those currently available to NWSA. Thus it will fall to the Council to consolidate, refer, sort into priorities, and begin to act upon particular recommendations of the Delegate Assembly.

The meeting was ably chaired by Shauna Adix, assisted by Barbara Gerber and Kathy Brooks.

Submitted by Shirley Frank

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

One of the many challenges to the NWSA in Lawrence came from the Association's Finance Committee, who, after a summary of the Association's financial history, made several specific recommendations based on their reflection about the relationship between our past financial behavior and our continuing effort to understand ourselves as a feminist organization. The recommendations should be the beginning of a discussion among all our members of the relationship between feminism and money.

The Finance Committee recommended that the NWSA as an organization dedicate itself to developing an attitude of fiscal responsibility in the Coordinating Council and the membership as a whole. To this end, the committee recommended that a membership drive be a top priority for the next year and that each member make that drive a personal responsibility, basing her efforts to enlist her friends' and colleagues' support on the importance of paying for the value received from sisters at least as much as we must pay for what we receive from the patriarchal marketplace.

The remaining recommendations suggested ways of developing consciousness about the relationship between feminist philosophy and the Association's financial policy. They are: first, that the Coordinating Council dedicate its next Council Exploration Session to the subject of our attitudes as feminists toward money. Second, that the next National Convention include sessions on fiscal responsibility for all of us. Third, that we consciously work in our own administrative and organizational activities on providing a model for running an

organization in a nonexploitative, pro-feminist manner. And fourth, that each proposal or resolution to the NWSA henceforth include a financial statement projecting direct and indirect costs as well as potential and actual funding sources.

The Finance Committee report challenges the Association to begin a dialogue about feminist philosophy and money, in which we invite all our members to join — in the pages of the *Women's Studies Newsletter*, as well as in regional meetings and at next year's Convention.

Submitted by Barbara Hillyer Davis, chair of the NWSA Finance Committee

THE MEMBERSHIP TABLE

In the month before the First NWSA Convention, the National Women's Studies Association doubled the number of memberships received in the first four months of the 1979 dues year. On the first day of the Convention, 100 more members joined, followed by another 50 to 75 in the remaining days of the meeting, when we were not able to staff the membership table full time. Returning to the National Office,

we found we had received approximately 50 additional memberships, and numerous requests for membership information.

As of June 1979, this year's NWSA membership was already more than twice the total figure for 1978: around 600 in 1978, more than 1,200 so far in 1979. Many of the new memberships are group members, thus bringing us closer to the goal of involving all women's studies programs, feminist school and community educational groups in the work of the Association. Many of the letters received mentioned the Convention or reports from Kansas as being the deciding factor in the decision to join and support NWSA.

The Convention served membership development in another way as well. The Association did not have money or personnel to send out renewal notices in 1978; at Kansas we were able to remind people of lapsed memberships. We were also able to talk with members who have missed mail or *Newsletters*.

Success in building membership brings more work. We know that new members should be contacted after they join, and that all current members need to be reminded that the dues year expires in December. Caucuses need to be informed of new members who indicate interest in their



The end of a long day.