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The Feminist Press Celebrates Its Tenth Birthday

The Feminist Press

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research on women." Only in Mexico can one find women's studies in a university setting, and only in Copenhagen did Latin American researchers meet to talk about research on women. Unlike the Africans and the Latin Americans, while most Asian women's studies practitioners began with research aimed at affecting public policy on women, many of them have now begun to attempt reform of the collegiate curriculum; and some few, the reform of elementary education and texts as well. Asian practitioners also seemed to have the makings of a regional network in place.

I can conclude, therefore, that the Copenhagen sessions were of use to all participants, who gained a view of women's studies practitioners in various parts of the world. Even if no Network were to follow, several hundred people who had not met before had the opportunity to do so—and several dozen to form the kind of unique relationships that two-week conferences allow. Moreover, the program introduced the four major strands of women's studies to this varied group of participants, and to a wider audience. Thus, we now have, for future conferences, the beginnings of an agenda.

But what of the Network? Am I convinced that this is the time and that The Feminist Press, with the help of Vina Mazumdar and a group of international consultants, should do the work? Though there are practical limitations on what a Network can accomplish from a single center and with limited resources, the

experience of Copenhagen pushed the process forward rather dramatically. I am convinced both by the enthusiasm with which the idea was greeted and by the support that it has had from various parts of the world that the Network would be useful.

Since Copenhagen, I have heard from participants who are hopeful that plans for the Network are proceeding. Some of them know about the international women's studies conference planned for mid-1982 by the Simone de Beauvoir Institute. Several other participants have drafted a proposal to hold a European women's studies conference during the summer of 1981. My sense is that the motion thus begun ought to be encouraged, and that, though it may stretch certain U.S. resources, these are, in 1980, sufficiently developed to be so challenged. Ultimately, of course, national resources in women's studies will need the challenge of international visions.

In the past months, I have worked, along with members of The Feminist Press staff, to prepare the first International Women's Studies Registry; to submit to UNESCO a proposal for the preparation and publication of a volume based on the Copenhagen Women's Studies Seminars and Roundtables; to submit a proposal to The Ford Foundation for support of the Network; and to discuss, in person and through correspondence, how to make the Women's Studies International Network proposed in Copenhagen functional. I will report on further developments in later issues of the *Women's Studies Quarterly*.

THE FEMINIST PRESS CELEBRATES ITS TENTH BIRTHDAY!



On November 18, 1980, at historic Town Hall, New York City, The Feminist Press held a gala birthday party to celebrate its tenth birthday. The program included Viney Burrows reading from **Brown Girl, Brownstones**; Geraldine Fitzgerald reading from **Life in the Iron Mills**; Jean Marsh reading from **The Convert**; Viveca Lindfors reading from **Käthe Kollwitz: Woman and Artist**; Mary Alice reading from **I Love Myself When I am Laughing** (the Zora Neale Hurston Reader); and Colleen Dewhurst reading from **Daughter of Earth**. Music was provided by Elly Stone and by the Harp Band. Afterwards, guests were treated to a champagne and cake reception.



Photographs from the birthday party reception: At left, top, Elly Stone (left) conversing with Mary Alice (right). Middle, left to right, Midge Mackenzie, director of the event; Onita Hicks, sponsor; Florence Howe; Judy Lerner and Irving Lerner, sponsors. Bottom, Feminist Press board members Amy Swerdlow (left) and Jane Williamson (right) with Mary Alice (center). Photo at right shows Elizabeth Janeway, sponsor, and Florence Howe cutting the birthday cake. Sponsors not shown here were: Mary Anne Ferguson, Carolyn G. Heilbrun, Ann McGovern, Ellen Messer-Davidow, and Vera Rubin. Photographs by Carter Brandon.

