

NETWORK

News Exchange
through the Wo/Men
on the Rutgers Campuses

Spring 1992

CHARTING THE WAY/DOING THE BUILDING: WOMEN AND LEADERSHIP

The tenth annual IRW Celebration of Our Work Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19 on the Douglass College campus. This year's theme, "Charting the Way/Doing the Building: Women and Leadership," is taken from Eleanor Roosevelt's April 16, 1945 "My Day" Column: "Perhaps... the Almighty is trying to show us that a leader may chart the way..., but that many leaders and many peoples must do the building."

Jacqueline Pitanguy, the current occupant of the Laurie NJ Chair in Women's Studies and former head of Brazil's National Council for Women's Rights, will be the keynote speaker. In addition, more than 25 panels on such diverse topics as the impact of women in public office, leadership among women of color, problems encountered by lesbian leaders, and women leading cultural change in engineering will be given.

In celebration of the conference's 10 years of support of work on women, the IRW plans a special birthday party at the end of the day. Susan Danoff, a Princeton-based story teller, will perform at the party.

The pre-conference registration fee is \$28; special student pre-conference registration fee is \$20 (including lunch) or \$10 (conference only). The deadline to pre-register is May 8; after that date the registration fees will increase by \$5.

WORLDWIDE ACTIONS AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

Together with women's groups around the world, the Center for Women's Global Leadership coordinated the first annual International "Campaign of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence." The Campaign grew out of an initiative proposed by the 23 participants of the June 1991 Women's Global Leadership Institute who organized events in their countries and regions from November 25-December 10, 1991. November 25 is International Day of Action Against Violence Against Women in commemoration of the brutal murder of the Mirabel sisters in the Dominican Republic in 1960. December 10 was proclaimed in 1948

International Human Rights Day, marking the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In New Jersey many community and student groups organized a series of events which included panels, workshops, vigils, films and speakouts around the theme of Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights. Events focused on the physical, economic, psychological, legal and social aspects of gender violence as a violation of human rights. The International Women's Tribune Centre in New York was the site of the first North American event--an indoor rally bringing together local and international anti-violence activists as well as performers, poets and public representatives. Participating groups included the Coalition of Battered Women's Advocates; Union of Palestinian Working Women; Human Rights Watch Women's Program; Center for Women's Development; International Women's Rights Action Watch; Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project; CEPIA (Citizenship, Information Research and Action), Brazil; Amnesty International Women's Program; Black Women's Health Project; SAKHI for South Asian Women; and Brooklyn Women's Martial Arts Center for Anti-Violence Education.

In other parts of the globe, many events took place over the course of the 16-days. In San Jose, Costa Rica, representatives of 50 women's groups developed a paper addressing violence against women for use by policy-making agencies in that country. In London, thousands of women converged at Trafalgar Square to demand "an end to the double standard which condones male violence." The Instituto Tecnologica de Santo Domingo hosted a series of events: panels on rape, trafficking in women, legislation for women workers, and a conference of women legislators and lawyers to devise strategies to combat sexism in the law. The Women's Crisis Center in Fiji coordinated a series of panels, radio and television discussions and street theatre and film events. A coalition of women's groups in Cyprus sent decrees to the government and the U.N. calling on them to recognize that violence against women violates human rights. As part of the struggle to achieve legal sanctions against sexual violence, Korean women's organizations held public demonstrations and lectures and enacted a

"memorial service" for victims of gender violence. Bat-Elam, the Israeli coalition of women's groups conducted a "road race" and a memorial service for women who have been murdered. Elsewhere, in Bombay, Delhi, Dublin and Sao Paulo, women's groups produced posters aimed at public and judiciary education. A traveling exhibition launched in Ottawa is now circulating to Vancouver, Vienna and Washington.

During the 16 Days Campaign, the Center launched a worldwide petition drive calling upon the Preparatory Committee for the June 1993 U.N. World Conference on Human Rights to comprehensively address women's human rights at every level of the proceedings. The petition drive has elicited much response and continues to grow. The signed petitions will be delivered to the U.N. General Secretary during the week of March 8, International Women's Day.

During the fall, the Global Center also formed a New Jersey/New York-area working group already operating at an advanced level on women and human rights. At monthly meetings the group discusses the conceptual and legal issues involved in connecting women's rights and human rights and share strategies for public action.

Additionally, the Center now has two publications available: Gender Violence: A Development and Human Rights Issues and Report of the 1991 Women's Global Leadership Institute. The former contains articles by Roxanna Carrillo and Charlotte Bunch and the latter provides a comprehensive survey of the first International Women's Leadership Institute. Each is available for \$5 from the Global Center.

This Spring the Center will celebrate International Women's Day with an Indoor Rally around the theme of Women and Democracy. Additionally, the Center is planning the 1992 Women's Global Leadership Institute which is set for June 14-27.

PLEN

The Douglass College Public Leadership Education Network (DC PLEN) 1992 Spring Forum is a cornerstone of the PLEN program; three distinguished women leaders have been invited to campus for two individual sessions and a final joint panel and reception. The women discuss how they

reception. The women discuss how they started their careers, how their careers developed, how they combine their personal lives and careers, and the inside story of what it is like to be a woman in politics. Audience members include students, faculty, staff, and community members.

This year Irene Natividad, former Chair of the National Women's Political Caucus and current Chair of the National Commission for Working Women will be speaking on March 4 and April 29. On April 15 and again on April 29 Christine Todd Whitman, Chair of the Committee for an Affordable New Jersey and possible 1994 New Jersey Gubernatorial candidate, will be the Forum speaker. Jane Hickie, Executive Director of the State of Texas Office in Washington, D.C., a longtime Texas State political activist and member of Governor Ann Richards' cabinet, will be participating on March 25 and April 29. All sessions are from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Eagleton Institute for Politics. The final Forum session on April 29 will be a panel discussion with all three Forum participants.

DANA WOMEN ARTISTS SERIES CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

In 1971, the innovative Women Artist Series was launched at the Mabel Smith Douglass Library of Douglass College. The brainchild of artist Joan Snyder, a Rutgers MFA graduate, the purpose of the Women Artist Series was two-fold: 1) to provide women students with positive role models and expose them to the broad spectrum of art created by women 2) to provide a much needed alternative exhibit space for women artists competing in the male-dominated art world. Over the years the Mary H. Dana Women Artists Series has exhibited over 200 artists including the work of Betye Saar, Faith Ringgold, Louise Bourgeois, Alice Aycock, and Miriam Schapiro. For its contributions to women artists, the Mary H. Dana Women Artists Series received a commendation from the Women's Caucus for Art in 1986.

This year the Mary H. Dana Women Artists Series celebrates twenty years (1971-1991) of unflagging commitment to women in the arts. To celebrate this occasion, a "20th Anniversary Retrospective Exhibit" is scheduled for March 4 to March 30, 1992 featuring the work of 30 former exhibitors including among others, Carolee Schneemann, Howardena Pindell, and Charlotte Robinson. A special program is planned March 7 with Corine Robins, author of *The Pluralist Era*, as the keynote speaker.

NEWS FROM CAWP

The timing was perfect: a national meeting for political women taking place just after the Senate Judiciary Committee hearings on Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas put the spotlight on sexual harassment and focused attention on the paucity of women in high public office. The result was a highly-charged atmosphere at CAWP's four-day national Forum for Women State Legislators, held in San Diego in November. The Forum also provided an occasion for celebrating CAWP's twentieth birthday. Nine hundred officeholders and activists, journalists and scholars, corporate, foundation and union supporters, women leaders from abroad, and student interns met in plenaries and workshops, over meals and walking on the beach. They discussed housing, homelessness, educational equity, AIDS, child care and term limitations, among other issues.

Plenary speakers included Jewell Jackson McCabe, a founder of the Coalition of 100 Black Women, who called for "boundary-crossing leadership"; Connie Newman, director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, who assessed the prospects for leadership by the majority; Lena Guerrero, the first woman to chair (or even sit on) Texas' powerful Railroad Commission, who insisted that we demand places for all women at the table when decisions are being made and that we come to that table equipped to succeed; author Gail Sheehy and Dr. Nancy Snyderman of ABC News, who reported on the politics of women's health. A highlight was the roundtable discussion on sexual harassment and policymaking, featuring Professor Anita Hill and three other law professors; they provided the legislators with specific strategies for combatting sexual harassment and making the workplace safer for women.

At the Forum, CAWP released the findings from a major research study on the impact of women in public office. CAWP's survey of male and female legislators found that women (of both major parties) are more likely than men to give top priority to women's rights policies, to health care issues, and to issues relating to children and families. Women are also more likely than men to bring citizens into the political process, to favor government in public view rather than behind closed doors, and to be responsive to groups previously denied full access to the policymaking process. Additional research on the politics of the abortion issue, conducted by Debra Dodson of CAWP, was also released at the Forum. The latest study looks at how the issue "played" in the 1980 elections in Michigan and Pennsylvania, and how the politics in those states compared with the situations in

New Jersey and Virginia in 1989. (Audiotapes of the Forum sessions and copies of the reports mentioned are available for purchase from CAWP.)

Buoyed by these important 1991 events, CAWP is now turning to its toughest task yet--to raise an endowment of \$5 million to ensure the Center's survival for at least another two decades. The "soft money" that funded all of the above activities requires tremendous time and energy to raise and cannot be counted on from one year to the next. Because the work is so imperative and the funding so tenuous, CAWP has decided that for the next two years, while the Center maintains its core programs and activities, staff time and effort will be directed primarily toward the "Campaign for CAWP."

THINKING ABOUT WOMEN SEMINAR SERIES - "CREATING WOMEN: SUBJECT-OBJECT RELATIONS IN FEMINIST ART AND SCHOLARSHIP

April 7 - Ruth Behar - "The Talking
Serpent: Making a Book Out of a
Mexican Woman's *Historias*" -
Conference Room, 27 Clifton Avenue,
Douglass Campus - 4:00 p.m.

NEWARK CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Women's Studies Program:

The Newark Women's Studies Program's 1992 activities began with an exhibit of works by women artists teaching in state colleges and universities at the Robeson Gallery. The display was sponsored by The New Jersey Project. In conjunction with the art exhibit, the Program, with the assistance of the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, also sponsored a series of readings in the gallery. Abena P.A. Busia, Rutgers-New Brunswick, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College and Priscilla Orr, William Paterson College, were among those who performed.

The Program has also organized a series of lectures:

March 9: Lillian Robinson, author of *Sex, Class and Culture*, "Straight Out of Hollywood: Thelma and Louise and Spike and Annabella," (315 Hill Hall, 11:30).

March 25: Kathy Peiss, Center for Historical Analysis-Rutgers, "Cosmetics and the Self-made Woman, 1880-1940," (312 Hill Hall, 2:30).

March 30: Charlotte Bunch, Center for Women's Global Leadership, and Jacqueline Pitanguy, fifth occupant of the Laurie NJ

Chair in Women's Studies. (Law School, 11:20)

April 20: Alice Kessler-Harris, Director of Women's Studies/FAS-New Brunswick, "On Being (Labeled) Politically (In)Correct," (315 Hill Hall, 2:30).

Women's Rights Litigation Clinic:

The Women's Rights Litigation Clinic at the Newark Law School continues with a focus on battered women, sex harassment, drug problems, workplace hazards and difficult pregnancies. In addition, the Clinic will expand to an international arena. As a result of the Network of East-West Women meeting in Dubrovnik in June, 1991, the Clinic is planning a seminar about women's rights in the West for Eastern European women jurists for this coming summer in Warsaw.

Lastly, the Clinic hosted an intern from the New Brunswick undergraduate Women's Studies Program, and a German post-graduate student, who was looking into questions of women's rights in international law.

SAVE THIS DATE!

Saturday Evening, October 10, 1992

Douglass College will kick-off its 75th Anniversary Celebration with a Gala Gathering at the State Theater.

A Musical Review will feature the New Jersey Symphony, highlight the work of composer Dorothy Fields and salute New Jersey Women.

IRW SPRING VISITING SCHOLARS

Two new visiting scholars join Susan Hallgarth, who continues her affiliation with the IRW as a Visiting Research Associate.

Under the sponsorship of the Asia Foundation, Bulgan Khorloogiin is spending the 1991-92 year with the IRW, Center for the American Women and Politics and Eagleton Institute. She is an officer for Foreign Relations of the Mongolian Parliament, and previously served as staff officer of the Upper House of the Parliament and assistant fellow in the Central Committee of the Mongolian's People Revolutionary Party. (In July, 1990, after decades of Communist rule, Mongolians participated in the first multi-party elections in that country's history.)

Khorloogiin is studying American politics,

democracy and the free-market economy, as well as women's roles in the political process. She says that, "With the transformation of Mongolia toward a market economy our women are facing and experiencing new problems. One of the biggest is the growth of unemployment among women. The rapid changes in every field demand that women become more active in social life and that they pay more attention to their political and economic education."

Painter and activist Margaret Harrison will be at the IRW during the 1992 calendar year. She has taught at numerous art schools in Great Britain and lectured internationally on feminism and art. Her paintings are a combination of images, texts and represented objects. In 1971 she held her first solo exhibition, which was closed by the police because of its alleged offensive material-- a series of drawings which subverted stereotypical images of men and women found in advertising and soft-core pornography. Among her more recent work is "Land/Greenham Common," a painting installation of household objects as stand-ins for the thousands of women who have protested the placement of U.S. cruise missiles at the Greenham Common base outside of London.

While at the IRW, Harrison is working on a nonmedia-specific multidisciplinary project entitled, "The Two Women Art Project." It is an international/inter-state project engaging students and scholars at the Pittsburgh Centre for the Arts, the Studio for Creative Enquiry at Carnegie-Mellon University, the Fine Arts and Women's Studies Departments at the University of Colorado at Boulder, St. Martin's College of Art and Design in London and other institutions. U.S. and European students will develop the project and maintain crosscultural dialogues.

The project will identify two women of different backgrounds and cultures from each state who will be interviewed by the students. Ms. Harrison and the students will then produce visual installations around each pair revealing their lives and life choices.

Both visiting scholars have offices at the IRW, where they can be contacted.

NEW MSS. COLLECTIONS ACQUIRED

The Special Collections and Archives Department of the Rutgers University Libraries has been continuing to collect manuscript and archival materials with a special emphasis on women. Several recent acquisitions of note include:

The Thelma Parkinson Sharp Papers: Delegate to the Democratic National Convention, from 1924-1960s, Ms. Sharp in 1930 was the first woman to have her name submitted for nomination to the U.S. Senate.

She lived in Vineland, NJ.

Lebanon New Jersey WCTU Papers: Minutes of meetings, 1939-1953.

Art Educators of New Jersey: Records, 1940-1990.

New York Feminist Art Institute: Papers covering its history from the mid-70s- 1990.

Women's Project of New Jersey: Records of this non-profit group, organized in 1984, to gather and publish information about notable and representative New Jersey women. Also included are the biographical files on these women.

The Frances H. Engeman Papers: Ms. Engeman was Chairperson of the Hunterdon County Women's Political Union of New Jersey and also active in the New Jersey Woman Suffrage Association, 1915-1917.

New Jersey Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs: Records, 1959-1990.

Soroptimist International of Camden: Records of first Soroptimist Club in New Jersey, 1949-1964.

The Hazel B. Hackett Papers: Papers, 1931-1980, of the owner and manager of Arlington Cemetery, Pennsauken, NJ and president, 1946-1948, of the American Federation of Soroptimist Clubs.

HOUSING WANTED:

Two bedroom unfurnished apartment within easy commute of campus for Visiting Scholar. Needed August 1, 1992-July 31, 1993. Call Ferris Olin, Laurie NJ Chair in Women's Studies, 932-6948 with information.

THE DOUGLASS PROJECT EXPANDS ITS PRECOLLEGE EFFORTS

The Douglass Project for Rutgers Women in Math, Science, and Engineering which offers a variety of programs for undergraduate women to encourage them to pursue careers in these nontraditional fields for women, is expanding its precollege programs. This expansion results from the tremendous interest high school women have shown in the current Douglass Science Institute for 11th graders--for the summer of 1991, the Douglass Project received 467 applications for 46 spots--as well as the urgent need to support talented women during their high school years.

To help it expand programming, the AT&T Foundation has awarded the Douglass Project a three-year grant of \$150,000. The monies will be used to develop a one week-summer residential program for 9th and 10th graders, modeled on the already successful

institute for 11th graders. In addition, the Hoechst Celanese Corporation contributed \$10,000 for the Douglass Project to offer programs during the academic year. In November of 1991, a Douglass Science Career Day attracted 85 students and their parents. During the Spring 1992 semester, a weekend academy over three consecutive Saturdays will be offered, for fifty 9th and 10th graders, which will feature morning "hands-on" laboratory activities in the life and physical sciences. Afternoon workshops will focus on disciplines which relate to the topics covered during the morning lab. For example, on one Saturday, students will do physics activities in the morning and see how these activities relate to the field of ceramic engineering in the afternoon.

Comments from the Douglass Science Career Day are continued evidence of the importance of support programs for high school women, especially when such programs include "hands-on" activities, motivational activities, and role models of successful women in the sciences, math, and engineering. As one student said, "the speakers assured me and gave me confidence that I can be successful in pursuing my dreams."

GENDER, VOICE, PERSPECTIVE: WOMEN, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The office of the Laurie NJ Chair in Women's Studies at Douglass College is pleased to announce the tenth in an on-going series of seminars. In Spring 1993, the sixth occupant of the chair, Molaria Ogundipe-Leslie, a Nigerian author, poet and literary critic, will conduct a seminar entitled, "Gender, Voice, Perspective: Women, Development and Peace." The course will interrogate imperialist, colonial and post-colonial (nationalist) discourses of development within a global context and from the perspectives of women and feminists. With special emphasis on African and African-American feminist and black theory, male and female voices will be examined as they emerge from specific African literary texts. Seminar applications will be distributed in late summer. For more information contact Ferris Olin at the Laurie NJ Chair office.

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IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

CAWP	9384
Dana Women Artists Series (Douglass Library)	9407
Douglass Project	9197
Global Center	8782
IRW	9072
Laurie NJ Chair	6948
PLEN	9510
Special Collections & Archives	7006
Women's Rights Litigation Clinic	5637
Women's Studies-Newark	5817

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