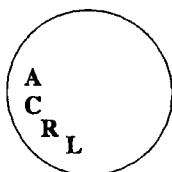


WOMEN'S STUDIES SECTION NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10, No. 2
November 1995



WOMEN'S
STUDIES
SECTION

*Issued by the Women's Studies Section
Association of College and Research Libraries
a division of the American Library Association*

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings to all the members of the ACRL Women's Studies Section, and a warm welcome to all new and returning members of the section! I am looking forward to working with all of you during my 1995/96 term as WSS Chairperson. I hope that each of you will take advantage of opportunities to contribute your ideas and talents to WSS.

WSS provides opportunities for participation in our section, and by extension, to the building of ACRL and women's studies librarianship, in a number of ways. For example, by volunteering to serve on one of our WSS committees you can make a contribution to the organization in variety of areas including collection development, publications, technical services, and social issues/education. Please contact Vice-chair/Chair-elect Bonnie Cox at <bjcox@pop.uky.edu> if you are interested in serving on a WSS committee in 1996/97.

I also invite members to attend the WSS Midwinter Discussion meeting where we will be sharing and generating ideas on "Women's Concerns in ALA." If you can't attend this meeting, I would still like to hear from you concerning this topic either through e-mail or letters.

In the coming months WSS will be developing a strategic plan in conjunction with the ACRL Strategic Plan which was endorsed at the 1995 ALA Annual Conference. The goals of the ACRL Strategic Plan are:

- Provide development opportunities for academic and research librarians and library personnel.
- Maintain at the national level a prominent role in planning and decision making for influencing information policy.
- Collaborate with other professional organizations and associations of higher education in order to promote mutual interests.
- Ensure that ACRL's operating environment provides efficiency in its use of resources and effectiveness in the delivery of services to its members and constituent units.

I'd like to hear from you concerning the development of ACRL and WSS future goals and directions. My email address is <jacksonb@ucs.indiana.edu>, and my mailing address is Black Culture Center Library, 109 N. Jordan Ave., Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.

Grace Jackson-Brown



WSS MEETING SCHEDULE FOR MIDWINTER IN SAN ANTONIO

**Check conference schedule for locations and room numbers*

Executive Committee Meetings	January 20, Saturday, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
	January 22, Monday, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
All WSS Committee Meetings	January 21, Sunday, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
WSS Discussion Meeting	January 21, Sunday, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Social Hour	January 21, Sunday, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
General Membership Meeting	January 22, Monday, 9:30 - 11 a.m.

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The *WSS Newsletter* is available to all section members at no additional cost.

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The *WSS Newsletter* welcomes contributions from readers. Send articles, items of interest, and news to the editor or to the appropriate column editor, preferably in electronic format.

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**WSS Officers 1995/96:**

Grace Jackson-Brown, Chair
Bonnie Cox, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
Emilie Ngo-Nguiojol, Secretary
Kristin Ramsdell, Member-at-large
Bernice Redfern, Member-at-large



GOING TO THE MIDWINTER CONFERENCE IN SAN ANTONIO ?

Contact **Jessica Grim**
<pgrim@ocvaxa.cc.oberlin.edu>
so we can send you an
information packet

which includes a checklist of meetings for all
women's studies-related groups and a
WSS sticker for your nametag



ATTEND THE SOCIAL HOUR AT MIDWINTER

All WSS members are invited to attend the Social Hour in San Antonio. Jill Morrissey, co-chair of the Communications Committee, has expanded the WSS Social Hour by inviting publishers of women's studies materials to participate. Their co-sponsorship and donations for door-prizes helped to make the social hour in Chicago a great success. Join us in San Antonio on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency for refreshments, good company, and a chance to win *Black Women in America: A Historical Encyclopedia* (Carlson Publishing) or one of a number of cookbooks donated by Celestial Arts and Ten Speed Press.

In addition, Jill Morrissey has compiled an invaluable list of publishers who focus on women-centered materials. If you would like to obtain a copy, contact her at: Marakon Associates, 300 Atlantic St., Stamford, CT 06901
☎ 203-978-6790 <jmorrissey@marakon.com>

Nominations for 1996 Elections

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates who will stand for election to the indicated WSS office in the spring of 1996:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

- **Jessica Grim**, Acting Head of Reference, Oberlin College
- [Write-in candidate]

Secretary

- **Shelley Arlen**, Reference Librarian/American and British History Bibliographer, University of Florida-Gainesville
- **Barbara Heath**, Assistant Director for Technical Services, Head of Acquisitions and Original Cataloging Teams, and Women's Studies Bibliographer, Wayne State University

Member-at-large

- **Mila Su**, Senior Assistant Librarian, Pennsylvania State-Altoona
- **Theresa Tobin**, Head, Humanities and Dewey Libraries, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The Committee thanks these members for their willingness to stand for election and continue their service to the section.

**Report: ALA Annual Conference Program,
Chicago, June 1995**

**“New Feminist Research in Library and
Information Science: Implications for
Librarianship”**

Congratulations to the WSS Program Planning Committee and to all of the co-sponsoring organizations -- ALA Support Staff Interests Round Table, ALA Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship, and the Feminist Task Force of ALA's Social Responsibilities Round Table -- for another successful Annual Conference program! This program brought together faculty members and practicing librarians to discuss and debate issues of feminist research in the profession.

Roma Harris, Associate Professor from the University of Western Ontario, gave a presentation titled "Edging Women Off the Information Highway: Gender Relations and Information Technology." Roma outlined research she is doing with another colleague which looks at current computer/technology print advertising and how it is marginalizing and devaluing women as both users and experts of this technology

Nancy Becker Johnson of Wayne State University delivered a paper titled "For Want of a Nail: Implications of Bibliographic Control on Publication Prestige." She spoke passionately about the risks of doing feminist research in the field of library and information science, asserting that lack of prestige associated with women's studies journals, inadequate indexing of many women's studies journals, and difficulty of publishing in an interdisciplinary field can jeopardize the careers of tenure track faculty who publish on women's issues.

Hope Olson, University of Alberta, discussed her ongoing research examining the patriarchy implied in library subject headings and classification schemes. By using feminist deconstruction, she argued for completely new subject access strategies to make space for the voices of those previously excluded.

Respondents to these presentations were Jane Sloan, a Women's Studies Librarians; Laura Hunt, a recent graduate of library school; and, Marge Loch-Wouters, a children's librarian. They provided a concise and astute discussion about the application of these studies in library practice. Nearly 50 people filled out evaluations and all rated the program as good or excellent.

Cindy Faries and Charlene Hovatter

Other WSS Business

Lori Goetsch reports that the WSS Executive Committee is proposing a minor revision to the Section Bylaws which will update the purpose statement. Any Bylaws revisions need to be approved by the membership and will appear on your spring ballot.

A revised version of the Section Orientation Guide for Committees and Officers is now available. Members of the Executive Committee should have a copy of this document. If you have not received one, please contact Lori Goetsch via email at: <lgoetsch@utk.edu>

At the 1995 Annual conference the committee formerly known as the Collection Development & Bibliography Committee recommended that its name be shortened to the Collection Development Committee. The Women's Studies Section Executive Committee accepted the recommendation.

Women's Studies Section Home Page

The WSS Web home page will make its debut this fall. Policy statements, committee news, and current conference information will be available. Check out this page, and send us your suggestions.

<http://www.lib.siu.edu/dcallaha/wsshp.html>

Directory of Women Experts

If you or your patrons are seeking an expert on virtually any topic, from aviation to workplace issues, you may find the *Media Directory of Women Experts* to be a valuable guide.

The 128-page reference provides information on more than 300 women who are recognized as experts in their fields. Entries are arranged alphabetically by topic and include individual names, titles, affiliations, descriptions of expertise, addresses, and phone and fax numbers.

The Directory costs \$39.95 and is available from the publisher: Independent Women's Forum, 2111 Wilson Blvd., Suite 550, Arlington, VA 22201-3057.

☎ 703-243-8989 or 800-224-6000 or Fax: 703-243-9230.

This information is from The Information Report of Washington Researchers, Ltd.

CALL FOR WSS COMMITTEE MEMBERS



WSS needs you! Members rotate off committees each year, so we are always looking for new people to volunteer. WSS welcomes your creative ideas and your energy. If you can attend the Annual and Midwinter conferences, please consider volunteering for a committee assignment.

Appointments are for two years and reappointment is possible for a maximum of two consecutive terms, or four years. Appointments made this year will begin after the 1996 Annual conference.

In an effort to reduce meeting time conflicts, all WSS committees now convene in one spacious room at the same time -- on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30.

We think you will find your fellow WSS members to be a friendly and enthusiastic group. You will make new professional contacts and be part of the fascinating, ongoing work of the section. If you are not sure which committee is best for you, the following list explains functions and discusses some recent projects.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Marlene Manoff, Chair <mmanoff@mit.edu>

This committee monitors collection development issues and resources in women's studies and implements projects to meet needs in this area. The CDC has recently completed the second phase of the Indexing Project, evaluating the indexing of women's studies and feminist journals that began publishing between 1988 and 1992. It also assessed the indexing of journals in electronic indexes (Firstsearch, EAI, CARL UNCOVER, Current Contents Online). When results were compiled, past-chair Judy Hudson sent letters to the indexing services recommending additions to their coverage.

Committee member Sara Brownmiller contacted OCLC with recommendations for additions to FirstSearch. OCLC agreed to request 27 new journals from their suppliers for inclusion in the ArticlesFirst database, which will raise to 50 the number of women's studies journals covered. The committee has also recommended a number of feminist and lesbian journals and newsletters to Softline, Inc., for inclusion in American Lifestyles, its new full-text CD-ROM product that will cover women and gender issues, seniors, issues of aging, and Americans with disabilities.

The committee is currently gathering information about innovative coordinated collection development projects in women's studies in hopes that such projects will provide models for other libraries.

An on-going project of a subcommittee of the CDC is the development and updating of core bibliographies in women's studies. Currently over 20 bibliographies have been developed on a variety of subjects and mounted on the University of Wisconsin Women's Studies gopher: (gopher://silo.adp.wisc.edu:70/11/.uwlibs/.womenstudies/.corelists). Single print copies are also available on request for anyone without Internet access from the Women's Studies Librarian's Office, Rm. 430 Memorial Library, 728 State Street, Madison, WI 53706, ☎608-263-5754. Bernice Lacks is the guiding force of the core bibliography project.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Jessica Grim, Co-chair <pgrim@ocvaxa.cc.oberlin.edu>

Jill Morrissey, Co-chair <jmorrissey@marakon.com>

The Communications Committee facilitates communication about the section and its activities through a newsletter and brochure. It conducts orientation sessions for new members and communicates with other ALA women's groups. Currently, the committee is exploring mentoring possibilities for library school students and expanding the WSS Social Hour to include publishers of women's studies materials.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Betty Glass, Chair <glass@equinox.unr.edu>

This committee coordinates the nominating and voting process for Women's Studies Section offices.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Rita Pellen, Chair <pellen@acc.fau.edu>

The Program Committee plans and implements the Women's Studies Section program for the Annual conference and coordinates section participation in coalition programming.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Linda Krikos, Chair <krikos.l@osu.edu>

This committee develops and coordinates publication activities of the section and its committees and advises the WSS Executive Committee on publication projects. It stimulates and encourages research, writing, and other projects which may lead to publication under WSS auspices and assists the section and its committees in finding appropriate avenues for publication projects approved by the Executive Committee. The committee also develops and maintains standards/guidelines for WSS publications and represents section viewpoints on publication projects with ACRL and ALA.

SOCIAL ISSUES / EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Barbara Stevens, Chair <stevenbr@uwec.edu>

This committee is responsible for informing the section about social, political and educational issues which affect section administration and women's studies librarianship in general. It communicates with other library and women's groups addressing these topics, recommend appropriate responses, and coordinate the section's work in this area.

TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEEMila Su, Co-Chair <mcs@psulias.psu.edu>
Janice Lundquist, Co-Chair <jlindq@ricevm1.rice.edu>

This committee monitors technical services issues and practices having an impact on Women's Studies and recommends and implements projects to meet needs in this area.

Currently, the committee is in the final stages of a project to evaluate Library of Congress subject headings and cataloging for women's studies materials in response to widespread calls for improved access. In addition to writing an article summarizing the project, they are making formal proposals to the Library of Congress regarding new subject headings and subdivisions. The next project planned by the committee will consider various issues related to cataloging outsourcing.

***Women's Studies Section* COMMITTEE INTEREST FORM**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Please indicate committees on which you are interested in serving, and number your preferences:

_____ Collection Development Committee

_____ Program Planning Committee

_____ Communications Committee

_____ Publications Committee

_____ Nominating Committee

_____ Social Issues/Education Committee

_____ Technical Services Committee

Other current ALA or ACRL committee assignments:

Please return to: Bonnie Cox, Collection Development Librarian
204 King Library South
University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0039

For more information, contact Bonnie at: <bjcox@pop.uky.edu> ☎ 606 257-4351

Internet Sources of Interest

Please send Internet "finds" to Charlene Hovatter at cehova@vms.cis.pitt.edu

WSS has compiled a set of 20 core lists in women's studies. These lists are divided by subject area, such as "lesbian studies", "management", and "philosophy", and they are extremely useful for building and evaluating women's studies collections. Each list has twenty to fifty citations, and those considered most important by the compiler have been marked with a star. To get to these core lists, point your gopher or web browser to:
<gopher://silo.adp.wisc.edu:70/11/uwlibs/womenstudies/corelists>

Another library focused site is BUBL's (Bulletin Board for Libraries) Women and Society homepage. They provide links to a number of resources on women and feminism. Among the more interesting are women's studies bibliographies from University of York Library, Diotima--materials for the study of women and gender in the ancient world, and our own Laura Hunt's guide to women's studies and feminist information on the Internet. If you follow the link to the BUBL Gopher, beware-- the links do not work correctly, so items are not where they appear to be. The BUBL Women and Society page is located at URL:

<http://www.bubl.bath.ac.uk/BUBL/Women.html>

For fun and for some good information resources, you may want to check out FeMiNa. They claim to be "the first comprehensive World Wide Web based directory and information resource containing information exclusively for and about women and girls online." Their information is keyword searchable and browsable via a topical Table of Contents. Unfortunately, I found a large number of bad links on their pages, but the sheer quantity of information available makes it worth investigating.
<http://www.femina.com>

Jim Mansfield keeps it simple by asking whether we want to see listings for women's organizations, women's resources, or collections of women's resources.

The URL is:

<http://www.ibd.nrc.ca/~mansfield/feminism.html>

The Feminist Majority has developed a slick and massive site. Unlike most of above sites, this one contains a lot of internal information housed on the Feminist Majority server. Librarians and researchers might find the sections on "feminist news and events", "publications and research", and "feminist university network" particularly interesting. To avoid getting lost in the 1200 screens of

information, use the index feature. It will be interesting to see how up to date the Feminist Majority can keep their information. On September 21, they still had the Fourth World Conference on Women listed as a "coming attraction" (thought they did have current information). Their URL is: **<http://www.feminist.org>**

The University of Maryland maintains InforM's Women's Studies Database. This site also contains a lot of original information, as well as many links to other sources of information. The page is well organized and allows keyword searching of the files. Some of the subject areas are "Bibliographies", which contains a link to the core lists mentioned above, "Employment", "Government and Politics", and "Reading Room", which contains the full texts of classic works by women and academic papers and articles. A "Reference Room" section links to library publications about women's studies. The URL is:
<http://www.inform.umd.edu:8080/EdRes/Topic/WomensStudies>

There are a few new listservs related to women's studies:

IRWMST-L This is a list for "people involved or interested in women's studies in Ireland." To subscribe, e-mail listserv@irlearn.ucd.ie, with the body of the message reading "sub irwmst-l [forename surname]."

EDEQUITY This is a list for the discussion of gender equity in education. Subscribe by sending e-mail to majordomo@confer.edc.org, with the body of the message reading "subscribe edequity."

WOMEN This list is for those interested in women's studies issues in Turkey and around the world, but especially in developing countries. List communication can be in English or Turkish. To subscribe, send e-mail to listproc@bilkent.edu.tr, with the body of the message reading "sub women [forename surname]."

WRAC-L This list is "a forum for discussion and sharing of resources regarding issues of significance to women's centers." To subscribe, send e-mail to listserv@dartmouth.edu, with "subscribe wrac-l [name]" in the body of the message.

MAC-WOMEN This is a forum for women only designed to provide answers to Macintosh problems. To subscribe, send mail to majordomo@best.com, with the body of the message reading "subscribe mac-women [your e-mail address] [your name]."

KUDOS and NEWS

Please send news items to Daren Callahan at
dcallaha@lib.siu.edu

Deb Renee Biggs is the editor of *ProCite in Libraries: Applications in Bibliographic Database Management*. The book discusses the many innovative uses and special applications of ProCite bibliographic software, and is available from the publisher, Information Today, Inc. 143 Old Marlton Pike, Medford, NJ 08055 (0-938734-90-3) for \$39.50. **Jane Sloan** contributed a chapter to this book entitled: "MABEL: A Multipurpose Reference Database Incorporating a Specialized Women's Studies Database."

Martha Henn is now Arts and Humanities Librarian at the Mervyn H. Stern Library, University of Alabama-Birmingham. In this position, she has collection development responsibilities for several areas, including Women's Studies. She received her M.L.S. from Indiana University in 1987 and is currently completing her Ph.D. in English, with a certificate in Women's Studies, through Emory University.

Julie Herrada at the University of Michigan published an article in *Serials Review* 21:2 (Summer 1995) titled, "Zines in Libraries: A Culture Preserved."

Rita Pellen, the Assistant Director for Public Services, and **Linda Golian**, Head of the Serials Department, at Florida Atlantic University Library, presented their poster session titled, "Family Literacy for Battered Women in Shelters: Academic Libraries Reach Out to Serve the Community" at the 1995 Association of College and Research Libraries Conference in Pittsburgh. This poster session highlighted a current pilot project done in cooperation with Aid to Victims of Domestic Assault in Delray Beach and research from an article that was published in *Convergence*.

Kristen Ramsdell, Women's Studies Section Member-at-Large, is the Editor of the Library Journal Book Review section on romance novels.

Daren Callahan gave a presentation at the Association of College and Research Libraries Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Annual Preconference June, entitled "Video and Multimedia Introductions to Special Collections."

Sally Willson Weimer worked with two Women's Studies Program faculty members from the University of California-Santa Barbara to coordinate an exhibit in celebration of National Women's History Month this past

March. The exhibit, "Women's History: Promises To Keep," featured a wide variety of publications and library materials. The exhibit prompted a great deal of positive feedback, and Sally has offered ideas and suggestions to anyone interested in mounting an exhibit next year. Contact her at: <weimer@library.ucsb.edu> or ☎805-893-3454.

**Schlesinger Library
50th Anniversary Conference Proceedings
Published**

Women, Information, and the Future: Collecting and Sharing Resources Worldwide, the proceedings from the 1994 conference sponsored by the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, is now available from Highsmith Press, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin (ISBN 0917846672). Edited by Eva S. Moseley, the book is a 296-page paperback, with 46 papers (edited versions) from the conference. Papers of WSS members in the proceedings include:

- Sarah Pritchard, "Women's Studies Scholarship: Its Impact on the Information World."
- Jacquelyn Marie, "Setting Up a Women's Studies Library."
- Suzanne Hildenbrand, "Electronic Graffiti or Scholar's Tool? A Critical Evaluation of Selected Women's Lists on the Internet."
- Hur-Li Lee, "Interdisciplinarity, Women's Studies, and Library Collection Development."

The majority of the papers are those from non-U.S. contributors, grouped in sections for Europe, Africa, Latin America, Asia/Australia, and by topic, such as "Outside the Library Walls." Sarah Pritchard reports, "It's a very exciting compilation, with much information that will never be available elsewhere."

⇒⇒⇒⇒ **Assistant Editor Wanted** ⇐⇐⇐⇐

Interested in getting some great editing experience and becoming actively involved in the Women's Studies Section? We are looking for an Assistant Editor for the *WSS Newsletter* for 1996/97. No previous editing experience is required, but you should have good writing skills, easy access to word processing and/or desktop publishing software, and be able to attend the Annual and Midwinter conferences. The Assistant Editor will continue as Editor in 1997/98. For more information, contact Daren Callahan <dcallaha@lib.siu.edu> or Charlene Hovatter <cehova@vms.cis.pitt.edu>.

The Women's Studies Section Discussion Meeting at Midwinter

Bonnie Cox, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Revisit the highly popular and not-yet-exhausted topics of the Women's Groups Meeting that was held in Chicago last June — "Women's Concerns in ALA." That meeting seemed to be only the beginning of a necessary and on-going discussion. It drew a large crowd to discuss and record a wide range of concerns including salaries, child care, outsourcing as a feminist issue, and the lack of space for women's and other groups in the proposed ALA re-organization. This meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21, formally from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. We will try to schedule it in a room that does not have another meeting scheduled until the 2 p.m. slot, so we can continue informal discussion past 12:30. Bring a brown bag lunch, and spur your digestion with a spirited discussion. As in Chicago, representatives of other women's groups in ALA will be invited to facilitate the discussion.

Honor Your Colleagues: ACRL Award Programs

In order to create the largest possible pool of qualified applicants, Association of College and Research Libraries members are asked to consider the following awards and to submit names of nominees. The submission deadline for most awards is December 1, 1995.

Academic or Research Librarian of the Year Award. An annual award of \$3,000 and a citation that recognizes a librarian who is making an outstanding national or international contribution to academic or research librarianship and library development.

BIS Innovation in Bibliographic Instruction Award. A biennial award recognizing and honoring librarians who have developed and implemented innovative approaches to bibliographic instruction in an academic or research library within the last two years.

Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. An annual award of \$1,000 presented to a doctoral student in the field of academic librarianship whose research is significant and demonstrates originality and creativity.

Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award. An annual award of \$2,000 and a citation to recognize outstanding achievement by academic librarians that has contributed significantly to improvement in the area of library automation, library management, and/or library development or research.

K.G. Saur Award for Best C&RL Article. An annual award of \$500 presented to an author to recognize the most outstanding article published in *College & Research Libraries* during the preceding volume year.

Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions or Technical Services. An annual award of \$1,000 established to foster advances in acquisitions or technical services by providing librarians in those specialties a fellowship for research, travel, or writing.

For complete information about nomination/application procedures, contact Jack Briody, ACRL Program Assistant, ☎1-800-545-2433, ext. 2516, or <jack.briody@ala.org>

Women's Studies Section Newsletter

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