Women's Studies Interest Group, Fall 1993

University of Alabama in Huntsville

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Task Force Explores Women's Studies Minor

In July Dean Jack Ellis established an interdisciplinary task force to consider the possibility of creating a minor in Women's Studies at UAH. Chaired by Dr. Rose Norman, Coordinator of the Women's Studies Interest Group (WSIG), the task force includes active WSIG members as well as other faculty members from the colleges of Liberal Arts, Science, Nursing, and the Library.

For the past three years, WSIG's Curriculum Committee, chaired by Dr. Sandra Carpenter, has discussed the idea of a minor and has been collecting data on current offerings appropriate for a women's studies minor. Since last fall, this committee has arranged to cross-list women's studies courses in the published course listings each term. They have already identified numerous opportunities for interdisciplinary study in the field.

Dean Ellis's charge to the task force calls for a report due February 1, 1994, directed to the following issues:

1. faculty resources that could sustain a minor in the field;
2. current or potential courses that might be included, either as core courses or electives in the minor;
3. requirements, and how these should be structured;
4. present state of library resources and any additional resources needed;
5. administration.

Before coming to UAH as Dean of Liberal Arts last year, Dr. Ellis chaired the History Department at the University of Delaware, where he was involved with instituting several successful area studies programs. Combining Dean Ellis's administrative experience in area studies with WSIG members' years of work on women's studies at UAH promises productive work on making Women's Studies a minor at UAH in the near future.

Committee chair Rose Norman encourages students and faculty to participate in the task force's activities. Those interested in contributing may contact Dr. Nornian (895-6320) or any member of the task force: Dr. Sandra Carpenter, Psychology; Dr. Lee Cook, Associate Dean of Science; Dr. Nancy Finley, Sociology; Dr. Judy Franz, Physics; Ms. Susan Herring, Library; Dr. Fay Raines, Dean of Nursing; and Dr. Stephen Waring, History.
Conferences

October 9, 1993 New York, NY
The Graduate Faculty Women in Philosophy of The New School Fall conference "Is Feminist Philosophy Philosophy?"
Contact: Camille Atkinson (718) 263-3987.

October 15-17, 1993 Oxford, OH
The North Central Women's Studies Association, Miami University, Oxford, OH
Contact: Enid LaGesse, School of Interdisciplinary Studies, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056, Office: (513) 529-5669; Fax: (513) 529-5849

October 30, 1993 Durham, NH
Publishing Feminist Scholarship: Conference for editors, editorial board members, and others with particular interest in Feminist and Women's Studies journals.
University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Contact: Patrocinio Schweickart, Editor, NWSA Journal, English Department, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824 (603)862-3976

November 4-6, 1993 Morehead, KY
Women: Moving Toward Influence and Leadership in the 21st Century
Morehead State University
Contact: Program Committee, UPO 1384, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351-1689, (606) 783-2004

November 4-6, 1993 Minneapolis, MN
A Global Women's Theological Colloquium
Contact: Sally Hill, Twin Cities Metropolitan Church Commission, 122 W. Franklin, Room 100, Minneapolis, MN 55404

November 5-7, 1993 Pittsburgh, PA
Conference on Feminist Ethics and Social Policy
University of Pittsburgh
Contact: Iris Young, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260

December 5, 1993 New York, NY
Generations of Jewish Feminism, A Conference Presented by Jewish Women's Resource Center
Contact: Jewish Women's Resource Center, National Council of Jewish Women, NY Section, 9 East 69 Street, New York, NY 10021 (212) 535-5900

January 24-30, 1994 Eatonville, FL
Annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts and Humanities
Contact: The Zora Neale Hurston's Festival, P.O. Box 2586, Eatonville, Fl 32751; fax (407)647-3959.

Calls for Papers

NWSA Journal is planning a series of articles on the following topics: THE REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS DEBATE; SEXUAL HARASSMENT; DIVERSITY, MULTICULTURALISM, AND "POLITICAL CORRECTNESS"; THE POLITICS OF HEALTHCARE; AND THE PHILOSOPHICAL, POLITICAL, AND CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS OF AN ETHIC OF CARE. Articles should be 25-35 pages long, in the MLA style, be accompanied by an abstract, and be submitted in duplicate to: Patrocinio Schweickart, Editor, English Dept., U. of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824.

THE GENDER LENS (Sage Publications and Pine Forge Press) is a new series of books directed toward demonstrating the importance of treating gender as a crucial sensitizing lens through which a wide spectrum of social phenomena must be seen. Persons interested in potentially authoring a book in the future should contact the editors for more detailed information about the series. Judith A. Howard, Department of Sociology DK-40, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195 206-543-9885

CROSSROADS, A NEW FEMINIST JOURNAL, is looking for essays, articles, book reviews, theory, research and artwork. Writings should be on the general subject matter of the journal: the exploration of reality, especially the spiritual reality so often denied by our culture, using the tools and perspectives of feminism, spirituality, and new paradigm science. Forum contributions should be 500-1500 words in length; other contributions can be as long as 4000 works. For more information send a self addressed stamped envelope. Sample copies of At The Crossroads are available for $0.50 and a four issue subscription is $24.00. Write to At The Crossroads, P.O. Box 112, St. Paul, AR 72760. Jeanne Neath, Editor.

About WSIG

WSIG is an open group of UAH Faculty, Students, and Staff interested in promoting Women's Studies at UAH. All interested persons are welcome to participate through joining committees, participating in programs and study groups, or other ways that seem appropriate. Formed in fall 1990, WSIG has mainly focused on coordinating women's studies efforts around campus, bringing people together to share information and expertise.

The WSIG newsletter is intended as a regular open forum for exchange of information. We would like to include information about activities and opportunities related to women's studies on UAH's campus and in the region.

Please send your newsletter contributions to WSIG, Box 1950, or give them directly to Nancy Finlay, Sociology Department, or Rose Norman, English Department.
Singer Pat Humphries to Perform at UAH

UAH Performance Sunday, Sept. 19, 5:00 p.m.
Roberts Hall
Reservations are Encouraged - 533-2437
General Admission $12.00
Proceeds go to the AIDS Action Coalition

Pat Humphries, a featured singer-songwriter at this year’s Panoply, will perform in concert at Roberts Hall on the UAH campus, Sunday, September 19, at 5 p.m. WSIG is co-sponsoring this concert with the AIDS Action Coalition as a benefit for the Coalition.

Humphries’ music explores social and political issues and expresses a philosophy that she describes as follows: “I have learned that community reaches far beyond what eyes can see and though miles divide us, at some point we’re all washed by the same rain.” “Same Rain” is the title song of her CD, which also includes serio-comic songs like “It Really Isn’t Garbage” (till you throw it away), and popular singalongs like “Common Thread,” with its inspiring chorus, “We will rise all together, we will rise.” Raised in Ohio, Humphries is now based in New York, but her melodies are Appalachian and her lyrics universal. Although “Same Rain” is her first CD, such artists as Ronnie Gilbert, Pete Seeger, and Cathy Fink sing them, and Judy Small, Priscilla Herdman, and Sabia have recorded them.

General admission to the concert is $12; for Benefactors $50. Benefactors get reserved seats for two, recognition in the program, and are invited to a post-concert private party at the Kaffeeklatch. Benefactors must reserve seats by September 13. Write and make checks payable to AAC, P.O. Box 871, Huntsville, AL 35804.

All are encouraged to call ahead for reservations: 533-2437 (AAC).

One-Woman Performance of Virginia Woolf Work

"A Room of One's Own"
UAH Performance: Oct. 8, Roberts Hall, 8:00 p.m.
Admission $5.00

What if Shakespeare had had a sister his equal in talent? Virginia Woolf pondered that question in one of this century's most famous essays, "A Room of One's Own," published in book form in 1929. WSIG is proud to sponsor local actor-writer Bette Yeager in a one-woman play Yeager has adapted from Woolf's text.

Virginia Woolf (1882-1941) remains perhaps the most famous woman writer in English, a writer whose name is familiar to most educated people. Yet her name and her most-quoted line ("a woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write fiction") are often all that people know of Woolf's ideas and writings, a body of literature that has earned Woolf a permanent place in the canon of English literature, as well as the role of "literary sister" to many modern women writers.

"A Room of One's Own" is the title given to a revised and expanded series of lectures Woolf presented to cultural societies at Newnham and Girton, the women's colleges of Cambridge University. Critics describe this text as "the first major achievement of feminist criticism in the English language," and Yeager's production brings it to life.

Woolf's book explores the importance of freedom for women and examines the relationship between gender, money, and the work of an artist. Her musings about Shakespeare's imaginary sister are frequently included today in anthologies of women's writing. "Virginia Woolf was a great storyteller with a musical, human voice," says Yeager, who says that this project, with its focus on women as artists, has both inspired and challenged her. "My only problem in developing this piece was in deciding what to leave out."

The Guerilla Dance Studio, 1210 Meridian St., seats about 40 people and will host two preview performances on Friday and Saturday, October 1, available by reservation only (call 1-205-723-2432). The UAH production on Friday, October 8, requires no reservation and will be followed by a discussion led by Dr. Rose Norman, Coordinator of Women's Studies at UAH.

All three performances start at 8 p.m. and cost $5.00 each.
## Fall Term Women's Studies Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Days/Times</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EH 418-01</td>
<td>Women Writers</td>
<td>MWF 10:50-12:05</td>
<td>Dr. Rose Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HY 399-01</td>
<td>Special Topics: U.S. Women's History</td>
<td>MW 6-8 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. Ann Boucher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 106-01</td>
<td>Marriage and Family</td>
<td>Tues/Thurs 10:10-12:10</td>
<td>Dr. Nancy Finley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 306-01</td>
<td>Sociology of Sex Roles</td>
<td>Tues/Thurs 3:50-5:50</td>
<td>Dr. Nancy Finley</td>
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</tbody>
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Women's Studies Interest Group  
Box 1950 Morton Hall  
UAH  
Huntsville, AL 35899

"It would be a thousand pities if women wrote like men, or lived like men, or looked like men..."

Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*