

UCLA

CSW Update Newsletter

Title

CSW Newsletter Spring 1988

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/49757337>

Publication Date

1988-04-01

NEW ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR**Millie Loeb**

The Center for the Study of Women is delighted to announce the appointment of Millie Loeb as Assistant to the Director. Millie has been involved in the women's movement since the mid 1960s. She founded a consciousness raising group in Larchmont, New York, which led to active participation in the reproductive rights movement in that state.

When she moved to California, she was involved in establishing an alternative school in Venice where she also taught women's studies. Subsequently, she served as the program director of Project Wider Horizons, a research and action-oriented project aimed at assisting women over 40 returning to the job market. Millie was later the administrator of the Center

for Legal Psychiatry, which housed one of Los Angeles' first Divorcing Family Clinics, and she edited books for four years for Tarcher/Houghton Mifflin.

Her knowledge of contracts and grants and fundraising began at Project Wider Horizons and as a community volunteer. Subsequently, she served as development director of the Venice Family Clinic and the Los Angeles office of the University of California Press, where she directed the Press' Campaign for the Humanities, raising funds to support the publication of scholarly books, including books in women's studies.

Millie brings to the Center a longstanding commitment to feminism, a knowledge of women's studies and a successful track record in development. She will help bring researchers and funds together and, through the Friends group, will encourage contact between scholars and the broader feminist community. When asked, she says one of her greatest achievements is a warm relationship with her feminist daughter who is a sophomore at UC Berkeley. □

GREETINGS

By Karen E. Rowe
Director

Because feminist scholars undertake research in many different disciplines, not to mention locales, the need for networks both within UCLA and with outside institutions becomes a vitally important aspect of the Center's research agenda. Within our own Los Angeles community the opportunities to work collaboratively often occur in the form of conferences, such as the January 1988 cosponsorship with the Los Angeles Women's Building of "The Way We Look, The Way We See: Art Criticism for Women in the '90s." At the February symposium, "Women at Work II," which was co-sponsored by UCLA's Institutes for Social Science Research and Industrial Relations, Susan Rose, Director of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women, presented the keynote address, highlighting the employment of women in city government.

Founded by UCLA in 1985, the University of California Council of Women's Programs continues to thrive, bringing together the women's studies programs and research centers on all nine campuses. Under the auspices of this Council and with funding assistance from the President's office, UCLA is creating a systemwide Directory of University of California scholars conducting research on women and gender. This year the Council's annual research conference, "Athena Meets Prometheus: Women, Science and Technology," will take place at Davis on April 9th, drawing upon the talents of more than fifty U.C. panelists and plenary speakers, who will present new

perspectives on women's participation in science, the reconstruction of scientific method and the future of technology as it impacts women's lives in America and on world production.

From June 2nd to 5th, UCLA's Center will be honored to be the first west coast institution to host the annual meeting of the National Council, which is the umbrella organization for 50 centers for research on women and gender throughout the United States. Attendees will include not only Directors of these centers, but also foundation representatives, liaisons with the congressional women's caucus, and invited national and local scholars. The annual meeting seeks to identify the emerging research agendas and, particularly in an election year, to link them with issues of public policy. UCLA will welcome participants with an opening dinner and closing reception sponsored by Vice Chancellor of Research Albert Barber and Dean Frederick Eiserling from the College of Letters and Sciences.

As these activities suggest, generating fresh research collaborations, building interdisciplinary networks, and keeping UCLA at the forefront of the national agendas for research on women and gender are an intrinsic part of the Center's mission. From these opportunities come the ideas and impetus to forge new research directions and stronger collegial cooperations. □

FRIENDS MEETING



On February 22, the Friends of the Center for the Study of Women and Women's Studies held their first meeting of 1988. Approximately, 110 community leaders and activists met in Royce Hall to hear a program entitled "From Pioneers to Presidents: Women in Leadership."

Los Angeles City Councilwoman Gloria Molina talked about the qualities which helped to make her the first Latina elected to the L.A. City Council and the California State Assembly. She stressed the importance of cooperation and courage, and argued that passion was one of the most important qualities that women could bring to the public sphere. Helen Astin, Professor of Education, UCLA School of Education and Associate Director of the Higher Education Research Institute shared the results of her research on women leaders and pointed to several strategies which women can use to work effectively in a variety

of fields. Dr. Adele Scheele, one of Los Angeles' premier career consultants and author of *Skills for Success: A Guide to the Top for Men and Women*, reiterated the theme of passion in connection with leadership while describing, amusingly, some of the differences in male and female leadership styles. Scheele, who received her degree in Professor Astin's program in Higher Education, discussed some of the problems women encounter in the work place and the resources they draw upon in order to succeed. All speakers agreed that self-assertiveness in combination with commitment and caring helped women excel in the workplace.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Center for the Study of Women is scheduled for Thursday, May 26. The program will be entitled "From Patriarchy to Partnership" and will focus upon couples who work together in business, academia and the arts.

The Friends of the Center for the Study of Women is a support group founded by concerned community leaders, UCLA faculty and staff to provide assistance to scholars engaged in research on women and gender. Anyone interested in encouraging research on women's issues is invited to become a member of the Friends. Members are invited to all Friends activities and also to all Dean's council events and to the Women, Culture and Society Public Lecture Series which features presentations by visiting scholars and artists.

Anyone interested in supporting research on women and gender issues is cordially invited to become a member of the Friends of the Center for the Study of Women. Membership information can be obtained by calling Millie Loeb at 213/206-1844. □

CENTER HOSTS ANNUAL NCROW MEETING

This spring, the Center for the Study of Women will host the annual meeting of the National Council for Research on Women (NCROW). On June 2-5, the Directors of fifty-three research and policy centers from across the country will gather on the UCLA campus to identify and discuss emerging research agendas and link them with issues of public policy.

NCROW was established in 1982 as an independent non-profit association of centers and organizations that provide institutional resources for feminist research, policy analysis, and educational programs for women and girls. The Council, which is headquartered in New York City, has ties to centers in other countries and works with several international organizations concerned with research and program development relating to women. Initial funding and core support for the organization were provided by the Ford Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation.

During the three-day meeting at UCLA, participants will have the opportunity to share information and ideas with their colleagues in a variety of formal and informal contexts. The

opening plenary panel will focus on "Difference and Diversity: Implications for Research on Women." Other workshops and panels will address such topics as women and public policy, fundraising for feminist research, the effects of gender research on academic disciplines (an update), and recent scholarship on children's culture. One session will "showcase" four member Centers who will present their current program priorities, survival strategies and visions for the future. A banquet celebrating the achievements of women's research centers throughout the country will be sponsored by Vice Chancellor Albert Barber, Vice Chancellor for Research, and Dean Frederick Eiserling, Dean of the Life Sciences, College of Letters and Sciences.

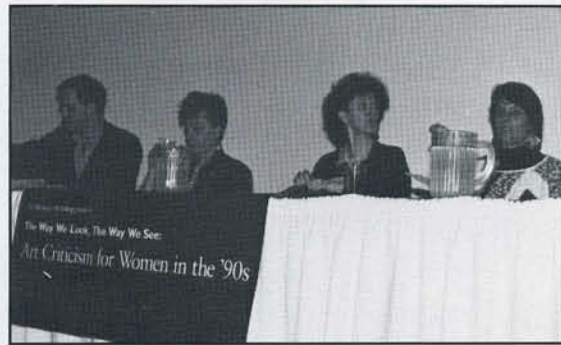
As this is the first annual meeting to be held on the West Coast, many of the panels and workshops will draw on the expertise of scholars from universities in the region. The conference will be coordinated by CSW Director of Special Programs Emily Ooms and her assistant, Karen Voris-Waldman. For information call 213/206-1843. □

THE WAY WE LOOK, THE WAY WE SEE: ART CRITICISM FOR WOMEN IN THE '90s



On January 22 and 23, the Center for the Study of Women in conjunction with the Women's Building held a conference on women and art criticism on the UCLA campus. Subtitled "Art Criticism for Women in the '90s" the meeting went beyond the task of the seventies, the "recovery" of lost women artists and the revision of the canon, to the task of the nineties, the analysis of women's ideological position in relation to art, art production and artistic representation. Fifteen panelists explored the intersection of post-modernism and feminism and discussed how women have been, could be and should be represented in the arts. The conference began with a screening of French feminist Chantal Akerman's, *Toute Une Nuit*, after which UCLA Professor Janet Bergstrom, USC Professor Marsha Kinder and film maker Caroll Parrott Blue led a discussion about the film.

During the Saturday sessions, art critics, theorists, film makers and performance artists came together to discuss issues in art criticism and feminism. Critic and performance artist Joanna Frueh called for a return to the female body as a source of imagery and rejected criticism of such imagery as biologically specific. Theorist and psychoanalyst Bonnie Engdahl suggested that women's bodies must assume a new role as the



subject rather than as the object of desire. Painter Mira Schor turned attention to art that draws only a male imagery and argued that the only valid representation of women is that which is self-reflective. Feminist critic and painter Robert Storr reminded the audience that in the best art there is no separation between personal and political, body and spirit. Pioneer lesbian film maker Barbara Hammer described her own quest for an authentic female imagery with erotic content but without objectification.

Themes reiterated throughout the two day conference were the impact of psychoanalysis on feminism and art criticism, the significance of post-modernism for feminist artists and the tension between mind and body, theory and practice. Contributing to the conference were David Antin, Catherine Lord, Mary Kelly, Christine Tambllyn, Joan Hugo, Nancy Buchanan, Barbara Carrasco, and Marina La Palma. Betty Ann Brown, Sheila de Brettville, Sondra Hale, Joan Hugo and Sue Maberry coordinated the conference. A group exhibit at Los Angeles Women's Building entitled "Image and Text" addressed one of the issues raised at the conference: the power of language to obscure and manipulate. □

EVENTS OF INTEREST — SPRING, 1988

UCLA CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN

236A Kinsey Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1504 • 213/825-0590

Tuesday, April 5 (UCLA Women's Resource Center) "Pathfinders: Women in Science and Engineering." 12:00-1:00 p.m., 2 Dodd Hall. For information call 213/206-6915.

Saturday, April 9 (Huntington Library Women's Seminar) Janet Bergstrom, UCLA Department of Theater, Film and Television, will discuss feminist criticism and show film clips. 9:30 a.m., Huntington Library. For information call Virginia Renner 818/405-2100.

Tuesday, April 12 (UCLA Women's Resource Center) "Pathfinders: Women in Law." 12:00-1:00 p.m., 2 Dodd Hall. For information call 213/206-6915.

Tuesday, April 19 (Center for the Study of Women) Faculty Research Seminar. "Nature's Courtship Plot in Darwin and Havelock Ellis." Ruth Yeazell, Department of English. 4:00 p.m., Royce 314.

Thursday, April 21 (UCLA Women's Resource Center) "Feast or Famine: Understanding Eating Disorders." 12:00-1:00 p.m., 2 Dodd Hall. For information call 213/206-6915.

Thursday, April 21 (UCLA Women's Studies Program) "Redefining Gender, Race and Class." Cheris Krameræ, Royce 314, 4:00 p.m. For information call 213/206-8101.

Tuesday, May 3 (UCLA Women's Resource Center) "Success and Self Esteem." 12:00-1:00 p.m., 2 Dodd Hall. For information call 213/206-6915.

Tuesday, May 10 (UCLA Women's Resource Center) "Your First Job: Strategies for Success." 12:00-1:00 p.m., 2 Dodd Hall.

Tuesday, May 17 (UCLA Women's Resource Center) "Charting a Course: Tools for Career Development." 12:00-1:00 p.m., 2 Dodd Hall.

Tuesday, May 17 (UCLA Center for the Study of Women) Faculty Research Seminar. "The New Woman, Feminism and the Decorative Arts in Fin de Siècle France." Debora Silverman, Department of History. 4:00 p.m., 314 Royce Hall.

Thursday, May 19-Sunday, May 22 (Immaculate Heart College) Feminist Spirituality Program. "Toward a New Psychology of Women." For information call Pat Reiff at 213/470-2293 or 714/543-9788.

Friday, July 15 (Immaculate Heart College) The Feminist Spirituality Program. "Women, Religion and Social Change." For information call Pat Reiff at 213/470-2293 or 714/543-9788.

WOMEN AND WORK II



On February 20, 1988, the UCLA Center for the Study of Women, the UCLA Institute for Social Science Research and the UCLA Institute for Industrial Relations co-sponsored the second annual conference on Women at Work. The meeting built upon Women and Work I, a conference held last spring, and presented new themes.

A series of speakers explored the problems faced by women in the workplace and evaluated the place of women in the world of work. Susan Rose of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women discussed her survey of working women in Los Angeles and their needs. She has learned that women want training to improve their job skills. They also suffer from sexual harassment and indicate that stress is the single most important factor affecting their job performance. Katarina Davis, a union organizer and negotiator for the Service Employees International Union, said that women are assuming positions of leadership within unions and working to achieve job security and power on the job. Women's progress in the workplace was assessed by the UCLA Director of Women's Studies, Karen Brodtkin Sacks, who spoke of the advances and the setbacks experienced by women as they enter the workforce in greater numbers. The spatial organization of the service economy served as the focus of the paper by Susan Christopherson, Assistant Professor in the Department of City and

Regional Planning at Cornell University. She explored how women have been affected by industrial restructuring.

Suzanne Iacono, Research Associate at the Public Policy Research Organization, University of California, Irvine, discussed the differences between men and women in computer-using organizations. She stated that men benefit from computer use more than women, especially in terms of career advancement. Patricia Gumport, Visiting Lecturer in the Graduate School of Higher Education, turned the focus to women in education. She discussed how feminist visions have changed higher education and challenged the academic structure. Addressing many of the issues raised in the conference from a legal perspective, Christine Littleton, Professor of Law, UCLA Law School, argued that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 has failed to address the spectrum of women's working conditions. The variety of women's work experience in America was amply demonstrated by Dorene Ludwig, Artistic Director and President of the American Living Theater, who presented a one-woman, multi-character presentation about women from colonial times to the present. □

UCLA CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN

236A Kinsey Hall
Los Angeles, California 90024-1504
213/825-0590 or 213/206-1844

Director — Karen Rowe,
Associate Professor, English Department
Associate Director — Kathryn Norberg
Associate Professor, History Department
Advisory Committee Chair — Carrie Menkel-Meadow
Professor, School of Law
Assistant to the Director — Millie Loeb
Director of Special Programs — Emily Ooms
Administrative Assistant — Van Do-Nguyen
Secretary — Emiko Murakawa
Computer Programmer — Michael Schiffman
Research Assistants — Molly King, Karen Voris-Waldman

University of California, Los Angeles
UCLA Center for the Study of Women
236A Kinsey Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1504

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
UCLA