

from the Center

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY · UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

"Border Lies" Takes Center Stage

"Border Lies: Race, Identity, and Citizenship" is the theme of this year's annual RIG-A-Fair, which will focus on the convergent discourses of affirmative action, immigration, and citizenship in the political realm, and recent scholarship on race and identity in the academy. The interdisciplinary symposium, bringing together faculty and students who belong to the thirteen Research Interest Groups (RIGs) with leading scholars from off-campus, will be held on Friday, February 12, 1999, in Gerlinger Lounge.

A morning plenary session will feature three nationally recognized scholars addressing the theme, "Where the Border Lies: Race and Citizenship in Theory and Policy." This discussion will set the agenda for the conference by introducing and integrating the theoretical constructs around highly contested matters of race and identity in the academy and race and citizenship in the political realm. Speakers include:

- **Lydia Chávez**, associate professor of journalism at the University of California, Berkeley, and author of *The Color Bind: California's Battle to End Affirmative Action*;
- **Patricia Penn Hilden**, professor of ethnic studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and author of *When Nickels Were Indians: An Urban, Mixed-Blood Story*; and
- **Dorothy Roberts**, professor of law at Northwestern University School of Law and author of *Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and the Meaning of Liberty*.

Some questions the panel will address include: How might critical theories of race, gender, identity, and/or citizenship enrich understanding of and discussion about issues such as affirmative action and immigration? How can our understandings of what is happening in the policy arena regarding issues that are racially coded (such as affirmative action, immigration, welfare, or reproductive rights) sharpen our theoretical understandings about race, gender, and citizenship? How do attacks on affirmative action and immigration affect who will be "at the table" in future academic and policy development forums?

The afternoon portion of the conference will be divided into two parts. The first is a small-group breakout session for concurrent roundtable discussions. The four roundtable topics are:

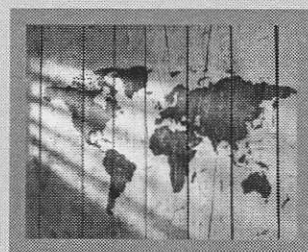
- **Affirmative Action and Beyond.** Discussion seeks to decode notions of privilege and the current backlash against affirmative action, as well as considering new strategies for breaking down borders that women and minorities continue to face; will also include a presentation about welfare reform as it relates to access to higher education and employment. Presenters: Carla Gary, director and university advocate, UO Office of Multicultural Affairs; Angela Ginorio, director, Northwest Center for Research on Women, University of Washington; and Sandra Morgen, director, CSWS.
- **Border Crossings: Subjectivity and Identity.** Where do notions of identity and subjectivity come from? How does one negotiate the experience of "passing," either racially or sexually? What are the borders faced by women and minorities both within academia and between academia and the wider culture? These questions will be addressed by historian Heather Tanner, member of the Reclaiming the Past RIG; Dianne Dugaw, associate professor of English; and others.
- **Opening/Closing Borders: Immigration, Globalization, and Capitalism.** Representatives of local immigrant rights groups (TBA) will join academics in a discussion of the intersections of immigration and capitalism. Ayse Agis, instructor, women's studies, will discuss the idea of "globalization" as a re-arrangement of the world, and Diane Baxter, assistant

Continued on page 3

1999

and margins

WINTER



INSIDE

csws	2
rigs	4
program updates	6
creative center	8
research	10
news	12
awards	14
development	15
author's note	16



Sandra Morgen,
Director, CSWS

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CSWS

By Sandra Morgen, Director

Some facts to consider:

- Proposition 200, an anti-affirmative action initiative, passed in Washington state on November 3 by a margin of 58 percent in favor and 42 percent against. Oregon now borders two states that have outlawed the use of affirmative action to equalize opportunities between men and women and between Euro-Americans and people of color.
- INS raids in the Eugene area during the past nine months have resulted in the deportation of nearly 100 people, many working to support children who were left without a parent.
- The guest worker bill, introduced in Congress by Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith, which would have severely depressed the already low wages and working conditions of the mostly Latino farmworkers in the U.S., was only narrowly defeated. Opponents to the bill expect to see it re-introduced in the next Congress.

Each of these recent events in or near our state makes clear that affirmative action, immigrant rights, and protections for our nation's lowest-paid and least-protected workers are far from "academic" issues in our community. The CSWS conference, "Border Lies: Race, Identity, and Citizenship," will examine these issues and more as we gather to hear and share the insights of researchers, advocates, and policy makers on February 12.

While affirmative action and immigration issues are the substantive focus of this year's RIG-A-Fair, the themes of the conference are broader. The theoretical and policy issues at the heart of "Border Lies" constitute some of the most exciting areas of feminist and critical race scholarship today: theorizing borders/borderlands, analyzing the history of exclusions from explicit and tacit citizenship rights; the meaning of denying that immigrants have invigorated this country's economy and culture in the past and the present; and the racial coding of politics, language, literature, and popular culture.

I always look forward to our yearly conference. It is a time to connect with colleagues we have too little time to talk to in our busy academic schedules. It is an opportunity to hear intellectually challenging ideas from nationally renowned scholars and some

of our finest CSWS affiliates on campus. It is a time of dialogue and debate; it is an experience of community-building.

This year, I urge each of you to join us for the conference. There is a lot at stake. The issues on the table engage some of us as researchers, most of us as teachers, and all of us as members of our university and larger community.

In particular, the issue of affirmative action in education, employment, and government contracting should have us concerned. Over the past three decades, men and women of color, but even more so white women, have slowly but surely made gains in moving towards, but not achieving, equity with white men. No doubt there is no one policy that accounts for the slow, uneven, and not always forward-moving changes in this area. But without doubt, affirmative-action policies and practices have been a vital ingredient in the complex mix of forces responsible for economic, educational, and career advances for people of color and white women.

In 1971, women received 14.4 percent of Ph.D.s, and in 1991 they received 36.8 percent of Ph.D.s, according to Mari Matsuda in her book, *We Won't Go Back: Making the Case for Affirmative Action*. Women, including women professionals, still earn less than their male counterparts. The statistics are bountiful, but one need look no further than our own campus to see that the need for affirmative action has not waned.

At a lively campus event in mid-November, a panel of mostly faculty, students, and administrators of color made a strong case that issues of race are far from ideal at the UO. Law professor Robin Morris Collin (who will speak on the afternoon panel on February 12) reminded the audience that she is the only tenured African American woman faculty member on the UO faculty, and that there is only one other tenure-related faculty member who is an African American woman. The statistics are only a little better for other communities of color on campus. And there are very few women or men of color at the highest academic administration at the UO.

If we care—individually and collectively—about expanding educational and employment opportunities for women—our daughters, sisters, and students, we need to think and speak boldly about issues such as affirmative action and we need to understand the profound ways that race/racism creates borders and marks our politics, our culture, and our notions and practices about identity and citizenship. Join us on February 12 to do just that. See you there.

Crossing Boundaries

Continued from page 1

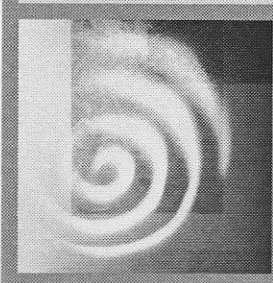
professor, anthropology, will address the complexities of borderlands in Israel/Palestine.

- **Decoding Citizenship and the Reproduction of Whiteness.** Professor of history Peggy Pascoe will present a "chronology of whiteness" in Oregon as well as lead a discussion that considers government policies (from exclusion laws to INS raids) that reproduce the "ideal citizen." Graduate student Jennifer Kerns and a member of the welfare research group will address the notion of "social citizenship," and a member of the Native American communities RIG will discuss constructions of citizenship for American Indians.

The roundtables will be followed by another plenary session featuring University of Oregon scholars who will "bring the issues home" to the challenges faced at this institution. The topic of this panel is "The (re) Imagined Community: Research and Policy Directions." These distinguished panelists will also consider the complex intersections of national identity and constructions of "other," immigration policy, and race theory. Speakers include:

- **Robin Morris Collin**, professor, law;
- **Shari Huhndorf**, assistant professor, English;
- **Lynn Stephen**, professor, anthropology/international studies; and
- **Mia Tuan**, assistant professor, sociology.

The conference will close with a late-afternoon reception and book signing by invited guests and CSWS faculty affiliate authors. The conference is free and open to the public. For more information, contact CSWS at (541) 346-5015 or <csws@oregon.uoregon.edu>.



Related Events

CSWS Salon: book discussion group from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, January 29, on selections from Dorothy Roberts' book, *Killing the Black Body*, Jane Grant Room, 330 Hendricks.

Art Exhibit: New works by Betty LaDuke on exhibit at Maude Kerns Art Center. See article on page 7.

Border Lies: Race, Identity, and Citizenship

February 12, 1999

8:30-9:15 a.m., Gerlinger Lounge

Registration and time to visit RIG displays. Coffee, tea, and pastries served.

9:15-11:30 a.m., Gerlinger Lounge

Plenary Session: Where the Border Lies: Race and Citizenship in Theory and Policy
Panelists:

- **Lydia Chavez**, associate professor of journalism at the University of California, Berkeley
- **Patricia Penn Hilden**, professor of ethnic studies at the University of California, Berkeley
- **Dorothy Roberts**, professor of law at Northwestern University School of Law

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Lunch on your own

1:00-2:30 p.m., various locations

Four Concurrent Roundtable Sessions

- Affirmative Action and Beyond
- Border Crossings: Subjectivity and Identity
- Opening/Closing Borders: Immigration, Globalization, and Capitalism
- Decoding Citizenship and the Reproduction of Whiteness

3:00-4:30 p.m., Gerlinger Lounge

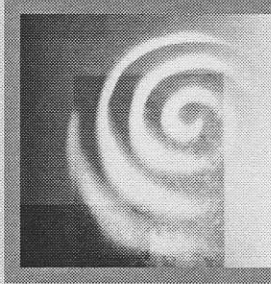
Plenary Session: The (re) Imagined Community: Research and Policy Directions

University of Oregon Panelists:

- **Robin Morris Collin**, professor of law
- **Shari Huhndorf**, assistant professor of English
- **Lynn Stephen**, professor of anthropology and international studies
- **Mia Tuan**, assistant professor of sociology

4:30-5:30 p.m., Gerlinger Lounge

Reception and book signing by speakers and CSWS affiliates



Everything you wanted to know about RIGs—you still might have to ask, but here's a start. This year, we're profiling RIGs in each issue, so readers get a better look into the inspiring and varied activities of the RIGs. Check out the RIG Directory and contact coordinators to get involved with any of the thirteen RIGs sponsored by CSWS.

Research Interest Groups

Native American Communities

Our RIG is comprised of Native American graduate students, faculty members, and community members, as well as non-Native scholars who study Native American issues. This year our focus has been in presenting and critiquing work by our members. Lorraine Brundige, a graduate student in philosophy, presented a work-in-progress on Native American women and feminism, which she later presented at the Northwest Philosophy Conference on October 30 at the UO. Shari Huhndorf, assistant professor of English, who is on leave this year with a Ford Foundation grant, presented a paper co-authored with Scott Pratt, professor of philosophy, on the same panel with Lorraine. Our RIG was well-represented that day.

Later in the term, Leece Lee presented her work on a National Science Foundation-funded project to seek meaningful methods of teaching math, science, and engineering to Native American children and other underrepresented groups. At another meeting, Beth Hege Piatote presented a short story, which was later accepted for publication in an anthology of Native American women writers.

In addition to providing support for individual projects, the RIG held several meetings and is continuing discussions about developing new courses, workshops, or conferences at the UO that will enrich the understanding of Native American cultures. During winter term, a new coordinator, Lorraine Brundige, will take over. She can be reached at <lavallee@darkwing.uoregon.edu>.

—Beth Hege Piatote

Wired

The Wired RIG is a cooperative of faculty, staff, and students interested in exploring computer technology as a tool for teaching and researching in issues of women and gender. Because of the wide range of interests of its members, the Wired RIG has also served as a forum for discussions on how to use computer technology in teaching and researching in any field, particularly in humanities and language instruction. The Knight Library, Yamada Language Center, and the Teacher Effectiveness Program are among the other campus entities represented in the Wired RIG.

The Wired RIG's activities have been particularly project-oriented. Last year, we offered a conference and workshop on using Macromedia Authorware in the classroom. We have been active in identifying and applying for funding for instructional technology and digitization of archival collections.

The most exciting project for this year is the "Wiring the Humanities Project," where the Wired RIG, in cooperation with the College of Arts and Sciences, will be helping to implement active use of digital technology in humanities teaching and research on campus.

Anyone can join the Wired RIG's on-line discussion group by sending an E-mail message "subscribe wrig" to <majordomo@lists.uoregon.edu>. The Wired RIG meets about once a month during the academic year; schedules are sent out via the discussion group. We are always looking for enthusiastic new members!

For information, contact Judith Musick at <musick@oregon.uoregon.edu> or 346-5099; or Zoe Borovsky at <borovsky@darkwing.uoregon.edu> or 346-4053.

—John Shin

Women, Work, and Economic Restructuring

Our RIG has for the last one and one-half years been doing research on welfare reform in Oregon. Our overall questions are: What are the impacts of welfare reform on the lives of low-income women and their families? How are the new welfare policies implemented in practice? What impacts do the new policies have on Adult and Family Services workers? The project has several phases. The first phase is an ethnographic study of three welfare offices in different locations in the state. This phase of the study is almost complete. We have carried out extensive observations of worker-client contacts, of staff meetings and training, and of informal interactions at work. We have also interviewed all staff members in these three branch offices about their work. We have not yet analyzed these data. The second phase of the study consists of telephone interviews with former cash assistance recipients and former Food Stamp recipients to determine how they are managing financially and how they are able, or unable, to maintain family well-being. We are now preparing for this phase, constructing a questionnaire, and preparing to do

focus-group sessions with former clients. The third phase of the study will be a more in-depth look at the financial and social issues that families face as they enter or reenter the work force and attempt to survive without assistance. We will interview a sub-sample of the large study, following them over at least one year. This phase of the study will begin, approximately, in May 1999. We hope that with the results of this study we can suggest positive policy changes to assist these very low-income families.

—Joan Acker

RIG Directory

Gender in Historical and TransNational China

Cynthia Brokaw
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Jewish Feminist Theory

Diane Baxter
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Elizabeth Reis
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Native American Communities

Lorraine Brundige
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Rationality, Intuition, and Gender

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Reclaiming the Past

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Sex, Gender, and the Law

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Ellen Riordan
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Women, Work, and Economic Restructuring

Joan Acker
jacker@oregon.uoregon.edu

Women's Health and Development

Jean Blanchard
jlb-gcs@worldnet.att.net

Kudos!

Barbara Altmann, Romance languages, Reclaiming the Past RIG, has published *The Debate Poems of Christine de Pizan*, a full critical edition and analytical introduction to the love debates of Christine (1365–c. 1430). Published in June by the University Press of Florida.

Nora Beck's book, *Singing in the Garden: Music and Culture in the Tuscan Trecento*, is due out in April 1999. The publisher is Libreria Musicale Italiana Editrice in Lucca, Italy. She is a member of the Reclaiming the Past RIG and teaches at Lewis & Clark College in Portland.

A paper by **Barbara Cook**, graduate student, English, Native American Communities RIG, was runner up for the J. Golden Taylor Award (Best Graduate Paper) at the recent Western Literature Association conference in Banff. The title was "Gendered Ecology: Eco-activism in Abbey's *The Monkey Wrench Gang* and Linda Hogan's *Solar Storms*."

CSWS affiliates who received 1998 UO summer research awards include: **Aletta Biersack**, anthropology; **Susan Boynton**, music; **Cynthia Brokaw**, history; **Carolyn Cartier**, geography; **Caroline Forell**, law; **Jennifer Freyd**, psychology; **Kathleen Karlyn**, English; **Karen Kelsky**, anthropology; **Monica Szurmuk**, Romance languages; **Ying Tan**, fine and applied arts; **Mary Woods**, English.

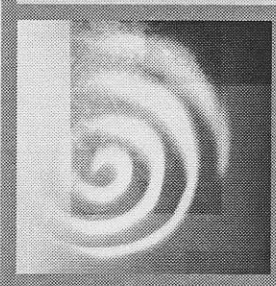
S. Marie Harvey, CSWS, was recently cited in an article in *USA Today* that discussed her study on women's use of emergency contraceptive pills (also known as "morning after" pills). She was also quoted in the September issue of *Glamour* magazine regarding women's reproductive health options. **Terri Heath**, CSWS, is a guest editor for the *Journal of Family Issues*. Her proposal to do a special topic issue on single mothers and single fathers was accepted by the editor last May, and the issue is due out this summer.

Media, Culture and the Religious Right, an edited collection by CSWS affiliates **Linda Kintz** and **Julia Lesage**, both English, was published by Minnesota Press, 1998.

Shirley Marc, CSWS, and **Richard Bear**, Knight Library, both members of the Wired RIG, have combined their efforts to publish the works of Rachel Speght, a seventeenth-century feminist author, at Renaissance Editions. *A Mouzell for Melastomus* and *Mortalities Memorandum* appeared in July and August of this year.

CSWS affiliate **Anita Weiss**, international studies, has been awarded a \$9,000 grant by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers for the project, "Islam, Gender, and Human Rights in Pakistan and Tunisia: State Responses to International Agreements." She will travel to Pakistan in December and January and to Tunisia in February and March.

Stephanie Wood, history, Reclaiming the Past RIG, has a new publication: "Sexual Violation in the Conquest of the Americas," in Merrill D. Smith, ed., *Sex and Sexuality in Early America* (New York: New York University Press, 1998).



Good News!

Do members of your RIG have good news to share? Drop a line to Beth at <piatote@darkwing.uoregon.edu> and put "kudos!" in the subject line.

Program Updates

Ecological Conversations

By Lynne Fessenden

The Rockefeller Fellows Program, "Ecological Conversations: Gender, Science, and the Sacred," is up and running. The program's focus for the 1999-2000 academic year will be the conceptual and theoretical issues raised by the convergence of women's and environmental movements around the globe. With an applicant deadline of February 1, 1999, we are working hard to get the word out and we are especially interested in making international contacts.

Let us know if you have colleagues who are well-positioned to spread the word about the project. We are also interested in your recommendations of international journals in which to advertise, or news and discussion groups on the Internet where it would be useful to post an announcement. If you are heading to a meeting or conference in the next two months, please consider carrying along a few program brochures. Contact Lynne Fessenden, program manager, at 346-5399 or <lfessend@oregon.uoregon.edu>.

Women's Health and Aging Research Initiative

By Sheryl Thorburn Bird

Women's Health and Aging Research Initiative (WHARI) members continue to work on research projects and to develop proposals for future research. Working with the Pacific Institute for Women's Health and the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research, Marie Harvey and Sheryl Bird are conducting a study in Portland on the prevention of unintended pregnancy, HIV, and other sexually transmitted diseases among young African American women. This is funded by the Centers for Disease Control. In collaboration with the Oregon Center for Applied Science, Harvey and Cynthia Adams are producing a CD-ROM program on menopause that is funded by the National Institute on Aging.

This fall WHARI members submitted proposals to the National Institute of Child and Health Development, the NIA, and other funding sources for research on relationship characteristics of relevance for fertility-related topics, the acceptability of new reproductive technologies, social context and memory in older adults, and hormone fluctuations and memory in perimenopausal women.

Harvey and Bird gave presentations on women's experiences with methotrexate and on emergency contraception at the American Public Health Association annual meeting. Also, on October 26, WHARI co-sponsored with the University Health Center's Office of Health Education, a symposium about health issues for college-age women as part of the National College Roundtables on Women's Health.

Women in the Northwest Research Initiative

By Sandra Morgen

The Welfare Research Group, the Native American Communities RIG, and the Sex, Gender, and the Law RIG all continued to be active fall term, welcoming new members, discussing exciting scholarship, and considering new directions. Members of each of these groups will be part of the "Border Lies" roundtable discussions and two of us—Lynn Stephen and Shari Huhndorf—will speak on a plenary panel.

The Welfare Research Team signed a contract with the Oregon Department of Human Resources, Adult and Family Services Division, to conduct the study "Oregon Families Diverted from or Leaving TANF and Food Stamps: Self Sufficiency and Family Well-Being Outcomes." The research contract provides funds for a study combining the analysis of administrative data; a telephone survey following families who were either diverted from or had their cash assistance (TANF) cases closed during the first quarter of 1998, or families who stopped receiving food stamps during the first quarter of 1998; and in-depth interviews with a sub-sample of the above families. Sandra Morgen and Joan Acker are the co-principal investigators for the study, and Terri Heath has been hired as the project manager.

Feminist Humanities Project

By Jan Emerson

The Teaching the Past in the Present initiative is hosting a dynamic new monthly exchange of ideas about integrating multi-media technology into teaching gender and history. We have invited area secondary school and university instructors to present brief teaching modules on subjects medieval to modern from a variety of disciplines. Each presentation is followed by lively discussion and afternoon tea. Please join our collaborative efforts to develop new resources to include in the Virtual Resource



Lynne Fessenden

Bank for celebrating Women's History Month and for teaching about women in the past and the present.

We are also hard at work on grant proposals to integrate research, teaching, and technology, and to support the expansion of last year's successful interdisciplinary "Gender and History" course.

The schedule for "Teaching and Tea" is:

January 13, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

The Medicine of Gender
Louise Bishop, honors college

February 11, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Charlotte Perkins Gilman—
The Lives of Working Women
Martha Ravitz, women's studies

March 10, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Where's Mom When We Need Her?
Fathers and Daughters Alone in Shakespeare
*Diane Downey, International High School,
South Eugene High School*

April 14, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Confess or Deny? "Witches" Choices in 1692
Elizabeth Reis, history

May 12, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Teaching the Present in the Present
Betsy Wheeler, English

Staff Update

Lynne Fessenden has been hired as the program manager for "Ecological Conversations: Gender, Science, and the Sacred," a fellowship program funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. Although trained as a biological oceanographer, Fessenden said she left research science two-and-a-half years ago to explore the realm of "science communication," and has been working on such projects as creating a Citizen's Environmental Forum at the university's Institute for a Sustainable Environment. "I have a strong urge to see more bridges built between those conducting research and the community that needs to understand and incorporate basic environmental concepts into their decision-making," she said.

Jan Emerson has been hired as a part-time research associate and project director for the Feminist Humanities Project. She is helping to develop Web sites on medieval women and is helping Louise Bishop coordinate Teaching the Past in the Present projects. She is also teaching part time in the honors college this year.



CSWS Cosponsors Artist Betty LaDuke Exhibit

Artist Betty LaDuke's stunning and vibrant works will be on display at the Maude Kerns Art Center in Eugene beginning in January and coinciding with the annual CSWS RIG-A-Fair on February 12. The LaDuke exhibit is cosponsored by Maude Kerns and CSWS.

LaDuke's exhibit, "Africa: From Eritrea with Love," is based on her recent travels to the young African nation. LaDuke made her first trip to Eritrea in 1994, just three years after the Eritrean People's Liberation Front had gained independence from Ethiopia. At that time she was able to form a relationship with women artist-fighters who had recorded the war of liberation from their own vantage points. African women dominate LaDuke's imagery. They are portrayed somewhere between myth and reality, "as mothers bringing forth, sustaining, and nurturing all life forms; as cultural guardians and healers; as mythical goddesses; and as sexual beings."

LaDuke has recently returned from her sixth trip to Eritrea, where there are renewed tensions between the Ethiopians and Eritreans. She will bring a wealth of new material to her slide lecture, "Eritrea: An Artist's Journey," during the opening night of the exhibit at 7:00 p.m. on January 8. The Maude Kerns Art Center is located at 1910 East 15th Street.

LaDuke is an award-winning artist who taught for thirty-two years at Southern Oregon University in Ashland. A true ambassador for the arts, LaDuke has traveled extensively throughout the world, teaching art and learning from the many cultural traditions she has encountered. She has published six books, including two in 1997: *Women Against Hunger, A Sketchbook Journey* and *Africa: Women's Art, Women's Lives*. CSWS affiliates may have particular familiarity with LaDuke's work, which has graced the cover of a CSWS annual report and is currently featured in the CSWS brochure. For more information about the exhibit, call Maude Kerns Art Center at 345-1571.

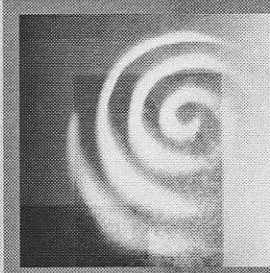
This article was adapted from an article by Marsha Shankman, Maude Kerns Art Center



Betty LaDuke,
Eritrea: Women Celebrate

CSWS Grants Genesis of Success

It's not uncommon that a CSWS affiliate will come by the office with a new book or video, or send us a postcard announcing his or her new job. It's always a good feeling when we know that part of the success of that new publication or job promotion or research project was due to a grant from CSWS. In this issue, we are spotlighting four scholars who have received various types of funding from CSWS in the past fifteen years. We asked them to describe how the grant supported their work at the time, and how it played a role in their entire body of creative and intellectual work. The following vignettes were written by Dorothy Velasco, a community affiliate and award-winning writer and video producer; Frances Cogan, associate professor, UO honors college; Anita Helle, associate professor of English at Oregon State University and CSWS visiting scholar; and Caroline Forell, UO professor of law.



Dorothy Velasco



Anita Helle

The Beginning of a New Career

1987-88 Major Research Grant

By Dorothy Velasco

Ever since I moved to Oregon in 1976 I have been writing plays, many of them touring documentaries about Northwest history and women's history. In 1988 video maker Sharon Genasci and I decided to collaborate on a video examining the history of women who worked for the railroad. At that time there were no books or documentaries on the subject. Sharon and I were fortunate to receive a CSWS grant, which launched me on a whole new career as a video writer and producer. In 1990 we received another CSWS grant to make *Troubled Harvest* about female migrant workers and their children. Both videos won awards in film festivals and both are still in distribution to schools and libraries. These were two of the most gratifying projects in my career.

Next I worked in Mexico on three short videos for Lane Community College, and later teamed up with Maureen Shine to make our one-hour documentary for Oregon Public Broadcasting about cutoffs from the Oregon Trail, *The Roads Less Taken*. We also made a video for the Eugene-based Oregon Research Institute about female teenagers and smoking.

All the while I continued to write plays, but because I was making videos, I felt less compelled to write stage documentaries and focused

more on fictional works for the stage—often quirky comedies. Now, another twist: For a couple of years Maureen and I longed to make a video about women in rodeo, but we couldn't find enough funding. Finally I decided I had to write something about rodeo women, so I'm currently working on a musical, with songs that reflect the realities of rodeo life, such as "Old at Thirty" and "Broken Bones." No doubt the videos and plays emerge from the same desire: to reveal a truth that may not have been previously evident.

Rewards Tangible and Intangible

1984-85 Jane Grant Dissertation Award

By Anita Helle

I first read about the brilliant career of Jane Grant when CSWS was still an idea on the page. Later, I received a Jane Grant Dissertation Award for my work on exilic subjectivities and discourse networks among Anglo-American women writers between the wars. This award provided immediate and critical financial support and relief from full-time teaching, but I believe its long-term impact has been at least as important. Because I'd been able to do primary archival research for the dissertation, I was in a better position to obtain a tenure-line position at a research university. I'd like to think I've seen the best parts of the dissertation into print, and I drew on the initial material for at least one later grant request at the Bienecke Library. Now that

I'm at a different stage in my career, having taken some detours—into university administration, for example—I'm working on a manuscript that deals with modernism, death, and the gender politics of mourning in ways that always felt incomplete to me from my earlier work.

I'm also especially aware of tangible and intangible rewards of continued affiliation with CSWS. Mentorship in the academy is finally being taken as a scholarly subject, and I'd like to think this is a value I carry with me as a result of working with others at CSWS—none of us does this profession alone. Now that a general rhetoric of public intellectualism and community outreach is providing alternative models to more insular forms of research on many campuses, I find I especially appreciate the critical discourse of projects such as the Feminist Humanities Project, where socially engaged research can work across disciplinary and academic boundaries.

Two Grants, Two Books

Major Research Grant, 1988–89

By Frances B. Cogan

In December of 1941, more than five thousand astonished American civilians, many of them women, found themselves stranded in the Philippines as World War II broke out. By January 2, the Japanese Imperial Army controlled the islands, and the majority of allied civilians were interned in camps.

In 1989, CSWS was the first to offer me research support on this topic. The result is a book, *Captured*, which will appear in fall 1999 from Georgia Press. It outlines the daily life and conditions of more than five thousand American civilian internees over a three-and-a-half year period. Though I intended initially to study only women's experiences in internment camps like Santo Tomas and Bacolod, I eventually had to widen my scope to include men, too, since none of the Philippine camps was segregated.

What I discovered was that the men—shorn of their prerogatives, their social and political clout—essentially were treated as stereotypical "women" by the Japanese. Both men and women had the major decisions of their lives taken out of their control, along with access to rations and medicine. The story of the increasing hardships in the camp, the essentially female stratagems for dealing with them, and the cultural reasons behind both, make up the book.

Mine is the first secondary study of life in internment for American citizens in the Philippines, and much of the material I draw from female diary and memoir accounts. While they do not supply all of the information, they provide the soul of the book.

My first book, *All-American Girl*, published in 1989, was also funded by a 1988 CSWS grant.

Grant led to Class, Articles, Book

Curriculum Development Grant, 1989–90

By Caroline Forell

In 1989, I did a reading and conference with a law student on feminist jurisprudence. At that time, I knew very little about this area. She and I spent a semester reading feminist legal theory—most notably Catharine MacKinnon.

Viewing the law through this new lens completely energized me. Since no one on our faculty was writing or teaching about women and law, I proposed and received approval for a seminar titled "Women and the Law." I then had to develop the framework and materials for fall semester 1990.

I applied to CSWS for a Curriculum Development Grant to cover research assistance during summer 1990. I hired two gems: Ken Lehrman, now UO director of affirmative action, and Connie Sullivan, now a partner in a Eugene law firm. The materials that Ken, Connie, and I put together that summer were wonderful. They included books, journal articles, news stories, cases, and statutes. The following semester I taught "Women and the Law" for the first time. I have since taught it every year and continue to use many of the materials and ideas that were developed that summer.

The seminar gets rave reviews. My students and I learn so much each time I teach it. I still assign two of the books I selected that summer: Susan Estrich's *Real Rape* and Carol Gilligan's *In a Different Voice*. There is also a 500-plus-page supplement based on the materials Ken, Connie, and I put together. My students write brilliant research papers and make fascinating in-class presentations on various topics concerning how women affect the law and how the law affects women. A number of the papers have been published in law journals. After the inaugural "Women and the Law" seminar in fall 1990, the *Oregon Law Review* put together a symposium consisting of three papers written by my students with an introduction by me. It is the most visible evidence of the value of the summer curriculum grant.

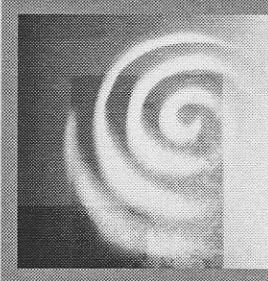
I am grateful for the jumpstart the CSWS grant gave this seminar. Teaching it got me interested in research and writing about women and the law. I now have numerous journal publications and will shortly publish a book titled *A Law of Her Own: The Reasonable Woman as a Measure of Man*. And it all started with my CSWS curriculum grant!



Frances B. Cogan



Caroline Forell



CSWS affiliates come from all disciplines and have a wide range of research interests. The following profiles by Beth Hege Piatote reflect some of the diversity of scholarship at the UO.

Profile: Annette Bridges

What do girls know?

How does one think about girlhood as its own subjectivity? What do girls think and know as girls, as opposed to women-to-be?

In literature, the figure of the girl is often a symbolic one: she represents enigma or purity, for example. But in some modern literature, there is another image of the young female protagonist: the strange girl.

It is this archetype that Annette Bridges, a graduate student in comparative literature, has chosen to focus on in her dissertation, which has been given the Jane Grant Dissertation Award for its excellence. Bridges said that she has always been interested in images of children in literature, particularly girls, and discovered that the emergence of the "strange girl" in modern literature lends itself better to notions of subjectivity than symbolism.

The archetypal figure in Bridges's study is Mignon, the young sidekick to the male protagonist in *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*, a novel by Goethe. Mignon is a complicated figure: she is ambiguous racially, sexually, and linguistically; she is separated from her mother, her motherland, and her mother tongue. Bridges' work looks at three "modern Mignons" found in novels written in the 1940s.

American author Carson McCullers' character in *Member of the Wedding* is "a tomboy whose sense of her own freakishness has to do with her understanding of gender and race divisions," Bridges said. In the *Memoirs of Leticia Valle* by Spanish author Rosa Chacel, the protagonist is a young girl stuck in a stifling intellectual environment; in Austrian Ilse Eichinger's book, *Herod's Children*, the setting is Vienna during World War II, and the young girl is half Jewish with a father who is a police officer.

"I'm looking at each protagonist and how they understand their own subjectivity. In these works, their 'strangeness' is a catalyst for knowledge, not a limitation," Bridges said. "Being a girl—and a strange girl—enables them to know certain things."

Bridges' study is framed by questions of home and language: she is seeking to understand how girls engage with ideas about homeland and discourse. "The girls do not arrive in a homeland or appropriate

language as a sign of successful development. Instead, they actively question the desirability and the possibility of feeling at home or finding an authoritative voice."

Currently, Bridges is living in Portland and working part time as an ESL instructor and educational coordinator for an agency that serves Latino and Latina teen-agers. She said the work is complementary to her academic pursuits. "These two kinds of work seem so different from one another, but the young people with whom I work are constantly and urgently dealing with issues of language and home."

Profile: Alison Snyder

Architects have always been cartographers of a sort—the keen point of a pencil places a wall there, a window there, a door facing east.

Alison Snyder, assistant professor of architecture, is no exception. She is a map-maker as well, but her drawings reach beyond the scope of a single building.

A house, a street, a well. The passage of a woman through her domain, the man over there, the children running through the open gate. To her eye, a home is more than a floor plan. It is a blueprint of a society. Since 1986 when Snyder was a graduate student at Columbia University, she has traveled and studied architectural changes—as they reflect societal changes—in Turkey. This past summer, with funding from CSWS, she began the first phase of her latest study, which looks at how houses within several small villages have changed, and continue to change, with Western influence and the modernization and secularization of the country since the 1920s.

Over the past twelve years, other interests have drawn her to Turkish cities to study the play of light in Ottoman mosques and to Israel on archeological digs. Her current work brings some of all of these experiences to bear.

"What I am really looking at is what the Westernization trends are doing to these villages," she said. "Layered with that is an interest in women and the place they make versus the places they supposedly are not allowed to go or traditionally would not go. When I was working in the cities, looking at the mosques, I was allowed to go in and take photographs, but there were always women sitting in the back, who were not supposed to go forward."

This coming summer, she plans to work with a collaborative team of graduate students from the UO and Turkey to make

maps of several villages in the central part of the country, east of the capitol of Ankara. "It will be physical mapping but not in a way that would be technical, using real survey instruments. First we will be figuring out how wide the streets are and placing every single building within the visual map," she said. "Then we'll be doing something like social mapping: developing an overlay of who each family is—how large the family is, what they do, where they go during the day and during the week."

What she hopes to see is a sociological and anthropological picture of the changes in Turkish society from the viewpoint of the village. For instance, what traditions are lost as the meanings of the home and the purpose of the home change when comparing new and older designs? What, for example, are the social patterns of a town that was completely rebuilt and relocated in Turkish-style track housing when a dam was constructed a few years ago compared to the traditional, close-knit villages with their old and varied styles of housing?

Snyder said that as a woman she will have a unique access to the home, one of the places that women have primary domain, although she doesn't think it would be fair to do an analysis solely from a woman's perspective. "I don't think you can talk about making domestic space without talking about men and children, so I really don't separate that out," she said.

Profile: Mia Tuan

Asian.

American.

Asian-American.

For the past several years, Mia Tuan has been exploring the complex meanings of these identities among third-generation Chinese- and Japanese-Americans living in San Francisco and Los Angeles. What began as her UCLA dissertation is ending as a book, incorporating about 100 interviews she conducted with men and women from their early twenties to late seventies about the meaning of race and ethnicity.

Her findings? In many respects, third-generation Asian-Americans are quite Americanized, but race still informs their experiences. In metropolitan areas like San Francisco and Los Angeles where large Asian populations exist, this has led to new cultural definitions that embrace a pan-Asian identity. Beyond food and ritual—the types of activities that are easily identified as "ethnic"—Asian Americans are forming their

own sports leagues, dance clubs, and churches as a way of expressing ethnicity. "An Asian-American volleyball league is considered ethnic to them," Tuan said. "There is a pan-ethnic identity emerging where it is important to identify as Asian, not only as Japanese or Chinese. In California, intermarriage between Asians has surpassed intermarriage between Asians and whites."

She also found a tendency to assign historical experience as collectively "Asian." For instance, the experience of Japanese-Americans being forced into internment camps during World War II was often considered part of the collective racial identity of Chinese-Americans as well. It was part of the whole Asian experience.

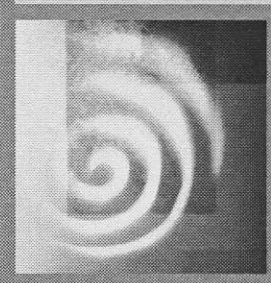
And then there was the "American" part again. "One thing I've found—and this depressed me but also made sense—is the nativism among some of the interviewees," Tuan said, adding that this intolerance was particularly directed toward "Asian" immigrants. "Some are as nativistic as they come. But it is because their own status is precarious that they display this intolerant attitude."

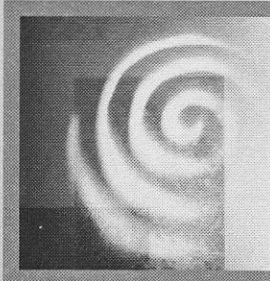
Tuan herself is an immigrant—she was born in Taiwan and at the age of one, moved with her family to Australia. When she was three years old, her family relocated to the Bay Area. Tuan grew up there and completed her undergraduate work in sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, before going to UCLA for her doctorate. She came to the University of Oregon three years ago as an assistant professor in the sociology department.

Her work is motivated, in part, by her desire to bring about racial healing. "It's a rewarding experience to teach in a state that is majority white," she said. "I've seen light bulbs go off over white students' heads. That's inspiring for me. It's a form of activism—to get people who might not ordinarily care to care about race."

Tuan is currently in the early stages of developing her next study, which will look at inter-country trans-racial adoption, particularly among Korean children adopted by non-Korean families in the United States. Her book, *Forever Foreigners or Honorary Whites? Exploring the Asian Ethnic Experience Today*, will be published by Rutgers University Press in 1999.

Mia Tuan will be among the four University of Oregon panelists addressing "The (re) Imagined Community: Research and Policy Directions" at the February 12 CSWS conference, "Border Lies: Race, Identity, and Citizenship."





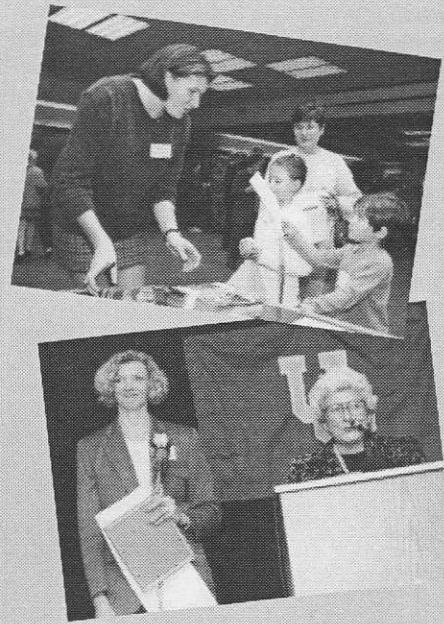
Raid Report Available

A report that documents INS raids in the Eugene area was released by La Migra Raid Report Task Force in December. It contains: internationally accepted human rights standards and examples of INS abuse; personal testimonies from people detained by the INS; letters and statements from social service agencies, teachers, and community organizations concerning the social impact of the raids; a section on the economic costs of the raids to taxpayers and communities; newspaper articles; and recommendations. The report is available for \$10 from La Migra Raid Report Task Force, P.O. Box 3093, Eugene OR 97403; phone: (541) 485-1755.

Women of Excellence '98

Women achieve stature in many ways—through success in professional fields, politics, community service, scholarship, athletics, or combinations of all of these—and CSWS has begun a new annual event to honor that success.

The first "Celebrating Women of Excellence" event was held on November 8 at the Casanova Center to bring together women leaders from the Eugene community to introduce the UO women's basketball team. The four coaches and fifteen team members were honored by women such as Ann Aiken, a judge; Lorraine Davis, vice provost for academic affairs; Lynn Frohnmayer, a community leader; Carolyn Chambers, a businesswoman; and others. **Above right:** Jenny Mowe, center for the women's basketball team, signs autographs for her young admirers. **Below right:** Coach Jody Runge (left) and Carolyn Chambers.



Wednesdays at Noon

CSWS is continuing its schedule of scholarly presentations and workshops on Wednesdays from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Jane Grant Conference Room, 330 Hendricks Hall. We invite you to join us. Please note: The program schedule is subject to change. Please call ahead (346-5015) or watch for posted fliers.

January 20

Diane Baxter, assistant professor, anthropology, "Honor Thy Daughter: The Women's Movement and the (re)making of Palestine"

January 27

Annette Bridges, graduate student, comparative literature, "What Mignon Knows: Girlhood Existence in Three Novels of the 1940s"

February 17

Anne Simons, associate professor, psychology, "Depression in Disadvantaged Minority Women: Role of Life Stress" (tentative)

February 24

Patricia Halliday, graduate student, philosophy, "Hidden Perps and Shamed Victims: (dis)Placed Responsibility (mis)Placed Agency through Incest Discourse"

March 3

Barbara Altmann, associate professor, Romance languages, "Recovering Christine de Pizan Amid Her Peers: An Unknown Poem Takes Voice"

March 10

Leslie Harris, professor, law, "Welfare-to-Work in Oregon: Examining Twenty Years of Experimentation"

March 17

CSWS Research Support Grants Workshop for submission deadline of April 26, 1999

April 7

Louise Bishop, assistant professor, English and honors college, "Reading to Cure, Reading as Cure: the Medicine of Gender," or "Trying Truth: Vernacular Reading and Gender in Piers Plowman"



Yuan-Fang Wu, research associate, Institute for Theoretical Science, is introduced at the New Women Faculty reception held October 8 at Gerlinger Lounge. The event, which drew about forty-five people, was cosponsored by CSWS, the Women's Studies Program, and the Women's Faculty Resource Network.

Call for Papers

The editors of *Feminism and Anti-Racism: International Struggles* seek unpublished submissions from feminist anti-racist activists and feminist scholars that reflect upon the actual practices of feminist anti-racist organizers locally or globally. This volume is forthcoming from New York University Press in 2000. Deadline for submissions of 500-word abstracts is February 15, 1999. For more information contact France Winddance Twine, Jackson School of International Studies, Box 353650, University of Washington, Seattle WA 98195; E-mail: <windance@u.washington.edu>.

The editors of *A New Generation of Feminist Science Studies* [working title] seek submissions for an anthology that marks and defines a new generation of scholarship in feminist science studies. The volume is being edited by Maralee Mayberry (University of Nevada, Las Vegas); Banu Subramaniam (University of Arizona); and Lisa Weasel (University of California, Irvine). Submissions should include a one- to two-page detailed prospectus and be mailed by February 1, 1999, to Maralee Mayberry, Department of Sociology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas NV 89154-5033. For more information contact her at <mayberry@nevada.edu>.

Conference Notes

- **Fifth-Annual Environmental Justice Conference**
January 22-24, 1999
University of Oregon School of Law
Sponsored by the Coalition Against Environmental Racism; co-sponsored by CSWS. Information: (541) 346-4356 or <caer@gladstone.uoregon.edu>.
- **"What Every Woman Should Know About Social Security," Teleconference with Hillary Rodham Clinton**
January 23, 1999, noon to 3:00 p.m.
Portland
Cosponsored by CSWS. Information: (503) 221-7922.
- **"Seeking Common Ground," Annual Women of Color Conference**
January 30, 1999
University of Oregon
Sponsored by the ASUO Women's Center. Information: (541) 346-4095 or <womenet@gladstone.uoregon.edu>.



An Evening with Dolly Rathebe

The UO caught a glimpse of South African culture when CSWS cosponsored "An Evening with Dolly Rathebe" with the Ethnic Studies Program and the School of Music on October 13.

Rathebe is a jazz and blues singer who played a central role in the development of township jazz and is known as Nelson Mandela's favorite singer. She came to the UO via the Vancouver, B.C. film festival, which was screening the biographical documentary, *Dolly and the Inkspots*. More than 200 people attended the UO program, which featured the documentary followed by a live jazz performance by Rathebe, who was accompanied by the jazz combo, Ed Coleman and Friends.

Travel Grant Recipients

By Meredith Roberts Branch

The Center for the Study of Women in Society awards travel grants to University of Oregon faculty members and graduate students to facilitate travel to present papers, serve on panels, or do research on issues regarding women and gender. CSWS awarded thirteen travel grants during the fall funding cycle. The recipients are as follows:

Terri Heath, research associate, Center for the Study of Women in Society, to present two papers and to chair one workshop at a conference held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, that was sponsored by the National Council on Family Relations.

Wendy Larson, professor, East Asian languages and literature, to present a paper entitled "Conceptualizing Youth in Twentieth-Century China" at the Association of Asian Studies' annual conference in Washington, D.C.

Judith Raiskin, associate professor, women's studies, to participate in two panel presentations and to present a paper titled, "Caribbean and Hawaiian Women Writers: Theoretical Influences and Connections," at the First International Caribbean Conference on Literature in Nassau, Bahamas.

Martha Ravits, assistant professor, women's studies, to travel to Chicago to view a special exhibition of the works of artist Mary Cassat. Ravits will examine works spanning Cassat's career and investigate her 1893 mural through a photo enlargement and related allegorical prints and paintings.

Tze-lan D. Sang, assistant professor, East Asian languages and literature, to travel to the Taipei Film Archive to do research on the archives on women and recent documentary films regarding gender and sexuality issues in Taiwan.

Barbara Cook, graduate student, English, to present a paper titled, "Gendered Ecology: Ecoactivism in Abbey's *The Monkey Wrench Gang* and Hogan's *Solar Storms*," at a conference in Banff, Alberta, that was sponsored by the Western Literature Association.

Roberta DiCarmine, graduate student, Romance languages and comparative literature, to present a paper titled, "Why Does One Have to Search for Love? Trinh T. Minh-ha and *A Tale of Love*," at the twenty-third annual Colloquium on Literature and Film in West Virginia.

Pissamai Homchampa, graduate student, anthropology, to present a paper titled, "Self-care Practices among the Industrial Workers in Thailand: Constructing Perceptions of Health and Wellness in the Industrial Setting," at the American Anthropological Association's Ninety-Seventh Annual Meeting.

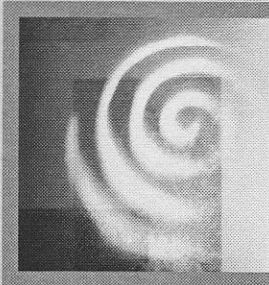
Robert Howard, graduate student, English, to present a paper titled, "Auntie Lorretta's Spirit Friend: A Folk Rhetorical Approach to the Personal Narratives of a Filipina American," at the Modern Language Association Conference in San Francisco.

Barbara Kistenmacher, graduate student, psychology, to present a paper titled, "The Relationship Between Denial of Abuse and Dissociation in Men who Batter: Predictions from Betrayal Trauma Theory," at a conference in Seattle sponsored by the International Society for the Study of Dissociation.

Aliscia Niles, graduate student, public policy, planning and management, to share her work on human rights and persons with disabilities in a panel presentation at the Fifth World Assembly of People With Disabilities conference in Mexico City.

Suraporn Suriyamontorn, graduate student, international studies, to travel to Northern Thailand to research and analyze the oral song tradition of the Karen People.

Lea Williams, graduate student, comparative literature, to present a paper titled, "Bridging the Home/Front: Women Writing the First World War," at the Interdisciplinary Conference on Language and Literature in College Station, Texas.



CSWS Grant Program Deadlines

Travel Grants
April 5, 1999

CSWS Laurel Research Award
April 12, 1999

RIG Development Grants
May 14, 1999

Research Support Grants
April 26, 1999

Jane Grant Dissertation Fellowship
May 3, 1999

Executive Grants
Open deadline

Speakers and Events Grants
Open deadline

Note: A CSWS Grant Writing Workshop will be held at noon on Wednesday, March 17, at 330 Hendricks Hall for those who have questions.

All applications with guidelines are available outside the CSWS main office, 340 Hendricks Hall, or can be requested by phone at (541) 346-5015 or E-mail at <csws@oregon.uoregon.edu>.

From the Garden: Notes on Development

By Judith Musick, Development Director

Now—in the bleak mid-winter, when we are all at least partially restricted in the real garden chores we can perform—I take time to consider both my imaginary and metaphorical gardens.

Every glance out of every window reveals the structures underneath the full foliage of early fall, the color of spring, the melange of summer. The magnolia tree outside my bedroom window is now bare, revealing the equally bare structures of cherry, apple, maple, and birch that line up behind it. Of course, the magnolia is not entirely bare. It's branches hold the evidence of seasons past and future. Each time I look at it I see minute changes that announce the passing of time—a balm to ease the ache of seasonal affective disorder.

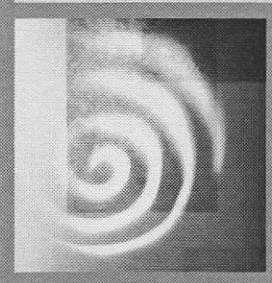
The apparent bareness of the trees and shrubs also reveals the tones and contours of the ground upon which they grow. Now is a time when my mind's eye sees new plantings, new colors and shapes—and my mind's body rehearses the bending, pulling, pruning, hauling, building, and planting that will occupy my spring and summer.

It is quite the opposite in our metaphorical garden—CSWS. It is both planting time and harvest time. We are busy with organizing and hosting the annual RIG-A-Fair, producing our current policy paper, selecting our first round of Rockefeller visiting scholars, and planning colloquia, seminars, and conferences. We are collectively and individually engaged in conducting research and evolving new partnerships with area high school and middle school teachers. We are also developing new friends and supporters.

Our recent event, "Celebrating Women of Excellence '98," co-hosted with the UO women's basketball team, provided us with the opportunity to engage with members of our community—both athletes and women leaders—with whom we have not historically collaborated. Nineteen women—leaders in the university, the community, and the state—were chosen to introduce the individual players and coaches of this year's women's basketball team at a public reception held early in November at the Casanova Center. This was the first of what will be an annual event and it was wonderfully successful. Personal connections were made between presenters and players that will probably lead to many satisfying friendships. And we collectively participated in an afternoon of genuine warmth and mutual appreciation.

This event has significance beyond its specific moments. Organizing the event is creating a new and personal relationship between CSWS and the women's basketball team—two of the strongest women's organizations on campus. It is also bringing news about CSWS to audiences of women we do not usually attract.

If we are a "garden," these new audiences represent opportunities for diversification and support that will help us grow in both structure and seasonal "output." Our development is a growing thing and we welcome new partners.



If the idea of supporting the activities of CSWS appeals to you, please call Judith Musick or Sandi Morgen at 346-5015 for more information. Please make checks payable to the University of Oregon Foundation and return them to: Center for the Study of Women in Society, 1201 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1201.

CSWS Publications Order Form

- Please send me a copy of *The Status of Women in Oregon*. Enclosed is my check for \$10 per copy.
- Please put me on the CSWS mailing list to receive newsletters, conference brochures, and other announcements.
- Please note my change of address below.
- I would like to make a donation. Amount enclosed _____

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Thank you!

Witches and Witchcraft

By Elizabeth Reis

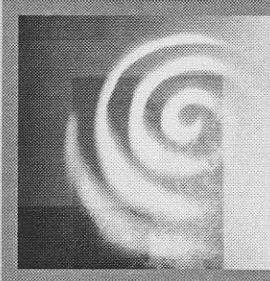
Damned Women: Sinners and Witches in Puritan New England (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1997)

Ed., *Spellbound: Women and Witchcraft in America* (Wilmington, Del., Scholarly Resources, 1998).

In 1692 Salem, Massachusetts, John Westgate overheard Alice Parker quarreling with and scolding her husband in a local tavern. Westgate thought Parker exhibited shameful behavior for a good Puritan woman, and he presented this damning evidence against Alice at her witchcraft trial. He claimed that immediately afterwards a black hog ran toward him, threatening to devour him. He realized that it wasn't a real hog, and that it might have been the devil, most likely brought directly to him by Alice Parker, thus proving that she was a witch. Westgate successfully linked the accused woman with misdeeds unbecoming of a Puritan woman, and more importantly he linked her to Satan himself. What could a woman confronted with "evidence" like this

do? *Damned Women* explores the options that women had during the witch trials. Denial was dangerous, as all the women who denied the charges were hanged. They could not successfully prove that they had had no dealings—however trivial—with the devil. Confession was a more promising strategy to save one's life, but the court only believed certain confessions: those accompanied with sincere contrition and apology—acts that further enmeshed women into the discourse of depravity expected of them.

The meanings of "witch," "witchcraft," and "witch-hunts" have changed throughout American history. Although women at Salem were not "witches" in the same way as today's practitioners of Wicca, many contemporary witches claim the accused at Salem as their martyred spiritual ancestors. *Spellbound* is a collection of twelve articles that explore the politics of witchcraft from the Salem trials to the modern feminist neopagan and Goddess movements. Although witchcraft accusations can be devastating or even deadly, many groups of women have pursued divination, spirit possession, and other forms of magical practice.



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