

Center *from the*

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

Taking Nature Seriously CITIZENS, SCIENCE, AND ENVIRONMENT FEBRUARY 25-27, 2001 · UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, EUGENE

Try this for an experiment: put a group of scientists in a room with activists, sociologists, and philosophers, give them a prickly topic like "genetically modified organisms" to work on, and invite a few hundred people to watch and participate.

The outcomes promise to be illuminating, expansive, and complex. At least, that's what the planners of this year's conference, "Taking Nature Seriously: Citizens, Science, and Environment," expect. The free conference, to be held February 25-27, 2001, is designed to bring together scientists, community activists, and science studies scholars who are working on environmental issues in an attempt to move beyond barriers that have hindered interaction within academia (such as between scholars in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities) and between academics and activists.

"We want to move beyond the science wars, which have been highly publicized but based on a false dichotomy that separates science studies from 'real' science," said William Rossi, associate professor of English.

He is one of the three conference organizers, along with Nancy Tuana, professor of philosophy, and Lynne Fessenden, program director for the Ecological Conversations program at CSWS. Rossi said that debates between those who practice science and those who study the cultural constructions of science have pitted positivist perspectives from the hard sciences against relativist perspectives in the humanities. "Those who were opposed to cultural studies of science were accused of not taking nature seriously," he said. "We wanted to turn that around, to get at the idea that science doesn't stand alone, and that we take our participation in the natural world seriously."

Although science studies is a relatively new field, and non-academics have often been excluded from participation in university conferences, the conference organizers found plenty of interest among both academics and activists. The call for papers yielded 240 proposals from around the world, of which only 150 were accepted. There will be forty-eight panels and four plenary sessions.

Keynote speakers include:

- **Donna Haraway**, professor of history of consciousness and women's studies at the University of California at Santa Cruz
- **Richard Lewontin**, professor of biology and population sciences at Harvard University
- **Mary O'Brien**, local scientist and toxics activist
- **Andrew Pickering**, professor of sociology of science and technology at the University of Illinois

Organizers expect between 300 and 500 people to attend the conference, and hope to coordinate efforts with the UO School of Law, which will hold its annual environmental law conference at the end of the same week. The conference is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences (Associate Dean Russ Tomlin provided the original seed money for the event), CSWS, the Oregon Humanities Center, the Environmental Studies Program, and the Departments of Biology, English, and Philosophy. For more information, contact CSWS at (541) 346-5015, or tns@darkwing.uoregon.edu or visit the web site at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~tns>.



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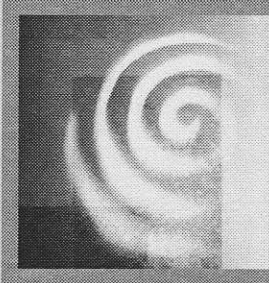
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Sandra Morgen, CSWS director, heads the Women in the Northwest Initiative, which supports three major projects generated by Research Interest Groups (RIGs). The RIGs include the Women, Work, and Economic Restructuring RIG, the Native American Communities RIG, and the Sex, Gender, and the Law RIG. In this interview, Morgen talks about the status of the initiative's current projects and plans for the coming year.

Q: It seems like "Women in the Northwest" is a broad category. How do you conceptualize this initiative?

A: This initiative is about trying to understand some of the issues affecting different communities of women in this region and trying to have an impact on women's lives. There's a pretty big public policy orientation to this initiative. Part of this initiative is about influencing public policy in a very traditional sense of the word, but public policy is a lot broader than that. The work of the Native RIG, for example, which focuses on education and representation, is in the realm of public policy because it's about how we create particular kinds of understandings that impact policy.

Q: Your welfare study is grounded in public policy. How is that going?

A: We finished gathering all the information in June and we're writing a report which we hope will be released statewide this fall. Our hope is that some of this information that we've gathered, particularly from families who have lived welfare reform, will be used to inform debates that will come up in the state Legislature in January. The federal legislation known as welfare reform is expiring in late 2001 and there needs to be a reauthorization, and it's a highly contested policy. We're hoping over time to be able to use the information from Oregon to impact policy at a state and national level.

Q: Can you generalize about your findings?

A: One thing that's crystal clear is that "one policy does not fit all," and unfortunately we have a policy now which presumes that the answer is to put everyone to work. One of the findings of the study that has been consistent with national trends is that about a third of the families that are no longer on assistance, the person who got off assistance does not have a job. Those people who are not working are not working for very good reasons. Related to that is the finding that an awful lot of the people who do have jobs continue to live just below or just above the



Sandra Morgan, left, and Joan Acker, right, are members of the Women in the Northwest Initiative.

poverty line, so that while they are working, they are working at jobs that do not provide them with enough income to really be self-sufficient.

Q: What's the next project?

A: Poor people's voices have not been included enough in the policy debates about welfare or about how to better the low-wage labor force. We want to learn from the experiences of these families so that the time they gave to us can be translated into better understanding in the academic community, the public, and among policy makers. An example is that Oregon does not include higher education as an allowable work activity. There needs to be a debate about whether it is a good idea to consign people to low-wage jobs. Education is certainly the avenue for most people to better jobs. The state has been cooperative in creating the opportunity to talk with people, and we hope it will be open to reexamining some of its policies if the impact of those policies is not in the best interest of families.

Q: What are the other projects of the initiative?

A: The Sex, Gender, and the Law group is planning to do a speaker series this year, and that's exciting. The Native American Communities group is conducting a couple of interesting research projects, one on representation in museums, and one is about intergenerational transfer of knowledge. The welfare group is going to be working on a *Policy Matters* piece for next year. A couple years ago the Women in the Northwest project put out the first of the series called "Valuing Families: The State of Oregon's Families," and we're going to put out a second *Policy Matters* based on this work on welfare. I'd like to see it be a really useful way in which the work is translated and made accessible.

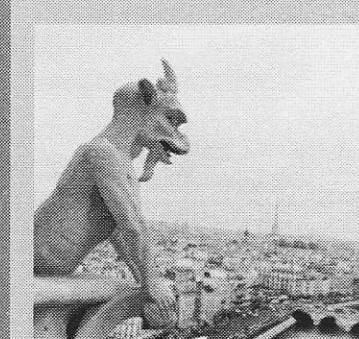
Hurry! Before it's too Late . . .

RECEPTION FOR NEW WOMEN FACULTY AND CSWS AFFILIATES
Wednesday, October 11, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Gerlinger Lounge, Gerlinger Hall

CSWS, the Women's Studies Program, and the Women's Faculty Resource Network welcome all new women faculty members and CSWS affiliates with a reception.

In addition to food, drink, music, and mingling, a short program at 4:00 p.m. will feature introductions of new women faculty members. Please welcome our new colleagues and celebrate the beginning of a new year.

Your RSVP by October 4 will help us plan: call 346-5015 or E-mail: csws@oregon.uoregon.edu. See you there!



Get a New Perspective

Graduate students are invited to an open house at CSWS on Wednesday, October 11, from 10:00–11:30 a.m. at 330 Hendricks Hall. Have a cup of joe and get the goods on research and funding opportunities from CSWS. See you there!

Psychology Professor is CSWS Visiting Scholar

A leading scholar in the fields of psychology of women, trauma, and sexual abuse will join CSWS and the UO psychology department as a visiting researcher this fall. Kathryn "Kat" Quina, professor of psychology and women's studies at the University of Rhode Island, will be collaborating with UO professor Jennifer Freyd on areas of common interest, including sequelae of childhood trauma (particularly sexual abuse) in adults; causal explanations for the observed correlational connection between childhood trauma and HIV risk; and feminist ethics applied to scientific research in psychology. Freyd and Quina recently co-authored a paper on the latter topic.

Quina will be spending the first half of her sabbatical leave as a visiting scholar at CSWS, where she plans to write a major paper on childhood trauma and HIV risk. She says that the opportunity to work with Freyd and the center's strong reputation for feminist research drew her to the University

of Oregon. "This is a great opportunity for me to think and write and learn," Quina says. "I'm looking forward to being in a new and interesting group of people." While at the UO, Quina says she will be available to guest lecture in classes. She will be presenting a noon talk at CSWS on November 29. She will be in residence from September until December.

Quina earned her Ph.D. in psychology at the University of Georgia. Her books include *Arming Athena: Survival Strategies for Discrimination Against Women in Academia*; *Childhood Abuse and Adult HIV Risk*; *Rape, Incest, and Sexual Harassment: A Guide for Helping Survivors*; and *Teaching a Psychology of People: Gender and Sociocultural Awareness in the Curriculum*.

During the second half of her sabbatical leave, Quina and her family will travel to New Zealand, Australia, and the Southwest United States for other research projects, including a study of the role of early abuse among incarcerated women.

Upcoming Events

October

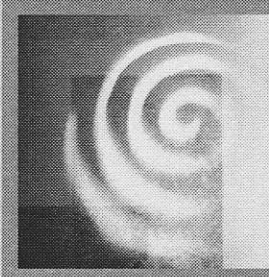
- 11 Graduate Student Coffee, 10:00–11:30 a.m., CSWS
- 11 New Women Faculty Reception, 3:30–5:30 p.m., Gerlinger Lounge
- 13 In-Service Day Practicum for Secondary School Teachers: Using Digital Technology to Teach Gender and History, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Bowerman Heritage Room
- 18 Ecological Conversations Public Lecture: Sanja Saftic, 7:00–9:00 p.m., Browsing Room, Knight Library

November

- 8 Ecological Conversations Public Lecture: Teresa Bedregal, 7:00–9:00 p.m., Browsing Room, Knight Library
- 13 Women of Excellence: CSWS and the UO women's basketball team

February

- 25–27 Taking Nature Seriously: Citizens, Science, and Environment conference



RIG Retreat

The Social Sciences Feminist Network, a new RIG that is interested in promoting collaborative feminist work and research in the social sciences, will hold its first retreat on November 3–5, 2000. People interested in joining the RIG and attending the retreat should contact Barbara Sutton, the RIG coordinator, as soon as possible via E-mail: bsutton@darkwing.uoregon.edu.

Get RIG-ed for the New Year

Infuse your research and teaching with new life by joining a Research Interest Group at CSWS. Our RIGs are built around a variety of research interests, bring in university and community scholars, and range in activity level from reading groups to collaborative research teams. RIGs meet weekly, monthly, or quarterly, and receive a \$500 research stipend per year. If you would like to join an existing RIG, contact one of the RIG coordinators listed below. If you would like to learn more about RIGs or start a new RIG, contact CSWS at 346-5015 or csws@oregon.uoregon.edu.



CSWS Sponsors Vietnam Conference

A conference addressing women and research in Vietnam was jointly sponsored by CSWS and the Centre for Women Studies at Vietnam National University, Hanoi, on September 14–16. Members of the Women and Gender in Vietnam RIG helped plan and support the conference through a RIG development grant and collaboration with women in Vietnam.

Nguyen Ngoc Bich, who recently completed her Ph.D. in education at the University of Oregon, and Jessica Rothenberg-Aalami, geography, played major roles in planning the conference. Professor Dang Thanh Le from VNU previously visited the UO as an exchange scholar with the UO-VNU sister university project.

"We are pleased to be co-sponsoring the first public event by our sister organization," said Sandra Morgen, CSWS director and one of the conveners of the conference. Other CSWS affiliates who participated in the conference include Tra Phuong Nguyen, international studies; Lorraine Brundige, philosophy; and Rob Proudfoot, international studies.

RIG Directory

Gender in Historical and TransNational China:

Bryna Goodman,
bgoodman@oregon.uoregon.edu

Jewish Feminist Theory:

Judith Baskin,
jbaskin@oregon.uoregon.edu

Midlife and Menopause:

Lin Reilly, lreilly@oregon.uoregon.edu;
Shirley Marc, shirmarc@oregon.uoregon.edu

Native American Communities:

Serena Charley,
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Rationality, Intuition, and Gender:

Nancy Tuana, ntuana@darkwing.uoregon.edu

Reclaiming the Past:

Barbara Altmann,
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Ayşe Agiş, aagis@oregon.uoregon.edu

Sex, Gender, and the Law:

Peggy Pascoe,
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Social Sciences Feminist Network:

Barbara Sutton,
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Violence, Gender, and Society:

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Wired:

Judith Musick,
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Women and the Environment:

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Women, Work, and Economic Restructuring:

Joan Acker, jacker@oregon.uoregon.edu

Kudos!

Joan Acker, sociology, is a Distinguished Visiting Scholar in the Department of Social Inquiry at the University of Adelaide (Australia) this fall.

Cynthia Adams, CSWS, with **Sheri Cannell**, Midlife and Menopause RIG, presented on their study, "Women's Beliefs About 'Natural' Hormones" at the North American Menopause Society annual meeting in Orlando, Florida, in September.

Barbara Altmann, Romance languages, delivered a paper in July at the fourth International Christine de Pizan Colloquium, held in Glasgow, Scotland, concerning the critical reception of Christine de Pizan in the last several decades of the twentieth century.

Nora Beck, Lewis & Clark College, will deliver two papers in November: "Revisiting Dufay's St. Anthony Mass and its Connection to Donatello's Altar of St. Anthony of Padua" at the annual meeting of the American Musicological Society in Toronto, and "Don't Ask, Don't Tell: Gays and Lesbians in the NCAA" at the annual Faculty Athletic Representative Association Meeting in Tampa, Florida.

Sheryl Thorburn Bird, CSWS, and her colleague **Laura Bogart** of Kent State University, have received a \$1,750 grant from the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) for a study that will examine the relationship of perceived discrimination in interactions with health care providers and stereotypes about physicians to health care status and behaviors among African American adults. Bird also had her co-authored paper, "Beyond Marital Status: Relationship Type and Duration and Risk of Low Birth Weight," accepted for publication by *Family Planning Perspectives*.

Gaylene Carpenter, arts and administration, published "A Longitudinal Examination of Wants-Out-of-Life Among Mid-Life Adults: Implications for Event Managers" in the *Journal of Convention and Exhibition Management*, and co-authored "A Call for the Increased Use of Longitudinal Methods in Research on Adult Leisure" which appeared in *Leisure/Loisir*.

Suzanne Clark, English, has a new book out. *Cold Warriors: Manliness on Trial in the Rhetoric of the West*, has been published by Southern Illinois University Press.

The book by **Amalia Gladhart**, Romance languages, *The Leper in Blue: Coercive Performance and the Contemporary Latin American Theater*, has been published by North Carolina Studies in the Romance Languages and Literatures.

Leslie D. Hall, sociology, presented "A Feminist Theology: Respect in Family Work" to the annual meeting of the Society for Pastoral Theology in June in Decatur, Georgia.

S. Marie Harvey, CSWS, became the president of Division 34 Population and Environmental Psychology of the American Psychological Association this August, receiving the gavel at the division business meeting at the APA conference in Washington, D.C. Harvey was also voted chair-elect of the Population, Family Planning and Reproductive Health Section of the American Public Health Association.

Jocelyn Hollander, sociology, published "Fear Journals: A Strategy for Teaching About the Social Consequences of Violence," in the July issue of *Teaching Sociology*, and co-authored "Engendering Social Movements: Cultural Images and Movement Dynamics," for the September issue of *Gender & Society*.

Lisa Kloppenberg, law, was named director of the Appropriate Dispute Resolution Program at the UO School of Law. She spoke on mediation of environmental cases at the ABA Conference on Dispute Resolution in April and will speak to the National Association of Women Judges on feminism and constitutional law in October. Her book, *Playing it Safe: How the Supreme Court Dodges Hard Cases and Stunts the Development of Law*, is forthcoming in 2001.

David Li, English, gave a series of lectures in Taiwan, Hong Kong, and China in the spring, and co-hosted the symposium on "The Prospects and Problems of Globalization" at the UO in June. Li's *Imagining the Nation: Asian American Literature and Cultural Consent* has come out in paperback from Stanford University Press.

Three articles are forthcoming in books and journals for **Karen McPherson**, Romance languages: "The Future of Memory in Louise Dupré's *La memoria*" in *Doing Gender: Franco-Canadian Women Writers of the 1990s*, eds. Paula Gilbert & Roseanna Dufault [Fairleigh Dickinson, 2001]; "Writing the Present in Nicole Brossard's Baroque d'aube" in *American Review of Canadian Studies*; "Memory and Imagination in the Writings of Nicole Brossard" in *International Journal of Canadian Studies*.

Deb Merskin, journalism, will be serving as interim associate dean during the fall and winter terms at the School of Journalism and Communication.

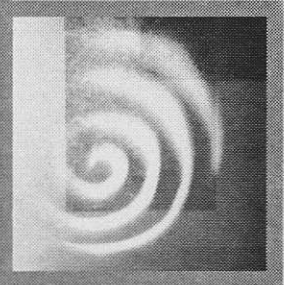
Madonna Moss, anthropology, was recognized for outstanding teaching when she received the 1999-2000 Thomas F. Herman Awards for Distinguished Teaching. The award winners, chosen on the recommendation of faculty members and students, receive \$2,000 added to their base salaries. **Rob Proudfoot**, international studies, and **Jon Erlandson**, anthropology, also received Herman awards.

In early September, **Judith Musick**, CSWS; **Stephanie Wood**, history; and **Daniel Gilfillan**, CSWS; presented on the Feminist Humanities Project at the annual conference of Digital Resources for the Humanities at the University of Sheffield, in Sheffield, England.

Beth Hege Piatote, CSWS and journalism, was appointed to the national board of Unity: Journalists of Color, as one of four representatives from the Native American Journalists Association.

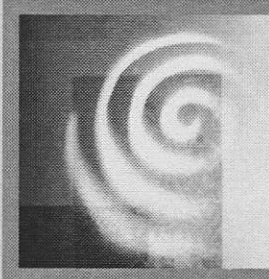
Barbara Setsu Pickett, art, gave a keynote at the Ars Textrina International Conference on Textiles at the University of Leeds in England in June. Her talk focused on her research on silk velvet weaving done on a Chinese drawloom in Suzhou, China.

An article by **Marti Ravits**, women's studies, "The Jewish Mother: Comedy and Controversy in American Popular Culture," was the lead article in *MELUS* in its spring 2000 issue. She also published a review in *NWSA (National Women's Studies Association) Journal*, spring 2000.



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.



FHP/WHP organizers: (top) Judith Musick, Louise Bishop, Gina Psaki, (bottom) Jan Emerson, Louise Bishop and Flo Alvergue.

For the past five years, the Feminist Humanities Project (FHP), one of the three major initiatives sponsored by CSWS, has worked with UO scholars to use the Internet, design digital teaching units for the web, and build virtual galleries and exhibits based on feminist research. At the same time, FHP has continued to host its series of "Teaching and Tea" seminars, in which UO professors and local public school teachers present their research, and a Women's History Day in March for local high school students. These dual approaches have served the initiative's goals of disseminating research on gender and history to audiences beyond the university as well as supporting and generating new research among humanities scholars.

Now in its third year of a \$20,000 matching grant from the College of Arts and Sciences, the Wired Humanities Project has evolved from within FHP to provide even more digital services to CSWS affiliates and, through outreach efforts, to all humanities faculty members. Headed by CSWS Associate Director Judith Musick, the Wired Humanities Project employs two research associates and two graduate students who offer a range of free technological services, including help with building and maintaining web sites, creating multimedia presentations, setting up new hardware and software, and digitally

WHERE THERE'S THERE'S

It's a virtual world
and that means real oppo



Stephanie Wood's research on Mesoamerica is the basis of a new searchable archive.

cataloging research materials for analysis and dissemination.

"We've conceived of WHP not as service but as collaboration," Musick says. She describes it as one expression of a broad effort to bring digital practice to humanities research and teaching. Originally inspired by former UO faculty member Zoe Borovsky, the FHP's "Wired" team is working to present scholarship on women, history, and gender in widely accessible formats. "We want to have an influence on instruction at the high school level, and the way that it seems most likely to get material into the hands of public school teachers is to publish on the web," Musick says. "If we could publish books, and if books were as effective, then we would be doing that." Instead, the WHP relies on humanities scholars to come to it with ideas to put together with the project's technical expertise.

Two main goals drive the project. One is the creation of a "digital encyclopedia" of gender in history—a project initially based on UO humanities scholars' work but which may expand into a much broader collaboration with scholars across many disciplines and from all over the world. Currently the project staff is working on a prototype web searchable archive of texts and images based on Stephanie Wood's research on ancient Mesoamerica. The collaboration began

RE'S A WEB, S A WAY

World out there,
opportunities for CSWS scholars



Research Associate Jan Emerson coordinates "Teaching and Tea and other projects.

when Wood, who teaches in the history department, brought her own research to FHP for the creation of one of the project's digital teaching sites. Using the material that was included in that site, the team is creating an archive that scholars and students of all ages will be able to access through the web. Future projects for WHP include the creation of a similar site for Medieval European women and a site for women's speculative fiction. The latter topic will be the theme of a symposium jointly sponsored by CSWS and the Knight Library next spring.

A second goal of WHP is to increase the number of UO humanities faculty members who are able to effectively integrate digital technology into their teaching and research. To do this, the project team is publicizing its resources through a series of bookmarks that feature the web address, urging scholars to "bookmark us."

The project will also be hosting open hours every weekday at the office, when people can drop in for consultation and collaboration, and presenting a series of workshops.

For more information about the Wired Humanities Project, contact: Judith Musick, Jan Emerson, or Dan Gilfillan at 346-5775 or whp@darkwing.uoregon.edu. Find the WHP at the UO Annex, 876 East 12th Avenue (behind the bookstore), or at <http://whp.uoregon.edu>.



Stephanie Wood, Dan Gilfillan, and Judith Musick at the British Museum.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR TEACHING AND TEA!

This monthly series of informal seminars aims to teach about women past and present, to encourage collaboration among high school and university teachers, and to make use of new digital technologies to enhance the teaching of gender in history. Everyone is welcome.

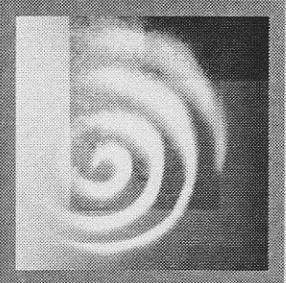
All meetings: 4:00–5:30 p.m., Jane Grant Room, 330 Hendricks Hall, University of Oregon.
October 10: "Gender and History: A Database of Texts and Images," Judith Musick and Dan Gilfillan, CSWS.

November 9: "Using the Gender and History Database to Teach Aztec Culture," Stephanie Wood, history.

December 5: "Transatlantic Feminisms: Women's Narratives of Travel and Displacement in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries," Monica Szurmuk, Romance languages and literatures.

Special Event:

October 13: "In-Service Day Practicum for Secondary School Teachers: Using Digital Technology to Teach Gender and History," 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Bowerman Heritage Room. For information contact jemerson@oregon.uoregon.edu



TOP TEN REASONS TO GET WIRED WITH WHP

10. Approach your research material with newfound interest.
9. Make your teaching and research ideas known on a global level.
8. Number of people you can reach unaffected by economic constraints.
7. Use cool equipment.
6. Make new academic friends.
5. Find new uses for SPAM.
4. Work in your slippers.
3. "Interact" like never before.
2. Find out what your computer can really do.

AND THE NO. 1 REASON TO GET WIRED IS:

1. It's the twenty-first century, and that's where your students already are!
- Helen Burnham, Daniel Gilfillan, and Eric Lawson, Wired Humanities Project

Wednesdays at Noon

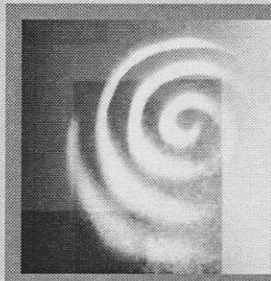
CSWS is offering presentations and workshops, also known as our "Brown Bag" series, on Wednesdays from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Jane Grant Room, 330 Hendricks Hall. Please join us.

October

- 18 Grants Workshop by S. Marie Harvey, CSWS research director, for fall CSWS Faculty and Graduate Student Research Grants
- 25 Uli Mueller, graduate student, sociology, "Women, National Identity, and Political Activism in Germany"

November

- 1 Carol Silverman, associate professor, anthropology and folklore, "Gender Display in the Diaspora: Performance and Music among East European Roma (Gypsies)"
- 8 Elizabeth Wheeler, assistant professor, English, "Post-traumatic Fiction: Rewriting the American City after World War II"
- 29 Kathryn Quina, CSWS visiting scholar and professor of psychology and women's studies at the University of Rhode Island, "Moving Beyond Bars: Psychosocial Issues for Women in Prison"



2000-01 CSWS Executive Committee

Sandra Morgen,
director, CSWS

S. Marie Harvey, CSWS

Judith Musick, CSWS

Judith Raiskin,
Women's Studies Program

Barbara Altmann,
Romance Languages

Louise Bishop,
Clark Honors College

Judith Eisen, Biology

Ellen Herman, History

Leece Lee, International
Studies

Kristina Tiedje,
Anthropology

Merle Weiner, Law

Lorraine Brundige,
Philosophy

Lee and Tiedje Awarded CSWS Laurels

Two graduate students and their faculty mentors have won CSWS Laurel Research Awards, which offer a \$2,500 stipend to the student and a \$500 in research funds to the faculty mentor. These competitive awards are designed to support innovative research and collaboration between graduate students and faculty members.

Leece M. Lee, international studies, will conduct the project, "Native American Women: Surviving the Educational System." Through readings and interviews, Lee will examine survival strategies of Native American women and other women of color as they successfully navigate systems of higher education. **Shari Huhndorf**, English, is Lee's faculty mentor.

Kristina Tiedje, anthropology, will study "Ethnicity and Gender in the Sacred Space of Nuhua Ritual Healing in Mexico" with her faculty mentor, **Lynn Stephen**, anthropology and international studies. Through ethnographic observation and oral histories, Tiedje will analyze how Nahua women as healers and midwives play a significant role in the negotiation and imagination of local ethnicities.

Kudos!

Continued from page 5

Marian Smith, music, gave two papers at international conferences: "Parisian Annotated Rehearsal Scores" at the International Early Dance conference in Ghent, Belgium, in March; and "Three Hybrid opera-ballets circa 1830" on a panel honoring Ivor Guest at the conference "Dancing in the Millennium" in Washington, D.C. in July.

Jewish Feminist RIG members **Arlene Stein**, sociology, and **Monica Szurmuk**, Romance languages, have a review and interview, respectively, in the current issue of *Bridges: A Journal for Jewish Feminists and Our Friends*.

Barbara Sutton, sociology, received a fellowship to attend the International Women's University in Hannover, Germany, from July to October. Of the six interdisciplinary project areas (body, water, city, work, migration, information), Sutton participated in the "work" theme.

Grace Talusan, creative writing, was awarded a month-long writing residency during September at Hedgebrook retreat on Whidbey Island, Washington.

Terri Warpinski, fine arts, was awarded a Fulbright Research Fellowship by the Israel US-Israel Educational Foundation for a four-month artist-in-residence award to the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies during academic year 2000-2001. The institute is affiliated with Tel Aviv University.

Molly Westling, English, presented two papers at international conferences: "Monstrous Technologies in Silko, Ortiz, Castillo, and Solnit," at a conference on space, place, and environment since 1968 in Bonn, Germany, in July; and "Green Humanism," the plenary address at "Writing the Environment," an international conference in London in September.

The Conversation Continues

By Lynne Fessenden, Ecological Conversations Program Director

CSWS welcomes five scholars in the second year of the Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowship Program, "Ecological Conversations: Gender, Science, and the Sacred." The fellows will be in residence throughout the academic year, and will share perspectives on gendered dimensions of scientific practice. **Teresa Flores Bedregal** of Bolivia and **Sanja Saftic** of Germany will be in residence fall term. Australian **Anna Carr**, a post-doctoral student in environmental studies, will arrive winter term and is investigating aspects of "citizen" or "community" science. Spring term CSWS will host **Giovanna Di Chiro**, professor of environmental studies at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania, and **Joni Seager**, chair of the geography department at the University of Vermont. If you are interested in contacting one of the fellows, or you would like more information about the program, contact Lynne Fessenden at 346-5399 or lfessend@oregon.uoregon.edu, or see the program web site: <http://ecocon.uoregon.edu>.



Sanja Saftic is a microbiologist who leads a research and development team in a water quality laboratory for public works in Düsseldorf, Germany. She is also an artist, cartoonist, and journalist with a knack for getting scientific concepts across to the public via art and humor. While in residence, Saftic plans to create a web site that explores new concepts in evolutionary theory using illustrations from microbial ecology.

Her site will be an interdisciplinary, interactive presentation where science, philosophy, art, and humor meet. She writes, "In my everyday scientific routine I am obliged to follow common, established rules of scientific investigation and produce so-called sound and applicable results. Therefore I view your fellowship program as a gift, a unique opportunity to shift focus from the norm to new emerging ideas. I would like to explore new approaches in scientific concepts as well as in the presentation of those ideas to a broader audience."



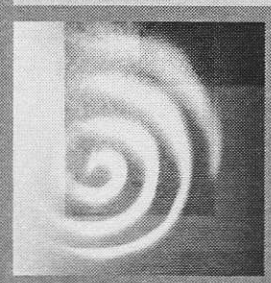
Teresa Flores

Bedregal is an activist of Kechua and Aymara-Indian descent in La Paz, Bolivia. With master's degrees in journalism and environmental policy, Bedregal, who pioneered "environmental journalism" in Bolivia as a newspaper columnist, works as a consultant and researcher for several women's and environmental NGOs. While in residence she will be researching the discrepancy between the gender framework of international development policies and the gender relationships of the indigenous communities she works with. Bedregal writes, "My experience in a very Indian country such as Bolivia shows that indigenous community's gender relationships greatly diverge from that of Western or westernized societies. That is why many groups, currently working in support of indigenous peoples in South America, tend to reject the [westernized] gender agenda. Although they want to improve the living conditions of indigenous women, they don't see the answer in policies designed for very different societies."

Ecological Conversations Faculty Awards

Three University faculty members and one local activist have received CSWS research grants in conjunction with the Ecological Conversations Program for the 2000-2001 academic year. The awardees will use the funds for ongoing research and book projects, and will share their perspectives during the program seminar fall term.

- **Suzanne Clark**, professor of English, will continue work on her book, *The Natural History of Modernism: Science as Freedom, Science as Fate*.
- **Jim Tarter**, visiting assistant professor of English, will research and write an essay (and book chapter) "Cancer as an Environmental Justice Issue: Gender, Science, and the Politics of Cancer in Rachel Carson and Her Daughters."
- **Shaul Cohen**, assistant professor of geography, will research an article linking the physical and social sciences with regard to global warming in "Cultivating Trees, Harvesting Myths: Reconstructing Science and Nature."
- **Mary O'Brien**, public interest scientist, will apply her award toward a research project in the Columbia River Basin, "Our Last Canyon Grasslands: Translating Science into Public Environmental Discourse."



Ecological Conversations Seminar

Ongoing discussion among fellows, faculty, and graduate students continues fall term on alternate Tuesday afternoons (October 3, 17, 31, November 14, and 28) from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in Villard 202.

Themes include: history and contemporary understanding of evolutionary theory; how scientific concepts and research are translated into public environmental discourse; ecofeminist visions of science and technology; new approaches to issues of reproduction and population; history and practice of indigenous sciences; and studies of new scientific paradigms.

Graduate students may register for credit: ENVS 507 CRN 16961.

Research Support Grants

By Meredith Roberts Branch

CSWS awarded nine research support grants and two Jane Grant Dissertation Fellowships during the spring funding cycle. We extend our congratulations to the awardees and our thanks to the members of the review committee. The recipients, amounts received, and proposal titles are listed below.

RESEARCH SUPPORT GRANTS

Jennifer Ablow, assistant professor, psychology: \$6,000—"The transition to motherhood: Psychology and the transmission of social vulnerabilities across generations." The goal of this study is to further our understanding about markers of risk for insensitive or unresponsive parenting in first-time expectant women. In this longitudinal investigation, Ablow will examine the links among prenatal and postnatal social and biological factors that may contribute to parenting difficulties, and an associated low sense of efficacy as a mother.

Connie Dickinson, graduate student, linguistics: \$2,000—"Uru Sona: The role of female shamans among the Tsachila." Dickinson will document the training and the role of uru sonala, "female shaman apprentices," among the Tsachila indigenous group of Ecuador. The material generated from this project will be of particular use to linguists and anthropologists interested in the role of women in lowland indigenous cultures.

Mary Fechner, graduate student, anthropology: \$2,000—"A change of heart: A cultural study of heart disease in post-socialist Germany." This project will help to explain the role of culture on heart disease in the context of post-socialist Germany, and to understand why differences in the expression of heart disease exist between men and women.

Bryna Goodman, associate professor, history: \$6,000—"Women in public in early Republican China." Goodman will complete a book chapter on gender in public culture in Shanghai, which will examine women in the public realm, as political activists and commentators and also as the subjects of public debate and the focus of lurid news stories. The chapter will consider the broad impact of changing gender ideologies on society through the contradictory play of public media and public life.

Geraldine Moreno, associate professor, anthropology: \$6,000—"At the factory, at the table: Gender differences in nutritional status of Thai industrial workers." Moreno will examine the differential effects of industrialization on the diet and biology of Thai male and female industrial workers. Specifically, she will look at how diet and nutritional status are affected by rapid industrialization and involvement in the global market system, and whether women fare as well as men under conditions of rapid industrialization and factory work.

Jennifer Rowan, graduate student, art history: \$2,000—"Images of Hariti, Mother of Demons: Pakistan on-site study, iconographic analysis, and photo documentation." Rowan will travel to Pakistan to conduct on-site research and photographic documentation of sculptural images of Hariti, a Buddhist divinity. The photographs and data she collects will be used to compile a comprehensive image catalog with iconographic analysis, and will provide a resource that does not yet exist for scholars outside of Pakistan.

Carol Spellman, graduate student, folklore: \$905—"Behind the lace curtain: Irish women and traditional Irish music." Through videotaped interviews, Spellman will gather the stories of elderly Irish women musicians in Ireland. Through a comparison of their stories with those of younger Irish women musicians she will address issues of tradition and change in a historically unfavorable social, cultural, and religious climate.

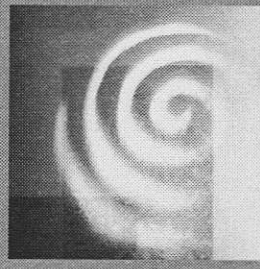
Grace Talusan, visiting assistant professor, creative writing: \$3,125—"Filipino women's voices: Research into lives and stories of Filipino and Filipino American women and how geography shapes lives." Through interviews, observations, and research, Talusan will study Filipino women in the U.S. to understand more about how geography shapes women's lives. The resultant creative work, a collection of short stories, will draw upon her research to gain inspiration and a sense of authenticity in the creation of fictional characters faced with dilemmas caused by migration from the Philippines to the U.S.

Helen Vallianatos, graduate student, anthropology: \$2,000—"The political economy of food consumption during pregnancy among the urban poor of New Delhi, India." In this study, Vallianatos will investigate how various sociocultural factors in urban North India affect food consumption during pregnancy, and the resultant effects on women's health and nutritional status. She will focus on slum-dwellers of New Delhi, a historically neglected segment of India's population.

JANE GRANT DISSERTATION AWARDS

Pissamai Homchampa, graduate student, anthropology: \$10,000—"Self-care practices among industrial workers in Thailand: Constructing knowledge and perceptions on health and wellness in the factory setting." This project focuses on gender differences in self-care practices of Thai industrial workers, and will examine patterns of and local knowledge on self-care practices within the context of the cultural understanding of illness and wellness in Thailand. Through interviews, observations, and health assessment, Homchampa will explore the relationship among variables such as gender, socioeconomic factors, and health status.

Lea Williams, graduate student, comparative literature: \$10,000—"Writing on all fronts: Gender, nationalism, and the literature of war." Williams' project examines twentieth century women's war writings, and explores how cultural and political beliefs and conceptions of gender shape a writer's recital of her memory. By studying texts from different national literatures and periods in this century, Williams will develop a rich discussion of trauma and how the language of witnessing in the twentieth century has been affected by war and genocide.



CSWS GRANT DEADLINES FOR 2000-2001

CSWS offers competitive grants to UO scholars whose research focuses on women, gender, or any aspect of women's experiences.

Travel Grants

October 23, 2000 and April 9, 2001
Awards up to \$500 for graduate students and faculty

Research Support Grants

November 13, 2000 and April 23, 2001
Awards up to \$2,500 for graduate students and \$6,000 for faculty

RIG Development Grants

November 20, 2000 and February 19, 2001
Awards up to \$5,000 for RIG projects

Jane Grant Dissertation Fellowships

April 23, 2001
Awards of \$10,000 for doctoral candidates

CSWS Laurel Awards

May 7, 2001
Awards of \$2,500 for graduate students with \$500 for faculty mentors

Executive Grants

Open deadline. Up to \$100 for students, faculty, or CSWS affiliates

Speakers and Events Grants

Open deadline. Awards up to \$300 for support of a free public event

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on dates stated; the last day to apply for an "open deadline" grant is May 1, 2001. Applications are available outside the CSWS main office door, 340 Hendricks Hall, or by mail if requested:
csws@oregon.uoregon.edu or call 346-5015. Download applications from the CSWS web site at <http://csws.uoregon.edu/>.

What's Love Got to Do With It?

The Role of Men in Women's Reproductive Health

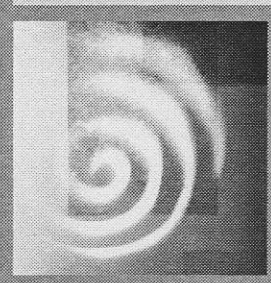
By S. Marie Harvey, Director of Research

What does love have to do with it? This is an emerging research question in the field of reproductive health. Traditionally, researchers and health professionals have narrowly defined the field of women's reproductive health with a focus on women and children, ignoring the male partner and the impact of factors such as commitment, trust, and power imbalances in relationships. Recently, however, we have seen a focus on men as partners in women's reproductive health and calls for including men in research, programs, and health care services. While the social and biological aspects of contraception, pregnancy, and childbearing continue to be the principle domain of women, men are playing a more prominent role in reproduction and fatherhood. Many terms are now being bantered about to describe this trend—men as partners, the role of men, male responsibility, male involvement, male participation, and "it takes two." The basic tenant is that by including men in our efforts the health of women and children will be improved.

Despite this trend, not everyone agrees that including men in women's reproductive health activities is a good way to improve women's health. Some ask whether we want to use limited resources on men. More services for men could mean more competition for limited reproductive health funds and thereby jeopardize services for women. Others question whether male involvement will improve women's reproductive health. Still, others argue that men are already too involved and that men hold too much power over decisions that affect women's reproductive health. I personally wonder if we would be devoting so much attention to men if an acceptable female-controlled method for protection against HIV/STDs were available to women. Perhaps we should focus our efforts and resources on new product development and expand female-controlled prevention.

A related issue is whether men's involvement will erode women's reproductive rights. How do we walk the fine line between maintaining women's right-to-privacy and getting men involved? What if women do not want their sexual partners involved? Who decides when and how men are involved? Can we expect men to be involved, but only in the areas and ways that women choose to involve them? A good example of this issue is abortion. In 1976 the Supreme Court upheld women's right to make unilateral decisions about whether they wished to abort or carry a pregnancy to term. This decision recognized the potential conflict between partners but held that "inasmuch as it is the woman who physically bears the child and who is the one more directly and immediately affected by the pregnancy the balance weighs in her favor." As more and more fathers are encouraged to establish paternity for children they did not intend to conceive, and then provide financial child support to them for eighteen years, the gender dimension to the abortion decision is likely to become more prominent.

The major goal of the Women's Health and Aging Research Initiative at CSWS is to conduct research aimed at furthering our understanding of women's health issues. This involves grappling with difficult and complex issues. Because I do believe that it "takes two to tango" and that love and relationships have got a lot to do with reproductive behaviors and outcomes, we have expanded our scope of research to include the role of men in women's reproductive health.



CSWS Publications Order Form

- Please send me a copy of *Valuing Families: The State of Oregon's Families*. Enclosed is my check for \$12 per copy made payable to "UO/CSWS."
- Please put me on the CSWS mailing list to receive newsletters, conference brochures, and other announcements.
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Imagining Heaven in the Middle Ages: A Book of Essays

Eds. Jan Swango Emerson and Hugh Feiss. New York: Garland, 2000.

According to the lyrics of a 1979 song by the band *The Talking Heads*, "Heaven is a place where nothing ever happens." Medieval theologian Thomas Aquinas would have agreed. The nun Mechtild of Hackeborn, the Beguine Hadewijch of Antwerp, and the poet Dante would have disagreed. *Imagining Heaven* is a collection of essays revealing varied notions of heaven held by medieval Christian thinkers on matters of body and soul, gender, identity, intellect, and inspiration.

In Aquinas' heaven, everything ceases. Heaven, the end of mystery and metaphor, is pure contemplation, absolute stillness. Many medieval male writers link life processes, such as birth, death, and aging, to women. The author of the twelfth-century *Vision of Tundal* ties sin to woman through the body. Because women's bodies feed the children they carry, women are linked to eating and digestion, to biological process, and therefore to death. The *Tundal* author condemns the senses of taste

and touch—there will be no eating and no sexuality in heaven. There will be gender, however, bodies reunited with souls, so that gender hierarchies can continue in the afterlife.

While some writers attempt to evict woman and the body from heaven, Mechtild, Hadewijch, and Dante celebrate their presence. To them, God represents desire and creative activity; heaven is a place of motion and growth. The thirteenth-century nun Mechtild of Hackeborn sees her role in heaven as a complement to her role as music director at her convent. Her heaven is merry, filled with singing and feasting. Hadewijch of Antwerp, poet and visionary, also imagines heaven as a place where the chosen are enveloped by divine enjoyment, a dark, whirling, restless abyss where the most favored occupants burn with Love or *Minne*, a female expression of divinity. The poet Dante views carnal sins as the least culpable and, according to Gina Psaki, CSWS affiliate and contributor to this volume, invites erotic love to accompany spiritual love in heaven.



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