



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

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For Immediate Release

“Celebrating Forty Years: Anniversary Event to Showcase Feminist Research, Activism, and Creativity”

Eugene, OR – This fall, the Center for the Study of Women in Society (CSWS) celebrates the legacy of feminist research, teaching, activism, and creativity at the University of Oregon.

Presented in collaboration with the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies and ASUO Women’s Center, CSWS’s 40th Anniversary Celebration will be held Nov. 7-9, 2013, in UO’s Erb Memorial Union. Free and open to the public (ticketing required), the event offers multiple opportunities to witness the long reach of feminist thought and production through engaging narratives about our past, present, and possible futures.

On Thursday, Nov. 7, 3-6:30 p.m., the celebration kicks off with the premiere of *Agents of Change*, a documentary that chronicles the development of the Center for the Study of Women in Society, from its origins in the women’s movement to *Fortune* magazine editor William Harris’ gift that endowed it to the present moment. Among the special guest speakers will be Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy on women and leadership.

On Friday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., the “Women’s Stories, Women’s Lives” Symposium explores four decades of feminist research and activism through the personal narratives, visual illustrations, and dialogue of more than twenty women activists, professionals, scholars, and community leaders.

Among the symposium panelists, local activist Kate Barkley will talk about domestic violence and the creation of Womenspace in the 1970s, Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy will lend insight into issues of reproductive rights in the 1980s, *Eugene Weekly* owner Anita Johnson will offer how changing legislation affected workplace equity in the 1990s, and Mobility International co-founder Susan Sygall will provide insight into women and the disability movement in the new millennium. Award-winning Oregon writer Molly Gloss, author of *The Hearts of Horses*, *Wild Life*, *The Dazzle of Day*, and *The Jump-Off Creek*, will present a special reading of her work.

On the evening of Friday, Nov. 8, the celebration transitions into the future with a keynote event featuring world-renowned author Ursula K. Le Guin. Le Guin started

publishing science fiction and fantasy in the 1960s and has won the Hugo, Nebula, Locus, and World Fantasy awards, each more than once. During the event, set for 6:30 p.m., Le Guin will read and discuss her work. The winner of the first annual Ursula K. Le Guin Feminist Science Fiction Fellowship will also be announced.

The celebration continues on Saturday, Nov. 9, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., with the Sally Miller Gearhart “Worlds Beyond World” Symposium, featuring several major figures in the field of feminist science fiction, including Molly Gloss; Vonda N. McIntyre, author of *Dreamsnake*, *Superluminal*, and *The Moon and the Sun*; Suzy McKee Charnas, author of *Motherlines* and *Walk to the End of the World*; Andrea Hairston, author of *Redwood and Wildfire*; Kate Wilhelm, who lives in Eugene and is the author of the science fiction classic *Where Late the Sweet Birds Sang*; and L. Timmel Duchamp, author and editor with independent feminist science fiction publisher Aqueduct Press.

Events will be held in the Erb Memorial Union and will be close captioned. Ticketing for all events is free, but registration by Oct. 23 is required for to reserve seating. Tables for local women’s organizations, vendors, and sales of books authored by guest speakers will also be available all day Friday and Saturday. Look for exhibits of materials related to CSWS and four decades of feminist research, teaching, activism, and creativity now on display in UO’s Knight Library, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, and Eugene Airport.

Register for limited seating by Oct. 23. Visit the Center for the Study of Women in Society website at csws.uoregon.edu or call 541-346-5015 for additional information.

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