

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

January 17, 1985

AGENDA

1. Introduction of Guests
2. Approval of minutes of December 6th
3. Approval of agenda
4. Business arising from the minutes

✓ (a) Grant application to Secretary of State

✓ (b) Research institute

✓ (c) Speaker program

(d) Core courses

(ND)

re Margrit Eichler

re Margaret Fullerton

Mar. 7-21

(14)

exp. of  
Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>

5. New Business

→ (a) Publicity for the Committee's work — next meeting

6. Further Business

(a) Comments/suggestions re process to date

✓ (b) ~~Visit~~ re Women Under Apartheid — Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>.

(c)



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of January 17, 1985

Present: M. Assheton-Smith, P. Clements, D. Cullen, C. Davies, A. Hall (Chair), S. Jackel, J. Lauber, R. Liburd, D. Mills, S. Susut.

Regrets: R. Coulter, B. Eyles, N. Keating, B. Mandelblatt, R. Sydie, S. Wynn.

Guest: Reva Joshee, Secretary of State.

ACTION

1. The minutes of December 6, 1984 were approved as circulated.
2. Ann reported that she had met with Marc Arnell, Regional Director for the Secretary of State prior to Christmas and that a grant application would be received favourably.

Reva Joshee, a Social Development Officer with the Secretary of State attended the meeting and provided very helpful advice and assistance

The major focus of the meeting was a thorough review of our grant application (see attached) for \$22,020 to the Secretary of State.

It was decided to remove the request for monies for a visiting speaker/scholar series as well as at least two "distinguished visitors" from this grant application and include it in a second grant application to the Secretary of State to be submitted by the end of March.

A small ad hoc committee will be responsible for compiling the necessary information for the second grant application.

Pat, Ann  
Marilyn

3. It was agreed that we would hold our first workshop on April 13 (Sat dinner) through to April 14 (Sun. aft.) at Westridge Lodge. Ann to make the booking.

Ann

4. The Committee was reminded of the visit of Dr. Margrit Eichler to the campus (Mar. 7-21). She will consult with the Committee at our regular meeting on March 14th. Her speeches and seminars are listed in the Women's Program brochure, the Faculty of Extension.
5. The Committee will also meet with Dr. Margaret Fulton, President of Mount Saint Vincent University as she will be attending our meeting on February 28th.

NOTE: This is different to what was announced at the meeting, but Dr. Fulton is not available on the evening of February 27th as we thought.

6. It was agreed that at our next meeting (January 31st) we would focus on how we should begin to publicize the work of the Committee in addition to doing further work on the core courses.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

January 31, 1985

AGENDA

- ✓ 1. Approval of minutes of January 17th
- ✓ 2. Approval of agenda
3. Business arising from the minutes
  - ✓ (a) Women's Studies Chair
  - ✓ (b) Grant application to Secretary of State
  - ✓ (c) Speaker program
  - (d) Core courses
4. New Business
  - ✓ (a) Publicity for the Committee's work
5. Further Business
  - (a) Comments/suggestions re process to date
  - ✓ (b) Ph.D in Women's Studies
  - (c)



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of January 31, 1985

Present: M. Assheton-Smith, P. Clements, R. Coulter, D. Cullen, B. Eyles, A. Hall (Chair), S. Jackel, N. Keating, J. Lauber, S. Susut, J. Vanderpost.

Regrets: R. Liburd, B. Mandelblatt, D. Mills, R. Sydie.

ACTION

1. The minutes of January 17, 1985 were approved as circulated.
2. Janina Vanderpost from the Women's Secretariat was welcomed to the Committee. She will be replacing Sheila Wynn.
3. A letter to Dr. Horowitz from the Honourable Walter Mclean, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, was read to the Committee. It indicates that the Chair in Women's Studies for the Prairie Region has been awarded to the Universities of Winnipeg and Manitoba.

In view of this announcement, it was agreed that we would do the following:

- (a) Circulate a copy of the Manitoba-Winnipeg proposal to all Committee members.
- (b) Write to the Minister indicating that although our university along with Athabasca was not awarded the Chair, we are still pursuing a formal program in Women Studies.
- (c) Write to Dr. Horowitz asking about the availability of funds which were to have been put aside had we received the Chair.
- (d) Attempt to get more information as to the rationale behind the decision to award the Chair to Manitoba-Winnipeg.
- (e) Write to those responsible for the proposal at Manitoba-Winnipeg and congratulate them as well as inquire how we can become involved in any regional efforts.
- (f) Discuss the continuing co-operation between the University of Alberta and Athabasca University with regard to Women's Studies at a later meeting.

Ann ✓

Ann ✓

Ann - no -

Ann .

Ann ✓

4. The "Speaker's Program" was discussed at some length. It was decided that it would be sponsored by both the Faculty of Arts and the Advisory Committee on Women's Studies although the Committee would take the responsibility

*Please  
June 1985*



ACTION

of submitting the grant application to Secretary of State.

At present, we envisage an eight month program with a "Distinguished Visitor" (minimum two week stay) at the beginning and end with six speakers (three from outside the campus) in between. The primary purpose is to bring noted feminist scholars to the campus.

In order to facilitate this joint sponsorship, we will invite the members of the ad-hoc committee in the Faculty of Arts established by Pat to attend our next meeting (Feb. 15th) so that we can discuss it together. If that is not possible, we will arrange another time.

In the meantime, everyone was encouraged to think carefully about who they personally would like to invite to the campus both as "Distinguished Visitors" (minimum of two weeks) and as visiting speakers. Suggestions should be brought to the next meeting.

All  
members

5. With regard to publicizing the work of the Committee, we intend to submit a short article to Folio indicating that although we were not awarded the Chair in Women's Studies, the work of the Committee continues and briefly what we are doing. Ann to do a draft for the next meeting.

Ann

So that we would also begin to publicize our work to the students, Barbara Eyles volunteered to investigate the possibility of getting something in the Gateway.

Barb

6. Several committee members indicated that they had inquiries recently from students about doing graduate work in Women's Studies. It was agreed that we should encourage these students to write to the Committee outlining their needs and interests so that we can use the information in our report at a later date.
7. We spent sometime discussing the nature of the "core" courses. It was agreed that what we need to do is to investigate what other courses would be already available to students studying Women's Studies at U of A.

Therefore, each person is to investigate this in their respective department or faculty and bring 15 copies of course outlines and reading lists to the next meeting.

All  
members



ACTION

What we intend to do is to examine the content of these courses and attempt to make decisions as to what, therefore, belongs in the two core courses, beyond the principles we have already developed.

We also feel that the discussion will help us focus our questions for Margaret Fulton and Margrit Eichler who will be attending subsequent meetings.

8. Prior to adjourning, we had our usual round of input from everyone as to how they were feeling about the process thus far.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

February 14, 1985

AGENDA

1. Introduction of guests
2. Approval of minutes of January 31st
3. Approval of agenda
4. Business arising from the minutes
  - (a) Letters re Women's Studies Chair
  - (b) Speaker program
  - (c) Article for Folio
  - (d) Core courses
5. New Business
  - (a) Alberta/Athabasca coordination
  - (b) Second Wreath Conference (Halyna Freeland)
  - (c) List of courses for Advanced Registration
6. Further Business
  - (a) Society for the Protection of Equal Rights for Men  
(SPERM)
  - (b) Comments/suggestions re process to date
  - (c)
  - (c)



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of February 14, 1985

Present: R. Coulter, D. Cullen (Chair), C. Davies, S. Jackel, J. Lauber, D. Mills, S. Susut, J. Vanderpost

Regrets: P. Clements, A. Hall, B. Mandelblatt, R. Sydie

1. The minutes of January 31, 1985 were approved as circulated.
2. There was a lengthy discussion about coordination and cooperation between Athabasca University and the University of Alberta, particularly now that we have not been awarded the Chair. Issues discussed included Rebecca's role on this committee, the availability of information on the AU Women's Studies program, coordination of requests for funding, and so on. There was general agreement that we needed to be more sensitive to the issue of coordination, and that this concern should be an on-going one.
3. Halyna Freeland visited to ask the Committee to serve as one of the sponsors for the Second Wreath Conference. As sponsors, we would receive a full outline of the conference and a full final report, and speakers could be available for seminars while they were here. We would not be expected to provide either funds or members for the conference committee. The conference may be controversial because the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is opposed to it. We agreed in principle to sponsor the conference, provided that such action is part of our terms of reference (to be clarified with Vice-President Meekison).
4. The letter to Manitoba was read, and the draft letter to Walter MacLean was discussed. It was agreed that the letter (with modifications) should be sent. It was confirmed that there was no purpose in writing to President Horowitz about the Chair funds, since these had been contingent on receiving the Chair. The draft of the Folio article was discussed, and modifications were suggested.
5. It is the Committee's understanding that Susan Jackel has agreed to prepare a list of Women's Studies courses for Advanced Registration.
6. Copies of outlines of some current courses (P.ED. 507; CANST 401; INT D 347; HIST 206, 413, 371 and 470) were distributed.
7. Copies of the SPERM manifesto were distributed for information only.
8. Names for the Faculty of Arts Women's Studies Lecture Series were suggested. S. Susut, J. Vanderpost and D. Cullen were to send details to Pat Clements.
9. Concern was expressed about the low attendance at the meeting, as



February 20, 1985

Ann:

We should talk about the meeting (and minutes before they are printed and circulated).

The major issue is the one of cooperation/coordination with AU. Rebecca seemed quite concerned about how useful it was for her to remain on the committee, and disturbed by what she saw as our lack of sensitivity to AU -- that is, that much of our decision-making focusses on U of A. and, with the Chair gone, we do not treat or respond to AU as a joint partner. What seems to have triggered a lot of this was the funding proposal which she saw as totally a U of A initiative, and then, in the meeting, the letter to Manitoba which was a U. of A letter. Also, her president seems to be willing to make money available for women's studies even without the chair and there is thus the issue of cooperating, playing one university off against the other, etc. The whole situation was rather tense. The modifications in the letters, Folio article, etc. are an attempt to respond to these concerns. There was a suggestion that, if agendas could be circulated in advance, she would know if it was worthwhile to attend. She does not feel that she gains much from the discussion of U of A politics, for example.

The other issue is the one of the Wreath conference. We want to support the conference; however, we also felt that it would be politic to clear this with Meekison while at the same time warning him that this could be a controversial and contentious issue, because of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies' hostility. So this has to be raised with Meekison in a form other than just having him read it in the minutes.

I have enclosed revised versions of the MacLean letter and Folio material, also the letter and program for the Wreath conference (I only got one copy of each of these -- was inefficient and didn't get extras, so this is "my" copy). I will keep all the course material, etc. and bring it to the next meeting, since I don't see any point in shipping it to you right now.

I will be at a symposium during the day on Monday, the 25th, so I will not be in my office. I should be at home (433-6094) Monday evening, but that is not for certain (David will be here this weekend -- he leaves Tuesday morning). I will be in the office later on Tuesday afternoon, and home for sure on Tuesday evening.



DRAFT  
ONLY

DRAFT OF ARTICLE FOR FOLIO

Last summer it was announced in Folio that the Academic Development Committee had approved in principle the establishment of a Chair in Women's Studies to be situated jointly at the University of Alberta and Athabasca University.

This approval was contingent, of course, on the university being awarded \$500,000 by the Secretary of State which would endow the chair. Five such chairs have been made available by the federal Government throughout Canada. Many people worked on the proposal which was submitted to the Secretary of State in August last year. We were competing for the chair on the prairies along with the Universities of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

Very recently, the Honorable Walter F. McLean, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, has announced that the Chair in Women's Studies for the Prairie Region has been awarded jointly to the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg.

However, all is not lost. In September, an Advisory Committee on Women's Studies was appointed by the Vice-President (Academic) with the ongoing responsibility for coordinating and stimulating academic activity related to Women's Studies at the University of Alberta.

The members of the Committee are at present sixteen people: twelve



who are members of the academic staff; two students; a representative from Athabasca University, and one from the provincial government. The Committee is chaired by Dr. M.A. Hall of the Department of Physical Education and Sport Studies. Many members of the Committee already teach and do research in some aspect of Women's Studies.

The Committee meets regularly and thus far has been gathering information on the various initiatives regarding Women's Studies already available at the university as well as advising on policy with regard to the development and implementation of Women's Studies as an academic program of study at the University of Alberta. The work of the Committee will take several months at which point it expects to issue a detailed report.



DRAFT  
ONLY

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→ Put this later

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~~coordinating with all~~

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Univ. of Alta.

the Women's Studies

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Coordinator from ~~representative from Alberta~~  
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Women's  
Secretary

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Also Lopes  
to  
Coord.  
with  
Au.

The description of the committee  
should come first, bad news about  
Chair later.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of February 28, 1985

Present: M. Assheton-Smith, D. Cullen, A. Hall (Chair), S. Jackel,  
N. Keating, J. Lauber, D. Mills, J. Vanderpost.

Regrets: P. Clements, R. Coulter, R. Liburd, S. Susut, R. Sydie.

Dr. Margaret Fulton, President of Mount St. Vincent attended the meeting. We had a very general discussion about the Women's Studies program at the "Mount" (see materials attached). As well, we invited Dr. Fulton to give her opinion as to a similar program at Alberta. The discussion was very wide-ranging, but there were probably two essential points. The first is that we should go for a degree program right away given the number of courses and resource people already available. The second is that we should work with whatever strengths we have presently and not worry too much about the gaps right now.

Next Meeting (March 14th): Dr. Margrit Eichler from the Ontario Institute for studies in Education will be our guest.





The Institute for the  
Study of Women

L'Institut d'étude  
sur la femme

Mount St. Vincent University offers an interdisciplinary B.A. in women's studies. It is also possible to minor in Women's studies.

Courses in women's studies include:

Women's Studies 100: Focus on Women  
W.S. 210: Introduction to Feminist Critique  
W.S. 310: Women's Studies Methodologies  
W.S. 410: Senior Seminar  
W.S. 301/302 and 303: Selected Topics in Women's Studies  
W.S. 321: Perspectives on Birth  
W.S. 331: Women and Media  
W.S. 341: Legal Status of Women  
W.S. 401/402 and 403: Directed Studies

Courses in other departments with women's studies content include:

English: 222 Women in Literature  
History: 206 Social History of European Women from the Classical World to the Industrial Revolution  
207 Social History of European Women from the Industrial Revolution to the Modern Day  
222 Canadian Women in Historical Perspective  
234 Women's History: The American Experience  
Philosophy: 250 Ideas on the Status of Women  
Political Studies: 223 Women and Politics  
Psychology: 265 The Psychology of Sex Differences  
Religious Studies: 207 Women in the Religions of the World  
208 Women in the Christian Tradition  
Sociology: 265 Sociology of Women  
266 Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Women

Mount Saint Vincent hopes to be appointing the Chair in Women's Studies in July 1985. The duties of the chair will include conducting a senior level seminar in women's studies, undertaking or continuing research in women's studies (in association with the Institute for the Study of Women) and giving public lectures both at the University and in the Atlantic region generally.

Mount Saint Vincent also has the Institute for the Study of Women. The Institute conducts original research in areas related to women's issues. It also conducts conferences and publishes a newsletter, Communiqué.

Mount St. Vincent is also the home of Atlantis: A Women's Studies Journal. Atlantis is an interdisciplinary bi-annual journal.

This year Mount St. Vincent will also be running a public lecture series on the theme "Women and Empowerment".





The Institute for the  
Study of Women

L'Institut d'étude  
sur la femme

Mount Saint Vincent University 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6 (902) 443-4450

Fall 1984

# Communiqué



## Mount St. Vincent University Receives First Chair in Women's Studies

A \$500,000 grant for the establishment of the first endowed Chair of Women's Studies in Canada was awarded to the Mount earlier this year. The chair is the realization of a long-time dream of Mount St. Vincent's President, Dr. Margaret Fulton.

Awarded by the Secretary of State, the chair will enable scholars committed to Women's studies to come to the Mount for a period of two or three years to participate in the women's studies program and to carry out research in affiliation with the Institute for the Study of Women.

In August, the Secretary of State's Chair Committee met at the Mount to discuss the criteria for hiring the first chair and for fulfilling the conditions set by the Secretary of State. Both Mount Saint Vincent University and the Secretary of State's committee shared a concern to have the community share in the learning experience which the chair will afford. Consequently, the occupant of the chair will not only give public lectures to the Halifax community but will also be accessible to the Atlantic region as well.

Women's studies is still a relatively new discipline. Although there are many distinguished learned scholars in women's studies, there are also a growing number of junior scholars devoting the in research and political energies to furthering feminist research. There are also a number of renowned feminists who do not have the required credentials for a traditional endowed chair. Both the Sec. of State and the Senate of Mount St. Vincent University agreed that it was important to allow flexibility so that remarkable women in all three categories could qualify as occupants of the chair.

Beginning in January 1985, the Mount will launch a lecture series both as publicity for the first appointment to the chair and as an opportunity for the academic and general public to become aware of the numerous excellent women in various walks of life and academic disciplines who qualify as candidates for the chair. Speakers will come from all parts of Canada to participate.



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## Research

Margaret Dechman, research associate with the Institute for the Study of Women, is very busy these days. At present, there are three research projects being carried out by the Institute.

The first project, funded by the SSHRCC looks at the effect of office automation on clerical workers. Samples were drawn from both insurance companies and law firms to provide a comparison of different office environments. Office managers were given personal interviews, covering topics such as staffing requirements, equipment expenditures and computer usage. Clerical staff were provided with self-administered questionnaires concerning attitude changes coinciding with job restructuring, increase in salaries and promotional opportunities. Mount faculty, Glen Flemming (Office Administration) and Wendy Doyle (Business Administration) have also been active in this research.

This project is an integrated study. Results have been compiled for the law offices but the results from the insurance companies are not expected until early next year.

The second project, also funded by the SSHRCC is a longitudinal study of secretarial students and their careers. The study began in 1977. The first three phases of the study were conducted by the Institute of Public Affairs at Dalhousie. 452 students enrolled in a variety of secretarial programs in the Halifax-Dartmouth area made up the initial sample.

Students were interviewed on their backgrounds, skills and the attitudes which they developed during the training course and subsequently during job search and placement activities.

The fourth (follow-up) interview is being handled by the Institute for the Study of Women. The interview stage, which is being conducted by research associate, Janice Graham-Miguel, hopefully develop a comprehensive understanding of the work careers of the respondents to date. Special attention is being paid to the impact of office automation on secretarial careers, job satisfaction and work attitudes. Results of this study are expected in September 1985.

The third project is on impact assessment and is funded by the federal Department of Communications. The impact of office automation on the restructuring of jobs, job satisfaction and office productivity are among the variables under assessment. Specific department branches are being monitored before and after office automation by an integrated research team made up of government researchers, Institute researchers and researchers at Queen's University and the University of Montreal. Results of the project are expected by spring, 1985.

Together, the three projects will give researchers at the Institute a comprehensive view of the impacts of office automation on those working in office and its organizations.

More details will be forthcoming in future issues of *Communique*.



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## New Assistant Director

Deborah C. Poff has recently assumed a joint appointment as Assistant Director of the Institute for the Study of Women and as Coordinator of Women's Studies at Mount Saint Vincent University.

Professor Poff is a graduate of Queen's University, Carleton University, the University of Guelph and Humber College. She is currently completing a PhD in feminist philosophy in a combined Guelph-McMaster doctoral program. During her student days, Deborah was the recipient of Ontario Graduate Scholarships and a scholarship from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada. She was also awarded a research internship at the Hastings Center for Society, Ethics and the Life Sciences. While there she conducted research on sexism in evolutionary theory and sociobiology.

Deborah has published in many journals including the *International Journal of Women's Studies*, the *Sex Information and Education Council of Canada Bulletin*, and *Social Indicators Research*. She is also the editor of the *Journal of Business Ethics* for which she edited a special issue on "Women and Work". She has presented learned papers to societies and universities in Washington, New York, Vancouver, Edmonton, Waterloo, Guelph, Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg. She is currently co-authoring a text on the Philosophy of Science and co-editing a text in Canadian Business Ethics.

Besides her academic interest in feminist studies, Deborah has been involved in practical feminist issues. This has included serving as the administrator of a transition house for battered women.

Her current research interests lie in developing a new epistemological foundation for feminist theory.

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## Institute Update

### Conference

In August 1984, the Institute hosted an evaluation research conference funded under the SSHRCC "Women and Work" strategic grant program. Approximately twenty-five women scholars from across the Atlantic region had the opportunity of discussing 'state-of-the-art' evaluation research with consultants and researchers from all over Canada.

Among the discussion leaders were: Drs. Patricia and Paul Brantingham (Department of Justice and Simon Fraser University); Dr. Lorna Marsden (Ottawa and the University of Toronto); Dr. Norman Park, Ms. Audrey Kaplan and Mr. Barry Bragg (all currently working on assessing the impact of office automation with the Department of Communication) and Richard Roberts, (President, Praxis 84, a private consulting company).

Participants were given a good overview of the merits and limitations of participating in contract research as well as helpful "how to" tips on bidding for contract research.



## Upcoming Events

Mount Saint Vincent is hosting an International Conference, "Women's Alternatives For Negotiating Peace" from June 5-9, 1985.

All Canadian women's groups are invited to endorse this conference, the Canadian Federation of University Women, the National Action Committee, the Voice of Women and the Young Women's Christian Association have already done so.

*If we value our own lives, and the lives of our children and all children everywhere, if we honour both the past and the future, then we must do everything in our power to work non-violently for Peace.*

Margaret Lawrence, Writer

### Please indicate your interest

- ☐ Keep me/us informed
- ☐ Our group endorses this conference
- ☐ I/we wish to contribute money to bring women from developing nations to the conference
- ☐ I/we wish to contribute money to help meet organizing costs.

*The Arms Race and underdevelopment are not two problems, they are one. They must be solved together or neither will be solved.*

Inga Thorsson, Under-Secretary of State  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Group \_\_\_\_\_

**Make cheques payable to:** Women's International Peace Conference, address: Coalition of Canadian Women's groups, 166 Bedford Highway, Rm. 9, Seton Annex, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3M 2J6, Canada 902-443-4450 ext. 313

## MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY

Invites Nominations and Applications for appointment to

### THE CHAIR IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

The Chair is designated to bring to the University for a one or two year term, distinguished visiting scholars and promising young scholars in Women's Studies or persons in public life who have contributed to the advancement of women. Duties associated with the chair include public presentations for audiences on and off campus, the teaching of one course in women's studies and the continuation of on-going research.

Nominations and/or applications, the latter accompanied by a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees should be sent prior to March 15, 1985 to:

Dr. Susan Clark  
Women's Studies Chair Committee  
Mount Saint Vincent University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3M 2J6



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of March 14, 1985

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Regrets: R. Coulter, B. Mandelblatt, R. Sydnie.

1. The minutes of February 28, 1985 were approved as circulated.
2. Two brief announcements were made: Pat Clements reported on the progress to date concerning the Distinguished Visiting Professors and Speaker series. Ann reported that Dr. Linda Lange, who has published in feminist philosophy, was now on campus for two years and attached to the Boreal Institute.
3. Most of the meeting was taken up with an interesting and useful discussion with Dr. Margrit Eichler, Chair of the Department of Sociology at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, noted feminist scholar and pioneer in Women's Studies. The following is a summary of our discussion and hopefully represents Margrit's ideas as she presented them to us:

(a) We should distinguish between "women's studies" and "feminist studies". Margrit prefers the latter because it is less restrictive in that it can apply to both the study of women and men whereas "women's studies" usually means the study of women's experience alone. We must always be cognizant of the continuing feminist challenge to the existing disciplines.

(b) With regard to an academic program in feminist (women's) studies, Margrit favors a joint degree or double honors so that the student receives a grounding in both a discipline and feminist studies, or a minor in feminist studies along with training in a traditional discipline.

(c) Therefore it is essential to create a mechanism whereby those teaching in feminist studies are also housed in a disciplinary department (e.g. joint appointment). Conversely, there must also be a means whereby both staff and students in feminist studies can meet/discuss on a regular basis.

(d) Margrit encouraged us to find a means by which we can incorporate feminist studies within the so-called "hard" sciences because no other university/program has done this to date. Virtually all programs at present are housed in arts, i.e. the social sciences or humanities.

4. It was agreed that at our next meeting (March 28th) we will focus on the process we will use to make the most of our time at the "retreat" on April 13-14.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

March 28, 1985

AGENDA

- ✓ 1. Approval of minutes of March 14th
2. Approval of agenda
3. Report of the Chair
  - ✓ (a) Secretary of State Grant
  - ✓ (b) Distinguished Visitor/Speaker series
  - ✓ (c) Women's Studies conference at York University
  - (d) + Course in Philosophy ✓
4. Business arising from the minutes
  - ✓ (a) Feedback re consultation with Margaret Fulton and Margrit Eichler
  - ✓ (b) Folio article - write after we get money
5. New Business
  - ✓ (a) Administrative Coordinator (see attached material)
  - ✓ (b) Retreat - April 13-14 (see attached material)
6. Further Business
  - ✓ (a) Rebecca Coulter's request re ACCESS TV
  - ✓ (b) Course Outlines + Susan's outline
  - (Yes) (c) Next meeting - April 11th?
  - (d) Comments/suggestions re process to date
  - (e)
  - (f)



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Regrets: P. Clements, N. Keating, B. Mandelblatt, R. Sydie.

1. The minutes of March 14, 1985 were approved as circulated.
2. Ann reported that we have been awarded the grant from the Secretary of State. Although we have not received the notification in writing as yet, nor the grant monies, the Regional office has assured us that they should be forthcoming hopefully by mid-April.
3. Ann explained that during the past week, it had become apparent that our nominations for Distinguished Visitor should be sent to Dr. Bercov (Associate Vice-President) directly from the Committee and not through the Faculty of Arts as had been our original intention. The Committee agreed and letters of support for the nomination of Drs. Dale Spender and Alison Jaggar have been solicited throughout the university. The nominations will be submitted for the April 1st deadline.
4. There is a national conference on Women's Studies in Canada at York University on April 19-20. Information was circulated.
5. Everyone agreed that the consultations with Margaret Fulton and Margrit Eichler were very worthwhile.
6. It was agreed that we would submit an article to FOLIO following the receipt of our grant money and the hiring of an administrative coordinator.
7. The advertisement for the position of Administrative Coordinator was discussed and modified. EACH COMMITTEE MEMBER IS ASKED TO POST THE ENCLOSED COPIES WHERE APPROPRIATE.

After all applications have been received (April 15th deadline), Susan and Ann will draw up a shortlist. A committee consisting of Sandi, Rosemary and Ann will interview those candidates on the shortlist. Therefore, we hope to have the person chosen by April 18th at the latest. If they can start immediately, fine; if not, they will begin on May 1.

8. The retreat logistics are attached. PLEASE THINK ABOUT AND ADD YOUR IDEAS TO THE "CONTENT/PROCESS" SHEET. At our final meeting before the retreat (April 11th), we will discuss what the content and process will be.



9. Rebecca Coulter has requested our support for a television series on women's issues with ACCESS TV. Everyone agreed that it was an excellent program. Ann will send her a letter of support.
10. Those committee members who teach a "women's studies" course, and who have not already done so are asked to submit their course outlines and reading lists to Ann who is compiling them for use at the retreat.

It was also agreed that we would put together a more comprehensive brochure on the courses now available at U of A as well as other information about Women's Studies programs (e.g., Women's Program in Extension, the Athabasca program). This will be a task given to the Administrative Coordinator.

11. NEXT MEETING: April 11th.



## RETREAT LOGISTICS

PLACE: Westridge Park Lodge (nr. Devon - map to follow)

TIME: Arrive by 4:30 pm Saturday and leave by 4:30 pm Sunday

TRANSPORTATION: Own cars - anyone need a ride?

MEALS: Saturday dinner: 6:00 pm (Cash bar prior)  
Sunday breakfast: 8:00 am  
Sunday lunch: 12:30 pm

Coffee, tea, juice available all day Sunday

MEETING TIMES: Saturday: 7:30 - 9:30 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 - 12 noon  
1:30 - 4 pm

ROOMS: Doubles

Marilyn and Sandi  
Janina and Jean  
Dallas and Ros  
Rosemary and Norah  
Barbara and Birdie

Singles

David  
Ann (+dog!)

Please let me know your preference:

Christine.  
Susan  
Pat  
Rebecca

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: Overhead \_\_\_\_\_  
Flip charts \_\_\_\_\_  
Pens Sandi \_\_\_\_\_  
Computer? \_\_\_\_\_  
Tape recorders \_\_\_\_\_

(NB) Bring mine + tapes



TENTATIVE CONTENT/PROCESS

CONTENT:

- Philosophical statement
- Philosophical principles
- Rationale/need/history of women's studies
- Nature of program
- Courses
- Administration
- Resources
- Budget
- Strategies for goal attainment
- Division of labour
- Relationship to community

(+)  
- Rel<sup>n</sup> to Athabasca program  
- Rel<sup>n</sup> to Advanced educ.

PROCESS:

- Rotating chair
- Discussion in groups of two and three (Saturday pm and part of Sunday am.
- Whole committee discussion remainder of Sunday am and after lunch
- considerable flexibility
- sharing note-taking

RESOURCES PERSONS:

It was decided that that this particular retreat we will not invite any resource persons.



PLEASE POST

FULL-TIME POSITION AVAILABLE

WOMEN'S STUDIES

The Vice-President's (Academic) Advisory Committee on Women's Studies is looking for a full-time Administrative Coordinator. The position is available immediately and is for an 8 month period (May - December).

The role of the Administrative Coordinator is to assist the Committee in its day-to-day work as well as in the collection and preparation of the documentation required to prepare a substantial report on the potential of a formalized Women's Studies program at the University of Alberta.

We require someone with administrative experience who also has a demonstrated competence in writing and communication skills. The successful candidate must have the ability to work independently but also cooperatively with the Committee. They will also be responsible for their own office work. An interest in Women's Studies and previous involvement with women's issues along with some familiarity with the programs and structure of the University of Alberta would also be an asset.

Some post-secondary education would be an asset although not a requirement.

Salary: \$1,750 per month.

Apply in writing (resume and two letters of reference) before April 15th to:

Dr. M. Ann Hall  
Chair, Advisory Committee on Women's Studies  
Dept. of Physical Education and Sport Studies  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2H9



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

April 11, 1985

AGENDA

- ✓ 1. Approval of minutes of March 28th
- ✓ 2. Approval of agenda
- ✓ 3. Report of the Chair
  - ✓ (a) Course in the Department of Philosophy ✓
  - ✓ (b) Second Wreath Conference (c) Juina ✓
4. Business arising from the minutes
  - ✓ (a) Hiring of the Administrative Coordinator
  - (b) Distinguished Visitor/Speaker series
  - (c) Retreat
    - logistics
    - content/process
5. New Business
  - (a)
  - (b)
6. Further Business
  - (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of April 11, 1985

Present: M. Assheton-Smith, P. Clements, D. Cullen, B. Eyles, A. Hall (Chair), N. Keating, S. Jackel, J. Lauber, R. Liburd, D. Mills, S. Susut, J. Vanderpost.

Regrets: C. Davies, B. Mandelblatt, R. Sydnie.

1. The minutes of March 28, 1985 were approved as circulated.
2. Ann reported on some preliminary discussions with Dr. David Sharpe, Chairman of the Department of Philosophy who is quite willing to offer a course in the 1985-86 academic year on feminist political philosophy (taught by Linda Lange) if we as a Committee could come up with the necessary \$3,300 to \$4,000.

This prompted a discussion regarding the total budget for the Committee for the 1985-86 academic year and it was agreed that we will draw up such a budget incorporating some discretionary funds.

We will use the potential of the course in Philosophy as an example of how we would make use of such funds.

The budget and rationale will be submitted directly to Dr. Meekison.

3. Ann reported that the matter of our co-sponsorship of the Second Wreath Conference had now been sorted out and that a letter had gone to Halyna Freeland indicating our support of the project.
4. Janina provided some useful information from Advanced Education regarding program coordination policy. It was decided that we need to focus more attention on the implications of any new program for Advanced Education and we will do so at the retreat.
5. Applications are starting to come in for the Administrative Coordinator position. It was agreed that we will not interview until after the 1st of May in order to leave more time for late applications and the drawing up of a short list.
6. Some discussion took place concerning the nature of our collaboration with the Faculty of Arts regarding the Distinguished Visitor/Speaker series. There was general agreement that we wish to continue the collaboration although there are still some details to work through. In the meantime, it was agreed that Pat should go ahead and invite the remaining speakers.
7. The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing the agenda for the April 13-14 retreat (see attached).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

April 13-14, 1985

AGENDA

Saturday, April 13 (7:30-9:30 p.m.)

Large group discussion

Chair: Jean Lauber

Topic: PHILOSOPHY

E.G. - feminist studies vs women's studies

- relationship to women's movement and the community
- what will the students of the program gain?
- vision quest: towards the year 2008!!!!

NOTE: We need to decide on a chair for Sunday a.m.



Sunday, April 14 (9:00 - 12 noon)

Large group discussion

Chair:

Topic: Women's Studies at Athabasca University (Rebecca Coulter)

Break into small groups

Topic: SPECIFICS

E.G. - what sort of administrative structure do we want?

- course offerings?

- existing resources?

Return to group as a whole.

Decide on chair for the afternoon session

Sunday, April 14 (1:30 to 4:00 p.m.)

Small group discussions

Chair:

Topic: STRATEGY

E.G. - who can we expect help from?

- who is most likely to oppose what we want?
- what are the internal (i.e. university) hoops to jump?
- what are the budgetary constraints
- what is the relationship of the proposed program to Advanced Education?

Back to large group discussion

Topic: - division of labour  
- time lines  
- reflecting on the process



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Saturday, April 13

### WHAT IS WOMEN'S STUDIES?

Ros: An intellectual program of women's studies.

Christine: Must decide on format.

Barb: Must get a lot done.

Pat: Degree to which we should be autonomous. Should be feminist studies.

Marilyn: Wants to define feminist. Avoiding taking over male-defined system and moving to some sort of positive vision.

Susan: has moved to feminist studies.

Redefine feminist in the public mind.

Great numbrs who need to know about women and may be put off by feminist studies.

Janina: Sees role as offering some practical suggestions.

Rebecca: Agrees with Marilyn but we all have our definitions of women's studies. It is a problem of the label.

Dichotomy is a false one.

Birdie: Anything we develop must be feminist. Format is the important thing.

Norah: Feels that what she is doing is a lot more feminist than she thought.

Must create something that allows all of us to be involved.

Dallas: "Women's Studies is the conscience of the University" (E.F. Keller). What are we trying to say?

Ann: Must be called women's studies but must incorporate the feminist critique.

Sandy: Must remember the connections to the women's mov't from which it all came.

Rosemary: How will this program fit into the larger university structure?

David: Has become much more pessimistic largely through experience of teaching this year. People will become frightened of feminist studies. Feels that the course on women in history is dependent on him and if he leaves so will the courses.

### OPEN DISCUSSION:

- we will always be marginalized.
- our course will be seen as only being able to be taught by "us".
- what sort of support would there be if course was also part of a women's studies program.
- but, among "liberals" need to be seen as doing the right thing.
- but also, presumably all members of a dept. could teach a feminist course

Jean: visualizing a degree program because we won't be taken seriously unless we do. A very broad degree of liberal studies. Very diverse with many components.

#### - WHAT WILL THE STUDENTS OF THE PROGRAM GAIN?

- not so much an issue of credentials but of skills.
- we do have to show that women's studies is a different approach to liberal studies.
- back to the question of demographics -how do we reintegrate? Answer could be that we are empowering women.
- we also have to help women deal with their isolation because they will likely be when they are in the work force.
- we are training feminists- e.g. they are historians but first of all they are feminists.
- is there really a point in talking about what these students are going to do?
- there appears to be consensus on the need for a core in the program that is feminist based.
- now is the time to get done to the details of the program and the structure.

#### FEMINIST STUDIES VS WOMEN'S STUDIES

- need something that alienates the fewest individuals
- issue is one of strategy because in the context of philosophy, we know what we want. i.e. feminist studies.

#### WHAT SORT OF ISSUES SHOULD STUDENTS HAVE EXPLORED?

- sending feminists out into the world
- for graduate students, they have in fact two knowledge systems.
- it is at that level we will have an impact on the knowledge structures.
- core courses could always have the word "feminist" within the titles and in this way make it clear that the core courses deal with feminist criticism and conscienteness.
- what is also a part of the program structure is the building of networks and relationships - it is not all just head stuff.
- courses which deal with women and may not necessarily be feminist can go on providing there is a core of feminist courses.
- our purpose is to "produce revolutionary subversives" and we have to find a legitimate way to label it
- some of this is simply good education: assisting people to see and understand those structures around them.
- also, the need for women to take themselves seriously - therefore the need for courses just about women.
- what this argues for is an identifiable place where students can learn to be feminists (or revolutionary subversives!!)

#### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WOMEN'S MOV'T AND THE ACADEMY.

- what does this mean?
- can we have a vision of this now?
- an active interchange is always going on with the community.
- we have to have a shared commitment to bringing about change.
- if not, women in the community will know that right away.
- some sort of permeability between staff and students - this is a process and there must be a continual change.
- feminist knowledge is being created in the community and that is also of value
- how much room is there for community based advisory committees?
- what is the community? (when we talk about links to it?)
- we also have to remember that we (as academics) are also part of the



knowing what a feminist studies  
university based and never will be.  
- our interest as women must be a shared one.

#### VISION QUEST: TOWARDS THE YEAR 2008

- dichotomy above won't exist anymore
- should discuss this question tomorrow afternoon after structure!
- full blown program and the U of A as a center for feminist studies.
- discipline transformed
- stratification theory is transformed
- not be angry when you read most of the books one reads
- less time changing things inch by inch so that main energies are on why we are there to reflect and think
- we have not touched on role of lesbians within women's studies and we need to develop a position on this also
- feminist courses are just what exist - it is just normal
- dichotomies will no longer exist
- campus has a center for feminist studies (i.e. the business building) and then Dallas wouldn't dodder.
- what we need is a feminist retirement centre called "Dodder Inn".
- need a new building designed by feminists - a very safe place for women and where we can come back when we are old.
- wants the number of men to double in his history class.
- can talk about humanist studies where gender makes no difference.

THE END

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Sunday, April 14 (morning)

### WOMEN'S STUDIES AT ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY (Rebecca Coulter)

- remember that Athabasca U is a distance education institute
- in Sept. hope to open three women's studies courses. Have several others under development.
- e.g. women and social change; women and health issues.
- also intend to build a practicum project into the program.
- 62% of students at Athabasca U are women. Students take a long time to get a degree.
- looking at the possibility of some sort of interim credential - e.g. a core program in women's studies.
- try as much as possible not to have prerequisites, but do suggest introductory courses for more senior courses.
- re practicum: have only talked about it in a general way thus far. Sees it as directed independent study- e.g. work with someone from U of A on a special project. Will work it out as they go along.
- transferability: almost all courses can be transferred to any institution in Canada.
- need to look at ways of complementing the two programs (i.e. Athabasca and U of A).
- but probably most U of A students would prefer to take regular courses because of the work load of the Athabasca courses.
- finding distance education courses is a problem. Writing them from scratch takes a great deal of work.
- need 30 to 42 credits before they can offer a full program.
- granting credit for "life experience": Athabasca is looking at this but it is not an immediate priority.
- also looking at the possibility of "challenge exams" (e.g. in business education).

### NATIVE STUDIES PROPOSAL (Marilyn)

- will be an undergraduate degree in native studies
- has taken approximately 8 years to develop
- many of the same issues we have been discussing were discussed there also - e.g. relationship to the native community.
- proposed a series of courses
- have moved away from housing within Faculty of Arts and are now proposing a school of native studies
- some existing courses will be renamed, some stay the same, and some new ones will be developed.
- calling it a "school" gives it a fairly high level of autonomy. As a School they cannot offer graduate degrees.
- even though it has taken 8 years, most of the activity has been in the last 2 or 3 years.
- will be offering a Bachelor of Native Studies.
- do envision hundreds taking the program but not thousands
- someone has been designated as a Director of the program (internal).

### FOUR YEAR BA PROGRAM (Susan)



- note especially p. 14 re special programs where a women's studies program might fit.
- the extent to which a women's studies program can be truly multidisciplinary is a point of question re this route.

AT THIS POINT WE SPLIT INTO SMALL GROUPS TO DISCUSS SPECIFICS

1. Administrative structure
2. Course offerings (Program)
3. Existing resources

Each group has a central focus although they will talk about all three of the above.

#### REPORTS BACK FROM GROUPS:

##### Structure:

- Women's Research Centre
  - academics from all faculties
  - requires some sort of structure and physical setting
  - some paid staff
  - unspecified but recognized relationship with undergraduate students
  - first program: BA(Special) in Faculty of Arts
  - research associates, visiting scholars, sabbatical visitors.
  - community linkages defined as the centre evolves.
- 
- Women's Studies Coordinating Committee
  - no existing structure, therefore new
  - need body in university to accommodate us
  - courses listed with "WS" in front either by themselves or those within departments.
  - could only offer a course designated WS, you were a member of the Coordinating Committee or approved by the committee.
  - greater cross-faculty cooperation
  - power to attract research associates, visiting professors, etc.
  - with this "package" approach Arts Faculty (e.g.) to see if they could accommodate us.
  - want them to get going on discipline first and they would have to be in second year before they took a women's studies course.
  - wanted a grounding to go into graduate work
  - if the answer from Arts is "no", then would have to fall back on the school concept.
  - therefore having a research centre is very important - i.e. to have that in place. The program and the centre go together as a package.

#### COURSE CONTENT

- what would degree look like if housed in Arts but with special concessions?
- survey course in second year
- current issues course but not everyone would have to take this course whereas everyone would take the survey course.
- fourth year: some sort of tying together course.
- use a lot of the existing courses plus some new courses developed.

Third and fourth year content of courses is developed, but not the actual

-core feminist courses: Introduction to Women's Studies; Currents of Feminist Thought; Feminist Research & Methodology; Understanding the Women's Mov't; Strategies for Change; Practicum.-also give credit for a "support group" discussion on a regular basis  
-could also offer a course on Women and the Professions to attract women from the professions.  
-also require a physical place for support/discussion

-then looked at the existing courses and tried to envisage what is needed:

- e.g.- Women & Work in sociology
  - Women & Psychology in psychology
  - Feminist Critique of Economic Theory in Economics
  - Canadian Women Authors in comparative literature
  - Feminist Pedagogy in Educational Foundations

-the addition of these courses would be incremental and very slow

-there is also a need for courses in other areas: e.g.women and technology, women and law, health issues for women, gender and sport, etc.

-where is this: perhaps not in Arts but we are not certain where except that perhaps we need a separate institute or school.

THE END



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Sunday, April 14 (afternoon)

### WHERE ARE WE AT?

- BA in Women's Studies "allied" with the Faculty of Arts (four year)
- undergraduate program is the first thing we try to implement
- research institute/centre that has a physical space/place.
- these two ideas go hand-in-hand
- in other words, as an institute/centre we would negotiate with a faculty (in the first case the Faculty of Arts) in order to offer a degree.
- the centre, therefore, has both a teaching and a research function.
- centre/institute would have a coordinating director.
- also require funds for the development of courses in various departments.
- THE KEY QUESTION HERE is whether or not an institute/centre can offer courses and have a teaching function.

### SUB-COMMITTEES

1. Curriculum/program
2. Centre/institute structure
3. Physical space

Curriculum/program:  
Ann, Barb, Ros

Centre/Institute structure:  
Rosemary, Dallas, Marilyn, Norah

Physical Space:  
Susan

### REPORTING BACK:

Next Committee meeting: Thursday, May 9th (2-4pm)  
Next meeting after: Thursday, May 23rd.

25

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

May 9, 1985

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of April 13-14
2. Approval of agenda
3. Introduction of the Administrative Coordinator - Leslie Stewart
4. Report of the Chair
  - (a) Women's Studies Conference, York University, April 19/20
  - (b) Meeting with Dr. Meekison
  - (c) Leslie's immediate duties/tasks
  - (d) Visit of Dr. Marion Vaisey-Genser (University of Manitoba)
5. Business arising from the minutes
  - (a) Distinguished Visitor/speaker series
  - (b) Sub-committee reports
    - Curriculum/programme
    - Centre/institute structure
    - Physical space
6. New Business
  - (a) Preliminary proposal for ADC (see attached)
  - (b) Committee replacements
  - (c) Meetings between now and September
7. Further Business
  - (a) Letter to M.P. Jim Edwards re W-S Chairs.
  - (b)
  - (c)



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of May 9, 1985

Present: M. Assheton-Smith, P. Clements, D. Cullen, A. Hall (Chair), S. Jackel, J. Lauber, R. Liburd, J. Vanderpost, R. Sydie, R. Coulter, L. Stewart.

Regrets: S. Susut, N. Keating, D. Mills.

1. The minutes of April 13-14 were approved as circulated.
2. Ann introduced the new Administrative Coordinator, Leslie Stewart.
3. Ann reported that attending the Women's Studies Conference at York University has convinced her that the Women's Studies Committee at U. of A. is right on track. This is especially true with regards to the development of a formalized degree program and the need for an autonomous structure. The WSC committee is discussing the same types of issues that were being discussed at the conference.  
Ann has a copy of the Women's Studies Chair proposal that York University submitted as well as the Atkinson College proposal for a free standing B.A. in Women's Studies. All materials that Ann now has will be moved over to Leslie's office in the Women's Program and Resource Centre.
4. Dallas and Ros reported on their meeting with Dr. Meekison. He was very supportive and suggested that the proposal for a degree and centre should go before the ADC early on.  
The purpose of presenting the proposal at this time is to get an idea of what the ADC thinks, what questions they might raise, etc. It will be made clear to the ADC that the presentation is not to be construed as a formal submission, and that the WSC is interested in feedback and suggestions.  
Some changes were then suggested to the written proposal which Ann had drafted. Ann will incorporate these and send a copy to Dr. Meekison (see attached). Included as an appendix will be the background information on the WSC.  
Also, Dr. Meekison is recommending that the WSC receive \$10,000 to use as it sees best.
5. A discussion concerning Leslie's immediate tasks and duties came up with the following:
  - take the minutes at meetings
  - review the minutes to date to determine what tasks committee members have taken on and whether there are any loose ends to be tied up

- look into the existing Women's Studies research and teaching institutes across Canada
- write away for information
- purpose is to gather external examples of the type of institute that we have in mind
- go to Athabasca with Rebecca one day to look through her files on Women's Studies courses across Canada
- attend sub-committee meetings
- work on a more formalized brochure regarding Women's Studies at U. of A.

It was generally agreed that a trip to Athabasca University with Rebecca should take place soon. Marilyn suggested that Leslie should feel free to contact any member of the committee for any help she might need.

6. There was some discussion over the upcoming visit of Dr. Marion Vaisey-Genser, the Associate Vice-President (Research) at the University of Manitoba. Both Ann and Rebecca have been requested to meet with Dr. Vaisey-Genser on May 16 to discuss the Prairie region chair and possible collaboration.
7. Pat and Ann met last week to discuss the speakers series, forum and art exhibition. Ann reaffirmed the ongoing collaboration with the Faculty of Arts. The EFF fund has provided funding for both Distinguished Visitors; Dale Spender in September and Alison Jaggar in March. The WSC will be responsible for the speakers series while the Faculty of Arts will take responsibility for the exhibition of women artists and the forum.  
The speakers series will be organized such that the WSC will work directly with one person within each participating department of the Faculty of Arts to ensure that the needs of the department are met.  
There are still two slots to be filled by visiting speakers. Suggestions were: Nancy Chodorow, Jean Baker Miller, Sheila Rowbotham and Juliet Mitchell.
8. It was agreed that over the summer break the committee should meet at least once a month. Sub-committees also need to meet throughout the summer. The issue of committee replacements was raised but it was decided to leave this until the fall.  
\*The May 23 meeting is cancelled and will be held MAY 30 instead.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES  
PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE  
PROGRAMME IN WOMEN'S STUDIES AND A CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

(May, 1985)

What we intend to propose is an undergraduate degree programme in Women's Studies, most probably a Bachelor of Arts. Related to the development of a degree programme is an autonomous centre or institute whose focus is Women's Studies.

The degree programme would in all likelihood be very similar in structure to the existing B.A. (Canadian Studies) degree. For instance, it would be a four-year (twenty course) program with a minimum of eight core Women's Studies courses. Specialization would be within an established discipline or across two disciplines or perhaps even a specialization of a multidisciplinary nature involving courses in more than one faculty.

Such a proposal for a B.A. (Women's Studies) raises at least two questions:

- (1) Within the existing structure of the university, who would offer such a degree?
- (2) Is there a need for some autonomous structure within the university whose focus is Women's Studies?

We believe that most students interested in Women's Studies will be those who wish to enrol in a liberal arts programme. Since the majority of the existing undergraduate courses dealing specifically with women are taught in Departments within the Faculty of Arts (see attached information), that faculty would appear to be the most logical "home" for a B.A. (Women's Studies).

However, academic staff are needed to develop and teach the new core courses in Women's Studies which are fundamental to the degree. Someone must also be responsible for ensuring the further development and coordination of appropriate courses in the traditional disciplines not only within the Faculty of Arts but within other faculties as well.

What we envision is a centre or institute which would provide not only a "home" and physical setting (e.g., the Emily Murphy House) but also a focus for Women's Studies at the University of Alberta. The name is not important at this stage, but for the sake of convenience, we call it the Centre for Women's Studies. Several such centres and institutes already exist on this campus: for example, the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies, the Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies, and the Centre for Advanced Study in Theoretical Psychology.

There are also several institutes in Canada with both a teaching and research function whose focus is Women's Studies such as the Simone de Beauvoir Institute at Concordia University in Montreal and The Institute for the Study of Women at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax. Numerous such centres and institutes exist in the United States.

The proposed Centre for Women's Studies would have a director/coordinator and secretarial/administrative support but be primarily comprised of members of the academic staff from various faculties who are responsible to the Centre and also their home department (joint appointments or temporary secondment). Eventually, the Centre would attract research scholars from other institutions and universities as well as developing its own research activities.

Members of the Centre for Women's Studies would be responsible for student advising, program planning and overall programme decisions in the B.A. (Women's Studies) in collaboration primarily with the Faculty of Arts but also other faculties/departments who agree to offer approved Women's Studies courses. Members of the Centre would also teach the core Women's Studies courses as well as the approved courses in their own disciplines.


Finally, the Centre for Women's Studies would seek to aid in the coordination of Women's Studies throughout the province through close cooperation with, for example, Athabasca University and the University of Calgary, both of which have already developed programmes in Women's Studies.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

May 30, 1985

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of May 16
2. Approval of agenda
3. Report of the Chair
  - (a) Visit of Marion Vaisey-Genser and Fred Stambrook  
(University of Manitoba).
  - (b) Response of ADC re: proposal
4. Business arising from the minutes
  - (a) Speaker Series
  - (b) Sub-committee reports
    - Curriculum/programme
    - Centre/institute structure
    - Physical space
5. New Business  

  - (a) Faculty of Arts Proposal for a New Initiative in  
Women's Studies
6. Further Business
  - (a) *Next chair*
  - (b) *Announcements*
  - (c)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of May 30, 1985

Present: P. Clements, D. Cullen, A. Hall (Chair), S. Jackel, J. Lauber, D. Mills, S. Susut, J. Vanderpost, L. Stewart.

Regrets: M. Assheton-Smith, R. Liburd.

1. The minutes of May 16 were approved as circulated.
2. Ann reported briefly on the visit of Marion Vaisey-Genser and Fred Stambrook. No new business arose out of their meeting.
3. Dallas reported that the ADC seemed to respond positively to the Preliminary Proposal for an Undergraduate Degree Programme in Women's Studies and a Centre for Women's Studies. There was a brief discussion around the questions and comments made by the ADC (see attached).
4. The committee discussed the Proposal for a New Initiative in Women's Studies as presented by Pat. The committee supported the proposal and felt that its implementation would be beneficial to the development of a full degree program in Women's Studies. Ann will send a letter of support to Dr. White (Dean, Faculty of Arts).
5. There was some discussion regarding the Speaker Series. It was agreed that Leslie should complete a Secretary of State application to cover the cost of the Forum and Art Exhibit, as well as the visits of Jennifer Dickson and Catherine Stimpson.
6. Ann expressed her wish to "retire" as Chair of the committee as of September. Dallas has agreed to take over the Chair position. Since Ann will be off campus a good deal over the next three months, the summer will serve as a transitional period with Dallas officially assuming the Chair in September.
7. Susan reported on the particulars of obtaining space from the university. She suggested that the annex in the Arts building might be suitable. Susan, Pat, Jean, and Leslie will look at the Arts annex and see what they think.
8. Dallas briefly discussed the work of the Centre/Institute Sub-committee (see attached). The sub-committee members feel that they are ready to start writing up what they think the centre/institute should be.
9. Due to summer schedules, the WSC will not meet again until September. However, work on the Speaker Series and the development of the proposal will continue.



COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (MAY 29, 1985)

1. Need to specify details of the degree program
2. Feminist studies versus women's studies (given this and conflicting ideologies, don't push idea of control over course ideology too far)
3. Document student interest in program and need for space for students
4. Stress research -- statement of scholarly activities currently going on and in what ways centre will contribute to and expand on this
5. Graduate students and program
6. Show why we are not a duplication of Calgary and Athabasca
7. Relationship to Women's Program in the Faculty of Extension
8. Include the sciences
9. Separate unit (autonomy) versus remaining in the disciplines, if goal is to transform the disciplines
10. Justify administrator/bureaucracy to administer one (small) degree program
11. Separate cost of each part for budget purposes
12. Given that some courses will be outside the Faculty of Arts, will need to ensure that those faculties will accept our students (i.e., Faculty of Arts may be willing to let students take outside courses, but other faculties will not let them do so)
13. Why is a separate entity necessary; why not a program like Canadian Studies?
14. Given the two components (program and research centre), if funds are allocated for one component, do we then have the complete thing?

Copy of MAS' notes:

7:36 pm May 15, 1985(?)

# Women's Study Programme: Women's Study Centre Proposal

I want to make this fairly short, as it is late, but I also want to get a little down from the discussion at Devon so that Rosemary and Norah and I can recall it for our work later on.

There was one clear agreement, I think, and that was that we needed some structure outside of any existing Faculty which would provide a focus for Women' Studies. We proposed a variety of terms from Research Centre to our existing Co-ordinating Committee to Women's Studies Centre and Women's Studies Institute (and even, possibly, a school or Faculty of Women's Studies). . . but the clearest agreement was a need for "something". . . from there many details varied among us and I will try to write the clearest picture I can draw from those varying details.

The term Centre or Institute was finally favoured, reporting to a Vice-President for administrative purposes or possibly "no one" (this latter path was not quite clear, but was noted by Jean Lauber as one possibility. Perhaps the Boreal is seen in this category, reporting to a fairly independent board, although it is within an administrative line for budget allocations, etc.) It would have a number of elements and functions, some well spelled out by us and some just touched upon:

- a) Be developed on feminist philosophical principles (not spelled out in detail)
- b) Research
- c) Academics from all faculties, on some sort of dual appointment arrangement, doing work in Women's Studies
- d) A program or academic director; probably on two to five year secondment from a faculty, drawn from the group of academics in b) and on a rotating basis rather than a permanent appointment. (Decision structure for such appointments and those in (b) not elaborated but assumed as vested in the centre itself in some way)
- e) Support staff, including secretarial type of work and an administrative coordinator (APO level)
- f) A specific space or building for the academics to meet and work, a sense of "our own space" in association with that
- g) A relationship to the community (or women's organization or women's movement) possibly through research functions, perhaps practicum functions for students, and others
- h) Research Associates, Visiting Scholars, and Sabbatical Visitors
- i) Graduate Research Assistants
- j) Undergraduate programme planning component, at present seen in relation to an undergraduate degree in Women's Studies in the Faculty of Arts. The detailed structure of this is still open, but the ideal would appear to be maximum autonomy and



- responsibility in relation to student advising,  
program planning, and overall program decisions
- k) A related teaching component, in that some of the academics based in the Centre would carry Women's Studies teaching responsibilities
  - l) Those responsibilities might be for core courses (second, third, and fourth year) and optional courses (all four years) and especially be associated with the two or three compulsory courses and perhaps a related practicum experience
  - m) The structure would have responsibility for designating courses "Women's Studies" courses. We did not agree or discuss in detail the best way to do this (related to course content, or course instructor, or both, or other possibilities)
  - n) It would have its own budget
  - o) It would develop a committee structure in which many of the above tasks would be assigned to small groups of academics within the centre, but an overall "board", presumably of the working academics and other full-time personnel would develop policy and directions
  - p) It might develop particular programmatic relations with A.U. and U. of C. (formally or informally) which would facilitate Women's Studies throughout the province. . .i.e., the structure would have the possibility of developing relationships in many directions besides the traditional ones.

That is all I can think of, there may be a number of additional points but fatigue has taken over. . . this will start us recalling I think.

#### ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM DALLAS' DEVON GROUP:

Given that the degree will likely be offered through the Faculty of Arts, but will involve courses from outside that Faculty, an independent structure is crucial to ensure the participation and protection of those people/courses outside of departments in the Faculty of Arts (and perhaps those within the Faculty of Arts). Cross-listing of courses (WS/xxx) would be accompanied by secondment of person to Women's Studies -- when a person is teaching a cross-listed course, s/he is at that time in, and a member of, the Women's Studies Centre. In other words, a cross-listed course is taught by a person who is identified as being from the Women's Studies programme, not from the cross-listed department or faculty. Departments get to offer Women's Studies courses contingent upon the approval of the Women's Studies Centre. Departments could offer "unofficial" women's studies courses, but the Centre would decide which ones would be "official" (cross-listed, and for programme credit in the women's studies programme).

#### NOTES FROM MEETING OF MAY 16, 1985 (Rosemary, Marilyn, Dallas, Leslie)

We need to set up something that conforms (in appearance) to university structure and Universities Act, although we can -- and will -- then function



as we choose. For example, if we have an advisory board (with staff, community and student representation), this can officially be set up so that the officially recognized people "make" the decisions, though in actuality the decisions will be made by the advisory group, center staff, or whoever.

We will function like a department (but not be a member of any Faculty) and like a School (though we will eventually offer graduate degrees).

There are many anomalies in the University such as the Faculty of Library Science, which does not officially award degrees, and Student Counselling Services, which handles its own staff evaluations. We can incorporate aspects of their situations. We could perhaps report directly to the Academic V-P, since we will be an academic unit

Need to check Staff Agreement to determine ways in which joint appointments are handled. Most of us might be 2/3 own discipline, 1/3 Women's Center.

Need sufficient space so that people in the Centre have a desk, place to work -- a place just to meet is NOT sufficient. People must be able to spend working time at the Centre.

Wellesley College Center for Research on Women can be a model (though it does not have an explicit teaching function). Similarly, the Canadian Plains Research Institute(?) at the University of Regina seems to be a research institute with a teaching function and a board of directors which includes outside members

The Wellesley Center has 50 staff people working on 39 projects in six major program areas. Its funding comes from outside foundations which give grants channelled through Wellesley College. It disseminates its research through conferences and publications. It has the research staff plus an Associates Program. Membership in the Associates Program allows people to participate in special Discussion Series plus discounts on registration fees, working papers, etc. There is also a Corporate Associates Program; Corporate Associates receive information and analysis of Center research results. The Center has a variety of links with the College, and staff at the Center have taught courses in College departments. Students at all levels (undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral) come to the Center for training, which also has Visiting Research Scholars, whose work is directly related to that being done at the Center. Visiting Research Scholars do not receive a stipend from the Center.

What this suggests is that one way that we can develop a sense of community at our center is to have a major research project in which all center members may participate. The one we discussed focussed on the women of the Persons' Case. A major project in which we -- as a group -- looked at all aspects of life in Alberta at that time (economic, political, social, educational) as well as the relationships among them (for example) would provide a project to which we could all contribute. We would each have our own research projects, but, in addition, we would each have a part of the Nellie McClung Institute's project. Students could participate in this as well by, for example,



interviewing surviving community people about life in, and the events of, the period 1900 - 1930. They would thus get direct experience in feminist research as well as be participating fully in our feminist community.

As a committee, we have developed a strong sense of purpose and commitment to our proposed program. We need to examine the structures we developed and how we used those structures to develop and maintain our individual and collective purpose and apply that to the design of our center. What structures can we create and what ones will be imposed on us because we are in the university -- and how do we use those, rather than be used by them?

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YORK UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF ARTS

MEMORANDUM:

To: Council of the Faculty of Arts

From: Committee on Academic Policy and Planning  
Committee on Curriculum Development

Re: Proposal for an Interdisciplinary Programme in Women's  
Studies in the Faculty of Arts

Date: 13 January 1983

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The Committees jointly move:

"that Council approve the attached proposal for an  
Interdisciplinary Programme in Women's Studies in  
the Faculty of Arts."

The Committees have examined the proposal carefully,  
and are satisfied that it represents a coherent programme of  
study which will be of interest to a number of students; and  
that it has no significant resource implications.

The Committees recommend that there be a review of  
the Programme after five years of operation by a Committee,  
some of whose members are drawn from outside the Programme.

C.D. MacNiven, Chairman, CAPP  
R. Hoffmann  
D. Leyton-Brown  
M. Muldoon  
A. Pilgrim  
R. Grogan  
A. Schact  
W. Wigderson  
M. Chodak, Secretary

G. Walker, Chairman, CCD  
M. Corrigan  
E. Costa  
C. Furedy  
G. Paasche  
R. Hunt  
M. Chodak, Secretary

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PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERDISCIPLINARY  
PROGRAMME IN WOMEN'S STUDIES  
FOR THE FACULTY OF ARTS

January, 1983

Submitted for the Women's Studies

Committee by Naomi Black, Co-ordinator



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# I. Background: Women's Studies at York

The field of Women's Studies dates from the late 1960's, when the revived Women's Movement gave a focus to concerns about the rigidities and biases of the established academic disciplines. Here in Canada, we can most conveniently associate both the new militancy and the new scholarship with the appearance of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women, in 1970. This Report did not call for any academic response, but its own excellent studies became the first contemporary documentation of the situation of women in Canada. The very need to commission that studies showed the urgency of developing a scholarship that would eventually be incorporated into the curriculum. The biases and omissions described in the Report underlined the need. In 1972, the massive Report of Ontario's Committee on Post-Secondary Education was obliged to rely on the research done by women's voluntary associations for its sections on women. Although it did not mention Women's Studies, it demonstrated in detail the significant but little-known disadvantages of women in post-secondary education. It thus once more implied the need for both research and teaching about women. In 1974 the Symons Commission (on Canadian content in higher education) presented a somewhat different situation. Dr. Symons was able to refer to a collected volume of writings about women in Canada and also to a Newsletter circulating among academics interested in Women's Studies. He urged other institutions to join the "dozen Canadian universities [that] now offer courses on the role of women in contemporary society and in history." In Ontario, he noted only the courses that were then being offered at the Universities of Waterloo and Toronto.

By 1974, in fact, courses in Women's Studies were also available at York, as the university's Senate Task Force on the Status of Women noted. In its Report, submitted in February, 1975, the Task Force recommended the establishment of a formal Programme in Women's Studies at York. This has not yet happened, although it is possible to concentrate on Women's Studies in several sections of the university: at Atkinson College under the rubric of Liberal Studies, at Glendon College under Multidisciplinary Studies (General Education), and in the Faculty of Arts under Individualized Studies. Eight Students have in fact completed three-year degrees of this sort at Atkinson, and two have completed four-year degrees at Glendon, but none in the Arts Faculty. These degree specializations do not appear on the students' diplomas or transcripts.

In all respects except formal standing, however, Women's Studies grew rapidly at York in the 1970's and 1980's. In the spring of 1975 a brochure listed the Women's Studies courses available in the entire university: thirty-three courses and seven college tutorials, offered in the academic year 1975-76. In 1981-82 the seventh such consecutive list included forty-eight courses for the Arts Faculty, and over seventy-five Women's Studies and related courses are listed for 1982-83. Sections on Women's Studies have been included in the material sent to prospective freshmen and produce over a hundred enquiries a year for Admissions Liaison.

In addition, a series of institutions related to Women's Studies have been developed. During the academic year 1975-76 the York Women's Centre was founded and in 1976-77 the York-Toronto Colloquium on Research on Women held its first set of meetings. The Colloquium has now met four times a year for six successive academic years, bringing together invited groups of faculty members and graduate students to discuss research papers. In 1976 York's first Advisor to the President on the Status of Women was appointed; the successive incumbents of the office have provided services and funds for the Colloquium and for the Women's Studies course brochures. Finally, in 1979 a system of Women's Studies Advisors was set up to identify faculty members in each academic unit who are prepared to counsel students interested in what has by now become an informal minor in Women's Studies.

In short, by the academic year 1981-82 the Faculty of Arts had all the aspects of a Women's Studies programme except academic credit and formal recognition. A wide range of courses appears in the permanent calendar and is routinely publicized. In 1981-82 there were over 600 students enrolled in courses which had women as their main subject or which had major themes or units on women. A network of instructors and advisors had been organized through the continuing efforts of a succession of volunteer co-ordinators. Meetings concerning the programme have been held since 1975, including consultation with those involved in Women's Studies in other parts of the university. There is even a research component, the York-Toronto Colloquium series which provides links with scholars at nearby institutions. Library and audio-visual resources have been accumulated in relation to courses and research. These include the Virginia Rock Collection, a small reference library currently located in the York Women's Centre, and the York-YWCA Women's Collection, a much more extensive set of books and documents now housed in Founders College. In 1981 York entered into a partnership with Centennial College for co-production of Canadian Woman Studies/Cahiers de la femme, a bilingual journal with a circulation of over 2,500 which now has its editorial headquarters at York.

In the fall of 1981, therefore, faculty members with research and teaching interests in the area of Women's Studies set up a committee to propose a Programme in Women's Studies for the Faculty of Arts. From the start, the members of the committee agreed that Women's Studies must be combined with a departmental specialization by each enrolled student. A survey of students in the Women's Studies courses showed that about fifty of them would be interested in a straight major in Women's Studies, but over three hundred would consider a combined degree including a departmental major. (See item IIA3 for a summary of student responses to the questionnaire administered in November, 1981). An Interdisciplinary Programme seemed the most appropriate formula. The majors of the enrolled students provided a basis for identifying departments with which the programme should be linked: Anthropology; Economics; English; French Studies; History; Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics; Political Science; Psychology; and Sociology. The committee accordingly decided to discuss linkages initially with those nine departments, and to design a Core Course which would be both interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary, in



order to emphasize the essential qualities of Women's Studies. Later, discussions were extended to include Classical Studies and Philosophy, and, finally, initiated with Computer Science, Geography, Mathematics, and Physical Education.

The new Core Course and the whole structure and philosophy of the Programme stress the sponsoring committee's shared belief that Women's Studies represents today a field of enquiry that combines concerns from all fields of intellectual endeavour. This developing scholarship hopes to question, to modify, and to combine fruitfully with the existing academic specializations.

## II. Outline of Programme

### A) Rationale for a Programme in Women's Studies in the Faculty of Arts.

By the end of the 1970's Women's Studies had become a sufficiently recognized part of university programmes that a substantial number of major institutions had established degrees in the field. In the United States these now include Cornell and Yale Universities, the University of Michigan, and the University of California at Berkeley. In Canada the establishment of formal programmes has been slower, with Simon Fraser and Concordia Universities the most conspicuous. In Ontario, only York, Toronto, and Guelph offer four year programmes with a concentration in Women's Studies; Glendon College has graduated two students with such degrees, and the other institutions have not yet graduated any. Throughout Canada and the United States, however, a very large number of courses in Women's Studies are now offered regularly, and a large number of more or less official minor degree programmes exist. Numerous M.A. and Ph.D. theses and dissertations in the field have now been completed, including a substantial number at York. Women's caucuses have been established in most of the learned societies on this continent, including the Modern Language Association, the American Political Science Association, the Canadian Political Science Association, the Canadian Psychological Association, the Canadian Historical Association, and the Canadian Association of Anthropology and Sociology. These caucuses have sponsored a very large number of papers and panels in the different areas of Women's Studies. In addition, a number of academic interdisciplinary journals have appeared in the field in the last decade, including the American Signs and Women's Studies and three Canadian journals, Canadian Woman Studies/Cahiers de la femme, the bibliographic Resources for Feminist Research, and the refereed scholarly journal Atlantis (supported by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada). In Canada as in the United States, scholarly conferences in the field occur with considerable frequency; conferences have been held at York on topics including Female Blue Collar Workers, Feminist Criticism and Canadian Women Writers, and the Canadian Women's Movement.

Scholarly and professional activities such as these have generated a broad rationale for academic attention to Women's Studies. Research has now shown that the established disciplines have tended to overlook or to misinterpret the role of women in culture and society. Work in Women's Studies has consequently been able both to enlarge the data base for scholarship and also to provide material for significant theoretical reinterpretations. However, the standard research agendas and disciplinary groupings have been slow to accommodate Women's Studies. Hence the existence of a separate field with its own institutions and channels of communication.

Ideally, this separate field and its institutions should be necessary only until the findings and particularly the implications of the new research can be incorporated into the existing scholarship. However, this is likely to be a lengthy process. In any case, until that time, Women's Studies at York needs a formal programme in the Faculty of Arts, to give it the status and resources needed for its research, its faculty members, and its students.

### 1) Research

As a focus of research, Women's Studies shares features of both area studies and such analytical or theoretical orientations as phenomenology and Marxism. It resembles the latter in its difficulties in fitting into existing academic categories. The implications of Women's Studies are substantial, in fact, for all fields of enquiries. In addition, the field has a continuing history of engagement. Researchers in this field have paid exceptional attention to issues related to the legitimacy of their concerns and the rigour of their methods. Their efforts need the support of a university commitment to the idea that the scholarly study of women is as meaningful as other emerging areas of academic activity.

In more immediately practical terms, Women's Studies is a field that badly needs legitimization in the context of financial support for research. At the present, no sectors relating to Women's Studies are included in York's master-plan for raising funds. This would make it difficult to acquire permanently the York-YWCA Women's Collection which is currently located at York with an option to purchase. More generally, the question of library support will soon become crucial; we have prospects for acquiring the records of a number of significant Canadian women associated with York.

We should also note, from the point of view of the university, the potential significance of the field of Women's Studies as a basis of external funding. For instance, Women in the Canadian Economy has just been designated as part of the Strategic Grants area of the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Women's Studies is an area in which York has a distinctive competence, and the possibility of making an important mark. It ought to make a positive commitment.

## 2) Faculty

The Women's Studies Committee comprises only a fraction of those in the Faculty of Arts who have an interest in research and teaching in this area. They are established academics, many of whom shifted to this new field from other specializations. A formal Women's Studies programme would give explicit, public recognition of these scholars' shared interest. More generally, institution of such a programme would establish this area of specialization in the context of departmental allotments of resources. Student interest and intellectual content already justify such a claim—but in an academic setting, institutional recognition is also necessary. Interested faculty might then find it possible to offer graduate courses in their research specialties. This has proved difficult in spite of the steady production at York of graduate theses and dissertations in the field, and the interest expressed by students in programmes such as Social and Political Thought.

In addition, a Women's Studies Programme would provide for such involved faculty a more substantial framework for communication and mutual support. Young scholars and those newly entering the field would find the structures of the programme particularly useful, for it would ease access to the networks and techniques of Women's Studies.

Finally, for those who have been borrowing time for coordination and institution building on an unrecompensed basis, the existence of a formal programme would be a boon.

## 3) Students

Most of the students interested in Women's Studies are women, predominantly mature students. These groups are the newest arrivals in the university system. Although women are now in the majority among York students, they are often made to feel in the minority. There are few role models (only 19% of the full-time permanent faculty at York are women) and the established curriculum still pays very little attention to women or to women's special concerns. These are among the reasons why students flock into Women's Studies courses, regularly overflowing all the ones in the Social Science and Humanities division. Such courses attract women to York and assist with the difficult problem of keeping them there. A formal programme would make the Women's Studies courses both more visible and more accessible.

Students enrolled in Women's Studies courses in the Faculty of Arts have voiced strong interest in a formal degree programme. In the fall of 1981 a student caucus, including both men and women, presented a letter of support to Dean Kaplan, Vice President (Academic) Found, and President Macdonald.

In addition to encouraging the students at York who are already interested in Women's Studies, a formal programme will add for Honours

students a careful academic structure with the following features: (1) a departmental major that will give rigorous training in an established discipline; (2) a Core Course that will bring Women's Studies students together for careful study of essential texts and concepts; (3) a directed mixture of Women's Studies courses that will make the programme genuinely interdisciplinary rather than merely additive; and (4) in the final year, a research paper or honours thesis on a topic approved by the Women's Studies Executive. A continuing structure of consultation for students in both categories will include the present system of Women's Studies Advisors; we will also be setting up an informal colloquium at which students and faculty members will present research.

Students interested in Women's Studies now take as electives all courses in the field that they can cram into their timetables. The proposed programme will impose structure and collegiality on the courses they take. The students will get what they have hitherto sought out independently, but they will now get it in a form that meets academic standards. Their enrolments show that they want to study this material. York can only gain by giving it to them in a responsible form.

### a) Results of Student Questionnaire

This questionnaire was sent to all Women's Studies classes in the Faculty of Arts in the fall of 1981. As of November, 1981, there were officially 1422 enrolments in these courses. Students were asked to fill the form out in no more than one course. 670 forms were completed and analyzed, along with 177 from two courses chosen as control (two large introductory courses, one in each Division).

#### Question #4—Sex

Women's Studies students	517 female (77.3%)	122 male (22.7%)
Control group	72 female (40.7%)	105 male (59.3%)

#### Question #6—Would you have been interested in enrolling in the Women's Studies Programme (for a Minor) if it had been available when you first enrolled at York?

Women's Studies students	332 yes (49.3%)	331 no (50.7%)
Control group	33 yes (19.9%)	133 no (80.1%)
Women's Studies students, first year only	129 yes (42.7%)	173 no (57.3%)



Control group, first year only	27 yes (19.6%)	111 no (80.4%)
Question #7—Would you be interested in taking the necessary courses, including the new second year course, if it is offered beginning next year (in 1982-83)?		
Women's Studies students	260 yes (41.3%)	370 no (58.7%)
Control group	32 yes (20.3%)	126 no (79.7%)
Women's Studies students, first year only	137 yes (46.3%)	159 no (53.7%)
Control group, first year only	25 yes (19.2%)	105 no (80.8%)
Question #10—(asked verbally, in 8 Women's Studies courses)—Would you be interested in a Women's Studies Major?		
	60 yes	22 maybe

B) Requirements for an Interdisciplinary Degree in Women's Studies in the Faculty of Arts

For an Honours degree, students will take six courses as a major in a linked degree-granting unit of The Faculty of Arts. The linked degree-granting units are the following: Anthropology, Classical Studies, Economics, English, French Studies, History, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology.\* The Women's Studies Executive will indicate early in each spring which courses are to be retained or newly listed in the categories of "Women's Studies" courses—with women as their main subject or with major themes or units related to women—or a "related" courses—with a subject matter and approach that makes them particularly relevant for research on women. Students in the programme will have their study sheets approved by the Women's Studies Advisors in their department or other unit of major concentration. The specific course and distribution requirements follow.

Honours in Women's Studies:

Required:

- (1) the interdisciplinary cross-divisional Cores Course HU 293.6/SS 218.6 - "On Women"

\*See section VI A. It is expected that other linkages will be added.

- (2) four more Women's Studies courses, of which at least three must be at the 300- level or above
- (3) a major research essay on a topic approved by the Women's Studies Executive; this may be prepared using the departments' appropriate 400- rubrica or through HU 472.6 (Independent Studies) or SS409.6 (Directed Reading), normally supervised by the Women's Studies Advisor in the student's major department.

Recommended:

- (1) the use of Women's Studies and "related" courses to fulfill requirements in General Education (e.g. Humanities, Social Science, Natural Science). These may then not be counted for departmental or programme credit.
- (2) completion of Women's Studies courses in the major department. These may be counted for departmental or programme credit, but not for both.
- (3) completion for elective or departmental credit of courses "related" to Women's Studies.

In addition, students must complete six full courses in their major department (seven in French Studies), selected in accordance with the Honours Double Major requirements of that department, as well as any Faculty requirements relevant to these programmes.

III Courses

A) Core Course - Following form of Senate Sub-Committee on Calendar Review (approved by the Divisions of Humanities and Social Science).

Department/programme: Social Science Division, Humanities Division, Interdisciplinary Programme in Women's Studies (Core Course)

1. Course number and title: Humanities 293.6/Social Science 218.6—"On Woman"
2. Brief course description: An introduction to Women's Studies, this course explores the situation of women in various social and cultural contexts. Using the tools and methodologies of the Humanities and the Social Sciences, it approaches the subject in multi- and interdisciplinary ways.
3. Instruction of the course
  - 3.1 - One section will be presented every year

3.2 - Approximately 25 faculty members are competent to teach this course, teaching in teams combining humanists and social scientists.

3.3 - Instructors likely for the coming year: J. Stuckey, N. Black

#### 4. Expanded course description

4.1 - This course seeks to account for the continuity and change in the role of women in different societies at various points in time; it will thus be both comparative and cross-cultural in approach. Particular attention will be paid to identifying the impact of cultural, social, political, and economic factors on the situation of women. Each year a team consisting of a social scientist and a humanist will organize the course around key texts and concepts in Women's Studies, using their own specializations to direct attention to those issues which repeatedly recur in the field. The time periods and societies selected for analysis will vary with the faculty members teaching the course.

The following description and book list apply to the course being prepared for the academic year 1983-84, planned by a humanist with a background in Classics and English (J. Stuckey) and a social scientist with a background in Political Theory and Comparative Politics (N. Black). Specific focuses are on myth and image in nineteenth and twentieth century literature and on the classic texts of modern feminism and the Women's Movement.

On the humanities side these substitutions might be expected in future years: V. Rock (English) with attention to the treatment of women as Madonna/Whore and to the role of the "lady" in American literature and society; M. Jokiniemi (Language Studies/German) with inclusion of the implications of the Romantic Movement in nineteenth century German literature and society; J. Lewis (English/Education) with consideration of the role and nature of archetypes in literary studies and the proper interpretation of adolescence in fiction; A. Shreir (Humanities) with a focus on women in education and in science, particularly in relation to the theme of Public/Private; B. Godard (English) with attention to the theories concerning sexism in language and in literary criticism.

On the social science side the following substitutions might be expected: P. Stamp (Social Science) with a focus on theories of political economy and materialism, including evolutionary and cross-cultural considerations; E. Greenglass (Psychology) with concentration on the theoretical and practical consequences of gender role assignment; J. Hellman (Social Science) including material on the conflict between Marxist and "radical" feminism as it characterizes the European Women's Movement; S. Romalis (Anthropology) with emphasis on the implications of anthropological findings and theories about matriarchies; T. McCormack (Sociology) with material in the sociology of knowledge and feminist critiques of social science.

In 1983-84 the course will focus on the functioning of myth and ideology and their effects on the situation of women in society and culture. That is, it will investigate (1) traditional narratives embodying popular notions about the nature and proper role of women and (2) systems of ideas about women which serve as a rationalization of their economic and political subordination or as a mobilizing force against that inequality. Myth and ideology will be shown to be related to a number of key themes or contrasts in Women's Studies: patriarchy/matriarchy, nature/culture, public/private, work and the household, androgyny, and Creation and the loss of Eden.

4.2 - Evaluation will be based on a number of short papers, oral presentations, a substantial research essay, and a final examination.

#### 5. Bibliography/physical resources

5.1 - Reading list: selections from the following works

Brindel, June R., Ariadne: A Novel of Ancient Crete (St. Martin's Press, 1980).

Gilman, Charlotte Perkins, The Yellow Wallpaper (Feminist Press, 1973).

Greer, Germaine, The Female Eunuch (Paladin Books, 1971).

Ibsen, Henrik, "Hedda Gabler," in Four Major Plays (Signet Classic 1965).

Janeway, Elizabeth, Man's World, Woman's Place: A Study in Social Mythology (Delta Books, 1972).

Kingston, Maxine Hong, The Woman Warrior (Vintage Books, 1977)

Luxton, Meg, More Than a Labour of Love: Three Generations of Women's Work in the Household (Women's Press, 1980).

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia, One Hundred Years of Solitude (Avon Books, 1971).

Marx, Karl, The Communist Manifesto.

McClung, Nellie, Clearing in the West (Thomas Allen, 1976).

Mill, John Stuart, On Liberty.

Mitchell, Juliet and Oakley Ann, ed., The Rights and Wrongs of Women (Penguin Books, 1976).

Munro, Alice, Lives of Girls and Women (McGraw-Hill, 1971).



Ross, Alice, ed., John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor Mill, Essays on Sex Equality (University of Chicago Press, 1970).

Rosaldo, Michelle Z. and Lamphere, Louise, ed., Woman, Culture and Society (Stanford University Press, 1974).

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques, The Social Contract.

Strachey, Ray, The Cause (Virago, 1978).

Wollstonecraft, Mary, A Vindication of the Rights of Women.

Women Unite! (Women's Press, 1972).

Woolf, Virginia, Orlando (Penguin Books, 1963).

Wyndham, John, Consider Her Ways (Penguin Books, 1971).

5.2 - The following librarians have been consulted and have indicated that ample library and film resources are available: Anne Woodsworth (Director), Ellen Hoffman, Joan Carruthers, Judith Hardy, Katharyn Elder (Film Librarian). Resources are also available in the York-YMCA Women's Collection now located in Founders College.

#### 6. Course Rationale

6.1 - This interdisciplinary cross-divisional course will serve as the Core Course for the Interdisciplinary Programme in Women's Studies in the Faculty of Arts. It can also be used to fulfill either Humanities or Social Science requirements in the Faculty.

6.2 (a) - This course integrates Humanities/Social Sciences uniquely in respect to both subject matter and instructing team.  
(b) - No overlap with material in other facilities.

6.3 - Teaching resources for course. Professor Stuckey expects to alternate this course with her 300-level Humanities Women's Studies course (currently Hum. 293.6 but to be raised to 300-level when this course is instituted); Professor Black expects to alternate it with her 100-level Social Science course (Soc. Sci. 118.6). As noted, a large number of other persons can participate in this course on secondment as a substitute for or an alternative to other divisional involvement.

#### 7. Course Philosophy

The Core Course in a Women's Studies Programme is often a survey intended to block out the broad range of Women's Studies material for students unfamiliar with it. However, the Faculty of Arts regularly provides a number of General Education courses which together provide

such a sampling. Students interested in a Women's Studies major would logically take courses such as Humanities 195.6, Social Science 118.6, and Natural Science 166.6 as well as a college tutorial in the field. These courses, which would not be counted for programme credit, could serve in part as an introduction to Women's Studies. However, these are large lecture courses which share along with their Women's Studies emphasis the task of introducing students to the conventional academic fields. They assign a portion of the basic literature in Women's Studies but they do not attempt to articulate explicitly the rationale of its existence and approaches. The Women's Studies Committee therefore feels that it is appropriate to focus the programme's Core Course on the central themes of the new field. These include the differing modes of authority as they affect women (and the related discussions about women and power), the relative influence of physiology and society on women's situation, the distinctions between masculine and feminine spheres of activity, relationships of production and reproduction, concepts of gender identity (and the possibilities of transcending gender identity), and feminist interpretations of history and progress. All represent significant areas of inquiry in Women's Studies, of which students in the field must be made aware. In addition, this introduction to the field will address the definitions of the key notions of "inequality" and "subordination," as well as of the "feminism and the Women's Movement" whose classic texts will be studied with care.

The Core Course also demonstrates the way in which social science and humanities approaches interact in relation to this interdisciplinary subject matter. The course should serve as a major element in the creation of intellectual collegiality among both students and faculty members in the programme. It has been designed to accommodate a wide variety of possible combinations of faculty from each of the two disciplinary areas. The collaboration essential because of subject matter will also demonstrate in a concrete fashion the productivity of cooperation among scholars of different training and backgrounds.

#### B. Course Lists

##### 1. General Description.

Women's Studies courses are defined as follows: courses with women as their main subject or with major themes or units on women. Of these courses, which will be identified each year by the Women's Studies Executive, only those at the 200-level or above are normally eligible for programme credit. In addition, "related" courses will be listed each year; these are courses whose subject-matter and approach make them particularly relevant for research on women. Both Women's Studies and "related" courses are listed only after consultation with the instructor in a given year.

The list of Women's Studies courses available varies somewhat from year to year, depending on the availability of faculty and the exigencies

of teaching units. However, the majority of these courses are offered regularly. The list of courses has constantly expanded over the years of issuing a Women's Studies brochure; we are discussing with a number of departments, such as Economics, the institution of new courses to meet student demand and faculty interest.

In addition, Women's Studies courses are regularly offered in other faculties of the university. These may be used for programme credit, within the limits of university requirements and with the permission of the Women's Studies Executive. It should be noted that not only Atkinson and Glendon College offer such courses, but also the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Fine Arts (e.g. FA/VA 480.3F - Problems in Modern Art: Women Artists and the Development of the Modern Aesthetic and NS 166.6 - The Biology of Sex).

## 2. Courses in Women's Studies, Faculty of Arts, 1982-83

### a) 100- level courses (not normally eligible for programme credit)

Bethune College 129.6	- Man and Woman
Founders College 134.6	- Man and Woman
McLaughlin College 136.6	- Women and the Criminal Justice System
Stong College 107.6	- On Feminism
Stong College 181.6	- Rites of Passage
Stong College 190.6	- The Cultural Revolution of the Sixties
Stong College 191.6	- The Female Quest
Vanier College 129.6	- Women in the Enlightenment
Vanier College 162.6	- The Moral Side of Medicine
Humanities 195.6	- Concepts of the "Male" and the "Female" in the West
Social Science 100.6A	- Studying Social Man
Social Science 118.6	- Women and Society
Social Science 119.6	- Men and Women

### b) 200- level and above (eligible for programme credit)

Anthropology 323.6/ Social Science 318.6	Women, Culture, and Society
Anthropology 333.6	Health and Sickness in a Cross-Cultural Context
English 216.3AP	Literature of the United States: Images of Women in Southern Writing

English 232.3MW	Modern American Drama
English 247.6	The English Novel from Defoe to James
English 334.6	Modern Canadian Fiction
English 427.6	Studies in Canadian Fiction
German 482.3W	The Literature of the GDR
History 353.6	Canadian Social History
History 451.6	Social Reform Movements in Canada
Humanities 200.6A	Studies in Culture: Sense and Sensibility in the Eighteenth Century
Humanities 293.6 (to be calendared as Humanities 393.6 in 1983-84)	On Woman; Myth, Religion, and Sex Roles
Humanities 461.6	Psychology and Literature
Political Science 345.6	Women and Politics
Political Science 456.6	Problems in Political Development: the Transition to Socialism
Psychology 312.2 MW	Social Psychology
Psychology 402.6A	Advanced Seminar in Social Psychology
Social Science 319.6	Women, Sex Roles, and Society
Sociology 382.6	Sociology of Health and Sickness
Sociology 481.3	Women in the Criminal Justice System
Sociology 497.3W	Sociology of Adult Development

## 3. Courses in Women's Studies, Atkinson College

Economics 370.6	Women's Work: Women in the North American Economy
English 409.6	Nineteenth Century Women Novelists
History 338.6	Women, the Family and Education in Canada



Humanities 391.6	Images of Women in Western Culture
Philosophy 368.6	The Philosophy of Sex
Psychology 348.6C	The Psychology of Women
Sociology 369.6	Women's Changing Role in Society

4. Course in Women's Studies, Glendon College

Natural Science 177.6	Heredity and Society
Natural Science 186.6	Human Development
French 4630.03/Humanities 4630.03	Le vingtième siècle et l'écriture au féminin
French 4650.03	La philosophie des lumières et la condition féminine
History 2690.06/ Social Science 3690.06	Women in Canadian Society and Politics
Humanities 2750.06	Feminism in Cultural Context
Humanities 4720.06	Sex Stereotypes in Literature, Opera, and Dance

IV. The Women's Studies Committee

A. General Description.

The faculty listed in the Women's Studies Committee are only a small fraction of those who teach in such courses and carry on the related research. They comprise the group willing and able to devote, in 1981-82 and 1982-83, the time and energy necessary to prepare and present this proposal. A larger group of sympathetic supporters shares the credit for building up the programme and has also assisted in various ways in preparation of the present document. It is expected that many of them will participate in the actual governance of the formal programme.

The individuals listed below are representative of the academic and professional status of those involved with the programme. As can be seen, they are all tenured full-time faculty, including two heads of departments (Profs. Houston and McCormack). Their published academic books cover a wide area in addition to Women's Studies, ranging from a Bibliography of Petronius (Prof. Stuckey) to studies of Mexico in Crisis (Prof. Hellman) and Servants in Husbandry in Early Modern England (Prof. Kussmaul). They have also written or edited books in Women's Studies, such as Prof. Greenglass's A World of Difference: Gender Roles in Perspective (Wiley, 1982), Prof. Romalis's Childbirth: Alternatives to Medical Control (edited, including two articles by herself, University of Texas Press,

1981), and Prof. Houston's Family, School, and Society in Nineteenth-Century Canada (with Alison Prentice, Oxford-Canada, 1975). The long list of refereed articles and book chapters ranges in topic from the possibility of nonsexist social science (Prof. McCormack) to the role of women in early botanical research (Prof. Shteir). The group includes the biographer and critic of Margaret Laurence (Prof. Thomas) as well as one of the scholars most active in the translation and transmission of feminist writing from the French (Prof. Godard, who has translated, among others, Louky Bersianik, Nicole Brossard, Antonine Maillet, and Cécile Cloutier). Its members are involved with academic journals both within and outside of Women's Studies, ranging from the Journal of Canadian Studies to Atlantis, serving on editorial boards and as assessors and reviewers. In addition, they are frequent invited participants in their Canadian Learned Societies and in both Canadian and international conferences related to Women's Studies. Within the last year, for instance, they have made presentations based on their research at conferences including those held in Halifax (Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women, November, 1981), in Haifa, Israel (International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, December, 1981), in Montreal (UNESCO-sponsored International Conference on Teaching and Research Related to Women, July, 1982), and in Mexico City (Women and Politics section of the Tenth International Congress of Sociology, August, 1982).

York thus has already an established body of Women's Studies faculty, who are often asked why no formal programme exists in the university.

B. List of Members, Women's Studies Committee

Naomi Black, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science (Co-ordinator)

Barbara Godard, Associate Professor, Department of English

Esther Greenglass, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology

Judith Hellman, Associate Professor, Division of Social Science

Susan Houston, Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of History

Miriam Jokiniemi, Assistant Professor, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics

Anne Kussmaul, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

Janet Lewis, Associate Professor, Department of English

Thelma McCormack, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Sociology

Virginia Rock, Professor, Department of English

Rochelle Romalis, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology

Ruth Schattner, Associate professor, Department of French Studies

Ann B. Shteir, Associate Professor, Department of Humanities  
(Atkinson)

Patricia Stamp, Assistant Professor, Division of Social Science

Johanna Stuckey, Associate Professor, Department of English/Division  
of Humanities

Clara Thomas, Professor, Department of English

#### V. Additional Information

##### A. Resources Required

The programme described here will not require additional staff or funds. It proposes only one new course, the Core Course, which will alternate with existing commitments of faculty interested in Women's Studies. The programme will require a co-ordinator with the appropriate amount of stipend and released time, as well as secretarial and other support facilities.

##### B. Women's Studies programmes in Ontario Universities

The Universities of Toronto and Guelph offer a four year degree with a specialization in Women's Studies. They have not yet graduated any students in these programmes. No university in the province offers a four year degree programme combining a departmental major with a Women's Studies major in an interdisciplinary programme.

##### C. Administrative Structure

The governing body will be an Executive of seven members, comprising two students selected by the Women's Studies Student Caucus (Arts), the two faculty members teaching in the Core Course, the Co-ordinator, and two other faculty members selected from among the instructors in Women's Studies courses in such a way as to spread the disciplinary composition of the Executive as widely as possible. Additional faculty members will be elected in the same way if it is necessary in order to bring the total membership of the Executive to seven (e.g. if the Co-ordinator is teaching in the Core Course). The existing Women's Studies Committee will appoint a smaller subcommittee to nominate a slate for the necessary elected faculty members of the first Executive.

The Women's Studies Advisors, along with all others teaching Women's Studies courses in a given year, will be voting members of an Advisory Council which will elect faculty members of the Executive. Representative,

of the Women's Studies Committees at Atkinson and Glendon Colleges will be asked to sit on a non-voting basis with the Advisory Council, as will the Advisor to the President on the Status of Women, if not already a member.

The Council will meet several times a year to provide advice as requested on issues of policy for the programme, but policy decisions will be made by the Executive, operating on a basis of consensus. In particular, the Executive will be responsible for certifying the Women's Studies and "related" courses on a yearly basis and for continuing recruitment of Women's Studies Advisors for each academic unit in the university.

#### D. Future Plans

When the proposed Honours degree programme is well established, the Executive Committee will pursue the wider linkages suggested earlier in this document (including with the Faculty of Fine Arts and with programmes such as Creative Writing and Religious Studies, all of which have indicated an interest). It will also pursue plans for the establishment of Women's Studies programmes in the three-year version and at the graduate level.

At present York does not offer a graduate degree in Women's Studies, although it is in principle possible to concentrate on Women's Studies within the Interdisciplinary M.A. or as a theme within the Graduate Programme in Social and Political Thought. Very few graduate courses in Women's Studies are offered, largely because the qualified faculty have been unable to free themselves from other commitments at the graduate and undergraduate level. Student interest has been voiced, and in several graduate programmes, such as Political Science, students are involved in formal or informal minors in Feminist or Women's Studies. A substantial number of M.A. theses and Ph.D. dissertations have been completed on what are clearly Women's Studies topics. It would be possible to organize graduate studies in the pattern proposed here for an undergraduate programme, combining specialization in an established graduate programme with an equal number of courses in Women's Studies; Cornell University, for example, has such a programme in operation.

York has the faculty resources to offer a full teaching and supervisory programme in a graduate interdisciplinary Women's Studies programme. No Ontario university currently offers a graduate degree in Women's Studies, although the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education offers a substantial range of courses in the field and has the ambition of becoming the provincial centre for graduate Women's Studies. Given its established, even if not yet formally recognized, undergraduate programme, York could have considerable advantages in this area of graduate study. The undergraduate courses offer attractive opportunities for teaching positions to support graduate students, and any large involvement in funded research will include possibilities for research assistantships.



York could also offer a three-year undergraduate programme in Women's Studies, which would appeal particularly to those many women mature students who are interested in Women's Studies but not in an Honours degree.

This programme will both attract and retain the new adult clientele of the university, a particularly important consideration for the years ahead when the numbers of grade thirteen graduates are expected to decline.

#### VI. Documents

##### A. Correspondence Related to Linkages with Degree-Granting Units

##### 1. Summary

The following degree-granting units have formally indicated willingness to cooperate in an Honours programme linking their courses with courses in Women's Studies: Anthropology, Classical Studies, Economics, English, French Studies, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology. Letters from their presiding officers are on file. The Division of Humanities and Social Science have both approved the Core Course, and indicated their general support of the programme and agreement to cooperate as will be appropriate; letters from their Chairmen are also on file. Discussions with the following departments have not yet produced any agreement: Computer Science, Geography, Mathematics, Philosophy. Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics has, after lengthy and careful consideration, asked us to return to them after approval by the Faculty Council and Senate.

##### 2. See attached letters

(Letters from Ms. A. Woodsworth, Director of Libraries, re. library resources, are attached. Letters from individual Departments indicating approval of linkages are not attached, but are on file in the Office of the Secretary of Council. A letter from Dean Kaplan, regarding the programme's resource implications is also attached for the information of Council.)



4700 KEELE STREET, DOWNSVIEW, ONTARIO M3J 2R2

April 5, 1982

TO: Naomi Black, Associate Professor (Coordinator, Women's Studies Committee)  
FROM: Anne Woodsworth, Director of Libraries  
RE: Proposed Programme in Women's Studies in the Faculty of Arts

I am pleased to provide the letter required for submission of this proposal since York University Libraries have collections which are well able to support the programme.

The Libraries now have holdings of approximately 2,465,000 items, including 10,500 active serial subscriptions. Specifically, the Libraries have supported numerous women's studies courses for the past ten years, as well as an increasing number of essay topics which have been connected in some way to women's issues.

The Scott Library acquires all significant English language publications, both monographic and serial in areas related to the curriculum. However, foreign language material has never been a particular strength at Scott in the best of times and has become even less so as our budget has declined. Considering that York is a relatively young university, any other weaknesses in the collection tend to be in the area of early publications that are no longer in print.

The journal collection in Women's Studies is good and is quite able to support the majority of requests for articles listed in the abstracts and indexes. There are, however, some secondary periodicals, many of which only survive a few years, that are not held. Reference holdings in Women's Studies are good and we have most relevant bibliographies, indexes and catalogues of library collections.

On-line bibliographic searching of humanities and social science databases is provided in the Scott, Law and Steacie libraries. All major databases may be accessed, at varying

costs to the user. Among others, indexes such as MLA Bibliography, 1976 to the present; Economics Abstracts International, 1974 to the present; Sociological Abstracts, 1963 to the present and the Social Science Citation Index, 1972 to the present are available. Newspaper articles from the Globe and Mail and the New York Times are also available for the last five years through computer based retrieval. In addition, the Institute for Behavioural Research provides free searches of Psychological Abstracts, the Current Index to Journals in Education from 1976 to the present and in selected Canadian social science journals.

The resources of several other academic libraries in Ontario are accessible to all members of York through reciprocal borrowing agreements. Resources of other major international scholarly collections are available through interlibrary loan. Faculty and graduate students may borrow directly from most Ontario and Quebec university libraries through IUBP (Inter-University Borrowing Privileges).

AW:pw

*AW:pw*

Office of the Director of Libraries



4700 KEELE STREET, DOWNSVIEW, ONTARIO M3J 2R2

April 13, 1982

TO: Naomi Black, Associate Professor (Coordinator, Women's Studies Committee)

FROM: Anne Woodsworth, Director of Libraries

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Our Film Librarian reminded me that my earlier memo concerning library resources neglected to mention our media collection.

Therefore, I am writing to confirm that the York University Libraries have sufficient film and video-tape resources to support the proposed Interdisciplinary Programme in Women's Studies.

The Film Library houses approximately 1,200 films and 550 video-tapes. Among these items, 4.5% of the film collection and 3.5% of the video-tape collection relate to the courses described in the Proposal. In addition, the Film Library maintains a collection of bibliographic material which indicates films and video-tapes produced in the area of women's studies.

AW:pw

*Anne Woodsworth*



York University  
Faculty of Arts

38

Memorandum

To: Prof. M. Creal, Chairman, CAPP  
From: Harold Kaplan  
Re: Women's Studies  
Date: November 22, 1982

Might I address the question of whether there are sufficient resources to sustain the proposed new Women's Studies program. This issue has been the subject of many discussions, involving me, Prof. Black, Prof. Parry, Prof. Traves and some of the departmental chairmen most immediately concerned. There is, unfortunately, no simple answer to the question. We have a number of outstanding faculty members who are interested in, and more than competent to teach in, the proposed program. They are scattered in various departments and divisions. All are busy people, as much needed in their home units as they are in the proposed program. While the Social Science Division is willing to house the program, the two Divisions would like to see some commitment from departmental chairmen that the appropriate individuals will be released to teach the core courses in future years. Departmental chairmen are sympathetic but reluctant to make commitments about future, hypothetical program needs, especially when they do not know what their own departmental needs will be at that time. This Faculty has great strength in Women's Studies. The real problem is how available the individuals will be on a continuing basis, how "releasable" they are from existing and future competing commitments.

I don't believe there is any point in trying to extract oaths from departmental chairmen about future years. At the same time, I do not believe the program should be held up on resource grounds. There are a number of talented, dedicated people who wish to teach in the program. If they remain committed to the program, I am sure that they will be able to conduct the necessary negotiations to ensure that the necessary courses are taught. If these negotiations prove to be difficult, I assume it is ultimately the task of the Dean's Office to provide mediation and to ensure, through some solution, that the core courses are appropriately staffed.

I hope that the members of CAPP find this an adequate response to a complicated issue.

cc: T. Traves  
H. Parry  
N. Black

*Harold Kaplan*

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

September 16, 1985

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of May 30, 1985.
2. Approval of agenda.
3. Announcements and Completed Activities
  - (a) Leslie's hours
  - (b) Membership and Terms of Reference
  - (c) Philosophy course
  - (d) Emily Murphy House
  - (e) Brochures and list of women's groups
4. Current Activities
  - (a) Speakers Series
  - (b) Spender
5. Future Activities
  - (a) Women's Studies Funds - Faculty of Arts
    - (i) What's been proposed
    - (ii) Specifics of what we would want
    - (iii) Policy Statement to accompany acceptance
  - (b) Future Meetings
  - (c) Additional
    - (i) *Susan Jackel - Announcements*
    - (ii)
    - (iii)



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of September 16, 1985

Present:

M. Assheton-Smith, R. Coulter, D. Cullen (Chair), B. Eyles, A. Hall, S. Jackel, L. Stewart.

Regrets:

C. Davies, R. Liburd, D. Mills, R. Sydie, J. Vanderpost.

1. The minutes of May 30 were approved as circulated.
2. Leslie will not be in the office on Tuesday or Thursday mornings because of a class she is taking.
3. The Committee must address the issue of membership and terms of reference and report to the Associate Vice-President (Academic) by the summer of 1986.
4. During the summer, the Committee received \$10,000.00 from Vice-President Meekison. Four thousand of this money has gone to the Philosophy department for the course to be taught by Lynda Lange in the second term. If the course attracts 20 students (roughly), the department will consider offering the course every year. Therefore, Committee members should attempt to publicize the course as widely as possible.
5. Susan reported on the space situation. It was decided that first choice would be the Arts Annex, and second choice would be Emily Murphy House. However, space in Emily Murphy House would be accepted only on the condition that the other women's groups who are interested in the house be found suitable space. The committee wants the space by July 1, 1986.
6. All Committee members should have received brochures outlining Women's Studies Courses at the University of Alberta. Additional copies are available from Leslie. Susan and Dallas have also compiled a list of the women's groups on campus for your information.
7. Work on the Speakers Series continued over the summer with Pat Prestwich taking over for Pat Clements. The grant application went into Secretary of State in August and the response from them seems positive. However, nothing is definite at this time because a report on the spending of the previous grant money is required before the second grant can be fully processed. Leslie will start on the report as soon as she receives the report form from Secretary of State. It was decided over the summer that even if the Secretary of State money does not come through, the Speaker Series can still take place on a slightly smaller scale. Thus, planning has continued and the schedule is as follows:

-Anne McLellan, *November 14*, Charter of Rights  
-Jennifer Dickson, *January*, Art Exhibit  
-Catherine Stimpson, *February 27-28*  
-Jean Baker Miller, *Fall of 1986*

Jean Baker Miller, whom we had originally hoped could come in October, was interested but said that she was booked up a year in advance. Therefore, it was decided to invite her for the fall of 1986 and thus extend the Speaker Series into the next school year.

8. Copies of the artist's conception for a poster advertising the Speakers Series were circulated. The design was approved with the suggestion that the rectangle surrounding the figure be removed or changed to an oval or circle. It was decided that the artist be given the go-ahead as soon as possible.

9. Dale Spender arrives on September 19 at 4:30 pm. Dallas and Ann will pick her up at the airport. Ros will show her around on Friday. Leslie will be responsible for "escorting" Dale to all of her scheduled events. The Committee will meet with Dale on Friday the 20th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Leslie will phone everyone to remind them about the meeting.

Dallas talked briefly about the plans for the reception on September 24. The invitation list was composed mainly of the committee's previously identified support groups and Faculty of Arts people.

Committee members are also invited to the reception at the Women's Program House on September 25 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Please contact Val Hesp (3093) or Leslie (3093) if you will be attending.

Committee members are asked to note as well the brunch with Dale on Sunday the 29. Details for the brunch will be discussed at the meeting on Friday the 20th.

It was felt that at each of Dale's lectures, it is important to make known that her visit is the result of the work of the Advisory Committee. Introductions at the public lectures will be made by Ros (23rd), Ann (26th) and Dallas (Oct. 1). Leslie will contact each of the people in charge of the departmental seminars to find out who will be introducing Dale and to ask that the work of the Advisory Committee in bringing Dale to the University of Alberta be part of the introduction. Copies of Dale's c.v. will be sent to the introducers.

Leslie has checked into having Dale's public lectures taped and found that there are two options: 1) the Audio-Visual department will tape the sessions on a reel-to-reel recorder for approximately \$32.00 an hour; 2) a cassette recorder can be borrowed from the Humanities audio-visual centre and we can tape the sessions ourselves. A third option was presented by Susan who suggested that the audio-visual centre in humanities would tape the sessions at no cost if the booking came from someone within the Faculty of Arts. Leslie will look into this further.

10. The New Initiatives Fund proposal was submitted over the summer. No decision has been announced as of yet. The committee confirmed its support for this proposal.
11. On the agenda for future meetings are the further development of the proposal to go to ADC, looking closely at the courses the committee wants, and the issue of curriculum.
12. Announcements

Rebecca asked if the committee would cosponsor a visit by Veronica Beechy. The



committee agreed to act as cosponsors.

Angela Miles will be here during the last week of February. She is being brought to Alberta by the Canadian Studies departments of Athabasca U and U of A.

Linda Kealey will be speaking in the History department on October 9, 3:05 pm, room 2-58 Tory. She will talk on Women in Unions in Canada in the early 1900s. Afterwards (around 4:30), Susan will be taking her to the Faculty Club for drinks and dinner. Committee members are welcome to attend. Linda will be here for a period of two weeks.

The Women's Studies Institute will be an autonomous unit, reporting to either the Vice President (Academic) or the Vice President (Research).

## STRUCTURE

Director: The Director of the Institute will be a member of the University of Alberta's full-time continuing academic staff, seconded to the Institute for a period of three years. She will have the responsibilities of the chairperson of a department, and will work with other departments in the University to designate Women's Studies courses. In addition, she will teach a maximum of two Women's Studies courses.

Associates: The Institute will have four types of Associates. An individual can have more than one designation (e.g., a person can be both a Teaching Associate and a Research Associate).

Teaching Associates: Teaching Associates will have joint appointments with the Institute and another department of the University. To ensure that Institute staff maintain a significant contact with their basic discipline, the maximum appointment to the Institute will be 1/2. To teach a course designated as a Women's Studies course, the person must be a Teaching Associate of the Institute. The Teaching Associates are the "members of the department" for academic purposes (e.g., decisions on tenure, salaries and promotion, course approval).

Research Associates: Research Associates are those people doing research in the area of women's studies. Research Associates will have a full appointment in their home departments, but will be affiliated with the Institute for research and collegial purposes. Research Associates will include (but not be limited to) staff at the University of Alberta as well as staff from other institutions who are taking study leave at the Institute. While not approving specific research, this group will approve the use of the Institute's name on research proposals and publications. It is anticipated that the Research Associates will develop on-going research projects to which all members of the group can contribute.

Community Associates: Community Associates are those individuals both in and out of the University who are working in the community on issues of concern to women. These individuals, who are practicing what is being taught and researched in the Institute, will provide field contacts and support for the other Associates. Examples of such persons would be consulting psychologists working with victims of sexual assault, lawyers in the field of family law, and persons working with the Women's Secretariat of the Government of Alberta.

Student Associates: Both graduate and undergraduate students will be eligible to be Student Associates. Student Associates will be affiliated with one of the other three Associates groups. It is expected that undergraduate students will most likely affiliate with the Community



Associates group (for practical experience) or the Teaching Associates group (to provide input on course development), while graduate students will most likely affiliate with the Research Associates (for research advice and experience) or the Teaching Associates (for teaching experience).

Selection of Teaching, Research and Community Associates will be made by the Board of Advisors, on the recommendation of the particular group. Selection of Student Associates will be made by the Board of Advisors on the recommendation of the both the Student Associates group plus the Associates group with which the student wishes to affiliate.

Board of Advisors: The Board of Advisors will (1) serve as a coordinating body and (2) advise on policy for the Institute. It will be composed of the Director, five Teaching Associates, five Research Associates, five Community Associates, and five Student Associates. Each group of Associates (Teaching, Research, Community, and Students) will select their own representatives to the Board. Representatives will serve for a term of three years. The Board will select its own Chairperson from among its members. Note: For the first two years of the Institute's existence, the Board of Advisors will consist of the members of the Advisory Committee on Women's Studies.

Non-academic Staff: The Institute will require an Administrative Officer and one secretary. This level of administrative help will be necessary because of the complex nature of the Institute's structure and functions.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (MAY 29, 1985)

1. Need to specify details of the degree program
2. Feminist studies versus women's studies (given this and conflicting ideologies, don't push idea of control over course ideology too far)
3. Document student interest in program and need for space for students
4. Stress research -- statement of scholarly activities currently going on and in what ways centre will contribute to and expand on this
5. Graduate students and program
6. Show why we are not a duplication of Calgary and Athabasca
7. Relationship to Women's Program in the Faculty of Extension
8. Include the sciences
9. Separate unit (autonomy) versus remaining in the disciplines, if goal is to transform the disciplines
10. Justify administrator/bureaucracy to administer one (small) degree program
11. Separate cost of each part for budget purposes
12. Given that some courses will be outside the Faculty of Arts, will need to ensure that those faculties will accept our students (i.e., Faculty of Arts may be willing to let students take outside courses, but other faculties will not let them do so)
13. Why is a separate entity necessary; why not a program like Canadian Studies?
14. Given the two components (program and research centre), if funds are allocated for one component, do we then have the complete thing?



WOMEN'S COMMITTEES AND ASSOCIATIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, 1985-86

Academic Women's Association (AWA): Voluntary association of women faculty members (permanent and sessional teaching staff, APO's, librarians, and post-doctoral fellows) formed in 1975. President: Karen Farkas, Faculty of Business, phone: 2455

Women's Program, Faculty of Extension: Non-credit extension courses and workshops, resource centre and drop-in centre at 11019-90 Avenue. Director: Sandy Susut, phone: 3093

Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology (WISEST): A standing committee of the Vice-President (Research) formed in 1982. Purpose is to encourage women to enter and pursue studies in the sciences, engineering and technology. An offshoot is a student group, UAY's, a support group for women science and engineering students. WISEST is chaired by Margaret-Ann Armour, Department of Chemistry, phone 5566; its administrative coordinator is Elizabeth McClintock.

President's Advisory Committee on Sexual Harassment (PACSH): formed in 1981. PACSH can be reached at 432-TALK (432-8255)

Advisory Committee on Women's Studies: A standing committee of the Vice President (Academic) formed in 1984. Purpose is to coordinate and advise on women's studies at the university. Chair is Dallas Cullen, Faculty of Business, phone: 5721; administrative coordinator is Leslie Stewart, phone: 3093

President's Interim Advisory Committee on Women's Issues (PIACWI): Purpose is to advise the President on all issues affecting women that are not covered by other official bodies or committees; formed in 1984. Chair is Susan Jackel, Canadian Studies, phone: 5086

Women's Centre: Voluntary students' association; can be reached at Box 41, SUB; phone 2057

Women in Education: voluntary student and faculty association in the Faculty of Education. Contact persons are Heidi Kass, Department of Secondary Education, phone: 5415 or Heather Lysons, Department of Educational Foundations, phone: 4441

# Women's Studies



## Lecture Series

sponsored by  
Advisory Committee  
on Women's Studies  
& the Faculty of Arts

Funded by the  
Secretary of State,  
the Endowment  
Fund for the Future  
& the Faculty of Arts,  
University of Alberta.

Dale Spender	~~~~~ Distinguished Guest Lecturer - Founding Editor: <u>Women's Studies International Quarterly Forum</u>	September ~~~~~
Jean Baker Miller	Women and Psychology, Psychiatrist, Psychoanalyst, Professor at ?	October ~~~~~
Anne Utellian	Women & the Charter of Rights & Acting Assoc. Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Alberta	November ~~~~~
Jennifer Dickson	Artist: Slide lectures: an exhibition of her work, Ring House Gallery	January
Catherine Ström	Women and Literature Founding Editor: <u>Signs Journal of Women in Culture &amp; Society</u>	February
Allison Jaeger	~~~~~ Distinguished Guest Lecturer ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~	March

1/2 size  
11x20"

rough  
poster  
idea



Full size  
4' x 9"

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# Women's Studies



## Lecture Series

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Dale Spender

September ~~~~~~

~~~~~  
~~~~~  
~~~~~  
~~~~~

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Above: An Egyptian deity, created in the iconography of the ancients of mythology. By the essayist V. Cartari, sixteenth century.

Below: A personification of truth. From Cesare Ripa's *Iconologia*, Rome, 1593.

300

# ICONOLOGIA VERITAS.



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to: Members of the Advisory Committee on  
Women's Studies

date: September 19, 1985

our file:

from: Leslie Stewart

your file:

subject: Meeting times

The next meeting of the committee will take place on

MONDAY OCTOBER 7, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Meetings are also tentatively scheduled for the following times:

Monday October 28, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Monday November 18, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Monday December 9, All day

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

October 7, 1985

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of September 16, 1985.
2. Approval of agenda.
3. Speaker Series
  - (a) Spender visit
  - (b) Secretary of State grant application
  - (c) Future speakers
4. Proposal
  - (a) Meetings this term
  - (b) Structure proposal
  - (c) Subcommittees
    - curriculum - courses needed, priorities
    - degree program - structure, etc.
5. Process



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of October 7, 1985

Present: M. Assheton-Smith, R. Coulter, D. Cullen (Chair), B. Eyles, A. Hall, J. Lauber, D. Mills, R. Sydie, J. Vanderpost, L. Stewart.

Regrets: S. Jackel, R. Liburd.

1. The minutes of September 16 were approved as circulated.

2. Announcements:

Ann is speaking on Tuesday October 9 on behalf of Women in Scholarship (WIS).

Rebecca announced that she has been unable to reach Veronica Beechy and that the SSHRC funding deadline has passed. However, she will continue to try and contact Veronica and will pursue alternate funding.

3. A letter was sent to Dr. Horowitz regarding space for the committee as discussed at the previous meeting. Dr. Horowitz has asked acting Vice-President Rennie to give the request high priority. After some discussion it was decided that Dallas should contact Mr. Rennie in order to further discuss the issue of space.

4. The proposed letter to Dr. Bercov regarding the success of Dale Spender's visit was discussed. Dallas will send the letter to Dr. Bercov.

5. It was agreed that we would make the tapes of Spender's lectures available at cost. As well, copies will be made for the committee, Athabasca U, the Women's Program, and the Education library for lending.

6. There was some discussion regarding reactions to Dale Spender's visit and of the possibility of maintaining the momentum and encouraging dialogue. However, it was decided not to get involved in organizing any formal events. Dallas will send Dale a letter of thanks.

7. Rosemary was able to contact Jean Baker Miller, but found that her fee was beyond the committee's means. Therefore, the committee will focus on the three speakers scheduled for this year and will decide later whether to plan something for next year as well.

8. Leslie will check into having childcare available at the remaining public lectures. Also, it was suggested that videotaping the lectures might be useful for future publicity. Leslie will check into the cost.

9. Ann McLellan will speak on the Charter on November 14, 7:30 to 9:30 in Humanities, Lecture Theatre 1. It was suggested that the mailing list from the conference on Women and the Charter be obtained and that more advertising be done in the newspaper and the community generally. Dallas

will talk to Pat Prestwich to see if there are going to be respondents to McLellan's talk.

10. Dallas will submit the report that Secretary of State needs in order to process our second grant proposal on Thursday the 10th.

After some discussion about the work of the subcommittees, it was decided that all facets of the proposal (structure of degree program, curriculum, etc.) now need to be worked on simultaneously, and that larger chunks of time are needed for this work. Therefore, a small subcommittee consisting of Dallas, Marilyn, and Ann will continue this work and will report back to the committee for discussion.

11. After considerable discussion, it was decided that because of the uncertainty of the situation, the committee would not attend the Linda Kealey seminar or dinner.

12. Future meetings are scheduled for October 28, November 18 and December 9. The December 9 meeting will be an all day meeting to go over the proposal.



To: R. Bercov,  
Associate Vice President (Academic)

From: Dallas Cullen,  
Chair, Advisory Committee on Women's Studies

I assume that a report on the visit by Dr. Dale Spender, Distinguished Guest Lecturer in Women's Studies, is appropriate.

Dr. Spender arrived on September 19 and left on October 3. During that time she gave three public lectures here and one at Athabasca University. She also gave departmental seminars for Sociology, Political Science, English, Romance Languages, Family Studies, Canadian Studies and Educational Foundations.

Dr. Spender is a stimulating (some would say controversial) speaker and attendance at her talks was high. Her public lectures on September 23, September 26 and October 1 drew 100, 150 and 200 people respectively. With one exception, each of her departmental seminars was attended by between 40 and 60 people. In addition, she was interviewed by a number of publications, including the Edmonton Journal, the Gateway and the Newsmagazine for Alberta Women, and at least one (if not all) of her public lectures will be heard on CKUA's Speaker of the Week radio series.

Dr. Spender's visit gave visibility to Women's Studies at this University, and was an excellent start to the forthcoming series of speakers which the Advisory Committee on Women's Studies is sponsoring in association with the Faculty of Arts Women's Studies Speaker's Committee. We appreciate the funds that were provided to us for her visit.

cc: Peter Meekison, Vice President (Academic)

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

### Meeting with Dale Spender

#### Comments regarding the development of a Women's Studies program

Start with what we see people requiring. In Britain, "Women's Studies" is a dirty word. Women's Studies has made a huge difference to feminists and feminist academics but not in other circles - i.e. heads of departments, mainstream education.

Do what we want to do rather than think of the significance of the program. Look at what the students want to do but don't plan for undermining the establishment. Let the establishment deal with what you want to do.

Women's Studies is not the same brilliant illumination that it once was, simply because we've heard about it now. For her the revolution has been in her head. When she thinks of where she was 25 years ago, it's been a revolution.

Is important to have people inside and outside of the university. Women's Studies is different in that so much scholarly work is done outside of the university: Germaine Greer, Adrienne Rich, Robin Morgan, Margaret Atwood.

Aim for a good program that frees people up instead of tying them down.

As far as her collaboration with the universities, Dale feels that there is a lot of collaboration. For example, she writes research reports and examines PhD's.

Regarding young women of today who feel no oppression and see feminism as pretty far out stuff, Dale suggests approaching the topic as a body of knowledge that exists and that is worthwhile knowing about whether or not an individual feels personally oppressed. The discipline is worthwhile out of intellectual curiosity alone. Later, connections to the personal can be made. Does feel that there are generational differences. Young women don't have the personal guilt because we've told them they shouldn't have. There is an acknowledgement about the structure and not the personal guilt.

Suggested having two approaches to the same course:

Course A: Starts with a body of knowledge and works its way through to personal experience.

Course B: Starts with personal experience and works its way through to the body of knowledge.

This would be the same course with two different starting points. Don't devalue the personal though as not counting as much as the academic.





### FINAL ACTIVITY/FINANCIAL REPORT

Name of Organization: Amnesty

Address: 1000 Avenue

Montreal

Quebec

Postal Code:

Phone: 514-200-0000

Contact Person(s): Michelle

PHONE # 514-200-0000

1000 Avenue

1000 Avenue

Montreal

Montreal

Reference number: 1000-A-000

1. Did your organization achieve its objectives?

☐ FULLY ☒ PARTLY ☐ NOT AT ALL

2. If your group was not able to achieve what it set out to do, what are the reasons?

SINCE OUR PROJECT IS A LONG-TERM ONE, WE HAVE  
NOT ACHIEVED OUR FINAL GOAL - ESTABLISHMENT OF A WOMEN'S  
STUDIES PROGRAM. HOWEVER, THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR  
PROPOSAL IS WELL UNDER WAY, AND THE PROBABILITY OF  
SUCCESS IS HIGH.

3. Did you modify, change or add any objectives during the implementation of the project?

☒ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please indicate these changes and the reasons for them.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT WHICH THE FUNDING GAVE US  
PERMITTED US TO UNDERTAKE ~~AN~~ ADDITIONAL WORK  
PROMOTING AND PUBLICIZING WOMEN'S STUDIES ~~THROUGH~~  
~~ADMINISTRATIVE~~ (SEE QUESTION 6)

4. In addition to Secretary of State, are there other organizations, groups or individuals who have given your group some type of support? (examples include rent-free space, labour, equipment, advice, money)

☒ YES

☐ NO

If yes, in this column  
please list sources of  
support

In this column please  
list the type of support

UNIV. OF ALBERTA:

VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

MONEY FOR COURSE

DEVELOPMENT IN SELECTED  
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS

ENDOWMENT FUND FOR  
THE FUTURE

FUNDS FOR VISIT OF  
DISTINGUISHED GUEST  
LECTURER, DR. DALE  
SPENDER.

- 5.a) What aspects of your project have been the most successful?

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT HAS ENABLED US TO  
DO MUCH MORE THAN WE WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE

(2) THE RETREAT AT WHICH WE DEVELOPED OUR PROPOSAL  
WAS A VERY POSITIVE AND PRODUCTIVE MEETING

- b) How could your project have been improved?

EARLIER HIRING OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND  
EARLIER SCHEDULING OF FIRST RETREAT MIGHT HAVE  
BEEN USEFUL. SECOND RETREAT WILL NOW TAKE  
PLACE IN DECEMBER

6. As a result of funding from the Secretary of State, has your group started additional activities?

☒ YES

☐ NO

If yes, list additional activities:

WOMEN'S STUDIES <sup>COURSES</sup>, BROCHURE, PUBLICITY FOR, AND  
AUDIO TAPES OF, DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER



7. What has been the impact or result of this project?

INTEREST IN WOMEN'S STUDIES IS INCREASING, AS  
IS THE VISIBILITY OF OUR COMMITTEE. WE EXPECT  
THAT A WOMEN'S STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM WILL  
BE IMPLEMENTED.

8. Have there been any changes in your group as a result of the project?

☒ YES

☐ NO

If yes, please describe:

THE SUCCESS OF OUR PROJECT SO FAR HAS HAD A  
POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE MORALE AND EFFECTIVENESS  
OF OUR GROUP

9. What other comments or suggestions do you have regarding your project and/or the programs of the Department of Secretary of State?

FUNDING HAS PERMITTED US TO PROGRESS FASTER  
THAN WE WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE.

Authorized Signing Officer:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signing Officer:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signing Officer:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THIS REPORT SHOULD BE SIGNED BY AT LEAST ONE BOARD OR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

October 28, 1985

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of October 7, 1985.

2. Approval of agenda.

3. Membership of committee.

4. Announcements

- (a) Mother Teresa
- (b) Christensen
- (c) Lynda Lange
- (d) CRIAW
- (e) Meeting with Bouchard

5. Secretariat listing

6. Speaker's Series

- (a) Tapes
- (b) McLellan
- (c) Posters
- (d) Videotaping
- (e) Childcare

7. Program Proposal

- (a) Arts proposal
- (b) December 9 meeting



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of October 28, 1985

Present: M. Assheton-Smith, R. Coulter, D. Cullen (Chair), C. Davies, B. Eyles, A. Hall, J. Lauber, R. Liburd, E. Long, P. Prestwich, S. Suset, L. Stewart.

Regrets: J. Vanderpost.

1. The minutes of October 7 were approved as circulated.
2. Two members of the committee, Susan Jackel and David Mills, have found it necessary to resign from the committee due to other commitments. There was a discussion about the nature of the pressure committee members are experiencing.

The committee welcomes two new members; Pat Prestwich (History department) and Ellen Long (student).

There was some discussion regarding the replacement of members on the committee. It was felt that it was important to have members who were deeply committed and not simply to add people for the sake of maintaining numbers.

3. Dallas received a letter from Amy Zelmer suggesting that the committee might want to make contact with Mother Teresa University. Dallas will write to the university and will respond to Amy as well, thanking her for her continued interest in the committee.
4. The committee will be cosponsoring a lecture by Lynda Lange on November 20, 7:30 - 9:30 pm, in Education North 2-115. The topic is "Feminism and Political Choice: The Impact of Feminism on Political Theory." Leslie will make a flyer which will be sent out with the McLellan poster. Flyers will also be sent to the Philosophy department for them to post and distribute.
5. Dallas, Marilyn and Leslie are planning on going to CRIAW. Dallas suggested that if the funding from Secretary of State comes through, there may be money available to cover some of the costs of attending the conference. Therefore, anyone planning on attending the conference should hang on to their receipts.
6. Two weeks have passed since the report went into Secretary of State. Marilyn will phone Vanessa on Wednesday to ask about the status of the new grant.
7. Rebecca, Marilyn and Dallas met with Secretary of State Bouchard to discuss the various activities being funded by the Secretary of State in Alberta.
8. A short questionnaire was received from Women's Secretariat regarding information which would be included in a listing of the women's groups in Alberta. Although the questionnaire does not really apply to the type of group

that the committee represents, the committee felt that it would be worthwhile to be listed.

9. The tapes of Dale Spender's three public lectures are in the process of being transferred to cassette. Copies of each lecture will be made available to the Women's Program, Athabasca University, Education Library and the committee.
10. Ann McLellan will be speaking on Women and the Charter on November 14 from 7:30 - 9:30 pm at Humanities, Lecture Theatre 1. Pat and Dallas will look into taking Ann to dinner prior to the lecture.
11. The Lecture Series posters will hopefully be ready by the end of this week.
12. A decision was made not to videotape upcoming lectures as it is expensive (\$200.00) and probably will not be especially effective.
13. Regarding childcare at the public lectures, it was decided to book a room adjacent to the lecture room and hire one or two people to be available to look after children. An announcement will be made at the beginning of the lecture as to the childcare arrangements.
14. Work on the proposal continues with Ann looking at the structure of the institute, Marilyn at course development in the various departments, and Dallas and Pat looking at how to fit Women's Studies into the new degree program in Arts. There was a discussion about the impact on the committee and its proposal if the Faculty of Arts New Initiatives proposal is approved.
15. Sandy relayed a request from a group in Edmonton for sponsorship for a visit by Jane Rule in the spring of '86. The committee agreed to commit \$100.00 toward the visit and will commit more if additional funding is received. Dallas will write to the group indicating the committee's support.
15. Sandy brought forth the idea of the committee cosponsoring one event per guest lecturer in the Lecture Series with the Women's Program. This event would be geared toward women in the community. Pat suggested that there might be problems with Stimpson and Dickson as they will only be in town for two days. The reception to open Dickson's exhibit however will include women from the community. Stimpson's only public lecture is currently scheduled for the daytime. Pat will see about changing this to the evening. There should be no problem with Jaggar's visit as she will be here for two weeks.
16. The Classics department is bringing in Sarah B. Pomeroy on November 6 - 7. Dallas will write the department to say that the committee would like to be kept informed of any feminist scholars that the department might be bringing in. Also, the committee would be pleased to help out with publicity, etc., for such events in the future.
17. The committee will meet next on NOVEMBER 18. The subcommittee that is currently working on the proposal will have a draft of the total proposal ready at that time. The Monday December 9 meeting has been changed to Monday December 16. This will be an all day meeting which will be held in a downtown hotel.





to: Dr. Dallas Cullen, Chairman  
Vice-President (Academic) Committee  
on Women's Studies

date: 7 October, 1985

our file:

from: Dr. A. E. Zelmer

your file:

subject: Mother Teresa Women's University

As you may recall Mother Teresa was given an Honorary Degree by the University of Alberta a few years ago. The Government of India has now established the "Mother Teresa Women's University". My understanding is that it will have a particular interest in women's studies.

I suspect that your Committee is very busy with plans for our own program, but I wonder whether it might not be appropriate to establish some kind of a link between women's studies at the University of Alberta and the Mother Teresa Women's University.

I'm writing this memo to you simply as an interested faculty member on campus (not in my Associate V-P role). If you think it's worthwhile pursuing, I would be glad to help in any way you think is appropriate.

Amy E. Zelmer

AEZ:dc  
Encl.

## Request For Co-Sponsorship

**Project:** to bring Jane Rule to Edmonton, for a period of 4 - 10 days (length of time dependent on funding). Rule has agreed to come in early April, 1986. She is willing to participate in a number of activities, aimed at a variety of audiences (small writer's workshops, receptions, question-and-answer times with a larger group, or participation on panels, speaking with classes and book-signings).

**Organizers:** We are a group of 8 individuals. There are no representatives of groups of the committee, in order to avoid including some and excluding others who are interested in Rule's visit. We will work with all interested groups, however, to ensure that there is time and a place for Rule to meet with the various groupings familiar with her work and life: women's groups, gay and lesbian groups, writers, literature students and faculty, and other readers of her work.

**Funding:** We are applying for financial sponsorship from a number of sources (Canada Council, Council for the Literary Arts, universities) and for support from interested groups with space and other resources to facilitate the visit (Writer's Guild, U. of A. Women's Program and Resource Centre, and others). Any support, financial and other, that your group could offer would be appreciated. If the Canada Council application is approved, we will be asked to raise \$75/day towards Rule's remuneration (C.C. supplies \$125/day). This would mean from \$300. (4 days) to \$750. (10 days) that must be raised from other sources.

For further information:

Susan Beach

(Jane Rule Cttee.)

488 - 1378





WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT

8th Floor, Devonian Building East, 11160 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5K 0L1

September 20, 1985

Advisory Committee on  
Women's Studies  
c/o Ms. Ann Hall  
Department of Physical Education  
& Sport Studies  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6E 2H9

Dear Ms. Hall:

The Alberta Women's Secretariat was established on April 1, 1984 to assist the Alberta Government to better respond to the wide range of women's issues in the Province. As the central coordinating mechanism for women's issues within the Government, the Women's Secretariat analyzes and provides recommendations on legislation, policies and programs which have an impact on women, and maintains liaison with other government departments to ensure that women's concerns are reflected in policy and program development.

The Women's Secretariat continues to provide the important services offered in the past by the former Alberta Women's Bureau, which was incorporated into the Secretariat as the Communications Division. These services include the provision of links between government and the public through the exchange of publications and other information, and by means of direct contacts with women's groups. The Secretariat is continuing to maintain a resource centre/library which is accessible to the public.

In order to carry out information exchange and community liaison responsibilities to the fullest extent, the Secretariat is currently updating its list of women's groups, organizations, and associations throughout the Province. Resources permitting, we hope to publish an inventory of Alberta women's groups (with the permission of each group) which would be made available to the public.

- 2 -

In order to ensure that all such organizations in the Province are included, I would appreciate it if you could complete the attached questionnaire and return it to our office by November 15, 1985.

Please indicate if you do not want specific information such as home addresses included.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

*for Rosie Hays*  
Dr. Sheila Wynn  
Director

SW/mt



## INVENTORY OF WOMEN'S GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS QUESTIONNAIRE

THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW MAY APPEAR IN A PROVINCIAL DIRECTORY OF WOMEN'S GROUPS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. PLEASE INDICATE ANY INFORMATION SUCH AS HOME ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS WHICH YOU DO NOT WISH TO MAKE PUBLIC.

NAME OF GROUP/ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS ADDRESS A PRIVATE HOUSE? ☐  
OFFICE? ☐

OFFICIAL CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TYPE/NATURE OF GROUP (CHECK AS MANY AS ARE APPROPRIATE):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICAL (E.G. WOMEN'S COMMITTEES OF POLITICAL PARTIES)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UNION                     | <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE (E.G. YWCA, SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRES)                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FEMINIST                  | <input type="checkbox"/> UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE (E.G. FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS)                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RURAL/FARM                | <input type="checkbox"/> PROFESSIONAL (E.G. NETWORKS, BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN, MEDICAL) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE                    | <input type="checkbox"/> ISSUE-RELATED (E.G. PORNOGRAPHY, EMPLOYMENT)                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ETHNIC                    | <input type="checkbox"/> NATIONAL GROUP (OR CHAPTER OF NATIONAL GROUP)                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT                |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WOMEN'S STUDIES/EDUCATION |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LOBBY                     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____               |   |



PURPOSE AND MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

PROGRAMS/SERVICES OFFERED AND/OR ISSUES ADDRESSED:

ARE YOU REGISTERED UNDER THE SOCIETIES ACT?

YES

☐

NO

☐

DATE GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF LOCAL MEMBERS: ☐ LESS THAN 25

☐ 25-100

☐ 100-500

☐ MORE THAN 500

DATE OF ANNUAL MEETING: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF NEWSLETTER OR OTHER PUBLICATION, IF APPLICABLE:

HOW MANY TIMES A YEAR IS THE ABOVE PUBLISHED?

SUBSCRIPTION FEE FOR PUBLICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST 2 ALTERNATIVE CONTACT PERSONS:

POSITION/TITLE:

NAME:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

POSITION/TITLE:

NAME:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY WOMEN'S GROUPS THAT MAY NOT HAVE RECEIVED THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, PLEASE INCLUDE THE GROUP'S NAME AND THE NAME AND ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER OF A CONTACT PERSON:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THIS PROJECT.

PLEASE RETURN QUESTIONNAIRE TO:

ALBERTA WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT  
8TH FLOOR DEVONIAN BUILDING EAST  
11160 JASPER AVENUE  
EDMONTON, ALBERTA  
T5K 0L1



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

November 18, 1985

1. Approval of minutes of October 28, 1985
2. Approval of agenda.
3. Announcements
  - (a) Faculty Enhancement Program
  - (b) Speaker Series
  - (c) QCTV
  - (d) December 16 meeting
  - (e) *Sandy.*
4. New Initiatives Funds

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of November 18, 1985

Present:

M. Assheton-Smith, D. Cullen (Chair), C. Davies, B. Eyles, A. Hall, R. Liburd, E. Long, P. Prestwich, S. Susut, L. Stewart.

Regrets:

R. Coulter, J. Vanderpost.

1. The minutes of October 28 were approved as circulated.
2. Dallas mentioned the Faculty Enhancement Program under which money is being made available to aid departments in hiring underrepresented groups.

Lynda Lange will be speaking on Wednesday November 20 in Education 2-115. Ann McLellan's talk on Thursday 14 was not well attended. Committee members are encouraged to talk up the lecture series. The next event will not take place until January 16 when Jennifer Dickson arrives.

Pat has been unable to contact Shirley Neuman to see if Catherine Stimpson's lecture can be scheduled for the evening. Pat will continue to try and contact Shirley.

Lorette Woolsey will be speaking Friday November 22, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm in 225 Athabasca Hall. Her work is on the bonds between women friends. If you would like to attend for only part of the presentation, please feel free.

Dr. Michelle Harrison will be speaking on Self Help for Premenstrual Syndrome on Saturday November 23 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am at the Misericordia Hospital Auditorium.

G. V. Spivak will be a Distinguished Visitor to the Department of English from March 17 - 28. The committee has been invited to get involved.

3. Leslie received a phone call from Rick Warren at QCTV regarding a new newsmagazine show at the station beginning in December. Rick is in charge of social issues and feels that women's issues in particular would be an appropriate topic for the show. Discussion followed and it was suggested that this might be a worthwhile project for the committee to follow through on. It was also suggested that Rebecca might be interested in terms of the series that she has been negotiating with ACCESS. Dallas will meet with Rick to discuss the possibilities.

Barb mentioned that a friend at CJSR was interested in interviewing someone on the committee. This led to a brief discussion about the media strategy that the committee had at one time talked about. Sandy suggested that perhaps this was something that could be discussed at the December 16 meeting.

4. It looks like the December 16 meeting will be held at the Chateau Lacombe, since they offer the best deal. The focus will be on developing the details of the



proposal, specifically the following: 1) elaboration of the structure of the institute  
2) curriculum and 3) course development.

5. Rosemary mentioned that her course on counselling girls and women - the only course in Ed Psych that dealt with the psychology of women - had been eliminated. Committee members agreed that part of the work of the committee should be to ensure the continuation of such courses. Dallas will write a letter to the Ed Psych department indicating that the committee is not pleased with this decision.
6. After much discussion regarding getting the proposal together and written, it was decided that part of the \$20,000 that the committee just received under the New Initiatives Funds would be used to buy release time for Ann so that she could spend a good deal of time working on the proposal. Marilyn and Rosemary also felt that they would be able to devote time to working on the proposal in the new year. It was felt that communication between the committee as a whole and those working more extensively on the proposal would be important. Thus, the work will continually be brought back to the committee for opinions and input.

Ann will talk to her Chairperson about getting release time. She also suggested that additional administrative support would be needed. Marilyn suggested that it might be appropriate to look at allocating some of the money to the development of a first level course as well. Details such as these will be discussed at the December 16 meeting.

7. Marilyn presented her work on the structure of the degree program\* (~~see enclosed~~). Sandy and Leslie will work together to come up with a way that this information can be presented visually such that each option can be mapped out, discussed and adjusted.
8. Leslie will meet with Sandy early in December to go over payment for office rental, materials, etc.
9. Sandy suggested that it was important to talk about the December 16 meeting in terms of what was on the agenda, what people were expecting, etc. After some discussion, it was felt that it would be useful to have some sort of summary of what has happened so far, what's been decided, and what the committee needs to look at now. Also, a report on the committee's financial situation is needed. Information regarding the December meeting will be circulated prior to the 16th.

\* (will include Marilyn's work).

# Contemporary Feminist Theory

A new course being offered by the Philosophy department in  
January 1986.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lynda Lange  
*Lynda Lange is coeditor of the Sexism of  
Social and Political Theory and has written  
numerous articles on feminist political theory.*

**WHEN:** Tuesdays & Thursdays  
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

**WHERE:** Tory 1-5

*\*NB: This course is listed in the University of Alberta 1985-86  
Calendar as **PHIL 458: Advanced Social and Political  
Philosophy.***



November 7, 1985

To: Members of Advisory Committee on Women' Studies

From: Dallas Cullen

Re: The New Initiatives money

As Vice-President Meekison's letter of October 28 indicated, money is available this year for course development/released time.

Marilyn has been looking at what courses or departments should receive priority for future course development. While this will be a major topic at our all-day meeting on December 16, it would also be worthwhile to discuss what the possibilities for immediate work are. While it might be too late to expect to be able to offer a course next term, are there people who could work on a course for next academic year? Can we buy released time for one or more of us to work on the proposal/core courses? Please think about this for our November 18 meeting.

Rosemary has asked me to mention that Lorette Woolsey will be giving a colloquium on Friday, Nov. 22 at 2:00 p.m. in Athabasca 225. Title is "Social networks and social support: Same sex social ties." Since the room is not a large one, this session will not be widely publicized. However, please mention it to people who might be interested.

See you at Anne McLellan's talk.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

### Minutes of December 5, 1985 - Emergency Meeting

#### Present:

M. Assheton-Smith, R. Coulter, D. Cullen, A. Hall, N. Keating,  
S. Susut (chair), J. Vanderpost, L. Stewart.

Sandy organized this meeting in order to discuss some problems that had arisen around the committee's hiring of a research assistant. There was a great deal of discussion about the importance of the committee's decision-making process. The following resolutions were agreed upon by the members in attendance.

1. Mary Potrebenko will be hired as a research assistant.
2. Leslie will work for 20 hours a week until the end of March.
3. The committee will meet once every two weeks in the new year.
4. Committee members will take turns chairing the meetings.
5. A reflective round will end each meeting.
6. The minutes will be set up such that the right-hand margin will be used to indicate who will be following through with the agreed upon action.
7. The committee will make a habit of double-checking what has been decided upon at the end of each meeting.
8. Dallas, Marilyn and Leslie will meet with Mary tomorrow to ensure that the problems have been cleared up.



AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 16 MEETING

CHATEAU LACOMBE

9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

1. A reminder of the vision -- please reread the notes from the April retreat and the ADC proposal (attached)
- 2 a. Expectations for the day: Where would we like to be by the end of the day? What would we like to see happen?
- 2 b. Structure for the day: How do we get there: small groups, one large group?
3. The Institute: its form and links with the university (notes attached)
4. Our degree program and courses (notes attached)
5. Developing our proposal: our structure, meetings, etc. during the next term
6. Where did we get to?

Lunch comes in the middle of the day!

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Minutes of December 16, 1985

Present:

M. Assheton-Smith, R. Coulter, D. Cullen (Chair), C. Davies, A. Hall, J. Lauber, R. Liburd, P. Prestwich, S. Susut, R. Sydie, J. Vanderpost, M. Potrebenko, L. Stewart.

Regrets:

B. Eyles, E. Long.

Things we've agreed upon, where we'd like to be by the end of the day.

Christine:

Sees function of committee as much broader than what Meekison originally stated. Have Women's Studies program in order by end of day.

Pat: As newcomer, would like to know what's been agreed upon to date. Agrees with Christine, have something in place by end of day.

Marilyn:

Agreed at Devon that we are a feminist, academic group. Thinks agenda for today might be too heavy. Would like to have structure of degree program by end of day.

Jean: Hates to see us lose sight of Institute. Thinks climate good in university to come forward with broad proposal.

Sandy: Large vision from Devon - strength, unity. Feminist studies, linked to community, creating feminists to do activist work. Also concerned about large agenda. If we can get philosophical agreements out can work on details. Hopes we still have that vision at the end of the day.

Ann: Feels her role is different. Today has to get real sense of everyone's feelings on whole thing. Left Devon with good sense of vision - doesn't think anything has changed except we have one new person - Pat. Hopes all issues are brought to the fore today.

Rebecca:

Unsure. Mixed, ambivalent feelings re work of committee. Thinks



committee has lacked self-criticism - i.e. "What am I doing in Women's Studies?" How principles relate to actions. Need introspection, not withstanding the heavy agenda. Feels in a peculiar position being from Athabasca U.

Janina: Still have lot of things to work on. Nice to be able to see end point. Nice to have beginnings of finished product at end of today.

Mary: Strong, vested interest in program as wants her daughter to stay in Edmonton. Likes the contradictions, thinks they can be sorted out.

Rosemary:

Doesn't feel as clear about process. Would like to address work the subcommittee on structure did in the summer, as it was never really looked at.

Ros: Contradiction of "revolutionary subversive". Accepts it for now but . . . . Wants to get structure done. Also feels time is ripe.

Dallas: Feels have to get something done quickly or we're going to lose it. Seems to be getting messages that it would be approved. Lapsing into very cynical view of the university, very suspicious. Meekison is ally, would like to advantage of this.

(end of round)

Pat: Needs clarification. No problems with anything written, but would also like to see that it's going to be a scholarly program. Doesn't disagree that scholarship gets out to the community and that the community is involved, but feels that scholarship is extremely important. Thinks this should be explicitly stated.

Rebecca:

Type of thing she's been thinking about. Tension between what's seen as scholarly by the university and what is seen as useful by the community - have to deal with this. Have to have consistent argument. Can't argue one thing with community and another with Faculty Council.

Marilyn:

Feminist studies presents major epistemological challenge to university, therefore her hackles go up at "scholarship".

Pat: Would look at how program set up, what courses are taught and by whom. Doesn't find contradictions in feminist scholarship in history. Thinks have to get down to specifics - scholarship will be judged by what's being taught and by whom.

Ann: Does committee see place for discussion of epistemological challenge in proposal?

Pat: Thinks it will raise hackles in Arts Faculty Council.

Ann: Has to be a rationale for the program. Is critical scholarship. Feminist scholarship is about nature of scholarship and of knowledge.

Marilyn:  
Agrees with this.

Ros: Epistemological issue differs according to discipline. Issue of expanding parameters of scholarship.

Marilyn:  
Would prefer to discuss issue of "scholarship" and how we would define it.

Janina:  
Have been talking about it being a scholarly program from the beginning.

Ann: Her sense is that have always talked in terms of *feminist* scholarship, redefining academe, structure of academe, how knowledge is structured.

Marilyn:  
Social relationship of knowledge as well as knowledge itself.

Ann: As long as its clear that we're talking about feminist scholarship.

Pat: Agrees. Is still scholarship. Would like to see this stated.

Rebecca:  
Doesn't agree that it is so easy in history. Methodology differences, etc. Doesn't really understand what Pat would like committee's action to be.



Pat: "Meeting them on their own terms" means solid scholarship.

Ann: Is part of the issue. For example, she doesn't care what Wilcox thinks. May change her opinion if in our interest to do so. That is, if need to convince people like Wilcox then will do it.

Marilyn:  
Seems one of our problems is if we claim some aspects of scholarship and academe, is giving credibility to *them*. Challenge for us is to understand Wilcox's challenge.

Pat: Women in Arts are concerned about the scholarship of the program.

Ann: Feels that we have to do a lot of PR then.

Marilyn:  
Come back to this at end of day as could go on forever. Thinks will become clear as work things through.

Ann: Are disagreements between feminist scholars as to what feminist scholarship is.

Ros: The program is going to be one which debates this type of thing all of the time.

Jean: Would be much better to state that scholarship is important to our program. Make a strong statement, not a reactionary one.

**\*\*Agreed:** Change first statement listed on flipchart to "We are a feminist scholarly program . . . ."

#### Institute - Clarifications

Pat: Did subgroup discuss the focus of the institute?

Marilyn:  
Institute will have a broad focus.

Ann: Need to have set of clear objectives for the institute. Does it focus

entirely on research, improving quality of life for women?

Marilyn:

Institute as place where Women's Studies would develop, central focus for feminist scholarship on campus. Building a structure to make that possible. Thought of the function within the university rather than specific objectives.

Ann: More like the Wellesley Institute than Simone de Beauvoir or Mount Saint Vincent.

Dallas: Although more of a teaching function than Wellesley.

Marilyn:

Think we saw it as a logistical thing too - a central place. Also an entity that could attract funds.

Dallas: Meekison approves of the institute idea. Subcommittee saw program and Institute as going forward together. Did not see them as separate. Institute would have teaching and research functions both.

Ros: Is there an advantage in concentrating on the Institute and pushing for that to go forward, and then bring the program in later?

Christine:

Would like to see program go through now too.

Marilyn:

Advantage to Ros' suggestion is that committee would be in place as "Directors".

At this time committee broke into three small groups to discuss structure and then came back together.

### Goals

Want statement of objectives and functions - not an exclusive list of functions - to indicate types of things Institute might do.

### Starting from top of Structure report

Ann: Name of institute. Discussed "Nellie McClung Institute" previously. Feels should call it something very simple, University of Alberta name first - the University of Alberta Institute for Women's Studies.



Jean: Might not be able to use U of A as prefix.

Dallas: Want to report to Vice-President (Academic). Want to propose a Director and Associate Director. Director would be responsible for teaching and negotiations with faculty. Associate Director would have more responsibility for teaching and working with students as advisor.

Marilyn:

Director sort of half-way between a Chair and a Dean. See the possibility of seconding? Want to stay away from bureaucratic model.

Ann: We have to exist within a bureaucracy. By stating that there is a Director and Associate Director, how is it that we've replicated or created a bureaucracy?

Jean: Thinks it's enough to say that we will need an Associate Director *in time* but to soft pedal it for now.

Ros: Objects on the basis that we don't want to sell ourselves short.

Ann: If we create a Director, we will have clout.

Marilyn:

Thinks the *individual* will have clout, not the position. Person has to carry the position, not the other way around. Other positions to support that person should not be created as hierarchy. Director should never be alone in the decision-making process, support must be there.

Ann: Feels that that stuff is internal. Should not be included in the proposal.

Dallas: Maybe need a private internal document stating "In fact the way things are done is . . . ." For the proposal, need titles the university can understand.

Ann: Two things: how the Director relates to the university and how the Director relates to the committee. The idea of the Associate Director was support.

Sandy: Instead of full-time Associate Director have four or five part-time Associate Directors.

Marilyn:

Within administration, have to give them specific tasks - fund raising, administration, etc.

Sandy: May be where we want to start critiquing academe.

Rebecca:

Feels the part time Assistant Directors would be overloaded and would have a hard time.

Christine:

Easier to have one Assistant Director so Director knows she's there.

Sandy: It would be easier but has a real fear of doing it that way.

Marilyn:

Is an important image - collective decision-making but also freeing people up to make decisions autonomously.

Dallas: Talk to university in their traditional terms and then once had money and budget could spread things out, do what we want to do.

Rebecca:

Sees decision here. Supports Sandy in principle but thinks need tradeoff - time constraints, etc. Working out new model would be very time-consuming. Could say need two FTE for administration. Thinks academics (women) in university would go for three-year secondments over other options.

Janina: Thinks we're better off putting things in terms the university understands. Thinks can create Assistant Director later. At the university, department chairs get assistants, personal secretaries as they become overworked.

Ann: Thinks good idea to phone other Institutes across Canada to talk about structure, how they work within a bureaucracy, etc.

Rebecca:

Serious mistake to say "something like a department chair". Better to say "something like a Dean".

Dallas: Dean of non-departmentalized faculty is probably closest model.

Rosemary:

Would like to know specifics of things like Wellesly Institute.

Dallas: In the proposal we could talk about things the Director will do, drawing from the handbook, etc. In addition, will have to be administrative support to level of one FTE (therefore, 2 FTE staff). Indicates up front want two positions but we haven't labelled them. Still is teaching component for each of them.

Ann: Term "Director".

Rebecca:

Think title is important to outside world, has clout.

Ann will check existing institutes to see what titles they use.

Afternoon Session: Continuing on Structure Report

Community Associates

Marilyn:



The community associates could get something out of the centre, i.e., are not just there for Institute to use. Fact that they are from the community doesn't necessarily mean they'd be *community* associates. Could be research or teaching associates.

Sandy: Category to allow people to come for short period; eg. Dale Spender could have been considered a visiting teaching associate. Research associates don't have to be linked to a university. Could be independent researchers out in community for example.

Dallas: Could include people from other institutes as well.

Janina: With respect to teaching associates, and maybe others, might be wise to say "*Normally*, teaching associates . . . ." Has to be clearly stated in contract who does the evaluation of the individual.

Ann: Individuals decide where they want to be evaluated and placed.

Rosemary:

Important that we have input *in person*, not just in writing. Must state this.

Marilyn:

We structure in the right to be involved in tenure, promotion, etc.

Janina: Have to address question of how people going to be appointed.

Marilyn:

Would see associates as essentially in residence.

Rosemary:

Will there be limited numbers of associates?

Christine:

Limit the Board of Advisors, not the associates.

Marilyn:

Need some process and criteria for incorporating people into this department, some kind of feminist research or knowledge. How do we structure this in? Perhaps someone could do a paper on this for discussion by the committee.

Janina: What about the person who wants to stay 100% in their own department?

Sandy: How are we going to decide (criteria) which courses are Women's Studies courses and which ones aren't? For example, if two people are teaching the same course and we accept one as WS and not the other?

Dallas: For proposal, don't have to spell out these criteria.

Marilyn:

Proposal has to have structure and decision-making process clear but not the

criteria.

Pat: Thinks it is fundamental to outline these criteria.

Ann: Feels are courses whose focus is women and presumably are taught from some sort of feminist perspective, but which committee might like to see changes in. Sees it as more of a discussion process than confrontational.

Marilyn:

We too will have criteria for this "emerging discipline". Doesn't mean that you monitor every periodical they use.

Pat: Problems in Arts. Not represented on committee for example. Women over there are unsure of what's happening.

Dallas: Not saying students can't take these courses, or that you can't teach it. Are saying that we won't offer it as WS.

Ann: Feel feedback will come from the student associates. Program will be multidisciplinary, trying to break down traditional disciplinary boundaries.

Pat: When get into teacher's interpretations feel are infringing on academic freedom.

Jean: Maybe need clear indication of how Director will be chosen.

Marilyn:

Thinks need sub-committee to work on criteria for two things: incorporating people into the working body, and the courses.

Committee members interested in forming this sub-committee: Dallas, Marilyn, Janina, Ann, Mary, Ros. This group will get together at the end of today to set a meeting time.

Rosemary:

Has to leave. How do we see the committee meeting in the new year? Perhaps another retreat?

Ann: Would prefer every two weeks.

\*\*Agreed that the committee would meet every two weeks in the new year.

#### Program: Courses

Jean: Don't want to put students in position of having to know what they want to do when they're in high school.

Marilyn:

Introductory WS course will be taken by many who don't want to major in WS.



Ann: Provide as many entry points as possible for students. Therefore, maybe can offer WS intro in first and second terms and in second term also offer our second course, "Feminist Thought".

Marilyn:

Have discussed "wind up" course as discussion type and practicum.

Pat: Think to have practicum have to send students to well-established, well-run places in order for it to have credibility. Don't like the idea.

Marilyn:

Need to get students to link knowledge to real world.

Pat: Bring it back into the university, write it up.

Sandy: Are possibilities of future employment. Practicum good for making these connections.

Christine:

Give the student the option to do "supervised research" (this is what it's called in law). Get a faculty member to supervise.

Ann: Called Directed Studies in physical education.

Dallas: Have practicum for a full year. Start off in the classroom, go to the practicum, come back to the classroom. Is listed as two separate courses but really was designed as one full-year course.

Pat: Should be the type of project that would contribute to feminist scholarship.

Marilyn:

Think it should contribute to feminist *practice* too.

Sandy: Practicums and seminars should be going on at the same time.

Pat: Bring information back into the seminar.

Rest of the afternoon spent working on the courses involved in the four-year BA in WS.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Saturday, April 13

### WHAT IS WOMEN'S STUDIES?

Ros: An intellectual program of women's studies.

Christine: Must decide on format.

Barb: Must get a lot done.

Pat: Degree to which we should be autonomous. Should be feminist studies.

Marilyn: Wants to define feminist. Avoiding taking over male-defined system and moving to some sort of positive vision.

Susan: has moved to feminist studies.

Redefine feminist in the public mind.

Great numbers who need to know about women and may be put off by feminist studies.

Janina: Sees role as offering some practical suggestions.

Rebecca: Agrees with Marilyn but we all have our definitions of women's studies. It is a problem of the label.

Dichotomy is a false one.

Birdie: Anything we develop must be feminist. Format is the important thing.

Norah: Feels that what she is doing is a lot more feminist than she thought.

Must create something that allows all of us to be involved.

Dallas: "Women's Studies is the conscience of the university" (E.F. Keller). What are we trying to say?

Ann: Must be called women's studies but must incorporate the feminist critique.

Sandy: Must remember the connections to the women's mov't from which it all came.

Rosemary: How will this program fit into the larger university structure?

David: Has become much more pessimistic largely through experience of teaching this year. People will become frightened of feminist studies. Feels that the course on women in history is dependent on him and if he leaves so will the courses.

### OPEN DISCUSSION:

- we will always be marginalized.
- our course will be seen as only being able to be taught by "us".
- what sort of support would there be if course was also part of a women's studies program.
- but, among "liberals" need to be seen as doing the right thing.
- but also, presumably all members of a dept. could teach a feminist course



55. A very broad degree of liberal studies. Very diverse with many components.

### - WHAT WILL THE STUDENTS OF THE PROGRAM GAIN?

- not so much an issue of credentials but of skills.
- we do have to show that women's studies is a different approach to liberal studies.
- back to the question of demographics - how do we reintegrate? Answer could be that we are empowering women.
- we also have to help women deal with their isolation because they will likely be when they are in the work force.
- we are training feminists- e.g. they are historians but first of all they are feminists.
- is there really a point in talking about what these students are going to do?
- there appears to be consensus on the need for a core in the program that is feminist based.
- now is the time to get done to the details of the program and the structure.

### FEMINIST STUDIES VS WOMEN'S STUDIES

- need something that alienates the fewest individuals
- issue is one of strategy because in the context of philosophy, we know what we want. i.e. feminist studies.

### WHAT SORT OF ISSUES SHOULD STUDENTS HAVE EXPLORED?

- sending feminists out into the world
- for graduate students, they have in fact two knowledge systems.
- it is at that level we will have an impact on the knowledge structures.
- core courses could always have the word "feminist" within the titles and in this way make it clear that the core courses deal with feminist criticism and conscienteness.
- what is also a part of the program structure is the building of networks and relationships - it is not all just head stuff.
- courses which deal with women and may not necessarily be feminist can go on providing there is a core of feminist courses.
- our purpose is to "produce revolutionary subversives" and we have to find a legitimate way to label it
- some of this is simply good education: assisting people to see and understand those structures around them.
- also, the need for women to take themselves seriously - therefore the need for courses just about women.
- what this argues for is an identifiable place where students can learn to be feminists (or revolutionary subversives!!)

### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WOMEN'S MOV'T AND THE ACADEMY.

- what does this mean?
- can we have a vision of this now?
- an active interchange is always going on with the community.
- we have to have a shared commitment to bringing about change.
- if not, women in the community will know that right away.
- some sort of permeability between staff and students - this is a process and there must be a continual change.
- feminist knowledge is being created in the community and that is also of value
- how much room is there for community based advisory committees?
- what is the community? (when we talk about links to it?)
- we also have to remember that we (as academics) are also part of the

- our interest as women must be a shared one.

#### VISION QUEST: TOWARDS THE YEAR 2008

- dichotomy above won't exist anymore
- should discuss this question tomorrow afternoon after structure!
- full blown program and the U of A as a center for feminist studies.
- discipline transformed
- stratification theory is transformed
- not be angry when you read most of the books one reads
- less time changing things inch by inch so that main energies are on why we are there to reflect and think
- we have not touched on role of lesbians within women's studies and we need to develop a position on this also
- feminist courses are just what exist - it is just normal
- dichotomies will no longer exist
- campus has a center for feminist studies (i.e. the business building) and then Dallas wouldn't dodder.
- what we need is a feminist retirement centre called "Dodder Inn".
- need a new building designed by feminists - a very safe place for women and where we can come back when we are old.
- wants the number of men to double in his history class.
- can talk about humanist studies where gender makes no difference.

THE END



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

PROGRAMME IN WOMEN'S STUDIES AND A CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

(May, 1985)

What we intend to propose is an undergraduate degree programme in Women's Studies, most probably a Bachelor of Arts. Related to the development of a degree programme is an autonomous centre or institute whose focus is Women's Studies.

The degree programme would in all likelihood be very similar in structure to the existing B.A. (Canadian Studies) degree. For instance, it would be a four-year (twenty course) program with a minimum of eight core Women's Studies courses. Specialization would be within an established discipline or across two disciplines or perhaps even a specialization of a multidisciplinary nature involving courses in more than one faculty.

Such a proposal for a B.A. (Women's Studies) raises at least two questions:

- (1) Within the existing structure of the university, who would offer such a degree?
- (2) Is there a need for some autonomous structure within the university whose focus is Women's Studies?

We believe that most students interested in Women's Studies will be those who wish to enrol in a liberal arts programme. Since the majority of the existing undergraduate courses dealing specifically with women are taught in Departments within the Faculty of Arts (see attached information), that faculty would appear to be the most logical "home" for a B.A. (Women's Studies).

However, academic staff are needed to develop and teach the new core courses in Women's Studies which are fundamental to the degree. Someone must also be responsible for ensuring the further development and coordination of appropriate courses in the traditional disciplines not only within the Faculty of Arts but within other faculties as well.

What we envision is a centre or institute which would provide not only a "home" and physical setting (e.g., the Emily Murphy House) but also a focus for Women's Studies at the University of Alberta. The name is not important at this stage, but for the sake of convenience, we will call it the Centre for Women's Studies. Several such centres

and institutes already exist on this campus: for example, the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies, the Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies, and the Centre for Advanced Study in Theoretical Psychology.

There are also several institutes in Canada whose focus is Women's Studies insofar as they have both a teaching and research function such as the Simone de Beauvoir Institute at Concordia University in Montreal and The Institute for the Study of Women at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax.

The proposed Centre for Women's Studies would have a Director/Coordinator and secretarial/administrative support but be primarily comprised of members of the academic staff from various faculties who are responsible to the Centre and also their home department (joint appointments or temporary secondment). Eventually, the Centre would attract research scholars from other institutions and universities as well as developing its own research activities.

Members of the Centre for Women's Studies would be responsible for student advising, program planning and overall programme decisions in the B.A. (Women's Studies) in collaboration primarily with the Faculty of Arts but also other faculties/departments who agree to offer approved Women's Studies courses. Members of the Centre would also teach the core Women's Studies courses as well as the approved courses in their own disciplines.

Finally, the Centre for Women's Studies would seek to aid in the coordination of Women's Studies throughout the province through close cooperation with, for example, Athabasca University and the University of Calgary, both of which have already developed programmes in Women's Studies.





to: Members of the Advisory Committee on Women's Studies date: December 21, 1985

our file:

from: Leslie Stewart

your file:

subject: Meeting times for 1986

Unfortunately, there was no one time when all committee members were free. Therefore, it was felt that the best solution was to alternate the meetings between two different times. The schedule for the next four months is as follows:

January: Tuesday 14, 9:00 - 11:00 am  
Wednesday 29, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

February: Tuesday 11, 9:00 - 11:00 am  
Wednesday 26, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

March: Tuesday 11, 9:00 - 11:00 am  
Wednesday 26, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

April: Tuesday 8 or Tuesday 15  
(classes end on the 11th).

A final note; we have received a cheque from Secretary of State for \$13,300 for the Women's Studies Lecture Series project.