

# Center

from the

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

## CSWS Researchers Receive \$1 Million Grant

*New project complements work on women's reproductive health*

One of the major foci of the Women's Health and Aging Research Initiative (WHARI) at CSWS is to pursue both short- and long-term solutions to the prevention of HIV and STD infections and unintended pregnancy among women. Long-term solutions will require addressing the underlying causes of women's vulnerability—the increasing feminization of poverty, gender inequality, sexism, and racism. In the short term, researchers are looking for ways to strengthen women's ability to protect themselves against specific reproductive health concerns: unintended pregnancies, HIV infection, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Research scientists Marie Harvey and Sheryl Thorburn Bird have recently received a second federal grant—at just over \$1 million—to address this need.

The first grant, funded by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), is the five-year PARTNERS project. This study designs, implements, and evaluates a couple-based intervention designed to reduce unprotected intercourse among sexually active women and their heterosexual partners. Harvey, principal investigator and CSWS director of research, says the goal of the project is to encourage couples to use the male condom for the prevention of HIV/STDs and unintended pregnancies.

In addition to the male condom, "we need a method that women can use to protect themselves without their partner's knowledge or consent," she says.

The vaginal diaphragm offers just that. The device is both female-controlled and female-applied. This is the key idea behind the new study on the acceptability of the vaginal diaphragm among women. This small, disc-shaped contraceptive device, like the male condom, can effectively prevent pregnancies and protect against some sexually transmitted diseases. But unlike the male condom, it puts the power in women's hands.

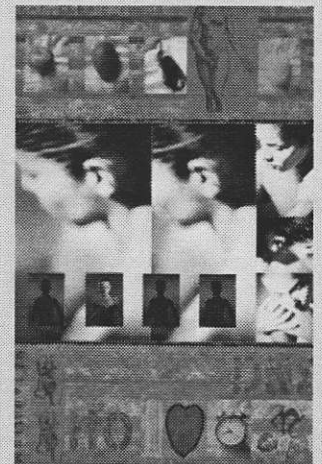
Her three-year project, funded at just over \$1 million by the National Institutes of Health, will use two studies—one based in the Portland area and the other in Los Angeles—to determine whether women are willing to use the diaphragm to protect themselves against unintended pregnancies, STDs, and potentially even HIV infection. Ultimately, Harvey hopes that the findings will lay the groundwork for a study of the efficacy of the diaphragm in the prevention of AIDS, and stimulate the development of similar barrier methods.

In the course of the new project, Harvey, along with co-investigator Bird, will:

- Conduct a telephone survey of nearly 1,000 women in the Portland area who are either current or former diaphragm users or who use other methods
- Conduct a second study among approximately 200 university women in the Los Angeles area who have never used the diaphragm and participate in high-risk activities. This study will involve a combination of focus groups, questionnaires, and face-to-face interviews. The participants will be given coupons for free diaphragms.

The project will begin in January 2001.

WINTER



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# Women of Excellence



Left to right: Sally McCracken, Guadalupe Quinn, and Marian Smith.

On November 13, CSWS hosted its third annual "Women of Excellence" event with the UO women's basketball team. The reception and program brings together two unlikely constituencies: CSWS affiliates and women's basketball fans to honor "Women of Excellence"—women who have made great contributions to the university and community—and to introduce the women's basketball team. This year, four women were named "Women of Excellence": Sally McCracken, a Portland activist and UO trustee; Guadalupe Quinn, a Eugene human rights and racial justice advocate; Marian Smith, associate professor of music at the UO; and Joan Acker, UO professor emerita and founder of CSWS. In addition, Carla Gary, a member of last year's "Women of Excellence" class, was honored. She is the director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs at the UO.

In a conversation following the event, Judith Musick, CSWS associate director, and Peg Rees, faculty instructor for Physical Activity and Recreation Services and emcee for the annual event, talked about the connections between CSWS and women's basketball fans:

**Q:** You just said that this picture [lower right] tells a story. What story does it tell?

**JM:** Well, there's the founder of CSWS in the most surprising situation, with all of these young women who don't really have a clue about what CSWS is or who she is or why they are connected.

**PR:** The history and work of her career is the foundation that makes their current careers possible. If it weren't for the women's movement, we wouldn't have women's basketball at the level that we have today. But we do. We have the women's movement, we have CSWS, and these young women have marvelous careers because of it.

**JM:** It's really an unusual thing that we're moving beyond the boundaries of academic work into these spheres of women on

campus who usually have nothing to do with us. You've got to admit that academic feminism is a hard sell. It's not for everyone. Once you get into it, you can see how it relates to all of this stuff. This events starts to build the bridges.

**Q:** This is the third time CSWS has done this event. Do you know what made you want to do it the first time?

**JM:** It wasn't our idea. They did this at Colorado, with the women's basketball team and the women's studies program. We've been trying to find our own way with it.

**PR:** The women's basketball program has a captive audience. If you put out the word, you can get a hundred or two hundred women to come to an event to meet the players. That's something you don't have for anything else.

**JM:** Everybody knows that they're coming for basketball. A few other people know nothing about basketball, but are coming to see the Women of Excellence. It means different things to different people. There's not a fixed agenda here. It is really about making friends.

**PR:** It is about building bridges. It's a bridge between athletic and academic, between young and older, between careered and noncareered. In a way it builds a bridge between those who are active doers—in both the athletic and academic communities—and those who are spectators. We're all sitting in the same room, enjoying the same stories. Getting a laugh.

**JM:** These people would never be together in any other way.



Joan Acker surrounded by members of the women's basketball team.

From the Center is produced three times a year by the Center for the Study of Women in Society, University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1201  
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# Transformations: Women in History 2001

High school students will get the opportunity to travel through space and time by exploring topics as diverse as Jewish women in the Middle Ages, power and poison in ancient Rome, and modern women's travel narratives at the second annual "Transformations—Women in History" symposium. The one-day event will take place on March 9, 2001, in honor of Women's History Month.

Jan Eliot, creator of the nationally syndicated cartoon series, *Stone Soup*, will offer the opening keynote address. Sponsored by the Teaching the Past in the Present branch of the Feminist Humanities Project, the symposium brings high school students and teachers to campus for half-hour workshops offered by CSWS affiliates. An afternoon reception will follow the workshop sessions.

Registration is required and priority will be given to high school students. Contact Jan Emerson at [jemerson@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:jemerson@oregon.uoregon.edu) or (541) 346-2263 for information.

## Wednesdays at Noon

CSWS is continuing its series of talks and workshops by faculty members and graduate students who are recipients of CSWS research grants. These talks take place on Wednesdays from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Jane Grant Conference Room, 330 Hendricks Hall. We invite you to join us.

### January

17: Lorraine Brundige, graduate student, philosophy, "A Return to Reciprocity"

### February

7: Mary Wood, associate professor, English, "This Puzzling Case: Narratives of Schizophrenia"

14: Deborah Tze-lan Sang, assistant professor, East Asian languages and literatures, "The Emerging Lesbian: Female Same-Sex Desire in Modern Chinese Literature and Culture"

### March

7: Stephanie Wood, assistant professor, women's studies, "Mexico's Founding Mothers and Fathers: Early Mesoamerican Gender Complementarity?"

14: Grants workshop by S. Marie Harvey, CSWS research director, for spring CSWS Faculty and Graduate Student Research Grants

## WORKSHOPS

### The Many Joans of Arc

Barbara Altmann, Romance languages

### Jewish Women in the Middle Ages

Judith Baskin, Judaic studies

### The Medicine of Gender

Louise Bishop, Clark honors college

### Power, Poison, and Politics in Ancient Rome

Christina Calhoun, Classics

### Warrior Women in Anglo-American

Folksong and History

Dianne Dugaw, English

### Reinventing the Enemy's Language:

Writing by Native American Women

Beth Hege Piatote, CSWS

### The Maiden Knight

Gina Psaki, Romance languages and literatures

### Confess or Deny? "Witches" Choices in 1692

Elizabeth Reis, history

### Women's Narratives of Travel and

Displacement

Monica Szurmuk, Romance languages

### Frida Kahlo: Mexican Artist-World Icon

Stephanie Wood, history

## Call for Papers

The Social Sciences Feminist Network is calling for papers, workshops, panels, poster sessions, roundtable discussions, and other contributions for a conference by graduate students at the University of Oregon.

The conference's purpose is to encourage graduate students to share and present feminist academic work or the gendered experiences of graduate life. Faculty, students, and community members will be invited to attend, but only graduate students will present. Deadline for submissions is March 1, 2001.

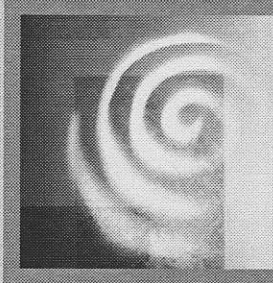
Panels and their organizers are listed on our web site (see address below). If you want to submit a paper to an existing panel, contact the organizer of that panel.

For other submissions, inquiries, and suggestions, contact Barbara Sutton, [bsutton@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:bsutton@darkwing.uoregon.edu)

The Social Sciences Feminist Network is a Research Interest Group sponsored by the Center for the Study of Women in Society at the University of Oregon. Visit our web site at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~ssfnrig/>







## Wayne Morse Center Opens

In November, the UO opened the Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics, a new center named in honor of Oregon's late Senator Morse, that is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge surrounding critical issues facing society. Margaret Hallock, former director of the Labor Education and Research Center, will serve as director of the new center, which is located in the Knight Law Center.

## RIG Updates

### Jewish Feminist RIG

During winter term, the RIG will continue its monthly book discussions. On January 18, the reading will be a novel by Michal Govrin. On February 15, the selection will be the novel, *From a Sealed Room* by Rachel Kadish. The March 15 meeting is TBA. Books will be available at a discount at Mother Kali's Books. Ask at the counter for our RIG.

### Sex, Gender, and the Law RIG

Legal scholar Adrienne Davis, a leader in the field of critical race feminism, presented a two-hour seminar sponsored by the Sex, Gender, and the Law RIG on November 13. The seminar, which focused on Davis's work-in-progress, "Loving and the Law: The History and Jurisprudence of Interracial Sex," drew an appreciative audience of faculty members from the law school and a number of departments on campus. Davis is the first of four visiting scholars whose seminars will be sponsored by the RIG this year. Future visitors include legal historian Hendrik Hartog, author of *Man & Wife in America: A History*; feminist labor historian Eileen Boris, who will speak on the history of maternity leave in the U.S.; and feminist legal theorist Katherine Franke, who will preview a forthcoming article on conceptions of sexuality titled "Theorizing Yes."

### Women, Work, and Economic Restructuring RIG

In January the CSWS Welfare Research Team will release a report of the two-year study of families that left or were diverted from welfare or the Food Stamp program in the first quarter of 1998. The study followed these families for two years and reports on their economic status and family well-being. The study was done in collaboration with the state Department of Human Resources-Adult and Family Services. The report will be available on the web the same day it is released to the public. It can be accessed through the CSWS home page at <http://csws.uoregon.edu>.

**The Stop Violence Against Women Project**, of which the Domestic Violence Clinic is an integral part, recently received a \$350,000 federal grant. The clinic offers civil legal services to victims of domestic violence and their children, and is a joint project of the UO School of Law, Lane County Legal Aid, Womenspace, and Sexual Assault Support Services. Merle Weiner, Caroline Forell, and Leslie Harris are the law school representatives on the steering committee.

## New RIGS at CSWS

CSWS has approved two new RIGs: the Feminist Postcolonial Studies RIG and the Women Writers of Science Fiction RIG.

The Feminist Postcolonial Studies RIG will draw together scholars interested in issues related to debates surrounding feminism and the position of women in the following areas: postcolonial theory; neocolonial relations regarding global labor; tourism; the U.S. military use of the Pacific and the Caribbean; Diaspora and migration studies; various area studies (Caribbean/Latin American, African, Pacific Islands); and contemporary sovereignty movements.

The Women Writers of Science Fiction RIG will focus on research and teaching interests of its member scholars to promote research on women, gender, and science fiction. At meetings, the RIG will discuss current scholarship in science fiction, explore ways to encourage graduate and undergraduate student research, provide outreach to manuscript collections on women writers of science fiction in Special Collections, and produce a symposium and exhibit on gender and women writers of science fiction.

## RIG Directory

### Feminist Postcolonial Studies

Judith Raiskin, [raiskin@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:raiskin@oregon.uoregon.edu)  
Monica Szurmak, [monicas@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:monicas@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Gender in Historical and TransNational China

Cynthia Brokaw, [cbrokaw@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:cbrokaw@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Jewish Feminist

Judith Baskin, [jbaskin@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:jbaskin@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Native American Communities

Deana Dartt, [ddartt@gladstone.uoregon.edu](mailto:ddartt@gladstone.uoregon.edu)

### Reclaiming the Past

Barbara Altmann, [baltmann@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:baltmann@oregon.uoregon.edu)  
Ayse Agis, [aagis@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:aagis@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Sex, Gender, and the Law

Peggy Pascoe, [ppascoe@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:ppascoe@darkwing.uoregon.edu)

### Social Sciences Feminist Network

Barbara Sutton, [bsutton@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:bsutton@darkwing.uoregon.edu)

### Violence, Gender and Society

Deborah Olson, [dolson@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:dolson@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Wired

Judith Musick, [musick@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:musick@oregon.uoregon.edu)  
Shirley Marc, [shirmarc@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:shirmarc@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Women and Environment

Barbara Cook, [bjcook@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:bjcook@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Women, Work, and Economic Restructuring

Joan Acker, [jacker@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:jacker@oregon.uoregon.edu)

### Women Writers of Science Fiction

Linda Long, [llong@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:llong@oregon.uoregon.edu)

## Kudos!

**Karen Barrows**, environmental studies, received the Dan Kimble First-Year Graduate Teaching Fellow Award, presented jointly by the graduate school and the Teaching Effectiveness Program.

**Nora Beck**, Lewis & Clark College, will publish the story, "The Good Witches of Porciano" in an upcoming issue of *Artisan Journal*.

Two papers by **Sheryl Thorburn Bird**, CSWS, have been accepted for publication. She is first author on a paper with **Marie Harvey**, CSWS, and colleagues at OHSU that compares women's acceptability of two methods of early abortion which will be published in the *Journal of the American Medical Women's Association*. Bird is coauthor of an article on young adolescents' views of teen pregnancy to be published in *Health Promotion Practice*. She also gave a presentation at the annual American Public Health Association meeting in November.

**Barbara Cook**, English, has three new publications: "A Tapestry of History and Reimagination: Women's Place in James Welch's *Fools Crow*" in *American Indian Quarterly*; "La Llorona and a Call for Environmental Justice in the Borderlands: Ana Castillo's *So Far From God*" in *Northwest Review*; and a bibliography on Ellen Gilchrist for *Contemporary American Women Fiction Writers: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook* (Greenwood Press). She also presented a paper at the Western Literature Association conference in Oklahoma City in October.

**Lynne Fessenden**, CSWS, is coauthor of a paper recently accepted by the *Negotiation Journal*, with Patricia Gwartney, director of the Oregon Survey Research Lab, and Gayle Landt, director of the Conflict Resolution Center. The paper is titled "Measuring the Long-Term Impact of a Community Resolution Process: A Case Study Using Content Analysis of Public Documents."

Two publications by **Joy Gall**, education, include "The Complete Toolkit for Building High-Performance Work Teams," coauthored with Nancy Golden, published by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Educational Management; and the November 2000 *Oregon School Study Council Bulletin*.

**Lisa Kloppenberg**, law, organized an exchange between judges and academics at the annual conference of the National Association of Women Judges in October, and put together the "Gender, Racial, and Tribal Perspectives: Differences Matter" panel for the Oregon Mediation Association's annual conference in November near Portland.

**Cheris Kramarae**, CSWS, was the American Association of University Women Visiting Research Scholar in Residence, 1999-2000, researching a report on online education and gender. She also served as International Dean for the Information section of the International

Women's University (ifu) in Hannover, Germany, 1999-2000.

**Wendy Maltz**, Midlife-Menopause RIG, has edited an anthology of sexual love poetry, *Intimate Kisses: The Poetry of Sexual Pleasure*, to be released in February.

**Barbara Corrado Pope**, women's studies, was promoted to full professor last June. In honor of her semi-retirement the 2000 women's studies graduating class voted to plant a tree with a plaque in her honor.

**Amanda Powell**, Romance languages, has coauthored (with Kathleen Myers) the book, *A Wild Country out in the Garden: The Spiritual Journals of a Colonial Mexican Nun* (Indiana University Press, 1999) and contributed the chapter, "Making Use of the Holy Office: Exploring the Contexts and Concepts of Sor Juana's References to the Inquisition in the 'Respuesta a sor Filotea,'" in *The Mystical Gesture: Essays on Medieval and Early Modern Spiritual Culture in Honor of Mary E. Giles*, (Ashgate Publishing, 2000). She also gave talks at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Medieval and Early Modern Spanish and Latin American Women Writers in Mexico City in October and at the Modern Language Association meetings in Washington, D.C., in December.

**James Rice**, Russian and comparative literature, presented a paper on "Comic Devices in 'The Death of Ivan Ilich,'" at the annual conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Denver in November, in a panel which he organized on Tolstoy After Fifty.

**Carol Silverman**, anthropology, has received an \$11,000 grant from the Open Society Institute, Budapest, to aid in the writing of her manuscript, *Performance, Identity, and Politics: Balkan Roma 1970s-1990s*. In addition, she published the article, "Researcher, Advocate, Friend: An American Fieldworker among Balkan Roma, 1980-1996," in *Fieldwork Dilemmas: Anthropologists in Postsocialist States* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2000) and presented the paper, "Women and the Rom (Gypsy) Human Rights Struggle in Eastern Europe," at the American Anthropological Association meetings in San Francisco in November.

**Sarah Thompson**, art history, delivered a series of four lectures in June on censorship of Japanese prints at the Centro de Estudios de Asia y Africa of El Colegio de Mexico in Mexico City. In November, she gave two lectures in New York City: "Poets and Poetry in Japanese Prints" for the Friends of Asian Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; and "Samurai Sword and Sorcery: Illustrations of Fantastic Literature in Nineteenth-Century Japan" for the Ukiyo-e Society of America and the Donald Keene Center at Columbia University.

**Merle Weiner**, law, published the article, "International Child Abduction and the Escape from Domestic Violence" in the most recent issue of *Fordham Law Review*.



## Good News!

Do members of your RIG have good news to share? Drop a line to Beth at [piatote@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:piatote@darkwing.uoregon.edu) and put kudos! in the subject line.

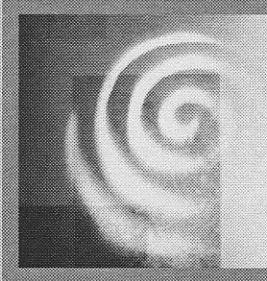


# Creating Common Ground

By Lynne Fessenden

What do feminism and science have to say to each other? Are the humanities going green? How can scientists communicate with the public—and vice-versa? These are just a few of the topics to be covered in panels, keynote addresses, and other conference activities when Taking Nature Seriously convenes at the University of Oregon on February 25–27. This interdisciplinary conference will bring scholars studying the practice of science (via history, philosophy, sociology, and rhetoric) together with environmental scientists and citizen activists to create a dialogue anchored in the common ground of concern for our global environment. The three-day event will address the practical and theoretical challenges of “taking nature seriously,” illuminate the value of interdisciplinary and inter-community collaboration, and help participants to envision new models of scholarship and policy that can move us beyond culturally constructed barriers. Most of the forty-eight panels consist of an interdisciplinary mix of presenters, and have been scheduled to allow a full forty minutes of discussion time. Examples of panel topics include Greening the Humanities, the Rhetoric of Biodiversity and Sustainability, Citizens Taking Action: Studies of Citizen Involvement, Dialogues between Feminism and Science, and Mediating Relations between Science and Its Public.

The conference, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, CSWS, the Oregon Humanities Center, the Environmental Studies Program, and the Departments of Philosophy, English, and Biology, has widespread appeal to its various constituency groups. Conference coordinators Nancy Tuana, philosophy, Bill Rossi, English, and Lynne Fessenden, CSWS, say that the call for papers posted last January seemed to hit a vein of common concern and interest. More than 240 proposals were received, of which only 150 were accepted. In addition to forty-eight panels, there will be four keynote addresses.



## Taking Nature Seriously TAKES CENTER

### Sunday, February 25

8:30–10:30 A.M.

#### Keynote address:

Richard Lewontin, Harvard University

11:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

#### Session 1

A. Greening the Humanities, B. Collaboration and Critique—Inside and Outside the Academy, C. Technology, Conservation, and the Future of the Forests, D. Genetic Engineering: Cultivating Dialogues, E. Ecological Economics, F. Environmental Ethics: Enlarging the Conversation

2:15–4:10 P.M.

#### Session 2

A. The Rhetoric of Biodiversity and Sustainability, B. Multiple Scientist-Community Collaboration at ISIS, C. Teaching Ecological Citizenship, D. Whales, Tales: From Eco-Tourism to Environmental Citizenship, E. The Rhetoric of Risk, F. Knowing Nature: Whose Knowledge?

4:30–6:30 P.M.

#### Session 3

A. Artist as Visionary, Artist as Environmentalist, B. Cyborg Meditations: Rethinking Dualisms, C. From Estuary to Laboratory—and Back?, D. Interdisciplinarity Seriously, E. Impacts of Moral and Mythical Ecologies, F. Community Science: The Essential Dialogue

6:30–8:30 P.M.

#### Reception

### Monday, February 26

8:30–10:30 A.M.

#### Session 4

A. Forum on Interdisciplinary Environmental Teaching and Learning, B. Community Instincts: Public Participation and Public Process, C. Science, Local Knowledge, and Salmon Policy, D. Contesting the Binaries of Nature/Culture, E. Building a New Theory and Practice of Public Scholarship in Land-Grant Education, F. Fundamental Justice: Equity and the Environment

11:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

#### Keynote address:

Andrew Pickering, University of Illinois



# l for Uncommon Dialogue

re Seriously  
TER STAGE

2:30–4:30 P.M.

## Session 5

A. Citizen Experts on the Farm, in the Field, B. Theatre for Environmental Awareness, C. Expanding the Focus: Health in the Public's Interest, D. Nature/Culture Interactions, E. Perceptions of Environmental Risk, F. Reconciliation with Nature: Stories from Down Under

7:30–9:30 P.M.

## Keynote address:

Mary O'Brien, University of Oregon

## Tuesday, February 27

8:30–10:30 A.M.

## Session 6

A. Taking Communities Seriously, B. Educational Reform, Eco-Justice, and Sustainability, C. Workshop on Citizen Involvement in the Clean Up of Military Toxics, D. Narrative and Science Practice, E. Crossing the Great Divide: Learning to Speak "Naturecultures," F. Assessment of Complexities of Citizen Participation in Environmental Policy

11:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

## Session 7

A. Situated Embodiment: Valuing a Gendered Perspective, B. Issues in Science Studies, C. The Moral-Scientific Politics of Species Management, D. Citizens Taking Action: Studies of Citizen Involvement, E. Learning from Denmark: Processes of Ecological Transformation

2:30–4:30 P.M.

## Session 8

A. Theorizing Environmental Studies, B. Dialogues Between Feminism and Science, C. Mediating Relations between Science and Its Public: Journalism, Nature Writing, and Science Fiction, D. Contested Places, Environmental Consequences, E. Nuclear Stewardship

7:30–9:30 P.M.

## Keynote address:

Donna Haraway, University of California, Santa Cruz

## Keynote Speakers



History of Consciousness Professor **Donna Haraway**, from the University of California, Santa Cruz, who researches cultural and historical studies of science and technology, and has authored several books, including *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature* and *Modest Witness@Second Millennium: Feminism and Technoscience*.

Renowned biologist **Richard Lewontin** from Harvard University, whose research focus is theoretical and experimental population genetics, and who has recently published *It Ain't Necessarily So: The Dream of the Human Genome and Other Illusions*, in keeping with his long stream of thought-provoking books, including *Biology as Ideology*, *The Dialectical Biologist*, and *Not in Our Genes*.



Public interest scientist **Mary O'Brien** of Eugene, whose work focuses on alternatives to toxics, alternatives to risk assessment, conservation of Hells Canyon native grasslands, citizen involvement in science-based decision-making, and encouragement of scientists to be advocates. She is the author of *Making Better Environmental Decisions: An Alternative to Risk Assessment*



**Andrew Pickering**, professor of sociology of science and technology at the University of Illinois, whose current research interests center on the interrelationships between science, technology, and society, with special reference to warfare and industry. He is the author of *Constructing Quarks*, *The Mangle of Practice*, and *Science as Practice and Culture*.

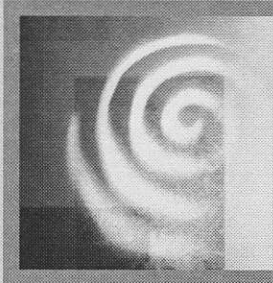
The event is free and open to the public. Please register via the conference web site or by calling CSWS. Phone: (541) 346-5015; Web site: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~tns>



# CSWS Welcomes Resident Fellows in the Ecological Conversations Program

By Lynne Fessenden, Ecological Conversations Program Director

The Ecological Conversations Program will host three fellows this winter and spring. Environmental scientist Anna Carr will be in residence from February through May. Environmental justice and cultural historian Giovanna Di Chiro will join CSWS April through June, and geographer Joni Seager will be in residence for the months of April and May. The Ecological Conversations Program is funded by the Rockefeller Foundation.



## Grant Opportunity

CSWS invites University of Oregon faculty and adjunct faculty members to submit research proposals on topics related to the third-year theme of the Ecological Conversations Fellowship Program: the integration of scientific and sacred epistemologies in investigations of ecology, cosmology, or health and healing; and alternative conceptions of relationships to place, land, and other living beings. One grant of \$6,000 will be awarded for the 2001–2002 academic year.

The deadline for proposals is 5:00 P.M. on Friday, March 30, 2001. Contact Lynne Fessenden for applications and guidelines: (541) 346-5399 or lfessend@oregon.uoregon.edu



**Anna Carr** is a post-doctoral research fellow with the Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies at the Australian National University. Her current project, "Community Science: Improving Theory, Policy, and Practice" focuses on the interactions between community groups and scientific government agencies with the goal of improving communication and practice. Of particular interest to Carr is the way that science has sought to separate professionals and amateurs and to privilege experts over everyday citizens. With a master's degree in economic development from the University of Waterloo in Canada and a doctorate in resource and environmental studies from the Australian National University, Canberra, Carr will contribute much to one of the program's current conversations: how scientific practice is translated into public environmental discourse. At CSWS, Carr will expand the feminist component of her ongoing study of community and agency science by clarifying the feminist research processes within each.



**Giovanna Di Chiro** is an assistant professor of environmental science at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania. Her research, situated in the areas of historical and cultural studies of science and environment, focuses on the social and cultural dynamics of the participation of nontraditional actors in environmental politics. Her work has centered on comparative analyses of the political theories and knowledge production practices of women activists in transnational

environmental justice movements in the U.S., India, and Costa Rica.

Di Chiro received her Ph.D. in history of consciousness from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an M.S. in natural resources from the University of Michigan. At CSWS, Di Chiro will be working on a book, *Uncommon Expertise: Women, Science, and Environmental Politics*. Through a series of case studies, *Uncommon Expertise* examines how grassroots environmental actors (especially women marginalized by race, class, ethnicity, and nationality) construct and transform "environmental expertise" and "environmental justice" through their efforts as active knowledge producers and political agents located on the margins of multiple environmental science and policy arenas.



**Joni Seager** is a scholar and activist in feminist geography, women's studies, and environmental studies from the University of Vermont, where she is professor and chair of the geography department. One of her primary areas of interest is in bringing feminist perspectives to bear on environmental policy and analysis. She has published widely on this topic, including the 1993 book, *Earth Follies: Coming to Feminist Terms with the Global Environmental Crisis*. Her atlases on the global status of women (*The State of Women in the World Atlas*, 1997) have received considerable critical acclaim.

Seager has researched the environmental costs of militarism, and has been active in efforts to make this issue visible. She has also participated in collaborative feminist environmental endeavors and international ecological feminist conferences and gatherings. She was a founding member of the Committee on Women, Population and Environment, a coalition of activists, scholars, and health practitioners that is dedicated to bringing feminist perspectives into population/environment debates and to influencing public policy.

Seager received her Ph.D. in geography from Clark University in 1988. At CSWS, she will undertake research on the ways in which population control ideologies are framed and adopted by mainstream environmental and green movements.



# Report from Vietnam

By Sandra Morgen

I was among four members of the Women and Gender in Vietnam RIG to participate in a conference on women and higher education cosponsored by the Centre for Women Studies at Vietnam National University (VNU), Hanoi, and CSWS. This conference, held in Hanoi in mid-September, aimed to increase awareness of the need for policies and strategies to foster gender equity in higher education and scientific research.

RIG members Robert Proudfoot, Lorraine Brundige, Nyugen Ngoc Bich, and I presented papers and participated in an array of discussions and activities. The conference was the culmination of several years of scholarly collaboration by RIG members and colleagues at VNU through the VNU-UO Sister Universities project. Conference proceedings will be published by the Centre for Women Studies at VNU with support from the president of VNU and CSWS.

There is far more to report from the conference than space allows. But let me make one observation: the value of international collaborations such as this one cannot be over-estimated. It was exciting to be part of a spirited dialogue about how to foster access to higher education, scientific research opportunities, and educational leadership to women from a variety of class and ethnic backgrounds. It was also clear that while North American and Vietnamese women each confront glass ceilings, difficulties balancing professional and familial responsibilities, and complex effects of global economic restructuring, political-economic and cultural differences dramatically shape the discourses, experiences, and resources women can tap to promote gender equity.

## Join us for Teaching and Tea!

This monthly series of informal seminars facilitates teaching about women past and present, encourages collaboration among high school and university teachers, and makes use of new digital technologies to enhance the teaching of gender in history.

All meetings are held from 4:00 to 5:30 P.M. in the Jane Grant Room, 330 Hendricks Hall.

**Thursday, January 18**

*Twentieth-Century Women Composers:  
A Retrospective*

Ann Tedards, School of Music

**Wednesday, February 14**

*Power and Poison in Ancient Rome*

Cristina Calhoon, Classics

**Friday, March 9**

Special event: Women's History Day (all day)

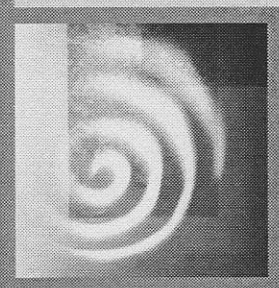
*Transformations: Women in History*

Sponsored by the Feminist Humanities Project, a major research initiative dedicated to incorporating and advancing the study of women and gender in all areas of teaching and research.

For information about Teaching and Tea and the Feminist Humanities Project contact Jan Emerson at [jemerson@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:jemerson@oregon.uoregon.edu) or (541) 346-2263.

## RIG Conducts Evaluation

The Violence, Gender, and Society RIG is conducting an evaluation of the Transitional Program run by Womenspace, a local domestic violence shelter and advocacy organization. The Transitional Program provides case management and ongoing support for women who have left abusive relationships. This project is designed to examine the long-term effects of this program, and whether women have continued to meet the program's goals after leaving. To achieve this objective, RIG members surveyed 120 past participants of the program; of those, thirty-seven completed surveys were returned and forty-one were returned as undeliverable. The latter number reflects the difficulty in maintaining accurate addresses on this population. The RIG is currently analyzing the survey data. The next step will be to conduct a small number of indepth interviews in order to gain a more comprehensive look at the issues faced by battered women as they attempt to re-establish their lives. Information derived from this study will not only be directly beneficial to the Transitional Program itself, but it will also provide an initial contribution toward a better understanding of the process women undergo as they try to leave an abusive relationship.





# Travel Grant Recipients

By Meredith Branch and S. Marie Harvey

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

**Sara Brownmiller**, professor, Knight Library. Brownmiller has organized a panel session for the conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries entitled "Critical thinking in interdisciplinary instruction: Strategies from Women's Studies." In addition to her organizational role, she will also present on instructional techniques used in teaching research strategies.

**Krista Gragg**, graduate student, counseling psychology. Gragg presented a paper titled "The effects of racism in supervision: Perspectives of a supervisee" at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association. Gragg's paper outlined her experiences of racism and sexism in supervision, and highlighted the inseparability of these sources of discrimination for many female student therapists of color.

**Scott Harris**, graduate student, sociology. Harris will present a paper titled "Constructing (in)equality: The domains of relevance and typifications of married people" at the Conference for the Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences. Based on interviews with fifteen married couples, his paper will compare people's views on marital equality to traditional depictions.

**Tiia-Riikka Kihlstrom**, graduate student, history. Kihlstrom will travel to the Immigration History and Research Center at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis to do research for her master's thesis on Finnish socialist women in early twentieth-century United States. She will be reviewing the personal papers of Helmi Dagmar Mattson, a well-known Finnish socialist and an editor of the socialist newspaper *Toveritar*.

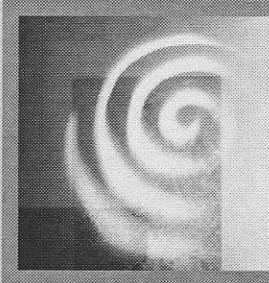
**Allyson Lima**, graduate student, Romance languages. Lima will present a paper titled "Maneuvering the marginal into view: Reflecting bodies in the novel *El Sueño de Venecia* by Paloma Díaz Mas and in the painting *Las Meninas* by Velázquez" at the Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures. In her paper, Lima will examine the inconsistencies of patriarchal discourse and the insufficiency of a singular discursive voice to reflect women's experience, particularly as it has shaped dominant Western social and economic structures.

**Julia Major**, graduate student, English. Major will conduct dissertation research at the Pitts Theology Library at Emory University, one of the preeminent research centers on the Reformation in the United States. Major's dissertation explores the way in which the drive to purity in language, revived by humanist scholars during the Reformation, contributed significantly to the formation of gender, culture, language, and nation during the Early Modern period.

**Ce Rosenow**, graduate student, English. Rosenow presented a paper titled "The influence of cultural translation on American modernist poetry: The example of Amy Lowell and Japan" at the conference of the Modernist Studies Association. Rosenow's paper uses a combination of postcolonial and queer theories to explore tensions between Amy Lowell's Japanese-style poems and the lesbian love lyrics found in another work, *Pictures of the Floating World*.

**Carol Silverman**, associate professor, anthropology. Silverman presented a paper titled "Women and the Rom (gypsy) human rights struggle in Eastern Europe" at the conference of the American Anthropological Association. Silverman's paper explores the current situation of women and the Rom human rights struggle, investigating how and why exclusion happens and how women are mobilizing.

**Susan Verscheure**, graduate student, exercise and movement science. Verscheure presented a paper titled "How effective are different sports bra designs at attenuating forces during jumping?" at the Third Yale Conference on Women's Health and Fitness. Verscheure's research concluded that for large-breasted women, an encapsulated sports bra allowed for the least breast displacement and acceleration. This information is particularly important for women for whom breast soreness due to lack of support is a barrier to exercise.



## CSWS GRANT DEADLINES

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

### RIG Development Grants

February 19, 2001

Awards up to \$5,000 for RIG projects

### Travel Grants

April 9, 2001

Awards up to \$500 for graduate students and faculty members

### Research Support Grants

April 23, 2001

Awards up to \$2,500 for graduate students and \$6,000 for faculty members

### Jane Grant Dissertation Fellowships

April 23, 2001

Awards of \$10,000 for doctoral candidates

### CSWS Laurel Awards

May 7, 2001

Awards of \$2,500 for graduate students and \$500 for faculty mentors

### Executive Grants

Open deadline (last request by May 1). Up to \$100 for graduate students, faculty members, or CSWS affiliates

### Speakers and Events Grants

Open deadline (last request by May 1). Awards up to \$300 for support of a free public event

Deadlines are 5:00 P.M. on dates stated. Applications are available outside the CSWS main office door, 340 Hendricks Hall, or by mail if requested:

csws@oregon.uoregon.edu or (541) 346-5015. Download applications from the CSWS web site at <http://csws.uoregon.edu/>.



## CSWS Research Informs Debate

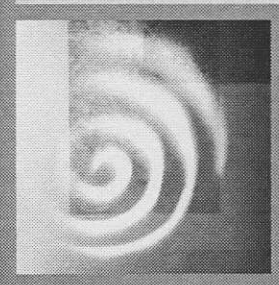
By Sandra Morgen, Director, CSWS

The Oregon Legislature is poised to begin its biennial session and a number of issues slated for deliberation have been the subject of research by CSWS scholars. Various groups hope to introduce or advocate for changes in tax laws to aid low-income tax payers, decrease co-payments for child care subsidy programs, provide paid leave for new parents, mandate health insurance plans to cover prescribed contraceptives, increase access to emergency contraception, and assist low-income women who want to pursue higher education. It is exciting that research conducted by the CSWS Welfare Research Team (Women in the Northwest Initiative) or about emergency contraception (Women's Health and Aging Initiative) may be useful in informing debates about some of these critical, complex issues.

In particular, Oregonians need to consider policies that may be limiting access to higher education. This is particularly important in light of ample evidence that an associate's or bachelor's degree is a key route to upward job mobility and generating a higher income for families over many years. A report released in December from the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education gave Oregon low grades for both affordability of higher education (D-) and for participation in higher education (D). This latter score is based on the percentage of eighteen- to twenty-four-year-olds enrolled in college; in Oregon that percentage is 26 percent, compared to 42 percent in states that received A grades. Oregon families have to spend about 30 percent of their incomes on tuition at state public universities, making the state one of the fifth least affordable in the country.

In the new study by the CSWS Welfare Research Team of families who have left or were diverted from welfare or Food Stamps, well over 80 percent of respondents said they desired more access to higher education or hard skills job training. Yet these families have the fewest resources to pursue college degrees. The study also shows that respondents with more education were the least likely to have incomes below the federal poverty line (based on income/family size) and more likely than those with less education to be employed.

One of the privileges of working at a research university is the opportunity we have to link research both with teaching and with the needs of policy makers and the public to have the best information possible about the complex issues we face. Our proximity to the process of producing (and not simply consuming) knowledge means that students at the university get exposed to cutting-edge scholarship in the classroom, and, in some cases, can participate directly in the research process. Even as the CSWS Welfare Research Team has completed research on the issue of access to higher education, we have also provided the opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to be integral members of the research team. Jill Weigt and Lisa Gonzales, graduate students in sociology, are research associates and undergraduates Catherine Kotlarek-James and Holly Langan participate through work-study assignments. Notably, both Catherine and Holly are former welfare recipients. They are but two of many examples of single mothers with limited economic resources who are struggling to get a college degree in a state that could do more to assist them in this regard. They are also great examples of how it is not just they or their families who are well-served by their efforts to pursue higher education—they have been an important part of the CSWS Welfare Research Team.



### CSWS Publications Order Form

- Please send me a copy of *Valuing Families: The State of Oregon's Families*. Enclosed is my check for \$12 per copy made payable to "UO/CSWS."
- Please put me on the CSWS mailing list to receive newsletters, conference brochures, and other announcements.
- Please note my change of address below.
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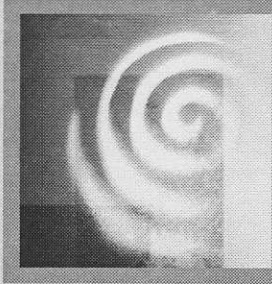
*Cold Warriors: Manliness on Trial in the Rhetoric of the West*

By Suzanne Clark, Southern Illinois  
University Press, 2000

This study of the Cold Warrior returns to a familiar combination of forces—the West, anticommunism, manliness—to show how they conspired to suppress dissent and hybridity in the name of a nationalized identity after World War II. Few readers realize how much the domination of a ‘white male’ American literary canon was a product not of long history, but of the Cold War. The book describes how the Cold War excluded women writers on several levels, together with others—African-American, Native American, proletarian—who were ignored and abjected in the struggle over white male identity. It shows how defining national/individual/American identity in the Cold War involved a brand new configuration of cultural history, while at the same time it called upon the nostalgia for the old discourses of the West (the national manliness asserted by Theodore Roosevelt) to claim

that there was and always had been only one real American identity.

The strength of this unanimity depended not upon agreement, but upon tension: American history became the singular force arrayed against the feminized threat of communism. Literary criticism was influenced by this culture to define a policy of containment for literature, to avoid gender as well as the realism that was claimed for foreign policy. Even though the manliness of frontier myth was obviously a major theme in popular culture (film, radio, comic books, TV) during the Cold War, it seemed distant from the “realities” of national policy and also from the seriousness of highbrow literature. Real foreign policy similarly seemed very distant from the unrealities of art. *Cold Warriors* reveals a hidden and intimate—virtually unconscious—connection, supported by national investments in manliness, that linked literature to anticommunist realities and motivated the silencing of contentious voices: women, people of color and working class literature.



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