

feminist collections

women's studies library resources in wisconsin
vol. 3, no. 2 winter 1982

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM 112A Memorial Library 728 State St. Madison, WI

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FROM THE EDITORS

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS BELONGS TO HER WHO OWNS THE PRESSES:
WOMEN IN PRINT CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON, D.C., OCTOBER 1-4, 1981

It is/was exciting to meet the women who run this press, that magazine, this publishing house. The faces behind the names. To talk. Share praise and questions and ideas. The conversations never stopped. I swear to you, I did hear a bookstore woman and a publisher yelling between shower stalls about how to package books for safe shipping at 11:30 pm. (Feminist Bookstores Newsletter 10/81, p.2)

In dozens of ways, in scores of workshops, steps were taken to improve the ways we deal with one another. Altogether, there was an atmosphere of decency, caring, and hard work--that was far from devoid of humor--unmatched at any conference I personally have ever attended. (Fran Moira, off our backs 12/81, p.2)

For the first four days in October, over 250 women came together in Washington, D.C., to forge new connections and strengthen existing ties in the women in print movement. We are using the editorial column of Feminist Collections to report on this conference to underscore what we see as its far-reaching impact on the future production, collection and preservation of feminist resources. Neither of us was able to attend the conference; the sources on which this report is based are listed below.

The Washington, D.C., gathering was actually the second conference of women in print. The first was held in Omaha, Nebraska, in August of 1976, drawing something over 100 women representing about 80 feminist publications, presses, bookstores and distributors. (For an account of the first conference, see the interview with Charlotte Bunch in Sinister Wisdom 13, 1980, pp.71-77.) In the five years since the Omaha conference, the movement has grown tremendously--in size, most obviously, but also in expertise, in political maturity, and in representation from women of color. This growth was impressively reflected in the success of the Washington meeting.

The conference organizers (five women from the off our backs collective, representatives of Lammas bookstore and Sophie's Parlor in D.C., and two self-publishers) laid the groundwork for the gathering to be a working conference of women actively involved in feminist/lesbian archives, bookstores, distribution, periodicals, printing and publishing. They stated the intent behind their

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with women-controlled printers typesetters binders bookstores periodicals publishers

Freedom of the press belongs to her who owns the presses.

Women in Print Conference
Washington, D.C. 1981

effort in the initial mailing to prospective participants:

The rationale for the conference is survival. The survival of the women's movement, as of any revolutionary movement, depends directly on that of our communications network.

In threatening times we must strengthen ourselves and one another; we coordinators see two ways for this to happen at the conference. First, to deepen the political and ethical dimensions of our work, for example, to increase cognizance of our own power and responsibility toward each other, the women whose work we publish and the women who will read it. The other major area of necessary strength is technical ability, for instance the skills to improve as businesses.

Approximately 27 bookstores, 28 periodicals, 12 publishers, 5 printers, and 3 archives were ultimately represented at the conference. Participants had been asked to submit ideas for workshops well in advance, and many who made such suggestions were subsequently put to work leading their own workshops. In most workshops, women representing a single constituency met to discuss both nitty-gritty and political/ethical concerns specific to their work.

Bookstore women shared knowledge about bookstore systems (inventory, receiving, restocking, etc.), staffing, dealing with "straight" publishers, fundraising, financial management, marketing, computers, and bookstore politics. Women from feminist periodicals discussed feminist media ethics, layout and design, finances, planning and advertising, editorial decision-making, responsibility to the community, and the isolation of Third World women in mostly white feminist organizations. Printers considered finances and politics, pre-press and press room problems, and printing methods. Archivists conferred about cataloguing and preservation techniques. And publishers met for workshops on business management, distribution, Third World feminist publishing, and for an interchange between beginning and experienced publishers.

Other workshops were designed to open up dialogue between different constituencies-- e.g., publishers and periodicals (making books and periodicals available to print handicapped women); publishers and bookstores (book promotion and distribution); and bookstores, publishers and periodicals ("Racism and Classism in Feminist Periodicals, Bookstores, and Publishing Organizations: increasing the availability of writing by women whose voices traditionally have been suppressed").

The impressive working background of participants laid the basis for unusually productive exchanges. Women came to the conference with clear ideas of what they had to share and what they wanted to learn. Problems of the movement--from the practical to the political--were grappled with in relation to the concrete experience of each constituency, and workable, cooperative solutions were consistently sought. Bookstores counseled publishers on what makes for an eye-catching book cover. Financially precarious presses and periodicals made clear to the more financially solid bookstores the vital importance of immediate payment for orders. Women of color advised white women of the necessary conditions for coalition-building.

New ideas and programs generated by the conference richly illustrate how productive and creative the gathering was. Participants agreed to organize regional conferences in 1982 and another national conference in 1983. Printers formed the U.S. Alliance of Lesbian and Feminist Printers (contact: the Iowa City Women's Press). Publishers founded the U.S. Union of Feminist and Lesbian Publishers, which will publish a newsletter entitled The Tongue (contact: Spinsters Ink). Bookstores came up with two proposals for increasing awareness in their communities of the need to support the feminist print movement: bookmarks (to be produced by the Iowa City Women's Press) which will read "Fight Back in the 80s with women-controlled printers, typesetters, binders, bookstores, periodicals, publishers," and a periodic listing of feminist small press publications. A bookstore phone tree was organized to facilitate collective decision-making at a national level. Established publishers and archivists offered to share information and skills with the newly created (and desperately needed) Third World Women's Archives and Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press.

Women left the conference with a heightened consciousness of how feminist presses and periodicals, printers and distributors, bookstores and archives, must cooperate and nurture one another if a feminist print movement is to survive and grow in the '80s. This was perhaps the most significant--if intangible--outcome of the conference. The insights of the conference now need to be shared with other constituencies--for example, women working in public or university libraries and archives, women working for trade publishers, women teaching in women's studies programs--to broaden even further the network of support.

-- C.L.

SOURCES

My thanks to Sandi Torkildson and Rose Katz of A Room of One's Own Feminist Book Store, Madison, for generously sharing with me their impressions of the Women in Print Conference, as well as the literature they gathered at the conference.

Feminist Bookstores Newsletter v.5, no.3, October 1981, pp.2-6, 15.

Gay Community News October 1981, p.10.

Mailings from the Women in Print Conference coordinators: July 1, 1981; July 30, 1981; September 10, 1981.

New Women's Times v.VII, no.11, December 1981, pp.14, 16-17.

off our backs v.XI, no.11, December 1981, pp.2-3, 10-11, 27.

ADDRESSES

Iowa City Women's Press, 529 S. Gilbert, Iowa City, IA 52240.

Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, P.O. Box 592, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Spinsters Ink, RD 1, Argyle, NY 12809.

Third World Women's Archives, 453 Edgewood Ave., New Haven, CT 06511.

FEMINIST BOOKSTORES IN WISCONSIN

KALEIDOSCOPE BOOKS, OSHKOSH, WI

In 1980, Merry Youle (Ph.D., Biology), owner of Kaleidoscope Books, decided to move from Oshkosh to Seattle. This began a chain of events which resulted in the formation of a non-profit corporation to buy and run Merry's paperback bookstore as a feminist project, featuring women's books and music in addition to the quality selection of alternative material maintained by Merry.

Merry's business had been for sale for some time. At the point at which it seemed inevitable that it would have to be closed, three women associated with the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh--Mary Macht, Ph.D. (Social Work); Wanda Cole, M.A., M.F.A. (Art); and Phyllis Liddell, J.D. (Administration)--decided to spend three days surveying area feminists to ascertain interest in forming a non-profit organization to purchase and run the bookstore. Interest was extremely high: pledges of 12 memberships (\$250 each) assured that the down payment could be met. We were launched.

One of our major purposes in pursuing the bookstore project was (and continues to be) to provide the opportunity for learning retail business management skills to underemployed or unemployed women on welfare. We knew such a woman who had some office experience and was extremely interested in the bookstore. Barbara Maier was eligible for 3 months with the Wisconsin Work Experience Program followed by an additional 6 months with WIN, and she became our first manager. As negotiated in the purchase agreement, Merry provided Barb's initial training in bookstore management. After the expiration of Barb's WIN program eligibility, Kaleidoscope was able to offer her half-time employment, which fit in nicely with her plan to return to college. Barbara has since resigned to attend school full-time, and been replaced as manager by Marcia Diamond, a graduate student at UW-Oshkosh. Marcia has been a dependable volunteer since the beginning of this project. We are fortunate to have the benefit of her enthusiasm and organizational skills.

Funds from the following sources were used to meet our note with Merry when it was due: new memberships; store proceeds; a 17% bank loan; a 12% loan from a member; interest-free loans from members ranging from \$200 to \$1000. Past due accounts became urgent this past summer, so we planned several fundraising efforts, including a rummage sale, a brat party on the lake, a Mexican dinner, raffles, biweekly potlucks, and a membership drive. Proceeds will be used to pay past due accounts and to provide a bonus for the manager in recognition of her dedication and loyalty to the store and patient participation in many long evening meetings. We have so far raised over \$400 and are encouraged but not satisfied. We now have 19 paid-in-full members and 2 who have paid half each of a membership. Several others contribute smaller amounts from time to time.

High points during our first year included three autograph parties for local women authors, displays of art work by local women, poetry readings, book discussions, display/sales tables at organizational meetings, a costume party/fundraiser on Witches' Eve, open houses, work parties and just plain parties. As we move into our second year, some of our goals are: to continue to provide decently

paid employment for our manager; to provide full time work experience for three-month periods to displaced homemakers who find themselves on public assistance and thereby to enable them to obtain good, local, current employment references; to reduce our indebtedness, beginning with the bank loan; to increase our membership; to offer more Women's Movement non-book items to the community (posters, pins, bumper stickers, etc.); to obtain a mimeograph; and to organize an advertising campaign based on minimal expenditures.

We fill a very real need in this population center. Customers come to us from Ripon, Appleton, Neenah-Menasha, and Fond du Lac to find resources not available elsewhere closer than Madison or Milwaukee. The store features a wide variety of subject matter, including anti-nuclear, religion, cookbooks, art, needlecraft, architecture, philosophy, political science, gay literature, history, sociology, children's literature, women's fiction and poetry, speculative fiction primarily by women and, especially, a fine women's section--all in quality paperbacks. Our inventory has never been better, and our sales seem to be up \$200-300 a month over the same period a year ago. We carry books for University courses (principally religion and social work) and we have begun to receive multiple title orders from governmental agencies such as prisons. We have strong community support from men as well as women.

We need new members and new board members. We have recently lost two hard working board members due to burn-out. All of us love this bookstore and are committed to what this project stands for. However, we would consider selling the business to someone who would maintain the basic character of the store.

-- Phyllis Liddell

[Kaleidoscope Books is located at 11 Merritt, Oshkosh, WI 54901; phone: (414) 233-1440.]

FEMINIST PUBLISHING

CLEIS PRESS

Love and encouragement to you, sisters, for gathering the honest words of womyn, and for publishing all of us without softening those words... (Mariana Romo-Carmona, contributor to Fight Back! Feminist Resistance to Male Violence)

What a wonderful looking book--what an important resource--brava! brava! (Debby Edel, Lesbian Herstory Archives)

We think (Fight Back!) is terrific. Thank you for publishing it. (D.C. Feminists Against Pornography)

Cleis Press, among the newest of feminist publishing companies in the United States, began publication by researching and compiling a 400 page resource book

documenting the movement to resist violence against women. Fight Back! Feminist Resistance to Male Violence is a resource for all women who struggle with violence in their lives.

When Cleis Press was formed in 1980, Mary Winfrey, one of the three partners in the business, suggested that Cleis publish a self-defense handbook for women. Cleis's other two partners, Frédérique Delacoste and Felice Newman, agreed no analysis of patriarchal violence was useful if it did not include solutions. They began thinking about the words "self defense" and soon realized that for most women survival was a daily process of defending the self--against pornography, rape, battering, harassment. In May 1980, Frédérique and Felice decided to begin researching Fight Back! During the summer, they began compiling the 2000-item Directory of Resources, handwriting entries on color-coded note cards. By fall, they had compiled a list of contacts: women in the shelter movement, women in the rape crisis movement, women who had taken direct action against pornographers in their communities. Felice began a telephone campaign. Each phone call produced a list of other contacts, women like Lili Pinero, Barbara Smith, and Susan Schechter who were quite willing to share their information and contacts. In early 1981, although the book was far from completed, they began typesetting. By summer, the book was in press.

Fight Back! includes stories of personal survival, strategies for defending women who kill their attackers, essays on lesbian consciousness and male violence. Fight Back! documents resistance by women of color, as well as law-challenging actions taken by women across the country against rape, battering, pornography, sexual harassment. Fight Back! includes a comprehensive directory of rape crisis centers, shelters for battered women, services for incest victims, karate and self-defense instructors and schools, legal resources, political organizations, and newsletters. Editors Frédérique Delacoste and Felice Newman compiled the book as a "tool for active resistance to patriarchal violence."

The women of Cleis feel certain that a few years ago such a large book would not have been published by a feminist press. The research was costly, the printer's bill over \$16,000. They are very excited to have done it. As Jan Clausen, lesbian editor and poet, wrote, "A book published by the commercial (male-owned) press transmits the message, 'The commercial press thinks that writing by this woman is important,' while a book published by women says, 'Women have important things to say to each other and they are willing and able to make books to do it'" ("The Politics of Publishing," Jan Clausen, Sinister Wisdom, V.I, no.2, Fall, 1976, p.114).

Along with publishing political resources for the feminist movement, Cleis Press is also strongly committed to publishing its art and literature. Cleis is the sole distributor for two full-color offset posters of embroidery by Quimetta Perle, a Minnesota artist. And in 1981, Cleis published On Women Artists: Poems 1975-1980 by Alexandra Grilikhes. On Women Artists is a collection of poetry and prose inspired by the work of women artists like Louise Nevelson, Joan Sutherland, Marguerite Duras, Simone Signoret, and Carolyn Brown. Alexandra, who has published five volumes of poetry, all with small presses, writes of these women artists: "Their lives, their ways of being in the world,

their perceptions, have given me both spirit and bread, and the impulse to go on with my work." In the spirit of women validating women's work, On Women Artists was printed and bound by Iowa City Women's Press.

Cleis Press hopes to continue to do some research, some editing of books like Fight Back! Felice Newman is interested in producing a book on physically challenged women, with an emphasis on lesbians and women of color. She hopes such a book would address the issue of "able-ism" in the women's movement. Like most feminist publishers, the women of Cleis are looking for a good novel, and are always willing to hear from authors about new manuscripts. They ask that authors query first, sending a sample chapter and return postage.

Both Frédérique and Felice are available for workshops and presentations on the history and politics of feminist publishing, and on women's resistance to male violence. They hope to go on a national tour in the spring or early summer of 1982.

-- Felice Newman,
for Cleis Press

CLEIS PRESS PUBLICATIONS:

Fight Back! Feminist Resistance to Male Violence. Edited by Frédérique Delacoste and Felice Newman. 400p. illus. \$13.95.

On Women Artists: Poems 1975-1980. By Alexandra Grilikhes. With sculpture and fiber art by Jean Van Harlingen. 104p. illus. \$4.95.

Sampler and Flaming Woman. 16 x 32 inch full color posters. \$10.00 each.

Write: P.O. Box 8281, Minneapolis, MN 55408. Or call: (612) 871-4567. Please add \$1.00 postage for the first book ordered and \$.50 for each additional book. Add \$1.00 postage for each poster.

[Editor's Note: An interview with Frédérique Delacoste and Felice Newman of Cleis Press was published in the December 1980 issue of off our backs]

PROFILE

THE ADVISORY PANEL FOR THE WOMEN'S STUDIES LIBRARIAN-AT-LARGE

The Office of the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large for the University of Wisconsin System, established in 1977, was created as the result of three years of cooperative research and lobbying by women in the System. The original proposal for the position was developed by a study committee on the System budget formed by members of the UW-Madison Association of Faculty Women, in cooperation with the acquisitions librarian from the UW-Milwaukee, Edi Bjorklund. This proposal was subsequently endorsed by the System Task Force on Women's Studies and included in its report to the Board of Regents. When the position was ultimately funded by the Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs, an Advisory Panel was established to give policy direction and general supervision.

The Panel included representation from librarians knowledgeable about Women's Studies, library directors, Women's Studies program administrators and faculty, and System Administration. The Advisory Panel, which has continued to advise and give direction to the Librarian-at-Large over the past four years, currently has nine members, each of whom is briefly profiled below.

Edi Bjorklund

Edi Bjorklund is Assistant Director for Collection Development and Associate Professor at the Golda Meir Library, UW-Milwaukee. She holds a B.A. in English and an M.A. in Library Science from the University of Chicago. Bjorklund was a member of the original student-faculty group which successfully lobbied for the establishment of a Women's Studies Program at UWM, and has served as a member of the advisory committee to UWM's Women's Studies Program since its inception. She taught a course on "Women and Popular Culture" from 1975 through 1977. She was a member of the group which lobbied for the creation of the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large position, and has served on the Advisory Panel since its creation. Currently, Bjorklund is working on a reference book in Women's Studies, and is part of a four-person team, sponsored by the Milwaukee Public Library, selected for participation in the NEH-funded program, "Women in the Community," coordinated by the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women. She writes, "Women's Studies is the most exciting and worthwhile new development in scholarship in a very long time (maybe ever?), and will continue to be an important part of my work."

Tina Fu

Tina Cheng Fu obtained a B.A. in English from Taiwan Normal University, an M.A. in English from Marquette University, and an M.A.L.S. from the UW-Madison. She is now an Associate Professor at the UW-Oshkosh and has served as Assistant Director for Public Services in the university library since 1977 (with 1980-81 as Acting Executive Director). Fu's involvement in Women's Studies began in 1973 when she compiled "A Bibliography on Women," a list of books and documents on women in the Oshkosh university library, to support a proposal to establish a Women's Studies minor. A revised and expanded edition of this bibliography served as one of the major sources for Women's Studies Resources: A Core Collection List for Undergraduate Libraries (compiled by Dorothy Schultz and Miriam Altman, UW-Madison, in 1977). Fu has served on the Advisory Panel since 1980. In addition, she has just been appointed to the American Library Association Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship. Tina's recent meeting with women librarians in the People's Republic of China gave her encouragement and hope in the future status of women in general and of women librarians in particular.

Carole Levin

Carole Levin joined the Advisory Panel in November, 1981. She is the Director of the Institute for Women's Studies at UW-La Crosse and teaches both Introduction to Women's Studies and a Women's Studies seminar. She also supervises the Women's Studies Resource Center which contains books, periodicals, magazines, and a clipping file. This material is useful for students, faculty and staff doing research in topics relating to women's studies. The Center

also sponsors a number of programs including brown bag lunches and evenings of women's creative writing. Levin received her Ph.D. in history from Tufts University in 1976 and has published a number of articles and reviews in both scholarly journals and feminist periodicals including The Sixteenth Century Journal, The International Journal of Women's Studies, Sojourner, Women: A Journal of Liberation, and The Feminist Review.

Nancy H. Marshall

Nancy H. Marshall is Associate Director of Libraries for Public Services, UW-Madison. She has a B.A. in English and Speech from Ohio Wesleyan University and is a 1972 graduate of the UW-Madison Library School. Previous to accepting her present position in 1979, she was the Director of the Madison based WILS/WLC Network, a resource sharing and OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) network for all types of Wisconsin libraries. A member of the original group of individuals in the UW System to lobby for the creation of the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large position, and a Panel member since its inception, she is the day-to-day supervisor and budget officer of the Librarian-at-Large, whose budget home is the UW-Madison Memorial Library. Ms. Marshall is a member of the American Library Association Council, Chair of ALA's Copyright Committee, past president of the ALA Reference and Adult Services Division, president of the OCLC Users Council, and has published widely on public service and copyright issues.

Karen Merritt

Karen Merritt is Senior Academic Planner for Arts and Humanities in the Office of Academic Affairs, UW-System Administration. She holds a B.A. in English from the University of Southern California, and an M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in English from Harvard University. Merritt has been involved in Women's Studies since she served as staff for the 1974 System Task Force on Women's Studies. In her work for the Task Force, and as Chair of the Budget Committee of the UW-Madison Association of Faculty Women, Merritt was instrumental in the development of the original proposal for the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large position. In her capacity as Senior Academic Planner, she was eventually successful in getting the position funded by System Administration. Merritt has been a member of the Advisory Panel and Search Committees for the position since its inception, and continues to act as liaison for the position to the System Office of Academic Affairs. Throughout, Merritt's interest has been in enhancing limited resources through cooperation among the institutions of the UW System. In addition, she believes that the newness of Women's Studies has permitted creation of a model of faculty-librarian cooperation in curriculum building that ideally should be applied to all new curriculum development.

Alice Randlett

Alice Randlett is currently Acquisitions Librarian at the UW-Stevens Point. She holds a B.S., M.S.T. degree in English from the UW-Stevens Point and an M.A.L.S. degree from Rosary College. She became interested in and committed to Women's Studies in 1971 when she had a class on Women and Literature at the UW-Stevens Point. In those early days, Randlett was active in the state Coordinating Council of Women in Higher Education and its local affiliate at Stevens Point.

Her service on the Advisory Panel began in 1977, and she sat on both selection committees for the Librarian-at-Large position. Locally she has been a member of the Women's Studies Advisory Committee since 1976 and serves unofficially as Women's Studies bibliographer, compiling Methods and Materials for Research in Women's Studies (published in 1979). At the 1981 American Federation of Teachers Conference in Denver, she participated in the birth of a Woman's Forum. Randlett writes, "I have strong feelings about being a woman in a woman's profession and the fifth class status bestowed by that fact. Women's Studies for me is survival."

Jacqueline Ross

Jacqueline Ross, Director of Women's Studies and Associate Professor of English at the UW-Platteville, received her A.B. and M.A. from the University of Michigan and her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. Ross was involved in developing the Women's Studies Program at UW-Platteville and has taught Introduction to Women's Studies and Women and Literature. In addition, she has, for the past three years, been the Director for the Pilot Re-entry Education Program (PREP), a project designed to identify and meet the needs of women and men incarcerated in correctional institutions. Ross' most recent research in Women's Studies has been related to her work with female offenders. Ross belongs to the Women's Caucuses of the Modern Language Association and the Midwest Modern Language Association, as well as to the National Women's Studies Association. She has been a member of the Librarian-at-Large's Advisory Panel since its inception.

Rachel Skalitzky

Rachel I. Skalitzky was appointed to the Advisory Panel in fall 1981. She is an Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the UW-Milwaukee. Since 1975 she has been Coordinator of the UWM-Women's Studies Program. In October 1981, she and five other UWM faculty and staff members sponsored a conference which was partially funded by the Wisconsin Humanities Committee entitled "Women's Studies: Its Impact on Society, Technology, and the Arts." Professor Skalitzky chaired the UWM Campus and Community Task Force on Security and the campus Resource Committee of the Regents' Task Force on the Status of Women. She serves on the UW System Advisory Council on the Status of Women to President Robert O'Neil. She has taught courses on women in classical, mediaeval and modern literature and drama, and is currently teaching the introductory Women's Studies course. Her publications include critical studies of Greek and Roman authors. She will co-edit a book on the impact of Women's Studies on society, technology, and the arts.

Sandy Starrett

Sandy Starrett joined the Advisory Panel in 1980. She is a T.A. in Women's Studies at UW-Madison, and also is employed as Women's Director for the United Council of University of Wisconsin Student Governments. Sandy is a graduate student in Communication Arts at UW-Madison.

WOMEN LIBRARY WORKERS

Women Library Workers is a feminist organization committed to improving the status of women in the library field and eliminating sex-role stereotyping. In Wisconsin, there is both a state chapter and a Madison chapter of this national group. Members include all levels of library workers, from library directors to clerical staff. Although men may belong to WLW, currently there are no male members in Wisconsin.

A coordinator leads the bimonthly meetings of Wisconsin Women Library Workers. Although these are primarily business meetings in which committee members make progress reports, all members are welcome and decisions are made by consensus. In the early stages of WWLW, much time was spent on defining the goals and objectives of the group. Recently WWLW has become more task oriented in an attempt to actively support our beliefs. One of our goals is to promote access to information on all women's issues. At the past few Wisconsin Library Association conventions, WWLW has produced programs with this in mind, including ones on feminist filmmakers and pay equity. Continuing education for WWLW members is promoted by offering scholarships to worthwhile conferences and by giving members the opportunity to learn new skills while working on brochures, media packages, and program planning. A postcard series and an oral history project are our latest efforts to recognize the contributions women have made to the field of librarianship.

The WWLW Newsletter is the main method of communication among members. It includes the minutes of the last state meeting, media reviews, reports on feminist activities, and a survey of sexism in print. A large part of the energy of WWLW goes into the newsletter, and skills in editing, layout, writing, and distribution are some of its byproducts. The newsletter and other projects all take money, and each year a fund-raising committee works on money-making activities, according to the interests of the group. Cooperative quilts have been sewn and raffled off in the last two years, netting both substantial funds and a link to an ancient women's craft.

The Madison chapter of WLW is run by a steering committee which plans activities for its members throughout the year. Past events have included receptions for visiting feminists, book talks, and film festivals; members have also participated in local feminist events such as the Take Back the Night and ERA marches under the WLW banner. One annual event, the Susan B. Anthony Memorial Feminist Film Festival and Bake Sale, began as a fundraiser for a library worker fighting a sex discrimination suit. When members share a special interest, they are welcome to develop that interest in any way. The city chapter currently sponsors a video committee which is producing a feminist program for the community access cable TV station.

As the mother organization, national WLW is there to provide support to all its members, especially those not affiliated with local chapters. Upon request WLW will assist in organizing library workers, which is the way that Wisconsin's chapters began. WLW also publishes WLW Journal, which includes "news, views, and reviews for women and libraries."

Some women join Women Library Workers because they have found professional organizations too structured or impersonal for their needs. Non-professionals have few other opportunities for group input. To many members, the most important aspect of WLW is that it is their only feminist support group. After a week of male administrators and sexist subject headings, it is a relief merely to talk to understanding women in the same situation. For more information, write Wisconsin Women Library Workers, P.O. Box 1425, Madison, WI 53701.

-- Nancy McClements

[Nancy McClements writes: "I am currently active in all three chapters of Women Library Workers: for WWLW I am the coordinator and layout co-editor; for MWLW I am on both the steering and video committees. As one of the many paraprofessionals in WLW, I am currently a Library Services Assistant 3 at the Instructional Materials Center at UW."]

NEWS FROM UW-PARKSIDE

The Women's Studies Program at UW-Parkside has had a short but varied history. Because of the size of the institution and the composition of the faculty it has taken a few years for us to develop a cohesive, integrated curriculum. However, with the help of a cadre of committed and exciting faculty, we have developed an 18 credit minor. The minor consists of three core courses (Historical and Literary Perspectives; Psychological, Social and Biological Perspectives; Feminist Theory) and three electives chosen from Women's Studies offerings. The student chooses electives in consultation with a Women's Studies advisor in an attempt to provide both individualization and coherence in the program of study.

Women's Studies is about to become more visible on this campus due to a number of new involvements. Specifically, the program is co-sponsoring a Women's Day to be held at UW-Parkside in April. This program will include a wide variety of workshops and a keynote speaker. It is aimed at attracting women and men who do not usually attend classes at this institution and will speak directly to many needs felt by women in contemporary society. The Women's Studies program also intends to sponsor a short series of presentations by researchers currently active in the field of Women's Studies and feminist concerns. These presentations will be open to the entire University community and to interested members of the local public. We intend to follow up this series next Fall with a once a month round-table. Interested faculty and students will meet to hear a presentation on a relevant issue and to engage in discussion and debate about that issue. In this way we hope to increase the awareness of faculty and students regarding women's issues and the legitimacy of a feminist approach to pedagogy.

Finally, as those of us who are members of the Women's Studies faculty are mostly self-taught in this area, we hope to start a regular faculty study group to share information and educate each other regarding the pedagogical developments in the field. We are confident that we now have the core of a viable Women's Studies program and that Women's Studies will become an integral part of the curriculum at UW-Parkside.

ITEMS OF NOTE

WOMYN'S BRAILLE PRESS

The Womyn's Braille Press (WBP) is a collective of six women who are blind and determined to make feminist resources available to print handicapped women. Since 1980, WBP has launched a quarterly newsletter, begun taping two periodicals, off our backs and Sinister Wisdom, and produced tape and braille copies of health pamphlets published by the National Women's Health Network. Response to WBP's efforts has amply demonstrated the need for such resources. As all of WBP's work is on a volunteer basis, the Press is currently encouraging publishers, periodicals and authors to take on more of the burden of taping, permitting WBP to serve as a coordinator and distributor. For more information, write: Womyn's Braille Press, Box 8475, Minneapolis, MN 55408. (Information from Sojourner, 11/81, pp.10, 30)

UW-MILWAUKEE WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE AVAILABLE ON TAPE

UW-Milwaukee Women's Studies organized a conference this past fall entitled "Women's Studies: Its Impact on Society, Technology, and the Arts." Papers and panel discussions from the conference are now available on tape. Speakers included Catharine Stimpson, Joan Huber, Daniel Maguire, Ruth Bleier, Jeanne Stellman, Kathryn Magayne-Roshak, Tania Modleski, Catherine McClenahan, Mary Helen Washington, Peter Givler, and Zillah Eisenstein. For more information, write: Office of Women's Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201; or call: (414) 963-5918.

FEMINIST CLIPPING SERVICE

A feminist clipping service is now available from Contemporary History Enterprises. Ten areas are covered, including abortion, sexual exploitation, and employment. Write: CHE, 2315 Westwood, Los Angeles, CA 90064; or call: (213) 386-1548. (Information from Spokeswoman, 8/81, p.8) -

SEXUAL HARASSMENT FILM AVAILABLE

"The Workplace Hustle," an award-winning film on the topic of sexual harassment in the work place, is available on loan from the University of Wisconsin system administration's Office of Women. The film is intended to be used in introducing the subject to groups of employees. Contact: Debbie Wopat, 1802 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706; (608) 262-6404.

LESBIAN-FEMINIST STUDY CLEARINGHOUSE

The Lesbian-Feminist Study Clearinghouse (LFSC) is a non-profit organization which seeks to foster and publicize the study of lesbian experience from a feminist perspective. LFSC seeks to represent the voices of all segments of the lesbian-feminist community. A large collection of articles are available from LFSC at very low cost; some are reprinted from other sources, while others are previously unpublished. Here's a sampling of articles: "Toward a Black Feminist Criticism," by Barbara Smith; "An Interview with Adrienne Rich," by Elly Bulkin; "Course Syllabi: Feminism and Sexual Politics; Friendship," by Claudia Card; "Bibliography of Lesbian Literature," by Julia Penelope (Stanley);

"Age, Race, Class, and Sexuality: Women Re-defining Difference," by Audre Lorde;
"The Black Lesbian in American Literature: An Overview," by Ann Allen Shockley.
For a complete catalog, write: Coralyn Fontaine, LFSC/Women's Studies Program,
1012 Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

PERIODICAL NOTES

With each issue of Feminist Collections, my file of materials for this column is fatter. In the listings below, I have cut back on the length of reviews in order to accommodate the many new titles and special issues which have come to my attention.

-- C.L.

New Periodicals

Black Women's Educational Policy and Research Network Newsletter. 1981-
3/year. Available from: Wellesley College, Center for Research on Women,
Wellesley, MA 02181; phone: (617) 431-1453 ext. 2550. Free of charge. (Issues
examined: v.1, nos.3-4, Sept. 1981-January 1982)

Reports on conferences, current research, fellowships and grants, and recent
publications on black women.

Catalyst Media Review: An Annotated Bibliography of Audio-Visual Materials
Relating to Women and Work. 1981- . Bi-monthly. Subscriptions: \$8.
Subscription address: Catalyst Library and Audio-Visual Center, 14 East 60th
Street, New York, NY 10022; phone: (212) 759-9700. (Issues examined: v.1,
nos.1-2, July-September 1981)

Annotated bibliography of videotapes, films, filmstrips and other audio-visual
media with a focus on women and work reviewed by Catalyst staff for acquisition
by their Audio-Visual Center.

Common Lives/Lesbian Lives: A Lesbian Feminist Quarterly. 1981- . Quarterly.
Subscriptions: \$10 (indiv.); \$20 (inst.). Subscription address: Box 1553,
Iowa City, IA 52244. (Publisher's flyer)

Features history, oral history, biography, autobiography, correspondence, journal
entries, reminiscences, photographs, drawings, fiction, science fiction, theory,
analysis.

New Moon: A Quarterly Journal of Science Fiction and Critical Feminism. 1981-
Quarterly. Subscriptions: \$10. Single copy: \$3. Subscription address:
P.O. Box 2056, Madison, WI 53701. (Issue examined: v.1, no.2, Winter '81/'82)

New journal published by SF³ (Society for the Furtherance and Study of Fantasy
and Science Fiction), which also publishes Aurora: Speculative Feminism (formerly

Janus). Fiction, poetry, features and reviews. Second issue includes a bibliography of women SF writers, 1950-1980.

SisterSource: A Midwest Lesbian/Feminist Newspaper. 1981- . 9/year. Subscriptions: \$10. Subscription address: P.O. Box 14070, Chicago, IL 60614; phone: (312) 549-1227. (Issue examined: v.1, no.1, August 1, 1981)

News, features, commentaries written from a lesbian/feminist perspective with intent of establishing a communication network among midwest lesbians.

Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature. 1982- . Biannual. More information available from: Germaine Greer, University of Tulsa, 600 South College Ave., Tulsa, OK 74104. (Cited in Wilson Library Bulletin, 11/81, p.234)

First issue of this new journal founded by Germaine Greer will feature essays on Olive Schreiner and Dorothy Sayers.

Women in Education. 1981- . Quarterly. Subscriptions: \$5. Subscription address: 1523 East Main, Ventura, CA 93001; phone: (805) 653-5629. (Cited in Media Report to Women 11/1/81, p.3)

First issue included feature stories, interviews, reviews and information about opportunities in the field of education.

Special Issues

The Black Collegian: The National Magazine of Black College Students April/May 1981: special issue on black women. Available from: 1240 South Broad St., New Orleans, LA 70125. Single copy: \$3. (Cited in On Campus With Women, no.31, Summer 1981, p.7)

Includes articles about Spelman College (Georgia), women of Zimbabwe, and black womanhood, as well as tributes to individual black women.

Critical Inquiry Winter 1981: "Writing and Sexual Difference." Editor: Elizabeth Abel. Available from: The University of Chicago Press, 11030 S. Langley Ave., Chicago, IL 60628. Subscriptions: \$18 (indiv.); \$15 (student); \$30 (inst.). (Publisher's flyer)

Includes articles by Nina Auerbach, Annette Kolodny, Elaine Showalter, and Catharine Stimpson.

Film Reader no.5, 1981[?] Special feminist issue. Available from: Annie May Swift Hall, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60201. Single copy: \$7.50. (Cited in Women Make Movies Newsletter Summer 1981, p.2)

Features selected papers from the Spring 1981 Lolita Raclin Rodgers Conference on Feminist Film Criticism at Northwestern University.

Heresies no.12, 1981: "Sex Issue." Available from: 225 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012. Single copy: \$4.25. (Issue examined)

Important contribution to recent feminist reevaluations of women's sexuality-- in all its different forms of expression.

Journal of Family Issues v.2, no.2, June 1981: "Dual-Earner Families." Editor: Joan Aldous. Available from: Sage Publications, 275 S. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90212. Single copy: \$5.50 (indiv.); \$11 (inst.). (Publisher's flyer)

Eight articles on dual-earner and dual-career families.

Many Smokes Fall 1981: "Female Energy." Available from: P.O. Box 9167, Spokane, WA 99209. Single copy: \$1. (Cited in Womanspirit Winter 1981, p.19)

"Native American women from many tribes speak."

Resources for Feminist Research/Documentation sur la Recherche Féminist v.X, no.2, July 1981: "Women and Trade Unions." Editors: Lynda Yanz and Linda Briskin. Available from: Dept. of Sociology, OISE, 252 Bloor St. W., Toronto, M5S 1V6, Ontario, Canada. Single copy: \$10. (Issue examined)

A major compendium of information on women and unions, including articles on a variety of union issues, features on research directions, bibliographies of published and primary source material, film reviews, articles on working women's organizations, and an annotated list of women's strikes.

Science for the People v.13, no.5, Sept./Oct. 1981: "Science and the Attack on Women." Available from: Science Resource Center, Inc., 897 Main St., Cambridge, MA 02139. Single copy: \$1.75. (Issue examined)

Articles on: treatment by the media of the question of sex differences in mathematical ability; the failure of industry and the government to address the health hazards of tampons; and the history of the Boston Women's Health Book Collective.

BOOK REVIEWS

RECENT FEMINIST THEORY

Michele Barrett, Women's Oppression Today: Problems in Marxist Feminist Analysis. Shoken, 1981 \$19.50, ISBN 0-8052-7091-4; pap., \$8.50, ISBN 0-8052-7090-6.

Zillah Eisenstein, The Radical Future of Liberal Feminism. Longman, 1980. \$17.95, ISBN 0-582-28205-5; pap., \$10.95, ISBN 0-582-28206-3.

Gloria I. Joseph and Jill Lewis, Common Differences: Conflicts in Black and White Feminist Perspectives. Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1981. pap., \$8.95, ISBN 0-385-14271-4.

Lisa Leghorn and Katherine Parker, Woman's Worth: Sexual Economics and the World of Women. Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1981. \$19.95, ISBN 0-7100-0836-8; pap., \$10.50, ISBN 0-7100-0855-4.

Quest Staff, ed. Building Feminist Theory: Essays from Quest. Longman, 1981. pap., \$8.95, ISBN 0-582-28210-1.

Lydia Sargent, ed. Women and Revolution: A Discussion of the Unhappy Marriage of Marxism and Feminism. South End Press, 1981. \$15.00, ISBN 0-89608-062-5; pap., \$6.50, ISBN 0-89608-061-7.

In the past two years, several works have appeared that integrate political economy, race and sexuality as a basis of feminist theory. Women and Revolution is a collection of essays written in response to an article by Heidi Hartmann entitled "The Unhappy Marriage of Marxism and Feminism." Hartmann critiqued the fact that "the marriage of marxism and feminism has been like that between husband and wife depicted in English common law; marxism and feminism are one and that one is marxism." Contributors to this volume discuss topics such as capitalist patriarchy as a single system, women's sexual self determination, power relations among men and women, the racism inherent in much leftist theory and practice, and the importance of developing a theory that deals with people's emotional needs. These are strong, personal essays that raise many sides of an intricate problem.

Michele Barrett's Women's Oppression Today analyzes gender divisions in contemporary Britain, as well as marxist and feminist theories of these divisions. Providing a review of recent literature, she describes the social construction of femininity and the role of ideology and culture in the determination of gender. She then brings together questions that need to be addressed from this perspective: what is the role of the educational system in sexism? is women's subordination in work inherent in the logic of capitalism? how are we to understand the role of the family? what is the role of the structure of the contemporary household in women's oppression? what is the role of the state in shaping the relations between the sexes?

Woman's Worth deals specifically with women's unpaid labor. It asks what is the economic basis of women's culture (and how is women's culture a basis of economics) by analyzing women's situation in South America, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and the United States. The authors make clear that many forces in society which seem to be social, political, religious or emotional, also serve an economic function.

One of the most thought-provoking and useful of recent books is Building Feminist Theory, a selection of twenty-four articles from the first three volumes of Quest: A Feminist Quarterly (1974-1977). The articles are grouped under the following headings: Power and Practice; The Politics of Everyday Life; Feminist Perspectives on Class; and Organizations and Strategies. Charlotte Bunch's introduction provides a context for the articles by tracing the process of creation and change that made Quest into a functioning feminist-theory journal. The articles are clearly written and at times appropriately outrageous. Building Feminist Theory would make an excellent text for a course on feminist theory.

Two final and much needed books. Common Differences addresses the racism, sexism and classism inherent in attitudes held by black and white women today. The book is organized around specific areas of black and white women's differing experience: sexuality, men and marriage, mothers and daughters, media images and the direction of the feminist movement itself. This book could be very useful to women wanting to seriously address our own and the movement's racism, and to recognize rather than excuse its complex roots.

Zillah Eisenstein's new book, The Radical Future of Liberal Feminism, analyzes mainstream feminism from an historical perspective. She details the origins of liberal feminism in the works of Locke, Rousseau, Wollstonecraft, Mill, Taylor and Stanton, and then addresses the contemporary practice of liberal feminism. Particularly interesting is her contrast of the liberal ideal of the individual with the realities of the working mother's life as part of a family in a patriarchal-capitalist state.

The appearance of these books is especially comforting and strengthening at this time. Though feminists are losing rights we had fought for, and at one time thought we had gained, feminism is by no means receding as a movement. Our thoughts, feelings and work of the last fifteen years are now producing a new wave of serious theoretical work, all of it based in dedication to feminist politics and articulation.

-- Susan O'Leary

[Susan O'Leary taught a course on Feminism and Social Theory in the Women's Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is currently an Honorary Fellow of the Women's Studies Research Center.]

PORNOGRAPHY: RECENT ANALYSES BY WOMEN

Kathleen Barry, Female Sexual Slavery. Prentice-Hall, 1979. \$10.95, ISBN 0-13-314302-3; pap. (Avon, 1981), \$3.95, ISBN 0-380-54213-7. LC 79-16035.

Andrea Dworkin, Pornography: Men Possessing Women. Perigee Books (Putnam), 1981. \$12.95, ISBN 0-399-12619-8; pap., \$5.95, ISBN 0-399-50532-6.

Beatrice Faust, Women, Sex and Pornography: A Controversial Study. Macmillan, 1981. \$11.95, ISBN 0-02-537050-2.

Susan Griffin, Pornography and Silence: Culture's Revenge Against Nature. Harper & Row, 1981. \$12.95, ISBN 0-06-011647-1.

Laura Lederer, ed., Take Back the Night: Women on Pornography. Morrow, 1980. \$14.95, ISBN 0-688-03728-3; pap., \$7.95, ISBN 0-688-08728-0.

Until recently there have been two predominant perspectives on pornography, liberal and conservative. Neither perspective includes the interest of women. The conservative approach seeks to eliminate pornography, often by legal means, along with any other sexually explicit material, including sex education texts and feminist publications like Our Bodies Ourselves. Conservative opposition to pornography is based on Old Testament invectives against the body and on

biblical dictates of traditional male/female sexual and familial roles which lock women into the virgin-wife-mother progression. The liberal point of view, in its defense of pornography on First Amendment freedom of speech grounds, is largely blind to the brutality to women and children within the pornography industry itself and to the social and sexual violence toward women in the society as a whole.

Pornography has been a feminist issue since the mid-1970's, when women organized the first Take-Back-the-Night March in conjunction with a national conference on pornography. Now there exists more than one thorough feminist analysis of pornography--what Judy Grahn has called "the poetry of oppression."

Take Back the Night is an invaluable anthology of current feminist thought on pornography--its legal, psychological and philosophical ramifications--with writings by Gloria Steinem, Diana Russell, Susan Brownmiller, Marge Piercy, Adrienne Rich, Charlotte Bunch, Alice Walker, Robin Morgan, Susan Griffin, Andrea Dworkin, Kathleen Barry, Pauline Bart, Phyllis Chesler, and Audre Lorde, among others. Thirty-five articles consider how pornography should be defined, who is hurt by pornography and who benefits, research findings on the effects of pornography, pornography and the First Amendment, and feminist organizing against pornography.

Female Sexual Slavery is an indictment of the world-wide condition of women under patriarchy. It deals primarily with prostitution in its various forms and in various locales, including the international trade in women. Barry includes a chapter on pornography, noting that the term derives from the Greek porne (prostitute) and originally meant "a description of prostitutes and their trade" (p.174). This chapter presents a detailed exploration of the relationship of fantasy and fetish to human behavior, as well as a brilliant exposition of what Barry calls "cultural sadism":

"Cultural sadism" is a distinct social form that consists of practices which encourage and support sexual violence, defining it into normal behavior. . . . Pornography is a practice of cultural sadism, as well as a means of diffusing it into the mainstream of accepted behavior and therefore into the private lives of individuals. (pp.174-175; emphasis added)

Barry traces the evolution of "sadism" into "somasochism," from the life of the Marquis de Sade through the work of Kraft-Ebing, Havelock Ellis, and Freud. She then links the latter's reification of nature and the unconscious as explanations for male/female sexuality with the determinism of present-day psychoanalysts and sociobiologists. Barry's book is a painful, necessary revelation of how none of us is free until we free our society from the ideology of sexual violence.

Australian author Beatrice Faust believes most feminists underrate the role of biology in human sexuality. In her book, Women, Sex and Pornography, she presents her views on why men and women generally respond to different sexual stimuli. While men are more responsive to visual stimuli (pornography), Faust argues, women typically, though not always or exclusively, respond to touch and to written material dealing with complex and emotional relationships. The

subtitle of Faust's book, "A Controversial Study," is misleading. Her book is not a research report, but rather a rambling and sometimes shocking statement of her own ideas, based to a great extent on the work of Albert Kinsey and Havelock Ellis. For example, she takes the idea of a female affinity for touch ("kinesthetic stimulation") to ridiculous and frightening extremes, calling high heels, corsets, tight girdles, and even Chinese footbinding "tactile fetishes" for women. It is unclear from this work whether Faust is familiar with other current feminist literature on pornography. Faust's attempts to show women as more than abject slaves under male control are well intentioned, but she makes dangerous argumentative leaps and bases them on the same psychological and sociological fallacies that have created the myths of female masochism.

Andrea Dworkin's latest book, Pornography: Men Possessing Women, is a work of unrelenting intensity, much of it consisting of literal descriptions of pornographic images and excerpts from written pornography. Perhaps the most extreme and unfamiliar example of contemporary pornography in the book is the last, included in a section entitled "Whores":

"The magazine is called 'Mom'. It is subtitled 'Big Bellied Mamas.' The model on the cover is white and great with child. She is fingering her huge belly. Her fingernails are painted purple...There are twenty-three pages of photographs of Anna, some in color, some black and white. In most of the photographs, Anna is displaying her huge belly as if it were--in the visual vocabulary of pornography her breasts or ass or cunt."

Dworkin not only confronts us with descriptions of pornography. In the same short, viscerally experienced statements, she exposes the origins of pornography in male power and delineates its connections with racism and anti-semitism. It is a stark, painful picture.

Perhaps the most visionary of the recent feminist writings on pornography is Susan Griffin's Pornography and Silence: Culture's Revenge Against Nature. In this book, Griffin takes the ideas she presented in Woman and Nature and spins them out on the theme of pornography. Her vision of human life is a lyrical rebuttal to the advocates of determinism in science, in literature and in art. Central to Pornography and Silence is the idea that our culture has made certain harmful choices in the directions it has taken, and that there are other possible choices we now can make which will allow us to become truly human. The most critical change we need to make, Griffin says, is in the acceptance of nature and of the body and its vulnerability. Men have created "the pornographic mind," which projects the fear of nature and of bodily and emotional needs onto "the other"--woman, the black, or the jew--and then attempts over and over, obsessively, to subjugate the other. Rather than a celebration of sexuality, Griffin argues, pornography is the attempt to silence eros. She makes it beautifully clear that pornography is not an incidental issue, but that understanding the pornographic mind is essential to transforming our society. Reading Griffin's book is a healing experience, reminding us that the split between nature and culture, between matter and mind, is an artificial one, a delusion from which we are waking.

[Maureen Green is a poet and a graduate of the UW Madison School of Journalism with a second major in Spanish and an emphasis on Women's Studies. She is a counselor and trainer with the Madison Rape Crisis Center, a member of the Task Force on Prostitution, and of Women Against Pornography. She is a single parent of two teen-agers.]

KEEPING TRACK OF RESEARCH ON WOMEN

Patricia K. Ballou, Women: A Bibliography of Bibliographies. G.K. Hall, 1980. \$16.00, ISBN 0-8161-8292-2.

Maureen Ritchie, Women's Studies: A Checklist of Bibliographies. Mansell, 1980. ISBN 0-7201-0918-3.

Jane Williamson, New Feminist Scholarship: A Guide to Bibliographies. Feminist Press, 1979. \$15.00, ISBN 0-912670-54-1.

A sure sign of the robust health of women's studies is the growth in the amount and kind of publishing in the field. Further evidence of this lushness is the recent publication of these three bibliographies of bibliographies, attempts by each of three authors to list at least some of this burgeoning output. I wish I could report that each of the three was weed-free and absolutely necessary to the continued survival of library collections, but alas, I cannot.

Ritchie's work is the most unsatisfactory because there are no annotations for any of the 489 sources listed. She covers material published mostly in English during the last fifteen years, ending in 1979. If Ritchie had been writing with the intent of providing an introduction to Canadian and American materials for the U.K. researcher, one could forgive her more easily. Her market is, however, the U.S., and providing a list of unexamined sources at this late date is a mite gratuitous. There are no scope notes for any of her nineteen broad subject areas, but there is a keyword index at the end. Unfortunately, important words from titles are frequently omitted from this index. Publishing information is often incomplete. Prices are given, but this seems a fairly useless exercise in today's inflationary times.

Williamson cites fewer works than Ritchie (391 bibliographies, resource lists, and literature reviews), but her work is better because 52% of the entries are annotated. She gives helpful order information including out of print notes, ERIC document numbers, and a list of publishers' addresses that is most useful, especially for the small presses and little known organizations and associations. Her introduction is sprightly and informative and the print and formatting of the book are superior to either of the others'. Her subject arrangement is straightforward and useful, with scope notes for each heading, and author and title indexes provide additional access. Perhaps my prejudice is showing, but I find Williamson's inclusion of Heim and Weibel's at that time forthcoming book, The Role of Women in Librarianship 1876-1976, with its eight-page bibliography, to be quite odd when she entirely omits mention of Stineman's major work, Women's Studies: A Recommended Core Bibliography, which was in press at the same time. While many decisions regarding bibliography need be somewhat arbitrary, Williamson's verge on capricious. The annotations, when

given, are the weakest part of the book, frequently confined to giving the number of items listed with no attempt at evaluation.

It is a pleasure to report that Patricia Ballou's book is a model of what these works ought to be. A lucid introduction sets forth the scope and methodology. Five hundred fifty-seven items with imprint dates from 1970-1979, mostly in English but with some foreign language materials, are included. Most of them are in print and there are useful sections on special kinds of publishing, e.g., dissertations, oral history, special periodical issues. She uses Joan K. Marshall's non-sexist subject headings, dividing the work into three main parts: general, geographical, and topical. Useful, often evaluative, annotations are given for all but 28 items, and continuing publications are marked with a star. Titles from the ERIC, NTIS, and JSAS data bases are included because they are both available and generally of quality content. The only quibbles I have with this fine work are its format (reproduced typescript) and a certain cavalier attitude toward typos.

The overlapping in coverage between the three works is notable. Slightly more than 100 bibliographies are cited in all of them with Ritchie and Ballou sharing 67 items not found in Williamson; Ritchie and Williamson list 58 items not in Ballou; and Ballou and Williamson have 42 in common items excluded by Ritchie. This probably means that a large research library will buy all three for the sake of comprehensiveness. Most libraries, however, should save their budget dollars and purchase only Ballou, who is superior to the others in style, scope, and content.

-- Alice Randlett

[Alice Randlett is Acquisitions Librarian at the UW-Stevens Point Library. She also serves on the Advisory Panel for the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large.]