Jing Lyman Honored

At a "Tribute to Jing Lyman" held on Thursday, May 7, the CROW Wednesday noon lecture series was renamed the Jing Lyman Lectures. Throughout the program, many women expressed their gratitude to Jing Lyman for her participation and help in numerous CROW programs.

Acknowledging the strong bond many feel with her, Marilyn Yalom, Associate Director of CROW, introduced Jing as "a live-in member of the Stanford Community who is now on the other coast. Yalom continued: "A woman's advocate long before it was fashionable to be one, Jing has given a sense of solidarity to feminists of both sexes. She is a faithful CROW supporter and it is appropriate that we rename the lecture series after her.''

Jing made clear her attachment and respect for the Center, noting that education is a life-long process. She said, "CROW and its lecture series are both a part of this ongoing educational process. CROW is a place where you learn about life, and a place where education begins. You can try things and when you make mistakes people still love you.''

The tribute focused as much on the program of CROW as on the importance of Jing Lyman as well as other people who were instrumental to its establishment as a research center.

Margo Davis, CROW Assistant Director, announced the themes of the Jing Lyman lectures planned for 1981-82. The first series will focus on "Women and the Visual Arts." Studio artists, art historians, feminist critics, a panel of students in the arts and art collectors are all being considered for the program. The winter series entitled "The Ages of Women" will include perspectives on older women. Scheduled for the Spring is a series on "Race, Class and Sex.''

Co-chair of the Feminist Studies Committee, historian Estelle Freedman, announced the formation of the Feminist Studies major. Explaining the program's name as "Feminist Studies" (rather than the more usual "Women's Studies"), Freedman asserted, "We are concerned with a mode of analysis: Feminist analysis," which asks the basic question: What difference does gender make? The analysis assumes there is a difference in the way men and women have been treated. We claim the term Feminist Studies as our own. We are proud of the term, not afraid of it. It means good scholarship and teaching.''

The program concluded with a brief review of the important support given by both Jing and Dick Lyman to the idea that Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society be located at Stanford. Signs' editor Barbara Gelpi commented on the journal's new life at CROW: "We're maintaining our good humor, demonstrating and polishing our brilliance and constantly learning a great deal. It is a busy but happy world.''

Yalom Promoted to Deputy Director

Following a re-examination of the CROW administration structure undertaken by its Policy Board, Marilyn Yalom has been named Deputy Director of the Center. Myra Strober will continue as CROW Director. Yalom, formerly a professor of French literature at California State/Hayward, came to CROW in 1976 as its first Research Scholar and was appointed Associate Director in 1977.

Her responsibilities include "overseeing CROW personnel and public programs and the direction of fundraising operations," she said. Yalom has seen the Center grow "from a small group of dedicated researchers to a much larger community of women and men of different roles and various persuasions, from a nucleus of three offices to an entire building, from an annual budget of $50,000 to $250,000.''

She hopes that "CROW will continue to provide a forum for the examination of women's needs and concerns. Along with the new Feminist Studies Program and Signs, CROW should be at the forefront of feminist scholarship and education.''

Yalom has jointly edited two books prepared under the auspices of the Center. Victorian Women, a volume Yalom edited with E. Hellerstein, L. Hume, K. Offen, E. Freedman, and B. Gelpi, grew out of an experimental CROW-sponsored course, "The Victorian Heritage". The second book, Rethinking the Family, was written with Barrie Thorne, who was a Visiting Scholar at CROW. Yalom has a special interest in CROW publications and is currently editing Dialogues With West Coast Women Writers, which is based on a lecture series given in the fall of 1980.

When asked how the new position of Deputy Director will differ from that of Associate Director, Yalom answered, "I think the change in title will clarify my status as 'chief administrator' of the Center. It should also help in fundraising, which continues to be my greatest responsibility and challenge.''

Stress Was the Focus of Corporate Seminar

The third CROW-sponsored Seminar for Management and Personnel was held in San Francisco on May 29. Over twenty representatives of diverse corporations from the entire Bay Area attended. The Center's Director, Myra Strober, reviewed her own research findings of women managers; she disclosed that in her sample of male and female MBAs, having a mentor did not influence success in career development, contrary to popular myth.

(continued on page 2)
News and Notes of CROW Affiliates

ESTELLE FREEDMAN’S book, *Their Sisters’ Keepers: Women’s Prison Reform in America*, 1830-1930, was published this spring by the University of Michigan Press. A member of the History Department, Freedman teaches and does research on the history of women in the United States. She is a co-chair of the Committee which developed the Feminist Studies Program.

BELLA MODY, Department of Communication, is conducting an exploratory assessment of the educational and employment needs of female heads of households in Limon province, Costa Rica this summer. Mody’s research is being funded by the Latin American Center at Stanford.

Former CROW Director, DIANE MIDDLEBROOK, will be acting Dean of Undergraduate Studies from July 1 to January 1. Middlebrook, Professor of English, is currently working on a study of the life and work of the poet Anne Sexton.

Four CROW Affiliated Scholars, SUSAN BELL, JOANNA GILLESPIE, KAREN OFFEN and MOLLIE ROSENHAN attended the Berkshire Conference on Women’s History at Vassar College in June. Bell’s paper focused on medieval women book owners and the female contribution to the transmission of culture. Gillespie presented a paper entitled “Modesty Canonized: Female Sains in Antebellum Methodist Sunday School Literature.”

The Center’s Director, MYRA STROBER, attended a meeting of research directors of Women’s Research Centers in the United States, held in Washington last spring. The directors were invited by the Congressional Women’s Caucus.

PEGGY GOLDE, Affiliated Scholar, received a grant from NSF/SFAA to present a paper at an international meeting of anthropologists in Edinburgh, Scotland in April. Golde’s paper was on “Issues for an Expanding Area of Application: Clinical Anthropology.”

The Center has selected SORCA O’CONNOR, a graduate student in the School of Education, as the CROW Intern for the academic year, 1981-82. Her major area of responsibility will be identifying and serving the needs of graduate women at Stanford. In addition to an evaluation of the needs of incoming graduate students, O’Connor is organizing a forum to discuss anti-feminism among women and its significance for feminist scholarship, to be held this summer. Anyone interested in participating in activities sponsored by the Graduate Women’s Research Network this summer, or who has suggestions for the future, may call O’Connor at 497-1995.

KAREN HARBECK, CROW Intern and graduate student in the School of Education, has been honored with an award “For Outstanding Efforts in Promoting Feminist Concerns and the Interests of Women at Stanford” by the Graduate Women’s Research Network. According to Sorca O’Connor, who is coordinator of the GWRN, Harbeck was especially active in increasing graduate student involvement, in planning the Feminist Studies Program and in making the Network’s Newsletter “a meaningful and delightful habit for over 200 women.”

“Elegant Event”

The April 26 Benefit organized by the CROW Associates proved to be successful in every sense of the word. Held on the grounds of the SAGA Corporation in Menlo Park, the unique event combined a buffet with an art tour and an auction.

Over 200 people attended the fundraiser and were treated to a guided tour of the SAGA buildings which hold the Anderson Art Collection, one of the finest private collections of contemporary art in the country. Following the luncheon, 115 items were auctioned. About $10,000 was raised for furthering CROW’s activities.

Estela Estrada-Freeman, Assistant Director for Finance and Management at CROW, described the event as “elegant,” a word used by other enthusiastic participants. “It was not only successful financially, but it was also a lovely event socially,” she said. “We are very much indebted to Florence Goldby, who chaired the Benefit, and to Becky Spitzer, chair of the Auction committee, and Gail Young, chair of the Art Committee. We also could not have done it without the generous support of SAGA.”

It is with regret that we announce the death of Lynne Shamburger Kramlich on April 10. Kramlich was an active member of the CROW ASSOCIATES. She returned to graduate school in psychology and then to law school in her thirties, while maintaining a household in San Francisco with her husband and children. Her death at the young age of forty came as a shock to her many friends. Gifts in her memory have been received by the Center.

(continued from page 1)

Stress was the theme of talks by both Carl Thoreson and Jean Eagleston. Thoreson, a professor of Psychology, holds appointments in the School of Education, the Boys Town Center and the School of Medicine. His concern was the debilitating nature of chronic stress. Eagleston, a graduate student in Psychological Studies at the Stanford School of Education, began her talk with a demonstration of relaxation techniques, and then described stress reduction techniques used in groups of coronary patients and other high-risk populations.

The formal program was concluded by Carol Jacklin, Senior Research Associate in Stanford’s Psychology Department, who reviewed her current research on the development of sex differences. Tracing behavior from infancy to age six, Jacklin and her associates have uncovered almost no differences between boys and girls that can be attributed solely to gender.

The lectures were followed by an informal discussion led by Laraine Zappert. A social and clinical psychologist, Zappert is on the staff of the Cowell Student Health Services. With Strober, she is involved in research on different patterns of career development for women and men in management, and the relations between their work and mental health.

The seminar was funded by gifts from Chevron, U.S.A., Inc.; the BankAmerica Foundation; and Advanced Micro Devices. Individuals and corporations interested in participating in future seminars should call Estela Estrada-Freeman at 497-1994.
Romanticism and Feminism:
An Interview with Anne Mellor

Anne Mellor, Professor of English, will chair the new Feminist Studies Program in 1981-82. The author of *Blake's Human Form Divine* and *English Romantic Irony*, Mellor has taught several courses on the Romantic era, on literature and the visual arts, and on English women writers. She was interviewed by Linda Sue Park, a member of the Newsletter staff.

Q: Your reputation on campus is as an expert in Romanticism. Has there been a switch in your emphasis recently — to feminism and Feminist Studies?

AM: No, I'm still 'doing' Romanticism . . . In a way, my professional identity is still as a Romanticist, although very recently, I've done some things that are definitely feminist in nature, in terms of my research, for example an essay on Feminist Utopias which I just completed.

Q: Have you always considered yourself a feminist?

AM: Yes, of course. For example, I was very much aware of the fact when I came to Stanford that we (Mellor and Diane Middlebrook) were the first women the English Department had hired in over twenty years . . . I was aware of myself as a role-model that students might conceivably follow. I was also primarily concerned with showing that a woman could succeed in what had hitherto been an exclusively male world.

Q: Has that attitude changed over the years?

AM: Yes. . . Now I'm more concerned with exploring ways in which women can exist as successful human beings — in both literature and life — without necessarily having to follow male archetypes.

Q: Considering that your own success has been earned by following a sort of male archetypical pattern, do you find this newer attitude at odds with what you've done?

AM: Well. . . let's be a little more specific. For example, if women want to be university professors, they're going to have to publish. In that sense, they are going to have to follow a male pattern. But what they publish can be different. Ten, fifteen years ago, it would have been very difficult for a woman who wrote exclusively on women to be accepted. Now, a feminist approach can in fact lead to a very successful career.

Q: Was there any initial direct connection between Romanticism and Feminist Studies?

AM: My primary focus has always been on the imagination — the use of the imagination by the Romantic poets to re-create the world, to create alternative worlds . . . So I was interested in how contemporary women seemed to find the genre of science fiction congenial to an exploration of alternative societies based on feminist values. I was interested in seeing what these worlds would look like in terms of the contemporary female imagination.

Q: Have you found other ways that Romanticism and Feminist Studies cross over?

AM: Well, the next thing I want to do is a book on Mary Shelley — a feminist approach to Mary Shelley, especially to *Frankenstein*, which would bring together my knowledge of the Romantic period and my feminist interests. I want to talk about *Frankenstein* as a book that is fundamentally about what happens when a man tries to give birth without a woman. . .

Q: That should get quite a reaction!

AM: (Laughs) Yes, — I've been lecturing on it in my class on English Women Writers, and it's really been a lot of fun.

Q: Speaking of classes, what is your vision for the Feminist Studies program here at Stanford?

AM: So far, I think it's done amazingly well . . . I'd like to see more courses developed, of course, especially interdisciplinary courses. I'd like to see more work on women in the sciences. And — this is my own private dream — I'd like to see a track of Western Culture, specifically on women and Western Culture . . . That'll take some doing yet!
A Note To Our Readers

Our mailing list has grown considerably in the past years. If you have moved, or if you no longer wish to receive the Newsletter, please indicate below.

☐ New Address: ______________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

☐ I no longer wish to receive the Newsletter.

Name ___________________________ (Please print)

Although we do not charge for the Newsletter, donations to help underwrite its costs are most welcome.

CROW will not sponsor any formal programs for the summer. Offices will be open as usual.

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Available access for physically handicapped.

Joanne Kliejunas, graduate student member of the Policy Board, and Margi Weeks, Managing Editor of Signs, modeled hats at the CROW Auction. The hats were part of a group donated by Jean O'Brien, who also gave a large collection of oriental art objects to be auctioned.