IRWG CELEBRATES 30 YEARS IN 2004

The year 2004 marks the 30th anniversary of Stanford University's Institute for Research on Women and Gender and major new directions for the Institute. In a recently completed and exciting transition, the Institute moved from Stanford's Office of Graduate Studies and Research to the School of Humanities and Sciences (H&S), the academic locus of the University. In its new position, the Institute is being transformed into a multi-disciplinary center where resident scholars, drawn from the Stanford faculty and from other universities, are working together in unprecedented ways. The primary focus of their work will be developing strategies for increasing the comparatively small number of girls and women in the important areas of science, engineering, and technology. This under-representation has gained national attention, and is an unresolved problem in schools, academy, and the workplace. The Institute's work will also play a crucial role the University's renewed determination to make Stanford a place where women faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students across all academic disciplines can flourish. Recruitment and retention of women, specifically in the sciences and engineering, is a special concern and commitment for the University. The Institute's expertise in understanding women's place in academic culture can provide leadership in that area.

To celebrate its milestone anniversary, the Institute will feature an exciting series of events throughout the year that will include seminars, Jing Lyman lectures, town hall meetings, conferences, and a major anniversary event. The festivities began on January 20th with an Open House at the Institute, followed by a lecture by Stanford anthropologist Barbara Voss on women in colonial California and her archaeological work in the Presidio of San Francisco. On February 11th, the Jing Lyman Lecture series on Women in the Sciences and Engineering will continue with a lecture by Stanford biologist Deborah Gordon on the topic of "Ants at Work: The Organization of Social Insect Colonies." In the Spring, political communication scholar Kathleen Jamieson, Dean of the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication, will be a featured speaker. In September, the Institute will hold a public meeting to highlight the work from the Difficult Dialogues session on the "Changing Structure of Families." A major anniversary event is also being planned for the Fall, featuring former Duke president Nan Keohane as the keynote speaker.
Scholars' and Graduate Dissertation Fellows News

Scholars’ News:


Edith Gelles’s edition of "The Letters of Abigail Levy Franks" with a lengthy introduction will be published by Yale University Press in the Fall 2004.

Phyllis Koestenbaum spent a month this fall as a resident artist at the Djerassi Foundation. This January she is teaching a course at Book Passage in Corte Madera on three short prose forms: prose poem, lyric essay, and short-short story.

Brigid O’Farrell presented the first Eleanor Roosevelt Labor Action Award to the officers of the Coalition of Labor Union Women at the CLUW National Convention held in Seattle, WA in October. One hundred union women attended the workshop on ER and Workers’ Rights and material is now available at: www.gwu.edu/~erpapers/workers. O’Farrell’s presentation on the economic context of nontraditional employment for women was published in the roundtable proceedings, "Full Speed Ahead: Making the Workforce Work for Women, A Framework for the 21st Century," (Wider Opportunities for Women, Washington, DC). A previously published article was adapted for the introduction to "Thinking and Working Out of the Box: Resource Guide for Women Interested in Nontraditional Careers," (Fairfax County Commission and Office for Women, Fairfax, Virginia).

Karen Offen published "French Women’s History: Retrospect (1789-1940) and Prospect," in French Historical Studies (Fall 2003) and a long on-line review of Anne Verjus, “Le cens de la famille: Les femmes et le vote, 1789-1848 (2002)," in French (Sept. 2003). Another article, on the history of the International Federation for Research in Women’s History was published in French in Mnemosyne. She commented on papers at the conferences of the International Federation for Research in Women’s History, held in August in Belfast, Northern Ireland and at the Western Society for French History, Newport Beach, CA where she also participated in a panel on equality vs. difference. In addition, she made a presentation to Stanford’s French Culture Workshop in November. Karen currently chairs the Exhibition Development and Educational Programming Committee of the International Museum of Women in San Francisco, and traveled extensively this fall to participate in exhibit development workshops in the US and overseas. The first of these workshops was held at IRWG in early October.

Michele Pridmore-Brown’s essay on the Graphic Novel appeared in the winter issue of the Italian Review of Modern and Comparative Literature, and her review essay on the politics of the stem cell debate will appear in the Times Literary Suppement at the end of January. She is working on her book on the biopolitics of late motherhood.


Marilyn Yalom spent the past year finishing her book, Birth of the Chess Queen, which will appear in May in the U.S. and England. She is currently devoting her time to brainstorming sessions with other core committee members for the future International Museum of Women in San Francisco. A continuing studies course based on the book "Inside the American Couple" (co-edited by Yalom and Laura Cartensen) will be taught spring quarter.

GDF News:

Evelyn Alsultany is teaching Stanford University’s first Arab-American Studies course this Winter 2004. It is entitled, “Arab-American Studies: Race, Gender, and Representation” and is being offered by the Program in Feminist Studies. She is also currently serving as the Feminist Studies honors tutor working with seniors writing their theses in Feminist Studies. Her creative piece, "Night of Longing for the Homeland," was recently published in Mizna: Prose, Poetry and Art Exploring Arab America (Volume 5, Issue 1, 2003), and her essay, "Los Intersticios: Recasting Moving Selves," in This Bridge We Call Home: Radical Visions for Transformation, (Gloria Anzaldúa and AnaLouise Keating, eds., New York: Routledge, 2002) was recently reprinted in Race, Class and Gender in the United States (6th Edition Paula S. Rothenberg, ed., New York: Worth, 2003). She presented a chapter of her dissertation, "The Primetime Plight of the Arab-Muslim American Post-9/11," at the Middle East Studies Association Conference this past November and co-organized two panels on Arab-American Feminism at the American Studies Association Conference this past October.

Rachel Jean-Baptiste has accepted a position as tenure-track assistant professor of history and Africana studies at SUNY-Albany.
Dotti Chichon: Photographs

Serra House was the scene for an intriguing exhibit of photographs by Dotti Chichon during Fall Quarter, 2003. Images in the show of her new "Abstracts" series and of Chichon's ongoing study of Venice during Carnival illustrated the supportive relationship between beautiful baroque objects and flat surfaces of color, texture, and pattern. The abstract photographs called to mind seemingly time-worn textures: the pattern of iron rust next to delicate lacy white and a watery blue, or deep blues and greens moving fluidly over hidden textures. Some pictures juxtaposed an abstracted area with the image of a classic female face with flowing hair. Chichon’s Venetian imagery ranges from the elaborately costumed and masked participants in the carnival masquerade or a lion-head doorknob, to the spiral of a hotel’s staircase or the spiral of a nautilus shell. The quiet beauty of each picture made it a pleasure to contemplate each image and appreciate the artist’s ability to bring the viewer into her worlds.

Dotti Chichon studied archeology in England. She received her BA from U.C. Berkeley and also did graduate studies there. She is coordinator and curator for the Peninsula Open Studios and the Bay Area Photographers’ Alliance. During her Stanford show, Chichon was artist-in-residence at the Mendicino Art Center, California.

Kathy Karp: Photographs

This Winter Quarter, Serra House is showing photographs taken during the 4th International Conference on Women, held in Hauirou, China in 1995. The photographer, Kathy Karp, was part of the Women’s Caucus for Art delegation to the non-governmental organization forum at the conference. Titled, "Seeing the World through Women’s Eyes", the exhibit gives the viewer an idea of the energy and determination of women to expose problems and work together to make changes in their countries. Photographs of the grand opening ceremony of dancing children and the release of thousands of doves and balloons at the beginning of the exhibit can be contrasted with the final images of the muddy tent city set up by the Chinese to house the delegates, the talks, workshops, and the art exhibits. Karp’s photographs celebrate the diversity of the delegates who came together in friendship and hope. One can see women in traditional dress with cameras and cell phones, women marching together with banners declaring their demands, and women of all cultures talking and laughing together. There are portraits of delegates; Bella Abzug, an African woman, and two Chinese women. Photos of Bosnian refugees, Muslims, Filipinos, lesbians, Indians, and disabled women, among others, show demands for recognition of and solutions for problems according to each group.

"Seeing the World Through Women’s Eyes" has been on exhibit at various venues in the United States since 1995. Kathleen Karp received her B.F.A. from the Art Institute of Chicago. Her photographs have been exhibited in numerous group and one-artist shows throughout the country. She was most recently in residence at the Women’s Studio workshop in Rosendale, New York.
OCTOBER

October 22, 2003
Estelle Freedman, Stanford Professor of History
On her recent book, No Turning Back

NOVEMBER

November 5, 2003
J'nan Sellery, Affiliated Scholar
"Mr Canadian Postmodern": Robert Kroetsch’s Problematic Feminist Narrator in Badlands (1975)

November 19, 2003
Tiffany Wayne, Affiliated Scholar
Woman Thinking: Locating Women and Feminism in Intellectual History

DECEMBER

December 3, 2003
Penelope Eckert, Stanford Professor of Linguistics

December 10, 2003
Kara Gardner, Affiliated Scholar
Belly Dancing versus “Higher Womanhood:” Women and Music at the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair

STAFF NEWS

In September of 2003, Courtney Bennett joined the Institute as the Associate Director. Her responsibilities in this position include managing all of the Institute’s programs, working with the Stanford Development office to raise funds for the Institute, and creating all of the Institute’s communication materials.

Courtney earned an MSc in Social Psychology from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a PhD in Communication from the University of Pennsylvania’s Annenberg School for Communication. Prior to joining IRWG, she was a policy analyst and editor at the David and Lucile Packard Foundation in Los Altos, California. Courtney also completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at Stanford University’s Communication department, where she studied social responses to communication technologies.
NEW IRWG SCHOLARSHIP

Young Women’s Ethical Leadership Retreat

The Institute for Research on Women and Gender is partnering with the Woodhull Institute (WI) to offer a full scholarship that will enable two Stanford University students to participate in an Ethical Leadership Retreat in the Bay Area scheduled for June, 2004.

Founded in 1998 by author Naomi Wolf and journalist Margot Magowan, The Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership provides training, mentoring, and support for young women, and works to develop their potential as ethical leaders. WI’s signature program is a series of intensive, three-day retreats that bring together a thoughtfully selected group of 20 young women from diverse backgrounds to learn from such ethical leaders as civil rights activist Bernice Pulley, novelist Erica Jong, Esprit founder Susie Tompkins Buell, and Catalyst president Sheila Wellington. The retreat includes workshops on: Ethics and Leadership Development, Public Speaking, Negotiation, Financial Literacy, and Advocacy. Participants learn specific skills such as: How to write a business plan, advocate a vision, negotiate, give an effective speech, and use power ethically. After the retreats, participants become alumnae of a network that includes hundreds of leaders, mentors, and teachers.

The Institute will begin publicizing the scholarship in the Spring. More information on the Ethical Leadership Retreats is available at: http://woodhull.org.

Calendar of Institute Events

The following are events scheduled for Spring 2004.

**January**

January 20, 2004

Open House
Inaugural 30th Anniversary Lecture
Barbara Voss
Assistant Professor of Cultural and Social Anthropology “Women in Colonial California: Archaeological Discoveries at El Presidio de San Francisco”

**February**

February 11, 2004

Jing Lyman Lecture
Deborah Gordon
Professor of Biological Sciences "Ants at Work: the Organization of Social Insect Colonies"

Gold Lounge, Faculty Club

**April**

April 14, 2004

Jing Lyman Lecture
M. Elisabeth Pate-Cornell
Professor in the School of Engineering
"Leadership in Engineering"

Gold Lounge, Faculty Club

**TBD**

Spring, 2004
Date TBD
Lecture by Kathleen Hall Jamieson
Professor of Communication, and former Dean of the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania; Director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center

**Fall, 2004**

Public Meeting for Difficult Dialogues Series on “The Changing Structure of the Family”

**Fall, 2004**

Date TBD
30th Anniversary Celebration Keynote Speaker: Nannen Keohane, President of Duke University

**May**

May 12, 2004

Jing Lyman Lecture
Cliff Nass
Professor of Communication “Can Technology Have a Gender?: The Effects of Female and Male Voices on Persuasion, Voting, Attitudes, and Behaviors”

Gold Lounge, Faculty Club
THE 2004 JING LYMAN LECTURE SERIES

"Women in Science and Engineering"

February 11, 2004
Deborah Gordon
Professor of Biological Sciences, Stanford University
"ANTS AT WORK: THE ORGANIZATION OF SOCIAL INSECT COLONIES"
Gold Lounge, Faculty Club

April 14, 2004
M. Elisabeth Pate-Cornell
The Burton J. and Dee Dee McMurtry Professor in the School of Engineering, Senior Fellow at the Institute for International Studies, Stanford University
"LEADERSHIP IN ENGINEERING"
Gold Lounge, Faculty Club

May 12, 2004
Cliff Nass
Professor of Communication, and by courtesy, of Sociology, Computer Science, Stanford University
"CAN TECHNOLOGY HAVE A GENDER?: THE EFFECTS OF FEMALE AND MALE VOICES ON PERSUASION, VOTING, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIORS."
Gold Lounge, Faculty Club

All lectures are free and open to the public.
The 2004 JING LYMAN Lecture Series is held in conjunction with the WINSE (Women in the Natural Sciences and Engineering) Program.
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A special thank you to interns Tiffany Hsu and Adrienna Wong for their work on this issue of the newsletter.