

***From The Program Director. . .  
Barbara DiBernard***

The Women's Studies Program at UNL is flourishing. We are more visible than ever, more students are taking our courses and becoming majors and minors, we have continued to attract new faculty, we are adding to our curriculum, we are bringing exciting speakers to campus, and we are working with numerous groups to increase the visibility of women's issues on campus.

I have been very rewarded by the number of new Women's Studies majors and minors walking into my office in the last two semesters. Thanks to all of you who teach Women's Studies courses, who advise students into them, and to the Women's Studies Association, what our program has to offer to students' education is getting better and better known. In addition to contributing to our classes and speaking up in other classes, our students are doing internships at local agencies such as Planned Parenthood and the Rape Spouse Abuse Crisis Center, they are studying in Spain, writing honors theses, and organizing events locally that benefit us all.

This spring we will give the first "UNL Women's Studies Outstanding Achievement Award" to an undergraduate who is at least a junior and who has completed at least 12 hours of Women's Studies courses at UNL. Students may get applications at the Women's Studies Office, Andrews Hall, 337A. Applications are due on April 1, 1994.

Our office is now ably staffed by two people, Wendy Gagnon and Kristin Mapel-Bloomberg. I am very grateful for their hard work, independence, and efficiency. Both of them take on a variety of tasks with ease and good humor, even when the work is long and the time frame is short. Because of them, the office has become a hub of activity. Stop by sometime; we always have something going on.

*. . . Please turn to "Director" on page 3*

***1994 Summer Course Offerings***

**Pre-Session**

Eng 215J 20th C Women Writers--Ferguson  
Psyc 421 Psychology of Women--Sonderegger  
WS 399 Ind Study/Internship--Arranged

**First Five Week Session**

Eng 215J 20th C Women Writers--Knippling  
Soc 200 Women in Contemp Society--Sanchez  
Soc 225 Marriage & Family--Williams  
WS 399 Ind Study/Internship--Arranged

**Second Five Week Session**

Eng 215E Intro Women's Lit--Harris  
Soc 225 Marriage & Family--Staff  
WS 399 Ind Study/Internship--Arranged

UNL is one of the few universities that offers a major and minor in Women's studies. Women's Studies courses help to balance a student's education, as many courses at UNL omit or trivialize women's experiences. Students enrolled in Women's Studies courses become acquainted with other students who are interested in social questions and a progressive, feminist education.

***New Women's Studies Brochure  
Is On The Way!***

Wendy Gagnon, the Women's Studies graduate assistant, is busy working on a new brochure for the UNL Women's Studies Program. The brochure will include information about faculty, core courses, and major/minor requirements. The brochure should be ready by mid-semester.

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***A Woman's Guide to Surviving  
In The Academic World***

presented by

**Paula J. Caplan, Ph.D.**

Professor and faculty member at the Dept. of Applied Psychology at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. She is internationally known for her research and scholarly work on issues of importance in the lives of women. She is the author of:

**The Myth of Women's Masochism**

and

**Lifting a Ton of Feathers: A Woman's Guide to Surviving in the Academic World**

***Friday, March 4, 1994 at 3:00 p.m.  
Georgan Suite, Nebraska Union  
A reception will follow.***

***Women's Studies Association  
Plans a Busy Spring Semester***

The UNL Women's Studies Association has a busy schedule for Spring Semester! In addition to the No Limits conference, WSA is planning a **Shakespeare's Sister** day of celebration on Tuesday, March 8 in the Andrews Hall lounge. A women's booksale is scheduled to run concurrently with the day of reading.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to read from women's writing of all styles and all fields during the celebration, or to read from their own work. Volunteers can sign up at the Women's Studies Program office in 337A Andrews Hall or call Debra Cumberland, coordinator, at 438-5869.

This spring, the Women's Studies Association is also planning a **fact-finding mission** to investigate the status of women in academia at UNL.

WSA will work with the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women to compile statistics regarding women's representation in areas such as the student population, scholarships and financial aid to students, tenured faculty, and women's issues in the curriculum. A consciousness-raising rally is planned for the conclusion of the fact-finding project.

***No Limits Regional Student  
Conference on Women's Studies  
Set for February 25-26***

Members of the UNL Women's Studies Association have been hard at work preparing for their first No Limits student conference.

More than 40 academic presentations are scheduled for the two-day event. Panels and presentations will cover a variety of topics from alternative weddings to Edith Wharton.

Over a dozen creative performances are scheduled on Saturday, February 26. Poetry, fiction, vocal performances, slide presentations, and one act plays are all scheduled for the conference. There is no admission fee for the No Limits conference.

Poet Pat Mora will read at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 25, in the Nebraska Union where the No Limits conference will be held. Her latest book is Nepantla: Essays From the Land in the Middle (U of New Mexico P, 1993).

Volunteers are still needed to help with the No Limits conference. If you are interested, please call the Women's Studies office at 472-9392.

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***Scholarship Offered by UNL  
Women's Studies Program***

This Spring, the Women's Studies Program will grant the first \$500 "**UNL Women's Studies Outstanding Achievement Award**" to an undergraduate student who has done outstanding work in Women's Studies at UNL during the last two semesters.

Students eligible to apply for the award must have at least junior standing and have completed at least 12 hours of Women's Studies courses at UNL. "Outstanding Work" could include, but is not limited to, unpublished term papers, projects, creative works, or contributions to the Women's Studies Program or the campus community.

Students can pick up award applications from the Women's Studies office at 337A Andrews Hall, or call 472-9392. The Application deadline is April 1, 1994. The award will be presented to the student at a Women's Studies reception at the end of Spring semester.

## *From the Director. . .*

We now have an Advisory Committee which meets with me at least once a month. The current members are Linda Pratt, Moira Ferguson, Sherry Harris, Christina Brantner, Wendy Weiss, and Michelle Miller. I am very grateful to all of them; their advice and counsel has been of immense help already. Feel free to contact any of them if you have questions or issues you would like to raise.

Our Women's Studies Susan Welch speaker this semester will be Paula Caplan, professor in the Department of Applied Psychiatry at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. Her talk on March 4 at 3:00 p.m. in the Nebraska Union will be on the topic of her latest book Lifting a Ton of Feathers: A Woman's Guide to Surviving in the Academic World. People who have read the book have found it very helpful, whether they are graduate students, faculty members, or administrators. Please join us for this important event.

Please remember the Women's Studies Association No Limits conference, scheduled for February 25-26 on our campus. The conference planning committee has done an outstanding job of putting together a rich, diverse program. I hope everyone will take time to attend as much of the conference as you can, and urge students to go as well.

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## *Upcoming Speakers at UNL*

**February 25 "Cultural Heritage: A Right Not A Trend."** Pat Mora, a prize-winning poet, essayist, and author of children's books, will share her insights on bilingualism, education, women, higher education, and family life.

**March 7 "Health Care Communication and AIDS."** Samuel Delany, an award-winning African-American science fiction writer, will speak on gay and lesbian issues, especially regarding the problems created by the gap between professional and street talk about safe sex and AIDS.

### **March 9 "Empowerment"**

Susan Sygall, founder and executive director of Mobility International, will address the topic of empowerment, with a focus on issues of particular relevance to women and people with disabilities.

**April 4 "Environmental Lessons in Privilege and Poverty."** Sharon Sutton, a Dr. of Psychology, architect, and urban planner, will use her address to show the lessons children learn

Next week I will be meeting with a group of people to discuss possible candidates for Master's Week next year. Some of you may remember that there were no women among those who came for Master's Week this year. If you know of an alumna you would like to nominate, please let me know. The visitors interact primarily with undergraduates in their field, so this is an excellent opportunity for our students to meet women who have achieved success in various ways.

We will soon be moving into a discussion of a Vision Statement for Women's Studies. This is part of a University planning process. It seems clear that the unit plans, such as ours, are important and may be the basis of future reallocation decisions. When you get drafts of the vision statement, I hope you will look them over carefully, give suggestions, and be willing to come to meetings where we will refine them.

I appreciate all the physical and emotional support you have given me over the last year and a half. Although I have often felt unequal to the task of being director, you have kept me going and given me ways to do what has to be done next. Thank you very much. We have a good program. We accomplish much with few resources. We should all be proud of ourselves. --Barbara

*Don't Miss the  
WOMEN & WORDS Film Series  
At the Ross Film Theater  
Ongoing Through April 16!  
Thursdays at 12 noon.  
Fridays at 3 p.m.  
Saturdays at 11 a.m.  
no admission charge*

through their encounters with physical and social environments and to demonstrate ways to make these encounters more positive by actively engaging children in learning about and improving their community.

These programs are free and open to all UNL students and faculty. All of the programs will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. Check the Union's posted schedule the day of the event for the correct room number.



**Women's Studies Program**  
**337C Andrews Hall**  
**University of Nebraska-Lincoln**  
**Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0303**

## ***Women's Studies Faculty***

Art & Art History Shelly Fuller, Christin Mamiya.

Biological Sciences Margaret Bolick.

Economics Ann Mari May.

English Linda Pratt, Barbara DiBernard, Moira Ferguson, Sharon Harris, Maureen Honey, Joy Ritchie, Susan Rosowski.

History Esther Cope, Ann Kleimola.

University Libraries Eva Martin Sartori.

Modern Languages and Literatures Christina Brantner, Adelaida Martinez.

Psychology Theo Brown Sonderegger.

Sociology Helen Moore, Mary Jo Deegan, Jennifer Lehmann, Laura Sanchez.

Textiles, Clothing & Design Wendy Weiss.

### Women's Studies Adjunct Faculty Members

Alpana Sharma Knippling, Kate Ronald, Sandra Spanier, Department of English; Hilda Raz, Department of English & Prairie Schooner Editor.

### Women's Studies Advisory Committee:

Linda Pratt, Moira Ferguson, Sherry Harris, Christina Brantner, Wendy Weiss, Michelle Miller. Barbara DiBernard, Chair.

The Women's Studies newsletter is published during the academic year by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Women's Studies Program. If you have suggestions for future articles, or if you would like to submit an article for the newsletter, please contact Barbara DiBernard, Women's Studies Program Director, 337C Andrews Hall, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68588-0303. Or call 402-472-9392.

Women's Studies Staff: Barbara DiBernard, Director. Wendy Gagnon, Graduate Assistant. Kristin Mapel-Bloomberg, Secretary. Laura Sanchez, Women's Studies Association Faculty Advisor.

### **Women's Studies Spring Office Hours:**

**Monday: 12:00-5:00**

**Tuesday: 11:00-1:00 & 2:00-5:00**

**Wednesday: 10:00-4:00**

**Thursday: 1:00-5:00**

**Friday: 11:00-2:00**

**Barbara DiBernard, Program Director:**

**Office Hours are T & Th 11:00-12:30  
and Th 8:00-9:00 a.m.**

Newsletter Editor: Kristin Mapel-Bloomberg