Jean Fagan Yellin, Chrystos: Two of Many Distinguished Women's Studies Speakers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln this Spring

Spring Semester 1995 will be an exciting semester for the Women's Studies Program, as two distinguished speakers are scheduled to present lectures and meet with UNL students.

Jean Fagan Yellin, Distinguished Professor from Pace University will lecture at UNL on Thursday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Nebraska Union.

Yellin is the author of many scholarly works on African-American history is most known as the editor of Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs. Her work also includes Women and Sisters: The Anti-Slavery Feminists in Nineteenth Century American Culture.

Chrystos, a First Nations Poet and a member of the Menominee Nation will read her poetry at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 7 at UNL. The location of her reading will be announced at a later date.

Chrystos's collections of poetry include Not Vanishing (1988), Dream On (1991), In Her I Am (1993), and Fugitive Colors (forthcoming). Her work has been anthologized in more than 15 major collections including This Bridge Called My Back (1981), Living the Spirit: A Gay American Indian Anthology (1988), and Returning the Gift: Poetry and Prose from the First North American Native Writers Festival (1994).

In addition to writing poetry, Chrystos travels extensively doing readings and political speeches for queer rights, First Nations land and treaties rights, and prisoner rights.

Several other Women's Studies poets and scholars are scheduled to speak at UNL during Spring semester 1995, including Poets Carol Oles and Jacqueline Osherow.

In February, feminist filmmaker Pratibha Parmar will lecture in conjunction to the showing of her films at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. Her films to be shown are "A Place of Rage" featuring June Jordan, Alice Walker, and Angela Davis; and "Warrior Marks." Parmar co-authored the book of the same name with Alice Walker.

Parmar is scheduled to speak at UNL on Tuesday, February 21. The time and location of her talk will be announced at a later date. Contact the Ross Theater for detailed schedules of film showing dates and times at 472-5353.

For more information on any of these events, contact the Women's Studies Program at 472-9392.

From the Program Director
Barbara DiBernard

As you can see from this newsletter, the Women's Studies Program at UNL is flourishing. We are growing in numbers of faculty and students, sponsoring important activities and programs, and supporting the Women's Studies Association in its efforts.

For the first time, we have a Women's Studies Development Fund through the NU Foundation, so that those of you who want to support the program financially can do so. You will find more information on this elsewhere in the newsletter.

Other noteworthy events are the WSA No Limits Conference on March 3 and 4, a speech by Professor Jean Fagan Yellin on March 9, and a poetry reading by First Nations poet Chrystos on April 7.

I hope that you will want to involve yourself in Women's Studies at UNL in some way, whether it be taking courses, attending programs, or contributing financially.
No Limits

1995 Graduate Student Conference on Women's Studies
"Reclaiming Women's Voices"

The UNL Women's Studies Association is at it again! No Limits 1995 is bigger and better than ever. The conference, scheduled for Friday and Saturday 3-4 March has accepted papers and creative presentations from more than 70 Women's Studies aficionados from more than 10 states.

Two full days of poetry, fiction, and creative presentations are scheduled, along with workshops on women and collaboration, women and families, and women and writing.

Running concurrently are a variety of academic presentations which include papers on women's history, women's literature, and women's art.

Laureen Reidesel, Head Librarian for the Beatrice Public Library will be the keynote speaker at 4:00 p.m. on Friday. Her lecture is entitled "Clues to Clara: The Rediscovery of Local Women's History."

While researching the origins of the Beatrice Public Library, Reidesel came across a footnote naming Clara Colby as the founder of the Library. With further research, Reidesel found that Colby made significant contributions to the Woman's Suffrage Movement. Reidesel's lecture illustrates why women need to be "rediscovered" and recognized as a significant part of local history.

The exhibit "Clara Colby--Up From the Footnotes" will be available for viewing during the conference.

Thelma Ross Spring Semester Intern for Women's Studies Program

Thelma Ross, a Women's Studies senior, has begun her internship with the Women's Studies Program. Her internship will run throughout the semester.

As a Women's Studies Intern, Ross will work on several special projects. Her first project is to purchase video equipment funded by an Instructional Equipment Grant awarded to Women's Studies by the University. After purchasing the video, Ross will train volunteers to use it, and she plans to begin videotaping guest speakers sponsored by Women's Studies. These videos will then be added to the existing video collection. Ross also plans to begin work on the creation of a Women's Studies alumni newsletter. She plans to track down UNL Women's Studies Program graduates in an effort to raise funds for use by the Program to bring in speakers and to buy resources.

Ross also plans to develop an archives system to be used by the Women's Studies Program. The Program has a large amount of material that can be used by faculty and students once it becomes accessible.

Welcome Thelma!

Scholarship Offered by UNL Women's Studies Program

This Spring, the Women's Studies Program will grant the second annual $500 University of Nebraska-Lincoln 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.

In 1994, the Outstanding Achievement Award was granted to Women's Studies major Thelma Ross for her project which was a research paper entitled "The Choice to be Child Free." Ross was the first recipient of this award.

Students can pick up award applications from the Women's Studies Office at 337A Andrews Hall, or call 402-472-9392. The Application deadline is March 15, 1995. The award will be presented to the student at a Women's Studies reception at the end of Spring semester.
Spring Semester Calendar of Events

Thursday, Feb. 2: "Reflections on Los Angeles: Ana Deavere Smith." Radio show. Smith's exploration of the human soul, as defined by her recent 90-minute theatre work "Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992," based on reaction to the Rodney King verdict and ensuing events. KUCV 90.0 FM, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 2: Lois Hjelmstad, author of Fine Black Lines will speak about her own experience with breast cancer; she's had two mastectomies. 7:30 p.m. Nebraska Union. Free.

Monday, Feb. 6: "The Margaret Cammermeyer Story." NBC TV movie. Check local listings.

Tuesday, Feb. 7: "Feminism and Family Studies: Defining Progress." Alexis Walker, Professor of Human Development at Oregon State University and President of the National Council on Family Relations. Her scholarly work integrates feminism, gender and the family. Walker's talk is at 12:30 p.m. in 707 Oldfather Hall. An informal discussion regarding her talk is scheduled at 3:30 in Oldfather Hall 707. Free and open to all.

Monday, Feb. 13: Gladys Vaughn, Director of Development, Research and Public Affairs for the American Home Economics Association. Her interactive lecture is titled "Insuring Self Sufficiency for the Family in the Future." 9:00 a.m. at the East Campus Union. Vaughn is an outspoken advocate on numerous social issues related to family and racial issues, in particular related to the experience of the African-American family. Sponsored by the College of Fine & Performing Arts and the Office of Affirmative Action & Diversity Programs. Her lecture will be repeated Tuesday, Feb. 14, 3:30 p.m. at the UNL Wick Alumni Center. Both lectures are free and open to all.

Tuesday, Feb. 14: Celebration of 75 years of Women's Suffrage in the U.S. Luncheon at noon, Cornhusker Hotel, followed by a performance of Elizabeth Cady Stanton by Sally Roesch Wagner. The cost for this event is $25. Send check to LWVNE, Haymarket Square, Suite 207, 808 P Street, Lincoln, NE, 68508. Deadline is Feb. 6. Contact Deanna First at 402-572-1626 for more information or with questions regarding this event.

Wednesday, Feb 15: "Barbara Jordan, A Profile of Strength." Radio profile of the first African-American elected to the Texas House of Representatives. KUCV 90.0 FM, 10:05 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 16-Sunday, Feb. 19: The films of Pratibha Parmar at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. Thursday and Friday at 7 and 9 p.m.; Saturday at 1, 3, and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday at 3, 7, 9 p.m. Parmar is scheduled to be at the Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon showings. Her films include "A Place of Rage" featuring June Jordan, Alice Walker, and Angela Davis; and "Warrior Marks" (Parmar co-authored the book of the same name with Alice Walker). Contact the Ross Theater for detailed schedules and ticket prices at 472-5353.

Wednesday, Feb. 21: Pratibha Parmar will lecture at UNL. Contact the Women's Studies Program at 472-9392 for details. Free and open to all.

Tuesday, Feb. 28: Dolores Atencio, "Minority Students in the USA--An Overview of History and Progress." 3:30 p.m. at the UNL Wick Alumni Center. Atencio has dedicated her life to change and to the advancement of the Latino community. She was the first and only woman president of the Hispanic National Bar Association and has worked in the Colorado Attorney General's Office. Sponsored by the College of Fine & Performing Arts and the Affirmative Action & Diversity Programs. Free and open to all.

Friday, Mar. 3 & Saturday, Mar. 4: UNL Women's Studies Association Conference, "No Limits: Reclaiming Women's Voices." Research papers from many different scholarly areas, in addition to creative performances are scheduled from more than 70 participants from across the Midwest. The conference is free and open to all University students and faculty, and to the public. Contact the Women's Studies Program at 472-9392 for an advance copy of the schedule or for more information.
Friday, Mar. 3: Laureen Reidesel, Keynote Speaker for WSA Conference. “Clues to Clara: The Rediscovery of Local Women’s History.” Reidesel will lecture on her project of writing one woman suffragist back into history. 4:00 p.m., Nebraska Union. Free and open to all.

Wednesday, Mar. 8: Shakespeare’s Sister Day & International Women’s Day Celebration. Reading of Women’s Works and Words. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Andrews Hall lounge. Sign up to read or come listen part or all of the day. Call 472-9392 for more information.

Thursday, Mar. 9: Jean Fagan Yellin, Distinguished Professor from Pace University. Editor of Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs, and author of Women and Sisters: The Anti-Slavery Feminists in Nineteenth Century American Culture. Yellin will lecture at 7:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

Friday, Mar. 24: Symposium on Women’s Health in Lincoln. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes, author of Women Who Run With the Wolves. For more information contact the Nebraska Women’s Political Network at 471-2039. There is a cost for this event.


Friday, Apr. 7: Chrystos, member of the Menominee Nation will read her poetry at 7:30 p.m. Place to be announced. Contact the Women’s Studies Program for more information.

Monday, Apr. 10: Peggy Myo-Young Choy, “An Asian American Perspective on Learning and Creating Dance.” 3:30 p.m. at the Lied Center for Performing Arts Carson Theater. Choy, a Korean-American dancer and choreographer, has studied ballet, modern, flamenco, and Korean dance. Her presentation will focus on the special teaching/learning style she experienced in studying Javanese and Korean dances and on the unique form of dance that she is developing which expresses her identity as an Asian-American woman. Sponsored by the College of Fine & Performing Arts and the Affirmative Action & Diversity Programs. Free and open to all.

Friday, Apr. 14: Naomi Lacy and Lynn White, "Early Home Leaving--Does it Matter?" Family Study Group Colloquium, 12:30-1:20, 707 Oldfather Hall. Free and open to all.

Lincoln N.O.W. Wants You!
Would you like to have a greater voice in issues that affect women in our community? Lincoln NOW needs committed women & men to help shape our chapter. A regular NOW membership is $35, a sliding fee is available from $10 to $34. To get involved, call the NOW hotline at 477-1226 or write to Lincoln NOW, P.O. Box 80172, Lincoln, NE 68501.

Empowerments! Now Open
Kim Ryan, a Lincoln Feminist, has opened a Women’s Bookstore named Empowerments at 1627 South 17th Street, Lincoln. New and used books are for sale, along with women’s specialty books, jewelry, pottery, cards, and other craft items.

Nebraska artists Laura Northern and Flora Kirk have their work for sale at Empowerments. As Ryan builds her inventory, essential oils, women’s music, and herbal tea will be available starting in February. Later this spring, the bookstore will provide a meeting room for local and national women artists to show their work, do readings, and perform creative works.

Look for Ryan’s Empowerments informational and sale table at the No Limits Regional Conference on Women's Studies March 3-4.
Women's Studies Development Fund Established at Foundation

The University of Nebraska Women's Studies Program has had a development fund established at the University Foundation. Barbara DiBernard, Women's Studies Program Director, is also the Administrator of the Fund.

Established in the fall of 1994, the Development Fund has been set up to receive donations to the Women's Studies Program. The Fund will not pay for general operating expenses; instead, it will supplement funds for visiting speakers and Women's Studies activities, provide travel grants for Women's Studies students and faculty, house seed money for long-range projects, and be available for special projects and equipment purchases.

Donations of any size are accepted from anyone. Faculty, students, and alumni are encouraged to donate to the Fund. Send donations to Women's Studies Development Fund, University of Nebraska Foundation, 1111 Lincoln Mall, Suite 200, 68588-0650.

Because the University Foundation's system does not allow it to produce reports of donations to specific funds, the Women's Studies Program is asking that donors send notification of their contribution to Barbara DiBernard, Women's Studies Program Director. This will allow her to properly acknowledge donors.

Send donation acknowledgment to Barbara DiBernard, Women's Studies Program, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 337 Andrews Hall, 68588-0303.

Theo Vera Brown Sonderegger Announces Her Retirement from

After teaching with the Department of Psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Theo Sonderegger has announced her retirement in December of 1994. Sonderegger has contributed to the institution and its people in an exceptional way, through her teaching, research, and service.

Sonderegger was instrumental in the development and sustenance of the UNL interdisciplinary Women's Studies Program. Through her dedication and hard work, the program was able to sustain itself through its first decade with no institutionalized funding.

She developed, had approved, and taught the only Psychology course in Women's Studies for many years, until her retirement. This course is one of the core courses for Women's Studies majors and minors. It has an excellent reputation among undergraduate and graduate students. To ensure the continuance of this special educational opportunity, Sonderegger has conscientiously mentored another faculty member to teach the course after her retirement.

In addition to her work on the Women's Studies Program, Sonderegger has also been a member of the Chancellor's Council on Aging and the Chancellor's Steering Committee on Gerontology, helping to develop an interdisciplinary program in Gerontology at UNL.

Sonderegger's teaching and mentoring has been done with an emphasis on women students. She began a discussion and support group for women in Psychology which eventually expanded to include all women at UNL, and women at other local colleges as well. She has mentored new women faculty in Psychology, and has consistently encouraged and supported the research of graduate students.

Sonderegger's commitment to education is reflected not only in her teaching, but also in her research. Her research on the psychology of women, aging, and neurobehavioral toxicology are recognized nationally. She has also integrated her research and public policy, testifying for Congress on the dangers of prenatal drug and alcohol abuse.

We will miss you Theo! Best wishes in retirement!
Women's Studies Faculty

Art & Art History: Shelly Fuller, Christin Mamiya, Allison Stewart.
Biological Sciences: Margaret Bolick.
Economics: Ann Mari May.
English: Barbara DiBernard, Moira Ferguson, Sharon Harris, Maureen Honey, Linda Pratt, Joy Ritchie, Kate Ronald, Susan Rosowski.
History: Esther Cope, Ann Kleimola.
University Libraries: Eva Martin Sartori.
Modern Languages & Literatures: Christina Brantner, Adelaida Martinez.

Psychology: Theo Brown Sonderegger.
Sociology: Mary Jo Deegan, Jennifer Lehmann, Helen Moore, Laura Sanchez.
Women's Studies Adjunct Faculty Members:
Alpana Sharma Knippling, Kate Ronald, Sandra Spanier, Department of English; Hilda Raz, Department of English and Editor, Prairie Schooner.
Women's Studies Advisory Committee:
Linda Pratt, Moira Ferguson, Sharon Harris, Christina Brantner, Christin Mamiya, Michelle Miller. Barbara DiBernard, Chair.

The Women's Studies Newsletter is published intermittently 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 or an announcement 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.

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Linda Pratt, Moira Ferguson, Sharon Harris, Christina Brantner, Christin Mamiya, Michelle Miller. Barbara DiBernard, Chair.

Women's Studies Spring Office Hours

Monday: 11:00-3:00
Tuesday: 9:00-1:00
Wednesday: 9:00-1:00
Thursday: 11:00-3:00
Friday: 9:00-3:00

Barbara DiBernard, Program Director:
Office Hours are TTh 10:45-11:45;
Th 1:30-3:30; also by appointment.