Comments on the "logo" are solicited from the members.

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS

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NEWSLETTER

Vol. II, No. 3
May, 1972

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 4TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE WEST COAST ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN HISTORIANS

April 28-30, 1972

Villa Juara del L A

The Santa Cruz meeting was a lively affair. A large and enthusiastic group of women historians gathered to exchange ideas, to hear reports on members' research, and to conduct the business of the Association. Here are some of the achievements.

BY-LAWS: Paula Eldot, Sacramento State College, drafted a set of By-laws for the Association. In the business meeting the members added to, amended and adopted them. A copy of the By-laws accompanies the Newsletter. Our thanks to Paula Eldot for her work.

RESEARCH REPORTS: Several informal reports on individual research were given. Among these was a slide presentation by Sue Bell, University of Santa Clara, who explored the ways in which artists portrayed women during the long course of Western Civilization. Peggy Goodart, Sacramento State College, discussed birth control in the Oneida community. Bogna Lorence, U.C. Berkeley, contributed some ideas she has acquired in research on 16th and 19th century children in England, France and Poland. Ruth Von Behren, Sacramento State College, (who is replacing Mary Jane Hamilton for her sabbatical year) presented her interpretation of Catherine of Siena.

[Each of these reports prompted lively discussion. By correspondence indicates a general desire for more of this activity at future Conferences.]

ELECTIONS: Two new officers of the Association were elected to two-year terms. Our thanks to the membership for their confidence in us and their promised support.

COMMITTEES: The Association created and staffed — in part — a group of standing committees. These committees are listed in the By-Laws. Volunteers from among the membership are encouraged. One session for Committee meetings will be arranged for the next Conference.
OTHER REPORTS: The Conference was informed of activity on a variety of matters of concern to women historians. Karen Offen reported on the work of the Coordinating Committee on Women in the Historical Professions (COHAP). Dorothy Sexton discussed the activities of the AHA Committee on Women, and the general topic of organized women's groups on her campus at Sacramento State College. Lucille Birnbaum made a progress report on the status of the MEM suit against U.C. Berkeley. Several women made announcements concerning the development and status of women's Studies Programs developing in Western Colleges and Universities. Written reports on some of these activities occur elsewhere in the Newsletter.

The Conference also discussed and made decisions about the following items:

THE 5TH ANNUAL MCAUH CONFERENCE will be held in late April or early May at the Immaculate Heart Conference Center in Montecito, California. (It's near Santa Barbara.) Joyce Baker, U.C.S.B., is Coordinator of Local Arrangements. More information about this meeting will appear in the Winter and Spring editions of the Newsletter.

A DIRECTORY OF WOMEN HISTORIANS IN THE AES was agreed upon by the members. Dr. S. Joan Hoon, our new Secretary-Treasurer, will coordinate data. A report on the purpose and scope of the DIRECTORY appears below. A form for members accompanies this Newsletter.

THE NEW ORLEANS MEETING at THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, December, 1972, will have as a special feature a jointly-sponsored event for women. Communications have been made with several regional and national groups to co-sponsor a gathering. More data will appear in the Winter Newsletter.

THE MCAUH will HOST a BREAKFAST at the August, 1972, meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch in Santa Barbara. Further information will reach interested members in a special August mailing. If you intend to be at the PEB meeting and will not receive mail at your regular address in early August, please inform the Secretary-Treasurer, where you may be reached.

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NEWS ITEMS:

For anyone who missed it, the January issue of the AHA Newsletter includes a report on the various associations of women historians.

The AHA will hold its 1973 Annual Meeting in San Francisco. The Program Director for that meeting is Wayne Vucinich of Stanford. MCAUH member Kathy Larson, St. Mary's College, is on the program committee for that meeting. Women are encouraged to send proposals for papers and panels to Vucinich or Larson by February, 1973.

A catalog to the Sophia Smith Collection -- a major research collection on the Intellectual and Social History of Women (especially in the 19th century) is now available. Write for information to the Sophia Smith Collection, Smith College, Northampton, Mass.

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MEMBERSHIP

We encourage you to continue to recruit members for the WCAWH. The Conference agreed to continue the dues at $2.00 per year and to consider the academic year (September to September) as the dues year. If you know women historians who don't yet belong -- if you are a woman historian who does not yet belong -- to the WCAWH, encourage them or yourself to send the attached membership form and $2.00 to Joan Koon, our Secretary-Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP FORM:

NAME __________________________________________ COLLEGE AFFILIATION __________________________

ADDRESS __________________________________________

NEWS ITEMS: __________________________________________

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RESEARCH AND GRANTS

The Conference requested that the Newsletter undertake to advise the membership of news of Foundation support for scholarships. To date we have uncovered these:

NEH Senior Fellowships (1973/74). The deadline for applications for these grants is June 19, 1972. Grantees are normally those who already have publications. NEH also offers Fellowships for Younger Humanists and Fellowships for Junior College Teachers. For more information and application deadlines write:

Division of Fellowships
National Endowment for the Humanities
806 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Committee on International Exchange of Persons (Fulbright). The deadline for applications for these grants is July 1, 1972. If you write for information on these awards (and they go to scholars in all fields) you will be put on their mailing list and regularly advised of these grants. For information write:

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF PERSONS
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20418

Barbara Dubins, San Jose State University, and Rena Vassar, California State University, Northridge, are compiling a bulletin of scholarships, fellowships and grants which will appear in the Fall Newsletter. Watch for it.
NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS

Dorothy Sexter, past-president of the AHA and currently a member of the Committee on Women, will have her survey on the status of women in the historical profession in Western colleges and universities published in the Fall issue of the AHA Newsletter.

Judith Ginsburg, a graduate student at U.C.B., has been awarded a Regents Scholarship for the academic year 1972/3 to continue her doctoral work in Ancient History.

Dr. Lois Weinman, California State University, Long Beach, will have her doctoral dissertation El Ecuador y Cacao published by the Junta Civica de Guayaquil in December, 1972.

PLEASE SEND ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO THE PRESIDENTS!

"History is the foundation of all intelligence. We must seek her from the first and embrace her. We cannot, without her, successfully pass on to other knowledge."

Christian of St.avelct,
Dedictory Epistle to the
Commentary on Matthew (9th century)

WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAMS

One of the hottest new programs being developed is in the area of Women's Studies. At least three California State Universities -- San Diego, San Francisco, and Sacramento -- have now developed dynamic programs in this field. San Diego enjoys the honor of creating the first autonomous program to offer a full selection of courses on the status of women. The program emphasizes consciousness-raising, class participation and substantive material. It is directed by a board of women consisting of the faculty and staff of Women's Studies and ten student representatives elected by women students in the Women's Studies classes. The board is responsible for publicity, finances, hiring and curriculum. Liaison with the administration is through a Faculty Advisory Board of five tenured faculty chosen by the Women's Studies Board, with the approval of the Dean of the College of Arts and Letters. Both a major and minor still lie in the future. Courses include the sociology of women, history of women, psychology of women, etc. Faculty includes Nancy Hollander, Barbara Kessel, Judy Taylor, and Elsie Adams.
San Francisco has developed an **Advisory Committee on Women's Studies** of over a dozen people who offer courses focusing on women. The Committee is to serve as a coordinator, expeditor and information center for present and future women's courses. A Social Science major with a "focus on women" theme is available for students who desire it. Such a major crosses boundaries in the social and behavioral sciences. Courses include Latin America, Women as a Social Force, Women: Her Search for Identity, etc. Faculty includes Beatrice Bain, Laria Dominguez, Kay Lawson, Laria von Bolschwing.

Sacramento has just recently won its battle for a **Women's Studies Minor**. The minor includes courses in the **Women's Studies Program**, as well as departmental offerings in anthropology, education, English, history, government, etc. The guiding body of the program is the **Women's Studies Board**, which consists of three elected faculty having one vote, and three elected students having three votes. This Board controls policies and allocates funds and positions. The purpose of the program is to develop a field of study directly related to the academic, cultural and psychological needs and interests of women in contemporary society. The next steps are to secure a coordinate major in conjunction with departments, and, finally, to establish a major in Women's Studies. Courses include Introduction to the Women's Movement, Women in Politics, History of Women in the Middle Ages, etc. Faculty includes Earline Ames, Kirsten Amundsen, Alberta Curley, Mary Jane Hamilton, Maria Hicks, Sue-Ellen Jacobs, Louise Kanter, et al.

The above descriptions can by no means more than touch upon the time, trouble and agony which went into the development of these courses in the face of administrative antipathy and/or antagonism. We congratulate the women involved in the development of these programs.

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**DIRECTORY OF WOMEN HISTORIANS**

**AHA** has decided to compile its own directory of women historians in the Western states. While this to some extent duplicates the efforts of the **AHA**, we believe it to be well worth the time and effort. Our officers have heard in the past, and are presently hearing, of positions (both academic and administrative) along the West Coast. We expect to hear more as **Affirmative Action Programs** get under way. Often these jobs must be filled very quickly, and with our new directory, we can immediately make suggestions. However, as it would not be feasible to send out bulletins on these positions, it is of the utmost importance that members fill out the enclosed form and return it to Dorothy Sexter. As the positions come in, she will consult these files and notify anyone who might qualify to write directly to the institution concerned. Please mention the **AHA** as your referral. Positions still available at the present time are described below:

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE:**

5/17/72 Position in **Afro-American History**, prefer person of ethnic origin, Ph.D. or M.A., plus work towards Ph.D., rank and salary open. Write...

Dr. Barry Rothaus, Chairman
Department of History
University of Northern Colorado
Greeley, Colorado 80631
At the recent annual conference of the West Coast Association of Women Historians, there was a great deal of interest in **Affirmative Action** programs on the college and university level. Affirmative Action is based on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and two Executive Orders, which forbid discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, national origins and sex. These Executive Orders require employers of 50 or more persons, who are Federal contractors, to develop employment policies which are non-discriminatory on the basis of sex and minority status. Therefore, if your institution has my Federal contracts, it undoubtedly has a program of Affirmative Action, although it is possible that the program has not been given any publicity. Nevertheless, it is there, and must be made available if asked for.

The **Affirmative Action** program at Sacramento State College is probably as strong a program as one could hope for. Nevertheless, the program, which has achieved some positive results, has also received a recent set-back. The program came about when the President ordered a moratorium on hiring until guidelines could be developed. A college-wide committee was appointed, followed by the appointment of committees.
in each of the schools and divisions of the college. In addition, each department was asked to develop guidelines which would have to be approved before any hiring could take place on the departmental level.

The purpose of the program is to promote the hiring of minority group members and women to achieve a more balanced representation between the college and the community it serves. To assist in overcoming the underutilization of minorities and women, the Affirmative action committees are attempting to develop a search strategy for potential candidates.

As part of the program, minorities were defined and the most numerically significant minority groups in the community were identified, in order to allow both horizontal and vertical representativeness. Goals were therefore set for representatives of ethnic minorities (American Indian, Black, Asian-American, Chicanos), and for representatives of women. The latter goal is 50%, which is undoubtedly visionary, but nevertheless should serve to promote the hiring of women. Vertical representativeness is based on the proportion of upper and lower ranks within a discipline, is more difficult to achieve, and in the California State Universities and Colleges, at least, is dependent upon a 60/40 formula mandated by Title V of the Higher Education Act.

Problems which had to be faced, in addition to developing goals, included the following: recruitment (how and where), definition of qualifiable and of qualified, what to do about unfilled positions.

The School of Arts and Sciences Committee also dealt with the problem presented by part-time and temporary positions, and of sensitivity to the needs of ethnic minorities and of women. People filling temporary appointments were to receive first preference in hiring. As a consequence, several women on one-year appointments will receive permanent positions. Those teaching part-time are to receive preference, which has brought about the consolidation of units by some departments to create full-time positions, filled on affirmative Action principles. The Ethnic Studies Board is invited to interview ethnic candidates; the newly-created Women's Studies Board interviews women candidates. Both Boards have also been asked to interview all candidates for certain administrative positions.

The Affirmative action program has created something of a furor on campus, bringing forth unfounded charges that no white males will ever again be hired, that interviews by the Women's Studies Board and Ethnic Studies Board are in fact a political test, etc. Moreover, the insertion of the qualified/qualifiable principle, has brought forth the charge, again without any basis in fact, that women and minorities who are not qualified will be hired. While much antagonism has been generated because of the program, it has nevertheless served a worthwhile purpose, in that everyone on the faculty is aware that there has been discriminatory hiring in the past and that many members of the faculty are sufficiently alert to this situation to keep watch that it is not repeated. Consideration must be given to both women and minority candidates, and a significant number of the few new positions allocated to the college have been set aside for Affirmative action hiring.
Recently, a white male member of the faculty challenged the affirmative action of the School of Arts and Sciences by calling for a referendum of the faculty of the School. Needless to say, he had little difficulty in obtaining the signatures of 1% of the School, and when the referendum was held, the School program was badly defeated. Nevertheless, the college-wide committee, which cannot be challenged by referendum, has simply adopted those parts of the School program not already included in its own guidelines. We are therefore operating with departmental and college-wide programs. Results will not be really measurable for several years, but in spite of the setback, I believe that there will be a better-balanced faculty at California State University, Sacramento.

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REPORT OF THE AHA COMMITTEE ON WOMEN

Dorothy A. Sexter
Member of the Committee

Dr. Dorothy Ross has just completed her tenure as the first assistant to the Committee and has done an outstanding job. Her duties included developing contact with the people most active in improving the status of professional women; preparation of a roster of women historians, which now number 1400; the means of getting the roster in operation quickly; creation of a coding system for the roster; acting as liaison with the various groups of women historians, including the Open Forum at the annual meeting of the AHA; coordinating the drafting of a proposal for funds to be obtained from the National Foundation for the Humanities for a guide to the manuscript sources in women's history. In addition, Dr. Ross answered numerous requests for women historians who might be available for positions in History and in administration. A small proportion of her time was spent on grievances.

The AHA Council has agreed to fund the position of special assistant for another year, although half the duties will be filled by someone currently on the staff of the AHA; the other half to be filled by a woman historian to be hired by the Committee on Women.

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REMINDER FOR THOSE GOING ABROAD THIS SUMMER:

The University of London, Institute of Historical Research, will host the Anglo-America Conference of Historians from July 4-7, 1972. If you have the opportunity to attend and want more information, write:

The Secretary
Institute of Historical Research
University of London
Senate House
London, WC1E 7HU England
EDITORIAL COMMENT

Putting out a Newsletter is a sobering experience. I am extremely grateful for the help I have received from many members in getting this first edition into print and into the mail.

I think I speak for us all: The Conference at Villa Maria del Mar was a great success. There is no adequate way to thank Dorothy Sexter for her leadership of the Association — and the annual meeting — but I can say that until I stepped into her shoes I did not know how much she did, or how well she did it. I know now. Thank you, Dorothy,

I will ask all of you to take time from your busy lives and responsibilities to keep me informed about your big and little triumphs, and to feel free to advise me, to offer suggestions about the Newsletter and the Annual Conference. Joan and I have mailing lists and will gladly send to you, at your request, names and addresses of other members you may wish to reach.

Have a GREAT SUMMER!
WEST COAST ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN HISTORIANS

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I:
The name of this organization shall be the West Coast Association of Women Historians.

ARTICLE II:
Its objects shall be encouragement of women in the historical profession, improving the status of women historians, and the promotion of historical research and teaching.

ARTICLE III:
Membership shall be open to any person interested in the objects of this Association as enumerated in Article II. Dues shall be payable once a year at the beginning of the academic year. A member in good standing shall be defined as a person who has applied for membership and who is not in arrears on the payment of dues. Only a member in good standing may vote and hold office.

ARTICLE IV:
Section 1. The officers shall be a President and a Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected for a two-year term. They shall cooperate in fulfilling such duties and performing such functions as are customarily carried out by the officers of a scholarly organization.

Section 3. Candidates for both offices shall be elected by secret ballot at the annual meeting. In the event that no candidate receives a majority vote, the nominees shall be submitted to a majority vote of the members in good standing. The candidate for each office who receives a majority of the ballots cast shall be elected. If no candidate receives such a majority, there shall be a runoff election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Section 4. If the office of the President shall become vacant, the Secretary-Treasurer shall become President and shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer to serve until the next annual meeting at which time the procedures described in Section 3 shall be used to fill the vacancy. If the office of Secretary-Treasurer shall become vacant, the President shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer as described in the foregoing sentence.

ARTICLE V:
Section 1. The officers shall arrange the annual meeting.
Section 2. The program for the annual meeting shall include reports and discussions on the status of women in the historical profession, the scholarly work of the members, the teaching of history, women's history, and such other matters as the members consider relevant to the objects of the organization.

Section 3. The annual meeting shall include a business meeting. Any decision or resolution adopted at the business meeting may be challenged by 25% of the members present and such contested decision or resolution shall be submitted to the members in good standing by a mail ballot and shall take effect only if approved by a majority of the ballots cast.

Section 4. The Association shall arrange a gathering for women in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association.

Section 5. The Association shall, in cooperation with other women's historical organizations, arrange a gathering of women in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Historical Association and of any other historical organization when appropriate.

ARTICLE VI:

When formal procedures are necessary, the rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the society in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this Association.

ARTICLE VII:

Section 1. The Association shall have the following standing committees:

3) Placement Committee
b) Current Issues Committee
c) Women's Studies Committee
d) Annual Meeting Committee
e) Program Committee
f) Research and Grants Committee
g) Legal Affairs Committee

Section 2. The Association officers shall appoint ad hoc committees as necessary.

ARTICLE VIII:

Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed at the annual business meeting. If a majority of members in good standing who are present concur, the proposed amendment shall be submitted to members in good standing on a mail ballot. An amendment shall take effect if approved by a majority of the membership.