

# NETWORKER

A publication of the Claremont Graduate Collective · Claremont, California

Volume XXV Number 3

Winter 1998

## President's Column

By Sarah Stage  
Arizona State University

Holiday Greetings to one and all. It's hard to think ahead to May while we're all busy finishing the teaching term and getting ready for the holidays, but it's time to plan for our 30th annual conference, surely a milestone for our organization. A special committee has been named to work on plans to commemorate the occasion, which will take place May 21-23. If you have any ideas, please contact Peggy Renner at [prenner@glendale.cc.ca](mailto:prenner@glendale.cc.ca) or Jackie Braitman at [jrb@ucla.edu](mailto:jrb@ucla.edu). Both have agreed to chair the group. Any of you who have pictures or memorabilia might wish to donate copies for a scrapbook. One idea is to have a session on looking backward at the conference which we could videotape and which would provide an on the spot oral history taken from some of the senior members of our group. We welcome proposals for sessions that would focus on the WAWH. I am also interested in any suggestions you might have for a president's dinner speaker.

After some contemplation we have agreed to go ahead with Asilomar as the conference site. One of the sessions will focus on the current labor situation and include Asilomar employees. The session is designed to bring us up to date so that we can make an informed decision about what we wish to do in the future. If you are interested in helping to plan this session please contact Jo Goodwin, Chair of the Social Action Committee.

As we come to the end of the year I am struck by the proximity to the year 2000, probably because I have spent the last few weeks revising my chapters in *The American Promise* to get rid of the phrase "turn of the century" as it applied to the period from the 1880s to the early 1900s. Turn of the century has a very different time frame today, although as a culture we seem less in a fin de siècle mode than say Henry Adams or Henry James or the other

voices I associate with the preceding century. Perhaps centuries only turn in hindsight. And if, as predicted, the Y2K bugs mark the new millennium with computer mayhem, maybe the century will turn dramatically. Surely the current soap opera in Washington does little to raise the larger questions of where we are going as a nation.

Speaking of soap operas, I add to this column the running commentary about the sex discrimination investigation at UC Riverside. After the death of the former history chair, which the coroner ruled a suicide, there was much pressure on the administration to end the investigation. Five individual faculty were to have been brought up on charges and scuttlebutt indicates that two of the five copped a plea, confessed to "inappropriate behavior," and had "letters put in their file." The remaining two are still actively involved in denying or attempting to refute the charges made against them and the process continues in committees.

A month ago I was contacted by a reporter from the *Riverside Press Enterprise*, who informed me that the confidential report drafted by the committee of three brought in to investigate (Michael Parrish from UCSD, Christine Littleton from UCLA, and

*continued on the next page*

### Contents

President's Column .....	1
Job Announcements .....	2
Call for Papers .....	2
A Special Thanks .....	3
Networker Column .....	4
Fellowships .....	5
WAWH Executive Board 1998-1999 .....	6
Member News .....	7
Western Association of Women Historians Membership Form .....	7
Member News Form .....	8
WAWH Networker Calendar .....	8

Sheila O'Rourke from Boalt Hall) had been leaked via e-mail to the newspaper. Although the leaked document did not contain the footnotes identifying the individuals mentioned, it did contain verbatim testimony. The reporter quizzed me on the particulars, asking in one case which faculty member yelled "Hey, hotpants" at a woman faculty member and which faculty member commented "Not a bad paper for a Mexican." This sort of trivia, while revealing, does not get to the heart of the issue, which involves serious issues such as what constitutes legitimate research, and how sex discrimination can contaminate not only the personnel process, but how the profession defines history. After promising an article that would deal with the substantive as well as the salacious aspects of the investigation, the reporter told me to look for the story in the coming Sunday paper. That was over a month ago. When I called last week I was told that the story was being vetoed by the paper's legal staff. I doubt it will ever see print. Since the only people who had access to the investigators' report were administrators who have little to gain from more bad publicity and the five individuals charged, there is some reason to suspect that one of the two faculty still under investigation leaked the document so that they could sue the university for failure to protect the confidentiality of the process. Stay tuned.

This edition of the *Networker* is the first to be composed by the Claremont Graduate Collective who have taken over the editorship of the newsletter.

Our thanks to all of them for agreeing to take on this task and doing such a great job.

## Call for Papers

THIRTIETH ANNUAL WAWH CONFERENCE  
MAY 21-23, 1998

Asilomar, Pacific Grove, California

We welcome proposals for panels or single papers on any historical subject, time period, or region. While WAWH has often had a special emphasis on women's history, we suggest that participants may also wish to think in terms of race, ethnicity, class, religion, age, education, and any other relevant categories, including gender.

Panels or workshops on long-term concerns of women in the historical profession are also encouraged. Proposals for complete panels, including commentators, are strongly preferred, but individual papers will be considered.

Proposals must include THREE copies of each of the following: a cover page that includes the title of the panel, names of the panelists, titles of the individual papers, and an indication of what, if any AV equipment each panelist will need in order to make her/his presentation (one person on the panel should be designated as the contact person in the event the selection committee needs to clarify any issues); a one-half to one-page abstract for each paper along with a one-to-two-page curriculum vitae for each panelist; and a list of panelists that include their current addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses.

Please send THREE copies of your proposals by February 1, 1999 to: Dr. Lois L. Huneycutt, Department of History, 114A Read Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211; FAX: 573-884-5151; or e-mail: [Histlois@showme.missouri.edu](mailto:Histlois@showme.missouri.edu).

Questions may be directed to Dr. Huneycutt or to Dr. Nupur Chaudhuri, Co-Chair of the Program Committee. Her e-mail is: [nupurc@gateway.net](mailto:nupurc@gateway.net).

## Job Announcements

Department of History, California State University, Sacramento. Assistant Professor of 20th-Century Russia/ Modern World History, probationary tenure-track position. Requirements for Ph.D. in History must be completed by February 1, 1999. Applicants must hold ability to teach upper division courses in the history of 20th-century Russia/Soviet Union, upper division and graduate courses in World history, and lower division survey courses in World history. Include statement of interest in teaching and research, C.V., graduate transcripts, three letters of recommendation, sample syllabi, and teaching evaluations if available. Review of applications will begin January 4, 1999 until position is filled. Submit requirements to Chair, R/W Search Committee, department of History, California State University, Sacramento, Sacramento, CA 95819-6059.

# A Special Thanks

Two of this year's recipients of WAWH awards, Van Nguyen-Marshall and Bridget Ford, have acknowledged their appreciation and included some details of their ongoing dissertation work that may be of interest to WAWH members.

To members of the WAWH:

I am writing to express my thanks to the WAWH for the graduate student fellowship. The fellowship provides not only financial help, but also recognition and moral support, which are greatly appreciated, especially as I embark upon the final leg of my doctoral program—the lonely stage of writing. It is, therefore, a pleasure for me to share with members of the WAWH some brief descriptions of my dissertation, "Poverty and Poverty Relief in Northern Vietnam (1883-1945)."

My project focuses on the perceptions of poverty and practices of poverty relief during the period of French colonialism in Vietnam (1883-1945). In addition to concerning myself with the perceptions, attitudes, and policies of the French colonial government, I will also examine the perceptions and attitudes of Vietnamese intellectuals toward poverty. Focusing on how the French and Vietnamese elites viewed poverty will not only reveal how they constructed the discourse on poverty, but will also shed light on the social conditions and relationships during this period. The dissertation will show how race, class, and gender shaped the elite's view of poverty and their subsequent poverty-relief activities, which were fraught with ambiguities and contradictions.

Underlying my project will be an implicit comparison between how poverty was perceived in the past and our present views of poverty and our present ways of trying to solve it. Our present construction of poverty continues to be riddled with contradictory aims and faulty assumptions, leaving some critics to predict that the present poverty alleviation and international development programs will never eradicate the problem. [For example, see Majid Rahnema, "Global Poverty: A Pauperizing Myth", *Interculture*, Vol 24 (2), Spring 1991, pp.4-51; Lakshman Yapa, "What Causes Poverty? A Postmodern View," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol. 86 (4), 1996, pp.707-728.]

Speaking of poverty alleviation (a topic of personal concern for many of us graduate students!), I would like to thank the WAWH again for the fellowship—the stipend will cover two-thirds of this year's tuition fee (thanks to the low Canadian dollar). I must now end this letter and return to colonial Vietnam...

Van Nguyen-Marshall  
PhD candidate  
University of British Columbia, Canada

The WAWH Award will help fund the final stage of my dissertation research for "Sentiment and Slavery in the Antebellum West," a comparative community study of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Louisville, Kentucky between 1820 and 1860. As cultural history, this study charts the production and reception of an evangelical, sentimental literature and its rejection in Louisville in the 1840s and 50s. As community study, this dissertation employs an explicit comparative framework to explore why a southern city in the throes of rapid social change rejected sentimental culture. How individuals in these two cities confronted the idea of freedom and citizenship for black people is a central question in "Sentiment and Slavery."

An examination of religious revivalism, community development, and affective experience among black and white peoples in both cities offers a gauge to sentimental literature's increasing sectional appeal. This past year I mined local archives and churches in Cincinnati and turned up wonderfully rich and exciting local church records, novels, stories, and tracts. Funding from the WAWH will enable me to accomplish the same for Louisville. I plan to spend the first five months of 1999 in Louisville archives and churches, including The Filson Club Historical Society, the University of Louisville Archives, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Louisville research will complete my labor in local archives for this dissertation. Community studies require lengthy and expensive stays at local archives, so I am grateful for the financial assistance from the WAWH. I would like to thank the organization for the important intellectual encouragement the WAWH fellowship award offers to women graduate students.

Bridget Ford,  
University of California, Davis

# Networker Column

## "Firsts"

*By Melissa Dyea and Phoebe Kropp, Graduate Student Representatives*

As the new Graduate Student Representatives, we would like to introduce ourselves to the members of WAWH. Melissa Dyea is an enrolled member of Laguna Pueblo and is attending Arizona State University, working towards a dissertation on Indian women environmental activists. Phoebe Kropp is at UC San Diego, in the process of writing her dissertation about Southern California and the memory of the Spanish past. Our main goal as grad reps is to encourage graduate students to become involved in the intellectual community outside their own programs. We both know how difficult it can sometimes be to locate appropriate events and develop these kinds of relationships. But we also know how exciting it is to find others in the discipline who share your interests and concerns. We see it as our job to highlight the ways in which we can all find each other.

One of these ways is to attend and present papers at conferences. We would both like to offer our own first conference experiences to encourage graduate students to bring their work to these forums and to discover their own community of scholars.

Melissa: I was a first year Master's student when Dr. James Riding of the School of Justice Studies invited me to prepare a paper for presentation. He encouraged me even up to the point of calling me at home in New Mexico during the holiday break to remind me to submit my abstract. It was the first conference on American Indian Family and Tribal Communities, hosted by Dr. Donald Fixico and the history department at Western Michigan University. The whole conference was rather small with no concurrent sessions and approximately 50-75 audience members present at each of the sessions.

Several things stand out about that conference in my mind. First, the trip on the airplane—I was extremely claustrophobic and not used to traveling long distances by air. To start the trip off, we sat in the plane on the runway in Phoenix for one hour. It made me extremely nervous, then we missed our connection in Chicago and waited another three hours before they put us on an extremely small

plane; those who have flown American Eagle know what I am talking about. So because of the delay we missed the opening reception and did not get to meet many of the other participants.

By the time I made my presentation I was a wreck. I was presenting a seminar paper I had done on the economic development at Laguna Pueblo. Creative as I was, that was the title I used, and I thought no one would want to hear about such a boring topic. However, after my presentation I fielded questions for approximately twenty minutes. That put me on such a high, I thought not only did people listen, but they wanted to hear more and I could provide them with that information.

Another important aspect to remember is that the conference environment helps create a community within which we receive support and guidance. At this conference I formed friendships with two other Native women historians that have continued to this day, Angela Cavender Wilson of Cornell University and Amy Lonetree of UC Berkeley's Ethnic Studies program. This is important to me, because as new graduate students and particularly as new historians of color, the early stages of graduate school are not always encouraging. By meeting these women along with my colleague and friend Myla Vicenti Carpio, also at Arizona State University, we learned that what we were feeling and experiencing was not uncommon and were able to establish a network of support that has been vital to my success as a graduate student.

It is important to remember that no matter how you feel about your work at the time, there is always someone who will find it of interest and be able in some small way to help you. Whether it is just with an encouraging comment on your paper or directions in your field of study. Start small and work your way up to the national conferences. The smaller ones are definitely friendly and worth the time and effort.

Phoebe: The first paper I presented happened to be at the WAWH conference at Asilomar in 1995. It was based on my first graduate seminar paper about the development of Balboa Park in San Diego. My advisor played an important role, as he not only urged me to submit my paper for the conference, but introduced me to Dr. Denise Spooner who was organizing a panel. I remained unsure of what the experience would bring. I knew it would be different than seminars, but I had a difficult time conceiving how things might be different than within my own

*continued from previous page*

program. When our panel was accepted on the program, I began to worry about my upcoming presentation. Would I be able to condense my research into only ten pages? Would somebody stand up and tell me I was completely wrong? Would the commentator tell me I was unfit for graduate school? I worried that presenting my research and analysis would expose only my weaknesses.

The WAWH conference was exactly the right kind of place to assuage these fears. Though nervous and a bit frazzled because I had forgotten the pants for the outfit I planned to wear, my paper went remarkably smoothly. Perhaps having my husband, my mom and my 8-year-old sister in the audience helped. The commentator, Dr. Gloria Miranda, had both constructive criticism and praise that would encourage me to continue my work. Questions from the audience made no attempt to embarrass. Rather, they offered a wealth of perspectives that pushed me to think of my research in broader and more significant terms. What I was most amazed about, perhaps, was that other historians actually found my paper interesting enough to listen to a graduate student for twenty-five minutes. This was a realization I had not expected the conference experience to produce. But it was one that not only encouraged me to present again, but also to begin to see myself as an historian, already a member of a professional community. The respect and genuine interest which people showed me was a welcome surprise to this graduate student.

It is easy to feel isolated and insecure particularly in the first few years, caught in the intensity of your own program. While I cannot promise as positive an experience as mine, small, regional and topical conferences can be a great place to start. They involve less pressure and are often more informal than national conferences where just registering seems a bureaucratic test. Calls for papers for these conferences can be found in various journals, in AHA's Perspectives, and on-line, particularly through H-Net and its discussion groups. Don't forget the deadline for our own WAWH Conference for next May is coming up on [FEBRUARY 1] and graduate student papers are especially encouraged. Both Melissa and Phoebe hope to see you there.

## Fellowships

The Western Association of Women Historians invites applications for its 1998 Graduate Student Fellowship. Applicants must be members of the WAWH, advanced to candidacy, writing the dissertation at the time of application, and expecting to receive the Ph.D. no earlier than December 1999. The \$1,000 award may be used for expenses related to the dissertation. Deadline is March 1, 1999. Contact: Nancy Page Fernandez, Department of History, CSU Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330; mail to: [nancy.fernandez@csun.edu](mailto:nancy.fernandez@csun.edu).

The Coordinating Council for Women in History is pleased to announce it will accept applications for the second CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award Scholarship of ten thousand dollars which will be awarded to a scholar of excellence in April 1999. Named the CCWH-Catherine Prelinger Award Scholarship in memory of former CCWH president and nontraditional scholar Catherine Prelinger, the award is intended to enhance the work of a contemporary scholar whose academic path has not followed the traditional path of uninterrupted study, moving from completed secondary, to undergraduate, then graduate degrees, followed by a tenure-track faculty position. These funds, granted to CCWH by an anonymous donor in honor of the many years of work this organization has devoted to exploring women's history and the positions of women in the historical profession, and in educating generations of young women to pursue academic careers in the profession, are intended to enhance the ability of the recipient who seeks to carry on these CCWH traditions through contributions to women in history, either through scholarly or professional activity. Eligible applicants must be members of CCWH and hold either A.B.D. status of the Ph.D. at the time of application. They shall be actively engaged in scholarship that is historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields. Applicants will show evidence of a nontraditional professional career and describe a project that will further enhance women's roles in history. Request applications guidelines and the application form from Professor Marguerite Renner, Department of History, Glendale College, 1500 North Verdugo Road, Glendale, CA 91208. Deadline for applications is February 15, 1999.

# WAWH Executive Board 1998-1999

## President 1997-1999

Sarah Stage  
Women's Studies  
Arizona St. University, West  
4701 West Thunderbird Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85069  
(602) 543-3310  
mail to: sarah.stage@asu.edu

## President-Elect

Karen Blair  
Department of History  
Central Washington University  
Ellensburg, WA 98926  
(509) 963-1877  
mail to: Blairk@cwu.edu

## Past President 1995-1997

Susan Wladaver-Morgan  
2513 N.E. Skidmore Street  
Portland, OR 97211  
(503) 282-9470  
mail to: swladamor@aol.com

## Secretary

Janet Farrell Brodie  
Department of History  
710 North College Ave.  
Claremont, CA 91711  
(909) 621-8172  
mail to: Janet.Brodie@cgu.edu

## Treasurer

Emily Rader  
436 Lime Ave. #6  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(310) 495-2688  
mail to:  
erader@dhvx20.csudh.edu

## Networker Editor

Claremont Graduate Collective  
Department of History  
710 North College Ave.  
Claremont, CA 91711  
(714) 961-6073  
mail to: laura.abeyta-  
paulus@cgu.edu

## 1999 Program Chairs

Nupur Chaudhuri  
1737 Vaughn Dr.  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
(913) 539-2837  
mail to: cbs.ksu.edu

## Lois Hunneycutt

mail to:  
Histlois@showme.missouri.edu

## Social Action Committee Chair

Jo Goodwin  
Department of History  
UNLV Box 455020  
4505 Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV 89154  
mail to: Jgoodwin@nevada.edu

## K-12 Committee

Margaret Rose  
Interdisciplinary Humanities Center  
Humanities & Social Sciences  
Building  
UCSB  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
mail to: rose@humanitas.ucsb.edu

## Local Arrangements Chair

Dee Reina  
24030 Fuscia Ct.  
Murieta, CA 92562  
mail to: reinadr@aol.com

## Graduate Student

Representatives  
Phoebe Kropp  
4067 E. Miramar St.  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
(619) 558-7919  
mail to: pkropp@ucsd.edu

## Melissa Dyea

505 S. Roosevelt Rd. J-8  
Mesa, AZ 85202  
(602) 649-7490  
mail to: mdyea@asu.edu

## Sierra Book Prize Chair

Alexandra Nickliss  
1256 Dolores St. #4  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
mail to: anickliss@ccsf.ca.cu

## Judith Lee Ridge Article Prize

Dr. Florence Baker  
1256 Alameda Avenue  
Glendale, CA 91201  
mail to:  
Fmbaker@compuserve.com

## Barbara Penny Kanner Award

Dr. Candace Falk  
912 Mendocino Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94709  
mail to:  
Emma@uclink.berkeley.edu

## Graduate Student Fellowship Chair

Nancy Page Fernandez  
328 N. Myrtle Ave.  
Monrovia, CA 91016  
(626) 357-2827  
mail to: mfdez@pacbell.net

# Member News

Gordon Morris Bakken, California State University, Fullerton, published "The Limits of Patriarchy: Women's Rights and the 'Unwritten Law' in the West" in *The Historian*, 60, no. 4 (Summer, 1998): 703-716.

Elayne Meir Breslaw, published "Jewish Chaplains in a Christian Army" in *Columbiad, A Quarterly Review of the War Between the States*, (Summer 1997). Elayne has also been accepted as a reader at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California.

Nina Rattner Gerbart, Occidental College, published her book *The King's Midwife: A History and Mystery of Madame du Coudray* (University Press, 1998).

Brenda Jackson, Washington State University, presented a paper at the Pacific Northwest History Conference in Boise entitled, "Thomas and Elizabeth Tannatt and the Monument at Steptoe Battlefield."

Valerie Sherer Mathes, City College of San Francisco, published her book *The Indian Reform: Letters of Helen Hunt Jackson, 1879-1885* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1998).

Maureen Murphy Nutting, North Seattle Community College participated in the 1998 NEH Summer Institute, "The Atlantic Crossroads: Brazil at 500" hosted by the University of Sao Paulo and the Casa Rui Barbosa and National Historical Museum, both in Rio de Janeiro.

Mae L. Silver, writer of history on the San Francisco area, just published *Lucky 30*, a preservation story of San Francisco's Trolley Car #130. She also hopes to have her Web site dealing with the 130 completed by this fall.

---

## Western Association of Women Historians Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (include city, state, zip) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Position and/or Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
Research and/or Teaching Fields \_\_\_\_\_

Full-time Employed	\$20
Part-time/Retired	\$15
Graduate Student/Independent Scholar	\$8
Lifetime Membership	\$400
1996 WAWH Membership Directory	\$5 (includes \$2 postage)

Clip and send with your check made payable to *WAWH*: Janet Brodie, WAWH Secretary, Department of History, Claremont, CA 91711. **Membership Polcyc Change:** Please note that memberships run from mid-May to mid-May annually; just remember to renew your membership during the annual WAWH conference.

# Member News - *Networker*

Name, affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Notice of publication or other member news: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Use an additional sheet if necessary. Send to Claremont Graduate Collective, Department of History, 710 North College Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711 or e-mail to: [laura.abeyta-paulus@cgu.edu](mailto:laura.abeyta-paulus@cgu.edu).)

---

## WAWH Networker Calendar

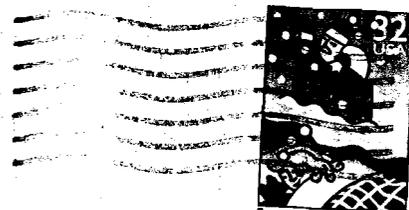
February 1, 1999 Deadline for submissions for Judith Lee Ridge Article Prize

February 28, 1999 Deadline for submissions to NETWORKER

May 21-23, 1999 WAWH 30th Anniversary, Annual Meeting, Asilomar

# NETWORKER

Western Association of Women Historians  
Claremont Graduate Collective  
Networker Editor  
Department of History  
710 North College Avenue  
Claremont, CA 91711



Elizabeth Snapp 1997  
Box 424093  
Denton, TX  
76204