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NEWSLETTER

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Notes from IFLA Conference, Gothenburg, Sweden, 9-15 August, 2010

Last August, I participated in the IFLA Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden, where I presented a poster titled Training Students for Global Citizenship: Exploring the Role of Academic Libraries in Study Abroad Programs. While there, I also attended the 20th anniversary celebration of the IFLA's Women, Information and Libraries Special Interest Group. The all day event, titled Global Women's Fair: Sharing Best Practice in Support of Women Users, and Women Library and Information Workers was hosted by Gothenburg University's KvinnSam, which is the National Resource Library for Gender Studies in Sweden. At the celebration, I met librarians, activists and archivists from all over the world working on women's and gender issues, and together we attended workshops focused on professional skills for the 21st Century. There is so much to learn from colleagues based in different countries,

and yet there are also similarities; the topics covered by the workshops included Web 2.0 technology and library visibility, both much discussed among U.S. librarians recently.

Founded in 1958, KvinnSam has the most comprehensive collection on resources on women and gender in the Nordic countries. Its collection includes manuscripts and archival material on individual women, women's associations, and women's



movements. Some of these resources are available digitally through thematic portals. More information on KvinnSam is available at <http://www.ub.gu.se/kvinn/>

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*Kayo Denda,
Rutgers University*

Women's Studies Section

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The WSS Newsletter is available to all section members at no additional cost.

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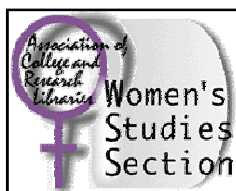
Beth Strickland
University of Michigan
phone
email

The WSS Newsletter welcomes contributions from members. Please send articles, items of interest, and news to the editors, preferably in electronic format.

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WSS Officers 2010-2011:

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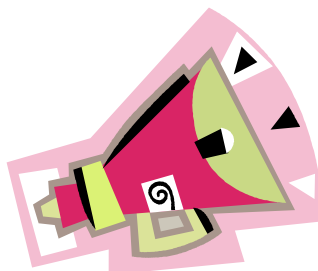
**From the Editor**

Please join me in welcoming our new Assistant WSS Newsletter Editor, Beth Strickland!

Beth Strickland, Women's Studies Librarian at the University of Michigan, is the new Assistant Editor of the WSS Newsletter. She works closely with the faculty and students of the Women Studies Department, as well as with the Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Beth also serves as the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of Librarians Forum, the governing body of faculty librarians for Michigan libraries, and as Chair of the Public Access Resource Committee. Her research interests focus on the intersections of gender, technology, and information seeking behavior within various academic contexts. Beth received a BA in Women's Studies from the University of Colorado at Boulder, a MA in Women's Studies from San Diego State University, and a MLIS from the University of Denver.

Volunteer for an ACRL Committee!

<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/resources/forms/volunteer.cfm>



WSS 2010 Conference Program

A group of academic, school and public librarians gathered at the WSS 2010 Conference Program in Washington D.C. The program, titled, **Finding the Best Film for the Classroom: Feminist Pedagogy, Visual Literacy and Representation**, consisted of a panel of four experts who discussed issues concerning multimedia resources, each from their individual perspectives. The panelists were Karen Alexander, Senior Editor of *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* and a founding editor of the electronic film review journal, *Films for the Feminist Classroom (FFC)*; Chimene Tucker, Librarian of Film and Media Studies, LGBT Studies, and World History at UC Santa Barbara; Debra Zimmerman, Executive Director of Women Make Movies (WMM); and Dan Moshenberg, Director of the Women's Studies Program, and Professor of English,

at George Washington University. Kayo Denda, Women's Studies Librarian, and Head of the Margery Somers Foster Center at Rutgers University, moderated.

The program raised many significant issues including the distinction between multimedia expression and film, the legitimacy of media expression as a forum for intellectual engagement, and most importantly, ways for librarians to take leadership roles in today's changing environment.

From Karen Alexander's perspective, *FFC* was established as an answer to the need expressed by feminist scholars for sources of critical film reviews. *FFC* reviews are written by scholars engaged in the investigation of women and gender, and thus offer in-depth film recommendations, along with sophisticated and critical reviews focused on topics covered in feminist classrooms. Accordingly, *FFC* serves as a

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Program Panelists

From left to right: Dan Moshenberg, Kayo Denda, Debra Zimmerman, Karen Alexander and Chimene Tucker.

WSS Poster Sessions @ ALA Annual

One component of the WSS Research Committee charge is to “promote an awareness of existing and ongoing research related or applicable to Women's Studies librarianship and resources.” In keeping with this goal, the Research Committee was delighted to host our third annual poster session during the WSS General Membership Meeting this year at ALA Annual in Washington, DC.

New and experienced researchers alike, presented five posters on widely ranging topics of interest:

- “I Don't Know How I Did This: Investigating Confidence Differences Between Male and Female Students”
Lea Susan Engle
(Texas A&M University Libraries)
- “Women Elected to Serve in the Oklahoma Legislature”
Tanya Finchum
(OK Oral History Research Prgm)
- “Showcase Your Resources! Using Gender Studies Library Exhibits to Promote Collaboration, Diversity, and Inclusion at Michigan State University”
Sharon Ladenson
(Michigan St. University Libraries)
- “Gendering the Reference Desk: An Exploratory Study of Patron and Librarian Interactions”
Beth Strickland & Jennifer Bonnet
(University of Michigan)

- “Women, Work, and Family: Balancing Responsibilities in the LIS Field”

Cheryl Thompson,
Jennifer Craft Morgan,
Susan Rathbun-Grubb
(UNC Institute on Aging), &
Joanne Gard Marshall
(UNC School of ILS)



Further information about the poster session is available on our website (<http://www.libr.org/wss/committees/research/postersession/index.html>).

Presentation materials will also be available, pending submission by the authors.

Caitlin Shanley
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Committee Reports From Annual

Publications Committee

The committee continues to work on the revision of the WSS Publications Manual. The WSS executive committee reviewed the revisions at Midwinter 2010, and provided suggested edits. The publications committee will incorporate those suggestions and return the manual to the executive committee for voting at Midwinter 2011. We are continuing the WSS blog as one of the communication forums for the section.

A change is that the blog will be open to all members to give them the opportunity to post content. An assistant editor for the WSS newsletter will be appointed for this coming year and the following year this position moves into lead editor. We are going to review the committee charge and determine new projects. Committee members discussed and supported meeting virtually for our committee midwinter meeting.

Jennifer Mayer, Chair

of its scope. It was decided that it should be limited to articles directly relating to women and libraries, not including items about women and distance learning, or the IT field outside of librarianship. We also discussed updates to the Call for Papers page and the Getting Started in Research page. Please feel free to let us know if you have any additions to the Bibliography or suggestions for improving our web page.

Jennifer Gilley

Penn State New Kensington

Research Committee

The Research Committee has decided to embark on a project to update the Research Agenda for Women's Studies Librarianship. Much research has been done since the Agenda was first published in 2005 and it is likely that many questions have already been answered or are no longer relevant, while new areas for research have appeared. We will be analyzing both the agenda and research from the past decade in order to answer these questions. This is a big undertaking and we could use as many volunteers as possible, so please contact Jennifer Gilley at jrg15@psu.edu if you are interested in participating. The Bibliography of Scholarship on Women's Studies Librarianship has been updated for the year, and we had a discussion

No Report Submitted by:

- ◆ Awards Committee
- ◆ Collection Development & Bibliography Committee
- ◆ Electronic Resources and Access Committee
- ◆ Instruction Committee
- ◆ Membership Committee
- ◆ Nominating Committee
- ◆ Program Planning Committee

Ingold Strikes Gold!

Cindy Ingold Named WSS Liaison to NWSA & Receives Award

After a lengthy process, WSS' request to establish a formal liaison relationship with the National Women's Studies Association was approved by the ACRL board, Fall 2010.

ACRL's program, the Council of Liaisons, conducts in-depth liaison activities with targeted professional associations such as NWSA.

Among other purposes, liaisons share the value of libraries and librarians with target organizations while sharing their issues with ACRL and members. The Council of Liaisons is in the process of being superseded by the Liaisons Coordinating and Component Committees which will expand on this core activity of information exchange.

Cindy Ingold has been selected as the liaison to NWSA and will attend their conference in November, 2010.

Cindy was also awarded the 2010 ACRL WSS Career Achievement Award and has been a long time member of and

"Cindy has continuously demonstrated significant contributions and dedication to Women's Studies librarianship..."

Diana King, chair of the WSS Award Committee

contributor to WSS. This process started 3 years ago and involved

steadfast work by past-WSS Chairs Jennifer Gilley, Diana King and Kayo Denda. Let's congratulate Cindy on this well-deserved appointment.

Jane Nichols

At the WSS Annual Program
From left to right: Donor/Sponsor Representative (ABC-CLIO), Cindy Ingold, and Diana King



(Continued from page 3)

tool to help scholars to identify films able to supplement classroom texts, and allow students to experience alternative formats and forms of expression. The FFC has plans to add media-rich features, such as filmmaker interviews, and/or clips of films intended to enhance film reviews.

As a collection development and instruction librarian, Chimene Tucker noted the tendency of college students to uncritically consume visual and media material as information sources. As courses allow multimedia material, such as “mash-ups” and multimedia productions, to serve as “final papers,” she observed that this situation presents an opportunity for librarian intervention. Specifically, it represents a means of integrating media literacy into library instruction, encourage critical thinking, and enable students to couple their talents in oral and written communication with an analysis of images, words, and the world.

As the Executive Director of Women Make Movies since 1983, Debra Zimmerman has seen a sharp increase in the number of classrooms. Increased global reflected in WMM film offerings now comprised of differentiated between film as expression more generally. all the scholarly and while simultaneously the lives of subjects that is Zimmerman, women nuanced narratives as counterparts, regardless of the films presenting authentic perspectives on topics including the trafficking of women, eating disorders, and Internet and legal issues such as privacy.



films suited to women’s studies attention to women’s issues is acquisitions, with 45% of their non-U.S. material. Zimmerman an art form and multimedia Film, she said, is comprised of theoretical apparatus of a text, embodying an immediacy to unique to the format. For filmmakers create more compared with their male topic. Her current focus is voices and feminist

Dan Moshenberg added the voice of an academic faculty member to the panel, and suggested that although multimedia materials function as an effective vehicle for teaching feminist concepts, such as standpoint theory, intersectionality, and the category of women, academia, especially the traditional disciplines, remains print-centered, and has yet to consider media formats as an equal alternative for graduate level theses. In his view, film and the Web both enable the creation of global networks focused on issues. He suggested that multimedia has the potential to expand the classroom beyond traditional institutional boundaries, and to facilitate the dissemination of informal educational opportunities provided by women’s organizations around the world. Technology enabled networking, he said, such as his blog Women in and Beyond the Global provides a forum for discussion of women’s issues globally, and holds the potential to sustain the women’s movement.

Kayo Denda

WSS Program Highlights 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting

Awards	Sat 1/15	1:30pm - 3:30pm
General Membership Forum	Sat 1/15	4pm - 5:30pm
Conference Program Planning, 2011	Sun 1/16	8am - 10am
All Committees Meeting	Sun 1/16	10:30am - 12noon
Executive Committee	Sun 1/16	4pm - 5:30pm
Discussion Forum	Mon 1/17	8am - 10am



ACRL 2011: A Declaration of Interdependence

The ACRL 2011 conference is the premier event for academic libraries, drawing librarians, support staff, and vendors from across the country and around the world. ACRL 2011 will feature more than 300 peer-reviewed sessions.

Register by February 4, 2011, and save more than 20 percent. Group rates, reduced airfares, hotel discounts, and scholarships are also available.
acrl.org/acrlconference



BE THERE!
the **WSS Social** will be held
on **Saturday 1/15**
6:00PM - 8:00PM
Location TBD

<check the website to confirm the location
as the date approaches>



Women's Studies Section

Marissa Ball, Editor

Beth Strickland, Assistant Editor

c/o ACRL / ALA

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Welcome New Members! (March-July)

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