Reflections on Working in the Center's Archive

by Clarisa Gonzalez

This COVID–19 era has come with many changes for all of us. For me, these changes included an opportunity to work with the Center for the Study of Women and Society’s archive. Over the past year and a half, I had the pleasure of reading through and curating over 50 digitized documents, which are now available on the CUNY Digital History Archive (CDHA). With the help of the great CDHA staff, I was able to immerse myself in the archives and learn the Center’s history.

When I first began working with the Center’s archive, I knew I would find a great story—and I was not disappointed. The documents give testimony to the vision, dedication, and labor of love put in by every member of the Center’s community throughout the years. Created amid a statewide financial crisis, protests at CUNY, and the “second wave of feminism,” the Center’s main aim was to advance feminist scholarship. The archive gives testimony to the Center’s commitment to this mission, from providing resources and funding to researchers and students, to creating the Certificate and Master’s programs we have today.

If you have a chance to visit the archive webpage, I highly suggest taking a look at past newsletters. Each one contains concrete evidence of the kinds of conversations and research the Center’s professors, students, and staff took part in. They also highlight other feminist work that was occurring in CUNY at the time, and underscore the Center’s efforts to create a more united network within the same. Most importantly, the newsletters truly contain the “story” of the Center through monthly updates on projects, ideas, and the Center’s involvement in the progress of the women’s movement in general, and in academia in particular.

The Center for the Study of Women in Society’s digital archive can be found here: https://cdha.cuny.edu/collections/show/342
UPCOMING SPRING 2022 EVENTS

3.14  SALLY COOK
UNMATCHED: The Spectacular Life and Career of Little Mo Connolly, American Tennis Legend

3.22  RUPAL OZA
"Ties to Land: Sexual Violation and Political Economy in Rural India"

4.5  Book Salon
JESSIE DANIELS
W/ ALYSSA BOWEN & CARLA SHEDD
Nice White Ladies: The Truth about White Supremacy, Our Role in It, and How We Can Help Dismantle It

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN IN THE RENAISSANCE (SSWR)

2.17  PAMELA BROWN
3.17  SU FANG NG
4.14  URVASHI CHAKRAVARTY

FOR MORE INFORMATION + TO REGISTER:

MA PROGRAM IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday, March 1, 2022
To Register:
This event is free and open to the public.

Congratulations to Grace M. Cho on her book, Tastes Like War: A Memoir (Feminist Press, 2021) being a finalist for the National Book Award for Nonfiction.

Did you know? We have swag! Come by the Office (Room 5116) to pick some up!
FACULTY NEWS

- Beth Baron and Mandana Limbert are convening a Mellon-funded Sawyer Seminar on “Race and the Middle East/North Africa” this year and next. Gender is a major theme throughout. For more information click here.
- Alyson Cole received the 2021 Graduate Center Mentoring Award. Cole published “Agnotology, Resentment, and Vulnerability in the Era of Trump” (Japanese translation) in Forms of Vulnerability (Kizasu Shobo Press, 2021) and “Todxs somos vulnerables, pero algunxs somos más vulnerables que otrxs: la ambiguedad política de los estudios de la vulnerabilidad, una crítica ambivalente” (Spanish translation) in Contranarrativas (CENDEAC 2021).
- Linda Grasso has a review essay, “Making it New and Keeping it Old: Recasting Frameworks and Contexts in Georgia O’Keeffe Studies” (Canadian Review of American Studies 51.2 [Summer 2021]: 183-192), and a book review of Georgia O’Keeffe’s Wartime Texas Letters by Amy Von Lintel (Southwestern History Quarterly 124.3 (January 2021): 356-7).

ALUMNI NEWS

- Melanie Chin ’18 earned a Masters in Library Science and is currently working for the Queens Library.
- Michela Demelas ’20 is currently coordinating career counseling sessions at the NGO she works for, which serves immigrant women.
- Alexandra Johnson ’21 started writing for Ms. Magazine, writing articles on popular culture and feminist philosophy. They are also the co-chair and co-founder of a new NWSA interest group on Popular Culture, a crossroad between popular culture and feminism. Students can request to join the group via Facebook here.
- Irem Kılıç ’19 is working at Turkish Philanthropy Funds as the Programs Lead.

STUDENT NEWS

- Marcelle Karp will have her first work of fiction out on April 19, 2022, a young adult novel titled, Getting Over Max Cooper. Find it here.
- Yohanna M. Roa is part of the RECONFIGURATIONS: TEXTILE AS TEXTUALITY exhibition, at Museo de Mujeres Artistas (MUMA), curated by Karen Cordero Reiman. Check it out here.

WOMEN’S STUDIES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM AWARDS 2021-2022


For more information please email us at csws@gc.cuny.edu or come by the office (Room 5116). Due to COVID and distancing guidelines, only five people can be present in the office at any given time.