

# WOMEN'S CENTER NEWSLETTER

11, No. 1

September 17, 1973

University of Idaho



NEXT WEEK IS WOMEN'S WEEK!

All programs are free to the public and will take place in the Galena Room of the SUB unless otherwise noted. Last minute child care will be available in the Appaloosa Lounge during scheduled programs.

## Tuesday, September 25

- Noon "Growing Up Female: As Six Become One", a documentary film. It will be followed by introductions of guest resource people and small group discussions of goals and interests.
- 7:30 Two dramatic performances by the Co-Respondents, "Fun and Games" and "Enter Laughing". IN THE SUB BALLROOM.

## Wednesday, September 26

- 9:00 Child Care Workshop. The goal is to establish a day care center on campus.
- Noon No-host lunch with the Co-Respondents. IN THE EE-DA-HO ROOM.
- 1:30 Channeling and Career Counseling Workshop. It will examine how women form their ambitions and how they are either fulfilled or curtailed by social pressures.
- 3:30 The Emma Willard Task Force on Education will conduct a sample workshop to demonstrate how they train teachers to deal with sexist attitudes in themselves and sexist practices in their institutions.

## Thursday, September 27

- 9:00 "The Job Situation in Moscow". A workshop investigating job opportunities for women in Moscow and instances of sex discrimination.
- Noon No-host lunch with the Emma Willard Task Force on Education. IN THE EE-DA-HO ROOM.
- 1:30 "Everything You Might Have Known About Mercy Warren\* \*but never even thought to ask". This workshop will look at the University curriculum to see what students learn about women's contributions to the progress of humankind and how women are portrayed in their reading materials.

## Friday, September 28

- 9:00 Political Action Workshop. It will discuss ways in which women can influence decision-making on the state and local levels.
- Noon Workshops reconvene and report.
- 3:00 A retreat for women only. It will run until Saturday afternoon. The location had not been decided at press time. Please watch for further publicity. This will be completely unstructured, allowing you to do or talk about whatever you wish.

FLO KENNEDY IS COMING!

OCTOBER 11  
LOOK INSIDE FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

BROWN BAG SERIES--TUESDAY NOONS

- Sept. 18 "Sexism in Moscow High School"  
--Sue Hovey, teacher
- Oct. 2 Evaluation of Women's Week
- Oct. 9 "Free Schools"  
--Cathie Gibson, Troy Merrill,  
Talisman House Coordinators
- Oct. 16 "Sexist Language"  
--Corky Bush, Coordinator,  
Intercultural Programs

FOCUS--THURSDAY NOONS

A brand new feature in the Women's Center's schedule of programs will be introduced October 5. Called Focus, it is a five-week series covering one broad topic. The first one, "Our Bodies, Our Selves", deals with sexuality, reproduction, birth control, health, and disease--their biological, emotional, and social aspects.

The lecturers and discussants include Dr. Andrew Devlin, Pullman gynecologist; Cheryl Bain of the Latah Family Planning Clinic; the staff of the Sex Information Center at WSU; and a representative of the Aradia Clinic, a feminist health center in Seattle. Flo Kennedy, lawyer for the plaintiff in several suits challenging abortion laws, will speak on October 11. Copies of the book Our Bodies, Our Selves by the Boston Women's Health Book Collective will be on sale at the University Bookstore.

The second series this fall is entitled "Children and Adults". Teachers, parents, and others who work with children are now being sought to help plan and conduct the series, which will run from November 8 to December 13.

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This publication is on file at the International Women's History Archives, 2325 Oak, Berkeley, California 94708.

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VISITORS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO:  
WHO ARE THEY?

The Co-Respondents (Sept. 25-26)

The Co-Respondents are three women from Olympia, Wash., who have started a Readers Theatre. They travel around the Northwest performing readings by and about women. Patricia Branch Larson and Sandra Lewis Nisbet are both trained and experienced in drama. The third member of the troupe, Denise Livingston, is a vocalist and guitarist.

The Emma Willard Task Force on Education  
(Sept. 24-29)

The Emma Willard Task Force is a Minneapolis-based group that organized early in 1971 to "do something" about sexism in elementary and secondary education. Since then they have been conducting teacher-training workshops, speaking to high school classes and parents' groups, and sharing their resources and strategies with other people concerned about the problem. Their book of classroom materials, Sexism in Education, is used in schools throughout the country. The three Task Force members coming to Moscow are Gerri Perreault, Ann Risch, and Mary Sornsin.

Flo Kennedy (Oct. 11)

Florynce Kennedy is a lawyer, a black activist, a feminist, and a consumer advocate who has been described as a "creative troublemaker". Her wit is documented in an article called "The Verbal Karate of Florynce R. Kennedy, Esq." in the March issue of Ms. Here are two sample Kennedy quotes: "If you've been hit a lot, you tend to stay sore for awhile. Trying to help an oppressed person is like trying to put your arm around somebody with a sunburn." "We ought to give the Pentagon budget to the Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the HEW budget to the Pentagon. Then we'd have enough money to cure cancer and sickle-cell anemia and muscular dystrophy, and we'd only have telethons for Pentagonorrhoea." While on campus, Ms. Kennedy will speak at noon in the Women's Center as part of the Focus series. Other speaking arrangements are being made by John Hecht of the ASUI Issues and Forums Committee, which is sponsoring all of the outside speakers listed here.

## VOLUNTEERING: WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

In previous issues of the Newsletter, we have appealed for volunteers to help staff at the Women's Center. The appeal has stressed the Center's need for volunteers. This time, you might want to hear what volunteering can do for you.

First of all, it's an excellent way to meet people, primarily women. Most of the people who stop in during the day sit and talk for awhile, so much of the volunteer's time is spent in casual conversation. This can help develop your communication skills, which are very important if you plan to work in a field that requires interaction with other people.

The Center is the point of coordination for women's programs and activities on campus, so you will be well-informed about upcoming events and about community services available to women. The Center also has book, magazines, and a resource file, so there is plenty of reading material for slow moments.

As a volunteer, you will take part in the Center's collective decision-making process and help determine basic Center policy as well as making day-to-day operational decisions. As the staff becomes a cohesive working group, the volunteers become good friends.

At the end of last year, some of the volunteers commented that they couldn't imagine what life would be like without the Women's Center! Come and see for yourself what rewards you can get for a few hours a week as a volunteer.

## STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

One reason the Women's Center was set up in the first place was to find ways to retain female undergraduate students, who have been dropping out of the University of Idaho at the extremely high rate of 50%. So far, however, the most frequent users of the Women's Center have come from other segments of the campus population--graduate students, staff, and faculty wives. Many of the undergraduates who come in are older returning students who have spent time at home with their children.

In order to determine the needs and interests of the 18- to 22-year-old undergraduate women, the Center is organizing a student advisory board with a representative from each living group and a proportionate number of off-campus students. The board will meet with the Center staff once a month to suggest programs, to choose books and magazines for the Center to buy, and to talk about their experiences and problems as students.

If you would like to serve on the student advisory board, please contact the Women's Center Coordinator in Administration 109, or call 885-6616.

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The Women's Center Newsletter is mailed free to all the women listed in the staff and faculty section of the Blue Key Directory, and to anyone else who requests it.

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE MARK IT "RETURN TO SENDER" AND WE WILL REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM THE LIST.

## WHAT IS THE WOMEN'S CENTER, ANYWAY?

If you are not yet familiar with the Women's Center, we suggest that you keep on the lookout for one of our new yellow and red brochures, which have been distributed around campus. Better yet, stop in Administration 109 any weekday between 9 and 5 and see for yourself. If you want to talk, someone will talk to you. If you want to be left alone, no one will bother you. The Center has:

--Coffee, tea, and conversation

--Discussion and study groups

--Referral services

--Interesting bulletin boards

--Weekly programs

--A resource file

--Comfortable chairs

--Friendly people

--A lending library

--A speakers' bureau

--A calendar of events

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CORLANN BUSH  
SATELITE UNION