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Women's Program resources, 1996

Eastern Washington University. Women's Center

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RESOURCES FOR WOMEN AT EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Information from Lee Swedberg, EWU Women's Studies Center, June, 1996

THE WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

encompasses the Women's Center and academic Women's Studies.

The Women's Studies Center in Monroe Hall is a large lounge with meeting facilities, a library, beverage table, kitchen, typing and computer stations, an art wall, and comfortable chairs and sofas. Besides its many activities, it is available for group meeting space by calling Micki Werner at 2847. Functions at the Center include twice a week noon public program presentations or videos of a great range of subject matter including the "Contemporary Issues in Feminist Research" faculty series. The Center also publishes a newsletter, offers counseling, gives receptions for campus women, and works on numerous projects for all the women of the campus.

Contact: Carol Vines 2898

Women's Studies offers over 30 courses including a wide range of elective options, some offered on campus, others at the Spokane Center. A 22 credit minor in Women's Studies is available.

Contact: Lee Swedberg 2409

OTHER WOMEN'S STUDIES CENTER COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES

The Women's Studies Curriculum Committee is composed of faculty who teach Women's Studies courses and meets twice a month to plan Women's Studies curriculum. It reviews proposed courses, library allocations, projects and grants in Women's Studies, and those university activities which affect women academically.

Contact: Lee Swedberg 2409

HOME (Helping Ourselves Means Education) is a program for low income, non traditional students. Counseling, seminars, support groups, personal planning, and referrals are offered to students. Through fund raising projects, HOME is able to offer several child care scholarships each year, and a small revolving loan fund is available to students for emergencies. The program is guided by a board of campus and community women.

Contact: Carol Vines 2898

Triota (Iota, Iota, Iota) is a national honor society for Women's Studies students with a chapter initiated at Eastern in the spring of 1996. Requirements for membership are 6 credits in Women's Studies and a 3.0 gpa.

Contact: Sue Wright 4817 or
Karen McKinney 2471

Women's Students Action Council is a student organization under Associated Students. It brings in speakers and plans political action events on campus.

Contact: Carol Vines 2898

Women's Studies Speaker's Bureau . Twenty eight speakers, primarily faculty, offer over 70 topics of interest as presentations for organizations or classes.

Contact: Lee Swedberg 2409
or Micki Werner 2847

Self Defense Classes. The Women's Studies Center has been cosponsoring self-defense classes as part of its quarterly programming, in cooperation with the Self Protection Connection and Continuing Education. The classes are self-support and offer two credits.

Contact: Carol Vines 2898

OTHER RESOURCES ON CAMPUS

Affirmative Action Officer (Also Executive Director of Human Resources and Human Rights) is the person in the administration to whom women take issues of harassment, inequity, or legal matters.

A sexual harassment policy for the institution was first passed in 1987 and has undergone several revisions since then. Many sexual harassment complaints of individuals who need guidance and information are taken to the Women's Center, but any kind of formal action must be initiated with the affirmative action officer.

Contact: Gayle Ogden 2381
or Lee Swedberg 2409
or Carol Vines 2898

President's Women's Commission

This formal organization consists of three appointed representatives each from faculty, administration, students, and staff, cochaired by the affirmative action officer and the director of Women's Studies. These two members and the director of personnel are ex officio members.

The group meets twice per quarter, once in an open forum to take suggestions from the university community and establish an agenda, once with the president to keep him up to date on the needs for women on campus. Over the past eight years, among the questions raised have been: child care, security for women, especially in the Spokane campus buildings, academic issues, working conditions for computer users, and hiring in women-poor units.

Contact: Gayle Ogden 2381
or Lee Swedberg 2409

Women in Higher Education

In 1991 Vice President, Jane Johnson, instituted a group for women administrators. It has been active in bringing a number of speakers to campus. It has also developed a regional Higher Education Roundtable and a Leadership Mentoring/Exchange Program (1995-6) for training young women into administrative channels.

Contact: Jane Johnson's office 2351

Faculty Women

Faculty women from across campus meet once a month for dinner (usually in Spokane) to take turns sharing their research or interests.

Contact: Georgia Gurrieri 7955

CARE (Creating a Rape-Free Environment)

An organization of members from across the campus community has been instrumental in increasing awareness of acquaintance rape issues on campus, and has sponsored two Northwest area conferences. The campus now has a 24-hour rape crisis advocate line, with counselors trained by the Spokane Sexual Assault Center and coordinated by Student Health. The CARE Advisory Board carries out two acquaintance rape awareness weeks per year on campus, devoted to programs and tabling at the PUB. It is also responsible for a system of third party reporting and for writing a Sexual Assault Policy for the campus to implement US Department of Education policy. Its members further trained a student disciplinary board, began the Campus Acquaintance Rape Prevention Consortium, has produced educational brochures, and gives talks on rape issues. The organization is working on mandatory educational sessions on rape for new students.

Contact: Irma Pena 4279

Child Care

In the 1980's Associated Students allocated student funds for licensed day care costs. The city of Cheney subsequently rented a portion of the Wren-Pearson building adjacent to campus to the YMCA for \$1.00 per year as a child care facility. EWU custodial absorbed the cost of daily cleaning, and both EWU and AS subsidized other overhead costs. EWU work study students provided part of the daily care of children. These solutions continue to be at risk of budget cuts from both EWU and AS. In the spring of 1995 the EWU contribution became unavailable for summer quarter students. In winter quarter of 1996 ASEWU withdrew its spring quarter child care subsidies. Students who could prove need through Financial Aid were eligible for a university arranged subsidy. The future of child care for students is now unclear.

Contact: Carol Vines 2898

Women's Studies Library Archives

Extensive book holdings in Women's Studies have been accumulated in the JFK library. In addition, collections of Women's Studies slides, interview tapes and writing are in a special archive in the library. Carolynne Myall is the library's liaison in all matters of books or collections relating to women.

Contact: Carolynne Myall 6967

Annual Campus Women's Retreat

For the last several years the Women's Studies Center has organized either an all women's retreat or a Women's Studies retreat for any interested women in the campus community, meeting for one afternoon off campus. Among the many issues which have been discussed there have been: Women's Studies pedagogy, how to handle gender biased classrooms, women's athletics, gender equity on campus, the perception vs. the reality of equity, the need for computer technology training, expanding minority opportunities in higher education, curriculum integration of women's content in classes, women's isolation in male dominated departments, mentoring, the perception of "male bashing," and violence against women on campus.

Contact: Lee Swedberg 2409

Sociology Club

An undergraduate student organization, this club is made up of sociology students and has taken a particular interest in issues of rape and sexual harassment. In December of 1995 it organized a campus wide rally against rape and sponsored the "purple ribbon" project, distributing purple ribbons to be worn once a week to protest violence against women.

Contact: Sue Wright 4817

REPRESENTATION IN OFF CAMPUS RESOURCES

Governor's Interagency Committee of State Employed Women

This state committee discusses work environment issues for women throughout state institutions and makes recommendations to the governor. Because of her position on ICSEW, EWU's representative sits as an ex officio member of the President's Women's Commission.

Contact: Jolynn Rogers 2381

Washington American Council on Education/National Identification Program.

The organization promotes and facilitates the advancement of women in higher education within the university, the state of Washington, and nationally. EWU's representative maintains an updated roster of women administrators, keeps campus women informed of NIP's activities, coordinates with campus leadership, and promotes administrative positions for women.

Contact: Ruth Galm 6567.