Dear friends,

It is now over three months since our conference in Sheffield, which I co-ordinated in collaboration with the (British) Women’s History Network. It was wonderful to get to meet so many of you at the conference, and I would like to thank everybody who contributed to making it a success by selecting papers, volunteering to chair sessions, organising panels, delivering papers, participating in the round-table, engaging in the discussions and attending the IFRWH business meeting. Our theme was ‘Women’s Histories: The Local and the Global’ and the conference attracted 200 delegates to Sheffield Hallam University in the UK, with 150 papers delivered, arranged in 60 panels in a series of parallel strands. Intellectual highlights included excellent keynotes from Professors Catherine Hall, Mrinalini Sinha and Jacqueline van Gent, while highlights of the social programme included the conference dinner in the historic Cutlers Hall and a visit to the Bronte Museum.

The delegates to the conference came from 33 counties on four continents. As one of the founding members of the IFRWH, Professor Bolanle Awe, was from Nigeria, we were particularly pleased to welcome two delegates from that country, who are reviving the women’s history committee there. I am currently working with my colleague Dr Alison Twells and Dr Julie Carlier, one of our IFRWH board members, to put together a proposal for an edited book from the conference; we are delighted to have received around 30 proposals for chapters following a circular email to all conference delegates. I have also received a lot of emails saying how much people enjoyed the conference. We managed to raise £4300 in external funding to assist people to attend, but I am very aware that some people were not able to come because of the expense, and this is an issue for us as we are seeking to be as international as possible while operating as a voluntary organisation in a world in which resources for academics are very unevenly distributed. A copy of the full conference programme and the paper abstracts is available on our website: www.ifrwh.com.

Dr Uma Chakravarti, the Vice-President, is now moving ahead with organising our next conference in Jinan, China, in August 2015. It promises to be another exciting event, and the first time we have held a conference in China. Please find the call for papers and proposal form in this newsletter, and at www.ifrwh.com. Please note that the deadline for receipt of proposals is 1st March 2014.

The conference in Jinan will be held alongside the CISH (International Committee of Historical Sciences) conference. As you know, thanks to the efforts of all of us, a number of themes and panels on women’s history have been included in the main conference: please see the CISH website for details and note that the deadline for proposals for the main CISH conference is 31st December 2013: www.cish.org

At the Jinan conference new IFRWH Officers and Board will be elected for the 2015-20 period. Professor Mary O’Dowd has kindly agreed to head the nominating committee: please see her notice in this newsletter, and note that the deadline for nominating individuals is 28th February 2014.

At the Sheffield conference meeting we also set up a prize committee to explore the possibility of offering a women’s history prize: more on this in the next newsletter.

Wishing you all the best over the coming months.

Clare Midgley
President, IFRWH

Deadlines

Visit the IFRWH website: current and previous newsletters can be found there. www.ifrwh.com

DEADLINE for next issue 6 June 2014 to F.Paisley@griffith.edu.au
Call for papers: IFRWH Conference at Jinan, China, 27-29 August 2015

The next IFRWH conference will be held at Jinan, China in August 2015 alongside the CISH conference (23-29 August). A number of themes and panels on women’s histories have been included in the main conference and that is a big step in taking women’s histories forward and a measure of the acknowledgment of the work of feminist historians. Our own conference as the IFRWH will be held over one and half days at the end of the CISH conference, and will include a meeting at which the new officers and board of the Federation will be elected.

Based on the proposals that national committees originally put forward for the main CISH conference, and on consultation with the IFRWH board, we have decided on the following overarching theme for the conference:

**Women and Modernity**

The drive towards modernity has been one of the ways in which large-scale transformations in society in economic, political, and social have been pursued across the world over the last three centuries. The conceptual framework of modernity has straddled diverse global locations. The tensions and conflicts in such broad-based changes encapsulate colonial and imperialist drives not only between the “west” and the “east,” but also within the “east” and the “south”. Women’s particular gendered experiences in nations and regions which have undergone these often rapid changes have led women to emerge as active agents, redefining/refining our notions of resistant subjectivities.

In order to maximize participation in the conference by delegates from all the different national committees of the IFRWH, we would also welcome proposals relating to these two conference sub-themes:

1. *Retrieving women’s histories from small archives and recently uncovered collections (including any period of historical enquiry)*

2. *Resistant subjectivities*

We hope you will be keen to participate in the IFRWH conference in this very important new location in China in 2015.

Please go to the IFRWH website to download the conference paper/panel proposal form: [www.ifrwh.com](http://www.ifrwh.com)

**Deadline for proposals: 1st March 2014**
Nominating Committee for IFRWH Officeholders and Board, 2015-2020

At the Business Meeting of the Federation in Sheffield in August 2012, it was agreed that a Nominating Committee be formed to propose the members of the next IFRWH board and officeholders. The new board will be appointed at the next Business Meeting of the Federation in Jinan in 2015.

The officers to be nominated are the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, a Newsletter editor and a website editor. All officers and board members will take an active role in running the IFRWH, 2015-2020. The President needs to be someone who will take on the organisation of the next big conference (midway between the meetings in Jinan in 2015 and the meeting in 2020). The Vice-President will take responsibility for organising the 2020 conference (venue to be decided at the Jinan conference). Board members should be in a position to commit to attending the Jinan and the follow up conference. The total number of board members should be no more than twelve and should come from around the world (they are not national representatives, however). The Nominating Committee welcomes suggestions from National Committee representatives for these positions.

Please send your ideas, names (with emails and postal addresses) and some reasons why you think this individual would provide energetic leadership to the IFRWH to the nominating committee. Please obtain permission from the person you are nominating before you send it to the committee. **DEADLINE: 28 February 2014.**

Nominating Committee:

Chair: Professor Mary O'Dowd  
m.odowd@qub.ac.uk  
(former president)

Professor Margaret Allen  
Margaret.allen@adelaide.edu  
(former newsletter editor)

Professor Rui Kohiyama  
rui@lab.twcu.ac.jp  
(current board member)

Professor Fiona Paisley  
f.paisley@griffith.edu.au  
(current newsletter editor)

Professor June Purvis  
june.purvis@port.ac.uk  
(former secretary/treasurer)
NEWS AND NOTES


In December 2013, the University of Wollongong hosted the Conference ‘Genocide and Human Rights in the Era of the United Nations’, which featured speakers including Professor Jean Quataert (Professor at Binghamton University, SUNY and editor of the Journal of Women’s History) and Professor Hilary Charlesworth (ARC Laureate Fellow and Director, Centre for International Governance and Justice, Australian National University).

Australian Women’s History Forum: Australia doesn’t need Women’s History Month (Canberra, March 2014)

ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Australian Women’s History Forum will hold a major gathering in Canberra in March 2014. This exciting event will attract considerable attention and we want to provide you with this early notice before invitations are sent out next month.

This event will be a headline debate on the proposition that:

Australia doesn’t need Women’s History Month

We will be inviting all women parliamentarians, and a wide array of representatives of women’s organisations. We also hope many members of the public will attend.

The debate will take place at the Albert Hall, Canberra on the evening of Wednesday 26 March 2014 and will be followed by a reception.

Some background:

Women’s History Month in Australia, launched in 2002 at Parliament House in Canberra by Senators Margaret Reid and Amanda Vanstone and MHR Carmen Lawrence, has been celebrated for a decade.

The success of Women’s History Month in the USA, a national event since a 1987 resolution of Congress, and in Canada where it was proclaimed in 1992, had inspired this initiative in Australia.

But here, the celebration of Women’s History Month has remained a series of voluntary endeavours, in recent years encouraged and overseen by a small Canberra-based team.

This debate will mark the end of the Australia-wide events, coordinated online since 2003. In a unique event, prominent thinkers will debate in the national capital on why – or whether – Australia is different.

Debaters will include:

- Dr Anne Summers AO, journalist, author, editor, publisher, head of Australia’s first Office of the Status of Women and the author of landmark books from Damned Whores and God’s Police (1975) to The Misogyny Factor (2013)
- Ms Alix Biggs, ANU student, national and international debater and a former Australian Young Historian of the Year
- Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the Australian National University, historiographer and author of several books including Revisionist Histories (2013) and a winner of the Prime Minister's Award for University Teacher of the Year
- Professor Marilyn Lake, University of Melbourne historian and current...
president of the Australian Historical Association, whose publications reflect her special interest in the political history of Australian women

- **Professor Angela Woollacott**, Professor of History at the Australian National University, editor of the Cambridge University Press *History for the Australian Curriculum* series and author of many works on women and history

**Adjudicators will include:**

- **Professor Tony Taylor**, Department of Education, Monash University, Director of the Commonwealth’s National Centre for History Education 2001-2007.
- **Professor Kim Rubenstein**, Director of the ANU Centre for International and Public Law and founding convenor of the ANU Gender Institute

Audience members will also participate in deciding whether the question has been affirmed or negated!

**Time:** 6 for 6.30 pm Wednesday, March 26, 2014  
**Venue:** Albert Hall, Commonwealth Avenue, Canberra  
**Cost:** $15 ($12 concession)  
**Bookings:** [www.trybooking.com/DVGO](http://www.trybooking.com/DVGO)

**Updates:** [www.womenshistory.net.au](http://www.womenshistory.net.au)

**Shadow Lands: Memory and Colonialism Symposium:** (University of Western Australia’ Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, 17 March 2014)

Anne Ferran is one of Australia’s most acclaimed contemporary photo-media artists and this exhibition will survey some of her most significant projects and series from the past 30 years. A recurring theme of her work is Australia’s colonial history, and especially the forgotten experience of women and children.

Since 1995, Anne has been examining and rediscovering Australia’s colonial heritage utilising museum collections, photographic archives and archaeological sites. Her investigation of Australia’s colonial past and especially its lost histories of incarceration offers an exciting opportunity for archaeologists and historians concerned with recent and contemporary pasts to consider how the materiality of places, landscapes, remains and objects both reflect and shape practices that produce identity and memory. How does our experience of the material produce sensory, affective and embodied experiences of memory and identification? What does art offer scholars concerned with understanding the past? Recent research centred on the meaning of the past and its remains in the present opens up an exciting new space for debate about cultural work concerned with memory and identity.

Speakers will include Jane Lydon, Alistair Paterson, Susan Broomhall, Jacqueline Van Gent, Jessica Neath and Deborah Gare.

**2014 Australian Women’s History Network Symposium: Paper-work: Gendering the Archive (8 July 2014)**

Special public lecture event presented by Prof Karen Hagemann (University of North Carolina).

The Australian Women’s History Network Symposium this year will focus on paper and paper-work in history from a gendered perspective. Proposed papers or panels should respond to, but not be limited by, the following themes relating to gendering the archive:

- Colonial history and the power of paper  
- Newspapers, politics and activism  
- Official papers: census, royal commissions, maps, surveys, legislation  
- Letters, photos, telegrams, posters  
- Changing technologies and paper communication
- Paper trails/ephemera/memory and loss
- Paper making
- Missing papers
- Papering over the cracks?

Our symposium will take place during the AHA 2014 Conference ‘Conflict in History’ to be held at the University of Queensland in Brisbane from 7 to 9 July. Our dedicated AWHN sessions on Tuesday 8 July.

Submiting your Proposal: The Call for Papers is now open on the AHA Conference website at http://sapmea.asn.au/conventions/aha2014/. Please submit your AWHN abstract via that website before 15 March 2014. Select the ‘Paper-work’ option in the drop-down menu when you submit your proposal. The AHA Conference email address for all enquiries is aha2014@sapmea.asn.au. Papers will be 20 mins followed by 10 mins for questions. Panels will be 90 mins.

PRIZES

Mary Bennett Prize: Nomination due 31st March 2014

The Mary Bennett Prize for Women’s History is awarded every two years by the Australian Women’s History Network to an early career historian for the best article or chapter in any field of women’s history, in any published journal (including e-journals) or edited collection. The prize is named in honour of Mary Montgomerie Bennett (1881-1961), a talented and relentless campaigner for human rights on the national and international stage.

The prize includes a citation and cash award of $200, and is awarded provided a nomination of sufficient merit is received. Those eligible must have completed their Doctorate no more than six years prior to the publication of the article, or be enrolled in a Doctoral program. The nominees must normally be resident in Australia.

The closing date for the next award is 31 March 2014. The nominated work must bear a publication date of 2012 or 2013. Nominations (of your own work or that of a colleague) can be made by sending a cover letter containing full contact details of the author, along with two copies of the nominated article, to:

Australian Women’s History Network
C/O Professor Vera Mackie
Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts
University of Wollongong
Wollongong NSW 2522
AUSTRALIA

PUBLICATIONS

The e-Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth Century Australia will be available online from early 2014. Co-edited by Judith Smart and Shurlee Swain it is one of the major outputs from the ARC Linkage Project led by Professor Patricia Grimshaw of The University of Melbourne.


The Market in Babies is a short, accessible history of Australian adoption. It features the voices of people who have experienced adoption, and explains the historical context of those experiences. The authors hope to contribute to community understanding of this vexed subject, and to influence political and policy outcomes in the future. Copies can be obtained from Monash University Publishing at www.publishing.monash.edu


Women’s History Review, a journal which provides a forum for a variety of approaches to women’s history is seeking articles for a special issue to be edited by Mary Spongberg and Paula Hamilton - Women’s History, Memory and the Digital Turn

Perhaps more than any single factor in the twenty-first century, the digital turn in the Humanities has changed the way in which historians research, write and disseminate history. We are calling for papers based on digital history projects that chart some of these new directions relating to women’s history and memory. We are also interested in essays which address the now inseparable relationship between research in the archive and historical writing as well as future historical records available for the study of women and gendered aspects of these newly constituted digital sources.

Underpinning these concerns is the question of how understandings of women’s history
have changed since the digital turn. Our scope is a broad one – we welcome proposals that discuss method, tools, process, practice, dissemination and pedagogy in women’s history in the digitized 21st century. Subjects may include:

• The rise of digital scholarly communities and the possibilities these pose for mega and multinational collaborations
• The gender of the digital archive: how do institutions prioritise records for digitization? Are sources central to women’s history considered as part of these programs? What particular issues might arise with the digitalization of archives pertaining specifically to women’s lives?
• The politics of databases—what gets preserved? Who gets to use it? How do we find out about them?
• How the digital changes the relation between libraries, archives and scholars
• The new possibilities offered by the digital turn for research dissemination via open access, social media, scholarly blogging etc
• The digital and the use and reproduction of non-discursive sources
• Will this new technology change the nature of historical scholarship and what will this mean for historians of women?
• What new skills will historians need as we embrace digital archives for our research and pedagogy?
• New understandings of material culture: are virtual objects related to women’s history being made readily available by museums?

Please send a 300–500 word proposal for an article by Friday January 31st 2014 to Paula.Hamilton@uts.edu.au.

The completed essay will need to be submitted by end of September 2014.

Compiled by Dr Sharon Crozier-De Rosa

BELGIUM

NEWS AND NOTES

News from the Belgian Archive Centre for Women’s History / Centre d’Archives pour l’Histoire des Femmes

Oral history project on second wave feminism

The Belgian Archive Centre for Women’s History has started an oral history project on second wave feminism in Dutch speaking Belgium. Fifteen prominent women who were active in second wave feminism have been interviewed. Each woman was interviewd twice, using the life story approach. The interviews were transcribed and are now available for historical research.

The second part of the project will be a didactical website on second wave feminism that can be used in secondary schools’ history classes. The website will contain parts of the audio interviews and short video statements, as well as visual archival material and historical documents. It will be published on www.gendergeschiedenis.be in the spring of 2014.

Contact: avg.carhif@amazone.be.

Book presentation ‘Marijke Van Hemeldonck: socialiste et féministe’

In December 2013 the Belgian Archive Centre for Women’s History (Carhif) and the Institute for the Equality of Women and Men are presenting a new biography about Marijke Van Hemeldonck, written by Els Flour (Carhif).

In the second half of the 20th century equality in work, in decision making and within the family were important items on the agenda of the feminist movement. Marijke Van Hemeldonck was very active in this struggle for a more equal society. In spite of many obstacles she kept on urging her socialist union and party to stand up for the rights of working and unemployed women, for free access to contraceptives and for abortion. She also fought for these issues in feminist groups.
such as Aktiekomitee Gelijk Loon voor Gelijk Werk (Action Committee Equal Pay for Equal Work), het Vrouwen Overleg Comittee (The Women Consultation Comittee) en LeF (Links en Feministisch / Left and Feminist). Her revolt of the 1960s and 1970s resounds in the articles she wrote in the weekly magazine Links (Left). Marijke Van Hemeldonck was active on the international level as well. She participated in the UN world conferences on women and as a member of European Parliament she helped putting the inequality between men and women on the European agenda.

The book traces the militant track of Marijke Van Hemeldonck, reveals which strategies the women’s movement used to achieve change and how international organisations intervened in the process.

Contact: e.flour@amazone.be.


Outil pédagogique «Femmes et hommes dans l’histoire: un passé commun (Antiquité/Moyen Age)» aux Éditions Labor Éducation.

L’histoire enseignée à l’école diffuse encore trop souvent l’idée que les femmes n’ont joué dans l’histoire qu’un rôle secondaire qu’il est inutile de souligner. Réalisé par le Carhif, Femmes et hommes dans l’histoire est un outil pédagogique qui veut aller de l’avant et montrer qu’une autre histoire est possible. Il propose aux enseignant-e-s une série de leçons modèles richement documentées qui englobent le passé des hommes et des femmes durant l’Antiquité et le Moyen Age. De manière exploratoire, il ouvre la voie à une histoire mixte, plus complète, plus réelle, celle d’un passé commun où les femmes apparaissent aux côté des hommes comme de véritables actrices de l’histoire politique, sociale, économique et religieuse.


N’hésitez pas à nous faire part de vos commentaires et suggestions et à diffuser cette nouvelle auprès des personnes intéressées par l’enseignement de l’histoire.
Contact: c.marissal@amazone.be.

Écrire et dire l’histoire des femmes : un enjeu pour l’égalité

Suite à la sortie de l’outil pédagogique «Femmes et hommes dans l’histoire: un passé commun (Antiquité et Moyen Âge)», le Carhif a mis en ligne une présentation élaborée avec le soutien de l’Institut pour l’Égalité des Femmes et des Hommes. Cette présentation (Powerpoint/pdf) a pour but de conscientiser les publics sur la vision subjective de l’Histoire, qui offre peu de place au rôle de la femme.


Nouvelles du Forum pour l’Histoire du Genre 2013

Forum pour l’Histoire du Genre 2013: Genre et guerre

A l’automne 2013, le Forum belge pour la recherche en histoire du genre a consacré une journée d’études sur l’histoire des guerres dans une perspective de genre, avec un accent particulier pour la Première Guerre mondiale.

Les interventions de la première session: Soignantes et soignées aux hôpitaux Saint-Pierre et Saint-Jean de Bruxelles durant la Première Guerre mondiale par Julie De Ganck (Université libre de Bruxelles); Occupations charnelles. Les relations intimes entre occupants et occupées. Belgique et France, 1914-1918 par Emmanuel Debruyne (Université catholique de Louvain); Tribulations féminines dans une Afrique en
guerre. Les Sœurs missionnaires de Notre-Dame d’Afrique et les Carriers Hospitals de Tanzanie et du Congo (1914-1918) par Anne Cornet (Musée royal de l’Afrique centrale).

Les interventions de la deuxième session: Misère exploitée ou vice éhonté? Les tribunaux pour enfants et les faits de mœurs durant la Grande Guerre par Aurore François (Université catholique de Louvain / Université de Liège); The pregnant body and its children fathered by the First and Second World War by Gerlinda Swillen (Free University of Brussels / Soma-Ceges); The children of Save: the ‘repatriation’ to Belgium of children of mixed race from colonial Ruanda-Urundi by Sarah Heynssens (Antwerp University).

Contact: avg.carhil@amazone.be.

PUBLICATIONS

New Journal of Diversity and Gender Studies (DiGeSt)

The new Journal of Diversity and Gender Studies (DiGeSt) is a bi-annual, peer-reviewed journal dedicated to the intersection of diversity and gender studies. DiGeSt seeks original contributions written in English that present the results of new research, reflect on methodological challenges, engage with new theories or work across disciplines.

In addition to full essays, DiGeSt is interested in roundtable contributions, consisting of shorter notes by different scholars addressing a topical issue, and progress reports of ongoing research. The “What are your reading?” section invites (early-career) researchers to report on works that are deemed relevant to the field and that are of particular significance to the author’s ongoing research.

For its second issue (2014) it welcomes contributions on current research in Belgium that problematizes gender or/and focuses on issues dealing with diversity in all its manifestations, from a broad array of disciplines in the arts and humanities (such as sociology, philosophy, history, arts, and literature) but also from the natural sciences. More information on the Journal and the call for contributions on:

Contact: digest@ugent.be.

Film «Les 30 ans de l’Université des Femmes»
Julie Carlier

A l’occasion de son 30ème anniversaire, l’Université des Femmes a demandé à Julie Carlier, jeune cinéaste féministe, de rencontrer une dizaine de femmes qui ont participé à la fondation et au développement de ce projet original. Chacune raconte son cheminement, sa découverte du féminisme, la première Journée des Femmes à Bruxelles avec Simone de Beauvoir comme invitée, l’aventure des Cahiers du Grif puis la création de l’Université, lieu de rencontre entre travail de recherche et engagement de terrain.

Contact: info@universitedesfemmes.be.

Les féministes belges et les luttes pour l’égalité politique et économique, 1914-1968
Catherine Jacques

Alors que l’histoire des femmes est relativement bien implantée en Belgique, il n’existe encore aucune étude qui envisage l’ensemble des mouvements féministes dans leur rapport à la société civile et politique. Le contexte a ici toute son importance : le féminisme d’entre-deux-guerres est en effet confronté à la mise en place de nouveaux processus d’intervention de l’État et aux conséquences des politiques natalistes menées par tous les gouvernements. Or ces tendances sont en totale contradiction avec l’implication des femmes dans l’espace public, avec leur accès à de nouvelles filières professionnelles, avec leur arrivée plus nombreuse dans l’enseignement secondaire et même supérieur. L’ouvrage privilégie une approche thématique des revendications féministes et offre un focus sur les avancés dans la sphère publique (pour l’essentiel la question du droit à la citoyenneté économique

Au terme, l’ouvrage permet de mieux comprendre le processus d’inclusion des femmes dans la société belge et éclaire sur les mécanismes de démocratisation de celle-ci par l’intégration de ses citoyennes.


Marie Elisabeth Belpaire : gender en macht in het literaire veld, 1900 – 1940 (Marie Elisabeth Belpaire: gender and power in the literary field)
Geraldine Reymenants

Marie Elisabeth Belpaire was one of few women who managed to make a career in the male dominated literary field in the first decades of the twentieth century. As owner and financer of the influential cultural periodical *Dietsche Warande & Belfort*, she had a strong influence on its ideological and editorial course. She had a broad network of (katholic) writers and artists, politicians, academics and clergy and obtained a substantial power in the katholic (literary) world in Flanders.

Geraldine Reymenants gives an insight in the discourses of the beginning of the 21st century about female authorship and gendered power mechanisms in the literary field by analysing the position of Marie Elisabeth Belpaire.


Gender and Christianity in Modern Europe: beyond the Féminization Thesis
Patrick Pasture, Jan Art, Thomas Buerman (dir.)

Since the 1970s the feminization thesis has become a powerful trope in the rewriting of the social history of Christendom. However, this ‘thesis’ has triggered some vehement debates, given that men have continued to dominate the churches, and the churches themselves have reacted to the association of religion and femininity, often formulated by their critics, by explicitly focusing their appeal to men. In this book the authors critically reflect upon the use of concepts like feminization and masculinization in relation to Christianity.


Nouveau numéro de la revue *Sextant*: «Regards sur le sexe»
Vanessa D’Hooghe et Julie De Ganck (coord.)

Si le sexe est et a toujours été pointé du doigt, s’il charrie un lot de discours féconds, il est aussi et peut-être paradoxalement caché, dénigré voire hypocritement oublié. Or il s’agit là d’un organe essentiel à toute vie. Sa nécessité mais aussi les secrets qui l’entourent lui donnent un caractère mystérieux rempli de force et de fragilité, de plaisirs multiples et de douleurs.

Fruit du colloque «Montrez ce sexe que je ne saurais voir!», ce volume adopte un regard essentiellement historique sur le sexe, tout en s’enrichissant d’une analyse issue du cinéma.

Cette rencontre souligne à quel point la délimitation de ce qui est organe sexuel ou non varie dans le temps, dans l’espace et dans le corps, physique et psychique. Plus que l’établissement d’une géographie du sexuel, l’important est ce que les organes relatent sur les rapports entre, d’une part, les
modèles de sexuation et de fonctionnement de la sexualité et, d’autre part, la régulation sociale des rapports humains.»


EXHIBITION

Two female photographers: Germaine Van Parys & Odette Dereze
until 02/03/14, Antwerp (FotoMuseum)

Germaine Van Parys (1896-1983) was a pioneer in Belgian photo journalism. In collaboration with her godchild Odette Dereze (1932) she accomplished an impressive oeuvre. Their work offers a unique insight in the Belgian history from 1918 until the end of the 20th century. The archives of these photographers are now exceptionally on display for the general public in the Antwerp Photo Museum.


More information: www.fotomuseum.be

PRIZES – Prix

Johanna Naber Prize 2013


The jury was composed of Mieke Aerts (professor political history of gender at Amsterdam University), Gita Deneckere (professor social history at Ghent University) and Remco van Hauwemeiren (winner of the previous edition). They were impressed by the chosen topic, the way Ann Romeyns consulted the sources (written sources and interviews with key figures in the second wave feminism in Belgium) and the final result.

Students who finished a thesis on women or gender history between December 1, 2012 and December 1, 2013 can compete for the Johanna Naber Price 2014. Subscriptions must be submitted before January 6, 2014.
More information: www.gendergeschiedenis.nl

Prix Université des Femmes 2013


Mention spéciale (TFE): Louise Lebailly "L’origine de la transmission des stéréotypes de genre en éducation physique dans le premier degré du secondaire"

Mention spéciale (Master): Anaëlle Prêtre “Le corps féminin comme expression d’un art politiquement engagé: Sanja Ivekovic, Mona Hatoum et Shirin Neshat”

1er prix (Master) : Sophie Richelle "Les ‘folles’ de Bailleul. Expériences et conditions d’internement dans un asile français (1880-1914)"

2è prix ex-aequo (Master): Laura Sengler "La place actuelle des femmes dans la presse écrite française. Analyse de l’absence des femmes dans les postes à hautes responsabilités de la presse quotidienne nationale au travers de quatre quotidiens: La Croix, Le Figaro, Le Monde, Libération"
NEWS AND NOTES

Conferences

In November 2012 Reneta Roshkeva and Nikolai Nenov, researchers in the historical archive in the town of Rousse organized a women’s history conference entitled “Women in the Modern Times” and dedicated to the 200 anniversary of Tonka Obretenova, the Bulgarian woman-national activist during the period of Ottoman domination. The papers from the conference were published as proceedings of the Rousse historical museum. (Please, see the list of publications below.)

PhD Students

In February 2013 the Department of Cultural Studies (Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences, St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia) admitted the first PhD student in women’s and gender history: Zuzana Piptova (BA, Charles U., Prague; MA, Sofia University) will work on her PhD thesis (on Women and War) under the supervision of Krassimira Daskalova.

PUBLICATIONS


Milena Kirova, David, velikia: Istoria i muzhestvenost v evreiskata biblia (Kniga 1) [David, the Great: History and masculinity in the Hebrew Bible (Book 1)], Sofia: Siela, 2011, 375 pp.


Nurie Muratova, First web catalogue of women and minority archive funds in Bulgaria, In: Book Series: Women and Minorities
Denmark

NEWS AND NOTES

Pernille Sonne is one of three authors of this volume: Da skolen tog form. 1780-1850. (When Schools were shaped. 1780-1850). Volume 2 of Dansk Skolehistorie: Hverdag, vilkår og visioner i 500 år. (Schools in Denmark: A History of Everyday Life, Conditions, and Visions over 500 Years). Aarhus University Press 2013. 432 pages.

This volume concentrates upon a period of time where school became a more prominent feature in most children's lives. From the 1780's school experiments were started at some of the largest estates in the country and new legislation from 1814 strengthened compulsory education in the big and complex reign of colonial Denmark. From that time both boys and girls had to go to school on a regular basis from the age of seven and until confirmation which usually took place at the age of fourteen. How schooling actually was depended, however, on where the children grew up, whether they were girls or boys, rich or poor. In village schools for the children of local peasants both sexes were taught together and enjoyed almost the same curriculum. The important exception was the new subject: gymnastics or physical training, which was only for peasant boys all growing up to become his majesty's soldiers. Opposite the peasant girls and other poor children, girls of higher social position received a more sophisticated education different from the one minded for their brothers. Mathematics, science, commercial subjects or the classical languages were not for society girls – they were amongst other things taught fine embroidery, singing, dancing, music, arithmetic, reading and writing both Danish and in foreign languages. Common for all girls regardless to social standard was the teaching outside the curriculum: that of becoming decent, modest, silent and well behaved young women.

Sniff Nexø Andersen has published the article: "Særlige grønlandske forhold. Rum, ret og uægteskabelige børn i det koloniale Grønland" (Making allowance for the special conditions there... Space, law, and illegitimate children in colonial Greenland). Historisk Tidsskrift, 113(1): 147-183.

Agnes S. Arnórsdóttir has published the article: "Cultural Memory and Gender in Iceland from Medieval to Early Modern Time". Scandinavian Studies, 85(3): 378-399.

Compiled by Karin Lützen

France

NEWS AND NOTES

Clio: Femmes, Genre, Histoire will shortly publish an English version of its journal online. The first volume to appear in translation is the volume 37 "Engendering Medicine." See the web site: http://clio.revues.org/.

Françoise Thébaud and Isabelle Ernot coordinated the historical entries for the Dictionnaire universel des créatrices, Éditions des femmes/ Antoinette Fouque, 2013 (250 biographical notices of historians throughout the world).

The CNRS has recently created the "Institut du Genre" which finances interdisciplinary research projects in the social sciences and the humanities that use gender as a category of analysis. See their website: http://www.mshparisnord.fr/gis-institut-genre/

The CNRS also sponsors a national database of scholars working on gender. See https://recherche.genre.cnrs.fr/
Randi DEGUILHEM and Laurence HERAULT have created a new collection on women’s and gender history “Penser le Genre” at PUP (Publications Universitaires de Provence), Aix-en-Provence. The following books were published in 2012: CADERNE Nicole, 2012, Mon énigme éternel. Marie-Edmée..., une jeune fille sous le Second Empire; DERMENJIAN Geneviève, Jacques GUILHAUMOU & Karine LAMBERT, La place des femmes dans la cité; LAMBERT Karine, Genre et criminalité. Itinéraires féminins de la déviance en Provence (1750-1850) and in 2013: Constance de GOURCY, Francesca ARENA et Yvonne KNIEBEHLER, 2013, Familles en mouvement. Migrations et parentalité en Méditerranée, ZELLAL Coline, 2013, A l’ombre des usines en fleurs. Genre et travail dans la parfumerie grassoise, 1900-1950.

http://sites.univ-provence.fr/w3pup/show.php?ident=1165

RECENT AND UPCOMING CONFERENCES

International conférence: Etudes de genre en France, organized by the Institut du Genre and the Ecole normale supérieure of Lyon, ENS de Lyon, 3-5 septembre 2014.


History of Women, History of Gender, Gendered History, 5-6 décembre 2013, Université Paris 8 ; Archives nationales. http://genreurope.hypothes.is/?lang=en_GB

Seen as a useful category of analysis or as a scientific theme or field, gender has become a very dynamic concept in the current scientific research. In this process that reached all the social sciences, history first stayed in the background. This workshop wishes to interrogate the lesser interest in gender shown by historians, but it will also shed light on the rising and recent use of this category of analysis in the contemporary period. It will highlight the evolution that has led from the history of women to the history of gender, and it will underline the historiographical renewal that this new research on gender or on a gendered history has recently produced. As a result, an important place will be left to PhD candidates, post-doctoral fellows and young researchers in the workshop. Their topics and their methodological doubts or reflections will be strongly interrogated. This workshop wants to approach the multiple uses of gender in history but it will also thrive on a reflection on transdisciplinary circulations.


Recent Dissertation Defences

Caroline Fayolle, Genre, savoir et citoyenneté. Les enjeux politiques de l’éducation des filles (de 1789 aux années 1820), thèse de doctorat d’histoire sous la direction de Michèle Riot-Sarcey, université de Paris 8, soutenance le 26 novembre 2013.


Special issues of journal

d’archéologie méditerranéennes, tome XXV, 2013.


Books by individual authors and edited collection


BELLAVITIS Anna, Laura Casella & Dorit Raines (dir.), Construire les liens de famille dans l’Europe moderne, Rouen, Presses universitaires de Rouen et du Havre, 2013, 206 p.


MARUANI Margaret (dir.), Travail et genre dans le monde, l’état des savoirs, Paris, La Découverte, 2013.


Journal Articles


CADENE Nicole, « Masculin-féminin dans le journal de Marie-Edmée… », La Faute à Rousseau, n° 64, octobre 2013, p. 32-33.


SANCHEZ Nelly, « Le rôle de la SGDL dans la carrière des femmes de lettres (1881-1917) », http://www.sgdl.org/ressource/documentation-sgdl/articles/2242-le-role-de-la-sgdl-dans-la-carriere-des-femmes-de-lettres

Articles in edited collections


Compiled by Rebecca Rogers (Rebecca.rogers@parisdescartes.fr)

IRELAND

NEWS AND NOTES

Women’s History Association of Ireland (WHAI) members have been active as ever over the last few months. News starts with the news that University College Dublin Press Classics in Irish History has published Irish Homes and Irish Hearts with an introduction by Mary McAuliffe, President of the WHAI. Between 1864 and 1867 Fanny Taylor made many trips to Ireland and Irish Homes and Irish Hearts (1867) is an eye-witness account of her
visits to the many Irish Catholic religious orders, including the Magdalene homes. While this is a relatively uncritical study of the Irish religious orders it remains a valuable source of information for mid-nineteenth-century Irish social and religious history.

Also in news from the WHAI, the 2014 Conference - Cumann na mBan 100, is to be held on 4th-5th April, 2014, at Collins Barracks Dublin. On 2nd April 1914, the first meeting of Cumann na mBan was held at Wynn's Hotel in Dublin. In 2014 the WHAI will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the formation of one of the most significant women's organisations in modern Irish history, and especially, the most important such body in the revolutionary decade of 1912-1922. Between 1914 and 1922 thousands of Cumann na mBan women participated in the nationalist struggle and it is these women and this organization that we seek to explore on the 100th anniversary of its foundation. With much of the work and activities of the Cumann na mBan women having been forgotten or overlooked, 2014 provides an opportune moment to shine a fresh light on the contribution of nationalist women to the Independence struggle. The conference will explore the foundation, work and legacy of Cumann na mBan and all other aspects of female activism during the Irish revolutionary decade, 1912-1923. For further details see http://womenshistoryassociation.com/cumann-na-mban-100.

WHAI Executive members, Dr. Elaine Farrell, Queen's University Belfast, and Dr. Sarah Anne Buckley, NUI Galway, published monographs in 2013. Dr. Farrell's book, 'A most diabolical deed': Infanticide and Irish society, 1850-1900 was published by Manchester University Press; Dr. Buckley's book, The cruelty man: Child welfare, the NSPCC and the State in Ireland, 1889–1956 was also published by Manchester University Press.

The North West Labour History Society organised a special conference on women's history, held in Manchester in November. WHAI member (and former Secretary) Sonja Tiernan of Liverpool Hope University was invited to address delegates on the topic of Delia Larkin and Women in the 1913 Dublin Lockout. Sonja will also deliver talks on the history of Irish female political activists at various events in the UK including the Irish Studies Research Group, Liverpool in January 1914 and the Warrington Literary and Philosophical Society in April 2014. Sonja has recently prepared the manuscript of a book on the Political Writings of Eva Gore-Booth which will be published by Manchester University Press in 2014. Several chapters by Dr Tiernan are also due for publication in the coming months including an appraisal of the Irish suffragette magazine, the Irish Citizen in Writing Against the Grain: News, Journalism & Periodicals in Twentieth Century Ireland.

WHAI member, Dr Clara Cullen of the UCD Humanities Institute, University College Dublin was winner of the 2013 Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) History of Medicine prize with presentation - 'War work on the Home Front: the Central Sphagnum Moss Depot of Ireland at the RCSCI (1915-1919)'. The depot was organised and run by the women's Voluntary Aid Detachment at the Royal College of Science. She also gave a lecture, 'The world upturning: the Irish wartime diaries of Elsie Henry, 1913-1919’ at Rathmines Public Library, 20 Aug. 2013 as part of Heritage Week.

Finally, WHAI member Margaret O hOgartaigh has published an article, ‘Servants of the State, Female Primary Teachers in Ireland, 1878-1930’ in ‘Seanchas Ardmhacha’, 2013, launched in December 2013. She is also giving a lecture, titled ‘The sectarianisation of paediatrics: Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children and John Charles McQuaid’ at Oxford University, July 10, 2014.

Compiled by Dr. Jennifer Redmond, International Secretary for the Women’s History Association of Ireland.

ISRAEL

NEWS AND NOTES

The Israeli Association for Feminist and Gender Studies celebrated, in November, the
publication of more than forty new books dealing with women and gender – the products of last year.

One of these new books titled: Zionist Women’s Struggle for Suffrage in Mandatory Palestine, 1917-1926, was written by Prof. Margalit Shilo (Jerusalem: Yad Ben-Zvi, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, 2013. 406 pages, in Hebrew).

This book explores the in-depth story of the first and only Zionist women’s struggle for suffrage. Right after the British conquest (1917 – 1918) of the Holy Land the small Jewish community that dwelled there wanted to establish an Elected Assembly that will be its representative body. The only issue that hindered this aim was the question whether women will be part of it. A group of feminist Zionist women from all over the country initiated a very active political party that took part in the elections for the National Assembly, even before women’s suffrage was decided upon. This was actually a “reverse struggle”. This unique phenomenon took part in Mandatory Palestine between 1917 – 1926 and resulted in the declaration of women’s equal rights in all aspects of life. The book elaborates on a wide number of central issues: Jewish and Zionist Roots of feminism and nationalism and the way in which feminism and nationalism reinforced each other; the Ultra Orthodox Jewish sector (the ‘Old yishuv’) negation of the modern idea of women’s equality; the way in which Jewish traditional concepts of women fashioned the Rabbis’ attitude, including Rabbi Kook, on the question of women’s suffrage; the complicated struggle, its ups and mostly its downs; the way in which the idea of women’s suffrage spread through the country; and last but not least, the most interesting personalities of these female leaders and their life stories and much more. Suffrage in Mandatory Palestine makes use of various up to date gender theories and compares this nearly one hundred years old suffrage struggle to the many other struggles that took place in the first half of the 20th century in other countries all over the world. The question why was this story obliterated from historiography, which is dealt with in the concluding chapter connects this nearly forgotten historical conflict with the present situation of Israeli women.

The Sixteenth World Congress of Jewish Studies, took place in July at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Many presentations focused on women and gender issues.

One of the Panels dealt with the subject “Social History as Gender History: A New Look at the History of the Jewish community in Mandatory Palestine”. The papers presented in this panel were: “The Social History as Gender History, Theory and Practice”, by prof. Margalit Shilo; “Good Neighbors: Daily Life in the Mixed Cities during the Mandate Period from a Gendered Perspective” by Dr. Tammi Razi; “The Organizations of Jewish and the Organizations of Palestinian Women during the British Mandate: Potential Relations which Did Not Materialize” by Prof. Deborah Bernstein, and “Abortions as a Reflection of the Jewish Community’s Complexity” by Dr. Lilach Rosenberg-Friedman. In this paper, the characteristics of the Jewish community in Mandatory Palestine as a meeting place of international cultures, were explored through analysis of the dominant influences which shaped the abortions phenomenon that was prevalent in that society.

Compiled by Lilach Rosenberg-Friedman, Ph.D
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JAPAN

The IFRWH Japan committee has been finally organized as the Gender History Association of Japan and The Society for Research on Women’s History. Two of the major academic associations for research in women’s/gender histories in Japan, have agreed to participate in the formation of the committee. We are expecting other associations interested in the field will join us in the future.

The Society for a Research on Women’s History in Japan held an International Conference on Women’s/Gender History in
East Asia (China, Korea and Japan) titled “Historical Images of East Asia from a Women’s / Gender Perspective” on November 16 and 17, 2013 at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo. It was held in collaboration with the Society for Research on Chinese Women’s History and the Gender History Association of Japan.

The conference had three sessions on:
1) Female rulers during the period from 6th to 9th centuries
2) Women and family (household) from 10th to 18th centuries, and
3) Women’s migration in search of profitable labor in the modern period.

Four researchers invited from China and Korea as well as five Japanese researchers gave stimulating papers in the three sessions and the audience attentively joined discussions. We had about 400 participants in total including not only students, post graduate students and professionals but also table kitchen historians. In the conference, we also had a special program on a historiography of Asian women’s histories in U.S.


The Gender History Association of Japan celebrated the 10th anniversary of its foundation at the annual meeting on Dec. 7 and 8 held at Hitotsubashi University, Kunitachi, Tokyo. The association formally invited Professor Cynthia Enloe, Clark University, to give a lecture to commemorate the occasion. Although unexpected when planned, Prof. Enloe’s focus on gendered militarization was so timely—unfortunately for the nation—as the specified secrets protection bill was being passed in the Diet on that weekend. The audience responded enthusiastically to Prof. Enloe’s energetic speech as well as to the following symposium in which three presenters talked about gendered militarization in the post WWII Japan and Okinawa. The two-day meeting included another symposium on gendered migration and obtained about 180 participants in total.

Complied by Rui Kohiyama

NEW ZEALAND

NEWS AND NOTES

In 2013 New Zealand celebrated the 120th anniversary of women winning the vote, the first nation state in which women were enfranchised. A number of events were held around the country to mark the anniversary.

A useful infopic of historical change was produced by Statistics New Zealand. It can be found at the following address: www.stats.govt.nz/about_us/statistics2013/120-years-suffrage.aspx


Major new histories of New Zealand’s women and gender experience will appear in 2014: Barbara Brookes’ history of New Zealand women, Tangata Whenua: an illustrated history by Atholl Anderson, Judith Binney and Aroha Harris, and Panguru and the City: He Kainga Rua. An urban migration history, all from BWB (www.bwb.co.nz).

Theses completed in 2013 include Grace Millar’s ‘Families and the 1951 New Zealand Waterfront Lockout’, PhD, History, Victoria University of Wellington, and Arini Loader, ‘Tau mai e Kapiti te whare wananga o ia, o te nui, o te wehi, o te toa: reclaiming early Raukawa-Toarangatira writing from Otaki’, PhD, Maori Studies, Victoria University of Wellington.

Judith Bennett (History, University of Otago), has led the ‘Mother’s Darlings’ project tracing the children born to women in the Pacific and
US servicemen during WW2. A book and film have been produced from the project. A website also provides information: www.otago.ac.nz/usfathers/

CONFERENCES

Recent conferences include the highly successful New Zealand Historical Association Conference (Dunedin, 20-22 November 2013), the Australian and New Zealand Law and History Conference (Dunedin, 25-27 November 2013), ‘What is there new to say about WW1’ (Wellington, 28-30 November 2013).

Complied by Charlotte Macdonald Wellington, New Zealand/Aotearoa Charlotte.macdonald@vuw.ac.nz

NEWS AND NOTES

The Coordinating Council for Women in History

The Coordinating Council for Women in History is an organization for women in the historical profession. Its primary goals are to educate scholars on the status of women in the historical profession and to promote research and interpretation in all areas of women's history. The CCWH is affiliated with the American Historical Association, the Association for Women in Slavic Studies, the Association of Black Women Historians, the Canadian Committee on Women’s History, the Coalition for Western Women’s History, the National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites, the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program, the Organization of American Historians, the Rural Women’s Studies Association, the Society for Advancing the History of Southeast Asia, the Southern Association for Women Historians, the Upstate New York Women’s History Organization, the Western Association of Women Historians, and Women’s and Gender Historians of the Midwest. For individual and affiliate membership information, visit the CCWH website at www.theccwh.org.

Reports from CCWH Affiliates

The 2014 Western Association of Women Historians Conference will be at the Kellogg West Conference Center at Cal Poly Pomona in California, May 1-3, 2014. Panels and roundtables represent a broad range of fields, periods, and regions of history. WAWH fosters discussions across national boundaries and historical periods. Information about WAWH awards and prizes is now available at the website. WAWH member news includes the following: Sharon Block, along with Ruth Alexander and Mary Beth Norton, has published a thoroughly revised edition of Major Problems in American Women's History. In Paris earlier this year, Karen Offen lectured (in French) in the conference cycle of the Institut Emilie du Châtelet, 40 years of feminist studies. The video, filmed by the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, can be accessed on the website of the Institute. Vicki Ruiz was recently named a Distinguished Professor of History and Chicano/Latino Studies at UC Irvine. Michelle Marchetti Coughlin, independent historian, has joined the Board of Directors of the Abigail Adams Birthplace. Sabina Donati published A Political History of National Citizenship and Identity in Italy, 1861–1950 (Stanford University Press, 2013). Amy Essington published a review of Beyond DiMaggio: Italian Americans in Baseball by Lawrence Baldassaro for the Sports Literature Association. Early in 2013, Ronald P. Loftus's second book on Japanese women’s memoirs and autobiographies came out. Lindsay Wilson participated in the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on “The Centrality of Translation to the Humanities: New Interdisciplinary Scholarship” at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

The Organization of American Historians will hold its annual conference in Atlanta, April 10-13, 2014. This year’s theme is "Crossing Borders."

Among the meeting's highlights, the OAH Committee on the Status of Women in the Historical Profession will host its annual networking luncheon on Friday, April 11. The featured speaker will be Barbara Ransby of...
the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Visit http://www.oah.org/meetings-events/annual-conference/ for further information or to register.

Call for Papers

6th Biennial AWSS Conference: Women, Gender, and Revolution in Slavic Studies
Thursday, April 10, 2014
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Atlanta, GA

The Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) is soliciting paper presentations on the theme of “Women, Gender, and Revolution in Slavic Studies” for its 6th Biennial Conference to be held on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Atlanta, GA. The conference will be held in conjunction with the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (SCSS), which opens Thursday evening and runs through Saturday. Participants of the AWSS Conference are encouraged to attend and participate in the SCSS conference as well (a separate CFP will be issued for that conference). AWSS Conference participants are eligible to receive the SCSS rate for the hotel, $165.00/night.

The theme of women, gender, and revolution can be approached in a variety of ways. Most concretely, that these addressed the actions of men and women in political revolution, broadly conceived, including (but not limited to) events of 1848, 1905, and 1917, events leading up to the fall of Communism in Eastern Europe, and the post-Community transformations after 1989. The theme also invites the study of gendered representations of revolutionary events, and of significant transformation in gender roles at any time in Russia and East European History.

The keynote talk for the conference will be delivered by Janet Johnson, Associate Professor of Political Science and Women’s Studies at Brooklyn College, City University of New York. Dr. Johnson (PhD 2001, Indiana University-Bloomington) is an expert on gender, violence, and civil society in post-communist transitions in Eastern Europe. She has published and spoken widely on these subjects. Her talk at the conference will be on “Revolutionizing Gender Studies”. Though not everyone understands it, the study of women in Slavic Studies revolutionized gender studies by clarifying that change of regime—such as from communism to post-communism—radically alters gender. Russia’s recent move toward authoritarian should also make us rethink gender, this time by highlighting the role of informal networks, practices, and institutions. Gender-blind social scientists are claiming these notions as their own, even though they have been hidden there all along in gender studies, especially among those of us who study places outside of Western Europe and North America.

The conference organizers invite proposals from scholars at all stages in their careers and in any discipline of Slavic Studies (history, literature, linguistics, political science, sociology, anthropology, economics, gender studies, etc.). Proposals should consist of a 250-word abstract of the paper (including the paper’s title) and a brief one-page CV that includes author’s affiliation and contact information. Proposals are due by December 15 to Sharon Kowalsky, Associate Professor of History.

Texas A&M University-Commerce, Sharon.Kowalsky@tamuc.edu. Participants will be notified of their acceptance approximately four weeks after the proposal deadline.

Any questions about the conference or the program should be directed to Sharon Kowalsky (Sharon.Kowalsky@tamuc.edu) or Karen Petrone (Petrone@uky.edu).

Call for Papers

Women and Gender Historians of the Midwest 6th Biennial Conference
Thursday, June 12 and Friday, June 13, 2014

Philanthropy as Activism: Relationships & Power

At the end of the 19th and through the first half of the 20th century, such women as Lou
Hoover, Katharine Lenroot, Dr. Martha May Eliot and Helenka Panteleoni embraced professional and philanthropic careers focused on causes of social concern. Maternal and child health and welfare, studies in juvenile delinquency, voting rights, access to education, and women's civic engagement are but a few of the problems these women addressed through their work. For some bold and defiant characters, open and aggressive activism provided the avenues they followed to correct the ills they wished to target. Alice Paul, Margaret Sanger, and Emma Goldman intrepidly worked to advance their causes drawing censure and opprobrium. Other women resorted to less aggressive, but no less effective, methods to advance the work they hoped would bring a better world. These women also worked through philanthropic channels. It could be argued that all were motivated by philanthropy. Indeed, for many their activism was their philanthropic work and vice versa.

WGHOM invites proposals for panels, round table discussions, poster sessions and individual papers that explore the various paths women take with their activism to accomplish their ends. We acknowledge the importance of philanthropy in the lives of Lou Hoover and President Herbert Hoover as we include the Hoover Presidential Library as one of our host sites. We are pleased to also include the Iowa Women's Archives as a host site for our conference. The principal conference venue is the hotel Vetro, in Iowa City. The conference will take place Thursday, June 12 and Friday June 13, 2014, with an opening reception the evening of Wednesday, June 11.

This conference seeks to bring together academics, teachers, activists, archivists, students, and the public to explore the conference themes. We encourage not only the presentation of research by academics, graduate students and undergraduates, but also participation and presentations from high school teachers, writers, editors, adjunct instructors, community college faculty, librarians, and public historians that speak to the question of gender history.

Possible additional themes or presentations might include:

- Activism broadly defined (social, political, cultural, economic)
- Female activists
- Documentary projects, oral histories or new available resources relating to revolutions
- Activism and Gender
- Local activism and gender dynamics

The deadline for submission of proposals, consisting of an abstract (500 words or less) and one-page résumé/c.v., is Saturday, February 1, 2014. For full panels or roundtables, please have one contact person submit the materials for the group. Send proposals via email to the program committee in care of Carmen Hernandez (hernandc@nicc.edu).

WOMEN'S HISTORY NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Schlesinger Library at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study (RIAS), Harvard University, announces the completion of a five-year project to address its backlog of uncataloged print, manuscript, and audiovisual material. Unexpected discoveries include a videotape of the last concert of the Chicago Women's Liberation Rock Band in the early 1970s; a 1778 manumission of a female slave named Elizabeth; and spirit writings in chalk dating from spiritualist meetings in the early 20th century.

Among the collections now available to research are the records of a number of national organizations: Lamaze, National Abortion Rights Action League, Legal Momentum, and Concerned United Birthparents, as well those with a more local focus: Fishermen's Wives of Gloucester (Mass.) Association, Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers, Mautner Project for Lesbians with Cancer, and Silent Spring Institute. Other manuscript collections document the lives of transgender individuals (International Foundation for Gender
Education, Mark Ethan Smith, and J. Ari Kane-Demaios) as well as women who were active in the Republican Party (Anna Chennault, Mary Dent Crisp, and Mildred Jefferson). Also included in the project are the papers of National Organization for Women activists Toni Carabillo, Judith Meuli, and Patricia Ireland; lawyers Florynce Kennedy and Catharine MacKinnon; singer Holly Near; writers Barbara Ehrenreich and Ellen Willis; advocate for the poor Kip Tiernan; and sex educator Shere Hite. For a complete list of newly available manuscript collections, see http://guides.library.harvard.edu/MaximumAccess.

Newly cataloged print material includes monographs and serials issued by Radcliffe College; Radcliffe College undergraduate theses; the Sontheimer Foundation culinary collection; much of the Sophie D. Coe collection including community cookbooks issued by small groups or organizations usually in order to raise funds; foreign language material; and large numbers of grey literature (those more ephemeral items typically not issued by commercial publishers), documenting 20th century women’s history.

Newly described audiovisual collections include those of writers June Jordan and Eve Merriam; Julia Child; feminists Alix Dobkin and Andrea Dworkin; outtakes from The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter; and recordings from the National Women’s Political Caucus, the Boston Women’s Health Book Collective, and Boston Women’s Community Radio.

Who was the first woman citizen in the world (as distinct from a queen, empress, or sheikha) to address a legislative body? The first American woman to do so, Angelina Grimke, was celebrated for that achievement at an event in October 2013 in Boston, Massachusetts on "How Women Become Political." She addressed a committee of the Massachusetts state legislature in 1838, endorsing the petitions of 20,000 women who called for the end of slavery, and asserting her right as a woman to be political. The event was organized by the Grimke Event Committee, which included three women biographers, a foundation chair, a government official and a representative from the event’s collaborating partner, Simmons College. An actress performed the short surviving portion of Grimke’s speech. This was followed by three speakers – leading feminist activist Gloria Steinem, Boston City Councillor Ayanna Pressley, and Senator Elizabeth Warren (by videotape) – who told their own stories, a panel discussed the topic, and the audience Q and A. To watch the event, go to www.womenbecomepolitical.org. And please send your answers to the question posed above to Louise W. Knight, chair, Grimke Event Committee, who is writing a book about the Grimke sisters. lwk@louisewknight.com. Knight is a Visiting Scholar at the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, Northwestern University.

For information related to programs and events about women and the Holocaust, please see www.rememberwomen.org.

The Society for the History of Women in the Americas (SHAW) has two main aims: (1) to provide an arena in which scholars interested in women’s and gender history in the Americas can come together and (2) to encourage interdisciplinary and transnational approaches in research on women and gender in North America, South America and the Caribbean. The Society is made up of scholars from a range of disciplinary backgrounds and membership is also geographically diverse, drawn from across Europe as well as the UK and the Americas. In spring 2013, SHAW launched a peer reviewed Open Access journal, History of Women in the Americas (ISSN 2042-6348). See http://journals.sas.ac.uk/hwa for more information and details on how to submit articles for consideration.

As a Society, we organize a range of events enabling scholars to come together and create both personal networks and professional collaborations. Central to this is the ‘Gender and History in the Americas’ seminar series at the Institute for Historical Research, London. In June 2012, we worked with various partners to run the ‘Women in Magazines: Research,
Journal of Historical Biography has published a special issue on "Disclosure and Disability," volume 13 (2013). Bringing together the fields of disability studies, biography, and gender history, this special issue takes up biographical analysis of women with disabilities who contended with either disclosing or hiding their disabilities, due to not only ablism but sexism and racism as well. Each woman struggled with the problem of public disclosure concerning a physical condition that, in the context in which she lived, had negative connotations. Exploring how, when, and why they chose to privatize or disclose pain and illness, the essays feature women such as Marty Mann and Lillian Roth (pioneering members of AA), Mary Church Terrell (founding member of the NAACP), as well as women involved in the French Revolution, workers' movements, and Boston and New York high society. To view the special issue, go to http://www.ufv.ca/jhb/Volume_13/Volume_13_TOC.pdf


The first women to incorporate a business in Los Angeles, the Daughters of Charity played a pivotal role in shaping the quality of health services for the county's indigent sick. As hospitals transformed from social welfare institutions to medically oriented businesses in the late nineteenth-century, these Roman Catholic sisters developed innovative business strategies to retain their historic leadership position in the city's hospital industry without relinquishing their religious commitment to care for the poor. This work provides new insights into women's entrepreneurial activities and social advocacy work in the West, while documenting the rich heritage of a religious community and its impact on nursing history.

To be released in December 2013. Available at http://tinyurl.com/GunnellBook

Sheri Caplan's book, Petticoats and Pinstripes: Portraits of Women in Wall Street's History, was published by Praeger in July 2013. It is one of the first books to survey the evolution of women's contributions to American finance. The book documents how women frequently assumed financial roles as a temporary palliative to the nation's ills, only to be cast aside once conditions improved, and how they were often restrained from financial endeavors by various factors, including American legal, political, economic, and cultural norms. Accomplishments of women in the financial world are described and set against the backdrop of the general advancement of women's rights and the evolution of gender-based roles in society. The book identifies the primary factors in the development of a greater female role in finance: wartime urgency, personal necessity, technological change, and financial education. The book features the female financial experience in the United States from the colonial period to modern times; presents the history of women on Wall Street by placing personalities in the context of both Wall Street's development and prevailing political and cultural times; identifies common themes and issues confronted by women in finance; provides two quick-reference appendices, one describing the significance of particular women and a second that provides a chronology of milestones. More information about the author and the book can be found at http://shericaplan.com/
**Dr. Lois Leveen**, author of *The Secrets of Mary Bowser* (HarperCollins, 2012) and **Dr. Elizabeth Varon**, author of *Southern Lady, Yankee Spy* (Oxford University Press, 2003) were the featured speakers in a program at the Museum of the Confederacy about slave-turned-Union-spy Mary Bowser. Their talks can be viewed for free online through American History TV on C-SPAN (http://www.c-spanvideo.org/program/ASpyi).

Dr. Leveen’s article “The Spy Photo That Fooled NPR, the U.S. Army Intelligence Center, and Me” published by *The Atlantic* in June 2013, explores how twenty-first-century expectations about race and gender shape the way we read and misread historical artifacts.

Prepared by Camesha Scruggs

### NEWS AND NOTES

2013 was a very special year for Norwegian gender history. This was the 100 year anniversary for women’s vote on the same conditions as men. On the 11th of June 1913 the Norwegian parliament, “Stortinget”, made the unanimous decision of the universal vote. This event has been celebrated in various ways, giving many opportunities for gender historians to spread their work. Already in the Nordic meeting of gender historians in Bergen in August 2012 the vote and the vote jubilee was a special theme. In the first days of May the annual Norwegian history conference was arranged in Sogndal with women’s vote as the main theme. Some of the central papers from this conference were published in a special issue of the Norwegian history periodical “*Historisk tidsskrift*” no.4 2013. Keynotes were given by prof.em. Ida Blom, prof.em. Christina Florin (Sweden) and senior researcher Jytte Larsen (Denmark) and commented by prof. Inger Elisabeth Haavet. The main session was titled “Vote, democracy and gender in a transnational perspective”. Blom explored the meanings of citizenship from the era of European revolutions and the Nordic struggles in the 19th – and 20th century. Norway was the first independent state giving the vote to women, but Finland, than connected to Sweden, was even earlier, in 1906. Florins paper explored the social companionship between the suffragettes and also with their men, built on her interesting book “Kvinnor får röst” (Women gets a Voice). Jytte Larsen, author of a book on Danish gender equality politics, (“Også andre hensyn – Dansk likestillingshistorie 1849-1915”) explored the Danish movement and the relationship between women’s movement and political parties. Also several younger historians had interesting papers on the conference on several aspects of gender and democracy.

The national celebration of women’s vote 1913 had a multiplicity of arrangements. All the universities had arrangements, e.g. in Bergen there was a whole week in June with lectures and celebrations, and in October we arranged an international conference in the name of Ida Blom with the title "Gender and Citizenship" with about 250 participants. In Oslo a seminar on Majority and Citizenship was arranged the 9th of November in the Science Society. The anniversary has led to new and refreshed interest for the research theme of gender and democracy both among researchers and students. It has also given opportunities for spreading gender history results in several channels, as the medias, public lectures and so on. Thus we can say that the celebration passed on a boost of interest for gender history both as research and as a public issue. Books has been published on several aspects of gender history, e.g. a national history of gender equality (Norsk Likestillingshistorie), books about women experiencing the time of the vote struggle (“Våre formødre”) and interesting biographies of several of the pioneers.

Compiled by Inger Elisabeth Haavet

### NEWS AND NOTES

In July 2013, in the framework of the 10th Convention of the Russian anthropologists, the Russian branch of the IFRWH organized a panel ‘*Men and women in urban space: past and present*’ that united more than 80 scholars. The panel consisted of 78 papers
and a round table, and its participants discussed ways and models of gender transformations in urban areas over the last two centuries. The papers presented are published in the Convention proceedings (Materialy X Kongressa ethnologov i antropologov Rossii, 2-6 iyulya 2013, Moskva, 2013).

The Sixth International Conference of the Russian Association for Research in Women’s History (RARWH) took place on 3-6 October, 2013 in a rather remote region of the Russian Federation, but it gathered over 100 participants from Moscow, St. Petersburg, from cities of the Russian North, central regions, Siberia, and Caucasus. Moreover, delegates from Georgia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Poland and Austria came to Nalchik (Kabardino-Balkarian Republic) to confer on a wide range of topics with the focus on the history of women in the Russian South and especially in the Northern Caucasus. Round tables’ discussions on ‘Gender revolution’ in the Caucasus region, on women’s face of extremism, on women in Islamic world, and on feminism as action turned to be the brightest pages in the conference program.


PUBLICATIONS

Natalia Pushkareva (ed), Rossiiskaya povsednevnost’ v zerkale gendernykh otnoshenii (Russian everyday life in the mirror of gender relations) (Moscow: Novoye Literaturnoye Obozreniye, 2013).

Kotovskaya M. and Shalygina N. (eds), Genderne prostranstvo v structure obsphestvennogo soznaniya (Gender in a structure of social consciousness) (Moscow: IEA RAN, 2013).

Compiled by Natalia Novikova (ntlnvkv@mail.ru)

SPAIN

Spanish Association for the Research on Women’s History (AEIHM) Report

CONFERENCES

On 26-28 September 2013, AEIHM held its 5th International Seminar titled “And what’s next? On the new uses of biography.” This biennial conference on methodological and theoretical issues took place in Madrid, and it focused on exploring new perspectives on the genre of biography for historical research. Invited speakers included Isabel Burdiel, María Sierra, Franca Ela Consolino, Pura Fernández, Laura Oliván, Susanna Tavera, Carrie Hamilton, Mercedes Vilanova and Pilar Díaz Sánchez. They talked about how to use biography for women’s and gender history, the methodological issues involved in it, and the study of individual and collective identities from a biographical perspective.

On 26-28 October 2014, the 17th International Conference of AEIHM will be held at Alicante. The title of the conference is “Teaching (Women’s) History,” and it aims at bringing together researchers and teachers at all levels, from primary schools to higher education, to discuss and share initiatives, educational approaches and didactic experiences. Another goal of this conference is to get an accurate picture of the Spanish situation in a broader international context. Please submit your proposals for papers by the deadline of January 31, 2014. Call for papers and further details of this congress may be found on www.aeihm.org.

PRIZES

This year, 2013, AEIHM offered V Biennial Prize for essays up to one hundred pages, that make a significant contribution to women’s and gender history. This prize is sponsored in cooperation with the Spanish Social History Association (AHS). The winner of this edition was Victoria López Barahona, for her contribution titled “Las escuelas-taller: aprendizas, oficiales y maestras de niñas en la industria textil madrileña del Setecientos.”
In 2014, AEIHM will offer its VII Dissertation Prize for the best thesis on women’s and gender history defended during 2012 or 2013 by a member of the association. This prize is due May 31, 2014. The winning dissertation will be announced at the XVII International Conference, Alicante, 26-28 October 2014. For more information, please see www.aeihm.org.

PUBLICATIONS

Mª Isabel del Val Valdivieso and Henar Gallego Franco (eds.), Las huellas de Foucault en la Historiografía. Poderes, cuerpos y deseos, Barcelona, Icaria, 2013 (Vol. 8 of “History and Feminism” collection).

Mª Isabel del Val Valdivieso and Esther Martínez Quintero (eds.), Comiendo del fruto prohibido. Mujeres, ciencia y creación a través de la historia, Barcelona, Icaria (Vol. 9 of “History and Feminism” collection), in press.

New journals of women’s history and gender studies:

Ambigua. Revista de Investigaciones sobre Género y Estudios Culturales. Ambigua is a new annual, open-access online journal, and it welcomes submissions in Spanish, French, English, German, Italian and Portuguese.

http://www.upo.es/revistas/index.php/ambigua

AUDEM, published once a year, is a new open-access online journal. AUDEM welcomes submissions in Spanish, English and Italian.

http://www.ual.es/revistas/AUDEM/

Dossiers:

- Arenal. Revista de Historia de las Mujeres:

- Feminismo/s:
  - “La Diós y el poder de las mujeres. Reflexiones sobre la espiritualidad femenina del siglo XXI,” Angie Simonis (coord.), n. 20, 2012.

- Cuadernos Kóre. Revista de historia y pensamiento de género:
  - “Acción social e identidades políticas de las mujeres en el primer tercio del siglo XX,” Laura Branciforte (coord.), n. 6, 2012.

- Duoda. Estudios de la Diferencia Sexual:
  - “La fuerza necesaria,” n. 44. 2013.


- Cuestiones de género. De la igualdad y la diferencia:
  - “Género y Transición Española: un proyecto de investigación que incorpora las TIC,” Mónica Moreno y Pilar Billarín (eds.), n. 8, 2013.


- Melánges de la Casa de Velázquez, “Género, sexo y nación,” Ana Aguado
NEWS AND NOTES

The Women's Library has now been transferred to the London School of Economics and Political Science and further details will appear in the next Newsletter.

The IFRWH/Women's History Network (UK) 2013 Conference, on 'Women's Histories: The Local and the Global' was held at Sheffield Hallam University, UK, from Thursday 29 August to 1 September, attracting over 200 delegates from a wide range of countries – Bangladesh, Australia, Belgium, India, Finland, Norway, Canada, Japan, Hungary, the USA, Iceland, the UK, Italy, Nigeria and Cyprus. For further details see the statement by the President of the IFRWH in this Newsletter and/or the Women, Internationalisms and Gender, 1800 to the Present blog http://wiblog.binghamton.edu/?p=217 June Purvis on the Sheffield Conference.

Women's History Network (UK) Book Prize for 2013 was won by Angela Davis for Modern Motherhood: women and family in England, 1945-2000 (Manchester University Press, 2012). The judges commended the book as 'a fascinating survey of women's experience of motherhood', 'eminently readable', 'a solid and thoughtful study', 'an outstanding piece of oral history' and 'ambitiously wide ranging'.

SEMINARS

Women's History Seminars, Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, Fridays forthnightly at 5.15 Senate House G21A, included the following:

8 November 2013 Tanya Cheadle (Glasgow), Lady Bella and Sir Charles Steadfast Strong: mysticism, sexuality, socialism and the Women Question in Glasgow, 1890-1910

22 November 2013 Sarah Fox (Manchester), 'I do most sincerely wish you Dear Madam a Happy Minute': the experience of childbirth in the long eighteenth century.

6 December 2013 Anne Logan (Kent), An accidental educationalist: the educational work of S. Margery Fry (1874-1958).

Further details about the seminars from k.boyd@blueyonder.co.uk

Gender and History in the Americas seminar series

2013/14 is the second year of the Gender and History in the Americas seminar series at the Institute for Historical Research, London. Held at 17.30 on the first Monday of the month, the series offers a forum for speakers to present research investigating women's and gender history from a hemispheric perspective that stretches from Canada to Argentina, Mexico to the Caribbean. The presentation of works-in-progress and contributions from postgraduate and early career scholars are particularly encouraged, reflecting our desire to create a series in which new and cutting-edge ideas can be shared and discussed in an intellectual and supportive environment.

For further information, visit the website (http://www.history.ac.uk/events/seminars/370) or contact the Society for the History of Women in the Americas (shawsociety@gmail.com)
7th October 2013 - Janet Floyd, King’s College London, “Letter-Writing, Friendship and the Foote-Gilder Correspondence”


3rd February 2014 - Laila Haidarali, University of Essex, “Modelling Beauty Brown: Sex, Race, Representation and African American Womanhood in the early Cold War era”.

3rd March 2014 - Claire Irving, University of Newcastle, “Women of Letters - Editing and Writing the Caribbean”.

7th April 2014 - Awaiting confirmation


The History of Feminism Network is holding a discussion and reading group at the Institute of Historical Research on the Second Wave Feminist Movement, as follows:

17 October 2013 - 5.30 pm Motherhood, choice and reproduction

31 October 2013 - 5.30 pm Bodies and sexuality

14 November 2013 - 5.30 pm Race

28 November 2013 - 5.30 pm Socialism, work, and class (Court Room)

12 December 2013 - 5.15 pm Taking stock: writing and researching histories of the Second wave Feminist Movement

Contact history.feminism@googlemail.com

The final seminar in WWAFE’S 2013 HOUSE OF LORDS SEMINAR SERIES, supported by WWAFE Patron Baroness Gould was held on Thursday 24 October 2013. The seminar was titled ‘Women in Action – Women’s Movements Free Women, Free The World’ and the abstract for the seminar was as follows -

What actions do women take through organisations and individually to change the world? Women have been engaged in activism for centuries. Women’s movement activism takes place locally, nationally and internationally, with women all over the world joining together whether knowing it or not, with other women similarly engaged. This seminar has a focus on positive actions by women to engage women, to affirm women’s talents and abilities in promoting women’s rights, to acknowledge the importance of women’s activism for all, and to recognise that women’s activism has many avenues, ideas, areas of engagement. Women’s movement activism is directed towards changing society, culture and history so that women’s role and rights are to the fore – recognising also that bringing about freedom, rights and equality for women will change the world to make world that is better for all women, children and men.

The speakers, who spoke of their activism as women with activist principles and passions, and of their organisations working positively to change the world for everyone included:

- Karen Buczyski-Lee, Filmmaker and Director (Australia)
- Selma James, Women’s Movement Activist (United Kingdom)
- Marie-Anne Delahaut, Director, Destree Institute (Belgium)
- Rainatou Sow, Organiser, Make Every Woman Count (United Kingdom)

For further information about the Series contact: Ian Beckerton administrator@wwafe-women.org
The **Life-Cycles Seminar Series** takes place at the Institute of Historical Research, London WC1E 3HU. Tuesday, 5th November 2013, 5.15 pm Holden Room 103, Dr. Ewa Sidorenka, University of Greenwich on 'Remembering survival, Recovering Hidden Memories of Wartime Poland'.

**Annual Interdisciplinary Workshop on Reproduction** was held on 15 November 2013, at University of Cambridge. See: [http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/25083](http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/25083)

**Queer London Research Forum** was launched at the Old Cinema, University of Westminster (Regent Street Campus), on Friday 29 November 2013. The Forum is designed to facilitate interdisciplinary discussion about version of Queer London c.1850 to present. The photographer Christa Holka and Sam McBean from the Gender Institute at LSE spoke about queerness, the digital archive, and London. A series of seminars will be held in 2013-14 and a web forum developed to continue debate and dialogue. Places must be reserved. This can be done by emailing [www.queerlondonresearchforum@gmail.com](mailto:www.queerlondonresearchforum@gmail.com)

For further information contact Simon Avery, University of Westminster [S.Avery@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:S.Avery@westminster.ac.uk)

10 December 2013, **Feminist Review** will hold its annual event which this year will be a panel discussion on ‘Feminism in the media’. The panellists will interrogate current representations of feminism in the media and share suggestions about avenues for intervention.

Time – 6-8 pm, Venue Sheikh Zayed Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE, Kingsway, London WC2A.

Speakers: Natalie Hanman, Lola Okoloise, Tracey Reynolds.

No ticket required.

**West of England and South Wales Women’s History Network**, University of the West of England, St. Matthias Campus, Fishponds, British BS 16 2JP, ‘Women in Bristol, 1400-2000: making the city’, Saturday, 7 December 2013, Room M030. Speaker will include Peter Fleming, Madge Dresser, June Hannam and Moira Martin who will present papers in progress for a book, *Women in the City: Bristol: 1400-2000*, which will be published next year. For further information contact [june.hannam@uwe.a.uk](mailto:june.hannam@uwe.a.uk) or [katherine.holden@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:katherine.holden@uwe.ac.uk)

**CONFERENCES**

6-7 September 2013, **Making Love, Making Gender, Making Babies in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s: an Interdisciplinary Conference** held at the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge. For further details contact Marie Lemaire, Conference Programme Manager [ml1622@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ml1622@cam.ac.uk) see [www.crassh.cam.ac.uk](http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk)

17-18 October 2013, the University of Leeds hosted a conference on the **Medical History of the First World War in Europe**. It was noted that the medical history of the First World War has often been written within national parameters. As Leo van Bergen has pointed out, this has led to a skewing of perspective in the medical historiography as ‘More has been published about the British and their Great War than about the French, Belgians or Germans.’ (Before My Helpless Sight, 2009, 28-9). Van Bergen’s own work is among the few to have attempted to tackle the medical history of the war in terms of the recent trend towards transnational history in First World War studies.

This workshop aimed to begin to fill this gap in the historiography of the First World War. By bringing together scholars working on aspects of medical history and the war across Europe, it presented an opportunity to explore transnational relationships within medical history of the period, as well as develop deeper comparative understandings of national histories. It is intended that the workshop will lay the foundations for a network of researchers examining a range of topics
relating to the history of medicine and warfare across Europe. These may include, but are not limited to, developments in the treatment of wounds and disease; the role and status of medical services, both military and voluntary; the gendering of medical care in wartime and questions of women’s service; cultural representations of disease, wounding and medical care; the impact of war on civilian medical care; civil and military sanitation; and disability, rehabilitation and long-term medical care.

The workshop included not just presentations from scholars from across Europe and North America on their current research in the field but also a session designed to introduce scholars to the archival resources available in Leeds, including the Liddle Collection, a renowned collection of papers and artefacts relating to Britain and the war, the Bamji Collection of books and material relating both to medico-military history and the holdings of the Museum of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine and the Thackray Museum. For further information contact Dr Jessica Meyer at j.k.meyer@leeds.ac.uk.

23 November 2013, the North West Labour History Society held a one day conference on Women’s History at Three Minute Theatre, Afflecks Arcade, 35-39 Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JG. There were sessions on women and music, women and politics, women and trade unionism, and feminism and socialism.

30 November 2013, Royal Holloway, University of London, held a conference on Women as Wives and Workers: marking fifty years of The Feminine Mystique. 2013 marks the fiftieth anniversary of The Feminine Mystique’s publication. From the outset, Betty Friedan’s text had an enormous influence on academic and popular audiences, selling millions and shaping feminist discourse about the housewife throughout the Western world. Yet at the same time, full-time housewifery was becoming both a less common experience and a cultural battlefield. Since the 1950s, levels of employment amongst married women (notably white women) have risen enormously. Women have increasingly been confronted with the ‘superwoman’ paradox, which Friedan herself encapsulated: writing about ‘the zombie housewife’ and ‘the problem that has no name’ whilst being a working wife and mother. Many other women likewise negotiated domesticity and paid work, but their experiences were by no means uniform and were shaped by various other factors including race, age, sexuality and socio-economic status.

This conference aimed to draw these themes together by offering an opportunity to explore The Feminine Mystique alongside discussions of women and employment. Areas of consideration included:

- Women’s paid employment
- The Feminine Mystique, its impact and critiques, for example with regards to race
- The international impact of The Feminine Mystique
- Domesticity and the figure of the housewife: experiences, rights, cultural portrayals
- Discourses of motherhood and fatherhood
- Evolving notions of family
- Gender and education
- Notions of ‘having it all’ and being ‘Superwoman’
- The National Organization for Women: its impact, legacy and critics
- The development of women’s organisations and networks since the 1960s

While papers with a particular emphasis on mid-twentieth century America were given priority, encouragement was given to scholars to present work with a comparative perspective (across time and/or space) or looking at other geographical areas. A special issue of History of Women in the Americas
based on the conference papers is planned, subject to the usual peer review procedure. The Conference is the sixth annual conference of the Society for the History of Women in the Americas (SHAW) and is being co-organized with The Bedford Centre for the History of Women at Royal Holloway University of London. The conference organizers are Helen Glew (University of Westminster), Jane Hamlett (RHUL), Sinead McEneaney (St. Mary’s University College) and Rachel Ritchie (Brunel University). Email: thefemininemystiqueat50@gmail.com

18 January 2014, Women on Ireland Research Network (WORIN): ‘Irish Women, Religion and the Diaspora: a symposium’. Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool. This Symposium seeks to understand not only the shifting role that religion has played in the lives of Irish women but the role that Irish women themselves have undertaken in religious institutions and organisations and how this role has changed over time. Although the idea of diaspora assumes a shared experience, Irish migrants were of different social, economic, political and even religious backgrounds. The subthemes for this conference include: Irish lay women and faith-based organisations, institutional structures and the construction of identity, anti-emigration and the significance of place. This symposium aims to tease out the significance of religion to Irish women at home and abroad. Please send completed booking form and cheque/money order to Maria Power by 6 January 2014. Any questions can be directed to Maria Power at m.c.power@liv.ac.uk or Carmen Mangion at c.mangion@bbbk.ac.uk

1 February 2014, ‘Pain, Illness, Trauma and Death in Childhood’, Call for papers for one day conference, University of Greenwich, Centre for the Study of Play and Recreation, with the Society for the Study of Childhood in the Past and the London Network for the History of Children. Pain, illness, trauma and death are intrinsic to the shaping of childhood and to the experience of being a child. In the past, pain could be perceived as beneficial, either in forming character or bringing the subject closer to God. In the present, the enormous popularity of ‘misery memoirs’ raises questions as to why the theme of abuse has such resonance in the twentieth and twenty-first century western world. Please email abstracts of 250-300 words to playandrecreation@gre.ac.uk. The Conference is free, but registration (via this email address) is required. First deadline 30 November 2013, second deadline 20 December 2013.

21st June 2014, ‘Gender, Generation and the Body’, 21st annual conference of the West of England and South Wales Women’s History Network, University of Cardiff, call for papers. The conference will explore the relation of ideas and experiences of gender, generation and the body in a range of historical contexts. The keynote speaker is Dr. Garthine Walker (Cardiff University). Potential topics for papers include:

- the interrelation of gender and age in historical representations and experiences of the body;
- the importance of different understandings and experiences of the gendered body in mediating inter-generational relationships, both within and beyond the family;
- the practical, emotional, and social dimensions of bodily care in past societies;
- the intersection of the biological and the social at differently gendered life stages (for example, ‘coming of age’ through menstruation or initiation into masculine adulthood through work);
- the role of subjective reassessments of gendered and bodily experience in life-writing through the ages.

We encourage participants to consider the relation of gender and the body to ‘generation’ in its many possible meanings: an expression of demographic fact; as shorthand for shared cultural characteristics (“the lost generation”); a description of age; and an act of origination, production, or procreation. We welcome the involvement of postgraduate researchers. The
West of England and South Wales Women’s History Network is able to offer a limited number of competitive bursaries to contribute towards attendance at the conference. For further details, see: http://humanities.uwe.ac.uk/swhisnet/grants-bursaries.html.

Abstracts of 200 words should be sent to Tracey Loughran (LoughranTL@cardiff.ac.uk) by April 18th 2014.

16-18 July 2014, ‘Perceptions of Pregnancy: from the Medieval to the Modern’, School of Humanities, University of Hertfordshire, call for papers. This three day conference aims to bring together scholars working across a range of disciplines, time periods and global perspectives to examine perceptions of pregnancy throughout history. We welcome papers considering a range of issues, including, but not limited to:

- Pregnancy, including the pregnant body and the experience of pregnancy;
- Unlawful pregnancy, including rape, incest and sexual abuse;
- Fertility and infertility, including IVF, miscarriage and still-birth;
- Abortion and contraception, including pro- and pro-choice debate;
- Parenthood, single parenthood and infanticide.

300 word proposals for twenty-minute papers should be sent to the conference organisers by 1 February 2014. We welcome postgraduate papers. Informal enquiries can be directed to Dr. Jennifer Evans j.evans5@herts.ac.uk and Dr. Ciara Meehan c.meehan2@herts.ac.uk


Image provided by -The Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service

Offers of papers are invited which draw upon the perspectives of women’s and gender history to discuss practical and emotional survival on the Home Front during war and conflict. Contributions of papers on a range of topics are welcome and may, for example, explore one of the following areas:

- Food, domesticity, marriage and the ordinariness of everyday life on the Home Front
- The arts, leisure and entertainment during military conflict
- Women’s working lives on the Home Front
- Shifting relations of power around gender, class, ethnicity, religion or politics
- Women’s individual or collective strategies and tactics for survival in wartime
- Case studies illuminating the particularity of the Home Front in cities, small towns or rural areas
- Outsiders on the Home Front including attitudes to prisoners of war, refugees, immigrants and travellers
- Comparative Studies of the Home Front across time and geographical location
- Representation, writing and remembering the Home Front
Although the term Home Front was initially used during the First World War, and the conference coincides with the commemorations marking the centenary of this conflict, we welcome papers which explore a range of Home Fronts and conflicts, across diverse historical periods and geographical areas. Abstracts of no more than 300 words should be sent electronically to maggie.andrews@worc.ac.uk by 1 April 2014. A selection of the papers will be published in a Special issue of Women’s History Review.

12 – 13 September 2014, ‘Premodern Queenship and Diplomacy in Europe’, Canterbury Christ Church University, UK

This conference seeks to raise important questions about the role that premodern queens played in diplomatic relations throughout Europe. Traditionally, female involvement in diplomacy has focused upon the role of queens consort as pawns within marriage alliances and military treaties, or the foreign policy agenda of queens regnant. However, queens in the medieval and early modern period were central to developing international relations; promoting certain policies and people; and balancing the intricacies of European politics. These women could act not only independently of male influence, but also on behalf of their own personal dynastic interests, placing them sometimes at odds with their marital allegiance. This conference builds upon recent interest in diplomacy and elite women’s involvement in policy-making and politics to show that diplomacy was not a male dominated arena controlled by the monarch alone.

Proposals are invited for individual papers or panels on the following topics:

- Factions and plots
- Dynastic interests
- Marital politics and diplomacy
- Policy-making
- Diplomacy and religion
- Material Culture
- Spectacle and performance

Confirmed speakers include: Prof. Jackie Eales, Canterbury Christ Church University, President of the Historical Association.

Proposals for panels should consist of three papers and contain the names of the session chair and the speakers, as well as their respective affiliations and biographies. Each panel proposal should include abstracts of 300 words per paper, together with e-mail contacts for all participants. A proposal for an individual paper should consist of a 300 words abstract and include details of affiliation and career. All proposals should be sent to premodernqueenship@gmail.com by 15 February 2013.

We welcome proposals from research postgraduates and hope to offer a partial reimbursement (with proof of expenses). If financial assistance is required, this should be stated clearly on the proposal.

The organisers hope to publish a selection of papers from the conference in an edited collection.

Organising Committee: Dr Liz Oakley-Brown, Lancaster University; Dr Louise Wilkinson, Canterbury Christ Church University; and Dr Sara Wolfson, Canterbury Christ Church University.

PUBLICATIONS


Melissa Benn, What Should We Tell Our Daughters? (John Murray, 2013)

Rachel Cooke, Her Brilliant Career: ten extraordinary women of the fifties (Virago, 2013)

Amy Harris, Siblinghood and Social Relations in Georgian England: share and share alike (Manchester University Press, 2012)

Sybil Oldfield, ‘Thinking Against the Current’: *literature and political resistance* (Sussex Academic Press, 2013)

Sheryl Sandberg, *Lean In: women, work and the will to lead* (W. H. Allen, 2013)

Penny Tinkler, *Using Photographs in Social and Historical Research* (Sage, 2013)

Alison Woolf, *The XX Factor: how working women are creating a new society* (Profile Books, 2013)

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Special Issue edited by Lucy Bland and Katharina Rowold (eds) *20 Years of the Women’s History Network (UK): Looking Back – Looking Forward*

Kathryn Gleadle, The Imagined Communities of Women’s History: current debates and emerging themes, a rhizomatic approach.

Caroline Bressey, Geographies of Belonging: white women and black history.

Anna Cole, Twenty Years On: feminism’s ‘three body problem’.

June Purvis, Gendering the Historiography of the Suffragette Movement in Edwardian Britain: some reflections.

Charmion Cannon, Peg’s War: a story told through letters.

Wendy Webster, ‘Fit to Fight, Fit to Mix’: sexual patriotism in Second World War Britain.

Maud Anne Bracke, Between the Transnational and the Local: mapping the trajectories and contexts of the Wages for Housework campaign in 1970s Italian feminism.


Red Chidgey, *Reassess Your Weapons*: the making of feminist memory in young women’s zines.

Viewpoints

Krista Cowman, Leonore Davidoff and Jane Rendall, Twenty Years On: remembering the origins of the Women’s History Network (UK).

Jo Stanley, With Cauliflowers, Kisses and Banners: ‘community’, radical politics, embodied activity and art in the early Women’s History Network (UK).

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Sue Bruley, Consciousness-Raising in Clapham: women’s Liberation as ‘lived experience’ in South London in the 1970s.

Jane Garnett and Alan Harris, Wounding and Healing: dealing with difference in Christian narratives of migrant women in East London since the 1980s.

Lisa Stead, ‘The big romance’: Winifred Holtby and the fictionalisation of women’s cinemagoing in interwar Yorkshire.


Liz Herbert McAvoy, Uncovering the ‘saintly Anchoress’: myths of Medieval anchoritism and the reclusion of Katharine de Audley.


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Mary Evans, Gender in an Age of Austerity.

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Karina Smith, ‘Sugar, Sugar’: questioning the sexual division of labour on Jamaica’s sugar plantations in Sistren’s *The Case of Miss Iris Armstrong and Sweet Sugar Rage*. 

Johnny Bell, *Putting Dad in the Picture*: fatherhood in the popular women's magazines of 1950s Australia.

Eliza Riedi, *Imperialist Women and Conservative Activism in Early-Twentieth-Century Britain*: the political world of Violet Milner.

Alicia C. Decker, *An accidental Liberation*: Ugandan women on the front lines of Idi Amin's economic war.

Julia Neville, *Challenge, Conformity and Casework in Interwar England*: the first women councillors in Devon.


Viewpoint

June Purvis, *What Was Margaret Thatcher’s Legacy for Women*?

Compiled by June Purvis, University of Portsmouth, UK
Supplement no. 28: Bibliography of Edited Collections of Scholarly Articles in Women’s History and Theme Issues on Women’s History in Scholarly Journals since 1970.

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Compiled by Karen Offen

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Hall, Catherine, & Sonya Rose, eds. 2006. At Home with the Empire: Metropolitan Culture and the Imperial World. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.


