

WOMEN'S VU

A publication for and about women
at Vanderbilt University

February 1979

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New Service To Be Opened

The Women's Center is starting a referral service within the university community for child care, care of elderly or handicapped persons, house/pet/plant care, and general help in homes and gardens.

Information about pre-school programs and day-care centers in Davidson County will be made available from an up-to-date directory published by the Tennessee Department of Human Services and organized by neighborhood. Interested parents should call the Women's Center for information about these.

The Women's Center is also establishing a Registry of individuals to care for children, the aged, houses, pets or plants, and to provide other kinds of household help. It will list persons associated with Vanderbilt who want to work for others in the university community. Financial arrangements will be left to individuals and their clients. When a reasonable number of persons has registered, the Women's Center will publicize the services available.

Nancy Ransom

SCARRITT HOSTS MEETING ON SEXISM AND RACISM

Scarritt Center of Women's Studies and Center of Continuing Education are sponsoring a Consultation on Sexism and Racism, February 16-18. The fee is \$5 per person, and Continuing Education Units will be awarded to participants. For more information contact The Center of Women's Studies, Scarritt College.

Women's Week '79 Plans Underway

Women's Week '79 will be a time of interest and fun for all. Events begin on Sunday night, March 18, with Sheila Tobias speaking at the kick-off dinner, and extend through Saturday the 24th. Midge Costanza, former Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, will speak on Tuesday night, March 20, at Underwood Auditorium. The women law students will also sponsor a speaker on legal issues one night during the week.

Ideas are being developed for daytime events, such as workshops on language and sex, battered women, health issues — to name just a few. Sorority houses will serve as centers for discussing self-assessment and career options with the Career Planning and Placement staff. These workshops are open to all university women. On Thursday, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., the Women's Center will hold an open house. Friday night, a husband and wife singing team will perform. Throughout the week, local artists, writers and performers will provide entertainment, but more are needed and are encouraged to contribute their talents.

Great ideas for workshops have been raised at the Tuesday night organizational meetings in January. These meetings will continue through this month. What is needed now are interested people to come and participate. A few suggestions are women in small business, the single woman, women and fashion (specifically related to the book *Dress for Success*), and women in sports.

The coordinators stress that Women's Week '79 is not a promotion for radical, feminist or lesbian issues. It is a time for expressing and exploring all interests and concerns of women and men alike. You are encouraged to share your time and talents in any of the areas mentioned, or to bring in new ideas that interest you. Women's Week needs your input to make this event as rich and enjoyable as it promises to be.

If you have ideas or questions, please contact Emily Minor (269-6006), Pam Johnson (298-3444) or Linda Morgan (322-8283).

Judy Kasey

WFO To Aid Recruitment

The Women's Faculty Organization is undertaking a project to recruit highly qualified women to the Vanderbilt faculty. Working in teams, members of the Women's Faculty Organization are meeting with the Deans to acquaint them with the plan to help female candidates meet other women at Vanderbilt, find career opportunities for their husbands, and become familiar with the Nashville community.

The second stage of the program consists of working with recruitment committees. The team assigned to each school will also make contact with the women faculty in the recruiting schools.

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Women's Book Collections Of Special Interest

There are two library collections on campus that you might want to browse in when you have a chance. Sheila Tobias has lent her personal collection of books, periodicals, and reprints about women to JUL, Special Collections; these will be available until the end of the spring semester. (Enter the H. Fort Flowers Graduate Wing from 21st Avenue.) This collection may not circulate and is available Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Copies of the 11-page bibliography of Ms. Tobias's library may be obtained from the Women's Center.

While at JUL, you may want to check on the *History of Women*, a comprehensive microfilm publication by Research Publications, Inc. in cooperation with nine distinguished women's history archives. This vast collection includes letters, memoirs, historical pamphlets, and government documents. You may inquire about the index or the microfilm collection at the Circulation Desk at JUL Central Library. (Microfilm does not circulate; this collection bears the catalog number 1921.) The Reference Department is preparing a basic bibliography for Women's Studies including permanent holdings which do circulate. This project will be concluded in 1979; the Women's Center will keep you informed of its progress.

Nancy Ransom is moving her personal library on women, sex roles, and related topics to the Women's Center, where it can be used from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. Her own copies of *Sex Roles*, a sociological journal, and NOW's *Washington Newsletter* will be kept there as well. A bibliography of Ransom's collection is in preparation.

The Women's Center has begun to

CENTER APPOINTS STAFF ASSISTANT

Ann Edmondson Sanders has been appointed Staff Assistant for the Women's Center. Ann taught English for 6 years and was in charge of Advertising and Promotions for Photo-Graphics, a photography firm in Nashville, before coming to Vanderbilt. She has wide experience in layout and editing, and she can type!

build a library of books, periodicals, journals and reference works. Acquisitions are recorded as received with some newly-entered subscriptions for *Signs*, *Ms. Magazine*, and *Spokeswoman* soon to be available. The materials presently available range from general fiction and non-fiction to highly specialized legal and scientific documents. Both Ransom's collection and the Women's Cen-

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Film Series Is Successful

On January 25, a large crowd of women and men met in 205 Sarratt to view and discuss the film, "Growing Up Female." This was the first in a series of three film-and-discussions on "Identity and Role: Options for Women and Men," sponsored by the Women's Center.

Although the 1971 film seemed dated, the issues it raised were surprisingly current. The three discussants, Susan McCammon, Beverly Bonner, and Jerry Halek, observed that choices open to educated women at the present time add to their difficulty in making decisions about careers and marriage.

Members of the audience discussed the relative importance of biological and sociocultural factors in determining women's views of themselves and their behavior. One person noted that scientific developments have reduced infant mortality, extended life expectancy, and provided reliable means for controlling reproduction. These changes affect women's self-images and roles.

The size of the audience for the first film promised a large attendance for the others in the series: "Men's Lives," and "Masculine-Feminine: Your Role in Society." The number of men who attended and their participation in the discussion was particularly gratifying to the Director of the Women's Center, Nancy Ransom, who said that the series had been designed to attract both women and men and provide a forum for sharing ideas.

... from the

Women's Center Director

I have always believed that anyone can continue to grow intellectually and emotionally throughout life. Now my optimism is confirmed - albeit in negative as well as positive ways - by some recent research findings about university undergraduates.

Last year I did a survey of 85 faculty members at Leeds University in England. I wanted to compare the women's and men's reasons for pursuing academic professions. One unequivocal finding was that career decisions were made during their undergraduate years or later; rarely before entering university. Although the 85 respondents identified university teachers as key persons who inspired and encouraged their professional aspirations, the entire experience of undergraduate life contributed to shaping their futures.

A study just released by Brown University, and financed by \$70,000 in grants from the Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, shows that women and men enter college with the same career aspirations; by the time they graduate four years later, women's ambitions have diminished. According to a report of this study in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (January 8, 1979), male students were more likely than female students to work as lab or teaching assistants, and "men receive more career-directed attention from faculty members than do women." Other differences between men and women graduates, documented in the report, suggest that the faculty members are not the only "teachers" in the university, and students are not the only group exposed to these general messages about women and men. Everyone is involved.

You probably wonder how these findings promote my optimism. Certainly not in terms of the effects on women! In Britain and the United States, women are only a small portion of university teachers and other professionals. At Vanderbilt, women are still a minority among students, administrators and faculty, except in Nursing.

But the evidence that behavior continues to be shaped between 18 and 21 is encouraging. If, as these studies suggest, undergraduate students learn - and unlearn - so much, then there is no

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McFague Testifies For Women

Discrimination against women in institutions of higher education in Tennessee was the topic of a December public hearing sponsored by the National Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs and the Tennessee Status of Women Commission. Dean Sallie McFague of the Vanderbilt Divinity School was among those testifying at the December 1 hearing.

While citing a 7% increase in the number of women in the executive/administrative/managerial strata of Vanderbilt, as well as major personnel and plant renovations in accordance with Title IX (athletic programs), Dean McFague testified: "Women occupy the lower salary brackets and men are better represented in the higher salary brackets... . At the other extreme, over 25% of the women occupy the two lowest pay brackets, but only 3.7% of the men are in these low-pay brackets."

McFague also pointed out that "only seven of the 309 tenured faculty members (not including the Medical and Nursing Schools) are women," a percentage of 2.3% tenured women among the Vanderbilt Faculty. According to Dean McFague, "not only were five times as many men as women hired in tenure-track positions [in 1978], but a much smaller percentage of the total male hires were in non-tenure-track, part-time positions than female hires, a proportion of approximately 55% males and 80% females."

Pat Snyder



"To emancipate woman is to refuse to confine her to the relations she bears to man, not to deny them to her; let her have her independent existence and she will continue nonetheless to exist for him also; mutually recognizing each other as subject, each will yet remain for the other an other."

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

85 STUDENTS ENROLL IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

Women's Studies at Vanderbilt is enjoying a successful year, and our small-but-vital program includes some exciting events for the spring semester. Last fall's course, "Images of Women," dealt with ways women are presented in Western fiction and religion. It was taught by Elizabeth Langland and Gay Welch and had an enrollment of 45. The spring course, "Women and Public Policy," is off to a good start with an enrollment of 85. It is taught by Donna Wood and Sheila Tobias, Visiting Professor of Women's Studies.

Tobias, feminist scholar and author of *Overcoming Math Anxiety*, has already made two visits to the campus this year and will participate in several major events during the semester. These include a March 1 lecture on "What is Women's History?," several seminars and lectures, and Tobias' keynote address on March 18, the opening of Women's Week.

Anyone interested in having more information about the Women's Studies program or Sheila Tobias' schedule may call Gay Welch, program coordinator, 322-2706.

—Elizabeth Langland

Langland's Paper On Women's Studies Will Be Published

Elizabeth Langland, assistant professor of English and chairperson of the Women's Studies Committee, was invited to present a paper on the women's studies program at Vanderbilt at the Modern Language Association's December meeting in New York City.

The paper, part of a five-member panel on "Women's Studies: Looking Towards the Eighties," dealt with women's studies on the Vanderbilt campus: its evolution and future possibilities. The panel was moderated by Elaine Reuben, president of the National Women's Studies Association.

Langland's paper is being published as part of a book, *Academic Women in the South*, sponsored by the MLA.

Pregnancy Law Holds Benefits

A new bill prohibiting discrimination against workers who become pregnant was signed by President Carter on October 31, 1978. Employers have until April 29, 1979, to amend fringe-benefit programs in order to provide disability income, leave, and medical benefits to pregnant women. These benefits are comparable to benefits provided employees disabled by sickness or accident.

Coverage for abortion must be provided only if the procedure is necessary to protect the life of the mother. Increased costs for contributory plans may be apportioned between employers and employees.

The new law was enacted to overrule a previous U.S. Supreme Court ruling that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act did not require pregnancy to be covered by an employer's disability plan.

Workshop Offered at YWCA

Karen Noel, MSW in Social Work, will conduct a six-week workshop on *My Mother, Myself* by Nancy Friday. There will be two groups meeting at the YWCA, 1608 Woodmont Blvd., beginning Wednesday morning, February 21, and Thursday afternoon, February 22. For information please call the YWCA: 385-3952.



... from the

Women's Center Director

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reason to assume that learning ceases later on. There is life after graduation from college! We each engage in our own "continuing education" and that of our friends and colleagues throughout life. Therefore, whatever our role is in this university, we must insist that women's aspirations are encouraged and that women's achievements are recognized and rewarded.

Nancy Ransom

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Services for Wo/Men in Crisis is a non-profit organization concerned with domestic violence. S.W.I.C. needs volunteers to answer the telephone and make referrals, and will hold a volunteer training session on February 27-28. The S.W.I.C. office is downtown in the Stahlman Building, Telephone: 254-1168. The Women's Center can provide more information about S.W.I.C.'s services and volunteer program, or you may call S.W.I.C. directly.



WOMEN'S FACULTY ORGANIZATION *continued from pg. 1*

When a female recruit arrives on campus, women who are knowledgeable about her field will receive and visit with her and assist in entertaining her.

The Opportunity Development Center is cooperating with the Women's Faculty Organization by providing lists of organizations that help identify minorities and women available in designated disciplines.

WOMEN'S VU Production Staff

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Deadline for the March issue is February 26. Send news, views and letters to Women's VU, Box 1513, Station B.

Women's Athletics Schedule

HOME GAMES FOR THE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM:

Feb. 12	Alabama	5:15
Feb. 24	Fisk	7:00
Feb. 26	M.T.S.U.	6:30



WOMEN'S COLLECTION *continued from pg. 2*

ter library include government documents.

Although these items may not circulate, everyone is encouraged to come to the Center to browse through these materials. The development of a Women's Center library is central to informing the community about the relative status of women and the changes associated with this question.

Ultimately, the library can be a resource for students in all disciplines who want to understand the influence of sex and gender in our lives. If you have suggestions about acquisitions for the library please call the Women's Center. Contributions of books, magazines, articles, etc., are welcome too.

Emilie Murray

INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL GAMES SCHEDULED FOR FEB. 13:

Grad II vs Grad I	7:00
KΔ vs AΟΠ	7:45
Frosh & Indy vs ΚΚΓ	8:30
XΩ vs ΠΒΦ	9:15

The Vanderbilt Women's Tennis team will play in Nashville on the following dates: February 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, & 24; March 3, 12, 16, 17, 23, 24, 25, 26, & 30. April and May dates will be listed in the March *Women's VU*. For information concerning time and opponent, call the Athletic Department.



"I am merely pointing out that women, whether subtly or vociferously, have always been a tremendous power in the destiny of the world and with so many of them now holding important positions and receiving recognition and earning the respect of the man as well as the members of their own sex, it seems more than ever that in this crisis, 'It's Up To The Women!'"

Eleanor Roosevelt, *It's Up To The Women*,
1933

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