

NORTH SHORE VISIONS

469 AB Anderson Hall
University of MN. Duluth

April, 1994 A Newsletter From the Department of Women's Studies Vol. 14, No 5

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

You who dream of liberty must not
yourselves be fooled/ Before you get
to plea for freedom, you have agreed
to being ruled/ If the body stays a
shackle, then the mind remains a
chain/ That'll link you to a destiny
whereby all good souls are slain

Ferron

FROM THE EDITOR

I would personally like to thank all
those involved in Women's History
Month here at UMD. As always, the
work paid off. Now that all the
events have ended, I think it is
important to remember that Women's
History Month should not just occur
during the few short weeks of March.
If it weren't for the faculty, staff, and
students, Women's history Month
never could have happened. It is this
dedication to women's experiences
that will continue to bring the lives of
all women into our hearts. We have
to fight for what we believe in, and
love ourselves unconditionally,
something not everyone can do.

Recently at UMD a woman passed

away from a disease called anorexia.
For those who are not familiar with
this illness, it is the systematic self-
starvation of the body either through
over-exercise or the denial of food. I
find it tragically ironic that this
occurred at the end of a celebration of
women's empowerment. I did not
know this woman, but I knew of her.
I saw her frailty and wondered. Her
life has ended for whatever reason,
and it brings into focus the true
purpose of a "Women's History
Month." This society has decided for
us that women will have to fight for
anything we need or want. We are
constantly bombarded by the media
hype which tells us that we are far
from perfect beings. My question is
this: How can we overcome all the
strikes placed against us without self-
destructing? The only solution I can
find is that we need to know
ourselves completely, and reach out
when we need help. We need to
make sure that when young women
die senselessly, we speak out and
challenge this system which
perpetuates misogyny. I know that

Women's History Month was very uplifting for most, but like Angela Davis stated so beautifully, we need to form coalitions to become whole again. May 5 is International No-Diet Day. I suggest to all of us that we check into what we can do as women in coalition to better the climate for women of all shapes and sizes in our communities. We need to talk back, rage on, and never forget.

Melissa Olson

IN DULUTH

The 47th Annual Duluth International Folk Festival is seeking applicants from ethnic folk, and contemporary artists and craftspeople. The festival, which will be held Saturday, August 6 in Bayfront Festival Park, will be a collection of local and non-local artists. Application deadline is May 2, 1994. For more information, call Bonnie Cusick at 722-8563.

Chester Creek House, Duluth's lesbian cooperative, is seeking additional residents. This household has been a cooperative in Duluth for 23 years and a lesbian, women only space since 1981. Chester Creek house has been a valued women's community for many years and provides a safe, chemical-free, vegetarian environment striving for respect for ourselves, others, and the environment. In tradition of other intentional communities, Chester Creek House abides by peaceful conflict resolution, open communication, building community both within and outside the household, and laughter. If anyone is interested, call (218) 724-5468.

Woman/Church will be holding non-denominational worship emphasizing the feminine face of the God/dess at the Refugee Center the second Thursday of every month at 5:15 P.M. For more information call Mary Siten at 728-5072.

ON CAMPUS

The Department of Women's Studies announces a celebration of excellence. On May 13, students, staff, faculty, and friends of Women's Studies will come together to honor graduating seniors and the end of another successful year. This year's event will consist of a vegetarian dinner hosted by the women at Chester Creek House; Duluth's all-women intentional community. The dinner is free to graduating seniors. Others are requested to sign up and/or sponsor somebody else. The charge is \$8.00 for students and low-income women, and \$12.50 for non-students. This do-not-miss event will be held from 6:30-9:00 pm. Those who are planning to attend should send a check to Tineke Ritmeester, 473 Humanities, UMD, 10 University Drive, Duluth MN, 55812 no later than April 27, 1994. Questions should be directed to 726-6224 or 726-6208. Hope to see you there.

The UMD Women's Studies Department, along with the Hispanic/Latino/Chicano Student Service Program and other friends present "Women of Color/Community Activists Speak Out." This panel discussion on the effects of multiple oppression in our communities will be held Thursday, May 5, 1994 in the UMD Bullpub at 3:00 pm.

Women's Studies Courses

Fall Quarter 1994

COMM 3230 GENDER COMMUNICATION (3 cr)

ENGL 3580 WOMEN WRITERS (4 cr)

HIST 3357 WOMEN IN AMERICAN HISTORY (4 cr)

HmCL 3240 WOMEN & MEN IN POPULAR CULTURE (4 cr)

POL 3620 IDEAS AND IDEOLOGIES OF FEMINISM (4 cr)

PSY 3215E TOPICS IN HUMAN SEXUALITY (CEE) (3 cr)

PSY 3216 HUMAN SEXUALITY: A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE
(3 cr)

PSY 3221 CHANGING ROLE OF WOMEN (4 cr)

PSY 3540 PSYCHOLOGY OF FOOD ABUSE (3 cr)

SOC 3970 WOMEN, MEN, AND SOCIETY (4 cr)

WS 1000 INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES (5 cr) (Lib Ed)

WS 1100 FEMINIST INQUIRY (4 cr)

WS 3400 WOMEN AND FILM (4 cr)

WS 3500-1 TOPICS: FEMINIST ETHICS (4 cr)

-2 TOPICS: WOMEN IN PRISON (4 cr)

For more information, contact Women's Studies, 469 ABAH (726-7953)

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PLEASE POST

Speaker/activists include Vicky Ybanez, Toni Wheeler Sheehy, Melissa Taylor, Janice Kirk, and Sumlee Beede. Women of color are a political coalition of diverse women of non-european cultural heritages. Everyone is invited to participate.

Tineke Ritmeester, associate professor and acting head of the Department of Women's Studies has been selected to participate in a National Endowment for the Humanities seven week seminar, "The Writer and the State of the German Democratic Republic," at Cornell University. Her project concerns an investigation of sexual politics in GDR social policies and pedagogy.

Sharon Gavin Levy will be teaching "African American Women and Literature," Engl 1506, Summer Session II, July 18th-29th. This course will focus on african american women and their song. For more information, contact Sharon Gavin Levy, 405 Humanities, 726-8242.

Tineke Ritmeester will be teaching her course "Women in Film" with a focus on international film perspectives on women in prison. This course adaptation was inspired by Angela Davis's visit to Duluth in March. After 1500 people turned out to hear what activist/writer/teacher Angela Davis had to say, Professor Ritmeester took the initiative to re-vamp her course which is centered on the portrayal and struggles of women in the prison system.

Beth Barlett, a supportive Women's Studies faculty member at UMD, has

recently successfully undergone a heart transplant. We would like to wish Beth the best of health in the upcoming months.

IN MINNESOTA

The 1994-95 Loft Mentor Series presents a Poetry and Fiction Writers competition. This program allows eight emerging writers to spend a year of intensive study with four visiting authors. Jorie Graham and Lorrie Moore are among them. Winners are selected by out of state judges and will receive a \$500.00 stipend. Deadline is Tuesday, May 3, 1994. For more information, send a stamped envelope to The Loft, Pratt Community Center, 66 Malcolm Avenue Southeast, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

Missouri Summer '94, a student organizing initiative is gathering students in the mid-west to get involved in the fight for lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender equality. Missouri is one of many states facing Amendment Two, which passed in Colorado in 1992, legalizing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Fifty students will be bused from Minneapolis to Missouri on July 10, 1994 after a one week orientation period. Students will be housed with local families, given a stipend for food, and are expected to do community work for up to eight hours a day. To become involved or contribute, contact Gary Schiff, Coordinator, Missouri Summer '94, 115 E 34 St., Mpls, MN 55408.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Thirteenth Annual Women and

Spirituality Conference: "Feminism, Spirituality and the Environment" will be held at Mankato State University October 22 and 23, 1994. The purpose of the conference is to bring together people of diverse spiritual traditions and to create an atmosphere where women can share thoughts, ideas, and feelings about our traditions and spiritual growth. This year's Key-note Speaker will be Karen J. Warren, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN. The conference invites proposals for a workshop on any aspect of Feminism and Philosophy, and Women, Ecology and Spirituality. For more information contact Women and Spirituality Conference, Mankato State University, PO Box 8400, MSU 300, Mankato, MN 56002, or call (507) 389-2077.

CONFERENCES

"Social Perspectives on Women and Ecology: A Colloquium," will be held this summer from July 29 through August 2 at the Institute For Social Ecology in Plainfield, Vermont. Issues explored include the ecology of women's health, women and environmental racism, development strategies and the third world perspective, making alliances with grassroots activists, the relationship of ecofeminism and animal liberation, and the role of spirituality in ecofeminism. The colloquium will be a time for students, teachers, and new-comers to ecofeminism to come together and map out future directions for this steadily emerging movement. Chaia Heller, from the Institute For Social Ecology, and Greta

Gaard, from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, will be convening the colloquium. To learn more about this and other programs at the Institute For Social Ecology, write or call Institute For Social Ecology, PO Box 89 Dept. b, Plainfield VT 05667, (802) 454-8493.

Sally Brown and Linda Helander are holding a ten day workshop for artist July 17-27, 1994 on Madeline Island in Wisconsin. This Two and Three dimensional workshop is for women who wish to connect the relationship between the illusion on the wall and the more concrete or sculptural object on the gallery floor. This experience is for all artists who are interested in expanding their artistic abilities in a safe and fun environment. For more information, contact Sally Brown, 2407 Girard Ave South, Mpls, Mn 55405.

The National Women's History Project in Northern California presents "A Women's Place is... In the Curriculum." This teacher training workshop July 25-28, 1994 is designed for classroom teachers, trainers, equity and multi-cultural specialists, and curriculum specialists. Conference sessions feature presentations on Women's History, and many strategies and resources for integrating women into the curriculum. Registration fee is \$350.00, excluding room and board. For more information, contact National Women's History Project, 7738 Bell Road, Widsor, CA 95492.

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More information regarding any of the above announcements, books, conferences, etc. is available in the Women's Studies office, 469 ABAH, or call (218) 726-7953.

** Announcements for "North Shore Visions" should be addressed to Melissa Olson, c/o The Department of Women's Studies, 469 ABAH, or call (218) 726-7953 or (218) 726-6208.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

To inquire about the great advertising opportunity for you and your business, or to make a personal request to become a sponsor of "North Shore Visions" please contact Melissa Olson, 726-8206.

Please join us in thanking the following sponsors for their financial support of "North Shore Visions" by patronizing their businesses and services!

THANK YOU!

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722-4903

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Continental Beauty Salon, E. Superior St.
525-5161

Journeys Marketplace: Fine Books and
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Locations in Duluth, Grand Rapids

Whole Foods Community Co-op, Inc.
1332 East 4th St., Duluth

Women's Health Center, Duluth 727-
3352

YWCA of Duluth

Pat Maus
NE MN Hist. Ctr.
375 L

