
G.P.O.W.

GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVES ON WOMEN

December 1998

Letter from the Chair

GPOW as a network

A colleague and friend slightly more junior than myself recently asked me how to "network." I replied that I had never thought about "networking," really, but I do value my professional relationships. Perhaps this is just a matter of semantics, but I suspect it is more than that. To me, "networking" suggests that one scurries about at professional gatherings, meeting and greeting people but never getting to know anyone. I find such superficial contact with people enervating. Much more stimulating are the genuine relationships that are built over time on the basis of shared interests and experiences.

Allow me to illustrate the difference. Years ago, at one of those AAG receptions, my advisor gave me a gentle shove in the direction of a well-known scholar, saying, "Go talk to her. You've read her paper." I resisted, for although I had certainly read her work I wasn't sure what to say to her about it. Conversation comes a bit more

readily to me these days, but I still hesitate to approach someone without a genuine topic or question to discuss. However, I do make a point of contacting people with whom I may share research or teaching interests, and I stay in touch with them. Professional relationships, like personal ones, enrich my life and facilitate my projects.

Since its inception, GPOW has supported research on women and gender in geography. Perhaps more important, it has supported the individuals who conduct this research. Our business meetings are open, participatory affairs, and the annual breakfast gives us a chance to catch up with old friends and welcome new ones. Our AAG session coordinator connects those organizing sessions with authors whose papers need "homes" for the annual meeting. Our service, paper, and -- this year -- travel awards provide financial support and recognition for members' work. And our newsletter, listserv (geogfem@lsv.uky.edu), and website facilitate communication among members. Yes, GPOW is a crucial part of many members' networks. But I prefer to think of it as a group of professional friends. Shared research, teaching and service interests and genuine concern for one another make GPOW a strong specialty group.

— Karen Falconer-Al Hindi, University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Suzanne Mackenzie: a tribute*

Feminist geography lost a vibrant champion in October when Suzanne Mackenzie died of cancer in Nelson, British Columbia, Canada. I hope that this brief tribute will bring comfort to those who knew and loved Suzanne, and to the many people world-wide who have been inspired by her work.

If I had to choose a single phrase to describe Suzanne, her life and her accomplishments I think I would have to go with *absolutely amazing!* My earliest impressions of Suzanne, at the Canadian Association of Geographers regional and national meetings during the 1980s, are of

In this issue...

GPOW as a network	1
Suzanne Mackenzie: a tribute*	1
Suzanne Mackenzie Memorial Scholarship	2
GPOW Sessions in Honolulu:	3
GPOW web site!	3
GPOW Travel Awards	4
Glenda Laws Award and Fund	4
Call for Nominations	4
GPOW Member News	4
IGU Gender Conference: Gendered Sites/Human Rights	5
Employment Opportunities	5
Keep In Touch!	6
Funding for this Newsletter.....	6

tribute....

a woman who embodied energy, a passion for life, and a determination to build a feminist geographic tradition that would nurture and embrace women in all of their diverse selves and places in the world. These impressions of Suzanne as a woman at the centre of important changes in academic geography were reinforced at the personal level: by the vibrant red and curly hair that tumbled over her shoulders, by her ready laugh and sparkling eyes, through the wise and sometimes irreverent comments she would make in discussions about such excesses of academic life as unbridled competition, advice to publish even if one had nothing to say, and the inability of certain male colleagues to take women's knowledges and geographies seriously.

Suzanne continued to amaze me over the years, as we grew to be friends as well as colleagues. There was always something very special about times spent with her — she communicated a sense of eagerness to share ideas, launch new projects and find creative ways to bring feminist geographers together. She also made time together special by letting you know that she really cared; not just about her family and friends but about embracing and supporting women in academia and society. Among my own personal memories is the time that Suzanne joined me for a quite chaotic dinner at my home -- frequently interrupted by the needs and demands of my two young children. After dinner, Suzanne looked at me thoughtfully, smiled and asked: "How do you ever manage to THINK?" I replied: "I don't. Which probably explains my recent articles." We laughed and somehow I felt better. Then there was the conference in Montreal. Suzanne was determined to find an accessible restaurant so that I could attend an informal dinner for women in Canadian geography. After a long search, Suzanne called me to report that there didn't seem to be such places in Montreal! The next morning, she made a point of visiting me at the hotel so we could 'catch up' that way instead.

More recently Suzanne has continued to amaze me with her courage, humour and warmth in the face of cancer and death. She quickly learned to 'live in the moment' and to cherish aspects of life we too often neglect: our connection with nature, our spirituality, our creativity, our connections to others and to the past as well as the future. When I spoke to Suzanne a few days before she died I asked what gift I could send that she'd

really enjoy. She asked for something about feminist artist Judy Chicago's *The Dinner Party*. This monumental, collaborative art work features a huge triangular table laid with individual woven tapestries and place settings symbolizing important women (mythic and real) who have struggled for women's inclusion and rights in Western society. The floor of *The Dinner Party* commemorates the lives and struggles of 999 other visionary women. Looking back on Suzanne's request, I realize that it was through the celebration of women's lives, including her own, that Suzanne's spirit was able to triumph over illness and even death. What an amazing and precious legacy for feminist geographers to carry on!

— Vera Chouinard, McMaster University.

*author's note: This tribute has not dwelt on Suzanne's many specific academic contributions, which are detailed elsewhere. Instead, I have tried to convey what made those contributions and Suzanne herself so very special.

Suzanne Mackenzie Memorial Scholarship

A memorial scholarship for Suzanne Mackenzie (1950-1998) will be established through the Canadian Women and Geography Study Group. The scholarship will represent Suzanne's wishes for a final contribution to women in the discipline, and the terms of the scholarship will reflect her dedication to students and to learning.

Please send donations to:

The Canadian Women and Geography Study Group
c/o Dr. Audrey Kobayashi, Treasurer
Department of Geography
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6

Note: Members of CWAG also plan to compile a 'Memory Book' to commemorate Suzanne's life. If you would like to make a contribution, consisting of a reminiscence, tribute, anecdote or the like, please also send it to the above address, and it will be posted to a web site now in progress.

GPOW Sessions in Honolulu:

(the following is a preliminary list of GPOW sponsored sessions for the 1999 meeting of the AAG):

- Jan Monk •jmonk@u.arizona.edu •Teaching feminist geography (panel)
- Kathryn Besio •kjbesio@hawaii.edu •Critical geographies of children
- Jennifer Mandel and Megan Blake
- Jmandel@pop.netaddress.usa.net •Women's Lives: A Global Perspective
- Harald Bauder and Miguel De Oliver
- Baud5827@mach1.wlu.ca
- Mdeolive@lonestar.jpl.utsa.edu Identity, Marginality and Exclusion
- Susan Mains and Laurel Smith
- Smain00@pop.uky.edu •Melting Pot or Marble Cake? Immigrant Identities an Cultural Politics
- Kat O'Reilly and Jane Moecki
- Kmoreill@black.weeg.uiowa.edu •Poststructuralist feminism
- Geoffrey DeVerteuil
- Devertu@scf.usc.edu •Big City Welfare Reform: The New Urban Policy
- Susi Moser
- Suzanne_moser@harvard.edu •Publishing your first book (panel)
- Mitch Rose and Carl Dahlman
- Ctdahl0@pop.uky.edu •Performativity, networked identities/objects and phenomenological notions of space
- Carole Gallaher and Susan Mains
- cagall00@UKCC.UKY.EDU •Reinventing Latin America: Changing Political Economies
- Margaret Pawlick
- pawlick@sscl.uwo.ca •Access and Marginality in recreation/leisure/travel (panel)
- Mary McDonald
- Mcdonald@hawaii.edu •Women in Asia and the Pacific
- Vera Chouinard and Rob Kitchin
- Chouinar@mcmaster.ca •Unruly spaces: Emerging Geographies of Difference and Defiance
- Beverly Mullings
- Bamullin@maxwell.syr.edu •Gendered Geographies in Caribbean Development
- Cheryl McEwan, Karen Morin and Tamar Rothenberg

- c.mcewan@bham.ac.uk;morin@buckness.edu; 3
- tyr@amenti.rutgers.edu •Critical Histories of Geography: Feminism and 'Imperial' discourse
- Jim Proctor
- Jproctor@geog.ucsb.edu •Feminism and ethics
- Lawrence Berg
- l.berg@massey.ac.nz •Geography's Masculinities
- Scott Salmon and Minelle Mahtani
- Salmonsc@muohio.edu •Transcending the Tyranny of Difference? Negotiating Critical Geographies of Inclusion
- Tom Herman
- Herman1@mail.sdsu.edu •Critical Geographies of and with Children !: Discourses of Childhood and Youth
- Tom Herman
- Critical Geographies of and with children II: Young People's •Social and Spatial Networks
- Glen Elder
- Gelder@zooluvm.edu •(sexuality and space) title tba

GPOW web site!

The Geographic Perspectives on Women Specialty Group's web page has been established to provide the group with a web presence. The site can be accessed at: <<http://www.masu.nodak.edu/hssdiv/meartz/gpow/gpow.htm>>. The Geographic Perspectives on Women Specialty Group page is the team effort of Paul D. Meartz [paul_meartz@mail.masu.nodak.edu at Mayville State University, Mayville, ND], Cynthia K. Pope [pope@u.arizona.edu at the University of Arizona, Tucson AZ], and Kim A. Elmore [kelmore@geog.unc.edu at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC]. Server space is provided by Mayville State University and the North Dakota University System.

While the home page offers information about the group, its purpose, and its leadership, linked pages offer general announcements, meeting announcements and notes, research notes, mentoring information, and links of interest to the group.

Interested parties are encouraged to submit items they would like to see included on the pages to one of the team members. [If an item on the pages should need correction, that message should be directed to Paul Meartz.] Of special note is the research section. The team hopes that this section can be an on-going index of

website....

the kinds of research that is being carried out by the members of GPOW. We welcome short notes describing the work of members. We would also like to serve as a site to which members and others could turn for assistance in finding data or other materials. This latter function is, of course, shared with the GEOGFEM listserv group. If there are other types of materials the members believe should be included, please let one of the team members know.

GPOW Travel Awards

Results are in from the Glenda Laws Travel Award Competition. The committee has awarded eight grants of \$200 each to support travel to the Honolulu AAG conference. The winners include:

Deirdre McKay, University of British Columbia
 JoAnn Vender, Penn State
 Cynthia Pope, University of Arizona
 Kathleen O'Rielly, University of Iowa
 Donna Rubicoff, University of Colorado
 Ethan Yorgason, University of Iowa
 Laura Liu (GPOW rep), Rutgers University
 Kim Elmore (GPOW rep), University of North Carolina, CH

Contributions from our members allowed us to support all the applications we received--and we felt they were all of high quality and worthy of support.

-- Altha J. Cravey, University of North Carolina, and Laura Y. Liu, Rutgers University.

Glenda Laws Award and Fund

The AAG executive has approved the establishment of the Glenda Laws Award for outstanding geographic research on social issues. Thanks to all of those who have helped to make this award possible. Contributions to the award can be made through the Glenda Laws Fund (see current AAG membership renewal forms) .

GPOW Member News

Catherine L. Nolin Hanlon, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Geography at Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, has received a Doctoral Research

Award by the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa (IDRC) for her project entitled, "Social Reconstruction in Guatemala and the Role of Remittance Commitment of Maya (Im)migrants and Refugees in Canada and the United States." Her research is also funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Congratulations Catherine! (Catherine can be contacted by email at: 3CLN2@qsilver.queensu.ca).

Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) is now a year old. The group was begun at UNC-Chapel Hill by women grad students and faculty initially to serve as a support group for women in the department, but its mission has since expanded. Membership now includes undergrads, grads, faculty, and alumni, women and men, and the group is one of the most dynamic elements (cont'd from p. 3): of the department. Current activities include a speaker series (Jan Monk was the inaugural SWIG speak in November), public service projects, and major contributions to the student-initiated Geography Awareness Project. Future plans include a directory of women in geography in North Carolina and outreach to area schools. SWIG has a website (<http://www.unc.edu/depts/geog/swig.html>) and a listserv, and has SWIG t-shirts for sale (many of you saw and/or purchased these shirts in Boston--design and ordering information is also on the website). We would be interested in establishing contact with other like-minded groups!
 -- SWIG, Department of Geography CB #3220,
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599
 Ph: 919-962-3871

Call for Nominations

Please nominate yourself or your colleague(s) for one or more of these interesting and rewarding positions on the **GPOW Board**:

Chair. Coordinates GPOW Specialty Group business, represents GPOW as required (for example, at AAG functions), coordinates nomination and election of GPOW officers.

Secretary. Records and distributes annual business meeting minutes. Other official business as required.

Board member/Chair, Student Paper Competition. Organizes a student paper committee, sends out a call for submissions, determines winner(s) with committee.

call for nominations....

Treasurer. Keeps track of the GPOW account. Issues checks as necessary.

Send names and contact information of agreeable candidates (please check with your nominee(s) to be sure s/he/ is willing) to: Karen Falconer Al-Hindi, Dept. of Geography/Geology, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE 68182-0199.

E-mail: falconer@unomaha.edu. Phone: (402) 554-3585

IGU Gender Conference: Gendered Sites/Human Rights

The IGU Gender Conference, February 9-11, 1999, will address the agenda of the International Geographical Commission on Gender by examining the **contested nature of human rights (and rites) and investigating the gendered spaces and perspectives** which enable a critical reading of these rights, responsibilities and practices. The conference, being hosted by the **Department of Geography, University of Otago, Dunedin, (Aotearoa/New Zealand)** is a regional meeting of the Commission. Geographers in and outside academia, who are interested in the Commission's agenda, are warmly invited to attend this conference.

Four broad subthemes have been developed to stimulate thought and encourage connections across the conference. These are: **1. Gendered Sites:** Where do we experience boundaries, performances and negotiations of human rights? **2. Human Rights:** How do rights, responsibilities and practices shape the quality of our lives and choices? **3. Gendered Sights:** What situated knowledges, strategic approaches and purposeful accounts can we mobilise concerning gender and human rights? **4. Human Rites:** What practices and contestations of rights and gendered life, can we identify and/or critique? Any queries about the IGU Commission on Geography and Gender conference should be directed to the conference convenor: Dr Ruth Liepins, Department of Geography, University of Otago, Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand, Email: igu.gender@hyperperth.otago.ac.nz, Facsimile: 64 3 479 9037.

Employment Opportunities

(Editor's note: this is a new feature of the GPOW newsletter. We will accept job advertisements of interest to GPOW members in exchange for a \$40 advertising fee which will be used to help support the publication of the GPOW newsletters).

York University- The Department of Geography invites applications for a **full-time tenure-track position** at the Assistant Professor level to begin July 1, 1999 (subject to budgetary approval). The Department seeks a **Biogeographer/Ecologist** with expertise in contemporary ecological processes. Areas of interest include, but are not confined to, vegetation dynamics and nutrient cycling processes. Experience in the use of GIS would be an asset. The successful candidate will join a group of faculty specializing in environmental processes in such areas as biogeochemistry, hydrology, climatology, geomorphology and remote sensing/GIS. A PhD is required at the time of appointment. We seek an individual who will develop a vigorous research programme and is committed to high quality undergraduate and graduate education. Additional information on the Department can be obtained at (www.yorku.ca/dept/geograph/home.htm). Candidates should send a curriculum vitae, a statement of research interests, selected publications and arrange for three letters of reference to be sent to: Dr. A. Robert, Chair, Department of Geography, York University, 4700 Keele Street, Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3.

Deadline for application is 15 January 1999.

York University is implementing a policy of employment equity, including affirmative action for women faculty. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

York University - The Department of Geography invites applications for a **full-time tenure-track position in Economic Geography** at the Assistant Professor level, to begin July 1, 1999 (subject to budgetary approval). The successful candidate will have research interests in resource analysis and development, preferably with research experience in a region outside North America. Familiarity with GIS techniques and

employment.....

their application in development research would be a definite asset. A PhD is required at the time of appointment. We seek an individual who will develop a vigorous research programme and is committed to high quality undergraduate and graduate education. Additional information on the Department can be obtained at (www.yorku.ca/dept/geograph/home.htm). Candidates should send a curriculum vitae, a statement of research interests, selected publications and arrange for three letters of reference to be sent to: Dr. A. Robert, Chair, Department of Geography, York University, 4700 Keele Street, Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3.

Deadline for application is 15 January 1999.

York University is implementing a policy of employment equity, including affirmative action for women faculty. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

Keep In Touch!

Contacting GPOW Board Members:

Geographic Perspectives on Women Specialty Group Officers, April 1997-April 1998:

Chair: Karen Falconer Al-Hindi (97-99)

Department of Geography and Geology, University of Nebraska-Omaha, NE 68182-0199

E-mail: falconer@unomaha.edu

Phone: (402) 554-3585

Secretary: Altha Cravey (97-99)

Department of Geography, UNC-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC27599-3220

E-mail: cravey@unc.edu

Phone: (919)962-5157

Treasurer: Holly Hapke (97-99)

Department of Geography, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858 E-mail: hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu

Phone: (919)328-6230

Newsletter Editor: Vera Chouinard (98-00)

School of Geography and Geology, Arthur Bourns Bldg. Room 121, McMaster University, 1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8S 4M1

Email: chouinar@mcmaster.ca

Phone: (905) 525-9140 x23518

Board Members

Audrey Kobayashi (98-00)

Institute for Women's Studies, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Email: kobayasi@post.queensu.ca

Phone: +1 (613) 545 6318

Ibipo Johnston-Anumonwo (97-99)

Department of Geography, State University of New York-Cortland, Cortland, NY 13045

E-mail: johnstoni@snycorva.cortland.edu

Phone: (607) 753-2993

Student Reps:

Laura Liu (98-00)

Department of Geography, Lucy Stone Hall, Livingston Campus, Rutgers University, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8045

Email: lyliu@rci.rutgers.edu

Phone: (732) 445-4103 (fax)732-445-0006

Kim Elmore (98-00)

Department of Geography CB #3220, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599

E-mail: elmore@email.unc.edu

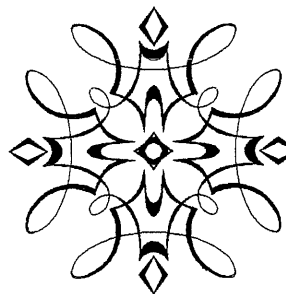
Phone: (919) 962-3871

Contribute to the newsletter:

GPOW welcomes news about the activities, accomplishments and concerns of its members. Please consider sharing your news by sending items for the spring newsletter to Vera Chouinard, GPOW Newsletter Editor, School of Geography and Geology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada, L8S 4K1 (email: chouinar@mcmaster.ca).

Funding for this Newsletter

This newsletter has been jointly funded by the School of Geography and Geology at McMaster University and the Geographic Perspectives on Women Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers



*Happy
Holidays from
GPOW!!!!*