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Proposal for a B.A. Concentration in Women's Studies

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE
BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Frank Newman

FROM: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

- The attached BILL, titled Proposal for a B.A. Concentration in Women's Studies

is forwarded for your consideration.

- The original and two copies for your use are included.
- This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on April 13, 1978 (date)
- After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Regents, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
- In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on May 4, 1978 (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Regents for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Regents, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

April 14, 1978
(date)

Robert M. Gutchen
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

copy

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- Returned.
- Approved Disapproved
- (If approved) In my opinion, transmittal to the Board of Regents is not/is necessary.

Approved by Bd of Regents 4/17/80

May 18, 1978
(date)

original signed by J. N.
President

(OVER)

ALTERNATE ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Board of Regents

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded.
2. Approved.

(date)

President

ENDORSEMENT 2.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Chairman of the Board of Regents, via the University President.

1. Forwarded.

(date)

(Office)

ENDORSEMENT 3.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded from the Chairman of the Board of Regents.

(date)

President

Original received and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and Registrar for filing in the Archives of the University.

(date)

Chairman of the Faculty Senate

ADD: J.A. Concentration in Women's Studies

A. Proposal

1. Concentration requirements:

A minimum of 30 credits including:

- a. WMS 200 Introduction to Women's Studies 3 credits;
- b. a 3-credit statistics or methodology course approved by the Women's Studies Advisory Committee;
- c. a 3-credit field experience in women's studies. The student may enroll in a departmental course, such as a practicum, clinic, honors program, independent study, or field work course with the approval of the Women's Studies Coordinator or may enroll in WMS 300 Field Experience in Women's Studies 3 credits;
- d. WMS 400 Senior Seminar 3 credits;
- e. 18 credits from the list below or from other courses (permanent, temporary, or open-ended) designated by the Women's Studies Advisory Committee as being appropriate to the concentration. The advisory committee will use the following guidelines in adding courses to the concentration courses which deal in a theoretical way with women or the interaction between women and men; or courses which concern major areas of women's lives (e.g. the family, sexual relations). Each semester the Women's Studies Advisory Committee will inform the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of any additional courses approved for the Women's Studies concentration. A majority of the credits must be selected from courses taught in the College of Arts and Sciences.

ART 280 Topics in European Art: Women in Art
CDF 355 Marriage and Family Relationships
CDF 403 Human Development During Adulthood
CDF 407 Perspectives on Parenting
ENG 346 Black Literature, 1940 to the Present:
Portraits of the Black Woman
ENG 360 Women and Literature
ENG 385 Women Fiction Writers
HIS 118 Women in European History (pending final approval)
HIS 145 Women in American History
HIC 347 American Women in the Twentieth Century
HMG 320 Family Economics
NUR 150 Human Sexuality
NUR 530 Change Processes in Nursing Practice
PSY 480 The Female Experience

SOC 312 The Family
SOC 342 The Sociology of Sex Roles
SOC 520 Seminar in Sociological Topics:
Sociology of Women
SPE 310 Contemporary Oral Communication:
Rhetoric of the Women's Movement
SPE 420 Seminar in American Public Address:
Rhetoric of Early Women Suffragists
and Modern Liberationists

2. New courses:

- a. WMS 200 Introduction to Women's Studies (1 or 11,3) Images of women in American culture, the theories and process of socialization, historical perspectives, and implications for social change. (Lec. 2, Rec. 1) Staff
- b. WMS 300 Field Experience in Women's Studies (1 and 11,3) Supervised field work allowing students to learn through direct personal experience about the background, problems and concerns of particular populations of women. (Lec. 1 Lab. 4) Pre: 200, approval of advisor. Staff
- c. WMS 400 Senior Seminar (1 or 11,3) Theoretical and value questions of Women's Studies research; general introduction to research methods; research methods in selected disciplines; personal and professional readiness. Not for Graduate credit. (Lec. 3) Pre: 200, Senior Standing. Staff

3. Creation of Women's Studies Advisory Committee

That a Women's Studies Advisory Committee be appointed by the Dean of Arts and Sciences. The Committee shall comprise those faculty teaching Women's Studies Concentration courses (but no more than one faculty from each participating department) and three student concentrators. The Advisory Committee shall: interview Coordinator applicants and make a recommendation to the Dean of Arts and Sciences; be responsible for supervising those courses which are not departmental (i.e., those labelled WMS); evaluate the work of the Coordinator; and assist the Coordinator with the advisement of students and the development and coordination of the Women's Studies curriculum. The Women's Studies Advisory Committee shall be responsible for ongoing evaluations of the Women's Studies Program.

4. Creation of a Coordinator of Women's Studies

That there be a Coordinator of Women's Studies, appointed by the Dean of Arts and Sciences from the Arts and Sciences faculty. The Coordinator shall serve for two years and shall be accountable to an Advisory Committee and to the Dean of Arts and Sciences. The Coordinator shall be released from one-half of her or his normal duties, which include, but are not re-

stricted to, teaching, research, advisement, committee work and thesis direction.

The duties of the Coordinator shall include the following:

- a. Supervision of the over-all administration of the program, i.e., coordination and scheduling of all WMS courses not housed in existing departments, budget preparation, representing the program within the University community, e.g., at meetings of heads of departments, chairing the WMS Advisory Committee;
- b. Student advisement (after the first year this duty will be shared with members of the WMS Advisory Committee), and coordination with suitable practicum and thesis advisors;
- c. Coordination of programs and special events, including speakers, symposia, workshops;
- d. Serving as community liaison and representative of the WMS program at regional and national conferences;
- e. Facilitating student and faculty access to interdisciplinary materials, new scholarship, and conference information.

B. Rationale

1. Purpose

The central purpose of the program is to extend knowledge of the female experience, examined by means of both humanistic and scientific modes of analysis. The program would provide unity and coherence for the approximately two dozen courses focusing on women now offered by twelve departments. That these courses are meeting the needs and interest of students is evidenced by their high enrollments and by favorable responses in a recent survey of URI undergraduates designed by Kate Marion and conducted by the Student Opinion Index. Adults, especially women, returning to the Continuing Education Program have also indicated strong interest in Women's Studies.

A degree-granting program in Women's Studies at the University of Rhode Island would provide focus for, and coordination among, the various disciplines which make up the field. A formal program, first and foremost, reveals the intellectual and methodological relationships among the different areas of study; from this cross-pollination comes greater awareness of changes and developments in scholarship as well as wider opportunities for new research and ideas within a truly interdisciplinary field. At the same time, such a program permits concentrated student and faculty

interchange, not fragmented by existing department boundaries. In addition to the focus offered by a degree-granting program, coordination of efforts and leadership would result from the presence of a visible structure with an administrative coordinator. The program would provide a base from which to propose grants, organize new courses, special events, and state-wide liaison with the community. Further, it would make visible and available to the state's academic and general population some of the University's special strengths, a notable example being its women's studies courses in the social sciences and humanities.

The major argument for such a program at the level of a major or concentration is based on the fact that the traditional disciplines have often failed to include women's contributions and concerns within their subject matters, except in the most cursory and peripheral ways. This is as true in art as in political science, in English literature as in biology. Psychologists have written primarily about the development of male personality, and sociologists about male institutions. In addition, sex-role stereotypes are perpetuated by our language, literature, news media and schools, with the consequence that many women are socialized to lead lives characterized by narrow expectations and incomplete or skewed development of capacities. Women need to discover their histories, to understand their potentials for growth and to learn to pursue scholarship in new and exciting research areas. Men will profit, too, from the new sources of knowledge about the world and our society and from having available first rate scholars in this area with whom to study.

2. Cost

Personnel	
Coordinator ($\frac{1}{2}$ time)	\$ 4,000
Faculty release time (5 courses at \$1290 per course)	6,450
Senior clerk-typist ($\frac{1}{2}$ time)	3,500
Work-study student (10 hours per week)	156
Capital Expenditures	\$14,106
Office Furniture	
1 bookcase	
2 filing cabinets	
2 desks	
2 typist chairs	
3 straight-backed chairs	
1 typewriter (Selectric)	

\$ 1,700 Year 1 onl

Office Expenses	
Telephone (1 blue disc and one red disc)	\$ 450
postage (1800 to 2300 pieces)	300
Duplicating (on basis of reimbursement of departments)	100
Supplies	200
Maintenance	50
	<u>\$ 1,100</u>
Travel Budget	\$ 400
Lecture fees and Honoraria	\$ 300
Films	\$ 150
	<u>\$17,756</u>
	<u>1,350</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	
* + F/BC 18%	
CORRECTED TOTAL	19,106

* Correction by Budget Office prior to consideration by JEPG