

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON



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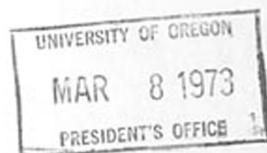
TO: President Robert Clark

FROM: Joan Acker

RE: Women's Studies

I am very pleased that you are proceeding with the appointment of a committee on Women's Studies. However, I am concerned that we should maintain the excellent beginnings in a Women's Studies program which we already have during the period that the committee is working on a comprehensive proposal. On the assumption that the committee's work will not be considered by the faculty until sometime next year, I would like to suggest the following interim measures which would continue the program now in existence.

1. The allocation of two faculty positions for women who will teach, at least part time, in Women's Studies. These positions could be allocated in the same way that four positions were allocated for the hiring of minority faculty. That is, departments which can hire women who would fulfill these qualifications, would have the first chance for the positions. I would like to point out that there are two women on campus who are interested in Women's Studies, and who have taught in Women's Studies, who will be terminated at the end of this academic year. They are Barbara Westman, History Department, and Jan Newton, Economics Department.
2. The allocation of funds to teach the lower division Introduction to Women's Studies course at least twice during the academic year 1973-74. This course might be taught by qualified, advanced graduate students. There are several women graduate students in the Sociology Department who would be competent to teach this course next year.
3. Funds for one teaching assistant and two work study students in the Women's Research and Study Center. This Center, as you probably know, has had minimal financing from the graduate school in order to develop research grants. We have spent this money to develop research grants and are hopeful that by next year the Center will become self supporting. However, given the current situation with funding agencies, we cannot be completely confident of obtaining outside funds. The Center accomplishes much more than simply developing research proposals on Sex Roles and Social Structure. It has also become an important resource for students on this campus who wish to learn about, write papers about, and talk to people who are knowledgeable about the position of women in society. We have developed a library which we are now expanding



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and would like to continue to make this available to students ~~from~~ throughout the campus. We cannot do this on a volunteer basis. We are operating very effectively now with three work study students and <sup>2</sup>graduate teaching assistants. We think that we could continue to operate next year, with fewer personnel, once the initial developmental tasks which we are accomplishing now have been carried out.

I certainly recognize the budgetary difficulty which we are all facing. I do feel, however, that with a relatively small commitment of money at this time we could maintain some very important activities which have started on this campus and ~~would still~~ <sup>would</sup> potentially may bring money into this University. I would expect that when the Women's Studies committee has completed its investigation and its proposals some restructuring would be necessary. However, as I said above, I would hate to see the activities we have developed eroded during the period that we are waiting for the committee's report.

Joan Acker