Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - September 22, 1975

The Committee of the Whole of the Women's Studies Program met in Room 407 SUBO on September 22, 1975 during Club Hours. Members in attendance included: Leah Friedman, Sandy Haber, Davida Maayan, Mimi Albert, Joan Kitcher, Carol Lafazan, Pamella Farley, Freddie Wachsberger, Judy Nussbaum, Regina Weinreich, Frances Gottfried, Alice Radosh, Lelia Melanie, Sandy Weinbaum, Elly Bulkin, Myra Manney and Pat Quercia. Freddie chaired the meeting.

Budget - The first topic to be discussed was the Women's Studies Program budget for 1975-76. The Women's Studies Program is now housed in the School of Humanities. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of our Program, it is our hope that we can return to dual housing (School of Humanities and School of Social Science). The budget allocation for the Program is approximately $24,000, a 15% cut from last year. The Steering Committee voted to run all of the five courses in the Fall (four Introductory and one Senior Seminar) and only one course in the Spring. We are investigating ways to fund more courses for the Spring term.

As a result of lack of funding for our courses in the future, a suggestion was made to give students credit for assisting in team-teaching with a faculty member as an honors project for credit, in lieu of using two faculty teachers per course.

In the hope of securing funding for our courses the issue of departmental status was discussed. Arguments were given both for and against this idea. Departmental status might insure funding for our Program and greater stability within the school structure. We would also be in a position to hire faculty. On the other hand, if we were to become a department, we would have to be housed under one School and this is against the interdisciplinary nature of our program.

The Women's Studies Club - Judy reported on the procedure for forming a Women's Studies Club, and will follow through with the necessary paper work involved. Judy and Carol will work on the writing of a Constitution for the Club. Student Government provides funding for academic clubs.
Nominations for positions on the Steering Committee - One faculty and one student member are needed from the School of Humanities and two faculty members from the School of Social Science for the Steering Committee. The following names were placed in nomination: From the School of Social Science - Alice Radosh (Psychology), Sandy Weinbaum (History) From the School of Humanities - Regina Weinreich (English), Rachel Brownstein (English), Mary Wiseman (Philosophy). Other nominations will be accepted through next Friday, October 3.

Women's Studies Conference - The Women's Studies Program is sponsoring a Women's Studies Regional Conference to be held during the week-end of December 5-7. We are depending on grants for the funding of this Conference. We have received a $500 grant from the Eastman Foundation to be used for publicity. Anyone interested in working on the Conference Committee, please leave your name with Pat, Carol or Davida. The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be on Monday, September 29 at 4 p.m. in SUBO, Harambee Lounge.

International Women's Year - President Kneller has appointed Pamella to be in charge of coordinating activities for International Women's Year on the Brooklyn College campus. The Committee decided to form an Advisory Board to help initiate and sponsor activities throughout the campus appropriate to the theme of International Women's Year. All those interested in helping should contact this office. Since President Kneller requested our participation, we will ask him to assure us of institutional support. Freddie suggested that we discuss with various departments the idea of arranging some of their programs to have relevance to International Women's Year. Such as films, lectures and exhibits which might coincide in date with the Conference. It would be helpful if the members of the Committee of the Whole would investigate this possibility within their own department.

In the future there will be a representative from the Women's Studies Program to announce meetings of the Committee of the Whole to all Women's Studies classes.

There are fine jobs available at the Feminist Press and three job openings in the Department of Health Education and Welfare Region II: Education Program Specialist, Program Staff Assistant and Consumer Safety Officer; anyone interested please contact this office. Notices of grants and financial aid are posted in the office and on the bulletin board.