

Feministas Unidas

A COALITION OF FEMINIST SCHOLARS IN
SPANISH, SPANISH-AMERICAN, LUSO-BRAZILIAN,
AFRO-LATIN AMERICAN, AND U. S. HISPANIC STUDIES

VOL. 12, NO. 1

APRIL 1992



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Queridas companeras:

As Spring gathers momentum and the academic year puts on its frantic finale, we university folk are dreaming of the summer solstice and--perhaps--exotic climes. May the coming months be a renewal of spirit and energy for all Feministas members and a reaffirmation of our commitment to the cause of justice for women the world over.

ANNUAL FEMINISTAS UNIDAS MEETING

With approximately 30 members in attendance, President Stacey Schlau called the business meeting to order at 6:45 p.m., Saturday, December 29, 1991, at the Feministas Unidas suite at the San Francisco Marriott. The order of business was to first discuss the three proposals for organizational changes printed in the December '91 Newsletter which President Stacey Schlau had presented. Proposals I (a program selection committee) and III (a scholarship fund for needy members who wish to attend MLA) passed by almost unanimous votes. The middle proposal, Proposal II, establishing an intermediate organizational structure made up of regional representatives and caucus representatives, was certainly the most DISCUSSION-PRODUCING. Ultimately, the decision was made to appoint a task force to pursue this structure and make recommendations. However, the following letter from Stacey updates our membership on this important issue:





West Chester University

2

Department of Foreign
Languages

West Chester,
Pennsylvania 19383
(215) 436-2700

March 30, 1992

Dear Members of Feministas Unidas:

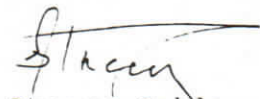
I hope all is going well for you this semester.

This letter is mainly an update on the results of the discussion about and voting on the three proposed changes. At the Feministas Unidas meeting at MLA in San Francisco, the minutes of which are on another page of this newsletter, the first and third changes in the organization (sent to you in the December newsletter with a ballot) were almost unanimously accepted. (The meeting was very well-attended, by the way.) The mail balloting confirms this acceptance unanimously. The first change establishes a procedure for electing a program committee for each MLA, to which interested members would submit proposals for sessions or papers. The third sets up a scholarship fund for needy members to help with expenses for attending the MLA meeting. The two have already begun to be implemented.

There was, however, a great deal of concern at the meeting, and mixed reactions in the mail votes, about whether the second, which suggested establishing an intermediate organizational structure (between elected officers and members), made up of representatives from regions and caucuses, was necessary and useful. At the meeting, the final agreement was to pursue this structure, but because the mail ballots were mixed I have not yet begun to organize this change. Of course, I received only thirteen, that's right thirteen responses through the mail, so I don't know if this mixed reaction--eight for, five against--is representative of the sentiments of the membership. Therefore, I am requesting that as many people as see fit fill out the new attached ballot regarding this change (besides those who already have--thank you) and write any comments you have on the same page. I don't feel we can proceed at this point without further input.

Please write or call me any time between now and December if you want the officers to address something. My home address and phone number: 1413 Edgevale Road, Wynnewood PA 19096; 215-649-5875.

Saludos cordiales,


Stacey Schlu

PROPOSAL

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND CAUCUSES

Rationale:

There is little formal ongoing communication in the organization. With increasing budget constraints, especially at public universities, and a worsened economic situation in general, fewer members of Feministas Unidas will be able to attend the MLA meetings. The national structure is primarily maintained through the Newsletter, which, although it is eminently useful, in and of itself is not enough. No face-to-face person-to-person contact is possible except at the MLA or informally, as the organization currently works. Paying more attention to regional contact would build a stronger national organization, because people would have a chance to interact more about common concerns. If the regional caucuses were included in the national governing structure, people on a grassroots level might feel even more a part of the organization.

Change:

I propose that we: 1) set up some kind of regional caucuses or network systems. They would meet occasionally, generate their own (less elaborate and shorter) newsletter, or just serve as forum for people in the area. Each area (e.g., Southeast and Mid-Atlantic, Northeast, Midwest, South, West) would designate two convenors or representatives to the national organization as liaisons; 2) select or elect a task force, to write a report recommending how to set up regional structures (using regional MLAs as bases?), including what they might look like (even if informal), what they might do, their relationship to the national organization, etc.; 3) redefine a steering committee which might meet by conference call during the year, but would certainly meet before or after the membership meeting at MLA annually, that would include special interest groups within the organization, such as hispanas, lesbians, and regional caucuses; and 4) appoint a task force, which would include at least one liaison from the regional task force, to recommend a revised governing structure based on the above changes.

N. B. Perhaps the two task forces might be one, with subcommittees working on different aspects of the prospectus.

BALLOT

Please mark one of the boxes, and return to:

Stacey Schlau
West Chester University
Department of Foreign Languages
West Chester, PA 19383

PROPOSAL - REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND CAUCUSES

☐ YES

☐ NO

COMMENTS:

Signature _____

Finally, members in attendance decided that the two Feministas sessions would have the topics of "Her/itage, Her/story: Feminist Perspectives on the Legacies of 1492," co-chaired by María Inés Lagos (Washington University, St. Louis) and Sandra Cypess (SUNY-Binghamton), and "The Conditions for Feminist Pedagogy in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Studies: A Workshop," co-chaired by Rosemary Geisdorfer Feal (University of Rochester) and Constance Sullivan (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities).

The meeting was then adjourned and members enjoyed a wine, cheese, and fruit social hour before attending the 9:00 p.m. session sponsored by Feministas.

P. S. Both '91 sessions sponsored by Feministas were very well-attended, despite their early (Friday, December 27 at 3:30-4:45 p.m.) and late (Sunday, December 29 at 9-10:15 p.m.) schedulings. Congratulations to all organizers and presenters. Don't forget to send a copy of your presentations to Amy Kaminsky, Feministas Unidas Archives, Department of Women's Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

FEMINISTAS UNIDAS SESSIONS FOR MLA '92 (NEW YORK):

- I. "The Conditions for Feminist Pedagogy in Hispanic & Luso-Brazilian Studies: A Workshop"

Co-Chairs: Rosemary Geisdorfer Feal (University of Rochester) and Constance Sullivan (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities)

Facilitators:

Shirley Mangini, California State University, Long Beach
 Lou Charnon-Deutsch, State University of New York, Stony Brook
 Terry Peavler, Pennsylvania State University

After a general introduction to the issues that face us as we practice feminist scholarship in our departments, institutions, and the academy, the facilitators will work with small groups. Shirley Mangini offers expertise as a departmental and university administrator, and she has been involved with the MLA committee on professional ethics; Lou Charnon-Deutsch will coordinate a discussion on graduate student engagement with feminist studies; and Terry Peavler will address the question of men in feminism.

We invite members of Feministas to write in their concerns on these matters for publication in the December Newsletter, and to contact the session coordinators or the facilitators with specific issues that they would like to see treated at the workshop. We intend this project to be on-going throughout the year, and in the future: let us hear from the membership.

II. "Her/itage, Her/story: Feminist Perspectives on the Legacies of 1492"

Co-Chairs: María-Inés Lagos (Washington University in St. Louis) and Sandra Cypess (SUNY - Binghamton)

1. Stacey Schlau (West Chester University): "He Speaks, She Speaks, He Writes: Inquisitional Proceeding Against Mexican *ilusas*"
2. Rachana Sachdev (University of Pennsylvania): "'That Naked Sex': Mary Rowlandson, Anne Hutchinson, and the Exclusionary Politics of Colonial New England"
3. Patricia Rubio (Skidmore College): "Mujer-escritura-sociedad: Carmen Arriasgada: Cartas de una mujer apasionada"

Discussant: Karen Stolley (Emory University)

Feministas Unidas also announces the following session for M/MLA '92:

Chair: Victoria García Serrano (Emory University)

1. Kimberly A. Nance (Illinois State University): "Giving Voice to the Body under Torture: Literary Representation of Survival and Resistance"
2. Jill Kuhnheim (University of Wisconsin-Madison): "Delmira Agustini: una voz en contra del cuerpo"
3. Cynthia Tompkins (University of Wisconsin-Parkside): "Gambaro, Osorio, Marcado: de la abyección a la celebración"
4. Ivonne Gordon Vailakis (Redlands University): "La violencia, el cuerpo y la metáfora en La última caída del ángel de Elvira Orphée"

Discussant: Zenija Balbija (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Vice-President Lou Charnon-Deutsch will become President of Feministas Unidas on January 1, 1993. A new Vice-President must be elected this year. The by-laws state:

The Vice-president shall act as president in the absence of the President; shall carry out directive tasks assigned by the President and/or Executive Committee; shall become the President in the year following the two-year term as Vice-president.

Please nominate one or more candidates to stand for election to the office of Vice-President. Self nominations are encouraged. Nominees will be contacted to see if they are willing to run for the office, and will submit statements for publication in the December Newsletter. Ballots will be printed in the December Newsletter.

Send nominations by September 1, 1992 to Linda Fox, Feministas Unidas Secretary-Newsletter Editor (Modern For. Langs., Indiana Univ./Purdue Univ., Fort Wayne, IN 46805-1499) We count on the membership to take an active role in the election process.

MLA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A sincere THANK YOU to those members who have contributed to the scholarship fund so far this year. We now have over \$200 in donations: members have sent in anywhere from \$1 to \$30. PLEASE ADD A CONTRIBUTION WHEN YOU RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP (or send under separate cover).

The scholarship committee for 1992 consists of: Rosemary Geisdorfer Feal, chair; Luz María Umpierre; Gisela Norat; Catherine den Tandt. Stacey Schlau (Pres.) and Lou Charnon-Deutsch (Vice-Pres.) serve in advisory capacity. A preliminary application is printed in this Newsletter for those who wish to be considered for funding to the 1992 MLA Convention in New York.

FEMINISTAS UNIDAS

MLA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (PRELIMINARY)

Feministas Unidas will be awarding several scholarships to assist in defraying costs to attend the MLA Convention in New York (Dec. 27-30 1992). Guidelines have not yet been completed: in the interim, you may signal your intention to apply for a scholarship by returning this completed application by July 1, 1992. You must be participating in a session or seeking employment to be eligible. Preference will be given to those with the least means and the highest costs. New members (those who have joined in 1992) are not eligible for this year's scholarships.

Name: _____

Rank or positions(s): _____

Institution(s): _____

Year-round mailing address:

On a separate sheet, headed with your name, type the following information in order:

1. Session in which you will participate (title of session; nature of session [MLA division; Allied Organization; Special Session, etc.]; title of paper)
2. Nature of job search (seeking entry-level position; seeking a new position, etc.) and your current status (Ph.D. in hand; ABD, etc.). If you are currently a full-time or part-time graduate student, indicate sources of income or funding.
3. Give a budget for the MLA. Indicate other sources of funding.
4. List previous conventions, including MLA, which you have attended in 1990-1992. List funding you have received.

Enclose a short version of your CV (2 pp. max.) and return paperwork by Aug. 1 to:

Rosemary Geisdorfer Feal
 Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Linguistics
 University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Jean Hindson, who attended the Feministas discussion in the Pedagogy Workshop in San Francisco, shares the following information; dissertation available on microfilm at the University of Michigan (Dissertation Abstracts International):

Author: Jean M. Moore
 Title: "An Analysis of the Cultural Content of Post-Secondary Textbooks for Spanish: Evidence of Information Processing Strategies and Types of Learning in Reading Selections and Post-Reading Adjunct Questions."
 Date: June 1991
 Institution: University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus
 Advisor: Dr. Dale L. Lange
 Key Word Descriptors: Second Language Education; Culture; Pedagogy; Culture Theory

Nina Scott, University of Massachusetts - Amherst is working currently on Sor Juana (NOT Barbara Morris, as noted in the December '91 Newsletter). (Editor's correction - sorry!)

Linda Fox, Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne, wishes to announce that the order form following this item is to support the Arpilleras of Chile by purchasing an arpillera (\$12, plus \$3 shipping).

Linda also wishes to announce that IPFW's Department of Sociology is looking for a sociologist who specializes in some area(s) of the "Third World" to fill a one-year visiting position. Please pass the word to colleagues of yours both within and outside of the United States. (See description below.)

Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, seeks a Ph.D. or equivalent in Sociology to fill a one-year visiting position that is contingent on funding. Rank and areas of specialization are open. Salary is competitive. We are particularly interested in recruiting a candidate with research and teaching interests that stress a comparative analysis of contemporary society. The appointee will be expected to teach introductory and upper division undergraduate classes, and to collaborate with the faculty in the department toward the development of comparative research and teaching resource materials. The Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne is a thirteen-member department servicing a university of more than 12,000 students. IPFW is the fifth largest university in Indiana and is located in the second largest city in the state. Our department has several sociologists and anthropologists whose research interests span geographically from Japan and Far East Asia to Latin America and Eastern Europe. Applicants should send a letter of application, curriculum vita, and 3 letters of recommendation by June 15th to: Peter Iadicola, Chairperson,

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Indiana University Purdue University at Fort Wayne, 2101 Coliseum Boulevard, Fort Wayne, IN 46805-1499 or by fax at 1-219-481-6485. IPFW is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

Eunice Myers, Wichita State University, sent the program for the Ninth Annual International Conference on Foreign Language:

Continental Latin American and Francophone Women Writers, April 9-11, 1992, which featured writers Alicia Galaz-Vivar Welden, Chile, and Ana Maria Fagundo, Spain. Many of our members were involved in giving papers. Perhaps we can have a follow-up report from one of you, detailing the conference. (This would especially encourage our younger members/graduate students to consider participating).

IROW/CELAC PUBLICATIONS ON LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN WOMEN NOW AVAILABLE

IROW would like to announce its joint publication of three different volumes with the Center for Latin America and the Caribbean. First is *Integrating Latin American and Caribbean Women into the Curriculum and Research*, a resource volume edited by Edna Acosta-Belén and Christine E. Bose of the University at Albany. The volume includes articles on the status of women's research and scholarship across the disciplines, curriculum transformation strategies, and sample course syllabi. Among the article contributors are: Yamila Azize, Lynn Bolles, Norma Chinchilla, Elsa Chaney, Margarite Fernández-Olmos, Gladys Jiménez, Asunción Lavrin, and Lynn Stephen. The publication of this volume is a joint effort of IROW and CELAC of the University at Albany, the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Task Force on Women, and the Red Universitaria de Estudios de la Mujer en America Latina y el Caribe.

The second volume is the *Albany PR-WOMENET Bibliographic Data Base* on Puerto Rican women, edited by Edna Acosta-Belén and Christine Bose, with Anne Roschelle, and was funded in part by a grant from the New York State/United University Professions Joint Labor Management Committee on Affirmative Action. This reference volume provides annotated citations on the available research on Puerto Rican women published in both English and Spanish and includes over 600 citations. Sources are arranged



Left to right: Edna Acosta-Belén, Sucheta Mazumdar, Iris Berger, & Christine Bose.

both alphabetically and by topic, and there is a key word index as well.

The third volume is *An Interdisciplinary Guide for Research and Curriculum Development on Puerto Rican Women*, compiled by Edna Acosta-Belén, Christine Bose, and Barbara Sjostrom. The guide contains information on issues, strategies, and priorities for integrating race, class, and gender, or specific content on Puerto Rican women into Humanities and Social Science curriculum or research proposals. Information is organized by topic area and demographic background information is provided as well.

The first two volumes are available at \$20.00 each, and the third for \$10.00. Please add \$2.00 to your order for postage. Payment should be made out to: University at Albany Fund RP# 178 and mailed to CELAC, SS-250, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, New York 12222.

Help support the Arpilleristas of Chile!ARPILLERA ORDER FORM

Yes, I would like to order _____ arpilleras @ \$12.00 each! I enclose \$_____.
 (Please include \$3.00 for shipping and handling)

Please make your check payable to : Vicaría de la Solidaridad - Talleres
write for deposit only

Send you order form to: Talleres de la Vicaría de la Solidaridad
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 2° Piso
 Santiago, CHILE

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 Favor de mandar la(s) arpillera(s) al siguiente dirección:

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 _____ dirección (street address)
 _____ ciudad, código (City, State, Zip)

WUC

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 Santiago, CHILE

Please send my arpillera(s) to the following address.
 Favor de mandar la(s) arpillera(s) al siguiente dirección:

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 _____ dirección (street address)
 _____ ciudad, código (City, State, Zip)

FEMINISTAS UNIDAS

MEMBERSHIP 1991

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 Addis, Mary Kathryn
 Andrist, Debra D.
 Angulo, Maria-Elena
 Arenal, Electa
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 Aronson, Stacey L. Parker
 Arrington, Teresa R.
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 Freeman, Marion F.
 Frouman-Smith, Erica
 Fulks, Barbara
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 Han, Ying
 Harges, Mary C.
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 Hart, Patricia
 Hartunian, Diana
 Hernández-Araico, Susana
 Higginbotham, Virginia
 Hindson, Jean M.
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 Hoult, Stacy
 Howe, Linda S.
 Ihrie, Maureen
 Jackson, Edith Moss
 Jaén Andrés, Victoria
 Jaffe, Catherine M.
 Jagoe, Catherine
 Jessup, Florence Redding
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 Johnson, Hans P.

Johnson, Roberta Lee
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 Klingenberg, Patricia
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 Lee, María-Luisa Rodríguez
 Lehman-Srinivasan, Kathryn
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 Martínez, Purificación
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 Meyer, Doris L.
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 Miller, Martha LaFollette
 Mitchell, Anita Velez
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 Morales-Zeno, Ana
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 Morris, Barbara
 Moulin-Cohen, Sylvie

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 Norat, Gisela
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 O'Connor, Patricia W.
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 Ordoñez, Monserrat
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 Otero-Krauthammer, Elizabeth
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 Pratt, Mary L.
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 Rivero, Eliana
 Rivero-Potter, Alicia
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 Titiev, Janice
 Tolliver, Joyce
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 Torres-Rosado, Santos
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 Treacy, Mary Jane
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 Tsuchiya, Akiko
 Ugalde, Sharon Keefe
 Umpierre, Luz María
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 Urioste-Azcorra, Carmen
 Vailakis, Ivonne Gordon
 Valdés, María Elena de
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 Van Hooft, Karen
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 Velasco, Mavel
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 Williams, Tamara
 Williamsen, Amy R.
 Zamora, Bernice
 Zane, Kathleen
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 Zeitz, Eileen

MEMBERSHIP 1992

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 Adair, Olga Mory
 Addis, Mary Kathryn
 Andrist, Debra D.
 Aponte-Ramos, Dolores
 Arenal, Electa
 Aronson, Stacey L. Parker
 Arrington, Teresa R.
 Barnes-Karol, Gwendolyn
 Beaupied, Aida
 Bellver, Catherine G.
 Beltrán-Vocal, Maria A.
 Bieder, Maryellen
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 Boschetto, Sandra M.
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 Del Campo, Alicia
 Den Tandt, Catherine
 Detjens, Wilma
 Dever, Susan
 Diaz, Nancy Gray
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Marting, Diane
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 Mengual, Ann
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 Meyer, Doris L.
 Michelotti-Cristóbal, Graciela
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 Pratt, Mary L.
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 Riess, Cheryl R.
 Rivera, Margarita Tavera
 Rivera-Valdés, Sonia
 Rodríguez, Mercedes M. de
 Rosenstiel, Sandra
 Roudesli, Karima
 Roza-Moorhouse, Teresa
 Saltz, Joanne
 Sánchez Mora, Elena
 Sandoval-Sánchez, Alberto
 Sauter, Silvia
 Scarlett, Elizabeth
 Schaefer-Rodríguez, Claudia
 Schlau, Stacey
 Seator, Lynnette Hubbard
 Servodidio, Mirella
 Shertock, Tania
 Short, Kayann

Simón, Lourdes N.
 Starcevic, Elizabeth
 Sternbach, Nancy Saporta
 Stycos, Maria Nowakowska
 Sullivan, Constance
 Talbot, Lynn K.
 Taub, Beverly R.
 Thorton, Sally W.
 Tolliver, Joyce
 Tompkins, Cynthia
 Torre, Cristina de la
 Torres-Pou, Joan
 Torres-Rosado, Santos
 Toruño-Castañeda, Rhina
 Treacy, Mary Jane
 Trovato, Barbara
 Tsuchiya, Akiko
 Ugalde, Sharon Keefe
 Umpierre, Luz María
 Urioste-Azcorra, Carmen
 Valdés, María Elena de
 Valis, Noël
 Van Hooft, Karen
 Vando, Gloria
 Vetterling, Mary-Anne
 Vinkler, Beth J.
 Vollendorf, Lisa
 Vosburg, Nancy
 Waldman, Gloria
 Zatlin, Phyllis

**If your name is not
 on this list, please fill
 out the form and
 send dues for 1992.
 Remember to include
 a contribution to the
 scholarship fund!**

FEMINISTAS UNIDAS
ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT 1991

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1990:	\$ 1,729. 00
Dues received for 1991:	\$ 2,059. 00
Interest on checking account:	\$ 99. 36
	\$ 3,887. 36

Disbursements:

Newsletter Expenses:	\$1,242. 05
Duplication & Mailing, MLA papers:	\$ 419. 20
Other Mailings:	\$ 68. 50
Receptions and Social Fund:	\$ 204. 85
MLA Expenses:	\$ 671. 10
Treasurer's Expenses:	\$ 118. 10
	\$ 2,723. 80

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1991:	\$ 1,163. 56
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Submitted by Rosemary Geisdorfer Feal, Treasurer

Rosemary Geisdorfer Feal

Date March 1, 1992

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Although the April 15th deadline is a few weeks past, members may be interested in contacting Debra Castillo or Raquel Romeu to see if there is a need yet to be filled for the following:

Call for Papers

1992 Asamblea General de la Asociación de Literatura Femenina Hispánica

October 16-18, 1992

The third annual conference of the Asociación de Literatura Femenina Hispanica will be held on October 16-18, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. The organizers welcome proposals from members on any aspect of Luso-Brazilian, Spanish, or Latin American literature by women, as well as literature by Latinas in the United States, and particularly encourage proposals taking an interdisciplinary or comparative approach crossing national, cultural, racial, class, or ethnic lines and proposals dealing with pedagogy. The conference encourages international participation and perspectives.

Proposals for papers should include a one-page abstract and a one-page vita including current address. Proposals for panels or roundtables (to include a maximum of three participants) should include the following: panel title, organizer, one-page abstract of each paper, one-page vita of each participant. Include a self-addressed, stamped postcard or envelope for return acknowledgement of receipt of packets.

Please submit proposals IN DUPLICATE by April 15, 1992 to either:

Debra A. Castillo
Attn: Asamblea de literatura femenina
Dept. Romance Studies
Goldwin Smith Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853

Raquel Romeu
Attn: Asamblea de literatura femenina
Dept. Foreign Languages and Literatures
LeMoyne College
Syracuse, NY 13214

Phone: (607) 255-1374
FAX: (607) 255-1454
E-Mail: BGCY@CORNELLA

Phone: (315) 445-4349

"Afro-Latin American Studies and Crosscultural Similarities in the Americas," to be held Friday-Saturday, October 30-31, 1992 at Southern Arkansas University. Deadline for 300-word abstracts dealing with any aspect of the theme is AUGUST 15, 1992; the abstract should be sent to:

Dr. Elba Birmingham-Pokorny, Coordinator
Fifth Annual Hispanic Literature and Culture Conference
English and Foreign Languages Department
SAU Box 1220
Southern Arkansas University
Magnolia, AR 71753

The 21st Annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference at the University of Louisville will be held at the Louisville campus on February 25-27, 1993. The Conference Director, Dr. Harriette Seiler, invites critical papers on any topic pertaining to twentieth-century literature; creative submissions are also welcomed. DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 1992.

For details, contact:
Harriette Seiler, Conference Director
Classical and Modern Languages, 332 Bingham Humanities
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292
(502) 588-6686

NOTE:

Linda Fox is organizing a panel submission for this conference; topic is open at this point. Please write her about your current work-in-progress if you would like to participate - this conference needs some Hispanic Women's Studies "presence"! Write Linda at: IPFW, Department of Modern Foreign Languages, 2101 Coliseum Boulevard East, Fort Wayne, IN 46805. DEADLINE: AUGUST 1, 1992 (abstracts, inquiries, etc.) Paper will be due to Linda by September 15th.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The 18th Chicano/Latino Literary Contest, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of California, Irvine, announces an entries deadline of May 31, 1992, in the genre of short story.

Prizes: First, \$2,000.00, publication of the collection (if not under previous contract) and transportation to Irvine to receive the award; second, \$1,000.00; third, \$500.00.

Manuscripts must be an unpublished short story collection - 200 typed pages minimum (250 words per page), double spaced, and submitted in triplicate; in Spanish or English. Only one entry per author. Author must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States. The manuscript's first page should bear the title "Eighteenth Chicano/Latino Literary Contest," the writer's full name, address, telephone number, indication of citizenship or residence, if work is contracted to a publisher, and social security number. The author's name must not appear anywhere else on the manuscript. Manuscripts can be returned in November only if a stamped, self-addressed envelope is included with the submission.

DEADLINE: Postmarked by May 31, 1992. Prizes will be awarded in October. Acceptance of prize implies contractual agreement to publish within the Contest award series if a previous contract does not exist before submission deadline.

Send entries or inquiries to:

Chicano/Latino Literary Contest, Juan Bruce-Novoa, Director
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
UCI, Irvine, CA 92727
(714) 856-5702

Co-sponsored by the School of Humanities and the Office of Academic Affairs.

ANNOUNCEMENT ~~CALL FOR PAPERS~~

INDO - U.S. CONFERENCE ON WOMEN'S ISSUES

Sponsored by

GLOBAL INTERACTIONS, INC.
Phoenix, Arizona

FICCI LADIES ORGANIZATION
New Delhi, India

LOCATION: Taj Palace, New Delhi, India
DATES: November 17-22, 1992

CALL FOR PAPERS:

Abstracts must be in English, double-spaced and typewritten, no more than 300 words, addressing one of the four topic areas below. Send 3 copies. Include a separate short biographical note which includes current occupation/interest, business and home phone numbers, and FAX.

~~ABSTRACT DEADLINE~~ May 20, 1992

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Jerrie Ueberle, Global Interactions, Inc., P. O. Box 23244, Phoenix, AZ 85063. PHONE: (602) 272-3438 FAX: (602) 272-2260

~~TOPIC GUIDELINES~~

The Conference will offer an exchange of ideas on issues affecting women in the U.S. and in India. Leaders and scholars are invited to address one of the five topics described below. Sessions will be designed for a U.S. and an Indian presenter to speak on the same topic, followed by audience discussion. The Conference will promote understanding of how the issues are being addressed in each country. Opportunities for cooperative solutions and exchange beyond this conference will be explored.

WOMEN AND SOCIAL CHANGE

Social issues and controversies affecting women. Current transition, social transformation and the status of women; tradition and change. The position and roles of women and issues of national ideology, ethnic pluralism and revised patriarchal values; women's studies.

ECONOMICS AND EMPLOYMENT

Women's access to education, job training and employment. Employment in terms of labor market; gender variables in earnings and income; women's attitudes toward work; women in small business, entrepreneurship and management; issues of discrimination; urban and rural differences.

POLITICAL PROCESS

Obstacles to proper representation of women in government; the empowerment of women; access for women in governmental institutions; citizens' rights in democratic governments; model for grass roots movements; political, economic and social pressures affecting women's political roles; legal rights and obligations of spouses, parents, employees and retirees.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Women's state of physical and mental health; gender-oriented health care; health issues connected with child-bearing; health concerns and health care of older women; environmental pollution and the family; health care education; safety in the workplace.

CHILDREN AND THE FAMILY

Parenting; gender dimension of family; family planning; rural versus urban family issues; single parent families; divorced women and families; the division of domestic labor; women and work; leisure activities; family oriented services; childcare; elderly care; violence against women; religion and women.

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Announcement / ~~Call~~ for Papers

Central European Conference

"Women, the Family, and Social Change"

May 16-22, 1993 Warsaw, Poland

May 23-29, 1993 Prague, Czechoslovakia

CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstracts must be in English, double-spaced and typewritten, no more than 300 words, addressing one of the four topic areas below. Send 3 copies. Include a separate short biographical note which includes current occupation/interest, business and home phone numbers, and FAX.

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: May 31, 1992

For additional information, contact Global Interactions, attention Joyce Story, Ph.D., P. O. Box 23244, Phoenix, AZ 85063. PHONE: (602) 272-3438 FAX: (602) 272-2260

TOPIC GUIDELINES

The Conference will offer an exchange of ideas on issues affecting women and the family. Leaders and scholars from Central Europe, facing a time of complex transition and profound social transformation, will address their experience and concerns, and Western presenters will share insights gained from similarly shared or applicable experience and from relevant research. The Conference will promote the identification of new alternatives and potential paths for cooperative solution of issues raised.

EMPLOYMENT

Women's access to knowledge, literacy, and new technology; employment opportunities and discrimination issues in urban and rural areas, in industry, service sector, agriculture and science; women's work; women's employment in terms of the labor market, seniority, positions occupied, professions; gender variables in earnings and income; women's attitudes to work; sexual harassment at work; women and small businesses; women and unemployment.

THE FAMILY

The situation of the family in Central Europe; impact of housing shortage, of profound economic crisis on the family; gender dimension of family; family planning; rural women and family issues; single parent families; divorced women and family; the division of domestic labor; women and domestic work; leisure activities and the family; family-oriented services; childcare; elderly care; violence against women; religion, church and women.

HEALTH

Women's state of health; gender-oriented health care; health issues connected with child-bearing; health concerns and health care of older women; environmental pollution and the family; health care at schools; safety at the workplace.

SOCIAL CHANGE

Social issues/controversies affecting women; the "Women Question" under socialism and the current transition period; social transformation from communism; tradition and change; the role and task of national institutions for advancement of women; the position and roles of women and issues of nationalist ideology, ethnic pluralism, and revised patriarchal values; women's studies.

THE POLITICAL PROCESS

The role of women in new democracies; the empowerment of women; obstacles to proper representation of women in government; access for women in governmental institutions; women in the decision-making process; influencing policy; how to use citizens' rights in democratic governments; Western models for women's grass roots movements; women's political parties and interest groups in post-socialist societies; political, economic and social pressures affecting women's political roles; legal rights and obligations of spouses, parents, employees, and retirees; revision of legislation on abortion.

ACTIVIDADES ESPECIALES

Develación oficial del retrato de Julia de Burgos como miembro de la Galería de Puertorriqueños Ilustres del Ateneo.

Oratorio de Julia de Burgos en 4 jornadas.
Texto de Roberto Ramos-Perea. Dirección de Dean Zayas.

Concierto de Francis Schwartz en honor de Julia de Burgos.

Director del Congreso

Dr. Edgar Martínez Masdeu
Presidente Sección de Literatura
del Ateneo Puertorriqueño

INFORMACION

Para cualquier información adicional favor de dirigirse por escrito al Congreso Julia de Burgos - Ateneo Puertorriqueño - Apartado 1180 - San Juan, Puerto Rico - 00902

Teléfonos:(809) 721-3877 y 722-4839

FAX:(809) 725-3873



CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL *Julia de Burgos*

ATENEO PUERTORRIQUEÑO

3 al 5 de junio de 1992

San Juan, Puerto Rico

El ATENEO PUERTORRIQUEÑO y su Sección de Literatura celebrarán un CONGRESO sobre Julia de Burgos durante los días 3,4 y 5 de junio de 1992 en la sede de la Institución.

Así testimoniaremos una vez más nuestro orgullo por tan insigne poeta. El prestigio y reconocimiento, cada vez mayor, de Julia de Burgos, rebasa continuamente los límites insulares. Por eso es necesario reunir a los estudiosos de la obra de Julia de Burgos, tanto de Puerto Rico como del extranjero, para establecer un intercambio fructífero entre unos y otros. Además, una actividad de esta naturaleza brinda oportunidad de nuevos conocimientos y estímulos a los que se interesan en la lectura de la obra de Julia.

La asistencia es libre. Requerimos reservación previa sólo para efectos de controlar la cabida a nuestras facilidades, que son limitadas.

Si le interesa participar en el CONGRESO, favor de hacernos llegar, a la mayor brevedad posible, una comunicación con su nombre, dirección, si presentará o no ponencia y cuál sería el tema de la misma.

INVITADOS ESPECIALES

Contaremos con la presencia de las siguientes personas:

Dr. Efraín Barradas
University of Massachusetts - Boston

Dr. Juan Bosch
Ex Presidente - República Dominicana

Dra. Myriam Díaz-Diocaretz
Universidad de Amsterdam - Holanda

Dra. Margo Glantz
U.N.A.M - México

Dra. Carmen Vázquez
Universidad de París - Francia

Lcda. Chiqui Vicioso
UNICEF - República Dominicana

Dra. Iris M. Zavala
Universidad de Utrech - Holanda

PONENCIAS

Si le interesa presentar ponencia deberá tener presente que la duración de las mismas deberá limitarse a unos 20 a 25 minutos (12 a 15 páginas tamaño carta a doble espacio). Será requisito que para iniciar la lectura de una ponencia se entregue copia de la misma para efectos de publicación en la Revista del Ateneo Puertorriqueño.

Hemos recibido los siguientes títulos:

Prof. Etaniris Rivera - Universidad de Puerto Rico, Utuado - Imagen del hombre en Julia.

Dra. Loreina Santos Silva - Universidad de Puerto Rico, Mayagüez - Materialismo místico en Canción de la verdad sencilla.

Dra. Belén Román Morales - Saint Cloud State University, Minnesota - La espiritualidad que acompaña la poesía de Julia de Burgos.

Dr. Marcelino Canino Salgado - Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras - El sustrato fónico y los estados de ánimo en algunos poemas de Julia de Burgos.

Prof. Yoshiko S. Miyake y Mitsuhiro Shigaki - Nagasaki, Japón - Julia de Burgos y Yosano Akiko: Comparación de dos poetisas precursoras de la liberación de mujeres en Puerto Rico y Japón.

Dra. Ana Rosa Núñez - University of Miami, Coral Gables - Julia de Burgos; poesía de una Isla.

Dra. Heather Rosario Sievert - Eugenio María de Hostos Community College, CUNY, New York - Between the Woman and the Poet: The Abyss of Julia de Burgos.

Prof. Carmen D. Lucca - Board Member of the Association for Puerto Rican Hispanic Culture, New York - Sobre mis experiencias al traducir la poesía de Julia: Rosas en el espejo (libro).

Sr. Doel López Velázquez - Villalba, Puerto Rico - El erotismo en la poesía de Julia de Burgos.

Dra. Rosa del C. González - Universidad de Puerto Rico, Arecibo - Extensión semántica del "tú" en Julia de Burgos.

Prof. Francisco Matos Paoli - Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras - La presencia del Ríomar en Julia de Burgos.

Dr. Efraín Barradas - University of Massachusetts, Boston - Julia de Burgos y Frida Kahlo o el autorretrato como mito político.

Prof. Hilda Mundo López - New York University, New York - Julia en el exilio: apreciación de Sandra María Esteves; poeta puertorriqueña en Nueva York.

Lcda. Chiqui Vicioso - UNICEF, Santo Domingo, República Dominicana - Julia de Burgos: Poeta de las Antillas.

Dra. Carmen Vázquez - Universidad de París, Francia - Colores y formas en la poesía de Julia de Burgos.

Dra. Iris M. Zavala - Universidad de Utrech, Holanda - Poesía y poética de liberación antillana.



*Si le interesa presentar ponencia deberá tener presente que la duración de las mismas deberá limitarse a unos veinte (20) a veinticinco (25) minutos (12 a 15 páginas tamaño carta a doble espacio). Será requisito que para iniciar la lectura de una ponencia se entregue copia de la misma para efectos de publicación en la Revista del Ateneo Puertorriqueño.

ATENEO PUERTORRIQUEÑO
Congreso Internacional de Julia de Burgos
Apartado 1180
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00902

Nombre: _____

Dirección: _____

Teléfono: _____

Asistiré al Congreso ☐ Presentaré ponencia

☐ No presentaré ponencia

El tema (tentativo) de mi ponencia será: _____

Fecha: _____ Firma: _____

The State University of New York Press
is pleased to announce a new book publication series

United States Hispanic Studies

Gary D. Keller, Editor
Arizona State University

We are announcing our interest in reviewing for possible publication, high quality, well-researched, book-length manuscripts in the general area of United States Hispanic Studies. For example, we are interested in the following areas:

- > Bilingualism; bilingual education; sociolinguistics and applied linguistics; English as a Second Language; theory and methodology as applied to U.S. Hispanic populations.
- > Policy Studies, analysis and reviews; educational research; measurement and assessment; innovative social science projects, research, or methodologies as related to U.S. Hispanic populations.
- > Chicano, Cuban-American, Puerto-Rican, and other U.S. Hispanic scholarship in the humanities, history, anthropology, and other fields.

The examples cited above illustrate the range of the series, but our interest is not necessarily limited to these descriptors. It is important to note that the series will publish monographs and collections of the highest standards that represent state-of-the-art scholarship or research.

> Procedure for Submitting Manuscripts:

Researchers or scholars are invited to submit a letter of inquiry describing the proposed manuscript. A table of contents and other information that the author deems pertinent should be included. All correspondence and contact should be made to:

Lois Patton
Editor-in-Chief
 State University of New York Press
 State University Plaza
 Albany, New York 12246-0001



RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Johnson, Hans. Undergraduate thesis at College of Wooster: "On the Line: Struggle and Survival in the Writings of Gloria Anzaldúa." An exploration of Anzaldúa's writing with particular thematic focus on resistance, contradiction, and lesbian consciousness. The project is looking at the diverse identities Anzaldúa claims and at the conflict she often experiences among them and in struggle against marginalizing "otherness," even within Latina and Feminist literary communities. Also, presentation (in part) at Undergraduate Research Conference at Minnesota and at the Graduate Conference at Columbia University on "Rethinking Tradition."

Kirkpatrick, Susan (University of California, San Diego). Anthology in progress, Las poetas románticas. An anthology of poems by lesser known Spanish women writers of the nineteenth century. A representative selection of themes, styles and writers will be accompanied by an introduction providing biographical and contextual information. This anthology will make texts that have not been republished in this century accessible to contemporary readers. Accepted for publication by Editorial Castalia in the Biblioteca de escritoras series.

Mangini, Shirley (California State University, Long Beach). Manuscript in revision on Women Activists from the Spanish Civil War. (See description under Articles Published.)

CREATIVE WORKS PUBLISHED

Poetry

Umpierre, Luz María (SUNY-Brockport).

Poética "Arizos de oro," "Madre," "Creación," "Trascendencia," in anthology in Spanish of Puerto Rican Writers in New York, Papiros de Babel, Pedro López Adorno, ed. Río Piedras, P. R.: Edit. Universidad de P. R., 1991.

"The Statue," "No Hatchet Job," "Only the Hand that Stirs..." in an anthology of poets in U.S.A. of Puerto Rican origin, Puerto Rican Writers at Home in the U.S.A., Faythe Turner, ed. Seattle: Open Hand Publishers, 1991.

"For Ellen" (translation by Patsy Boyer) in The Network, May, 1991, p. 3.

"Madre/Mother" (poem translated into English by Dr. Ellen Stekert; a homage to Andre Lorde), in The Guardian, Vol. 43, No. 30, (June 5, 1991), p. S-4.

Articles Published

Brown, Joan L. (University of Delaware).

"Men by Women in the Contemporary Spanish Novel," Hispanic Review 60 (Winter 1992): 55-70.

The desired Other as a man, seen by a woman, is explored in this essay with regard to the novels of Carmen Martín Gaité, Esther Tusquets, Ana María Moix, and Rosa Montero.

Brown, Joan L. (University of Delaware).

"Teaching the Expanded Canon: A Socio-Cultural Approach to Hispanic Literature by Women," Hispania 74 (December 1991): 1133-37.

Brief essay arguing for a socio-cultural approach to Hispanic literature by women, as (1) a model for studying texts and (2) a means of providing access for all readers.

Feal, Rosemary Geisdorfer (University of Rochester).

"The Double Bind: Feminism and Afro-Hispanism," Afro-Hispanic Review 10:1 (1991): 25-29.

"Feminist Interventions in the Race for Theory: Neither Black Nor White," Afro-Hispanic Review 10:3 (1991): 11-20.

These two articles examine questions of feminist theory as they may be applied to the field of Afro-Hispanic studies. The first, based on a presentation at the second Feministas Unidas Roundtable on Pedagogy held at MLA, briefly sketches the context; the longer article looks at the history of Afro-Hispanic criticism in light of possible feminist interventions in theory and in pedagogy, and draws from African-American literary theory and North American feminism in order to arrive at an accountable feminist critique. A third article in preparation looks at the future of feminist interventions in Afro-Hispanism with attention to the work of several Afro-Hispanic women writers.

Kirkpatrick, Susan (University of California, San Diego).

"Toward a Feminist Textual Criticism: Thoughts on Editing the Work of Coronado and Avellaneda," forthcoming in Hispanic Issues, University of Minnesota Press, 1992.

Discusses how the processes of canon formation in Spain treated two nineteenth-century women writers, and how this treatment has affected the editing (or lack thereof) of their work. Considers the problems that a feminist textual editor would face.

Mangini, Shirley (California State University, Long Beach).

"Memories of Resistance: Women Activists from the Spanish Civil War," Signs Journal of Women in Culture and Society. 17:1 (Autumn, 1991): 171-186.

Umpierre, Luz María (SUNY-Brockport). Co-authored with Ellen Stekert, University of Minnesota.

"Deviance and Power: Malleable Realities in Manuel Puig's Use of Folklore and Cinematic Sources in Kiss of the Spider Woman," Cincinnati Romance Quarterly (1992).

Homocritical reading joined with folklore and popular culture.

Umpierre, Luz María (SUNY-Brockport).

"Hacia una revalorización de la obra de Juan Antonio Corretjer," Revista del Instituto de Cultura Puertorriquena. 98 (1991): 57-58.

Comparison with DeBurgos' work.

Umpierre, Luz María (SUNY-Brockport).

"Out of the Margin, Into the Stream: The Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Gays and Lesbians in the Curriculum," West Virginia Philological Papers (1992).

Umpierre, Luz María (SUNY-Brockport).

"¿Quién le teme a Isabel Allende?" International Symposium. Homage to Isabel Allende. University of Miami, November 14-15, 1991. Article and paper.

Defense of Allende and creative women in academia from "critics" who want to make themselves more important than the writers. Article was banned from publication in Puerto Rico.

Umpierre, Luz María (SUNY-Brockport).

"The Double L - Latina and Lesbian," in Inversions, Betsy Warland, ed. (Vancouver, B. C.: Press Gang, 1991).

Testimony of being an open Latina Lesbian poet in academia.

Valis, Noël (Johns Hopkins University).

Dictionary entries for Concha Alós, Fernán Caballero, Mariana de Carvajal, Ana María Moix, Marina Romero, Julia Uceda, and María de Zayas Sotomayor in An Encyclopedia of Continental Women Writers, Katharina M. Wilson, ed. (N.Y.: Garland Press, 1991).

Books Published

Castillo, Debra A. Talking Back: Toward a Latin American

Feminist Literary Criticism. (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1992).

Castillo examines selected literary and theoretical texts by women from Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, and Puerto Rico, as well as the United States. Exploring the use of key authorial strategies, Castillo illuminates the ongoing process of constructing a feminist criticism that can incorporate the diverse, shifting, and often contradictory voices of Latin American feminist writers. She offers close readings of works by Luisa Valenzuela, Rosario Ferré, Julieta Campos, Clarice Lispector, Rosario Castellanos, and Maria Luisa Puga, as well as texts of the North Americans Helena María Viramontes, Denise Chávez and Maxine Hong Kingston. Cloth \$42.50. Paper \$14.95.

Kirkpatrick, Susan (University of California, San Diego).

Introduction to Rosa Chacel's The Maravillas District, tr. by David MacMurray.
(Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1992).

Offers brief introduction to Chacel's career and the context of her writing. Also provides a feminist reading of Barrio de Maravillas.

State University of New York
College at Brockport
Brockport, New York 14420

PRESS RELEASE

Department of
Foreign Languages and Literatures
(716) 395-2269

Dr. Luz Maria Umpierre, Chair and Professor at S.U.N.Y./Brockport, presented a paper at the Modern Language Convention in San Francisco on "Oral Narrative as Subversion in the Kiss of the Spider Woman by Manuel Puig." The paper was co-authored with Dr. Ellen J. Stekert of the University of Minnesota. Umpierre also presided over the discussion group on Puerto Rican Literature and Culture and participated in the Delegate Assembly as an elected member for Special Interests. She has helped increase the awareness toward the rights of the disabled to participate in the convention.

Umpierre had her testimony entitled "The Double L" published last month by Press Gang Publishers in Canada. The article has received wide praise since it narrates her poetical/political trajectory. Governor Jim Florio, of New Jersey, has congratulated Umpierre on the publication, which covers her trying years as an open Lesbian at Rutgers University.

Dr. Umpierre has also had another article, co-authored with Dr. Stekert, accepted for the May, 1992 issue of the Cincinnati Romance Review. The article has been lauded as a groundbreaking work in homosexual readings of literature. She and Dr. Stekert have been invited to the Fifth International Literature Congress, to be held at the University of Chile, in August of 1992 because of this important work.

Dr. Umpierre has also collaborated in writing the catalogue review for the one-person exhibit, in 1992 in California, of noted Mexican American Visual Artist, Santa Barraza.

Several of Umpierre's poems from her work-in-progress will appear in The Americas Review, Fall 1991, including her pieces dedicated to Sylvia Plath and Elliott Gilbert. Her book review of Teodoro Luna's Two Kisses will also appear in the same issue.

Dr. Umpierre will be a Guest Writer at the University of Evansville and Clarion College in April of 1992.

"Who is Afraid of Isabel Allende?", Umpierre's previously "banned" essay, was read, by invitation, at the University of Miami in November of 1991, with the attendance and praise of Allende, herself.

Dr. Umpierre has created new courses on the Caribbean and Latin American Woman at Brockport, which will be offered for the first time in the Spring and Fall of 1992. In the Summer of 1992, she will offer a one-week intensive graduate seminar on Spanish American Women Writers for college, high school, and teachers in general. For more information, call 716-395-2269.

Her piece on curriculum development for inclusion of race, gender, sexual preference, and class issues will be the lead article in the May 1992 issue of the West Virginia Philological Papers. It will be reprinted by the University of Puerto Rico in Cayey, Puerto Rico.

One of Umpierre's poems, "La Receta" has been chosen for the textbook ¿Será que...? published by McGraw Hill, written by Bill Van Patten, et al.

Dr. Umpierre is a native of Santurce, Puerto Rico.

Caribbean women tell stories of identity

"Green Cane and Juicy Flotsam: Short stories by Caribbean Women" edited by Carmen C. Esteves and Elizabeth Paravisini-Gebert; Rutgers University Press; \$34, cloth; \$11.95, paper; 273 pages

By KATE BRAVERMAN

Los Angeles Times

Female writers in the Caribbean Third World have the multiple obstacles not only of sex but of racism, colonialism, poverty, illiteracy, the imposition of Western religion, and the seemingly unshakable power of patriarchal institutions. It is from this complex fabric, this green cane curtain, that the women of the Caribbean have endured their mute generations.

This volume of 27 wildly disparate stories seeks not only to address this enforced silence but to make a statement about identity found at a brutal cost and forced into form, even if only temporarily. This is an eclectic assortment of short fictions, written in English or translated from the Dutch, Spanish and French.

They originate in Trinidad and Jamaica, Puerto Rico and Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Surinam and Antigua. Their authors are as internationally known as Michelle Cliff, Jean Rhys and Jamaica Kincaid, or virtually unknown and never before available. And the stories they have produced are often stylistically unsettling, daring, bold to the point of deliberate sabotage, jarring and abrupt.

Here the folk tale, threads of oral tradi-

tion, verses from "The Arabian Nights," the Bible, the disco jukebox and clearly recognizable current political issues meet and mate. There are the fantastic lyrical juxtapositions of magical realism with the hard edge of standard parody. There is a fragmentary sense that these stories are not so much a potpourri as they are a puzzle of a collage slowly emerging from the mist of dream and the glaze across the jungle, under a riot of bougainvillea and orchids, of moonlight blazing across the petals of poinsettias and luminous geraniums, on nights of ripening mangoes, plantains and sudden domestic violence.

Of particular fascination is Cuban novelist and short-story writer Dora Alonso's "Cotton Candy," a tale of sexual obsession in which "butterflies were falling under the green whip, dying, astonished, and young Lola was gathering her fragile harvest to offer to her first love." Sometimes she walked hearing "the buzzing of the feverish beehives where she burned among the honey and the gyrations, wanting to sink her teeth into the sweetness full of stings." As an old woman, she finds the "inexpressible, contagious atmosphere . . . where the beasts became beautiful like the trees and the light."

Dominican-born Angela Hernandez's exquisite story, "How to Gather the Shadows of the Flowers," is a stylistically beautiful blend of poetry and psychology. A woman finds love in a personal and completely inhabited darkness of her own devising, where there are "violets and poppies growing deliriously, fennel and sunflowers and red-wine-colored hollyhocks

like open umbrellas." Finally, after asking repeatedly what is reality, our protagonist finds the solution: "Now I know how to irrigate a garden that won't stop growing, how to gather the shadows of the flowers, how to prevent their concealing the sun, and how to walk diagonally across the instants."

In these pages, the reader encounters a world of women without men, women who dig subsistence gardens for their children, wait for the fishing boats and embroider in solitude, or fly off to Miami or New York or Paris to become domestics in a land of granite and strangers where it snows and they do not know the language.

There are acts of sacrifice and courage, but that is merely a literal interpretation of the stories. They are, more accurately, about hallucination and mirage, multiple ocean crossings, exiles within exile, and how identity is accidentally created in an unexpected confluence of fate and will. This Caribbean is a region of amulets, of offering white rum to the gods, home remedies of herbs and potions and if that doesn't work, a priest or a psychiatrist. It is, despite the contradictions, somehow a pragmatic world.

There is a cumulative power to this volume, to these tales of migration, and the hunger for food, love, knowledge and power. Ultimately, these are stories about the struggle for transformation and what is most memorable and haunting, the sense of women daring to reveal themselves as passionate and vulnerable in the act of giving birth.



PODER Y LIBERTAD

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Todas las cuestiones
que afectan a la emancipación
femenina en nuestra revista

Madrid, 22 de enero 1992

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Tengo el gusto de comunicarte que el número 17 de la revista PODER Y LIBERTAD acaba de ponerse a la venta. Este número monográfico se halla dedicado enteramente a describir y analizar la situación de la mujer en los países islámicos.

En este momento, en que el avance del fundamentalismo islámico se está convirtiendo en el más importante fenómeno político internacional, del que las recientes elecciones y golpe de Estado en Argelia es una muestra de los problemas y trastornos geopolíticos que entraña y de las convulsiones sociales que hace predecir, hemos creído importante ofrecer a nuestras lectoras un estudio objetivo, sincero y auténtico de la situación de la mujer en los países islámicos. Tema éste que tantas veces queda difuminado, o convertido únicamente en anécdota jocosa, cuando constituye la tragedia de millones de seres humanos de esos países: las mujeres.

Este número de PODER Y LIBERTAD cuenta con las colaboraciones de periodistas, profesoras, abogadas, sociólogas, filósofas, antropólogas de Argelia, Pakistán, Arabia Saudita, Túnez, Egipto, Marruecos, así como un extenso estudio sobre el fundamentalismo debido a la pluma de Marie-Aimée Helie-Lucas, que ha sido ponencia en el XII Congreso Internacional de Antropólogos y que será publicado en varias prestigiosas revistas de lengua inglesa.

Además, los nombres de Anna Soler Pont, Nawal Al Saadawi, Nazarín, Rachida Ennaifer, Shazia Rafi, y las profesoras arabis-tas españolas Caridad Ruiz Almodóvar y Carmen Ruiz Bravo-Villasante, prestigian la revista y prometen que su contenido tendrá toda la profundidad, brillantez y trascendencia que merece el tema.

Creando, con ello, haber aportado nuestro esfuerzo a desvelar las verdaderas situaciones de opresión femenina en una extensa área del mundo, deseáramos que tuvieras la atención de publicar un reseña sobre la revista, en el convencimiento de que con ello se contribuye a la difusión de cultura en nuestro país.

Afectuosamente,

Lidia Falcón

Firmado: Lidia Falcón

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