30th Anniversary

Past Controversies

Present Challenges

Future Feminisms

Saturday
April 9, 2005
Barnard College
For three decades, The Scholar & the Feminist has taken a bold, critical look at the issues that matter most to feminist movements, from sex, gender and sexuality to race and economics to politics and culture. Over the years, we have welcomed such visionary scholars, artists and activists as Anna Deavere Smith, Winona LaDuke, Staceyann Chin, Barbara Ehrenreich, Honor Moore, Elaine Pagels, Faye Ginsburg, Anna Quindlen, and Maria Hinojosa, whose work not only invites us to think, but also challenges us to act. Sometimes controversial, always ambitious, the conference provides a forum for cutting-edge feminist theories, as well as a space for imagining how we might use those theories to effect progressive and lasting social change.

This year, in honor of the 30th anniversary of The Scholar & the Feminist, we will revisit the themes of several landmark conferences — including *The Future of Difference* (1979), *Class, Race, and Sex* (1980), *Women in Resistance* (1984), and *Women as Change Makers: Building and Using Political Power* (1992). By returning to the fundamental debates of ten, twenty, thirty years ago, we'll trace the evolution of feminism’s most pressing concerns and productive strategies, and consider how those concerns and strategies are articulated today. Leaders of second wave feminist movements will join their third wave counterparts in a daylong conversation aimed at reaching a multi-generational understanding of where we, as feminists committed to securing sexual, racial and economic justice, have been, where we are now, and where we might yet go.
SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m.  Registration
Barnard Hall Lobby

10:00 a.m.  Welcome and Greeting
Julius Held Lecture Hall, 304 Barnard Hall

Judith Shapiro, President, Barnard College
Janet Jakobsen, Director, Barnard Center for Research on Women
Jane Gould, Former Director, Barnard Center for Research on Women

Screening
Past, Present & Future Feminisms
A Film by Rebecca Haimowitz

10:30 a.m.  Morning Plenary Panels
Building and Using Political Power: Women Making Change
Julius Held Lecture Hall, 304 Barnard Hall

The Scholar & the Feminist XIX: Women as Change Makers. Building and Using Political Power brought together over 50 prominent women in political life to explore the relationship between women and the state, analyzing how they gain power, what they do with it once they’ve got it, and what they should do with it. Former BCRW director Leslie Calman returns to continue the conversation with progressive voices from the academy, philanthropy, the media, and political consultation groups.

Participants:
Amrita Basu, Amherst College
Alison Bernstein, Ford Foundation
Kim Gandy, National Organization for Women
Rachel Maddow, Air America Radio
Faye Wattleton, Center for the Advancement of Women

Moderator:
Leslie Calman, Legal Momentum
Class, Race, and Sex: The Future of Difference
202 Altschul, Altschul Hall

In 1979, The Scholar & the Feminist VI: The Future of Difference showcased formative theories of gender difference across a range of disciplines, from psychoanalytic, linguistic and literary criticism to history and political science. The following year’s conference, Class, Race and Sex: Exploring Contradictions, Affirming Connections, set out to understand how economic, political and cultural institutions divide women by class, race and sexual preference. This panel will explore how notions of “difference” have evolved over the last thirty years, and how strategies for securing economic, racial and sexual justice have contributed to contemporary feminist movements.

Participants:
Siobhan Brooks, sex worker organizer
Leslie Feinberg, transgender activist
Amber Hollibaugh, author and activist
Surina Khan, Political Consultant

Moderator:
Elizabeth Bernstein, Barnard College

12:30 p.m. Lunch

Please consult your registration packet for a list of neighborhood restaurants and dining options.
2:00 p.m.  Afternoon Plenary Panels

Women and Resistance: From Grassroots to Global Activism
Julius Held Lecture Hall
304 Barnard Hall

Hosted in 1984, the eleventh Scholar & the Feminist conference — Women and Resistance — examined how women were confronting and countering oppressive power structures on a number of fronts, from South African apartheid and Italian militancy to domestic abuse and degrading representations of women in popular culture. Temma Kaplan, former BCRW director who organized that historic gathering, leads a conversation with scholars and activists committed to continuing the ever-changing struggle toward a more just and peaceful world.

Participants:
Jennifer Kern, disability rights activist
Minnie Bruce Pratt, poet and activist
Barbara Ransby, University of Illinois, Chicago
Heisoo Shin, The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
Kumkum Sangari, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee
Lateefah Simon, Center for Young Women’s Development

Moderator:
Temma Kaplan, Rutgers University
Women's Culture: Media, Art and Modes of Cultural Production

Altschul 202, Altschul Hall

From the fifth Scholar & the Feminist Conference — Creating Feminist Works — through the twenty-third — Women in Films: Images and Image Makers — to the twenty-ninth — Power and Representation in a Media-Saturated Age — the Center has been vitally interested in how feminist artists, performers and media-makers both inspire and answer the call for social change. This panel brings together a remarkable lineup of feminist writers and media-makers to discuss the necessity, importance and endless possibilities of feminist cultural production.

Participants:
Meena Alexander, poet
Dorothy Allison, author
Tammy Rac Carland, video artist
Staceyann Chin, spoken word poet
Elaine Kim, University of California, Berkeley

Moderator:
Gretchen Gerrina, Barnard College

4:00 p.m. Closing Reception

The James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall
PARTICIPANTS:

Meena Alexander
Dorothy Allison
Amrita Basu
Alison Bernstein
Elizabeth Bernstein
Siobhan Brooks
Leslie Calman
Tammy Rae Carland
Staceyann Chin
Leslie Feinberg
Kim Gandy
Gretchen Gerzina
Jane Gould
Amber Hollibaugh
Temma Kaplan
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Jennifer Kern
Elaine Kim
Rachel Maddow
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Barbara Ransby
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Don’t forget to return your registration card

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Barnard Center for Research on Women
3009 Broadway • New York, NY 10027-6538