SPEAKING OUT:
Women, Poverty, and Public Policy

October 29-31, 1998
W.R. DAVIES UNIVERSITY CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

WELCOME

Anyone interested in the diverse issues relating to women, poverty, and public policy is invited to join us for a lively, interactive conference that will extend beyond sharing scholarship to include coalition building and an opportunity to make commitments for individual and collective social action.

As we invite you to attend the 23rd annual UW Women’s Studies conference October 29-31, 1998 at UW-Eau Claire we also want to thank members of the UW Women’s Studies Consortium for making these conferences possible for the past twenty-three years. The Women’s Studies Consortium is committed to developing projects that serve the instruction, research, outreach, resource-development, and international needs of women’s studies practitioners throughout the UW System. These initiatives were honored recently when the Consortium received the first in a new category of Leadership awards at the 80th annual meeting of the American Council on Education/National Network for Women Leaders in Higher Education last February. Congratulations to all the members of the Consortium for their fine work.

Conference Coordinators,
Katherine Rhoades, UW-Eau Claire
Anne Statham, UW-Parkside and
Consortium Outreach Office

REGISTRATION FORM

SPEAKING OUT:
Women, Poverty, and Public Policy

Fee:  □ $90.00  Professional & General Public Fee.
      □ $45.00  Student and Low-Income Fee

NAME:

TITLE:

AGENCY/INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE  □ ZIP

DAYTIME PHONE:

FAX:

Disability or special dietary accommodation requested:

☐ I plan to attend the Proconference Workshop, Thursday, October 29, 1998
☐ I plan to attend the Welcome Reception, Thursday, October 29, 1998

Donations to cover scholarships are greatly appreciated. Please mail with your registration.

Return the completed registration form with your check (payable to UW-Eau Claire) or your purchase order to:
Arts & Sciences Continuing Education
UW-Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
FAX: (715) 836-3258

UW-System asks that you respond to this voluntary survey.

Gender:
☐ Female  □ Male

Are you enrolled in this program for career purposes?
☐ Yes  □ No

Age:
☐ 18-24  ☐ 25-34  ☐ 35-49  ☐ 50-64  ☐ 65+

Race/Ethnicity:
☐ African American  ☐ Hispanic
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native  ☐ White (not Hispanic)
☐ Asian/Pacific Islander  ☐ Other

Occupation:
☐ Agriculture  ☐ Education
☐ Engineer, Architect  ☐ Finance, Insurance, Real Estate
☐ Health Services  ☐ Manufacturing
☐ Protective Services  ☐ Public Administration/Govt.
☐ Retail Trade  ☐ Social, Recreation, Religious
☐ Transportation  ☐ Wholesale Trade
☐ Other

**Deborah Doxtater**, Chairwoman of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, represents 13,000 tribal members who belong to one of the most progressive Indian nations in the country. Doxtater often presents testimony at Congressional hearings on behalf of American Indians and she has received many awards for service to her community. She is a lifelong resident of the Oneida Tribe and continually works to uphold her Oneida Indian name, “Yukhiwananum,” which means “she keeps our words for us.”

**Heidi Hartmann** is the Director of the Washington, D.C. based Institute for Women’s Policy Research, a research organization which looks broadly at women and the policies that affect their lives. Hartmann is an economist with a B.A. from Swarthmore College and M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University, all in economics. In 1994 Hartmann received a MacArthur “genius” fellowship award to recognize her pioneering work in the field of women and economics.

**June Jordan**, poet, novelist, essayist and political activist, is Professor of African American Studies at the University of California at Berkeley where she also directs the university’s Poetry for the People program. Jordan is the author of 24 books to date, making her the most published African American writer in history. Her passion for justice compels her to test the boundaries of race, class, and gender identity and to fight for the unity of justice, equality, and tenderness.

**Ellen Messer-Davidow** is an Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota where she teaches in the Departments of English, Women’s Studies, Cultural Studies, and American Studies. Her research interests focus on academic knowledge and social change. Her most recent book, *Disciplining Feminism: Episodes in the Production of Social Change*, will be published by Duke University Press in 1998.

**Judith Stacey**, Streisand Professor of Contemporary Gender Studies and Professor of Sociology at the University of Southern California, has written and lectured extensively on the politics of family change. Her recent book, *In the Name of the Family: Rethinking Family Values in the Postmodern Age* examines the research and politics behind contemporary campaigns for family values. She is also the author of *Brave New Families: Stories of Domestic Upheaval in Late Twentieth Century America* which was a finalist for the C. Wright Mills Award.
**SPECIAL CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES**

- **Talking Circles/Action Groups**
  Each conference participant will have the opportunity to interact with a topicically focused Talking Circle/Action Group designed to facilitate small-group conversations. These groups will convene informally several times during the conference and will provide a forum for listening, discussing, debating, and developing an action agenda based on the issues raised at the conference. Talking Circle/Action Groups will have the opportunity to contribute their ideas at the Call for Action that concludes the conference on Saturday. The groups will begin meeting at 3:00 p.m. Thursday.

- **Preconference Workshop**
  Thursday, October 29, 3:00-4:45 p.m.

  *The Heroine’s Journey: The Unavoidable Human Experience* with Betty Salamun, Director, Choreographer, Performer, and Artistic Director of BS’s DANCECIRCUS, a Midwest-based professional touring company. In this workshop Betty will draw on her experience working with women recovering from substance and other abuse by combining personal stories, myths, legends, and fairy tales to aid participants in exploring language and motion as they embark on their own “heroine’s journey,” a process of self-discovery. *If you plan to attend this workshop, please mark the registration form accordingly.*

- **Welcome Reception, Dessert Buffet and Conference Kickoff**
  Thursday, October 29, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

  This reception is cosponsored by WHOM (Women Historians of the Midwest).

- **Women of Color Reception**
  Friday, October 30

  Immediately following June Jordan’s Lecture

  The UW System Office of Multicultural Affairs and the UW System Women’s Studies Consortium will host this reception honoring Women of Color from UW campuses. All conference participants are invited to join us for this gala celebration.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
A limited number of scholarships are available to low-income participants. Please call La Vone Snee, College of Arts and Sciences Continuing Education, at 715-836-2031 for further information.

**LODGING**
The Ramada Inn and Conference Center, 1202 West Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, is the designated motel for the conference. To make reservations, please call (715) 834-3181 and ask for state rates. Also, a listing of other motels will be sent with your confirmation letter.

**EXHIBITION SPACE**
An exhibition area will be open to both profit and non-profit organizations. The cost will be $35 for profit (product sales) and $10 for non-profit organizations with no sale of materials. For information on becoming an exhibitor, call La Vone Snee at (715) 836-2031.

**QUESTIONS**
If you have questions, please contact La Vone Snee, Arts and Sciences Continuing Education at (715) 836-2031 or by email at sneenl@uwec.edu.

** Extension**
This program is offered through UW-Eau Claire College of Arts & Sciences Continuing Education in cooperation with UW-Extension. Please advise us one week prior to the program if you have a disability and desire accommodations. The University of Wisconsin System provides equal opportunity in employment and programming including Title IX requirements.
**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**CREDITS**
This conference is certified for 1.2 (12 hours) Continuing Education Units through the College of Arts and Sciences Continuing Education, UW-Eau Claire for participation in all sessions.

Ten (10) equivalency clock hours have been applied for through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for full participation in the conference.

**LOCATION**
The conference will be held in the W.R. Davies University Center on the UW-Eau Claire campus. Registration will be in the Skylight Lounge of Davies Center. A campus map and parking permit will be mailed with your confirmation notice.

**FEE/REGISTRATION**
The fee for this three-day conference is $90.00 for professionals and the general public and $45.00 for full-time students and low-income participants. The fee covers the cost of instruction, materials, refreshment breaks, receptions, Friday lunch and the Saturday brunch.

To register, complete and return the attached registration form with your check or purchase order. A confirmation letter with map/hotel information will be mailed upon receipt of your registration form.

The registration deadline is **October 23, 1998**, but we encourage you to register as soon as possible. A $15.00 processing fee will be charged for all cancellations prior to October 23rd. After October 23rd you are responsible for the full fee. Substitutes will be accepted in your place if we are notified in advance.

**CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29**
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
UW WOMEN'S STUDIES ADMINISTRATORS' MEETING
2:30 - 6:30 p.m. REGISTRATION
3:00 - 4:45 p.m.
PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP
5:00 - 6:00 p.m. WELCOME RECEPTION and ORIENTATION to Talking Circles/Action Groups
6:00 - 7:30 p.m. DINNER
On your own or with your Talking Circle/Action Group
7:30 p.m. OPENING KEYNOTE

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30**
7:30 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Meet with Talking Circle/Action Groups
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. EXHIBITS OPEN
8:30 - 10:00 a.m. SESSION I
10:00 - 10:15 a.m. BREAK
10:15 - 11:30 a.m. SESSION II
11:30 - 1:00 p.m. LUNCH AND KEYNOTE
1:15 - 2:45 p.m. SESSION III
2:45 - 3:00 p.m. BREAK
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
TEACHING PLENARY SESSION
4:30 - 7:30 p.m. DINNER
On your own or with your Talking Circle/Action Group
7:30 p.m. JUNE JORDAN FORUM LECTURE
SPECIAL RECEPTION and Cash Bar for all conference participants honoring Women of Color following the lecture.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31**
7:30 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EXHIBITS OPEN
8:30 - 10:00 a.m. SESSION IV
10:15 - 12:30 p.m. BRUNCH and SOCIAL ACTION PLENARY PANEL
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
CALL TO ACTION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM
ADMINISTRATORS' MEETING

2:30 - 6:30 p.m. REGISTRATION
Skylight Lounge, Davies Center
UW-Eau Claire

3:00 - 4:45 p.m.
PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP
The heroine's journey:
The unavoidable human experience
Betty Salamun, Artistic Director,
BS's DANCECIRCUS
See workshop description under Special Conference Opportunities, page 2. This workshop is included in the conference fee. If you plan to attend this workshop, please register on the Registration Form.

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. WELCOME RECEPTION
and ORIENTATION to Talking Circles/Action Groups

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. DINNER
On your own or with you Talking Circle/Action Groups

7:30 p.m. WELCOME
UW-Eau Claire Chancellor, Donald Mash

OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Deborah Doxtater, Chairwoman, Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin Indians
Heidi Hartmann, Director and President, Institute for Women's Policy Research, Washington, D.C.

Respondent: Ruth Conniff, Washington, D.C.
Associate Editor of Thq Progressive

10:15 - 12:30 p.m.
BRUNCH and PANEL OF ACTIVISTS
Sarah Harder (Convenor), Chair of UW-Eau Claire Women's Studies Program and Russian Women's Project, Ada Deer, American Indian Studies and Social Work, UW-Madison; Eileen Mershart, Executive Director of the Madison YMCA; and Ruth Kalmis, Social Work, UW-River Falls and Representative, Wisconsin League of Women Voters.

Talking Circles/Action Groups may sit together.

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
WISCONSIN WOMEN'S NETWORK and THE WOMEN AND POVERTY PUBLIC EDUCATION INITIATIVE (WPPEI) work with Talking Circles to develop an Action Agenda.

Connie Threinen, Gene Boyer, Pat Mapp, Ruth Kalmis with invited contributions from Vicki Felkowe, Institute for Wisconsin's Future and Nance Cheng, the Region 5 Department of Labor's Women's Bureau
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
8:30 - 10:00 a.m. SESSION IV continue

■ A participatory approach to studying the impact of welfare reform on women's lives
   Carol Gulyas and Barbara Sparks,
   University of Nebraska-Lincoln

■ Regulating knowledge: Effects of mandatory work requirements and restrictions on education
   Claudia Ditmar Coffield, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

■ "They're worse than the men": Poor women and professional women in a multi-ethnic cross-class participatory research study
   Cathleen Armstead, Florida Community College

Moderator: Sheila Smith, UW-Eau Claire

What Academics Can Do

■ Where is the voice of women in poverty in the psychology classroom?
   Suzanne Griffith and Hal Bertelson, UW-Superior

■ The liberal arts, public literacy and pushing out of poverty
   Jennifer Shaddock, UW-Eau Claire

■ Facing resistance to issues of women and poverty
   Karen Peterson Welch, UW-Eau Claire

■ Child care action ideas for academics
   Mary Babula, Madison and Pat Mapp, UW-Milwaukee

Moderator: Karen Welch, UW-Eau Claire

Accessibility of Fitness and Health

■ Antidote to women's poverty: Sport participation and physical activity
   Cheryl Kennedy and Sara McFall Sullivan, UW-La Crosse

■ "WIC checks cashed here": An exploration of reproductive health policy in Syracuse, New York
   Suzanne Morrissey, Syracuse University

Moderator: Cheryl Kennedy, UW-La Crosse

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

7:30 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
REGISTRATION/Meet with Talking Circle/Action Groups

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. EXHIBITS OPEN

8:30-10:00 a.m. SESSION I
Images of Poverty

■ Classist conceptions of dependency: Conservative attacks on poor women with children
   Luísa Deprez, University of Southern Maine

■ Some limitations of the culture concept for explaining long-term poverty: Cases from Puerto Rico
   Susan Rigdon, University of Illinois-Urbana

■ Redemption from dependency: Homeless shelter policy and what it says about women
   Cynthia J. Bogard, Hofstra University

■ Welfare participation and self-efficacy: Structure, agency, and self-concept
   Lorie Schabo Grabowski, University of Minnesota

Moderator: Janet Polansky, UW-Stout

Issues of Discrimination and K-12 Schooling Issues

■ New faces on Main Street
   Eileen Littig, NEWIST/CEVA 7-Green Bay

■ The hidden curriculum...sexism
   Jeanette Beschta, Appleton

Moderator: Representative from the Eau Claire Hmong community

continued on next page
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.  SESSION I continued

Social Control & Policy
- Gendered assumptions in the new state welfare programs
  Heather McCallum, Stanford University
- Women's experience of poverty and the politics of social welfare policy
  Kay Harned, Northern Illinois University
- W-2 and child care: Gender, work and power
  Yvette Pettee, UW-Madison

Moderator: Kate Lang, UW-Eau Claire

Issues Concerning Children
- Welfare reform and parental conflict
  Jacquelyn Boggess, Center on Fathers, Families, & Public Policy, Madison
- The sins of their fathers: The ideology of child saving and single mother households
  Barbara Barnard Dillon, Madison
- Neighborhood child care: Responding to W-2
  Jean Colvin and Nicole Peltier, Madison
- Low income parents' child care needs and preferences
  Diane Michalski Turner, UW-Madison

Moderator: Pat Mapp, UW Extension

10:00 - 10:15 a.m. BREAK

10:15 - 11:30 a.m. SESSION II
Piecing of the Puzzle
Cindy Klevgard, Chippewa Valley Poverty Network, Eau Claire

Literature as a Tool
- Literature and the culture of poverty:
  Sandra Cisneros and the House on Mango Street
  Patricia Thomas, UW-Superior
- The myth of self-reliance in the Little House series
  Julie Tharp, UW-Marshfield

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
7:00 a.m.  EARLY MORNING WALK/RUN
Putnam Park path, UW-Eau Claire campus

7:30 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EXHIBITS OPEN

8:30 - 10:00 a.m. SESSION IV
Assessing the Impact
- Does it work? The evaluation of social welfare reform
  Nick Smiar and Gloria Fennell, UW-Eau Claire
- Post-TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act): Work and self-sufficiency?
  Laura Lewis, Mercyhurst College, Pennsylvania
- Voices of poor single mothers in Michigan: Everyday realities of work, education and child care under the new welfare laws
  Peggy Kahn, University of Michigan-Flint and Valerie Polakow, Eastern Michigan University
- Title reports on the impact of W-2 in Milwaukee
  Vicki Feltkove, Institute for Wisconsin's Future

Moderator: Nick Smiar, UW-Eau Claire

A County Response to W-2
- Inside W-2 in Rock County, Wisconsin
  Janet LaBrie, Julie Elliott-Gable, Karen Fisher, and Carol Mishler, Rock County
- Rock County W-2 Response Team
  Cornelia Hempe, UW-Milwaukee

Moderator: Janet LaBrie, UW-Rock

Participatory Research
- Welfare Watchdogs: Advocating community action, education and research
  Jane Greiner, Syracuse University

continued on next page
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30
1:15 - 2:45 p.m. SESSION III continued

Activism & Strategies
- Violence in American Indian families: The familiar face of oppression
  Lisa Poupart, UW-Green Bay
- The realities of poverty emphasis on Native American women
  Gladysce Nahbeятayash, UW-Superior
- Reclaiming hope
  Judith Federsen-Benn, Community Educator, Minnesota
Moderator: Sara McFall Sullivan, UW-La Crosse

2:45 - 3:00 p.m. BREAK

3:00 - 4:30 p.m. PLENARY SESSION:
How do we teach about controversial issues?
- Last words! Teaching and learning at century's end
  June Jordan, Judith Stacey, Ellen Messer-Davidow
Moderator: Ruth Conniff

4:30 - 7:30 p.m. DINNER
On your own or with Talking Circles/Action Groups

7:30 p.m.
Changing the future for women
June Jordan

Women of Color Reception, Awards, and Gala Celebration to follow
Entertainment: UW-Eau Claire students

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CONFERENCE AGENDA

- A postcolonial feminist reading of Mahasweta Devi's 'Breast Giver'
  Asha Sen, UW-Eau Claire
- Giving a voice to depression-era women: The fiction and non-fiction of Meridel LeSueur
  Deborah Davis Schlacks, UW-Superior
Moderator: Asha Sen, UW-Eau Claire

Comparative Perspectives
- The future of social welfare in Denmark
  Lynn Walter, UW-Green Bay
- Women in the Federal Republic of Germany (West & East)
  Timothy Crowe, UW-Superior
- Maternity leave policy in the U.S.: How do we compare?
  Anne Banda, UW-Milwaukee
- Liberalization and poverty alleviation: An Indian experience
  Madhu Bala, IGNOU, India
Moderator: Sarah Jacobson, North Dakota State University

Grassroots Efforts
- The realities of poverty: Stories of strength/voices of single mothers
  Andrea Potter, East Madison Community Center
- How academics can contribute: The realities of poverty – or making a difference
  Julie Whitaker, UW-Madison
- Creating a sense of empowerment through Family Resource Centers
  Sandra Stokes, UW-Green Bay and Jodee Dulek and Donna Freeman, Green Bay Family Resource Centers
Moderator: Deb Hoskins, UW-La Crosse

continued on next page
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30
10:15 - 11:30 a.m. SESSION II continued

Health Issues
- Women are sick and tired of being sick and tired: Women's health and inequalities
  Nancy Worcester and Marianne Whatley, UW-Madison
- Improving health care interactions
  Joan Lauver and Jill Smith, Glenwood City

Moderator: Nancy Worcester

11:30 - 1:00 p.m. LUNCH AND KEYNOTE
Judith Stacey, Streisand Professor of Gender Studies and Professor of Sociology, USC
Respondent: Ellen Messer-Davidow, Associate Professor of English, Cultural Studies and Women's Studies, University of Minnesota
Talking Circles/Action Groups may sit together.

1:15 - 2:45 p.m. SESSION III
Struggles Around Education
- "Welfare mothers" — Braving the citadel of higher education — Under the assault of the race, sex, and class act of welfare reform
  Sandy Smith Madsen, Emory University
- Transitions: One woman's journey through poverty and higher education
  Jan Lewis, Kansas State University
- Student Parent Network at UWEC
  Ruth Keller, UW-Eau Claire

Moderator: Helen Dale, UW-Eau Claire

Local/Government Initiatives
- Accountability of welfare reform agencies to the community
  Rose Daitsman, Milwaukee County Board Task Force to Monitor W-2

- Shake the ground you walk on: How one person makes a difference
  Rosemary Potter, Wisconsin State Assembly

- Women's Clothes Closet and the W-2 mentoring program
  Michele Graf, UW-La Crosse

Moderator: Rita Webb, UW-Eau Claire

Implications of and for Domestic Violence Issues

- Making connections between anti-oppression work and violence against women's issues: Ideas and resources for Women's Studies classes and anti-violence advocacy/activism
  Nancy Worcester, UW-Madison

- Domestic violence and welfare reform: Economic advocacy and research as ways to make social change
  Roxanne Hefti, New Horizons Shelter & Women's Center and Sandra Krajewski, UW-La Crosse

Moderator: Sandra Krajewski, UW-La Crosse

Historical & Current Frameworks of Analysis
- Using international human rights instruments for the advancement of Wisconsin women
  Laura Roskos, Radcliffe and Nikki Johnson, UW-Milwaukee

- The growing divide: Inequality and the roots of economic insecurity
  Rita Webb, UW-Eau Claire

- Subsistence strategies of poor mothers involved with Child Protective Services
  Brenda Smith, University of Chicago

- 'Zap FAP': The National Welfare Rights Organization's attack on Nixon-era welfare reform
  Andrea Jule Sachs, University of Minnesota

Moderator: Helaine Minkus, UW-Eau Claire

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