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Women's Voice, Volume 7, Issue 2, September 2001

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Illinois State University

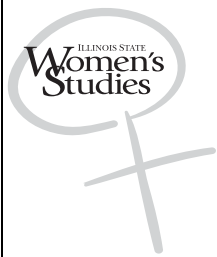
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Women's Voice

Illinois State University

Volume 7, Issue 2, September 2001

From the Director

Sandra D. Harmon, Acting Director

In Memory of Emily Dunn Scott Dale

Emily Dunn Scott Dale, professor emeritus at Illinois Wesleyan University, died August 21 of smoke inhalation in a fire at her summer cabin in Michigan. She was 76. A professor of sociology at IWU for 32 years, she retired in 1992. She was a feminist and tireless human rights activist. Over fifty years ago she led the fight to desegregate public facilities in Bloomington-Normal and in more recent years worked on behalf of gay rights.

She was a former president of the Human Relations Committee of McLean County. At various times she served on boards of McLean County Family Services, United Way of McLean County, YMCA, Project Oz, Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Latino Council of McLean County, Planned Parenthood, and United Christian Student Foundation. The town of Normal presented her with its Distinguished Service Award in 1970 and Bloomington gave her its Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights Award in 1990. In 1991 she was named the YWCA of McLean County Woman of Distinction in Education.

Emily attended Swarthmore College and received her bachelor's degree from Western Reserve University in 1946. She earned a masters in sociology from Illinois State University in 1947 and, after taking time out to raise her family, a Ph.D. from Union Graduate School in 1972. While a student at Swarthmore, she became a member of the Religious Society of Friends and in 1942 served as an American Friends Service Committee volunteer to aid in relocating Japanese Americans from the internment camps. The following year she volunteered at a work camp in the Ida B. Wells housing project in Chicago. She later wrote, "This experience probably did more to shape the kind of person that I am and my commitment to achieving a just society than any other single thing. It continues to be 'played out' through my encouragement to our students to take risks, get involved, and do something worthwhile with their lives."

In the late 1970s in Bloomington-Normal, Emily and several other women banded together to aid battered women. As Beverly Poole, one of the volunteers, recalled they checked women into area motels to get them out of harm's way since there was no other shelter available. In time, efforts of the group led to the creation of the Countering Domestic Violence program. Dale helped raise funds to create the Neville House shelter for battered women, a program of Mid-Central Community Action.

Earlier in the mid 1970s Dale served as a co-director of the planning group for an inter-institutional major and graduate work in Women's Studies along with Patricia Chesebro, Illinois State University, Paula Treichler, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Elizabeth Kaspar, Western Illinois University. While the Board of Higher Education never adopted the innovative proposal, the planning activities led to a joint two-week Women's Studies Summer Seminar at IWU in June 1976, featuring Florence Howe, founder of the Feminist Press.

I met Emily for the first time during the planning meetings for the summer seminar and I remember being somewhat in awe of her and finding her more than a little frightening. She was bright, articulate, knew and spoke her own mind with great relish, and, it seemed to me, that she would not suffer fools gladly. I soon found out, however, that she was also supportive and encouraging.

Professor Pamela Muirhead, an Illinois Wesleyan colleague, remembers Dale as being "bold, forthright, articulate and fearless." Muirhead was one of the women who with Dale established the Faculty Women's Caucus at IWU around twenty years ago. Two goals of the Caucus were to get women elected to faculty committees that made up the governance structure of the university and to get pay equity for women faculty members. Muirhead said the goal was to get women, not just a woman, on each committee. Dale wanted to have 50% of the committee membership able "to caucus in the women's bathroom during meeting breaks." On the pay equity issue, the

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Women's Studies Staff		
Dr. Moghadam	Director	Sabbatical
Dr. Harmon	Interim Director	438-7361
Rozel White	Secretary	438-2947
Dr. Ann Haugo	Instructional Asst. Prof.	438-3955
Katherine Moritz	Graduate Assistant	438-2948
Meghan Smith	Undergraduate Assistant	428-2947
Bethany Struebing	Undergraduate Assistant	438-2947

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Caucus worked first to gather information about inequities and then to lobby the administration to take action. At her memorial service on September 5, a former administrator remembered having many one-on-one meetings with Dale about pay equity and other women faculty issues. Muirhead recalled that then President Robert Eckley did convene a group to study the issue and work began toward pay equity. As the lone woman of color on the faculty then, Muirhead said she learned much about the politics of racism and sexism through her association with Dale.

At her memorial service, former students remembered Emily Dale as being a stimulating and outstanding teacher. They said she encouraged, affirmed, and challenged them. Colleagues used words such as fiery, provocative, and powerful to describe her style and one recalled that she could get your adrenaline flowing. But her colleagues also used the words compassionate, supportive and without pretence to describe her. In her life, she combined activism with academics. One former student recalled she didn't trust a thought without feeling or a feeling without thought. Emily was always just a little bit larger than life in all that she did and she has left her mark on her community, students, colleagues, friends, and family.

In addition to the people mentioned above, I would like to thank Wayne Benenson, Becky Hines, and Carol Reitan for sharing information about Emily Dunn Scott Dale with me. ■

Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance News

We have started the year off nicely with people getting excited and involved both with meetings every Monday night at 7 PM in STV 401 and with events such as the Poetry Slam every second Sunday of the month at 7 PM in the Coffeehouse. Our bake sale on September 14th went very well raising FMLA over \$100.

Recently, we elected our board members. Co-Presidents are Meghan Keys and avada douglas. Co-Vice Presidents are Shannon Davis and Maggie Moran. We have combined our Equality Chair and our Recruitment Chair and Stacey Concannon, Michelle Hines, and Megan Volpert are in charge of those areas. Bridget Meis is our Community Outreach Coordinator. Teryn Robinson is the Graduate Representative. Jodi Lynn Brown, Nadine McDowell, and April Day are the Public Relations Officers. Communications Coordinator is Kate Jajkowski. Finance Officers are Jodi Lynn Brown and avada douglas.

Currently, we are working on coordinating "Take Back the Night" which is scheduled for October 15 in the Ballroom of the Bone Student Center. The doors will open at 6:30 PM, while speakers will start at 7 PM. Tables will be set up with information from various ISU and local community organizations. The march will start directly after the presenters have concluded. Men will march to their men's space to discuss men's roles within this movement and the ramifications of a rape culture. Womyn will march around campus ending at a womyn's space, where there will be a safe space for breaking the silence and sharing survival stories. Afterwards, both the men and womyn will meet again to unite together and bring closure to the evening. Overall, this is a very powerful evening.

If you want to help plan "Take Back the Night" or other events, or if you want more information, email the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance at ISU FMLA@hotmail.com or call 436-9561. Hope to see everyone at the meetings and events! Peace, avada - FMLA Co-Pres.

For more information about Feminist Majority Foundation, the sponsor of the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, go to www.feminist.org. See also www.feminist.com. They are the hosts for the V-Day events and College

Campaign.

UIS Symposium on Sexism, Racism, and Homophobia

A symposium, "Pursuing Healthy Relations in the Sick 21st Century: Dealing with the Sicknesses of Sexism, Racism, and Homophobia," will take place on Friday, October 5, from 7:00-9:00 PM in Conference Room 7 of the Public Affairs Building on the campus of the University of Illinois at Springfield. The symposium is sponsored by the student organization SANKOFA. It is free and open to the public.

Speakers include Professor Heather Dell of the Women's Studies Program at UIS; Lynn Taylor Clark, director of Positive Options Resolutions and Alternatives (PORA) of Springfield; Jennifer Wrighten, director of the YWCA of Springfield; and Gary Mohammed, Cultural Festival of Bloomington. For more information on the event, contact Melvin Armstrong, Jr. at (217) 206-1306. ■

YWCA Position Openings

The Women and Diversity Division of the YWCA of McLean County announces the opening of two positions, Assistant to the Director and Techgyrls Intern/Volunteer. The division of the YWCA of McLean County is small but very diverse in its activities and outreach. Tasks range from mundane to adventurous and include participation in meetings, planning committees, and other events and duties as they arise. Specific duties for the positions are outlined below.

Assistant to the Director

The Assistant to the Director will assist the Women and Diversity Director in the implementation of the YWCA mission: empowering women and girls and eliminating racism. The Assistant will also assist with mission-based programs by completing administrative tasks, conducting research, and examining funding sources.

Techgyrls Intern/Volunteer

The Techgyrls Intern/Volunteer will oversee the implementation of the YWCA Techgyrls program. Techgyrls is a girl's computer class that raises interest, confidence, and competence in the area of technology while helping to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills. The program targets girls ages 9 to 13.

For information on either of these positions, please contact Joan Bailey, Director, Women and Diversity Program, YWCA of McLean County, 1201 N. Hershey Road, Bloomington, IL 61704 or call (309) 268-9006. ■

Call for Proposals

The National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) has for a quarter of a century provided a forum for the exchange of ideas about the theory and practice of women's studies and feminist education in academic institutions and other venues. The NWSA invites proposals for papers, panels, roundtables, and workshops on the wide range of topics that constitutes women's studies. Proposals are invited from teachers, students, scholars, activists, and community and cultural workers for the NWSA Conference 2002 in Las Vegas, Nevada June 13-16, 2002. The proposal submission deadline is November 4, 2001. For more information, email beathompson@prodigy.net, visit the website www.nwsa.org/nwsa2002/, or stop by the Women's Studies office. ■

An equal opportunity/affirmative action university encouraging diversity.

WOMEN'S STUDIES FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Welcome to Women's Studies Minors

Debbie Armstrong—Family and Consumer Sciences
Lori Barsztaitis—Social Work
Nicole Berg—Mass Com.
Rita Bourell—Sociology
Sarah Clark—English
Stacey Concannon—Social Work
Julie Dawson—Speech Com.
avada douglas—Social Work/Econ.
Jennifer Egert—Mass Com.
Laura Elliff—Anthropology
Karee Ethridge—Mass Com.
Christy Eyre—History
Michele Ganschow—Psychology
Raigan Grane—Public Relations
Sarah Grant—History

Jennifer Guarin—Social Work
Amanda Karvelaitis—English
Mika Keegstra—Social Work
Stephanie Kiesewetter—English
Rebecca Koehler—Finance
Meghan Quirke—Social Work
Sarah Rhoads—Biological Sciences Ed.
Julie Ruby—English
Lara Saba—Political Science
Lavita Scott—Political Science
Rose Simpson—Sociology
Meghan Smith—Anthropology
Michelle Snyder—Chemistry Teacher Ed.
Samantha Turrentine—Sociology
Erin Whitworth—Social Work

Two of the students just recently declared Women's Studies minors. They are **Karee Ethridge** and **Rita Bourell**. Karee is a Mass Communication major. A transfer student from Eastern Illinois University, she works on campus as a member of the support staff for Illinois State University's web site and plays on the women's rugby team. Rita is a sophomore sociology student who became interested in a minor after taking WS 120 with Professor Ann Haugo. ■

Faculty and Staff News

Dr. Valentine Moghadam's article "Globalization, Militarism, and Women's Collective Action" has been published in the *NWSA Journal*, Vol. 13 No. 2 (Summer), which is a publication of The National Women's Studies Association.

Ann Haugo, Theatre and Women's Studies, coordinated three panels this summer for the Conference of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) in Chicago. The panels were entitled "Native Theatre in the 1990s: New Venues, New Challenges", "The Spirit World in the New Millennium: Spirituality in Native Theatre's Theory and Practice", and "Time and Space: Native Drama Resisting Colonial Closures", the latter of which she also chaired.

Colleen McCormick, former Women's Studies undergraduate assistant, has been published in the Volume 5, Fall 2001 issue of *Polyglossia*, the Journal of Illinois State University's Lambda Delta Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society. Her article is titled "The Genderlines: Male/Female Voices in the American Slave Narrative Tradition."

Colleen McCormick was also a speaker at the Fifth Annual English Studies Undergraduate Symposium on September 6, 2001. She spoke on the topic of "Graduating with a Degree in English." ■

September 11

By Sandra D. Harmon

The events of September 11 are now seared into our memories. Many Americans have run through the gamut of emotions: disbelief, revulsion, grief, rage. In the shock of the attack, public opinion polls indicated a large majority of people supported some kind of retaliatory action. Reports came from across the country of acts of bigotry and intolerance against Muslims, Arabs and Arab-Americans. The daughter of friends attends law school at a state university in a community where local Muslims were being harassed. It is because the local community is conservative, said one student. No, Julie replied, it is because of ignorance.

In light of the reports of ignorance and bigotry and the calls for unthinking retaliation, it was heartening to see the tremendous turn out of 10,000 people of the Illinois State University community for the student government-organized rally for peace two days after the attack. The rally's themes were peace, tolerance, and unity. The students asked for reasoned responses to the acts of terrorism and for oneness among the diverse people who make up the population of the United States.

The horrific events of September 11 have also been met with an outpouring of generosity across the country and locally on campus and in the community. The Student Government Association rally raised \$26,000 in cash donations and tee-shirt sales. The money will go to the United Way of New York City September 11 Fund. Across town in the Schnucks parking lot, radio stations WJBC 1230 AM, WBNQ 101.5 FM and B-104 FM held a fund-raising drive Wednesday, September 12, through Saturday, September 15, which raised in excess of \$788,000 for the American Red Cross's disaster relief programs. Athletes and other students from ISU helped with the radio fund drive.

An email from Nancy Lubin, Founder and Executive Director of Dress for Success in New York City personalizes the tragedy. She tells of waking to "what sounded like a huge gun shot," and from her bedroom window witnessing the second plane fly into the south tower of the World Trade Center and watching both buildings collapse. She writes, "My thoughts are with the families who are now walking the streets with photographs, looking for their loved ones. I am also thinking about the hundreds of Dress for Success clients who worked at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter and other companies in those buildings as secretaries and receptionists. So many of them were single moms. I hope that they got out in time, but we won't know for weeks . . ."

The clients are low-income women who are working their way to better lives. Dress for Success offers training for job interviews, dental care assistance, and business clothes for their clients. In a later update, Nancy writes that they have still not learned of specific client casualties, but that "it seems all but a dozen people got out of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, one of our largest placement companies." As Nancy's emails make clear, there is a great need for financial assistance for the families of the dead and injured as well as for those whose jobs no longer exist.

While our thoughts are with the victims, survivors, and rescue workers in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania, we can also feel more sympathy with the millions of people around the world who live daily with the threat and reality of small- and large-scale acts of terror. It is the hope of many that government leaders and people everywhere will assist in bringing terrorists of all stripes to justice and will work to eradicate the conditions that breed terrorism. ■

Women's Voice
Illinois State University
Women's Studies Program
Rachel Cooper 2nd Floor
Campus Box 4260
Normal, IL 61790-4260

“The Intersections between Feminist Philosophy and Critical Race Theory”
Society for Women in Philosophy (SWIP) Conference
Illinois State University
12-14 October 2001

The Midwest Society for Women in Philosophy (SWIP) will hold its meetings at ISU this fall. Our focus will be on the intersections between critical race theory and feminist philosophy. The conference is free and open to the public. For more information please contact Alison Bailey at 438-7795 or via e-mail at baileya@ilstu.edu

Friday Evening, October 12th 101 Stevenson Hall

7:00-8:00 Welcome Gathering
8:00-10:00 Film: Michal Aviad's "The Woman Next Door"

Saturday, October 13th All Events in 401 and 401A Stevenson Hall

8:00- 9:00 Bagels, Fruit, and Coffee (Caucuses)
9:00-10:15 Audrey Thompson, "Gentlemanly Orthodoxy: Critical Race Feminism and the Whiteness of APA Guidelines"
10:30-11:45 Emily S. Lee, "Visible Differences of the Body as Possibilities for Creative Meaning"
11:45-1:45 Lunch Break
1:45-3:00 Donna Jean Troka*, "'You Heard My Gun Cock': Agency and Aggression in Contemporary Female Rap Music"
3:15-4:30 Eleanor J. Blount, "Reflecting on the Woman in the Mirror"
4:45-5:45 Business Meeting w/ special snacks
6:00-8:30 Dinner
8:30-? SWIP Party, 103 S. Vale Street, Bloomington

Sunday, October 14th All Events in 401 and 401A Stevenson Hall

8:30-9:00 Bagels, Fruit, and Coffee
9:00-10:15 Nancy McHugh, "Excited Attention: Immorality and Images of Racialized and Intersexed Genitalia"
10:30-11:45 Linette R. Lowe, "Feminism, Vegetarianism and Anti-Hate-Speech Activism"

* Pending confirmation.