

## Women's Ways of Knowing: Past, Present, and Future

"Women's Ways of Knowing: Past, Present, and Future" is the theme of the fifth annual Celebration of Our Work Conference to be held on May 19 at Hickman Hall on the Douglass campus. Professor Carol Gilligan, Occupant of the Blanche, Edith, and Irving Laurie New Jersey Chair in Women's Studies at Douglass College, Visiting Professor of

Psychology at Rutgers, and Professor, Graduate School of Education, Harvard University, will give the keynote address, "Women Coming of Age." More than 100 scholars and activists are scheduled to make presentations on such diverse themes as women and telecommunications, life as seen by high school girls, the representations of eating disorders in

literature, women and the creative arts, and issues affecting women of color and the Hispanic women's community. Additionally, there will be poetry readings, film showings, an exhibition of photographs of Eskimo women, and a display of 19th century ladies' magazines. Call the IRW (201) 932-9072 for registration details.

## Felicity Nussbaum on Campus as Rockefeller Fellow



Photograph taken by Dennis Collins

Dr. Felicity Nussbaum of Syracuse University has been in residence at the IRW this term as a Rockefeller Humanist-in-Residence Fellow at Rutgers. Nussbaum, a professor of English literature, is completing a manuscript, "*Rethinking 18th Century Autobiography: Gendered Subjects*." It is a study of British journals, diaries, and autobiographies during the 150 years from Bunyan's *Grace Abounding* (1666) until the word "autobiography" was coined in 1809. She is considering the ways the textual representations of identity and experience in the period are diffuse and discontinuous. Her book will replace the concept of the

transhistorical "self" with the concept of the "subject" as produced by specific historical and cultural situations.

Nussbaum is examining autobiographies, including texts by Bunyan, Swift, Wesley, and Boswell, as one location of the 18th-century philosophical and religious controversies over identity in its various forms. At the same time, she is also interested in the contradictions of women's writings, especially Quaker and Methodist women, scandalous memorists, and Hester Thrale.

## Visiting Scholar



Photograph taken by Julia Jones

The Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities Program is this year sponsoring Howard University English Professor Claudia Tate as a visiting scholar at the IRW, Rutgers. Tate, who has a Ph.D. and A.M. in English and American Literature and Language from Harvard University and a A.B. from the University of Michigan, will be at Rutgers through December.

Tate is working on a book of essays which examines the literature of Afro-American women writers from Phillis Wheatley to Alice Walker and the theoretical contexts of feminism, black aesthetics, semiotics, and deconstruction. She is the author of *Black Women Writers on Work* (Continuum, 1983).

Tate can be reached through the Institute offices.



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

### Proclamation

WHEREAS, excellence in education always has been fostered by revising curricula to integrate new scholarship; and

WHEREAS, there now exists substantial scholarly work that has transformed and revitalized the traditional disciplines by critically analyzing gender differences, class, race, and ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, the integration of gender, class, race, and ethnicity into the curricula offers students the opportunity to understand women's and men's perspectives within a culturally diverse society; and

WHEREAS, people who understand the rich diversity of human experience are well equipped both to achieve their own fullest potential and also to recognize and promote equally men and women of ability; and

WHEREAS, this State supports projects to improve excellence in education for all its residents, so that this and future generations of New Jerseyans may achieve their fullest potential;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS H. KEAN, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim

1987

as

#### THE INAUGURAL YEAR FOR GENDER INTEGRATION

in New Jersey, and pledge my continued support of programs to strengthen curricula by integrating the scholarship on gender.

This Governor's Proclamation was presented to Professor Carol H. Smith, Director of the IRW and Project Director for the New Jersey Project: Integrating the Scholarship on Gender, by Chancellor of Higher Education Dr. T. Edward Hollander in February at the first major event sponsored by the New Jersey Project.

## The Mary H. Dana Women Artists Series of Douglass College



# News Exchange through the Wo/Men on the Rutgers Campuses

# NET-W-O-R-C

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY  
**RUTGERS**  
Campus at New Brunswick

Institute for Research on Women  
Voorhees Chapel  
Douglass College,  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903  
Permit #157

## Emerging Leaders

Amidst enthusiastic college-wide support, the Douglass Department of Student Life is currently conducting, for the third year, a semester-long Emerging Leaders seminar for freshmen who have leadership potential and talent. Forty-three students are participating in this year's series of programs designed to "personalize leadership," by teaching basic skills, enhancing personal strengths, instilling self-confidence, and increasing opportunities.

Freshmen candidates for the program are chosen from three sources--self-nominations, nominations from present student leaders, and faculty and staff recommendations. Participants meet each other and experience an intensive leadership and communication marathon at a Winter Retreat during the first full weekend of the spring semester. Thereafter, the group meets weekly with staff to cover a variety of topics related to leadership, including assertiveness, personal management skills, and individual leadership development strategies.

One of the most popular aspects of the program is the mentor component, in which each freshman is matched to a Douglass junior or senior who is presently a campus leader. Throughout the semester, emerging leaders and their mentors are expected

## Mary H. Dana continued

equally fitting that the 1986-87 Dana Women Artists Series includes the work of two Douglass graduates, Christine Dolinich and Pat Ralph.

The Dana Women Artists Series, now in its sixteenth year, continues to reflect the astonishing richness and vitality of the work of women artists. Of particular interest for the 1986-87 series is the inclusion of two special shows to honor Bernarda Bryson Shahn and Minna Citron, two artists whose careers have spanned the twentieth century. The Shahn and Citron exhibitions are part of the "Models of Persistence" Project. All exhibits of the Mary H. Dana Women Artists Series are free and open to the public.

## Women and U.S. Politics

Women elected to political office are often presumed to differ in standards, style, and strategies from their male counterparts, but no definitive research has either supported or refuted that belief. Now, under a three-and-a-half year grant from the Charles H. Revson Foundation, the Center for the American Woman and Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers will assess the impact of women in politics on governmental policies, processes, and institutions. Center Director Ruth Mandel and

## Future Events

**October 10, 1987: HOME, HEARTH, AND HEARTS: A CENTURY OF CHANGE**

A one-day conference to be held at the Cook College Center. Sponsored by the New Jersey Home Economics Association and the Institute for Research on Women; funded by the New Jersey Committee for the Humanities.

**October 22-23, 1987: SYMPOSIUM ON CRITICAL THEORY AND BLACK WOMEN'S LITERATURE**

To be held on the Douglass Campus and sponsored by the Institute for Research on Women, the Graduate School-New Brunswick, the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and others.

research grants of up to \$10,000 each. Grant recipients will be announced by spring 1988 and will conduct their research during the 1988-89 academic year. Meanwhile, CAWP will undertake some parallel research of its own. Carroll will direct a survey research project that will query a broad sample of male and female officeholders on the same questions being addressed in depth by the grant recipients.