

### Charlotte Bunch Named Laurie Chair



1987 JEB (Joan E. Biren)

Charlotte Bunch

Charlotte Bunch, internationally known writer and organizer, teacher and theorist, speaker and activist and leading figure in the women's movement for two decades, has been appointed the third occupant of The Blanche, Edith, and Irving Laurie New Jersey Chair in Women's Studies at Douglass College. The first woman resident Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies (Washington, D.C.), she was also a founder of *The Furies* and of *Quest: A Feminist Quarterly*. She has edited seven anthologies of feminist thought and her articles have appeared in a wide variety of publications. Her most recent book is *Passionate Politics: Feminist Theory in Action* (St. Martin's Press, 1987). Bunch is also the founder and director of Interferm Consultants, a women's consulting firm.

Bunch will conduct an interdisciplinary seminar in the spring term 1988 which will focus on global feminism and human rights. In recent years she has traveled extensively working on issues of global feminism and the United Nations Decade for Women. The seminar is envisioned as an opportunity for those working in various fields to explore feminist theory in relation to human rights in the United States and globally. It will consider how the analysis of sexual politics broadens definitions of human rights and the policy implications of looking at women's problems and perspectives in areas such as refugee status, immigration law, and aid programs. Human rights concepts, history and policies will be

examined around a number of topics including, but not limited to, violence against women and forced prostitution, militarism and sexual torture of prisoners, persecution based on sexual preference, racism and ethnic minorities, birth control and reproductive technologies.

For information contact Ferris Olin, Executive Officer of the Laurie New Jersey Chair in Women's Studies at Douglass College — 201/932-9072.

### Rockefeller Fellows



Philip Oldenburg

Veena Talwar Oldenburg

Veena Talwar Oldenburg and Carole S. Vance were welcomed this fall as the 1987-88 Rockefeller Humanist-in-Residence Fellows at Rutgers University. Both scholars will spend most of their time at the Institute for Research on Women writing books on two very diverse and significant research projects that expand the theoretical bases of women's studies and the connections between women's studies and other fields.

#### Veena Talwar Oldenburg

Veena Talwar Oldenburg recalls that a few months after she received her B.A. degree in 1965, she did what she had been "systematically socialized to do: (she) consented to an arranged marriage, which failed within the year." As a result, she was able to make plans that would have been unimaginable before: further education and possibly even a professional career.

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Allan Bérubé

Carole S. Vance

#### Carole S. Vance

Carole S. Vance remembers that when she was a graduate student selecting her topic of specialization, she was told that "sex roles" was not a legitimate scholarly topic in anthropology. She ignored this advice, writing a dissertation on women's work and family planning in the Caribbean. She went on to become a founding member, and eventually chair, of the American Anthropological Association's Committee on the Status of Women. She has also been active in many other feminist groups, both scholarly and political.

Today Carole Vance is an Associate Research Scientist at the Columbia University School of Public Health and an anthropologist who writes and teaches about gender, sexuality, and health. She holds a B.A. in Latin and Greek from Hunter College-CUNY, a Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University, and a M.P.H. in epidemiology from the Columbia University School of Public Health. Recently, she was a Visiting Professor of Women's Studies at the University of California-Berkeley.

For the past several years she has been interested in the formation of discourses, both popular and scientific, about issues which feature the intersection of gender, the body and sexuality. Her recent work includes gender ideologies in modern sexology, traditional customs of female circumcision in the Middle East and Africa, AIDS in New

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# En/gendering the Culture

## Woman as Creator/The Creator as Woman: En/gendering the Culture

is the topic of the 1987-88 "Thinking About Women Seminar Series" sponsored by the Institute for Research on Women (IRW) and the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP). Alicia Ostriker of the English department organized this seminar to bring together scholars and their research to debunk the myths about women's lack of creativity. "We have been taught," states Ostriker, "that 'women can't write; women can't paint,' as an antihero in Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* points out. Yet women have always contributed to the ongoing life of our culture, in profound and often subversive ways, even while their work has been marginalized, neglected, and misinterpreted." The series explores female creativity in the fields of art, literature and music, film and video, religion and mythmaking.

Judith K. Brodsky, of the Mason Gross School of Arts, Department of Visual Arts, gave the inaugural presentation in October, focusing on "Old Masters and Mistresses: Reconstructing the Visual Arts." In November, Joanna Frueh, performance artist and critic at the Union for Experimenting Colleges and Universities in Ohio, presented "Words of Love: A Performative Lecture." The four remaining lectures are:

### DECEMBER 3:

**"Out of the Shadow: Black Women's Fiction,"** Thulani Davis, poet, playwright, staff writer, *The Village Voice*.

### FEBRUARY 4:

**"The Nakedness of the Fathers: Women Re-Imagining Religion,"** Alicia Ostriker, Department of English, Rutgers University.

### MARCH 2:

**"Women in Music: Changing the Measure,"** Valorie Goodall, Mason Gross School of the Arts, Department of Music, and Director, Opera at Rutgers, Rutgers University; with pianist, Daphne Powell, Associate Professor Emeritus, Mason Gross School of Arts, Department of Music.

### APRIL 7:

**"Alternate Images: Women's Film/Women's Video,"** E. Ann Kaplan, Director, Humanities Institute, SUNY-Stony Brook.

Lectures are free and open to the public. They are held at 4:30 P.M. in Room 5, Lower Level, Voorhees Chapel (Douglass Campus) with the exception of the March 2nd lecture, which will be in Voorhees Chapel.

## Oldenburg (continued from pg. 1)

Oldenburg is a historian of Modern India and a member of the Asian Studies and women's history faculty at Sarah Lawrence College. A native of India, she was born in Lucknow in 1946, and attended both school and college there under the aegis of Anglican and Irish-Catholic missionaries. Oldenburg likes to point out that while these long years did not widen her mind sufficiently, they did give her a strong propensity to quote from the New Testament.

After getting a Master's Degree at the University of Lucknow, she came to the United States in 1970. A few years later she received her Ph.D. in history and anthropology from the University of Illinois at Champagne-Urbana. By then it had become patently clear to her that academia was her milieu, research and teaching her vocation, and modern Indian society and colonial history her field. Under a Smithsonian Institution fellowship she went back to India in the mid-1970s to continue her research.

As a post-doctoral Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies, she returned to India in 1980 to revise her dissertation which was published by Princeton University Press in 1984 and entitled *The Making of Colonial Lucknow*.

She is currently the Dana Faculty Fellow at Sarah Lawrence College where she teaches Asian history, anthropology, and women's studies. Two years ago she returned to India to research the custom of dowry and its impact on gender socialization and violence in urban north India in the last hundred years. This is the book she plans to write as the Rockefeller Fellow at Rutgers in 1987-88.



## Support for Women in Math and Science

The Douglass Project for Rutgers Women in Math and Science continues to provide support to young women at Rutgers-New Brunswick who want careers in math and science fields. Dr. Ellen Mappen, its director, reported that during the 1986-87 academic year the project sponsored a variety of programs, including an orientation session for entering women students, peer study groups, "hands-on" lab visits, discussion groups on issues faced by women in these fields, role model panels of women in science, and career options workshops. In 1987-88, the project will expand to include a "Big Sister" program for entering students, a Math and Science Residence House for freshmen and sophomores on the Douglass campus, and the development of a seminar

## Carole Vance (continued from pg. 1)

York City, and sexuality and public policy. She has spoken and published widely on these topics. She was the Academic Coordinator of the "Feminist and the Scholar" Conference at Barnard College in 1982 and edited the published conference papers, *Pleasure and Danger: Exploring Female Sexuality*, which won the Distinguished Book Award from the Association for Women in Psychology. She is a board member of SIECUS (Sex Information and Education Council of the United States) and a co-director of the Institute for the Study of Sex in Society and History.

As a Rockefeller Humanist-in-Residence scholar in 1987-88, she plans to write a book on the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography (the Meese Commission), which frames the contemporary discourse about pornography within the context of American culture. Vance collected data in 1985-86 by attending over 300-hours of public hearings and executive sessions on pornography, interviewing commissioners, witnesses, leaders, and members of citizen action groups, and analyzing documents, letters, and the final official report of the Meese Commission. Her analysis of the Meese Commission appeared in the August 2/9, 1987 issue of *The Nation*.

## Contributors

Many thanks to those who contributed to this issue of NETWORK:

Trish Bailey	Michelle Naples
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Sue Cobble	Blossom Primer
Phyllis Cohen	Rebecca Reynolds
Kathy Kleeman	Beryl Smith
Rebecca Lubetkin	Elizabeth Socolow
Ruth Mandel	Viola Van Jones
Ellen Mappen	Helen Weissberger

Editor: Guida West

series where upperclass students and graduate students can present and discuss their work in progress.

In addition to programming for undergraduates, the Douglass Project sponsors the Douglass Science Institute for High School Women. Last spring 85 high school students attended the first program, "Discover Yourself in Math and Science at Douglass," and during a day on campus met with math and science faculty, did lab experiments, and heard Douglass graduates talk about their careers in math and science fields. In the afternoon the students and their parents attended a session to learn more about being a college student in math and science. For information, call 201/932-9197.



## Mary I. Bunting Program

In 1958 Mary I. Bunting, Dean of Douglass College, convinced a reluctant faculty to open the doors of the college to a few part-time transfer students whose college education had been interrupted, mostly because of marriage and childrearing. Dean Bunting's program made Douglass the first women's college in the country to admit older women who wanted to earn degrees as part-time students. Old records reveal that commuting students at that time were called "the Bees" and, consequently, these new women students quickly became known as "the Mrs. Bees."

Since the Mary I. Bunting Program began almost thirty years ago, it has grown and become fully integrated as part of Douglass College. In the 1987-88 academic year, approximately 280 of the 3500 students enrolled at Douglass College are Mary Bunting students. Two out of five (about 40 percent) attend college on a part-time basis. The large majority are transfer students from in-state community colleges, who usually enter Douglass with junior-class status. Many hold A.A. degrees.

Bunting students report coming to Douglass College because of its reputation as a center for research on and services for women, but also because of the widespread recognition of the Mary I. Bunting Program itself. The women's academic performance is very high. For example, in May 1986, although they comprised a relatively small proportion of the total Douglass population (only about 8 percent), they represented 23 percent (12 out of 53) of the recipients of the Phi Beta Kappa awards in this college.

Recently, the Mary I. Bunting Program has been selected as recipient for funding new scholarships to supplement the already existing ones offered through the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. These scholarships have been donated by the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation of Princeton, the New Jersey Network of Business and Professional Women, Inc., and by David London. London established the Beatrice London Memorial Scholarship in memory of his wife, Beatrice, a Bunting student who was completing her baccalaureate requirements as a history major at the time of her death in 1985. Since Bunting women frequently are ineligible for financial aid because of their part-time status, or other regulations, scholarships are often a critical factor in helping them complete their higher education. For more information, call Helen Weissberger at 201/932-9187.

## Visiting Scholars

### Elizabeth Socolow

Elizabeth Socolow, poet and author, joined IRW as a Visiting Scholar in 1987. In reviewing her months at Rutgers, she noted how important the support of IRW was for her. "This is the first time since 1969," she stated, "that I have had an office out of my home. At that time I was mightily pregnant and climbed four flights in one of the wood-framed out-buildings that housed English department lecturers to grade papers at Yale and hold conferences with students. Yale was still all men, some of whom still blushed at being in a room alone with a very pregnant instructor. Between then and now, I have carried my office with me in a red and white canvas bag as I travelled from school to school all over the state of New Jersey as a Poet in the Schools."

In April she won the Barnard Women's Poetry Series Prize, which includes publication (in April 1988) by Beacon Press of her manuscript of poems *Laughing at Gravity: Conversations with Isaac Newton*. The poems are addressed to the seventeenth century physicist, as if he could answer back, and become the lover or the friend of the speaker.

During her stay at the IRW, Socolow prepared her award-winning book for publication and put the finishing touches on a manuscript of poems on Old Testament themes, and on an essay on adolescent poetry which she wrote for Carol Gilligan's Laurie New Jersey Chair Seminar "On the Psychology of Love" in 1986.

### Anna Maria Rivera

The IRW welcomed Anna Maria Rivera as a Visiting Research Associate for the academic year 1987-88. She is a professor at the University of Bari, Italy and has published widely on ethnology.

Anna Maria Rivera is a recipient of a LASPAU (Latin American Scholarship Program of American Universities) scholarship. As a Visiting Research Associate, she will continue her study of Italian women and their traditional beliefs and rituals about the reproductive cycle (puberty, pregnancy, childbirth and menstruation) which coexist with modern medical practices. Her research explores taboos and ritual prohibitions and prescriptions relating to menstruation; traditional ways of limiting births and birth practices; the role of midwife; and beliefs and rituals about breast-feeding. She also will explore socio-economic, family and medical factors and their impact on traditional beliefs and practices. Rivera uses predominantly data from oral testimonies and life-stories of women, mostly peasant women in rural Italy. In addition her data come from analysis of the literature of folklore, ethnology and other available recorded materials. While in the United States, she will be examining and comparing the methods and findings of American social scientists who are working in this area. Ultimately, she hopes to be able to do an anthropological analysis of women and the reproductive cycle in both preindustrial and complex societies.



## Women and the Labor Movement: Linking Scholars and Activists

As part of a long-range project bringing together feminist scholars and trade union women, the Labor Education Department of the Institute for Management and Labor Relations (IMLR) at Rutgers University, in cooperation with the Institute for Research on Women, is sponsoring a year-long series of seminars to explore issues affecting working women and the labor movement. The major goal is to further research and action in key policy areas.

The first seminar, entitled "Temporary and Part-time Work: Opportunity or Danger?", was held in September 1987 and featured various speakers.

In October the second seminar addressed the issue of "Improving the Conditions of Child Care Workers: The Limits of Sisterhood." On November 16 the topic will be "Homework: Developing a Realistic Response." Three other seminars are planned in Spring 1988: on February 18, "Organizing Private Sector Clerical Workers: Where Do We Go From Here?"; on March 14, "Pay Equity: A Critical Evaluation;" and on April 14, "Affirmative Action: Can It Make a Difference?" All are from 4-6 PM at IMLR and open to the public. For information, call Sue Cobble at 201/932-9502



## The New Jersey Project

"The New Jersey Project: Integrating the Scholarship on Gender" is the first statewide and state-funded gender integration project in the United States. Supported by Governor Kean and with funds from the New Jersey Department of Higher Education, the project's initial year's activities were a huge success. More than 375 people — presidents, academic officers, deans, chairpersons, and interested faculty — attended a one-day Administrators' Day Conference held in February at Mercer Community College. The Chancellor of Higher Education, Dr. T. Edward Hollander, opened the day by reading from a Governor's Proclamation which declared that 1987 was the year of gender integration in New Jersey.

In June eight college teams and the Global Studies Consortium (a group representing 23 state colleges and universities) attended a two-week Summer Institute led by scholars who presented new scholarship on gender, race, class and ethnicity and its implications for various disciplines. Participants learned how to revise course syllabi and develop new courses to integrate the new research. They also established networks across their disciplines and campuses. Finally, on November 13 a conference brought together faculty and administrators from across the state to share and exchange experiences with gender integration projects on their campuses.

Dr. Constance Murray, on leave from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, is the Department of Higher Education's Faculty Fellow, and this year's Project Coordinator. Dr. Judith Johnston, who served in this capacity during the project's first year, has returned to Rider College. Dr. Carol Smith is the New Jersey Project's Director and Ferris Olin is its Associate Director. For information, call 201/932-9072.

## Women's Rights Litigation Clinic

The Women's Rights Litigation Clinic of the Rutgers University Law School in Newark reports that it is involved in three major areas this academic year. The "Women and the Law" Seminar is focusing specifically on the problem of gender bias in law schools, rather than the broader issue of sex discrimination in the law. It examines current efforts to uncover bias in the standard curriculum and explores the "gender climate" in and out of the classroom. For example, does the media's portrayal of law schools, such as in *The Paper Chase*, silence women? Do prospective employers of law school graduates denigrate women's rights work? How similar

## Guida West Joins IRW

Guida West joined the Institute for Research on Women on July 1, 1987 as its Special Projects Administrator. She is responsible for creating and implementing new projects relating to women, including public policy education, and assisting Carol Smith, the Director of IRW, and Ferris Olin, Executive Officer of IRW, with existing programs. She is the current editor of *NETWORK*.

West has been at Rutgers since 1974 when she was appointed to the faculty of the Women's Studies Program within the University Extension Division. As Coordinator of Continuing Education for Women, she developed a variety of educational projects for women, worked to establish the Rutgers Women's Center and the Institute for Research on Women, and with a federal grant helped to found the Training Institute for Sex Desegregation of the Public Schools (now funded as the Consortium for Educational Equity) at Rutgers.

After receiving her Ph.D., West also taught for several years in the sociology department at Rutgers, specializing in public policy issues. She was one of the founders of the New Jersey Displaced Homemakers Network, the New Jersey Teenage Pregnancy Network, and various groups working on the issues of women, race and poverty. Her first book, *NWRO: The Social Protest of Poor Women* (Praeger, 1981), analyzed the rise and fall of the welfare rights movement. She is currently working on its sequel which explores what happened to the women leaders of this movement. She has just co-edited a book with Rhoda Lois Blumberg entitled *Women and Social Protest*.



are the problems faced by women in law school to those of women in other professional schools and education in general?

The Women's Rights Litigation Clinic also provides opportunities for second and third year students to work in a wide variety of legal projects: the case of all-male clubs at Princeton University; the "Baby M" case; the challenge to New Jersey's physical performance test for selection of police officers; the hearings on state disability and parental leave legislation; and on reproductive choice.

Finally, the Clinic is continuing its project on Reproductive Laws for the

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## Berlin Feminists Host Douglass Alumnae

Thanks to international feminist networks, Douglass alumnae Lucy Baruch '84 and Trish Bailey '87 traveled to Berlin this summer, joining 248 other young Americans in "Youth Bridge 1987." The two-week program was organized by Partnership of Parliaments (POP), a German-American Council of Legislators, to better US-German relations and show off the city during its 750th anniversary.

The Berliner Frauenbund (BFB), a German women's organization, collaborated with POP and women in the United States to ensure that feminist issues were addressed during "Youth Bridge 1987." The BFB has its roots in the German women's movement of the last century, dissolving between 1933 and 1945 to avoid being co-opted by the Nazi's national women's organization. In addition to POP-arranged activities, the fifteen BFB-sponsored delegates toured a variety of women's projects.

Reflecting on her trip, Trish commented, "I found renewed energy in the women's activity in Berlin to continue the struggle in the U.S. Their endeavors are evidence that the women's movement is very much alive on a global level."

For Lucy, "The highlight of my stay was spending time with members of my

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## Douglass Advisory Services for Women

The Douglass Advisory Services for Women (DASW) provides counseling in education, employment, career development, and legal and personal problems for women in the New Brunswick area and from across the state. Its current director, Dr. Viola Van Jones, who is also Assistant to the Dean of Douglass College, stated that DASW has expanded its programs on Black women's history, teachers in transition and women in business. Last year it ran a highly successful "Women in Trades" conference, focusing on non-traditional job opportunities for women, especially in technological fields. As a member of the Central Jersey Job Developers Association (CJDDA), the DASW is working closely with other organizations to examine state policy on welfare reform, especially its new educational, training, and employment opportunities for economically disadvantaged women. Volunteers are needed and welcomed in all areas. Call 201/932-9603/9274.



# Consortium for Educational Equity

The Consortium for Educational Equity at Rutgers University, which specializes in gender equity, continues to expand its programs and services in school districts in New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to eliminate sex bias and discrimination in education. It is now working in partnership with Columbia University's program in national origin equity and New York University's program in race equity.

Its Resource Center now consists of more than 10,000 pieces (including Spanish-language materials), many available for loan for a small fee. Its multimedia project called *Futures Unlimited*, designed to attract students into mathematics and science, won national awards in 1986.

This year the Consortium is offering five nationally acclaimed programs: (1)

*Family Math* to increase student enthusiasm and parent support for math that includes teachers, students, and parents; (2) *Science Teams* to improve science skills and to promote positive gender and race relations; (3) *Mathematics in Art/Art in Mathematics* to improve students' ability to understand abstract mathematical concepts, using various means, including paintings and sculpture and Native American and African Art; (4) *Women of Worth Celebration*, a writing competition to stimulate interest of students in discovering the contributions of New York and New Jersey women; and, (5) a *Sexual Harassment Conference* for educators to help identify and eliminate sexual harassment and abuse in the schools. For information contact Rebecca L. Lubetkin, Executive Director, at 201/932-2071.

# N. J. Women Artists Slide Registry

The New Jersey Women Artists Slide Registry at Rutgers University Art Library will soon be available to students, scholars and anyone interested in a little known treasure of New Jersey — the women artists who live and work here. Begun in 1973 by Lynn Miller, the registry was a natural spinoff of the highly successful Women Artists Series. Its purpose was, and is, to compile information about women artists living and/or working in New Jersey and to make it accessible to all interested groups. No distinction is made between art and craft, but all work must be original.

The slide registry is an on-going project with new artists and slides being added continuously, and files are updated periodically. A guide directory of all registered artists will be printed, thus creating a Women Artists' Network. Artists may register by submitting three slides appropriately labeled and documented. Plans are also underway to reinstitute a group show of New Jersey women artists. For information, contact Beryl Smith, Art Librarian, at 201/932-7739.

**Douglas Alumnae** (continued from pg. 4) host family. Suzanne Seeland, my host mother, has been active in the current wave of Germany's feminist movement for the past two decades, and her daughter, Alexandra, a student at the Free University in Berlin, is very involved in their Women's Studies program. We had an endless amount to talk about and I feel confident that the dialogue has just begun."

Trish and Lucy would be happy to talk more about their trip and meet with others interested in furthering a US-German women's bridge. They can be reached at 201/932-9384.

**Litigation Clinic** (continued from pg.4) 1990's. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Research on Women, the goal this year is to complete and distribute the Briefing Handbook for Advocacy Groups and to prepare the Forum Proceedings for publication (Humana Press).

The project has also run conferences and workshops on reproductive technology and gender equality, reproductive hazards in the workplace, surrogacy, and legislative measures to safeguard against interference with reproductive choice. Nadine Taub, director of the Women Rights Litigation Clinic, appealed to NETWORK readers to help identify research on reproductive technologies and gender for a data bank. Taub urged colleagues to share any information as soon as possible. For information and survey form, call 201/648-5637.

## In Brief...

- **Blossom Primer**, Director of the Newark Women's Studies Program at Rutgers University, is offering "Women in Music" during the Spring 1988 semester.
- **Cheryl Wall**, professor of English, organized a two-part conference at Rutgers in October on Black women's literature, with **Paule Marshall** as its opening speaker.
- **Gwyn Kirk**, of the Greenham Common Women's Peace Movement, spoke in October on "Greenham Women: Direct Action and the Law" followed by the first public showing of **Peter Wiesner's** video documentary "The Greenham Challenge: Bringing Missiles to Trial."
- **Eva Nordland**, feminist scholar, peace activist, and professor at the Institute for Educational Research, University of Oslo in Norway, spoke in September on her proposal to promote and reward social responsibility among young people.
- **Mary Hartman**, Dean of Douglass College, and **Ruth Mandel**, Director of CAWP, attended two meetings in 1987 in San Francisco and in Washington D.C., continuing their work on women and leadership in a global context.
- **Jinx Melia**, a professor of management at UCLA and Georgetown University, spoke on "Why Jenny Can't Lead: Understanding the Male Dominant System" at the Voorhees Assembly in October.
- **Sonia Johnson** addressed the Voorhees Assembly on "Feminism: The Centerpiece of the Puzzle." She is a leading feminist on the critical role of women in the transformation of our planet.
- **Susan Sontag**, author of *Illness as Metaphor*, was the keynote speaker at the Fall conference on "Cancer and the Workplace: Strategies for Support and Survival," organized by **Dr. Lillian Robbins** of the psychology department in Newark.
- **Kathy Kleeman**, of the Center for the American Woman in Politics, reports that this Fall CAWP organized the largest meeting of elected women ever held — the 1987 Forum for Women State Legislators.
- **Mark Killingsworth** and **Anne Hill**, of the economics department held a colloquium in October on comparable worth.

SAVE THIS DATE — MARCH 12, 1988  
5th ANNUAL GRADUATE WOMEN'S  
STUDIES CONFERENCE  
DOUGLASS CAMPUS — RUTGERS UNIVERSITY  
A forum of graduate student papers  
in feminist scholarship  
Call — 201/932-9331.