Fall 1999

Networker 1999 Fall Issue

Commission for Women

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Recommended Citation

During the month of September, see at Martin, was honored during floor display case to share in a collection of Dr. Perry's memorabilia that represents a distinguished career in service to higher education.

1999 UTK Notable Woman Award

Dr. Margaret Perry, Chancellor (retired) of the University of Tennessee at Martin, was honored during Charter Day, September 9, 1999. During the month of September, please visit the Hodges Library first floor display case to share in a collection of Dr. Perry's memorabilia that represents a distinguished career in service to higher education.

Quantity or Quality? Publication Patterns of Women in Science

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) has published a glossy report titled "Beyond Bio 101: The Transformation of Undergraduate Biology Education." It was worth reading and alerted me to work by two professors who have studied women in science that might be of interest to readers of the Networker. From the report (p.71), "Paying attention to social differences may lead to even deeper changes. Many women and minority students, for instance, prefer cooperative forms of learning in class, as opposed to the competitive atmosphere of many traditional classes. And as more women become faculty members, other long-standing habits may fall. For example, as Harvard professors Gerald Holton and Gerhard Sonnert... more citations than the men's - that is, 24.4 versus 14.4 (p=0.0337). Such a gender difference was also found by Scott Long, in a larger sample in one subfield of biology. With all due caution about the use and abuse of citations in the literature, at the very least one can say that in toto the women's papers, on average, had greater visibility, and one may infer, were found to be of value to the field."

- Ann Viera

AG-VET MED Library

The Science Citation, Social Sciences Citation, and Arts & Humanities Citation Index are available in the Hodges Library Reference Room and online (wos.isisglobalnet.com). They can also be located by going to the databases menu, and looking for Web of Science under the multi-disciplinary category. Web of Science includes Social Sciences and Arts & Humanities and is available back to 1989 on the web. Faculty using it to assess the impact of their work and who have been publishing prior to 1989 will need to look at the paper version or request a search from their librarian.

For more on assessing faculty research at UTK see Objective 5: Monitor research outcomes, productivity, and impact, rather than only input (funding) from the "Research & Creative Achievement at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Self-Study" (www.ra.utk.edu/ora/selfstudy.html). For more information on Web of Science, please consult a reference librarian or contact me (4-9015 or annviera@utk.edu)

Special thank yous to Sandra Leach and Mary Ann Handel for their helpful comments on earlier drafts of this article. - A.V.
1999 Women of Achievement Award

Dr. Norma Cook, associate professor of special programs, for improving the status of women on campus, including active participation in the adoption of the Family and Medical Leave policy.

Ms. Rosa Emory-Thomas, wellness coordinator, Student Health Services, for advancing women's concerns as the first health educator on campus.

Welcome to Fall Semester, 1999! As we close this century, we applaud the work carried out by the diligent members of the UTK Commission for Women. Founded in 1972, the Commission acts as advocates for women faculty, staff, and students and serves as an advisory committee to the Chancellor. We look forward to another exciting year of work in promoting a climate of encouragement for women on this campus.

- Dr. Kimberly Gwinn, Chair & Ms. Sandy C. Walker, Vice-Chair

The Commission is related administratively to the Office of Diversity Resources and Educational Services, and includes standing and special committees:

Standing Committees
Chair's Advisory Committee works closely with the chair of the CFW on issues relating to the work of the Commission.

Communications Committee is responsible for communicating Commission information to the campus community through the Networker, web site, and listserv.

Work and Family Committee began as a committee devoted to Child Care issues, but has broadened its area of concerns to include issues related to eldercare and family concerns which impact employees of the University.

Equity Issues Committee concerns itself with all issues relative to gender equity including, but not limited to, salary, sexual harassment, professional opportunities, and the general climate for women at the University.

Safety Committee works closely with the Office of Student Affairs and the SGA to identify and remedy safety problems on campus. The annual Safety Walk sponsored by the SGA is a specific event to target areas of safety concern on campus.

Special Committees
Angie Warren Perkins Award, Notable UTK Women, Women of Achievement, and YWCA Tribute to Women Committees each identifies and either selects or nominates outstanding women for these awards.

Career Development Committee concerns itself with issues relating to professional development at all levels.

Nomination Committee identifies and nominates women to serve as officers of the UTK Commission for Women and counts the ballots when elections are held.

Non-Tenure Track and Part-Time Employee Committee addresses the concerns of part-time faculty and staff.

Outstanding UT Women Data Bank Project, suggested in 1997, works to identify women who should be recognized, and might be nominated for awards which increase the recognition of the work of women at UTK.

Visibility Committee is concerned with raising the visibility of the work of the Commission and issues which affect the climate for women on campus.

The 1998 CFW Committee Final Reports are available online: www.admin.utk.edu/~cfw. Click on "Committees" and follow the links to final reports.

kudos!

women in the tech-know

CONNECT with the CFW

Visit the CFW Website
Point your web browser to: www.admin.utk.edu/~cfw

Join the Women Speak Listserv
Compose an email to: listserv@listserv.utk.edu
Type this message: subscribe wmspeak your first name then your lastname

Example:
subscribe wmspeak Jane Doe

mark your calendar

9/16: "The Sexual Politics of Meat" (lecture/slideshow). Carol Adams, an eco-feminist and author, has been working within the fields of violence against women/children and vegetarianism/animal advocacy for over twenty years. 7:30 PM, UC Shiloh Room.

9/29: Joan Cronan, UTK Women's Athletics Director, with Surprise Guest. 7:30 PM, UC Auditorium.

10/5: Her Café: "Women and Law" (informal discussion). 6 PM, 301 UC.

10/7: "Roman Treasures from Britain." Catherine Johns, Department of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities, British Museum, London. 7:30 p.m., McClung Museum Auditorium.

10/11: Her Café: "It's Elementary" (movie/discussion). In celebration of National Coming Out Week, this film shows what happens when teachers lead class discussions addressing anti-gay prejudice. 6 PM, UC Crest Room.

10/14: Betty DeGeneres, celebrated mother of Ellen DeGeneres and Human Rights Campaign National Coming Out spokesperson. 8 PM, UC Auditorium.
kudos!

1999 Angie Warren Perkins Award

Monique Anderson, director, undergraduate programs, College of Business Administration, for providing a role model for female students and making a difference in their lives as did Angie Warren Perkins, volunteer dean of women who improved the status of females at UT a century ago.

from the field

MIT Gender Study Results in Changes

One of the most important studies to come out of higher education in 1999 was not from a typical source, but from the women faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The document, "A Study on the Status of Women Faculty in Science at MIT," was the result of a five-year process in which female faculty collected evidence "that their male peers had received a disproportionate share of laboratory space and resources for research," according to Dr. Nancy Hopkins, one of the study's authors.

Following the release of the report and front-page articles in such newspapers as the New York Times and Boston Globe, the School of Science dean acknowledged the inequities and took action to improve the situation. Writing in the June 11, 1999 Chronicle of Higher Education, Hopkins recounted the events and progress since. The report resulted in the establishment of the Committee on Women Faculty in the School of Science, which concluded that the documented discrimination was primarily the result of subtle and unconscious actions.

Major actions taken to redress inequities included distribution of discretionary funds for research, increased laboratory space, renovations of lab space, and increases in female representation on committees. Hopkins wrote that the climate for women at MIT improved rapidly. Female faculty who were considering leaving the institution decided to stay. Some described a renewed dedication to their profession and increased individual funding acquisition as a result.

Much of the success of the MIT study was due to the attention given to collecting unbiased, scientific data as evidence. The comparisons clearly demonstrated gender bias, according to MIT President Dr. Charles Vest. Although there are still some remaining problems, Hopkins is encouraged by the progress made in such a short time. "I wonder now if there could be a better place for a social revolution to begin than at an institution of science and learning," she wrote.

- Nancy Howell, Ed.D.
Assistant Director, Assessment
College of Veterinary Medicine

utk women's center

301 University Center, 974-1029
http://web.utk.edu/~wcc

Over 100 new additions are now available in the Women's Center library collection. Categories include: Art; Activism; Biography; Communication & Media; Cross Cultural Studies; Ecofeminism; Economics & Consumerism; Education, Employment & Career; Feminist Philosophy & Theory; Fiction; Humor; Jobs and Business; Language & Sexism; Politics, Law, & Legal; Lesbian, Gay, & Transgender Issues; Men; Psychology; Sexuality; Spirituality & Religion; Society & General Culture; Violence Against Women; Women Poets; Women's Athletics; Women's Health, Marriage, Family, Childcare, & Parenting; Women's Herstory; and Women's Movement.

ideas to share?

Your ideas for additional Website or future Networker features are important to us. Please submit your suggestions via the discussion forum (http://www.admin.utk.edu/~cfw) or forward an email to the CFW Communications Committee in care of Dr. Claudia Milstead (cmilstead@utk.edu) or Dr. Julie Little (jklittle@utk.edu).

kudos!

UT Faculty Named National Veterinary Teacher of the Year

A member of the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine faculty has received the highest veterinary teaching award in the nation. Dr. Sharon Patton, a professor in the Department of Comparative Medicine, was awarded the 1999 Carl J. Norden Award during the American Veterinary Medical Association's annual convention July 11. The national award designates Patton as the "Teacher of the Year" in veterinary medicine. Patton has also been elected vice-president of the American Society of Parasitologists and will become president in 2001.
Schriver and Dr. Linda Francisco are also working on the history. History Committee members are researching library materials, the Daily Beacon, and back files of the CFW. They also plan to interview key people, such as Ms. Lida Barrett, chair of the 1971-1972 UTK Chancellor's Task Force on Women that led to the creation of the CFW.

Tentative plans for distribution of the finished history include present and future CFW members, UTK administrators, and UTK Libraries and Archives. Ms. Cheryn Picquet, UT Law Librarian, has agreed to help the committee find a permanent repository for CFW back files.

**a special thanks...**

... to Nancy Howell, Nancy McGlasson, Claudia Milstead, and Latha Reddy - members of the CFW Communications Committee in addition to Ann Viera and Amy Webb for their contributions to this issue of the Networker.

—Julie Little, Convener

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The Networker is published two times each year by the Commission for Women. Comments and suggestions may be forwarded to the Communications Committee in care of Dr. Julie Little: jklittle@utk.edu or 423.974.9450.

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