No Longer in Exile: The Legacy and Future of Gender Studies at the New School recordings, 2010 Mar 26-27
NS.07.02.05

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit
April 26, 2017
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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Collection Overview

Repository New School Collections

Creator - Speaker Abelson, Elaine S.

Creator - Speaker Alexander-Floyd, Nikol G., (Nikol Gertrude)

Creator - Speaker Assis, Marianna

Creator - Speaker Buckley, Cheryl, 1956-

Creator - Speaker Bustamante, Ximena

Creator - Speaker Crews, Chris

Creator - Speaker Cvetkovich, Ann, 1957-
Davenport-Ramirez, Keisha
Detwiler, Katie
Dill, Bonnie Thornton
Dimond, Jon
Eichhorn, Kate, 1971-
Ellsworth, Elizabeth Anne
Estep-Armstrong, Chelsea
Eugene Lang College.
Exposito, Suzanne
Faludi, Susan
Fernández-Campos, Silvia
Fraser, Nancy
Georgis, Dina
Gordon, Neil, 1958-
Halberstam, Judith, 1961-
Hawkesworth, M. E., 1952-
Heathcott, Joseph, 1968-
Irwin, Randi
No Longer in Exile: The Legacy and Future of Gender Studies at the New School recordings

**Title**: No Longer in Exile: The Legacy and Future of Gender Studies at the New School recordings

**Date**: 2010 Mar 26-27
Extent
27.1 gb: 10 Mini-DV tape cassettes, 10 optical disks

Language of Materials
All recordings in English.

Summary
_No Longer in Exile: The Legacy and Future of Gender Studies at the New School_ was a two-day conference held in 2010 in celebration of the re-establishment of a gender studies program at The New School university. Faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate-level students and invited guest speakers discussed topics relevant to the discipline's past, present and future. This collection consists of the video files recorded during the conference.

Preferred Citation note
[Identification of item], [date], No Longer in Exile: The Legacy and Future of Gender Studies at the New School recordings, NS.07.02.05, New School Archives, The New School, New York, New York.

Historical Note
_No Longer in Exile: The Legacy and Future of Gender Studies at the New School_ was a two-day conference held at The New School's Theresa Lang Center, located on the second floor of 55 West 13th Street, New York. According to a university-hosted web page devoted to the conference (no longer online as of 23 August 2016), "To celebrate the return of a Gender Studies program The New School hosted distinguished visitors from all over the world. Students and faculty explored this interdisciplinary field's history, its changing boundaries, and its current cutting edge."

Sponsors of the conference were: Office of the Provost, University Student Senate, Eugene Lang College Dean’s Office, Eugene Lang College Special Projects, Eugene Lang College Student Union, Gender Studies Inquiry Group, Parsons School of Design's School of Art and Design History and Theory, Parsons School of Design's School of Constructed Environments, Parsons School of Design's School of Design Strategies, the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Archives, the New School for Social Research, the New School for General Studies, and the Milano Office of the Dean.

Gender Studies has had an uneven and complicated history at The New School. Courses on gender were first taught at Eugene Lang College when that division was established in 1986. “Gender and Knowledge” was one of twelve concentrations available to undergraduate students. By the early 1990s, these twelve concentrations were reduced to six due to the college’s small faculty.
“Gender and Knowledge” did not survive the consolidation. Instead a “Cultural Studies” concentration included tracks in media, race and gender. Over time these tracks merged and the gender track became narrower. “Feminist Inquiry,” the founding undergraduate course in gender studies, disappeared from the curriculum. According to Associate Professor Ann Snitow in an oral history interview (transcript page 27), the development of media studies was at the expense of gender studies.

Despite the decline and disappearance of gender studies at the undergraduate level, a master’s program was developed at The New School in response to student demand. The MA in Gender Studies and Feminist Theory was first taught in 1993. Rayna Rapp, an anthropology professor at the New School for Social Research (at that time known as the Graduate Faculty), served as director. The MA program was short lived--the New School’s administration closed the program in Spring 1997. According to Snitow (transcript page 30), the administration used the "Mobilization for Real Diversity, Democracy, and Economic Justice" as a justification for closing the MA program prematurely. The Mobilization followed the denial of tenure to Jacqui Alexander – a gender studies professor of color at Eugene Lang College. It culminated in a hunger strike, which lasted nineteen days and involved students taking the Provost and Vice President hostage for five hours. The protesters were made up of students from many ethnic backgrounds as well as the LGBTQI community.

In 2003, informal discussions began between engaged faculty to develop a gender studies minor at the undergraduate level. According to Snitow (transcript page 48), it was a deliberate decision by those involved to develop a minor rather than a major because gender studies is, by its nature interdisciplinary. It was considered important to train students in a traditional field (like anthropology, sociology or philosophy) but give them intellectual access to gender-related topics. By 2006, the proposal went through the committee process at The New School and passed state accreditation in 2009. The minor in gender studies was launched in 2010 at the No Longer in Exile: The Legacy and Future of Gender Studies at the New School conference.

The first director of the gender studies minor was Ann Snitow from 2009 through Fall 2012. There was no director in Spring 2013. Miriam Ticktin was director during the 2013-2014 academic year, the last year comprehensively documented in these records (there is a single folder from an event held in 2016).

As of February 2017, it remains a thriving program and the model for interdisciplinary minors at Eugene Lang College. Its current director is Margot Bouman. In addition to Bouman, full-time faculty members are Ann Snitow, Miriam Ticktin and Terri Gordon.

References


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Collection consists solely of digital media containing audio and video documentation from the two-day conference. Formats consist of ten Mini-DV tapes and one set of ten optical discs (DVD-Rs).

**Organization and Arrangement**

Arranged in chronological order by date and time of recording.

**Administrative Information**

**Publication Information**

New School Collections February 23, 2017

**Access Restrictions**

Collection is open for research use. Researchers must use access files uploaded to the New School Archives Digital Collections site (SEE Other finding aids note).

**Use Restrictions**

To publish files from this collection, permission must be obtained in writing from the New School Archives and Special Collections. Please contact: archivist@newschool.edu.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Transferred from the New School Libraries to the New School Archives and Special Collections, 2014.

**Existence and Location of Copies note**

Recordings of this event are also available on the Web through the New School's YouTube channel as of February 2017.

**Related Materials**

The New School Gender Studies minor program records (NS.02.24.02) in the New School Archives contain documentation on the conference, including the contents of a scrapbook dedicated to the event. Additionally, the Ann Snitow faculty records (NS.02.08.01) document the work of one of the conference's primary organizers and speakers.

Documentation on an exhibition sponsored by the Kellen Design Archives and held in a room adjoining the conference will be found in the New School Archives and Special Collections records (NS.08.03.01),
Exhibitions series. The student-curated exhibition, *Inspiring Women*, focused on female designers and educators associated with Parsons School of Design.

**Keywords for Searching Related Subjects**

**Genre(s)**
- DVDs
- Mini-DV.

**Other Finding Aids note**

**Collection Inventory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The State of the Art: Gender Studies</td>
<td>2010 Mar 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender Studies: What Histories Do We Want to Claim?</td>
<td>2010 Mar 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Studies and Body Politics: Intersections, Directions, Representations</td>
<td>2010 Mar 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front Lines and Boundary Lines: Reports from a Developing Field</td>
<td>2010 Mar 27</td>
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