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Women's Research Institute of Nevada Newsletter

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The Women's **RESEARCH INSTITUTE** **O F N E V A D A**

Improving the lives of women in our state through research and education

August 29, 2001

The four of us who staff the Women's Research Institute of Nevada have had a busy year and participated in several *very* exciting projects. I want to take this opportunity to tell you about our progress and give you *dates to save* for this fall!

- Forum on Technology Enhancement for Women and Girls

On August 17, WRIN hosted a one-day forum at the request of the U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau, Region IX to assess the progress and needs of Nevada's workforce. The Women's Bureau invited us to bring together employers, educators, and the public sector to assess what is being done and what needs to be done to ensure that women and girls are prepared to enter the technology workforce of the 21st century. The

proceedings of the forum will be the basis of a report to the bureau. Caryll Dziedziak, Assistant Director of WRIN, spearheaded this effort. We are pleased to note that we had great university, corporate and community support with co-sponsorship from Bechtel Nevada, Nevada Power, Bechtel SAIC, UNLV Office of the Provost and College of Liberal Arts.

- Fall Reception: Las Vegas Women's Oral Histories, *Save the date: October 17, 3-5 pm, at UNLV's Tam Alumni Center.*

Our opening reception last fall introduced us to the larger Las Vegas community. This fall we continue to recognize the women who have made our communities great. Our Annual Reception will be held

on Wednesday, October 17, 2001, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Tam Alumni Center. This year, we will present the completed oral histories developed by the Las Vegas Women Oral History Project.

- NEW Leadership

In June, Venicia Considine (History, graduate assistant) and I took part in the National Education for Women's Leadership program at the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University in New Jersey. The program cultivates civic engagement in college women by connecting them with women working at all levels of politics.

It was an energizing and exhausting week, engaging in discussions, debates, mentoring, and networking. We would like to develop this exciting program at UNLV and help to build similar leadership skills in Nevada's young women.

- Status of Women and Girls in the State

The Nevada Women's Fund contacted Joanne Goodwin, Director, to collaborate on this groundbreaking study. The Nevada Women's Fund contracted with UNLV's Center for Business and Economic Research to determine the source of data

for a list of approximately 150 indicators of women's health, education, social welfare, employment in the state. The second phase of the research will run through December 2001 and collect the data so that it may be analyzed for the

report. WRIN is very happy to be involved with the Nevada Women's Fund on this project that will

produce a lasting impact on the well being of Nevada's citizens.

▪ Authors' Book Parties

This fall we continue to celebrate the intellectual achievements of our affiliated faculty by throwing a party! In November, *Boundaries Between: The Southern Paiutes, 1776-1995* written by UNLV Anthropology professor Martha Knack will be released by the University of Nebraska Press. Professor Knack has written several works on the indigenous people of the Great Basin. This study, her third book, has been called "a landmark achievement in the field of ethnohistory." Dr. Knack will make brief comments about the book.

The public may think of professors as teachers; however, for many of us, publication of our research is at the heart of what we do, how we teach, and what we love about our work. Last spring, WRIN celebrated the publication of *Absence and Presence* by Spanish professor Catherine Bellver. The response was terrific and we have received support from Congresswoman Shelley Berkley to continue. We anticipate the release of Professor Barbara Cloud's book in the winter. Let us know of other books by affiliates.

▪ Faculty Affiliate Booklet

WRIN is developing a research database of faculty whose research or professional interests address gender. This summer, Megan Wilson (graduate student in Sociology), designed the database so that we can use it for a number of purposes. First, on that list is a booklet about our affiliates to be


produced in 2001-2002. Eventually we hope to enlarge the database to include all system faculty and link it to our website. We believe this will create a valuable research tool and facilitate joint research projects.

We believe that this work contributes a vital resource to the people of Nevada. It provides research and projects not undertaken by any other group. We want to ensure the gains of one generation pass onto the next as we work to improve opportunities for women and girls in the state.

We are absolutely sincere when we say it could not be done without your support. Your commitment to us with your financial support enables us to continue these projects. Please take a moment to send a contribution today.

I thank you and look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Sincerely,


Joanne Goodwin
Director