

# Women's Words

Strength in Diversity - Spring 2004

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## CSW '03 Minutes

**Commission on the Status of Women, AEJMC**

**Business Meeting Minutes**

**Kansas City**

**August, 2003**

The meeting was called to order by second year co-chair Annette Samuels.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the 2002 business meeting were approved. The board also will accept proposed amendments to the minutes by members who did not attend the meeting.

### **OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Second-Year Co-Chair Annette Samuels said she enjoyed representing CSW in 2002. Individuals presented their reports as follows:

First-Year Co-Chair Erika Engstrom reported that the awards went well. She indicated there was \$1,200 in the CSW account. The awards only have a monetary prize if the account has enough money to collect interest. Annual dues stand at \$7.

Vice-Chair Julie Andsager reported PF&R went well. CSW donated half of a chip to the new Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual & Transgender Interest Group. Immediate Past Co-Chair Kate Pierce encouraged CSW to contribute to the formation of the new group. Julie welcomed the members to submit program ideas for next year.

Research Chair Linda Aldoory said 33 papers were submitted and 19 were accepted, showing an acceptance rate of 58 percent for 2003. She said there was a good mix of submissions.

Recorder Michelle McCoy invited members to review this year's minutes in the newsletter in case of discrepancies.

Erika Engstrom reported that she expected a hard-copy edition of the newsletter would be available to members this year. Submissions were encouraged.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Immediate Past Co-Chair Kate Pierce explained that the bylaws needed to be amended; however, there was no 30-day notice submitted prior to the meeting. She suggested CSW suspend the bylaws until next year's convention. Changes needed to be made regarding the resource committee, the first-year co-chair, the immediate-past co-chair and the research chair. Inclusions must be filed 30 days prior to next year's meeting. A motion to suspend the bylaws was accepted.

## **New Business**

The mentoring session for next year's Wild Women was introduced.

Members expressed an interest in having some connection to mentors now instead of waiting until next year.

Member Ann Colbert offered to form a ListServ for women who need support now. Julie Andsager mentioned the idea about having a mentoring award in the future.

Member Radhika Parameswaran suggested sending a CSW representative to the graduate students' interest group next year to recruit new CSW members.

Member Kitty Endres would like to do a silent auction before next year's Wild Women to raise money for CSW.

Annette Samuels announced this year's award recipients. Complete details are in the CSW report.

## **Nomination and Election of New CSW Officers**

Immediate Past Co-Chair -- Annette Samuels  
First-Year Co-Chair – Erika Engstrom  
Second-Year Co-Chair – Julie Andsager  
Vice Chair – Brenda Wrigley  
Research Chair – Teresa Mastin  
Recorder – Michelle McCoy  
Newsletter Editor – Maria Marron

A motion to accept the nominations of the officers was accepted.

## **Other Business**

Once again, members were encouraged to submit panel ideas for next year. Annette Samuels moved to adjourn the meeting.

## Dr. Mary Gardner: A Woman of Many Firsts

-- An appreciation by Dr. Carole Eberly, Central Michigan University

Dr. Mary Gardner, the first woman president of AEJMC, died Jan. 22, 2004, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

She had many firsts in her life. She was the first woman to earn a doctorate in communication at the University of Minnesota and the first woman to earn tenure and rank as a professor of journalism at Michigan State University. And, when there was a ruckus going on involving women's issues, you could usually find her in its midst. Only one example was her drive to get university officials to make public the salaries of male and female faculty members at MSU.

"Ha," she would say later. "We women all knew what would be revealed."

She was also the first woman to give me a good kick in the pants after almost a decade of "mooching" -- as she called it -- her lunch at MSU. We had offices across the hall from each other, and almost daily I would pick over her brown bag offerings and we would yak away, solving all the problems of the world.

But I knew nothing of Dr. Gardner when I joined the MSU faculty in the 1980s -- other than she was a real hard! When, as a master's student, I had taken her Women and the Media course, one I was to teach when she retired, she made me work like crazy -- and I loved it. I am proud to say I got a 4.0 in her class, something of a rarity I was to discover. She instilled in me the importance of knowing the history of women who worked in journalism and opened the doors for women today.

I was working as a full-time temporary faculty member in 1992, teaching magazine classes, when I asked her about my crazy idea -- to pursue a doctorate in American Studies at the age of 49. (This was at one of her broccoli, cheese and tiny cracker lunches in her office.)

"How long will it take you?" she asked.

"About five years," I replied. "I have to keep teaching fulltime to support my daughter (I was a single parent). I really don't think it's worth it. I don't know if I have the energy. I am happy in my present position."

I had a dozen excuses.

"Well," she said, standing up and looking much taller than her 5 feet 2 inches.

"In five years, do you want to be 54 without a PhD or 54 with one? Just get out there and do it."

And so I took my orders from the Marine drill sergeant.

At her funeral, Marines read the Marine prayer. I thought of Dr. Gardner throughout . . . particularly the part about living your life honestly and as an example to others.

Right now I am working on a book about American women journalists from Colonial times onward. Every time I come across a brilliant and brave woman, I think of Dr. Gardner and thank her for being such a good friend, confidante and mentor.

## Contributions Welcome

The Commission on the Status of Women sponsors the Mary Gardner Award for Graduate Student Research, which funds research projects on women in journalism and mass communication. If you would like to contribute to this award, please contact AEJMC Headquarters at [AEJMCHQ@aol.com](mailto:AEJMCHQ@aol.com).

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## Call for 2004 CSW Awards Nominations

**The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication  
Commission on the Status of Women  
Call for Nominations  
2004 CSW Awards  
DEADLINE IS MAY 3, 2004**

### **Call for Mary Gardner Award for Graduate Student Research**

Graduate students who conduct research on women in journalism and mass communication are invited to apply for the Mary Gardner Award. This award is designed to fund research that has the potential to make an excellent contribution to the scholarship on women and journalism and mass communication. The award honors Mary Gardner, professor emeritus at Michigan State University and the first woman elected president of AEJMC. Applicants should send four copies of a three-to-five page description of the project and its potential contribution and the application's qualifications for undertaking the project. A three-person panel will judge the applications.

### **Call for Mary Ann Yodelis Smith Award for Feminist Scholarship**

Applications are invited for the Mary Ann Yodelis Smith (MAYS) Award which funds feminist scholarship that has the potential to make significant contributions to the literature of gender and media. First presented in 1995, it honors Mary Ann Yodelis Smith, a past president of AEJMC and long-time advocate for women in the academy. Applicants should send four copies of a five-to-seven page description of the project and its potential contribution to the scholarship on gender and the media and a brief one-page description of the applicant's qualifications for undertaking the project. A three-person panel including a past recipient of the award will judge applications.

### **Call for Donna Allen Award for Feminist Advocacy**

The Donna Allen Award recognizes feminist advocacy by a woman or group. This award honors Donna Allen, founder of the Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press in Washington, D.C. Submissions should demonstrate how the nominee's feminist media activism promotes the rights and freedoms of women and minorities across the world. Nominees need not be AEJMC members.

### **Call for Outstanding Woman in Journalism and Mass Communication Education**

This award honors a woman who has represented women well through excellence and high standards. Nomination letters must detail that individual's contributions to journalism and mass communication education.

**Deadline is May 3, 2004  
Send nomination letters and materials to  
Erika Engstrom  
Box 455007  
UNLV, 4505 Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV 89154-5007**

**Direct inquiries to [engstrom@ccmail.nevada.edu](mailto:engstrom@ccmail.nevada.edu).**

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## CSW Explores Motherhood, Women's Movements and Leadership

CSW is sponsoring special programs you'll want to be sure to attend at this year's national convention. The programs are:

1. A Mini-Plenary Session titled "Motherhood and Tenure in the Academy"

This promises to be a lively discussion of the hurdles, joys and complications motherhood can bring to those in the academy. Whether you are contemplating motherhood, already a parent, or looking to support colleagues who are parents, this session will provide a great forum.

Michelle McCoy, Kent State University, JMC, Stark Campus, will moderate. The panelists are:

- **Stacey Kanihan**: "Tenure Track or Mommy Track: A False Dichotomy"
  - **Carolyn Bronstein**: "Not Just Child's Play: The Leadership Role for Universities in Maternity Leave and Child Care"
  - **Alison Plessinger**: "Navigating Maternity Leave: How to Avoid the Pitfalls," and
  - **Lisa Paulin**: "Sacrifice, Shortcomings, or Superwoman: Making Decisions While Balancing Motherhood and Graduate School."
2. A panel titled "Women Redefining Leadership" explores the challenges women face in advancing to leadership positions in business and the academy. What fresh perspectives do women bring to leadership? Are women really that different from men when it comes to leadership qualities and potential? This panel will open up the discussion on this important issue.

Kitty Endres, University of Akron, will moderate. The panelists are:

- **Jannette Dates**, AEJMC president and dean of the School of Communications, Howard University
  - **Terry Hynes**, dean of the College of Journalism and Communications, University of Florida, and past president of ASJMC and AEJMC
  - **Julia Spiker**, assistant dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, the University of Akron, and
  - **Yvonne Whitmore**, assistant professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Kent State University.
3. A panel co-sponsored with the History Division and titled "Women's Work: The Influences of Ideas in Women's Movements" will be moderated by historian **Karla K. Gower** of the University of Alabama. Panelists and their topics include:
    - **Barbara M. Freeman**, Carleton University, Ottawa: "News of Women: International Influences and Canadian Journalists"
    - **Maurine H. Beasley**, University of Maryland, College Park: "Marie Souvestre and the Influence of French Social Thought on Eleanor Roosevelt"
    - **Danna L. Walker**, University of Maryland University College, Adelphi: "History of the Women's Media Reform Movement—Global Outreach," and
    - **Vanessa D. Murphree**, Loyola University, New Orleans: "Propagandist and Social Reformer: Margaret Sanger and Her Worldwide Fight for Birth Control."

Look for these exciting sessions on this year's AEJMC Conference Program and plan to attend and support CSW's programming!

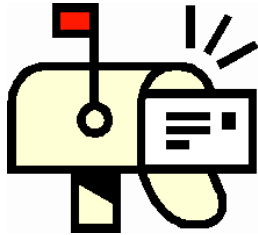
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## Items Needed for CSW Silent Auction

At our business meeting in Kansas City, CSW decided to hold a silent auction at our Wild Women session/reception in Toronto. We need your donated items to raise money toward our award accounts. What can you donate? Well, anything you think other CSW members and attendees would covet! We're already gathering signed books by women authors. Any item you can donate and is carry-able would be greatly appreciated. Remember, all donations are tax-deductible! Contact Erika Engstrom at [engstrom@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:engstrom@unlv.nevada.edu). Thanks to Kitty Endres for suggesting the silent auction!

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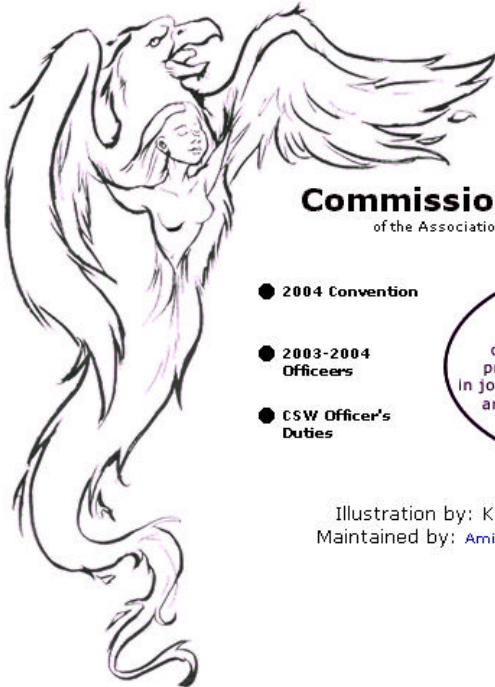


**Send us your e-mail address!**

CSW is compiling a listserv and we need your e-mail address for important announcements. If you'd like to be on our e-mail list, please e-mail us at [engstrom@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:engstrom@unlv.nevada.edu)

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**Visit the CSW website at**  
[www.unlv.edu/orgs/cswaejmc](http://www.unlv.edu/orgs/cswaejmc)



## Commission on the Status of Women

of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

- 2004 Convention
- 2003-2004 Officers
- CSW Officer's Duties

**Welcome**

The Commission on the Status of Women encourages research and programming on the status of women in journalism and communication education and seeks to balance inequities in the academic community.

- Women's Words Newsletter
- Call for CSW Awards
- AEJMC Website

Illustration by: Kari Fry  
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This site is sponsored by  
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CSW Officers, 2003-2004

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**CSW Resource Committee**

The Commission's Resource Committee helps people with tenure/promotion/ administration issues by mentoring them about decisions to file actionable grievances and how to begin the legal process, if necessary. For more information, or to get advice about these issues, contact Linda Steiner at [lsteiner@scils.rutgers.edu](mailto:lsteiner@scils.rutgers.edu)

