



IGU

International Geographical Union

COMMISSION ON GENDER

No. 19

November 1997

GENDER COMMISSION SPONSORS TWO CONFERENCES

In collaboration with other organizations, the IGU Gender Commission sponsored conferences in Singapore and in the United States this year. The first, entitled "Women in the Asia-Pacific Region: Persons, Powers and Politics" was held 11-13 August, organised by a highly efficient and talented team from the Geography Department, Southeast Asian Studies Program and Centre for Advanced Studies at the National University of Singapore - in particular, **Peggy Teo, Shirlena Huang, Brenda Yeoh, Henry Yeung, Lysa Hong, Jessie Poon and T.C. Chang**. There were almost 150 participants, with more than 90 papers presented by geographers and other social scientists, by people from the humanities, and by development activists. **Janet Momsen** (University of California, Davis), former Commission Chair, delivered one of the two keynote addresses "Different places, different voices? Or who sets the agenda?," with the other being delivered by Professor Susan Okin (Stanford University) on "Feminism and Multiculturalism: Some Tensions."

Though most participants live in the region, numerous people came from North America and Europe. Sessions focused on southeast Asian regional issues of gender, on negotiating gender identities, gender dimensions of the law and law enforcement, gender politics and resistance imagery, gender issues associated with health, sustainable development, labour markets and workplaces. Many topics and discussions allowed development of questions of gender and human rights - our Commission's central theme of interest at present - as they are interpreted and distinguished in this diverse region.

New friendships were made and old ones renewed over the delicious snacks, lunches and the Conference dinner at an Indian restaurant. Most of the papers were published in a beautifully produced volume of Proceedings available at the conference and from the conference organisers. It is hoped that some papers may soon be published in an edited book. The conference committee is to be congratulated and is certainly warmly thanked for their excellent work in organising the conference, and hosting us all in Singapore. (Report submitted by Ruth Fincher and Janet Momsen)

From October 24-26, the Conference "Gender, Tourism, Fun?" was organized for the Commission by **Janet Momsen and Margaret Swain** in collaboration with the IGU Commission on Sustainable Tourism; the International Sociological Association RC50 on International Tourism; the University of California Davis Gender and Global Issues Program, Davis Humanities Institute, and UC Pacific Rim. Over 50 people attended from as far afield as Finland, New Zealand, Australia, Bulgaria, Iceland, the UK, Spain, the Netherlands, and the US.

Papers addressed social and cultural as well as economic and policy issues, focusing not only on diverse content themes but also addressing methodological alternatives. Speakers dealt with the perspectives of the "toured" as well as the tourists, with the aspects of the sexual components of tourism being central to a number of papers. Particularly pleasing was the participation by a number of graduate students, the interdisciplinary dialogue, and the

opportunity for extended discussions of related work. We appreciate the efforts of the organizers for an imaginative and well executed program.

LISBON MEETING - AUGUST, 1998

The next IGU Regional Meeting is scheduled to be held in Lisbon, August 30-September 2, 1998. The Gender Commission is planning a two-day pre-conference program on August 27-29 for which **Isabel Margarida Andre** will serve as local organizer. Commission member **Eleonore Kofman** is taking the lead in planning paper sessions for the pre-conference around the Commission's basic theme for 1996-2000, Gender and Human Rights. Within this rubric we seek papers on gender, citizenship, and human rights; women's local spaces and human rights; gender, international migration, and diasporas; and gender and colonialism. Submit abstracts of 150 words to **Eleonore Kofman**, Department of International Studies, Nottingham Trent University, Clifton Land, Nottingham NG11 8NS United Kingdom. FAX 44-115-948-6385; email <ins3kofmae@ntu.ac.uk> by March 15, 1998.

The theme for the Regional Meeting is "The Atlantic: Past, Present, and Future." Of the sub-themes planned for the Regional Meeting, the most compatible with gender research are Theme 1: The Atlantic: sea routes and meeting places of different cultures; and Theme 3: Inter-regional conflicts and cooperation in the Atlantic. Papers outside the suggested themes can be proposed and organized in special sessions. The Gender Commission is contemplating proposing sessions on "Women in the New Europe," depending on submissions on this topic. If you are interested in Theme 1 or 3 above, or in "Women in the New Europe," please contact **Janice Monk** by February 1, 1998 at SIROW, Communication 108, P.O. Box 2100125, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, 85721; fax 520-621-1533; email : <jmonk@u.arizona.edu>. For information on registration and hotels contact <igu@astrolabio.pt> or **Viagens Astrolabio**, Rua de Xabregas, Lote A, Sala 266, 1900 Lisbon, FAX 351-1-861-0051. General information on the Regional Meeting is available from **Professora Carminda Cavaco**, Centro de Estudos Geograficos, Faculdade de Letras, Alameda da Universidade, 1699 Lisboa Codex, Portugal. FAX 351-793-8690; email <ceg@mail.telepac.pt>.

1999 CONFERENCE BEING ORGANIZED FOR COMMISSION IN NEW ZEALAND

Plans are being firmed up for a regional conference of the Commission in Otago, New Zealand in February, 1999. A team of women from across New Zealand will collaborate in the planning of the event which is likely to be held in Dunedin, at the University of Otago. Details will be announced in forthcoming newsletters, or may be obtained from **Ruth Liepins**, rl@perth.otago.ac.nz; fax 64-3-479-9037.

Migration and Gender: Place, Time and People Specific (538pp) edited by **Joan Fairhurst**, **Ingrid Booyesen**, and **Phillip Hattingh** presents 34 papers given at the conference organized by the IGU Commission on Gender and Geography and Commission on Population Geography in Pretoria in 1995. This collection includes papers on Western and Eastern Europe, North and South America. Topically, papers range from studies that address policy issues, to work on specific groups such as older women to ethnic and religious minorities, domestic workers, historical work on migration and colonialism, to studies of contemporary national trends. Copies may be ordered for R90 (South Africa) or US\$25 elsewhere. Check payable to TOUDEMA, or bank transfer to TOUDEMA at First National Bank Ac No. 10 000726 72 Hatfield Branch Code 252145. Mail with payment or proof of payment to The Secretary, Migration and Gender Conference, C/- TOUDEMA, P.O. Box 13410, 0028 Hatfield, South Africa.

News from Around the World

Congratulations to **Joanna Regulska** (US/Hungary) who has been awarded the Cavalier Cross and the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland by the President of the Republic of Poland for her contributions to the development of local democracy and local government in Poland. Joanna is currently Co-director of the Gender and Culture Program, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary. She has published several items on women and political change in Poland (see "Book Chapters and Articles").

Continuing the Dutch tradition of policy-related work in feminist geography, **Lia Karstens** is serving on a National Commission appointed by the Ministry of Social Affairs in the Netherlands. It is examining daily schedules with the goal of facilitating the combination of paid work and caring work in daily life. **Joos**

Droogleever Fortuijn has written a time-geographic report for the same department.

Lisa Drummond (Australia), after spending two years in Vietnam, is writing up her research for her doctoral dissertation at Australian National University. She is studying the social implications of urban development in Ho Chi Minh City, especially the implications of rapid urbanization for agricultural suburbs. She is especially interested in government campaigns of industrialization and modernization and how local residents participate in, resist, and redirect this transformation.

Truong Thi kim Chuyen, Head, Department of Geography, National University of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, is one of the Commission's newest corresponding members. She is also head of the Women's Studies Group and has served as a consultant for UNDP. Her publications focus on women and development, women's role in waste recycling activities in Ho Chi Minh City, women in agricultural production in the Mekong Delta, and housing and living conditions of women, especially in slum neighborhoods of Ho Chi Minh City.

Routledge has published two more titles in the International Studies of Women and Place series. **Rosemary Sales** *Women Divided: Gender, Religion, and Politics in Northern Ireland* is an unusual study of this situation in that it widens the view to look at implications of the conflict for labor market inequalities; social policies and social divisions; women and politics; and women and the peace process.

Women's Lifeworlds: Women's Narratives on Shaping their Realities, edited by Edith Sizoo, is an engaging collection by women from 15 countries (Asian, African, Latin American, and European), each recounting the lives of four generations of women, usually in their own families. The authors met to reflect on their narratives, and their interpretations and those of the editor, reveal continuities and differences across time and place, as well as the ways linguistic patterns connect with meanings women give their lives.

Gudrun Olafsdottir (University of Iceland) is visiting the United States during her study leave to continue her research and writing on women's travel literature, focusing on women who wrote of their journeys to Iceland in the 19th and early 20th centuries. She is spending periods at Cornell, University of California Davis, and the University of Arizona.

Several feminist geographers from the Autonomous University of Barcelona have study periods abroad this year. **Maria Dolors Garcia-Ramon** is on leave at the Gender Studies Institute, London School of Economics; **Gemma Canoves** and **Soledad Morales** are at the University of California, Davis; **Eva Jimenez** is at El Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Tijuana, Mexico; and **Alba Caballe** recently spent several weeks at Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand.

Hema Ranasinghe of the University of Papua New Guinea has completed six months in the University of Auckland, New Zealand attached to Women's Studies as a visiting scholar. She completed a paper on "Tradition, Culture, and Oppression of Women," though her main project, as a transportation geographer, was to work on the book *Growth and Nature of Transport Development in Papua New Guinea* which will be published shortly.

Hungarian geographers **Judit Timar** and **Iren Kukorelli Szorenyi** have been collaborating with **Janet Momsen** (US) in a project "Regional Differences in Women's Entrepreneurship in Rural Hungary." carrying out field work in eastern and western regions of the country.

Brenda Yeoh, National University of Singapore, is spending her sabbatical in the School of Geography, Oxford University (UK) writing on two projects related to gender and migration, drawing on her work on foreign domestic workers in Singapore. Together with **Katie Willis**, University of Liverpool, she is working on a two-year project "Singapore Unlimited? Households, Gender and Identity in the Regionalization Process." The first stage of the research, now completed, involved 135 interviews with migrants, potential migrants, and relevant government and non-government organizations in Singapore and China.

Agnes Musyoki, Commission Vice-Chair, reports from the University of Venda, South Africa, that a master's program in Women's Studies will be offered next year, and that the University is advertizing for a professor in Gender Studies. A Gender Equity unit has also been formed to address issues on campus and in the community. It held a very successful post-Beijing workshop.

Elisabeth Buehler, University of Zurich, is conducting a research project on "Gender Inequalities in the linguistic regions of Switzerland," with support from the Swiss National Science Foundation. The project aims to develop a comparative and theoretically based understanding of the considerable differences that have

been identified in the integration of women into higher education, the labor market, and political rights between the three linguistic regions of Switzerland. It will take up constructs of the gender contract, gender order, and gender culture.

During her study leave at the Gender Studies Institute, London School of Economics, **Tovi Fenster**, University of Tel Aviv, Israel, worked on her edited volume *Gender, Human Rights, and Planning* which will shortly be published by Routledge, and obtained a contract for a second book, *Gender, Space, Culture in Planning and Development*.

Working Paper No. 35 "Situating Gender Geographies: A Bibliometrical Analysis of Geographical Academic Journals" by **Maria Dolores Garcia-Ramon** and **Alba Caballe** provides the full version of the state of the art lecture given at the 1996 International Geographical Congress. It analyzes patterns of publication of articles and book reviews on gender studies in 71 geographical journals from 23 countries, paying attention to the distribution of themes and authorship. An appendix to the paper provides a valuable bibliography of the 776 articles and 306 reviews identified, as well as tabulation of the patterns of publication by journal. Copies may be purchased for \$US7.50 from **Janice Monk**, SIROW, Communication 108, P.O. Box 210025, University of Arizona, Tucson AZ 85721. Checks payable to University of Arizona.

New Books

CAULFIELD, J. & PEAKE, L. (eds) (1996) *City Lives and City Forms: Critical Research and Canadian Urbanism*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

FAIRHURST, J., BOOYSEN, I & HATTINGH P. (eds), (1997) *Migration and Gender: Place, Time and People Specific*. Pretoria: Department of Geography, University of Pretoria.

GIBSON-GRAHAM, J.K. (1996) *The End of Capitalism (As We Knew It): A feminist critique of political economy*. Cambridge MA: Blackwell (2nd printing).

LOPEZ SPRINGFIELD, C. (ed.) (1997) *Daughters of Caliban: Caribbean Women in the Twentieth Century*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press/London: Latin America Bureau.

SALES, R. (1997) *Women Divided: Gender, Religion, and Politics in Northern Ireland*. London: Routledge.

SIZOO, E. (1997) *Women's Lifeworlds: Women's Narratives on Shaping their Realities*. London: Routledge.

WICKRAMASINGHE, A., DAS, S. & BHADRA, C.K. (eds) (1997) *Land and forestry: Women's Local Resource Based Occupations for Sustainable Survival in South Asia*. Colombo: CORRENSA (Collaborative Regional Research Network in South Asia).

WOMEN AND GEOGRAPHY STUDY GROUP (1997) *Feminist Geographies: Explorations in Diversity and Difference*. Harlow, Essex: Addison, Wesley, Longman.

Special Journal Issues

Women's Studies International Forum, 20 (3) 1997 is devoted to concepts of home. Among the ten articles are papers on women and housing, homelessness and domestic violence; the UN, women, and household labour: measuring and valuing unpaid work, and re/membering the Portuguese household in Toronto: culture, contradictions, and resistance. Geographer **Sophie Bowlby** has a co-authored piece (see below)

A special issue of *Urban Studies* will be forthcoming in 1998, edited by **Joos Droogleever Fortuijn**, **Sako Musterd**, and **Wim Ostendorf**; it will include revised versions of 12 papers originally presented at the IGC in the Hague, August 1996, several of them papers from a gender perspective.

Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies, 18 (2), 1997 is devoted to the intersections of feminisms and environmentalisms. The interdisciplinary issue includes, among others, papers on ecofeminism and environmental justice; a feminist perspective on earth observation satellites; Chicana environmental justice struggles in Los Angeles, a paper on "natural" landscapes and the wilderness plot; and environmental art.

Australian Geographical Studies 35 (1) 1997 explores cultural geography and cultural policies in Australia, and includes, among others, papers by **Kay Anderson** and **Jane Jacobs**, **Robyn Dowling**, **Kevin Dunn**, and **Mariastella Pulvirenti**.

Other Publications

Garcia-Ramon and Caballe, A. (1997) "Situating Gender Geographies: A bibliometrical analysis of geographical academic journals," IGU Commission on Gender and Geography *Working Paper* No. 35. Tucson AZ : IGU Commission on Gender and Geography.

Monk, J. (1997) *Geography*. Towson, MD: National Center for Curriculum Transformation Resources on Women, Towson University (17 pp booklet in Discipline Analysis series).

Recent Articles and Book Chapters

BAYLINA, M. & GARCIA-RAMON, M.D. (1998) "Homeworking in rural Spain. A gender approach," *European Urban and Regional Studies*, 5 (1) 55-64 (in press).

BINNIE, J. (1997) "Coming out of geography: towards a queer epistemology," *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, 15 (2) 223-.

BONDI, L. (1997) "In whose worlds?: on gender identities, knowledge, and writing practices," *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 22 (2) 245-58.

BOWLBY, S., GREGORY, S & McKIE, L. (1997) "'Doing home': patriarchy, caring, and space," *Women's Studies International Forum*, 20 (3) 1997 343-50.

CABALLE, A. (1996). "Dona i agroturisme a la Catalunya Central," *Treballs de la Societat Catalana de Geografia*, 42, 37-100.

CABALLE, A. (1996) "Dona i reestructuracio a les arees rurals: el cas de l'agroturisme a les comarques del Solsones, el Bages i el Bergueda," *Documents d'Analisi Geografica*, 30, 39-64.

CABALLE, A. (1998) "Farm tourism in Spain: a gender perspective," *Nederlandse Geografische Studies* (in press).

COOKE, T.J. (1997) "Geographic access to job opportunities and labor force participation among women and African Americans in the Greater Boston Metropolitan area," *Urban Geography*, 18 (3) 213-27.

COOPER, B. (1997) "Gender, movement, and history: social and spatial transformations in 20th century

Maradi, Nigeria," *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, 15 (2) 195- 222.

CRAVEY, A. (1997) "The politics of reproduction: households in the Mexican industrial transition," *Economic Geography*, 73 (2) 166-86.

DE OLIVER, M. (1997) "'Democratizing' consumerism? coalescing constructions of subjugation in the consumer landscape," *Gender, Place and Culture* 4 (2) 211-34.

ENGLAND, K. & STIELL, B. (1997) "'They think you're as stupid as your English is': constructing foreign domestic workers in Toronto," *Environment and Planning A*, 29 195-215.

GARCIA-RAMON, M.D., BAYLINA, M., CRUZ, J., DOMINGO, C., VILLARINO, M. & VIRUELA, R. (1996) "El trabajo industrial a domicilio en la Espana rural. Un analisis desde la perspectiva de genero," *Boletin de Estudios Geograficos*, 28 (92) 217-44 (Mendoza, Argentina).

GARCIA-RAMON, M.D. & MONK, J. (1997) "Infrequent flying: international dialogue in geography", *Journal of Geography in Higher Education*, 21 (2) 141-5.

GRAHAM, A. & REGULSKA J. (eds) 1997. "Expanding political space for women in Poland: an analysis of three communities," *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 30 (1) 1997, 65-82.

HANSON, S., KOMINIAK, T., & CARLIN, S. (1997) "Assessing the impact of location on women's labor market outcomes: a methodological exploration," *Geographical Analysis*, 29 (4) 281-97.

HUBBARD, P. (1997) "Red light districts and toleration zones: geographies of female street prostitution in England and Wales," *Area* 29 (2) 129-40.

JOHNSTON-ANUMONWO, I. (1997) "Race, gender and constrained work trips in Buffalo, NY, 1990," *Professional Geographer*, 49 (3) 306-17.

KIRBY, S. & HAY, I. (1997) "(Hetero)-sexing space: gay men and "straight" space in Adelaide, South Australia," *Professional Geographer*, 49 (3) 295-305.

Laurie, N. (1997) "Negotiating femininity: women and representation in emergency employment in Peru," *Gender, Place and Culture* 4 (2) 235-52.

---- (1997) "From work to welfare: the response of the Peruvian state to the feminization of emergency work," *Political Geography* 16 (8) 691-714.

LITTLE, J. (1997) "Constructions of rural women's voluntary work," *Gender, Place and Culture* 4 (2) 197-210.

LEE, Y-H. (1997) "Information Society and Gender," *Bulletin, Society of Women Geographers of Korea*, 3(2) Series 6.

McLAFFERTY, S. AND PRESTON, V. (1997) "Gender, race, and the determinants of commuting: New York in 1990," *Urban Geography*, 18 (3) 192-212.

MOSER, C. & PEAKE, L. (1996) "Seeing the invisible: women, gender and urban development," in Stren, R. (ed.) *Urban Research in Developing Countries 4 (Thematic Issues)* Center for Urban and Community Studies, 279-347.

MOSS, P. (1997) "Spaces of resistance, spaces of respite: franchise housekeepers keeping house in the workplace and at home," *Gender, Place and Culture* 4 (2), 179-98.

NELSON, E.S. (1996) "Males, females, and maps: evaluating spatial encoding strategies," *Cartographic Perspectives*, 25 1-18.

NOGUE, J., ALBET, A., GARCIA-RAMON, M.D., & RIUDOR, Ll. (1997) "Orientalisme, colonialisme, i genere: El Marroc sensual i fanatic d'Aurora Bertrana," *Documents d'Analisi Geografica*, 29, 87-107.

PAIN, R. (1997) "Social geographies of women's fear of crime," *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 22 (2) 231-44.

PEAKE, L. (1997) "Towards a social geography of the city: race and dimensions of urban poverty in women's lives," *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 19(3), 335-61.

PRATS, M. (1996) "El temps de la vida quotidiana de les dones a Barcelona," *Barcelona i Societat*, 5, 105-9

PRATT, G. (1997) "Stereotypes and ambivalence: the construction of domestic workers in Vancouver, British Columbia," *Gender, Place and Culture*, 4 (2) 159-78.

---- in collaboration with the Philippine Women Centre (1997) "Is this Canada? Domestic workers experiences in Vancouver, BC," 6 (1): 48pp. *Occasional Working Papers in Women's Studies and Gender Relations*,

Centre for Research in Women's Studies and Gender Relations, University of British Columbia. (\$9 Canadian).

REGULSKA, J. (1997) "The political and its meaning for women's transitional politics in Poland," in Pickles, J. and Smith, A. (eds) *Theorizing Transition: The Political Economy of Change in Central and Eastern Europe*. London/New York: Routledge.

---- (1997) "Transition to local democracy: do Polish women have a chance?" in Rueschmeyer, R. (ed.) *Struggling with the Communist Legacy*. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe (2nd printing).

ROBERTSON, I.J.M. (1997) "The role of women in social protest in the Highlands of Scotland c. 1880-1939," *Journal of Historical Geography*, 23 (2) 187-

ROSE, G. (1997) "Situating knowledges: positionality, reflexivities, and other tactics," *Progress in Human Geography*, 21 (3) 305-20.

SCHROEDER, R. (1997) "'Re-claiming' land in the Gambia: gendered property rights and environmental intervention," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 87 (3) 487- 508.

ULLUWISHEWA, R. (1997) "Rural development and its consequences for women: a case study of a development project in Sri Lanka," *Geography* 82 (355) 110-17.

WEKERLE, G. & PEAKE, L. (1996) "New social movements and women's urban activism," in Caulfield, J. and Peake, L. (eds) *City Lives and City Forms: Critical Research and Canadian Urbanism*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

WRIGHT, M. (1997) "Crossing the factory frontier: gender, place, and power in the Mexican maquiladora," *Antipode*, 29 (3) 278-302.

CYBER News

The Sexuality and Space Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers has established a listserv. To subscribe, send a message to listserv@lsv.uky.edu and in the body of the message type: `sxsgeog` (your email address) first name last name (do not include parentheses around the email address). The group has a home page: http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/balachan/sp_grps/sassg/

Recent Meetings

The Hessian Ministry for Economics, Transportation and Planning, in cooperation with the Hessian Ministry for Women, Work and Social Planning, held a workshop on November 20-21 on the theme of "Women's Views on Guidelines for New Development Projects" in Wiesbaden, Germany.

Geog. Ed. '97, at the University of Waikato, brought together geographic educators from school and university levels in New Zealand. One of three strands within the conference, "Difference" addressed issues of gender, multi and bi-cultural issues, and disability themes. **Robin Peace** was conference coordinator, and gender themes were taken up by **Janice Monk**, one of four international guests, **Lynda Johnston**, **Robyn Longhurst**, **Karen Nairn**, and **Robin Peace**.

The June, 1997 issue of *Georundbrief* focuses on the growing interest and activities in a feminist approach to physical geography and nature-ecology topics. Various conferences have taken place on this theme, include a November, 1996 meeting in Dusseldorf on "Women Design Environment and Future: Are Women Designing the Ecological City of the Future?"; a workshop May 3-4, 1997 at the Free University of Berlin on "Feminist Aspects and Perspectives in Physical Geography." The 17th meeting of Women Geographers, held June 6-8, 1997 in Bremen discussed the representation of East German women in the media, geography and power, and a view of women's life under the present hierarchical structures in India. The 51st German Geography meeting took place in Bonn, October, 6-11, and three feminist sessions were devoted to methods in social research in geography, feminist geography as a challenge to science and practice, and feminist perspectives in physical geography.

At the Society of South African Geographers second biennial conference in June/July, 1997, six gender presentations were given by faculty and students. Three presentations dealt with aspects of women work and daily lives -- by **Elizabeth van Vuuren**, **Rosina Phalatse** and **Joan Fairhurst**; **Esther Njiro's** research was on women and environment in Kenya; **Sharon Pernderis** addressed women's roles in community participation and action research in a development project; and **T.C. Dirsuwelt** spoke on women's identity and spatial relationships in South African Women's prisons.

The 7th Erasmus Course on Geography and Gender was held at the University of Amsterdam, in June,

1997. Many students attended, especially from Greece and England. The course included lectures, field observations, meeting with women's groups, discussion groups, and informal presentations by Ph.D. students.

The Institute for Australian Geographers Gender and Cultural Geography Study Groups held a joint workshop at the University of New South Wales, October 3-4, 1997. One day was devoted to papers on the theme "Margins, bodies, and third spaces," and a second was designated for an introspective and selective look at contemporary human geography.

Monica Colombara reports that a recently formed study group on gender and geography met October 1 at Universidad Nacional de Lujan for a very fruitful day-long workshop, with seven scholars attending from a variety of places including Viedma, Mar del Plata, La Pampa, Tandil, and also from Brazil. Discussions focused on themes of work, methodologies, problems, and state of the art. A bibliography was also exchanged. The Center for Women's Studies at the Universidad Nacional de Lujan has invited the group to participate in the VI Women's History Day in September, 1998. Another workshop is planned by the group for Universidad de la Plata in July, 1998. The group also aims to organize a program for the VII Encuentro Latinoamericano in Puerto Rico in March, 1999. These organizational efforts mark a new stage in the development of gender studies in geography in Latin America.

A workshop on feminist physical geography, organized by **Katharina Fleischmann** and **Ulrike Meyer-Hanschen** was held at the Free University of Berlin, in May, 1997. Attended by over 30 women, the workshop was funded by the Department of Women's Affairs, Berlin Government, and included other natural scientists as well as geographers. Among interesting aspects of the discussion were resistance to promoting theoretical and critical perspectives in physical geography since these tasks are more closely associated with human geographic work in German-language countries; and concerns of how to practice "practical" research in physical geography while attending to developing feminist theoretical work.

The second annual meeting of the Society of Women Geographers of Korea, held in November, 1997, was attended by 40 scholars, including graduate students. Three papers were presented in the first session and a panel discussion on geographic education in the second. **Dr. Sook-Hee Park**, Vice Principal of Cheonho Middle School, was elected president. Korean member of the Gender Commission, **Hae-Un Rii**, was a visiting fellow at Deakin University, Australia, in

July, giving several presentations, including one on women's studies in Korea. Volume 3, No. 2 (Series No. 6) of the *Bulletin, Society of Woman Geographers of Korea* was recently released.

Forthcoming Meetings

The IGU Gender Commission will co-sponsor four sessions at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in Boston in April 1998. These include "First World Hunger: Rights, Well-Being, Invisible Spaces and Labor," organized by **Annie Bellows**; a paper session that will draw on chapters of the forthcoming book from Routledge being edited by **Tovi Fenster**; and a panel session addressing the intersections of feminist geography and human rights geography organized by **Janice Monk**.

An International Conference on Changing Patterns of Health in Developing Countries will be held in Vadodara, India, January 21-23, 1998 sponsored by the IGU Commission on Health, Environment and Development. One of the key themes is "Health of Target Groups and Areas" including attention to women's health, maternal and child health, reproductive health, use of health care facilities by women. Further information on the conference is available from Dr. **Jayasree De**, Organizing Secretary, Department of Geography, M.S. University of Baroda, Vadodara, 390 002, Guj. India, FAX 91-265-423898; email de@msub.ernet.in

An intensive course in gender and geography under the Socrates program will be held at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, July 2-9, 1998. The course theme will be "Women and Environment: A Gender Perspective from the Global to the Local." Participating students will come from the Universities of Amsterdam, Autonomous of Barcelona, Durham, National Technical of Athens, Roskilde, and Sheffield. Depending on funds available, other participants will be included. Further information is available from **Maria Dolors Garcia-Ramon**, ilge8@cc.uab.es (after January, 1998).

"Street Noises and Urban Spaces," a two-day interdisciplinary conference, will be held at the Centre for European Studies, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia, September 25-26, 1998. Papers are sought on such themes as gender and the city; ethnicity, migration, and the city; urban sexualities; the history and development of European cities; European influences on Australian cities; cinema and the city; shopping and department stores; and other themes

suggested by presenters. Abstracts (100 words approx.) should be sent to **Brian Nelson**, Director, Center for European Studies, Monash University, Clayton, VIC 3168 Australia; FAX 61-3-9905-2137; email Brian.Nelson@arts.monash.edu.au

Sessions planned for the Institute of British Geographers/Royal Geographical Society Conference in January, 1998 at Kingston include "Mobilising Gender-Reconfiguring Place(s); "Geographies of Childrearing...children's and young people's geographies;" and "Gender and the negotiation of work practices."

"Gendered Space: Women's Choices and Constraints" is the theme for an interdisciplinary conference to be held at the University of Hull, July 14-16, 1998. Among the themes: homelessness, women and land, environmental issues, post colonial space, performance and performativity, work spaces, disabling spaces, cyberspace, divided communities, women in Europe. Abstracts of 750 words needed by February 13, 1998. Send to **Rachel Alsop**, Gender Studies, University of Hull, Hull HU6 7RX England. email R.Alsop@cas.hull.ac.uk or **Annette Fitzsimons**, Department of Social Science, University of Humberside, Hill, H16 7LU England, afitzsimons@humber.ac.uk