



PEMBROKE CENTER WILL RETURN TO ITS ROOTS IN PEMBROKE HALL



Critical goals of the project include preserving the historic character of the building, repairing the physical structure, and creating welcoming and functional spaces for the faculty, students and staff of two busy academic centers.

Exciting work has begun to refurbish and renovate Pembroke Hall. This storied building will become the new home of the Pembroke Center and the Cogut Center for the Humanities. Work is expected to be completed in 2008.

Award winning architect Toshiko Mori, P'05 has been selected to be the principal architect on the project. In addition to founding her own firm, Mori is the Robert P. Hubbard Professor in the Practice of Architecture and Chair of the Department of Architecture at Harvard

University. Mori is renowned for her beautiful, clean, contemporary lines that she integrates gracefully with more traditional structures.

Goals of the project include preserving the historic character of the building, repairing the physical structure and creating welcoming and functional spaces for faculty, students and staff of two busy academic centers. Mori also is committed to preserving the grace of the Pembroke Campus and ensuring her design honors the legacy of Pembroke College.

The firm has conducted an exhaustive survey of Pembroke Hall and has identified some structural repairs to be made. Particular attention is being paid to interior details such as fireplaces, friezes, and the beautiful top floor. As the design progresses, Mori and her associates are working with Elizabeth Weed and Michael Steinberg, directors of the Pembroke Center and the Cogut Humanities Center, respectively, along with a team of people from the Brown community.

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From the Director

It is an exciting time to be involved with the Pembroke Center, and we remain especially grateful to the Pembroke Associates who do so much to support our work.

What follows are just the highlights of a very rich and exciting year underway.

Research - In addition to the Pembroke Seminar and postdoctoral fellows discussed in the related article on page three, we have two exciting research initiatives in progress. One explores sex differentiation in young children, and is partially funded by the Ford Foundation and led by Anne Fausto-Sterling, professor of Biology and Medicine. There also is a new initiative on international politics and the woman question in the Muslim world, led by the Center's Senior Research Associate, anthropologist Rogaia Abusharaf.

Gender Studies - We are thrilled to have new leadership in the undergraduate Gender Studies concentration. English professor Tamar Katz is making great strides in expanding student and faculty participation in Gender Studies courses.

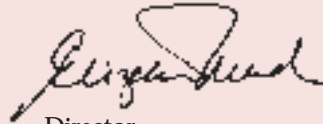
Archives - Historian Jane Lancaster is a consultant to the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archives, which preserves the history of women at Brown and in Rhode Island. The Archives also house important papers of prominent feminist theorists. (See related story on page four)

Scholarly Journal - As the editorial home of *differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies*, we are very excited about a special issue entitled "Feminist Theory / Critical Theory", guest-edited by Wendy Brown, Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley. This issue will be published in early 2006.

Associates - In April, the Pembroke Associates will inaugurate the Leadership for Change through Education Award. Marian Wright Edelman, of the Children's Defense Fund, and Sister Mary Reilly, of Rhode Island's Sophia Academy and Dorcas Place, will be our first recipients.

Thank you for your continued support.

Elizabeth Weed



Director

Continued from page 1

While conducting the survey of the building, the architects noticed something very interesting. The exterior bricks were of superior quality, but the repair to the mortar over the years was done very poorly. The original mortar was actually red, which is somewhat unusual. Repairs to the mortar over the years used white mortar, which does not match. As the exterior bricks are repointed, an appropriate red mortar will be used.

When the renovations begin, there may be a need for more bricks. The architects have removed a sample brick from the building. A restoration contractor is taking the Pembroke Hall brick to brickyards throughout the northeast. The sample brick is being compared to other available bricks to find appropriate matching bricks to be used for the project.

The Pembroke Center is thrilled that the project is moving forward to both restore the physical structure of Pembroke Hall and to honor Pembroke College's long tradition of excellence.

RESEARCHERS EXPLORE “THE LANGUAGE OF VICTIMIZATION”

Scholars at the Pembroke Center are delving into the complexities of the “The Language of Victimization,” the topic of this year’s Pembroke Research Seminar. Led by Carolyn Dean, Associate Dean of Faculty and Professor of History, the seminar explores the ways victimhood is understood and portrayed worldwide, and how those modes of understanding shape cultural responses and state policies.

The interdisciplinary seminar brings together Pembroke Center postdoctoral fellows, faculty members, affiliated visiting scholars, graduate and undergraduate students. During the year, participants attend the weekly seminar and pursue their related research projects.

This year, the Pembroke Center welcomes three accomplished postdoctoral fellows, whose research is enriching seminar discussions.



Lori Allen

Carol G. Lederer Postdoctoral Fellow

Project Title: *“A Genealogy of Suffering: Human Rights and the Holocaust in the Formation of Palestinian Nationalism”*

Allen earned her Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Chicago. While at the Pembroke Center this year, she will examine the Palestinian struggle. Noting that Palestinian political culture has been largely shaped by the language and institutions of human rights, a system that itself gelled in response to the Holocaust, Allen asks what the impact of this discourse has been on Palestinian national identity and politics.



Sharika Thiranagama

Nancy L. Buc Postdoctoral Fellow

Project Title: *“Making Traitors: The Undeserving Victim in Sri Lanka”*

Thiranagama earned her Ph.D. in social anthropology at the University of Edinburgh. During her fellowship, she will investigate the Sri Lankan conflict and displacement of Tamils and Muslims in the north of Sri Lanka. Specifically, she will explore the meaning of “traitor” in this struggle and how language defines “deserving” and “undeserving” victims. In this context, Thiranagama asks how community can be imagined concurrently as both a community of victims and a community of traitors.



Donna Trembinski

Artemis A.W. and Martha Joukowsky Postdoctoral Fellow

Project Title: *“Medieval Heroes, Modern Victims: 21st Century Perspectives on the Suffering of the Saints”*

Trembinski earned her Ph.D. in history at the University of Toronto. This year at the Pembroke Center, she will look at modern perspectives on the sufferings of medieval Christian saints. She explores how today’s perceptions of pain, suffering, and victimization affect our reading of these phenomena in historical texts. Trembinski asks whether it is possible to recover historical voices sufficiently enough to understand how medieval audiences interpreted narratives of saintly pain. Finally, she questions how the medicalization of pain has changed modern society’s perception of suffering.

PEMBROKE CENTER WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF ALUMNAE AFFAIRS



The Pembroke Center is pleased to announce that Christy Law Blanchard has accepted the position of Director of Alumnae Affairs for the Pembroke Center. Law Blanchard earned her undergraduate degree in government at Colby College and her master's degree in public relations from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. Since moving to Rhode Island, she

has served as marketing manager for Manisses Communications Group, coordinator of Friends of the Brown University Library, and director of communications for Save The Bay.

Being the first woman in her family to earn an advanced degree, Law Blanchard has a deep respect for the legacy of Pembroke College and a keen enthusiasm for the work of the Pembroke Center.

"It's an honor to work in a position that has its roots in the efforts of women gaining access to higher education in Rhode Island," she said. "I'm excited to help communicate the important work of the Pembroke Center and enlarge the Center's resources to expand the vital research underway here."

CONSULTANT HIRED FOR CHRISTINE DUNLAP FARNHAM ARCHIVES



Photo by: John Meyers

Jane Lancaster has signed on to steward the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archives and help the Pembroke Center take oral histories of important Brown alumnae. She is working this year to evaluate and expand the collections.

Lancaster is an award-winning historian who specializes in the history of women in Rhode Island, so she is well-suited to the task. She also is a visiting scholar at the Pembroke Center and a participant in the Pembroke Research Seminar. Some may recall that *Making Time*, her biography of Lillian M. Gilbreth, Ph.D.'15, was reviewed in the Pembroke Associates newsletter in August 2004.

In addition to her work with the items currently in the Archives, Lancaster is speaking with notable feminist theorists and Brown alumnae about the opportunity to donate their papers to the Archives. Lancaster also is interviewing alumnae with unique perspectives on Pembroke Hall, in anticipation of its renovation.



PEMBROKE SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE EXPLORES CHRISTIANITY AND THE RHETORIC OF PERSECUTION

Elizabeth A. Castelli, '79, Associate Professor of Religion at Barnard College at Columbia University, is the Pembroke Scholar in Residence for 2005-06. Professor Castelli is the author of a number of books, including the recent *Martyrdom and Memory: Early Christian Culture Making*, published by Columbia University Press, 2004.

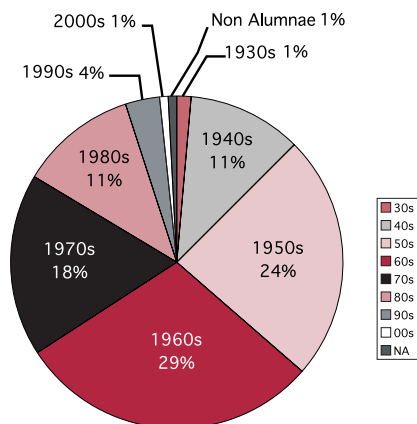
While in residence at the Pembroke Center, she will do research for a book in progress, *Persecution Complexes: Identity Politics, the Language of Victimization, and Christian Activists on the Global Stage*. The project begins with a simple empirical observation: conservative (and predominantly Protestant) Christians in the U.S. have, in the last decade, increasingly deployed the language and rhetoric of “persecution” to establish both a relationship of solidarity with Christians elsewhere in the world and a domestic political program that characterizes certain policy initiatives as “anti-Christian.” First-world (primarily U.S.) Christians establish their solidarity with third-world Christians and then capitalize on the moral authority that derives from that solidarity to reconfigure their own circumstances as an example of shared suffering. In the process, non-Christian theocracies and the American secular state are both figured as mirror images of the same thing: oppressors of Christians.

Castelli’s research explores the changing character of global Christianity; the role of religion in shaping global identities, solidarities, and political affinities across traditional national boundaries; and the intersections of religion and violence on the contemporary global stage. In addition to her research, Castelli is participating in this year’s Pembroke Seminar, “The Language of Victimization.”

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**LEADERSHIP FOR CHANGE THROUGH
 EDUCATION AWARD**

April 11, 2005

Sayles Hall, Brown University

The Pembroke Center Associates will inaugurate the Leadership for Change through Education Award this spring to recognize women who have demonstrated outstanding educational leadership. The award honors people in any field, simultaneously at both the national and the grass-roots levels, who succeed in changing lives by helping others to see the world differently and persons who help bring about change by offering new ways of thinking about problems that seem unsolvable. Accompanying the award are donations of \$5,000 to organizations to be selected by each recipient.

The award will be presented this spring to Marian Wright Edelman, President of the Children's Defense Fund in Washington, D.C., and Sister Mary Reilly, Co-Founder of Dorcas Place and Sophia Academy in Providence, Rhode Island.

If you believe your name should be on this list and it's not, we apologize! Please contact us right away so we may correct the problem. Please e-mail Christy_Law_Blanchard@brown.edu or call 401-863-3650.



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