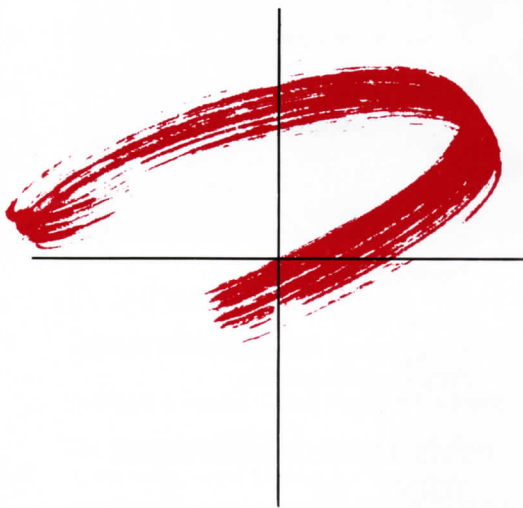


# Pembroke Center

FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH ON WOMEN  
BROWN UNIVERSITY



## 1992-93 Post-doctoral Fellowships

### Art in the Age of "Difference"

Research will look at how categories of artistic production are currently defined in the US and cross-culturally. How is "art" conceptualized in the era of "post-modernity"? What is the status of representation in visual and performance arts? What is the political economy of artistic production? What do historical studies bring to bear on these questions? What roles do categories such as gender, ethnicity, nationality, and class play in artistic production and reception?

### Post-doctoral Fellowships

Post-doctoral fellowships are available to scholars with research interests related to the annual topics. Application materials available through the Pembroke Center. Deadline: December 20, 1991.

### Affiliated Scholars

Scholars interested in the annual research topics who wish to take part in the Pembroke Seminar are invited to apply for affiliation with the Center.



## 1991-92 Pembroke Seminar

### Scientific Knowledge and "Difference"

As part of a three-year project on *Cultural Pluralism: Solution or Symptom?*, the 1991-92 Pembroke Seminar is exploring the production of scientific knowledge.

Research looks particularly at the intersection of humanistic and scientific discourses and the discontinuities between the two. What epistemological gaps are there between the humanities and the sciences? What convergences? How is scientific literacy measured? Is there a crisis in science education in the United States? How are we to evaluate the challenges to Western science currently being brought by feminists, third world scientists, and US ethnic minorities?

The 1991-92 Pembroke Seminar coincides with the centennial celebration of women at Brown University and the tenth anniversary of the Pembroke Center.

In 1897-98 the University established separate biology courses for women in hygiene and home sanitation. Science was to have a practical and immediate purpose for students of the Women's College. Ada G. Wing (Mead), shown here (last row, second from the right) with a 1900 anatomy class, was appointed instructor, then associate professor of Physiology and Sanitary Science. Wing's appointment began the long-term practice of staffing women's biology courses with female faculty.

### National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for College Teachers

"City Scenes: Cultural Production in  
Seventeenth-Century London and Paris"

For more information write:  
Professor Karen Newman  
Pembroke Center / Box 1958  
Brown University / Providence, RI 02912

## 1990–91 Cultural Literacies and “Difference”



**Mary Childers**  
English

**Project:** *Women’s Fictions about the Sex of Work: English Novels and Autobiographies, 1848–1928*

Childers’s project examines the political-economic relations of class embedded in the writings of Charlotte Bronte, Virginia Woolf, and eleven British working class women’s autobiographies over an eighty-year period. Childers looks at the relationships among class, reading, and the acquisition of self-reflective literacy. In studying the representation of working class women in middle-class narratives, she shows how the historically specific intersections of economics and narrative work to shape the needs of middle class women and occlude those of working class women, an occlusion which British feminism in many ways reinforced.

*Mary Childers is currently the Director of the Women’s Resource Center, Dartmouth College.*



**Keya Ganguly**  
Communications

**Project:** *Inventing Tradition: Inherited Knowledge and the Problem of Cultural Literacy*

Ganguly’s study explores the intersections between ethnic identity and cultural literacy. It examines the ways

in which inherited discourses of regional, caste, class, and linguistic tradition are combined with ideological constructions of Indian culture in the formation of particular literacies within a community of post-colonial Indian immigrants to the United States. It tries to examine, ethnographically, the ways contradictory discourses of literacy and cultural difference are narrativized and negotiated by children of Indian immigrants, born and raised in the US.

*Keya Ganguly is Assistant Professor in the Program in Literature and Cultural Theory at Carnegie Mellon University.*



**Katherine Williams**  
English

**Project:** *Language and Ideology in the Culture of Technology*

Williams asks how the language(s) of technology contributes to exclusion and domination by the culture of technology. The study focuses on the intersection of class, gender, and race with the languages and literacies of machine, managerial, and biological technologies; and it looks at alternative literacies outside the information-oriented model of Western scientism. Of special interest to Williams is the question of aptitude and I.Q. testing. She examines the history of such testing in the US and the ways “scientific” testing has been naturalized within the educational system.

*Katherine Williams is Assistant Professor of English at the New York Institute of Technology.*

## Visiting Scholars: 1990–91

### Ruth Burt Ekstrom Lecture

**Jill Ker Conway**  
Historian and author

### Susan Ball Lecture

**Margaret Ferguson**  
English and Comparative Literature  
University of Colorado

### Shirley Brice Heath

English  
Stanford University

### Cornel West

Religion and Afro-American Studies  
Princeton University

## Affiliated Scholars: 1990–91

### Susan Brown

Comparative Literature  
Rhode Island College

### Eleanor Doumato

Middle Eastern History  
Independent Scholar

### Joanna Gillespie

Sociology of Education  
Independent Scholar

### Elizabeth Grossman

Art and Architectural History  
Rhode Island School of Design

### Evelyn Pezzulich

English  
Bridgewater State College

### Patricia Rosenmeyer

Classics  
Yale University

### Ellie Siegel

Writing  
Hampshire College

### Eva Stehle

Classics  
University of Maryland

### Nikky Singh

Philosophy and Religion  
Colby College



Roundtable participant Martim Avillez, artist and editor with director, Karen Newman

## Pembroke Center Roundtable

### Cultural Literacies and Popular Culture

The roundtables bring visiting scholars to Brown to join Pembroke Seminar participants and interested Brown faculty in two days of critical exchange. Last year's roundtable, in connection with the year's research topic, *Cultural Literacies and 'Difference'* posed general questions about the locus of cultural literacy in contemporary culture. How does popular culture intersect with notions of cultural literacy? How do we define popular culture? Is cultural "resistance" always a question of identity formation (black, gay, etc.)? How do analyses of class and social formation intersect with readings of "resistant" cultural practices? Discussion also included such issues as the feminization of "resistance" and the reading of certain conventionally gender-marked behaviours as "resistant."

### Outside Invited Participants:

Lawrence Grossberg, *Communications University of Illinois at Urbana*

Patricia Rose, *History Williams College*

Herman Gray, *Sociology Northeastern University*

Martim Avillez, *Artist and editor*

**differences:** *A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies*

For subscriptions, write Indiana University Press, 10th and Morton Streets, Bloomington, IN 47405

Send submissions in duplicate to *differences*, Box 1958, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912

## 1891-1991: One Hundred Years of Women at Brown

The centennial celebration of women's education at Brown University will begin with a weekend conference on October 18-20 with the theme "Transcending Boundaries: Women, Power and Leadership." A University convocation on Saturday will feature President Mary Robinson of Ireland and a keynote address by Kathryn Scott Fuller '68, President of the World Wildlife Fund.

A chamber theater performance on the history of women at Pembroke and Brown will open the celebration on Friday evening. Written by Lowry Marshall, Associate Professor in the Theater, Speech and Dance Department and her research assistant Colby Moss '93, "Going a Hundred" will draw on materials from the Farnham archives at Brown, and from writings and poetry of recent and current students. This performance will also be part of the exhibit on women's higher education in Rhode Island sponsored by The Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities to close the centennial celebration in April-May 1992.

Alumnae from around the country will return to campus to participate in centennial events. The university has commissioned a new collection of essays on the history of women at Brown, entitled "The Search for Equity: Women at Brown University, 1891-1991." Denise Levertov has also been commissioned to do a book of poems in honor of the centennial which will be published by the Brown Ziggurat Press in 1991. Levertov's work is included in the University's internationally renowned Harris Collection of American Poetry and Plays.

In addition to the Pembroke Center program, Brown professors Martha Nussbaum and Mary Gluck will discuss women's participation in politics from an historical perspective, to be followed by a panel of current women politicians. Entertainment to be provided by Brown performers has been produced by Jeree Palmer Wade '83 for Saturday evening.

Other events throughout the year include an exhibit of prints and photographs focusing on women in athletics; and a series of lectures and events sponsored by Pembroke alumna Cynthia Lee Jenner '61 in honor of her mother, Nadine Newbill Jenner and her maternal grandmother, Leona Hopper Newbill. The celebration will close with a major exhibition on women's higher education funded by a grant to the Pembroke Center from the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities. Entitled "A Matter of Simple Justice: One Hundred Years of Women's Higher Education in Rhode Island, 1892-1992," the exhibit will be housed in the Annmary Brown Memorial Library on campus. Public lectures and a traveling exhibit will allow people throughout Rhode Island to take part in the celebration.

## The Pembroke Center: A Decade of Achievement

On Saturday, October 19, the Pembroke Center will celebrate its tenth anniversary as part of the weekend celebration of the centennial of women at Brown University, 1891-1991.

Founded in 1981 as a center for interdisciplinary research on gender, the Pembroke Center has sponsored thirty postdoctoral fellows who have gone on to teaching and research careers throughout the United States and abroad. This year's research topic is "Scientific Knowledge and 'Difference'." Seed money for the research program came from the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities; the center has also received funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, the New York Times Foundation, and the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities. The center is currently engaged in a three million dollar endowment campaign.

The Pembroke Center coordinates Brown's women's studies courses to enable Brown undergraduates to study gender throughout the curriculum.

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*Archivist*

## **differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies**

Naomi Schor  
Elizabeth Weed  
*Editors*

Jenny Anger  
*Editorial Assistant*

A major in women's studies was established in 1981, with the first group of concentrators graduating in 1985.

Since then seventy-four students have graduated with concentrations in women's studies.

With the University Library the center has developed the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archives, a collection of papers and materials focusing on twentieth century Brown and Rhode Island women and their organizations. The archives are a rich new resource to students and historians in the area. A five-hundred page Research Guide is available through the archives.

The first issue of *differences. A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* appeared in the winter of 1989. Affiliated with the Pembroke Center, the journal is published three times a year by Indiana University Press. Several of the journal's special theme issues will appear as well in book form through the press. *Coming to Terms; Feminism, Theory, Politics*, a collection of essays

representing Pembroke Center research activities, was published in 1989 by Routledge.

The Center's alumnae/i organization, the Pembroke Center Associates, has over five hundred members. Memberships have increased steadily since 1983. Members receive newsletters and invitations to Center events, including commencement activities. Alumnae participate in Center events by taking part in alumnae forums, taping oral histories and donating materials to the Farnham Archives.

Our anniversary celebration program will feature founding director, Joan Wallach Scott, now at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, Valentine Moghadam, a former Pembroke Fellow, now with the United Nations University in Finland, Ann duCille, Brown Ph.D. 1991, Assistant Professor of English at Wesleyan University, and students Patricia Rattray '92 and Lecia Rosenthal '92.



**Pembroke Center**  
for Teaching and Research on Women  
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