

# Pembroke Center Associates

BROWN UNIVERSITY  
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## Barbara Babcock Named Director

By Hilda Calabro '45, A.M. '50,  
Ph.D. '65

The new director of the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Barbara Babcock, professor of anthropology and of Modern Culture and Media Studies, brings a wealth of scholarship, talent and experience to us. She came to Brown from the University of Arizona where she was a professor of English and anthropology, and she holds degrees from Northwestern (B.A. with honors) and the University of Chicago where she earned both an M.A. and a Ph.D. with honors in comparative literature.

Because of her deep interest in literature and society, Babcock pursued postdoctoral work in anthropology. "That," she explained in an interview, "made me a person who resisted fitting into any conventional academic category, but got me into many exciting places and interesting areas of research which for the last decade have been centered upon women." The joy she finds in crossing boundaries and putting things together is beautifully revealed in her book *The Pueblo Storyteller* about a figurative pottery form which merges the two honored Pueblo traditions of



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storytelling and pottery making – two traditions which express and preserve Pueblo identity and values.

One of Professor Babcock's major projects in recent years has been working with Helen Cordero, a traditional Pueblo potter, to piece together the story of her life and art. This endeavor led Babcock into a many-faceted project on the role that women anthropologists, artists, and photographers have played in presenting and interpreting the native American Southwest, Professor Babcock fully realizing that much of the significant work on Pueblo people had been done by women. This research has resulted in an oral history, an award-winning videotape, and an exhibit called "Daughters of the Desert" – a survey of women anthropologists in the Southwest from 1880 to 1980 – which is now touring the museums of the United States under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution. It will open in the spring of 1990 at the Haffenreffer Museum in Bristol, Rhode Island.

At the Pembroke Center the direction of the seminar series for visiting postdoctoral scholars and Brown faculty (this year on "Gender, Race, and Ethnicity") will be an ongoing challenge. Dr. Babcock affirms that the interdisciplinary nature of the Pembroke Center, its excellent scholars, and Brown's support of things interdisciplinary were factors in her coming to Brown. She is enthusiastic about the oral history project involving Brown/Pembroke alumnae and plans to enlarge the collection of tapes in preparation for Pembroke's centennial in 1991. Not only does she favor alumnae involvement in the Center, but she also recognizes that alumnae interest is vital and anticipates alumnae cooperation in the 1987–88 new series of programs featuring women authors selected from Brown faculty, Brown alumnae, and Rhode Island residents. The purpose of these lectures is to bring the work of the authors and of the Center to a diverse audience.



Barbara Babcock, Director

Depending on the needs of the Women's Studies program, Dr. Babcock plans to develop new courses on "Women and Material Culture," "Women's Life Histories," and "Feminist Theory." She also hopes to teach courses for students in Museum Studies as well as participating herself as a research curator.

Implicitly a feminist long before explicitly being one, Barbara Babcock relates that as an undergraduate pre-medical student she rebelled against the real sexism in medical schools of the early sixties. She was thus drawn to literature and philosophy and the challenge of the world of ideas. It is fortuitous for us at Brown that this change of mind occurred, for under Professor Babcock's capable and enthusiastic direction we anticipate great happenings at the Pembroke Center.





Endowment Kick-off, April 10, 1987. (left to right) JoAnn Roth, Development Office; Mimi White, Postdoctoral Fellow 1986-87; Jack Lubrano '24; '25 AM.

## Update on Endowment Campaign

A day-long series of events on April 10, 1987, officially inaugurated the Pembroke Center Endowment Campaign to raise \$3 million. Many Pembroke alumnae attended with delight the reception in the new Center offices (the same offices which were once the home of the *Pembroke Record*, the *Brun Mael*, the Student Government Association, and the City Girls' Lounge). The day culminated in a gala dinner in the Crystal Room, complete with the first showing of a humorous look at "The Way We Were," a slide show of the history of women at Brown and Pembroke prepared by Paul Roselli of the University News Bureau and the Center staff. We hope many more of you can see the show in the future!

Marie Langlois '64, chair of the Endowment Committee, reports that as of January 1988 the campaign has raised approximately \$570,000. This amount includes a donation to fund one of the Pembroke Center Fellows each year. The Executive Committee assisting Ms. Langlois is as follows: Miven Booth '88; Nancy L. Buc '65; Ruth B. Ekstrom '53; Arlene Gorton '52; Lacy Herrmann '50; Ann Jones Mills '60; Chelsey Remington '61; Barbara Grad Robbins '55; Robert Sanchez '58; Diane Scola '59; Dorothy Williams Wells '52; Margery G. Whiteman '62; Ruth Harris Wolf '41.

## Seminar News

The Pembroke Seminar continues its lively and stimulating meetings each Thursday morning in the Crystal Room. The focus for 1987-88 is "Gender, Ethnicity and Race." A newsletter describing the year's research activities will be sent to all Associates in the near future, and so our focus on the seminar in this newsletter will be to answer a

question raised by an alumna at a recent meeting. "What happens to postdoctoral fellows when their year at the Pembroke Center is over?"

Janice Doane spent 1983-84 as a fellow working on a book, *Nostalgia and Sexual Difference: Responses to Contemporary Feminism*, examining the figure of woman in contemporary nostalgic texts. The book was co-authored with Devon Leigh Hodges and was published by Methuen in July 1987. There is no doubt in Professor Doane's mind that she would not have finished the book without her year at the Center. Her dissertation on the early works of Gertrude Stein also was published, in 1986. She is now at work on a new book on the discourse of mothering, and will contribute an article on the Baby M case to the first issue of *Differences* (see the next article). Professor Doane is a full-time faculty member at St. Mary's College, a liberal arts school outside San Francisco.

Diana Vélez, a fellow in 1984-85, is now a full-time tenured faculty member in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Iowa. Professor Vélez enthusiastically agreed to be included in this article stating that her year at the Center "changed her whole way of looking at the world." It made her "rethink things she had taken for granted." And when Joan Scott (director of the Center when Vélez was here) recently lectured at the University of Iowa, Professor Vélez felt as if "she were back with family again." Professor Vélez is also busy writing. She is editor and translator of a book, *Reclaiming Medusa: Short Stories by Contemporary Puerto Rican Women*, which is forthcoming in June 1988, as well as author of book chapters and several articles, a number of which will be published in 1988. Professor Vélez serves on the steering committee of the Women's Studies Program at Iowa, and nationally, on the Modern Language Association's Commission on the Status of Women in the Profession.

We also tried to contact Harriet Whitehead, an anthropologist and fellow in 1983-84, but getting mail to her in Kiunga, Papua New Guinea, where she will spend the next two years, and getting replies back to us in time for publication proved to be unfeasible.

We do hear from other former fellows and it was difficult to choose which ones to feature. Sometimes we see them too. Rey Chow, fellow in 1986-87 and now a faculty member at the University of Minnesota, will give a guest lecture in the seminar this February while she is on campus as a member of the selection committee for the 1988-89 Pembroke Center Fellows.

## New Pembroke Center Publications

*Differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* is a new scholarly journal which will come out of the Pembroke Center and will be published three times a year by Indiana University Press. It will feature interviews, debates, and review articles as well as essays, and will bring a sense of the Center's work to a much wider audience. The journal will bring together cultural studies and feminism and will reflect the Center's commitment to interdisciplinary and cross-cultural work. Naomi Schor, the Nancy Duke Lewis University Professor and professor of French Studies, and Elizabeth Weed, associate director of the Pembroke Center, are coeditors. The editorial board includes, among others, Joan W. Scott, Institute for Advanced Study and chair of the Pembroke Center Advisory Board; Barbara Babcock, director of the Pembroke Center; and Brown faculty members Mary Ann Doane, Neil Lazarus, Karen Newman, Ellen Rooney, Robert Scholes, Michael Silverman, and Roger Henkle. A working advisory board is composed of internationally known scholars representing a range of institutions, fields, and scholarly interests.

Scheduled for publication in the fall of 1988, the first issue has as its theme "Life and Death in Sexuality." It will look at some of our current preoccupations - reproductive technologies, surrogate motherhood, AIDS - and how these issues interact with political decisions and economic changes.

Elizabeth Weed is also the editor of another Pembroke Center publication, a book of essays to be published by Routledge (formerly Methuen) in December 1988. The book is a compilation of papers from our March 1985 conference on "Feminism, Theory, Politics" and from selected Center colloquia.

Associates will be notified when the publications are available for purchase.



## Alumnae Forum Series Continues

The Alumnae Forum series is one of the most popular programs sponsored by the Center, and it features careers in a wide variety of fields. The informal, comfortable setting of the Crystal Room encourages students to ask questions, and it is not uncommon for names and telephone numbers to be exchanged, or appointments for informational interviews to be set up. Further interaction is encouraged by inviting interested students to join the panelists for lunch at the Gate. Seven forums have been presented since the last Associates Newsletter.

For the February 1987 forum on *Performing Arts*, **Nancy Raines '81** described her career development as "taking the seed of an idea" and making it work. A history major at Brown, Nancy's love of dance brought her to New York upon graduation. One of her jobs was teaching modern dance in a downtown Manhattan church which, she noted, had a beautiful but seldom used meeting room perfect for a dance concert. Her "seed" of an idea worked and developed into Aglaia Dance Productions, recently referred to by the *New York Times* as one of the major downtown dance centers. **Jerree Wade Palmer '83** agrees that performing artists have to take many risks. She had been a singer for fifteen years, part of the time traveling around the world with the New Christy Minstrels, before she entered Brown as a Resumed Undergraduate

Education student. In May 1983, Ms. Palmer produced the first Brown commencement event geared to Afro-Americans, the very popular "Shades of the Cotton Club." This show then had a successful run in New York, has played in Italy and Monte Carlo, and still plays somewhere in this country every year during Black History month. Another of Ms. Palmer's productions was featured at the 1987 Commencement.

The April forum featured careers in three very different *health care* fields. An interest in philosophy which developed while at Brown led **Judith Brick Freedman '63** to a career in Yoga. Over the past fifteen years she has studied Yoga intensively in India and has taught and practiced privately in the New York-New Jersey area. Ms. Freedman has designed specific courses for people recovering from mastectomies and from back surgery, for multiple sclerosis patients, as well as for dancers and athletes. She gave a very successful Yoga workshop in Sayles for students and staff following the forum. **Marjorie Stenberg '54** was an undergraduate in the early fifties when Brown offered a nursing program. When, as a wife and mother, she tried to resume her education by applying to medical school, she was a victim of the climate of that era which didn't allow "older" women admission. She pursued advanced nursing degrees and is now a certified nurse epidemiologist working in infection control within hospital settings. She is also a founder and past president of Rhode Island Project AIDS. **Nina Tiglio Ruckes '73** stated that, as an undergraduate at a liberal arts

college, she could never have predicted her career path. A Sc.B. in biology, an M.P.H. in nutrition, and a certificate of registration as a dietitian led to such jobs as a researcher developing diets for, among others, diabetics and spinal chord injured; as a clinical dietitian in a hospital setting; and now as coordinator of a dietetic technician program at a community college in New Haven.

Another forum in April featured careers in *sales and marketing* and brought together three alumnae from different fields: jewelry, book publishing, and computers, **Diane Scola '59**, a former English teacher, believes that her "hands on" selling experience as a newcomer to the world of business was invaluable as she now manages the jewelry firm which she and her brother started in Rhode Island. **Ava Seave '77**, product manager for all paperbacks and hardcover books published by Dell, noted the vast changes which are taking place in the publishing industry as the result of takeovers. **Eileen Rudden '72** spoke enthusiastically about her brand new venture, Electronic Mail Products Group, a company formed to build an electronic mail software and service business for Lotus, the largest seller of computer software in the U.S.

The 1987-88 term opened with the October forum on *medicine*. **Elaine Fain '70** didn't consider going to medical school during her undergraduate years. Nevertheless, she earned a master's degree in public health and worked as an environmental health consultant, and then took her M.D. at Columbia. Now she is coordinator of medical services, Department of Medicine, Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island; clinical instructor, Brown Program in Medicine; president, American Medical Women's Association, Providence branch; and the mother of two small children. **Florence Shadlen '80**, born in Haiti, came to the United States at the age of ten knowing she wanted to pattern her life after her physician father. With a Brown M.D. degree, Dr. Shadlen is now practicing in Rhode Island at the Providence Ambulatory Health Care Facility and speaks very excitedly about her work with Southeast Asians and other immigrants. She described the negative feelings she aroused in both women and men colleagues when she became pregnant during her residency. The audience was amused as she described her attendance at a residents' meeting within a few hours of her baby's birth, as well as her later baby-sitting arrangements. (A sitter stayed at the hospital so that Ms. Shadlen could see her son during the day.) She is

*Michelle Fatibene '80 talks about M.B.A. programs with Diana Brest '88.*





now expecting her second child. **Cindy Osman '84** will eventually practice pediatrics, but first she wants to work in Washington to improve U.S. health care policies. She will receive her M.D. from Brown in spring 1988, where she has been an activist in the American Medical Students Association's Brown chapter. She had a clerkship in pediatric cardiology at the University of Minnesota Medical School and another at the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Students Association in Washington. During her months in Washington her interest and excitement grew, and she has decided to run for national president of the association this spring, with the hope of spending 1988-89 in Washington. After that she will pursue her internship and residency in pediatrics.

The audience at the *international work* forum in November was fascinated by descriptions of life in a Chinese city by one of only two foreigners in a population of 450,000. **Carol Landman '78** was among the first Americans invited to teach in China after diplomatic relations were reopened. [Readers may be interested to know that not only undergraduates attend forums. On this particular Friday, a woman from Providence whose lawyer husband is contemplating a career change came to hear Ms. Landman talk about the Committee on Legal Education Exchange with China based at Columbia University where she has recently taken a job. The woman left with names and addresses and lots of enthusiasm!] Ghana, Brazil, and Mexico have been home for **Sharon Wilkinson '68** during her career in the Foreign Service. Now living in Washington, she describes herself as one who has "gotten a whole bunch of people out of jail, saved a few lives, and calmed a lot of very nervous folks." **Elizabeth Benjamin '85** enthusiastically listed some of the possible career choices she will have upon receipt of her master's in public health from Harvard this spring. She stressed the importance of actually living and working in another country before deciding on international work. She spent one of her undergraduate years working in farming villages in India, and recently returned from a year in the Philippines where she worked for Catholic Relief Services. Incidentally, President Swearer's and Brown's growing interests in international studies were evident, for the Crystal Room was packed with over one hundred people!

In answer to students' questions, panelists at the December forum on "What You Can Do with an M.B.A." agreed that some work experience is a big advantage before pursuing the degree,

and further, that a liberal arts graduate can do as well as anybody in business school. **Jill Berkelhammer Zorn '78** worked for three years before beginning her graduate work on a part-time basis while continuing to work for the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare. With an interest in health care, Ms. Zorn was able to earn a Certificate in Health Care Management as well as her M.B.A., and is now assistant vice president for Planning at a Hartford hospital. **Michelle Fatibene '80**, having grown up in Italy, chose after graduation a job at Fleet National Bank which involved her in the international business arena. With her M.B.A. earned at Columbia in 1985, Ms. Fatibene now works at Bain and Company in Boston. Her job involves considerable travel, and she entertained students with amusing anecdotes about being a young businesswoman in parts of the world where men still monopolize the business environment. However, when queried as to the problems of being a young female M.B.A., Ms. Fatibene said, "I don't really think about it in my daily work, so I guess it's no problem." Snow prevented **Nancy Leopold '76** from flying to campus from Washington to talk about how she is combining a part-time marketing consultant job with new motherhood.

## Meet the Authors

A new series featuring women authors (see p. 1) was inaugurated in October 1987. Book signings and receptions follow the talks.

Barbara Babcock was the first author featured and the event was a wonderful way to introduce her to Brown and the local community. She discussed her book, *The Pueblo Storyteller*. The storyteller doll is a figurative pottery form which combines the two honored Pueblo traditions of storytelling and pottery making and through which identity and values are expressed and maintained.

The November program featured Margo Blum Schevill, assistant curator at the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology. Her two works, *Costume as Communication* and *Evolution in Textile Design from the Highlands of Guatemala*, explore the nonverbal communicative power of cloth and costume created by the indigenous peoples of Latin America.

Mary Ann Doane, associate professor of English, semiotics, and Modern Culture and Media, discussed her new book, *The Desire to Desire*, on February 24. Her study examines how women were depicted in the Hollywood movies of the thirties and forties, the days of the so-called "woman's movies."

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT

Dear President Swearer:

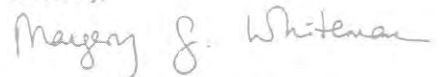
On behalf of the Pembroke Center Associates, we wish to take this opportunity to add our words of appreciation to those already expressed by many others for your outstanding achievements as president of Brown University these past eleven years.

In 1972 when Brown became coeducational and Pembroke College seemed to lose its identity, one of the suggestions from the merger report was the creation of a Pembroke "Center". It was you who brought the idea of such a center to the attention of the Brown campus in 1978. A study committee was formed, and in 1981 the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women became a reality.

In our eyes, of course, this is one of your most important legacies. But we also want to thank you for your continued support for women's studies, for the Sarah Doyle Women's Center, and for your leadership in establishing the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archives, and in appointing outstanding women scholars to the Nancy Duke Lewis Chair and other faculty and administrative positions.

We wish you success and happiness in your new career.

Sincerely,



Margery G. Whiteman '62  
Chair, Pembroke Center  
Associates Council

We also want to express our appreciation to Jan Swearer for her strong support over the years of the Pembroke Center and the Sarah Doyle Center, particularly the Sarah Doyle Gallery. We are pleased that Jan's first Providence exhibit was at the gallery, and that she agreed to serve as Chair of the Gallery Board, a group of regional women artists who oversee its operation. Under her creative leadership the gallery has helped many women artists show their work and has gained recognition in the Rhode Island art world. The two centers will very much miss Jan's involvement and support.



## Marie J. Langlois First Woman Treasurer of Brown University

*Teresa Gagnon Mellone '39, '62 A.M.*

The new Treasurer of Brown University is Marie J. Langlois, Brown A.B. 1964, Economics; Harvard M.B.A. 1967. Not only is Marie the first woman treasurer of Brown, but she is the first woman treasurer in the Ivy League. That is, indeed, a real honor and distinction, and we are very proud of her.

Marie is a senior vice president at Fleet National Bank in Providence, having been promoted to that post several years ago as the first woman to be named to such a high ranking position at that bank. In fact, she was, indeed, a real pioneer in both the local and the national financial community. She started at Fleet in a summer job directly from Harvard Business School where she was one of eleven women in a class of seven hundred, the third Harvard Business School class to admit women to its two year program.

As a senior vice president at the newly merged Fleet/Norstar Financial Group, now the twenty-fourth largest bank in the United States, Marie, a chartered financial analyst, functions in many important ways as Manager of the Personal Financial Services Department, supervising the financial planning skills of a large staff charged with handling financial portfolios of some three quarters of a billion dollars. Marie herself personally handles portfolios in excess of three hundred million dollars.

In addition, Marie is a member of the Investment Policy Committee at Fleet and also a member of the Portfolio Strategy Committee. She is a director of Davidge & Company, an investment counselling subsidiary of Fleet in Washington, D.C., and she is also a director of Venture Capital Subsidiary. Marie finds her career interesting, very challenging, and exciting. She feels that banking and financial services offer great opportunities for women who are willing to work hard and to produce results. Marie is proud of her association with Fleet which started as a small New England bank and has grown to occupy a high position in consumer finance, providing financial services rather than simply banking services.

All of Marie's accomplishments attest to the fact that she is a most articulate, shrewd, strong business woman, in short, an impeccable professional. But, that isn't all, for this same Marie Langlois pursues another full-blown career, this one on a volunteer basis, as an incredibly devoted and dedicated



*Marie J. Langlois '64*

Brown alumna whose service to her alma mater is almost immeasurable.

Marie is currently chairing the Pembroke Center's \$3 million endowment drive with her usual strong leadership and unique brand of motivation. The many ways in which she has served Brown comprise a long list and include Trustee 1980-85; Budget and Finance Committee; Investment Committee; Chairman of the Audit Committee; member of the Executive Committee of the Corporation Committee for Development; National Chairman of the Brown Annual Fund; member of the Medical Education Committee; member of the Library Committee of the Corporation Committee for Development; co-chairman of the Committee on Corporate Responsibility; Class Treasurer; Reunion Committee participant; Class Agent; Phonathon worker. Is it any wonder that Marie was honored with an Alumni Service Award in 1986 - well earned and well deserved!

Marie says she appreciates her Brown education very much and is happy to be living in Providence near the University. She finds her involvement with Brown "a most interesting and satisfying experience. There are so many wonderful people at Brown who are very dedicated and who do their jobs well."

Eva Gergora, Director of the Brown Annual Fund says, "Marie Langlois speaks with great knowledge, understanding, and authority about Brown, Brown's finances, Brown's needs - she is very effective when she does this - she is very articulate." It is well known that Marie commands the highest respect and admiration from all her fellow trustees and peers. When she speaks about investments they listen with understandable attention.

A statement by Howard R. Swearer, President of Brown, really says it well.

"There are few alumni/ae who can match Marie Langlois in devotion to Brown - as demonstrated by the number of services she has splendidly provided to the University. Whether the Brown Annual Fund, the Pembroke Center, or the Corporation, she has shown drive and leadership. She epitomizes this University President's view of the ideal alumnus/a. In recognition of her talent, experience, and many contributions, she has been selected by her fellow Corporation members to become Treasurer, one of four officers of the Corporation. But, beyond all this, it is always a personal pleasure to work with Marie."

Beyond Brown, beyond Fleet, Marie maintains a high community interest and involvement. She is an active member and a past president of the Harvard Business School Club of R.I.; past president of Home Health Services of R.I., a United Way Agency; vice president of Keep Providence Beautiful; member of the Investment Committee of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence; past president of the Providence Society of Financial Analysts; and a member of several cultural organizations.

Lest you think Marie is all work and no play, she is not. Her hobbies include tennis, skiing at local New England resorts as well as out west in Colorado and Utah, and even abroad in France. She enjoys theater, music, art, travel, reading, especially fiction, spy novels, and historical novels.

Marie lives in a big, wonderful, unusual Victorian house where she grew up on Providence's East Side. She manages rental property for her mother.

Now you know who Marie Langlois is - first woman Treasurer of Brown University and Chairwoman of the Pembroke Center Endowment Campaign. Aren't we lucky that she's one of us!



## Archives Update

by Karen Lamoree

"Are you sure you want *that*?" is the question I have most often heard from alumnae in the eighteen months since I was appointed the Farnham Archivist. As I tell skeptical alumnae that stuff you have been saving in your attic in shoeboxes and footlockers is the raw material of history, whether the history of women in Brown and Pembroke, the story of the post-graduate lives of collegiate women, or the history of women in Rhode Island. Without alumnae donations such as those described below, the history of women in the University cannot be accurately portrayed.

Donations are now of immediate importance, indeed scholars are already using the Archives to do research for the new history of women in the University, which is to be published during the 1991-92 centennial of women's admission to Brown. In addition to the book, the Archives hopes to mount for that event a major centennial exhibit and to publish an accompanying catalog. However, such an exhibit and catalog will be dependent upon funding and alumnae donations of new photographs and other materials. We are happy to report that the article in the November 1987 *Brown Alumni Monthly*, flyers in reunion packets, speeches to alumnae groups, and the diligent work of interested alumnae have resulted in some exciting donations.

Our film and photograph collection, in particular, is insufficient and we were glad to receive an 8mm film from Audrey Raiche Souza '39 taken during 1938-39, which includes clips of Freshmen Week and May Day. We hope to use this film and others transferred from Sayles Gymnasium (including films of Sophomore Masques) in a videotape documentary about Pembroke produced by Brown's Media Services Director Holly Cahow '81 and the Archives. Happily, members of 1937 have contributed the funds necessary to convert the film to videotape. Among other donations were photographs of May Day from Anna Russo Fedeli '33, Ruth Harris Wolf '41, and in the scrapbook of Zelda Fisher Gourse '36. Ruth Burt Ekstrom donated photographs taken during her Freshmen Week, including one of she and five other beanie-topped frosh on the steps of East House. (Photo in this article.) Anonymous '60 contributed her wonderful photograph album of candid shots of Pembrokers in Allinson House.

Among the richest of all materials is the scrapbook. A source of visual pleasure and chock-full of ephemera usually unavailable elsewhere, scrapbooks have been donated by the estate of Alice

Crosby Berube '04, Helen Moffitt DeJong '32, Zelda Fisher Gourse '36, June L. Samson '37, and Joan Fitzgerald Golrick '47. Several of these scrapbooks were displayed in the March 1987 exhibit "Women in Manuscript: A Democratic View" at the John Hay Library and were the source of delight to many visitors.

Materials from more recent graduates and from black and third world graduates are particularly needed. Anonymous '60 also donated her freshman year letters home to her parents. Two of those letters were displayed in the "Women in Manuscript" exhibit. Alumnae visitors were caught by one of her comments at the end of a letter detailing the agonies of freshman year, "Be sure to save this letter. Three years from now it will give me a big kick to laugh at all of the trouble I had adjusting in my Freshman year at the college from which I'll be about to graduate." Little did she know then that thirty years later researchers would use her letters to investigate student life at Pembroke!

Most of the undergraduate women's clubs are not represented in our collections and we need records from such organizations - Black sororities, Women of Brown United, and Chattertocks, to name a few.

Researchers interested in the curriculum have appreciated the notebooks for Latin 16 and Biology 1 of Avis Miller Pillsbury '20 and the IC class papers of Linda Perkins Howard '57. Frances Tompson Rutter '41 donated several papers from history and German classes.

No history of women at Brown would be complete without files from administrative offices. The staff at Sayles Gymnasium transferred the Pembroke Physical Education Department files, along with gym costumes, scrapbooks and other materials. The P.E. files are the only complete Pembroke

office files in the Archives. The Pembroke deanery files were lost en route to the University Archives in 1971, so we were especially pleased when the Sarah Doyle Center Coordinator, Beth Zwick '82 transferred files and other materials, including photographs, banners, and posters, which will help ensure that records of the Center are retained for posterity. Professor Mari Jo Buhle transferred her files from the Committee on the Status of Women and the Affirmative Action Monitoring Committee. Sophie Schaffer Blistein '41 and Ruth Harris Wolf '41 both donated materials relating to their tenure on the Corporation.

Alumnae have also donated materials created after leaving the University for our Alumnae Lives Collection. Helen DeJong '32 and Ethel Thomas '34 donated some of their publications. Ethel Thomas also donated three scrapbooks, none of which were compiled during her time at Brown. Helen Hoff Peterson '23 gave us a copy of a videotaped interview about her community work. Isabel Abbott '22 had made a provision in her will to donate her student expense ledgers, but upon conferring with her heirs, the Archives received most of her papers, including publications, travel diaries, and lecture notes from her days as a professor at Rockford College.

Class and alumnae club materials have also come into the Archives. Joan Golrick '47 donated the records of the Worcester (Massachusetts) Pembroke Club and Ellen Eaton Wilson '51 gave us the records of the Bristol County (Rhode Island) Pembroke Club. The estate of Dorothy Bennett Vaughn '20 sent us her records as class treasurer. More of these club and class materials are needed.

Rhode Island women's club materials are one of our targetted collecting areas. Ancelin Vogt Lynch '68 donated Rhode Island Women's Journal Writing Collective posters and its publication, *Journal Journal*. We have also received materials from Feminist Resources Unlimited. Veronica Owen, a friend of the Archives, donated the records of the Ladies Social Union of Greene, Rhode Island. I will be





writing a chapter on the impact of collegiate women in Rhode Island for the centennial book and hope that other Rhode Island alumnae will be as helpful as Caroline Flanders '26 in tracking down leads and reporting alumnae voluntary activities.

The oral history program is flourishing. Twenty-five Brown students are required to interview alumnae for classwork this semester and still more have volunteered. Ruth Sittler '33 and Helen Hoff Peterson '23 were interviewed recently. We need alumnae from the 1940s through the 1970s and women of color to volunteer for the program. We have also begun to interview women faculty and administrators, including Elizabeth Leduc Ph.D. '48 and Charlotte Lowney Tomas '57.

It is important to note that each alumnae donation is a first for the Archives. Although we have a full run of the *Brun Mael*, that is about our only complete set of anything! We especially need personal papers, such as diaries and correspondence; photographs and films; Pembroke and Rhode Island women's organizational records; and classwork, such as notebooks, syllabi, and papers. Every donation makes the history of women in Brown and Pembroke and twentieth century Rhode Island women that much more complete. Donations made prior to the end of 1988 will be included in the *Research Guide to the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archives*, which will make the work of students and scholars easier and inspire new research.

One of our most popular collections with visitors is our museum object and clothing collection. The value of three dimensional objects such as loving cups, basketball uniforms, buttons, and banners, lies not only in their ability to enliven exhibits, but in what they say about the culture which produced them. These pieces of material culture are not icons, but rather are windows into the past. By studying them and learning their significance we gain new insight into the history of women at Brown.

For example, remember the Pembroke physical education experience, especially those of you who groaned under the watchful eye of Bessie Rudd? Fulfilling the gym requirement was a real rite of passage at Pembroke, evidenced by the number of alumnae who saved their gym costumes. Penelope Hartland-Thunberg '40 recently gave us her P.E. sweatpants. Helen Herman Golin '42 donated two gym costumes, including her modern dance tunic. These acquisitions were added to transfers from the

## An Invitation

Sometime when you are on the Brown campus with a few minutes to spare, it would be well worth your while to stop in at the Sarah Doyle Women's Center, the wonderful old house at 185 Meeting Street soon to be surrounded by the new medical school buildings. A coordinate organization of the Pembroke Center, Sarah Doyle focusses on providing a variety of programs and resources for the Brown and local communities. Women can call to find out about child care, to get names of women lawyers in Rhode Island, or to learn if there is a particular support group in their locality. Informal Friday noon forums focus on topics of interest to the community as well as to Brown students and staff.

From September through commencement each year, the Sarah Doyle Gallery features juried art exhibits selected by a board of Brown and local women artists. The second floor of Sarah Doyle houses a periodicals room with up-to-date journals and papers plus an excellent library with the largest collection of books by and about women on the campus.

When you enter Sarah Doyle, you will see students – talking on the phone, working at the computer, chatting with colleagues, or holding meetings in the living room. Under the direction of Beth Zwick '82, Coordinator, undergraduates

Sarah Doyle Center and from Sayles Gym. The Sayles transfer included nearly thirty years of costumes from the 1920s to the 1960s, housed for twenty years in Bessie Rudd's suitcase. These costumes and the P.E. department files will be used by the scholar researching Brown women's athletics for the centennial history.

Other donations have included:

- 1923 class ring from Eileen Ostiguy '23
- 1936 commencement marshall's badge and button from Zelda Fisher Gourse '36
- T-shirt depicting 1974–75 student housing at 99 Brown Street from Melanie Stevens '77
- Charm bracelet spelling "BROWN HOMECOMING" from Ruth Burt Ekstrom '53
- Question Club pin from Polly Welts Kaufman '51
- Banners, including the 1978 "UPPITY RI WIMMIN FOR THE ERA" from the Sarah Doyle Center

manage the day-to-day operations of the Center. At the beginning of each academic year students can apply for paid positions – Library Coordinator, Publicity Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, to name a few. And others staff as their schedules permit from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. each day.

We are fortunate to have such an established resource for women at Brown. The Sarah Doyle Center is periodically visited by groups of undergraduates and administrators from other colleges and universities who are just developing centers and who see Sarah Doyle as a model for their own campuses.

## BOOK REVIEW

### Thesis Features Brown Women, 1891–1930

by Hilda Calabro '45, A.M. '50, Ph.D. '65

The meaning of the collegiate experience for women who went to Brown University around the turn of the century is clarified and vividly portrayed in Linda Eisenmann's thesis, "Women at Brown, 1891–1930: Academically Identified, but Socially Quite Distinct." As the history of the Women's College in Brown University is traced from its founding in 1891 through its change of name to Pembroke College in 1928, two parallel stories unfold. The first concerns the preoccupation with the coordinate relationship between the women's and men's undergraduate colleges. The focus of the second is on the manner in which the women of the university worked within the restrictions of that coordinate relationship to build their own college community. Encompassing both of these stories is the larger study of the character of women's higher education at a time when women's identity was anything but secure.

Although a new phase in the education of Rhode Island women had begun with the official dedication of Pembroke Hall on November 22, 1897, Eisenmann emphasizes that there was still much tension over the place of women in Brown University and that tension would continue for many years. While President Benjamin Andrews upheld coeducation, his successor, William Faunce, bitterly opposed it; he contended that women should have equal access to libraries, equal standards of admissions and examinations, equal



opportunity and degrees, "but a distinct social life organized around womenly ideals." It is interesting to find the seeds of Brown's liberal arts tradition in Faunce's preference for liberal culture as opposed to specialization in college training for women.

While there are many treatises on the education of women, Eisenmann's has the distinction of including excerpts from actual interviews in the oral history collection of the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archives of Brown University. The interviewees, students in Pembroke's early years, comment upon matters relating to curriculum, Brown professors, women deans, student communal living, social life, Brown men, and racial discrimination. Through their comments we gain insight into the meaning of their collegiate years, for they describe this precious period as a time apart from the rest of their lives. For some, the intellectual experience was only too brief. Most important, however, is the fact that while many of the students testified to the personal significance to them of having Brown opened to women, it is Eisenmann who has systematically conveyed this to us in the historical context of her thesis.

Although Dr. Eisenmann has no formal affiliation with Brown, she became interested in it through the work of Joel Perlman, one of her professors at Harvard, who has done much research on Providence and Rhode Island. Eisenmann holds a B.A. in English from Connecticut College, an M.A. in English from Georgetown University, and both an Ed.M. and Ed.D. from Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She is married, has two sons, and is at present a visiting lecturer in education at Bowdoin College, Maine.

We are pleased that Dr. Eisenmann has agreed to write a chapter, based on her dissertation, for the 1991 Pembroke Center publication commemorating one hundred years of women at Brown.

Our special thanks to Frances Tompson Rutter '41 and William Rutter for editorial assistance with the newsletter.

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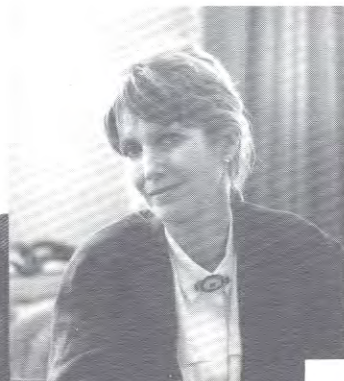
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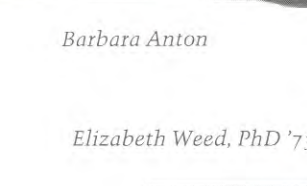
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Not pictured:

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Marianne Hirsch '70,  
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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# SPRING '88

- FEBRUARY 3-4** Pembroke Seminar: **Visiting Scholar Renato Rosaldo**, Professor of Anthropology and Mellon Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Stanford University, and Director of the Center for Chicano Research.
- FEBRUARY 5** Alumnae Forum: **Careers in Counseling and Therapy**
- FEBRUARY 24** Author lecture and book signing: **Mary Ann Doane**
- MARCH 2-3** Pembroke Seminar: **Visiting Scholar Houston Baker, Jr.**, Professor of English and Albert M. Greenfield Professor of Human Relations at the University of Pennsylvania.
- MARCH 4** Friday Forum: **Slides of a Recent Trip to South Africa: Susan Stroud**, Director of the Center for Public Service. Sponsored by Sarah Doyle Women's Center
- MARCH 8** Women's History Month Program, cosponsored with Friends of the Library: **Barbara Walzer, Revaluating Women's Books/Rediscovering a Buried Past**
- MARCH 11** Friday Forum: **Growing up Activist: The Abolitionist Girlhood of Lilly Chace Wyman**. **Elizabeth Stevens**, PhD Candidate in American Civilization. Sponsored by Sarah Doyle Women's Center.
- MARCH 17-18** Pembroke Center Roundtable: **Displaying Difference: Gender, Ethnicity and the Marketplace**
- APRIL 6** **Symposium, reception, and dinner**, cosponsored with the Rhode Island Committee for the National Museum of Women in the Arts
- APRIL 13** Annual Associates Lecture, cosponsored with Sarah Doyle Women's Center **A Dialogue on Women's Ways of Knowing**, with **Nancy Rule Goldberger**, coauthor of *Women's Ways of Knowing*; **Robin Cook Noble**, Stone Center, Wellesley College; **Jean Wu**, Brown University; **Katherine Hall**, Brown University, moderator.
- MAY 28** **Pembroke Center Commencement Forum and Reception: Sheryl Brissett Chapman '71**, Division of Child Protection, Children's Hospital National Medical Center. We look forward to welcoming back to campus Gladys Paine Johnson '13 for her 75th reunion.

We wish to acknowledge gifts from Sara I. Reichley in memory of her sister, Barbara Worley '47, from the Pembroke Afternoon Reading Group in memory of Florence Campbell '33, and from Bonnie R. Corman '64 in honor of her mother, Mrs. Bernard H. Podrat.

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