A. MISSION AND AREAS OF FOCUS

The Women’s Studies Center is a university-wide focused unit with a mission to develop and coordinate women’s studies courses and academic programs, encourage and promote research, and educate and serve the general community on women’s studies knowledge and issues. The Center administers a Bachelor of Arts degree and an academic certificate program in Women’s Studies. The Center fosters gender-equity and education on campus and in the community through lecture series, referrals, committee work, media and community presentations, and organizational coalitions.

B. ORGANIZATION, EXTERNAL TRENDS AND STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1. Organizational Issues
Advisory Board Members

a) List of Members

Irma Alonso, Professor, Economics
Pascale Becel, Associate Professor, Modern Languages
Michelle Beer, Associate Professor, Philosophy
Glenda (Rusty) Belote, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies
Kristine Burns, Assistant Professor, Music
Janet Chernela, Associate Professor, Sociology/Anthropology, BBC
Alice Clarke, Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies
Carole Damian, Associate Professor, Visual Arts
Rebecca Friedman, Assistant Professor, History, BBC
Maria A.Gomez, Assistant Professor, Modern Languages
Christine Gudorf, Professor, Religious Studies
Marilyn Hoder-Salmon, Associate Professor, English
Suzanne Koptur, Professor, Biological Sciences
Lara Kriegel, Assistant Professor, History
Mary Levitt, Professor, Psychology
Felice Lifshitz, Associate Professor, History
Sarah Mahler, Associate Professor, Sociology/Anthropology
Kathleen Martin, Associate Professor, Sociology/Anthropology
Kathleen McCormack, Associate Professor, English, BBC
Carmen Mendez, Associate Dean, Education
Betty Morrow, Professor, Sociology/Anthropology
Leslie Northup, Associate Professor, Religious Studies
Elisabeth Prügl, Associate Professor, International Relations
Joyce Peterson, Associate Dean, Arts and Sciences, BBC
Patricia Price, Assistant Professor, International Relations
Ana Roca, Professor, Modern Languages
Suzanna Rose, Director, Professor, Psychology
Meri Jane Rochelson, Associate Professor, English, BBC
Rebecca Salokar, Associate Professor, Political Science
Judith Stiehm, Professor, Political Science
Nan Van Den Bergh, Associate Professor, Social Work
Barbara Weitz, Instructor, English
Lois West, Associate Professor, Sociology/Anthropology
Margaret Wilson, Associate Director, Labor Research/Studies

Adjunct Representatives
  Ginette Ba-Curry, English
  Francine Glick, Psychology

Women’s Center Representative
  Karen Garner, Director

Student Representatives
  Haana Ali, WS and Psychology major
  Cosette Palenque, WS major
  Anita Sachariah, WS and Business major

b) Enhanced Program

The Advisory Board enhanced the Women’s Studies Center by participating in the academic development, research initiatives, and governance of the program.

2. External Trends

a) Technological Developments. The availability of internet access to students and potential students in South Florida and Latin America make it possible for Distance Learning courses to be a viable means of earning credit. The Women’s Studies Center will take advantage of this trend during 2001-2003 by putting six courses on line, allowing a student to earn a Certificate in Women’s Studies over the internet.

b) Enhanced Student Interest in Women’s Studies. As increasing numbers of students are taking Women’s Studies courses as electives in other majors and more are completing the B.A. degree at FIU and nationally. The demand for an M.A. program in Women’s Studies also is expected to increase. In response, the Center will develop a proposal for an M.A. degree program in Women’s Studies to be offered at FIU.
c) **Decreased State Support for Public Universities.** As state governments continue to decrease their financial support for public universities, the need for universities to raise private funds will increase. The Women’s Studies Center has developed an advancement strategy to cultivate private donors to support some of our future activities.

3. Strategic Directions and Areas of Emphasis

   a) **Research Initiatives.** The Women’s Studies Director in collaboration with the faculty is working to identify potential funding sources for interdisciplinary research projects based on faculty expertise.

   b) **Enrollments.** A recruitment campaign to add new courses to the curriculum (including distance courses), to attract new students to Women’s Studies courses, and to increase the number of B.A. degree earners and Certificate-earners in Women’s Studies is in place.

   c) **Graduate Programs.** The Women’s Studies Center will seek to enhance its academic and research goals by proposing both M.A. and Graduate Certificate programs in Women’s Studies.

C. 2000-2001 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Goal 1: To enhance academic excellence in Women’s Studies. (Addresses G1, GII)**

**Assessment Criteria:** Measure progress by increasing the number and variety of courses offered and increasing student enrollments and the number of B.A. degree and Certificate earners.

**Accomplishment: Measurable Outcome:** Increased course offerings by 8 courses; added 6 new courses; increased student enrollments by 353; increased B.A. degree earners by 21 students; increased Certificate earners by 14 students.

**Use of Results for Program Improvement:** Continue to expand course offerings and their relevance to students.

**Goal 2:** To implement a strategic planning process that would result in a coherent five-year plan for program development for Women’s Studies. (GII, GIV)

**Assessment Criteria:** Measure progress by producing a strategic plan for the Center.

**Accomplishment:**

- About 24 Women’s Studies faculty participated in a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) conducted by the Director. Interviews will continue during Fall 2001 with the remaining WS faculty. This will form the basis of a strategic plan to be developed Fall 2001.
Use of Results for Program Improvement: Once the long-range plan is completed improvements endorsed by the faculty will be implemented.

Goal 3: To develop links with other Centers and units that would lead to fundable collaborative projects and a donor base. (GII, GIII)

Assessment Criteria: Measure progress by increase in the number of collaborative projects and donors involved in Center activities.

Accomplishments: Engaged in 1 collaboration on a grant proposal; cosponsored 4 events with other departments; and increased scholarship endowment.

Use of Results for Program Improvement: Continue collaborative efforts that will lead to grant and donor opportunities.

Goal 4: To promote the visibility of Women’s Studies Center as a research center. (GI, GII, GV)

Assessment Criteria: Measure progress by publications in peer-reviewed journals, academic presses, performances, resolutions and presentations at national and international conferences, and editorial board grant review board membership.

Accomplishment: Faculty produced 10 articles in peer-reviewed journals; 6 (in press) articles in peer-reviewed journals; 3 books; 7 book chapters; 8 (in press) book chapters; 2 performances; 1 international resolution; 15 national conferences; and 2 international conferences. Faculty were represented on 5 editorial boards of journals and 1 grant review board.

Use of Results for Program Improvement: Shared research findings with the profession and the public.

Additional Accomplishments:

1. Participation of center’s director in 1 national and 3 local media interviews.
2. Invited addresses given by faculty at 4 international events; 7 national events/universities; and 5 local events.
3. Seven awards were received by 5 faculty.

D. 2001-2002 ANNUAL GOALS

2001-2002 Goal 1: To enhance academic excellence in Women’s Studies. (Addresses G1, GII)

Measurable Outcomes: Increase the number and variety of courses offered; increase student enrollments; increase the number of B.A. degree and Certificate earners; add distance learning courses for undergraduate certificate; propose an M.A. degree program and Graduate Certificate.
2001-2002 GOAL 2: Develop a long-range plan focusing on the research and academic mission of the center.

Measurable Outcome: Complete and implement a strategic plan for the Center.

2001-2002 GOAL 3: To develop fundable collaborative projects and a donor base. (GII, GIII)

Measurable Outcome: Increase the number of collaborative projects, grant applications, and donors.

2001-2002 GOAL 4: To promote the visibility of Women’s Studies Center as a research center. (GI, GII, GV)

Measurable Outcome: Increase the number of publications in peer-reviewed journals, academic presses, performances, resolutions and presentations at national and international conferences, and editorial board grant review board membership.

E. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. MAJOR ACTIVITIES – PRIOR YEAR

a. Academic
   • Offered 48 courses serving 1409 students during Fall and Spring 2000-2001. This was an increase from 40 courses and 1056 students for Fall and Spring 1999-2000. (Enrollment for the full year from Summer 2000 – Spring 2001 was 1,745).
   • The enrollment in the B.A. program increased to 40 Women’s Studies majors and 35 certificate earners via a recruitment and publicity campaign, up from 19 majors and 21 certificate earners who were enrolled at the beginning of the Fall 2000 semester.
   • Offered or recruited six new courses, including Hispanic Women in Film, Female Sexuality, Novels of Sensation, and Women’s Writing, Women’s Prose Narratives of War, and Workplace Diversity.

b. Scholarly Activities
   • Faculty presented their research at 15 national and 2 international conferences.

c. Published Research
   • Faculty published 36 peer-reviewed journal articles, books, or book chapters.
   • Faculty served on 5 editorial boards and 1 grant review board.
   • Two performances by faculty were given nationally.

d. External Funding
   • Collaborated with the Latin American and Caribbean Center on a USAID grant project concerning Women Leaders in Brazil.
• Increased the Elaine Gordon Endowment by $11,000 through donor solicitation.

e. Integration of faculty into Center activities

• Cosponsored events with the Department of Biology; the Transnational and Comparative Cultures Center; the Environmental Studies Department, and the Latin American and Caribbean Center.
• As Chair of the President’s Advisory Committee on Women, the Director met with faculty, students, and staff to review the status of women on campus.

f. Public recognition
• The United Nations adopted a Resolution authored by one of our faculty concerning the status of women.

2. MAJOR ACTIVITIES – COMING YEAR

a. Proposed research and scholarly activities
• Encourage faculty research on women and gender

b. External Networking
• Participate in local Women’s Chamber of Commerce activities to identify donors.
• Begin a biannual newsletter to reach and attract potential donors via a Friends of Women’s Studies drive.
• Host several exclusive donor events

c. Service and Outreach
• Develop distance courses to enable an undergraduate certificate to be earned over the internet.

d. Opportunities for Students
• Develop a practicum program or internship experience for students to enable them to obtain job skills and contacts related to their academic program.

e. Integration of faculty into Center activities
• Hold regular faculty meeting and encourage participation in Center governance.
• Provide opportunities for faculty to present their research using speakers’ series.
• Engage faculty in search committee to hire an associate professor.

3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION