

BRIDGING THE RACE AND GENDER GAP

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S.F.U.**

**Saturday, May 13, 1995
Harbour Center Campus**



Saturday, May 13 Morning

- 9:00** Introduction of RWWP Mary Lynn Stewart
Chair, Women's Studies
Department
- 9:05** Introduction of Conference Vanaja Dhruvarajan
and Speakers RWWP
- 9:15** First Plenary
Monica Buchanan: *M.A. Candidate, Women's Studies, SFU*
No Where to Run, No Where to Hide: Women of Colour
Experiences of Poverty and Violence
- Raminder Dosanjh: *ESL Instructor and Community Activist*
Organizing at the Grass Roots Level and the Challenges
We Face
- Cecelia Diocson: *Chairperson, Philippine Women's Centre, BC*
The Feminization of Global Migration
- Jenny Kwan: *Vancouver City Councillor*
Racism and Multiculturalism
- Priti Shaw: *Advocate: Employment Equity and owner of Drishti*
Consulting
Employment Equity
- 10:15** Coffee Break
- 10:30** Introduction of John Stubbs, President, SFU
- 10:45-12:15** First Plenary Cont'd.

Saturday May 13 Afternoon

- 12:15-1:15** Lunch Break
*The foodfair on the lower mall level will be open and
there are numerous restaurants within walking
distance of Harbour Center*
- 1:15** Introduction of Panel Vanaja Dhruvarajan
RWWP
- 1:30** Second Plenary
Vijay Agnew: *Division of Social Sciences, York University*
Community-based Organizations Providing
Services to Immigrant Women
- Aradhana Parmar: *Faculty of General Studies, University of*
Calgary
Interlacing the University with the Community
- Nandita Sharma: *Grad Student, Dept. of Sociology, SFU*
The Cheapening of Lives: Women of Colour within
Coalitions
- Jill Vickers: *Dept. of Political Science, Carleton University*
Accepting Responsibility: Dealing with White
Privilege in Teaching, Curriculum and Research
- 3:15** Coffee Break
- 3:30-4:30** Discussion: Chair, Vanaja Dhruvarajan

It is well known that the grassroots women's movements were largely instrumental in establishing women's studies programs/departments in universities. It is the new ideas that emerge from daily struggles in the community that energize women's studies and provide support in their efforts to transform the academy. In addition, they provide strength and motivation to resist co-optation of women's studies by the academic establishment. Thus it is fitting to bring the community and the university together to celebrate these initiatives and achievements. It is particularly fitting at this time to listen to representatives from women-of-colour community groups to promote our efforts to center women of colour in the production and transformation of knowledge in the academy.

Representatives of the womne-of-colour community groups in B.C. will discuss the struggles they are involved in to promote the interests of women-of-colour groups by focussing on issues of concern such as:

racism	sexism	multiculturalism
poverty	violence	occupational and educational opportunities

While dealing with each of these topics the problems faced by women of colour in general will be discussed. In addition, efforts will be made to address issues of concern of people of people with disabilities, lesbians and the aged in these communities. Presenters will comment on the achievements of the community groups, problems faced by them in achieving the goals and possible solutions. Most important of all, presenters will discuss the role of the university in these contexts.