ACTIVITY REPORT AS RUTH WYNN WOODWARD ENDOWED CHAIR IN WOMEN'S STUDIES AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY, 1996-1998.

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My tenure as the Ruth Wynn Woodward Endowed Chair has been an extremely rewarding one. As a woman of colour activist, this unique position which combines academic work with community outreach has enabled me to bring together my work in the women's movement with my academic and research interests.

During these two years, my teaching priority has been to develop courses which address the enormous changes we are currently living through by working with students to help them develop the critical skills necessary to identify the historical continuities and discontinuities in the social organization of women's lives. My courses have also been designed to encourage students to develop the skills necessary for cooperative teamwork by promoting activist scholarship through Action Plan assignments. To this end, my teaching has included a course on race, class and gender relations, as well as on women and colonialism. I have developed both courses from a third world feminist theoretical perspective, a perspective which is sorely under-represented within academia. Further, in cooperation with the Feminist Research Education and Direct Action Centre, I have developed a course on Violence Against Women to be offered in the coming academic year.

The RWW Chair also entails a commitment to community outreach. I have met this commitment by regularly organizing the meetings of the RWW Liaison committee, as well as through extensive public speaking and participation in conferences and meetings with women's organizations. In addition, I have worked on organizing the Second International Women's Conference Against APEC in a coalition with local and national women's organizations. This work has involved extensive community outreach through public speaking, developing popular education materials, media work and recruiting volunteers.

During the first year, I proposed to the Chair of the Women's Studies the idea of developing a Centre for studies in Globalization, Race, Gender and Migration. As there

is currently no Centre in North America which addresses these critically important issues, the Women's Studies Department's adoption of this proposal as part of its three-year plan will put the Department at the forefront of scholarship in this area. One of the activities of the Centre would be to develop short, intensive courses for the academic community, as well as the community at large, on vital current issues. Again, the Department adopted my suggestion for a such an intensive Summer Institute, and Dr. Vandana Shiva, the world renowned physicist, ecologist and feminist, was invited for the first Summer Institute in 1998.

In the following pages, I discuss my activities in more detail, highlighting the following areas: teaching; research and publications; the Second International Women's Conference Against APEC; the Centre on Globalization, Race, Gender and Class Relations; RWW Liaison Committee; honours received; and speeches, conference participation and other engagements. I have also appended the APEC Women's Conference Report, and some of the media coverage I have received during my tenure.

Teaching :

I have taught the following courses:

- *The Relations of Race, Class and Gender*, Fall, 1996.
- *Women and Colonialism, Spring*, 1997.
- *The Relations of Race, Class and Gender*, Fall, 1997.

I have volunteered for the additional responsibilities:

- Serving on a Committee to supervise Leanne Keltie's Honours Essay.
- Serving on Laura Atkinson's M.A. Committee.

Research and Publications:

In these two years, I have researched and written my Ph.D. Dissertation entitled *Nationalizing Citizens, Bordering Immigrant Women: Globalization and the Racialization of Women's Citizenship in Late 20th Century Canada.*

My paper, "Closing the Nation's Ranks Against Immigrant Women: Racism, Sexism and the Abuse of Power in Canadian Immigration Policy," has been accepted for publication in a forthcoming publication, *Bringing Women's Voices into Print.* This publication is being edited by Somer Brodribb, and will be out in Fall, 1998.

Additionally, I have worked on the following publications:

(Nov., 1997) "APEC and Women's Human Rights," *The Bulletin*, Simon Fraser University.

(Oct. 1997) "Social Clauses are the Wrong Answer: Women Mobilizing Against Corporate Globalization," *Kinesis*. Vancouver.

(Oct. 1997) "APEC Threatens Women's Rights," *The Gleaner*. Vancouver.

(Nov. 2, 1996) "Affirmative Action is Not Reverse Discrimination," *Indo-Canadian Voice*. Vancouver.

(Nov. 28, 1996) "Beyond the Glass Ceiling," *Simon Fraser News*. SFU, Vancouver.

"Hertake" - Bi-Monthly Women's Column in *AAJ*, Vancouver.

The Second International Women's Conference Against APEC:

As the RWW Chair, my responsibilities included the organizing of a conference. After participating in the First International Women's Conference Against APEC in Manila, Philippines, I decided to work with a coalition of local and national women's organizations to organize the Second International Women's Conference Against Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

The current phase of globalization is bringing rapid changes in women's lives, eroding many of the gains made by women's movements in the past decades. APEC furthers the trade liberalization agenda of governments in the Asia Pacific region, an agenda which is central to the current phase of globalization. As there has been very little attention paid to APEC by the women's movement in Canada, and as very little is known about APEC, organizing the Women's Conference provided an opportunity for raising awareness about the effects of trade liberation on women's lives, as well for building international networks between women's organizations in the Asia Pacific Region.

From December, 1996 until November, 1997, the conference steering committee met on a regular basis and organized public forums, as well as producing popular

education materials. With initial financial support from the RWW budget, we were able to raise the funds necessary for the participation of close to seven hundred women from eighteen countries in the Women's Conference.

The Women's Conference enabled important networks to be established and strengthened. These networks will have a long lasting impact by allowing information exchange and the organizing of international campaigns among women's groups. Additionally, the political debates from the Women's Conference positively impacted the larger People's Summit by creating space for women's concerns and opposition to trade-centered economic growth to be given voice. Subsequent to the Conference, I supervised the production of a Conference Report which includes the speeches made in plenary sessions of the Conference, as well as the recommendations for future action. A copy of this Report is appended.

One recommendation from the Women's Conference was that a feminist researchers network in the Asia-Pacific region be established, and I have worked with a group of women to follow up on this particular recommendation. We are currently working on producing a paper for the Third International Women's Conference to be held in Malaysia in November, 1998. My leading role in the organizing of the conference has placed the RWW Chair in a central position for future work with women's networks, both academic and non-academic, in the Asia Pacific region.

Centre On Globalization, Race, Class and Gender Relations:

My proposal for developing a Centre on Globalization, Race, Gender and Migration was adopted by the Women's Studies Department as part of its Three Year Plan. This Centre is a major initiative, and will work to promote teaching, research, and scholarship in this vital area. Its activities will include the development of curriculum and courses, organizing conferences and intensive courses such as the Summer Institute. The proposal for the Centre has received support from the Academic Dean, and the Women's Studies Department has established a committee to work with the RWW Chair over the next two years to develop it.

I have also met with the Minister for Women's Equality in B.C., the Honourable

Sue Hammell, to present her with the APEC Conference Report and to discuss the Centre. The Minister has made a commitment to providing some funds once the proposal for the Centre is worked out and a budgetary goal is established. The Centre is in a very early stage at this point, and for the next two years, my responsibilities will include its further development. However, two activities which have already been initiated as part of the Centre's work are the Summer Institute and the APEC feminist researcher's network. The first Institute which the Women's Studies Department organized with Dr. Vandana Shiva was a four day event. The theme of the Institute was Women, Life and the Future of the Planet, and Dr. Shiva focused on the issues of globalization and intellectual property rights within international trade agreements. Dr. Marilyn MacDonald and I led workshops for participants with Dr. Shiva. With many applicants having to be turned away due to the lack of space, the Institute was highly successful.

Developing the APEC feminist Researcher's Network is also underway as feminist activists are preparing for the APEC Summit and Women's Conference in Malaysia. I am currently on the international organizing committee for the Malaysia Women's Conference, and this conference will provide a further opportunity to develop the international research network.

RWW Liaison Committee:

The RWW Liaison Committee has met on a monthly basis during the two years . The Committee's work is varied and is shaped by the Committee members who attend the meetings on a regular basis. The issues this Committee has been working on include lobbying the Federal Immigration Minister for as National Clearing House on Accreditation; the issue of employment equity; developing a mentoring program for women of colour in the University; and meeting with the executive director of the Metropolis project to raise the concerns of community groups on the lack of accountability in the work of the project. The Committee has organized open houses to celebrate International Women's Day in 1997 and 1998.

From November 1996 to December, 1997, organizing the Second International Women's Conference was a priority for this Committee. The Committee has been relatively low-key since then as members have other commitments. We are currently recruiting new members and developing a plans of work to begin in September. This Committee is an extremely important link with the larger women's community and women's organizations in the lower mainland, and as the members of the Committee are from women of colour organizations, it plays an extremely important role in developing anti-racist initiatives for Women's Studies Programs, and for the women's movement at large.

Honours Received:

August, 1997 - Achievement Award from the Friends of India Society, Vancouver.

February, 1997 - Lansdowne Scholar in Residence, University of Vancouver.

Speeches, Conference Presentations and Other Engagements:

Sept 20-22/96 "Women Organizing Against Globalization," Keynote Address at Founding Conference of Asian & Pacific Islander Women's Forum, Los Angeles, U.S.A.

Sept 27/96 "Globalization and the Women's Movement," Oxfam - Canada, Toronto, Ontario.

Sept. 29/96 "Anti-Racism in International Solidarity Work," South Asia Partnership, Ottawa.

Oct. 2/96 "South Asian Women Organizing For Social Justice," Langara Community College, Vancouver, B.C.

Oct 21/96 "Beyond Culture: Ending Violence Against Women," Abbotsford, B.C.

Oct 24/96 Bill Good Show - Call in show on Employment Equity.
Panel discussion for Co-Op radio on Equality Rights of Women.

Oct, 24/96 "Brainstorming" Session, Couchiching Institute on Public Affairs, Vancouver.

Oct 25/96 Spoke on opening panel "Strategies to Counter Neo-Conservatism" Conference, Vancouver, B.C.

Oct 29/96 Speech on "Race & Work in the Emerging Economy", Langara Community College, Vancouver, B.C.

Oct 28/96 Reception for Academic Women at Simon Fraser University.

Oct 31-Nov 3/96 NAC Executive Meetings, Toronto, Ont.

Nov 6/96 Ruth Wynn Woodward lecture, Burnaby Campus, Vancouver, B.C. "Beyond Diversity: Anti-Racist Feminism in NAC."

Nov 12-24/96 Participated in International Women's Conference on APEC, Manila, Philippines.
Presentation on "Women and Restructuring in Canada", Davao City.
Speech on "Women & Citizenship Rights in the era of Restructuring", Manila Peoples' Forum.

Nov 25/96 Meeting with SFU President.

Dec3/96 Speech on "Women & Globalization" at University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C.

Jan 16-19/97 NAC Executive Meetings, Toronto, Ont.

Jan 23-28/97 Meetings with Asian and Black Councillors of Britain, re. election organizing for black and Asian organization, and women's organizations, London, England.

Feb 3/97 Co-op Radio panel on "Young Women and Feminism", Vancouver, B.C.

Feb 14-16/97 Citizenship Conference, Ottawa.

Feb 17/97 Reception at President's Residence for new faculty members, S.F.U.

Feb 21/97 Workshop on Anti-Racism at Annual Delta School District Day 1997.

Feb23-26/97 Lansdowne Scholar in Residence at School of Social Work, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C.

Mar 3/97 Organized Open House for International Women's Day for RWW Liaison Committee, Vancouver, B.C.

Mar 5/97 Ruth Wynn Woodward Lecture, Harbourcentre, Vancouver, B.C.
"Selling Women Short : How the Canadian Government is Undermining Women Globally".

Mar. 5/97 "Hearing All the Voices: Transforming Women's Organizations," Woman Speak, Douglas College, New Westminster.

Mar. 6/97 "Women and APEC," NAC Fundraising Dinner, Vancouver.

Mar. 13/97 "Globalization and Women's Rights in Canada,"
Department of Sociology and Anthropology, SFU.

Apr. 1/97 Meeting with CCPA to Evaluate Research Proposal on Immigration.

Apr. 8/97 "Women and APEC," CAW Women's Committee, New Westminster.

Apr. 12/97 Anti-Racism Workshop for Vancouver Status of Women, Vancouver.

Apr. 28/97 Program for Co-Op Radio, Vancouver.

June 2-10/97 "Restructuring of the State, Social and Immigration Policies in Canada: The Impact on Women" Learned Societies Conference, St. John's, Newfoundland.
"The Crises on the Canadian Left: What is to Be Done?" Learned Societies Conference, St. John's, Newfoundland.

June 24/97 "Women and APEC," Public Forum, Vancouver.

June26-29/97 "Women, Racism and Citizenship Rights," Eight Annual Conference on Canadian Social Welfare Policy Conference, Regina, Saskatchewan.

Jul 8/97 "Women and APEC," Summer Institute for Union Women, SFU.

Aug 8/97 "Organizing Against Globalization: The Women's Movement in Canada," Society for the Prevention of Social Problems, Toronto.

Sept. 18/97 "Women and APEC," University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

Sept.30/97 Pacific Profiles, Vancouver TeleVision, Vancouver.

Nov.16-18/97 "APEC and Women's Rights in Canada," Second International Women's Conference Against APEC, Vancouver.

Workshop on Developing a Feminist Researchers' Network on APEC.

Nov. 21/97 "Key Barriers to Ending Poverty," Peoples' Summit on APEC: Issue Forum on Poverty, Vancouver.

Jan.16-17/98 "Anti-Racism and the Women's Movement in the Age of Globalization," Race Equality 2000, National Association of Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority Councillors, Manchester, Britain.

Mar.11-12/98 "Globalization and Women's Rights," University of Alberta, Edmonton. "Restructuring and Canadian Immigration Policy."

Mar.25-27/98 Yukon College, Whitehorse.

Apr.22/98 "Challenges Facing the Women's Movement in Canada," China Seminar, New International College, Vancouver.

May2-3/98 "Race and Gender Issues in Women's Studies," Bowen Island Women's Studies Retreat, B.C.

May9/98 "The Racialization of Canadian Immigration Policy," Abusing Power Conference, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver.

May15/98 "Nationalizing Citizens, Bordering Immigrant Women," Keynote Address, Western Association of Sociology and Anthropology, Vancouver.

June12/98 "Analyzing the Immigration Policy Review, 1994," Immigration Law for the Non-Specialist, Vancouver.