

## **Emerging theories in gender studies will be focus of National Graduate Women's Conference at UCSD on April 14-17**

**March 15, 1994**

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### **EMERGING THEORIES IN GENDER STUDIES WILL BE FOCUS OF NATIONAL GRADUATE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AT UCSD**

New research and scholarship in feminist theory, women's studies and gender issues will be presented during the ninth annual National Graduate Women's Studies Conference to be held April 14-17 at the University of California, San Diego.

Up to 400 graduate students from throughout the U.S. and abroad are expected to attend the four days of sessions which involve 48 interdisciplinary panels presenting nearly 200 papers, including 40 from UCSD. Most sessions are scheduled in the Robinson Building Complex at the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies.

Among panel topics are "Scandalous Women: Acting Out in Public and on Screen"; "Little Women, Bad Girls and Tough Guys in American Popular Culture"; "Gender and Resistance in the Americas"; "Crossing the Lines: Intersecting Racial and Sexual Identities"; "Romancing the Modern: Gender and Sexuality in Modernist Literature" and "Domestic Battlegrounds: New Perspectives on Families and Violence."

Opening speaker at 7 p.m. April 14 will be Ashley E. Phillips, executive director of Womancare Clinic, San Diego, whose topic is "Feminism's Frontlines: Is Women's Healthcare Political? You Bet It Is!" Phillips, a member of the faculty at San Diego State University, recently has been appointed chair of the City of San Diego's Commission on the Status of Women. The session is free and open to the public.

Keynote speakers at 7 p.m. April 16 in the Price Center Ballroom will be Norma Alarcon, associate professor of Ethnic Studies at UC-Berkeley, and Donna Haraway, professor in the History of Consciousness Program at UC-Santa Cruz. Alarcon is editor and publisher of Third Woman Press and has published widely on the literature and culture of Chicanas and women of color. Haraway has published numerous books on cultural constructions of science, including her forthcoming "Worldly Diffractions: Feminism and Technoscience." This keynote session is free and open to the public.

Performance artists Kathy Acker and Yareli Arizmendi will make appearances, co-sponsored by Sledgehammer Productions, on the Mandeville Auditorium stage from 7-9 p.m. April 15. Acker, whose writing has been described as "fiction to slam dance by," will read from a selection of her short stories, including excerpts from her new novel "My Mother: Demonology."

Arizmendi, head of the Drama Department at California State University, San Marcos, and a playwright and actress, will perform a "stair-masterpiece" entitled "1-900-Mexico: Nostalgia Maldita." Tickets to this performance may be purchased at the Price Center Box Office, UCSD, or at the door.

The conference is sponsored by a number of UCSD departments, including the Office of the Chancellor; The Humanities Fund; the Graduate Student Association; Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; Divisional Dean, Natural Sciences; Office of Graduate Studies and Research; Divisional Dean, Arts and Humanities; Divisional Dean, Social Sciences, and Department of Visual Arts. Also serving as a sponsor is the University of Michigan Women's Studies Program.

The conference coordinating committee is headed by Liza Nelligan and Gema Guevara, UCSD graduate students.

For additional information and registration call

(619) 534-4220.

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