

UNIVERSITY OF SANTA CLARA
INTRA-CAMPUS MEMORANDUM

TO: WITOLD KRASSOWSKI, Chair, Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies
FROM: Mary Gordon, Director, Women's Studies Program ^{MG} Date: January 13, 1982
RE: Request for information

In response to your memo of December 15, 1981, the following information should satisfy your queries:

1. How did the idea of the program develop?

In Fall 1978, Rev. William Rewak appointed a Task Force on Women to study the concerns of all women on campus. One of its conclusions stressed the need for re-examination of the curriculum and its relationship to women and women's issues. The Task Force directed two of its members to prepare a consultant grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities, and appointed one of its members, Professor Mary Gordon, as consultancy co-ordinator. In 1978 the University received a consultant grant from NEH and the consultant appointed was Kathryn Kish Sklar, Professor of History at U.C.L.A. Professor Gordon appointed a Committee on Women's Studies and, after consultation with Professor Sklar, recommended on May 7, 1980 the establishment of a Women's Studies Program. The recommendations were accepted by the President, who then appointed Mary Gordon Director of the Program.

2. How was the decision made about which disciplines would participate in the program? How was the faculty for the program selected?

The consultant and the Committee on Women's Studies agreed from the beginning that in order to be permanent and respected, a Women's Studies Program should be exclusively academic. Instructors should be regular members of the faculty (except in unusual circumstances), and courses regular offerings of departments. Any department that offers courses relating to women is eligible for the program. Interested faculty submit syllabi of applicable courses to the Women's Studies Committee for approval.

3. What are the goals of the Program?

The Program offers students guidance in designing a concentration in Women's Studies both to satisfy their personal interests and to complement their study in their major departments. It will enable them, while working toward a degree in a traditional academic discipline to study the experiences, contributions, and cultural images of women. It also encourages the development of new courses and of faculty research specifically concerned with women.