

Women's Studies prepares for celebration

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News Office

The MIT Program in Women's Studies will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a daylong symposium, "Challenges for Women's Studies: Power, Politics and Gender," with leading feminist scholars Barbara Ehrenreich, Chandra Mohanty and Patricia J. Williams.

The symposium will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room 10-250. It is free and open to the public. MIT President Susan Hockfield will give opening remarks.

"The Women's Studies Program has been at the heart of many faculty members' intellectual lives, and now we have a chance to give back to the community some of our excitement and fascination with this huge and changing subject," said Elizabeth Wood, a professor of history and director of the Women's Studies Program. "In doing all of this, we are renewing our commitment to close examination, deep analysis and proactive input into social processes."

Each of the three featured speakers is renowned in the general field of women's studies and feminist scholarship.

Ehrenreich is a social critic and essayist. Her book "Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By In America" (2002) was a national bestseller. She is a prolific journalist who writes a regular column for *The Progressive* and whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Ms.*, *Z* magazine and *salon.com*. She received the Ph.D. in biology from Rockefeller University. Ehrenreich will speak on "Gender and Class—Can We Have a Conversation Without Guilt?" at 10 a.m.

Chandra Talpade Mohanty is professor of women's studies and humanities at Syracuse University. Her work focuses on transnational feminist theory, cultural studies and anti-racist education. She edits a series of books, "Gender, Culture and Global Politics" and speaks widely on feminist issues. Mohanty will speak on "Feminists Confront Empire" at 1 p.m.

Patricia Williams writes the column "Diary of a Mad Law Professor" in *The Nation*. A native of Boston, she graduated from Wellesley and Harvard Law School. She is author of "Seeing a Colorblind Future: The Paradox of Race" (1998). She received a MacArthur "genius" grant in 2000. Williams is currently a professor at Columbia Law School. She will speak on "Gender, Race and Law in the Divided World" at 3 p.m.

The Women's Studies Program is also celebrating this significant anniversary with a panel discussion, "Taking Women's Studies into the Real World," featuring program alumnae speakers. "Real World," is open to the MIT community; it will be held on Friday, February 11th at 3 pm in Bldg. 10-340.

For reservations or more information on the 20th anniversary discussions, please email women-studies@mit.edu or call 617-253-8844.

Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary undergraduate Program, providing an academic framework and broad-based community for scholarly inquiry focusing on women, gender and sexuality. Ruth Perry, professor of literature, was the program's founding director.

There are more than 40 faculty members who are affiliated with the Program, which offered 25 courses during the academic year 2003-2004, with approximately 300 students enrolled. Women's Studies was approved as a major at MIT in 1985.

The Women's Studies Program is also a part of the Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies, which was established in 1993 jointly between MIT and six other institutions—Radcliffe College, Boston College, Brandeis University, Harvard University, Northeastern University, and Tufts University.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

A moment of reflection

This photo, taken near the nose of the Stata Center, shows the building reflecting itself.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Configuring PalmOS mobile devices

People with properly configured mobile devices can connect to MIT's e-mail services when they're on the go. PalmOS devices with built-in wireless connections like the Tungsten C, or add-on wireless options like the Tungsten T3/5 or the Zire 72 allow access to e-mail on campus or wherever wireless connections exist. With cell phone/PDA devices like the Treo people can roam even further afield.

IS&T is offering a clinic to help configure PalmOS

mobile devices for MIT e-mail in the N42 Demo Center from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on five days: Thursday, Feb. 10; Monday, Feb. 14; Friday, Feb. 18; Thursday, Feb. 24; and Monday, Feb. 28.

On Feb. 10, IS&T is turning N42 into a "cell-phone shopping mall." Representatives from MIT cell phone vendors who provide cell phone/PDAs that run on the PalmOS will be available to discuss anything related to cell phones. Cingular and Sprint representatives will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The T-Mobile and Verizon Wireless representatives will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members of the MIT community may submit one classified ad each issue. Ads can be resubmitted, but not two weeks in a row. Ads should be 30 words maximum; they will be edited. Submit by e-mail to ttads@mit.edu or mail to Classifieds, Rm 11-400. Deadline is noon Wednesday the week before publication.

FOR SALE

Cherry wood w/4 chairs, 4 cushions, sits 8, \$140/bst; Braided burgundy carpet, \$30. Blk wood entertainment plus vcr/cd holders, \$8. Hamster complete set/1gallon fish tank/\$9. Folding computer stand (steel) \$40.

lmorales@mit.edu.

HOUSING

Ocean front summer cabin, Mount Desert Island, ME: 2BD/1BA w/living/kitchen area; picture windows, deck overlooking water; stairway to beach. Mins from Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor. \$1,000/week June-Sept. Steve at 253-5757 or chorover@mit.edu.

Lauderdale -By-The-Sea on El Mar Drive: studio w/pool area and directly across the street to beach. Completely remodeled '04. \$1,800/mo. w/1 mo. min. Steve at 617-308-5327.

Arlington Heights: share 2 BR apt., 1st floor of house, LR, DR, spare room, storage, near public trans., off-street parking, W/D, dishwasher. No pets/smoking. Avail 4/1. \$625/mo. + utils. 781-316-2346 or dheggstad@ll.mit.edu.

VEHICLES

2000 Chrysler Sebring convertible-V6. Well maintained, excellent condition and garaged all year round. Leather seats, 6-disc CD-player w/6 infinity speakers. 85K. \$8,500. Cheryl at 253-3092 or 978-276-0670. Photos: <http://home.comcast.net/~bfgcat/>

STUDENT POSITIONS

Positions for students with work-study eligibility.

Cambridge Community Center seeks group leaders. Responsibilities: supervision of children, safety and well-being of children, implementation of classroom activities, responsive to parents' concerns, attendance at two monthly meetings. Alfreda.Cromwell@617-547-6811.

Prospect Hill Academy Charter School seeks tutors (K-5). Accessible from the MBTA. Tuesday-Thursday from 3pm-4:40pm. Steven Stone at sstone@prospecthillacademy.org.