1992–93
Post-doctoral Fellowship

Art in the Age of "Difference"

Research will look at how categories of artistic production are currently defined in the US and cross-culturally. How is “art” conceptualized in the era of “post-modernity”? What is the status of representation in visual and performance arts? What is the political economy of artistic production? What do historical studies bring to bear on these questions? What roles do categories such as gender, ethnicity, nationality, and class play in artistic production and reception?

Post-doctoral Fellowships
Post-doctoral fellowships are available to scholars with research interests related to the annual topics. Application materials available through the Pembroke Center. Deadline: December 20, 1991.

Affiliated Scholars
Scholars interested in the annual research topics who wish to take part in the Pembroke Seminar are invited to apply for affiliation with the Center.

1991–92
Pembroke Seminar

Scientific Knowledge and “Difference”

As part of a three-year project on Cultural Pluralism: Solution or Symptom!, the 1991–92 Pembroke Seminar is exploring the production of scientific knowledge.

Research looks particularly at the intersection of humanistic and scientific discourses and the discontinuities between the two. What epistemological gaps are there between the humanities and the sciences? What convergences? How is scientific literacy measured? Is there a crisis in science education in the United States? How are we to evaluate the challenges to Western science currently being brought by feminists, third world scientists, and US ethnic minorities?

The 1991–92 Pembroke Seminar coincides with the centennial celebration of women at Brown University and the tenth anniversary of the Pembroke Center.

In 1897–98 the University established separate biology courses for women in hygiene and home sanitation. Science was to have a practical and immediate purpose for students of the Women’s College. Ada G. Wing (Mead), shown here (last row, second from the right) with a 1900 anatomy class, was appointed instructor, then associate professor of Physiology and Sanitary Science. Wing’s appointment began the long-term practice of staffing women’s biology courses with female faculty.

National Endowment for the Humanities
Summer Seminar for College Teachers

“City Scenes: Cultural Production in Seventeenth-Century London and Paris”

For more information write:
Professor Karen Newman
Pembroke Center / Box 1958
Brown University / Providence, RI 02912
Cultural Literacies and "Difference"

Mary Childers
English

Project: Women's Fictions about the Sex of Work: English Novels and Autobiographies, 1848–1928

Childers's project examines the political-economic relations of class embedded in the writings of Charlotte Bronte, Virginia Woolf, and eleven British working class women's autobiographies over an eighty-year period. Childers looks at the relationships among class, reading, and the acquisition of self-reflective literacy. In studying the representation of working class women in middle-class narratives, she shows how the historically specific intersections of economics and narrative work to shape the needs of middle class women and occlude those of working class women, an occlusion which British feminism in many ways reinforced.

Mary Childers is currently the Director of the Women's Resource Center, Dartmouth College.

Keya Ganguly
Communications

Project: Inventing Tradition: Inherited Knowledge and the Problem of Cultural Literacy

Ganguly's study explores the intersections between ethnic identity and cultural literacy. It examines the ways

Visiting Scholars: 1990–91

Ruth Burt Ekstrom Lecture
Jill Ker Conway
Historian and author

Susan Ball Lecture
Margaret Ferguson
English and Comparative Literature
University of Colorado

Shirley Brice Heath
English
Stanford University

Cornel West
Religion and Afro-American Studies
Princeton University

Affiliated Scholars: 1990–91

Susan Brown
Comparative Literature
Rhode Island College

Eleanor Doumatou
Middle Eastern History
Independent Scholar

Joanna Gillespie
Sociology of Education
Independent Scholar

Elizabeth Grossman
Art and Architectural History
Rhode Island School of Design

Evelyn Pezzulich
English
Bridgewater State College

Patricia Rosenmeyer
Classics
Yale University

Ellie Siegel
Writing
Hampshire College

Eva Stehle
Classics
University of Maryland

Nikky Singh
Philosophy and Religion
Colby College
1891–1991: One Hundred Years of Women at Brown

The centennial celebration of women’s education at Brown University will begin with a weekend conference on October 18–20 with the theme “Transcending Boundaries: Women, Power and Leadership.” A University convocation on Saturday will feature President Mary Robinson of Ireland and a keynote address by Kathryn Scott Fuller ’68, President of the World Wildlife Fund.

A chamber theater performance on the history of women at Pembroke and Brown will open the celebration on Friday evening. Written by Lowry Marshall, Associate Professor in the Theater, Speech and Dance Department and her research assistant Colby Moss ’93, “Going a Hundred” will draw on materials from the Farnham archives at Brown, and from writings and poetry of recent and current students. This performance will also be part of the exhibit on women’s higher education in Rhode Island sponsored by The Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities to close the centennial celebration in April–May 1992.

Alumnae from around the country will return to campus to participate in centennial events. The university has commissioned a new collection of essays on the history of women at Brown, entitled “The Search for Equity: Women at Brown University, 1891–1991.” Denise Levertov has also been commissioned to do a book of poems in honor of the centennial which will be published by the Brown Ziggurat Press in 1991. Levertov’s work is included in the University’s internationally renowned Harris Collection of American Poetry and Plays.

In addition to the Pembroke Center program, Brown professors Martha Nussbaum and Mary Gluck will discuss women’s participation in politics from an historical perspective, to be followed by a panel of current women politicians. Entertainment to be provided by Brown performers has been produced by Jeree Palmer Wade ‘83 for Saturday evening.

Other events throughout the year include an exhibit of prints and photographs focusing on women in athletics; and a series of lectures and events sponsored by Pembroke alumna Cynthia Lee Jenner ’61 in honor of her mother, Nadine Newhill Jenner and her maternal grandmother, Leona Hopper Newhill. The celebration will close with a major exhibition on women’s higher education funded by a grant to the Pembroke Center from the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities. Entitled “A Matter of Simple Justice: One Hundred Years of Women’s Higher Education in Rhode Island, 1892–1992,” the exhibit will be housed in the Annmary Brown Memorial Library on campus. Public lectures and a traveling exhibit will allow people throughout Rhode Island to take part in the celebration.

The Pembroke Center: A Decade of Achievement

On Saturday, October 19, the Pembroke Center will celebrate its tenth anniversary as part of the weekend celebration of the centennial of women at Brown University, 1891–1991.

Founded in 1981 as a center for interdisciplinary research on gender, the Pembroke Center has sponsored thirty postdoctoral fellows who have gone on to teaching and research careers throughout the United States and abroad. This year’s research topic is “Scientific Knowledge and ‘Difference’.” Seed money for the research program came from the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities; the center has also received funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, the New York Times Foundation, and the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities. The center is currently engaged in a three million dollar endowment campaign.

The Pembroke Center coordinates Brown’s women’s studies courses to enable Brown undergraduates to study gender throughout the curriculum.
A major in women's studies was established in 1981, with the first group of concentrators graduating in 1985. Since then seventy-four students have graduated with concentrations in women's studies.

With the University Library the center has developed the Christine Dunlap Farnham Archives, a collection of papers and materials focusing on twentieth century Brown and Rhode Island women and their organizations. The archives are a rich new resource to students and historians in the area. A five-hundred page Research Guide is available through the archives.

The first issue of differences. A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies appeared in the winter of 1989. Affiliated with the Pembroke Center, the journal is published three times a year by Indiana University Press. Several of the journal's special theme issues will appear as well in book form through the press. Coming to Terms, Feminism, Theory, Politics, a collection of essays representing Pembroke Center research activities, was published in 1989 by Routledge.

The Center's alumnas/i organization, the Pembroke Center Associates, has over five hundred members. Memberships have increased steadily since 1983. Members receive newsletters and invitations to Center events, including commencement activities. Alumnae participate in Center events by taking part in alumnae forums, taping oral histories and donating materials to the Farnham Archives.

Our anniversary celebration program will feature founding director, Joan Wallach Scott, now at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, Valentine Moghadam, a former Pembroke Fellow, now with the United Nations University in Finland, Ann duCille, Brown Ph.D. 1991, Assistant Professor of English at Wesleyan University, and students Patricia Rattray '92 and Lecia Rosenthal '92.