

WID *Information*

Office of Women in International Development
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
318 Coble Hall, 801 South Wright Street
Champaign, Illinois 61820
(217) 333-1977

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BOOK REVIEW

Davison, Jean (ed). *Agriculture, Women and Land: The African Experience*. Westview Press, Boulder, Colorado, 1998. Call #331.483096AG83

Agriculture, Women and Land examines women's current and historical relations to land in Africa. Davison argues that women's procreative roles influence their access to land and shape their productive potential. An understanding of these relations are necessary for understanding African women's role in agriculture and for formulating policies which will enhance their capabilities as food producers. The book seeks to answer a number of research questions concerning women's relation to land:

- who controls access to land, and decides how it will be used at the compound and national levels of production?
- are there similar factors influencing such decisions at both levels?
- who are the beneficiaries of such decisions?
- do such decisions increase or hinder food production?
- do they take into consideration women's dual roles as procreators and producers?

Jean Davison uses gender relations of production as an organizing construct to explain the changes that are occurring in production relations in Africa. She argues that women's relations to land is shaped by both social and economic relations of production. Davison believes that women's economic relations to land on the one hand, and their social relations of production on the other hand are shaped by factors such as the unequal distribution of power and power struggles between males and females, between people of different ages, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups.

The case studies cover a variety of topics in different regions of the continent, all aimed at illuminating the changing practices in land-use and agriculture: land tenure, land and the household economy, agriculture, gender relations, food security, impact of development projects, women's strategies and the legal context. Some of the cases focus on the linkages between macro-level policies and micro-level behavior (Carney, ch. 3; Schoepf and Schoepf, ch. 6; Bernal, ch. 7; Davison, ch. 11). Judith Carney examines the impact of the Jahaly Pacharr irrigated rice scheme in the Gambia in improving women's access to and control over productive resources. This study sheds some light on the unintended effects of government policies. Although the project was developed to address equity issues, it ended up strengthening male control over resources and the power of the male head of household. Chapter 7, on Sudan's irrigated schemes and its consequences for Muslim women in Northern Sudan, also addresses the issue of the role of colonialism and the consequent capitalist relations of production in modifying gender relations of production. This case study provides an interesting

ANNUAL WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The office of Women in International Development announces its *Ninth Annual Student Paper Competition*, with an award of \$150 for the winning paper. The competition is open to both graduate and undergraduate students and papers from all disciplines are welcome. Papers should focus on gender issues in the context of international development, and should be typewritten, double-spaced, and prepared in a journal format acceptable to the student's major discipline. **Submission deadline is May 14, 1991**. For additional information contact: Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, 244-1722, or the WID office, 333-1994.

WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AT UIUC

Activities and Events on Campus

Friday Forum, Spring 1991. The theme for Spring 1991 Friday Forum is *Unraveling the Ties that Bind Us: The Impact of the Women's Movement*. In this series, women scholars and policy leaders will examine the impact of the women's movement. The series is intended to help in the understanding of the current reality of women's lives, and how we can be part of a movement towards full partnership of women and men in society. All lectures are held at the University YMCA's Latzer Hall, 1001 S. Wright Street, Champaign, IL

The Center for East Asian Studies held a seminar on February 2, 1991 on *Women in Contemporary South Korea: Sex, Marriage, Work, and Activism*. For information on future events contact Nancy Abelmann, Dept. of Anthropology, 285 Davenport Hall, Urbana. Phone: 217/244-7733, (Home: 217/328-5763).

The YWCA, UIUC, announces a weekly series of evening gatherings for intercultural dialogue on women's issues related to poverty in the US and the developing world. The meetings are on Tuesdays, 7:00pm at Wisegarver Lounge, Illinois Disciples Foundation, 403 S. Wright St., Champaign.

WILL AM's call-in radio program, FOCUS 580, features host David Inge talking with special guests on a variety of timely topics. Focus 580 airs weekdays 10 and 11 a.m. on WILL AM 580. For Women's History Month in March, FOCUS 580 will feature a number of guests who may be of particular interest to us:

- 11 a.m. Monday, March 4, best-selling novelist Jean Auel -- *Auel on Ayla: A Novelist's View of Paleoanthropology*
- 10 a.m. Thursday, March 7, author Rita Buchanan -- *A Weaver's Garden*
- 10 a.m. Friday, March 8, Virginia Ramey, professor of english, William Patterson College of New Jersey -- *Masculinity, Femininity and the Human Imaging of God*
- 10 a.m. Monday, March 11, Judith Radell, professor of music, Indiana University of Pennsylvania (also a concert pianist) -- *Rediscovering Women Composers*

If you would like more information about this or any other WILL-AM-FM-TV program, contact Tracey Conrad-Katz, Public Information Coordinator, WILL-AM-FM-TV, 1110 West Main St., Urbana, IL 61801. Phone: (217) 333-1070.

be contacted by AWID to determine financial need and level of funding available. The WID office will like to receive copies of any proposals which are submitted and will provide a van to the conference. The WID office particularly encourages graduate students from Third World countries and others with grassroots experience to submit proposals.

Copies of calls for proposals or registration brochures are available at WID office, 324 Coble hall (and can be sent through the mail upon request), phone: (217) 333-1977 or at the Conference Office, 261 College Court, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6009 USA, phone: (913) 532-5575. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee and selections announced on or about July 1, 1991.

Proposal forms should be submitted by April 20, 1991 to Suzanne Kindervatter, OEF International, 1815 H. Street, N.W., 11th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20006 USA. Phone: (202) 466-3430. Fax: (202) 775-0596.

Global Interactions, Inc., Phoenix, Arizona is calling for papers for the Japan-US Conference on Women's Issues. The theme of the conference is *Globalization of Women's Issues in the 1990s* to be held May 5 - 11, 1991 in Phoenix, Arizona. The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for the sharing of ideas and research on four key issues related to women: Educational systems; Politics and Peace; Women and Work; and Health and Well-being. For further information about paper submission and registration forms, call Jerrie Ueberle or Gloria Linstead (602) 272-3438, or write to: Global Interactions Inc., Thomas Centre, 332 West Thomas Road, Phoenix, AZ 85017.

The Society for Applied Anthropology's 50th Annual Meeting will be held at the Sheraton-Charleston Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina, March 13 - 17, 1991. The theme of the conference is *Building Knowledge and Theory in Contexts of Action*.

- Jacquetta Hill, Department of Anthropology, a WID associate and member of the WID executive board is the program chairperson for the conference.
- Kate Cloud, Director, Office of Women in International Development, is the chair of a panel session titled *We have to Manage so Well with so Little: Women's Access to Resources*. Kate, Jean Peterson, Director of the Women's Studies Program and Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, geography and WID, are the presenters for this session. All three papers discuss on-going household-level research on women's access to, and management of, productive resources: land in Ghana, labor in the Philippines, and credit in India.
- Lucy Walley, anthropology, will be presenting a paper on *Muslim Women Working for Community Development: The Example of the Diniyah Putri in West Sumatra, Indonesia*.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Graduate Students:

- **Bundeskanzler-Scholarships for Germany: Scholarship for Prospective Leaders in the United States**
The Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation awards up to ten scholarships per year to prospective U.S. leaders in the academic world, in business or in politics, with a view to strengthening transatlantic ties. The Scholarship is intended to offer outstanding young undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students as well as young professionals who are interested in further academic training to improve their career prospects the opportunity to continue or follow up their studies/research, preferentially in the humanities, social sciences, law and economics at a German university and/or research institution, and to gain, at the same time, substantial insight into the political, economic, social and cultural life of the Federal Republic of Germany.

prostitution. While proposals that examine how female commercial sex workers can reduce their risk of HIV infection will be considered, ICRW strongly encourages proposals that focus on other groups of women, adolescents, and pre-pubescent girls.

Applications are encouraged from developing country researchers as well as joint U.S. and developing country research teams. Application forms are available at the WID office and from the International Center for Research on Women, 1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 302, Washington, D.C. 20036. Phone: (202)797-0007.

● **National Women's Studies Association (NSWA) 1991 Scholarships and Fellowships** NSWA is pleased to announce its scholarship and fellowship offerings for 1991.

1) **Pergamon-NWSA Graduate Scholarships for Women's Studies** will be awarded to two graduate students who in the Fall of 1991 will be doing research for or writing a Master's thesis or Ph.D dissertation in the interdisciplinary field of Women's Studies. The awards of \$1,000 and \$500 will be awarded with special preference given to NWSA members and to those whose research projects involve women of color, class, or Third World Women. **Deadline: February 15, 1991.**

2) **Naiad-NWSA Graduate Scholarships for Lesbian Studies.** The Naiad-NWSA Scholarship of \$1,000, funded by Naiad Press, will be awarded to a student who in the Fall of 1991 will be doing research for or writing a Master's thesis or Ph.D dissertation in Lesbian Studies. Preference given to candidates who are NWSA members and to those whose research projects involve women of color, class, or Third World Women. **Deadline: February 15, 1991.**

4) **Scholarship in Jewish Women's Studies.** The NWSA Award will be given in 1991 to a graduate student who is enrolled for the Fall semester and whose area of research is Jewish Women's Studies. **Deadline: February 15, 1991.**

5) **Fellowship for Chinese Student or Visiting Scholar.** This \$500 fellowship is awarded to a woman from the People's Republic of China who is a visiting scholar or who is enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student. The Fellowship supports research about women, national liberation movements, or areas that might have a special impact upon the lives of women in China. Special preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate special financial need. **Deadline: February 15, 1991.** Application forms may be obtained from NWSA, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742-1325.

● **Overseas Research Students (ORS) Awards Scheme, 1991.** 850 new ORS awards will be offered on a competitive basis in 1991 to overseas postgraduate students of outstanding merit and research potential. The awards are tenable at selected academic institutions in the United Kingdom.

Each award will cover the difference between the tuition fee for a home (UK) postgraduate student and the fee chargeable to an overseas postgraduate student. Award holders will be overseas graduate students who, in session 1991-92, are commencing full-time study for a higher degree as registered research students at one of the academic institutions, or who are already undertaking such a course and do not have an ORS Award. They must be liable to pay tuition fees at the rate for overseas students. **Deadline: April 30, 1991.**

For more information contact the Fellowship Office, 209 Coble Hall, 801 S. Wright Street, Champaign, IL 61820. Phone: (217) 333-0036.

● **Nelle M. Signor Fellowships in International Relations**

International Programs and Studies in conjunction with the departments of History and Political Science, UIUC, announces the Nelle M. Signor Fellowships for dissertation research or writing in the area of international relations for 1991-92. The fellowships will consist of \$4,000 each plus a waiver of tuition and service fee for the period August 1992 to May 1992. The recipient may hold no more than a 25% assistantship for the academic year, or a 33% assistantship for one semester, while on tenure as a Signor Fellow.

The competition is open to any *unmarried* student whose dissertation topic is in the field of

or other appropriate terminal degree, significant publications, interests in an Afro-American studies program. Salary and rank is negotiable. Starting date is August, 1991.

Applications received by February 15, 1991, are assured of full consideration. Send nominations, applications, and inquiries to Professor Catherine Ross, Chairperson of the Search Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 294 Lincoln Hall, 702 S. Wright St., Urbana, IL 61801. Phone: (217) 333-1350. Candidates should supply a current curriculum vitae including a complete list of publications and the names and addresses of at least three referees.

RESOURCES

WID Related Publications

Network News, a publication of the **Global Link for Midlife and Older Women**, sponsored by AARP in cooperation with the International Federation on Aging, covers international issues, trends and events of interests to midlife and older women. The spring/summer 1990 issue featured issues such as Social Security protection for women in 1990s and how older women fare in the European community, along with international news, a section on resources and an international conference calendar. For a copy, write to *Network News*, AARP, International Activities, 109 K Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20049.

Women in Agriculture - Technological Perspective. Edited by Dr. C. Prasad & Dr. Shri Ram. This book has 26 chapters by eminent authors covering all aspects of Women in Indian Agriculture. The book presents the technological perspectives in this context. This book is a valuable resource for researchers as well as development scientists and extension workers. Post-graduate students can also benefit immensely from this book. The book is priced for Rs. 200/- only; Rs. 150/- for students and US \$20.00 for foreigners. Postal charges will be Rs. 20/- and US \$ 9 by air for abroad. The book is dedicated to the International Federation for Women in Agriculture (IFWA). Proceeds will help the Federation enlarge its activities.

Please place your order to Dr. C. Prasad, Secretary-General, International Federation for Women in Agriculture, Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan, Pusa, New Delhi-110012 (INDIA).

GOOD NEWS DEPARTMENT

Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, assistant to the director, Office of Women in International Development and Ph.D candidate in geography, is a recipient of an International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) West African Fellowship for 1991/1992. This fellowship is in the form of a residency at the ICRW office in Washington, D.C.

NEWS FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATES

Nigeria

Nkoli N. Ezumah, a lecturer at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, is currently on a year's sabbatical leave at Cornell University. She is serving as a Visiting Fellow both at the Center for International Studies and the Institute for African Development. Nkoli has also completed a doctoral dissertation on the *Role of Igbo Women in Agriculture in Nigeria*.

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Reminder to international newsletter subscribers: Be sure to return your mailing label update as soon as possible if you want to continue to receive it.